FREE PRESS

VOL II, Issue 2, January 28, 2015

Still FREE, thank goodnes

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ABQ Free Press Pulp News

Faking it

For \$24.99 a month, you too can have a fake boyfriend or girlfriend, complete with 100 text messages, 10 voicemails and one postcard every four weeks. The beta version of Invisible Boyfriend (or Girlfriend) uses real humans working from the "back story of how you met" to put their communications to you into context. The company's divorced founder came up with the idea after his mother pestered him about who he'd be bringing to family events. "I really started to realize that there's lots of people who get these questions and people tend to judge you if you're not in a relationship," he said.

Snagging cool stuff

Cops across the nation have been barred from using a federal program to seize property from people not charged with a crime. The "Equitable Sharing" program had allowed police to seize cash, weapons and luxury cars provided they split the take with the feds. Attorney General Eric Holder recently ordered that civil forfeiture can't proceed unless the property

owners are charged with a crime. Charges were never filed in most of the 55,000 seizures that netted property worth \$3 billion.

I am woman

Mount Holyoke College canceled the play, "The Vagina Monologues," out of concern it would offend transgender students, which the Massachusetts school now accepts. "The play offers an extremely narrow perspective on what it means to be a woman," a student leader said.

Annals of medicine

One of the hottest trends in medicine in 2014 was poop transplantation, a procedure in which fecal matter from one person is transplanted into the colon of a person suffering from autoimmune disorders such as Crohn's disease. The microbial population in the transplanted material re-balances the microbiome within the intestine of the recipient and keeps the body from attacking itself. A nonprofit company, Open Biome, founded in 2013 by graduate students at MIT, now

ships up to 50 specimens per week to hospitals in 36 states, the New Yorker reported.

Free is good

Despite a wealth of high-quality video on the Internet, most Americans prefer free – even if free often equates to kitschy. Some 48 percent of online viewing is done on YouTube, compared to just 22 percent on Netflix and 8 percent on Hulu, according to wsi.com

Shattered

Google Glass is dead. Google has finally conceded its 2013 foray into wearable tech was a public relations disaster and is going back to the drawing board. Bars and restaurants banned the devices out of privacy concerns; and for most consumers, Google Glass was just too creepy to catch on. Google has suspended sales of the \$1,500 device.

Prison costs

Keeping a prisoner at Guantánamo Bay costs \$3.3 million a year, while keeping the same prisoner locked down for 23 hours a day in a room with only a slit

for a window in a supermax prison in the U.S. costs one-fortieth of that, the Washington Post reported. Congress has blocked President Obama from closing the prison in Cuba and fulfilling a campaign promise he made in

Big money

Charles and David Koch, better known as the Koch Brothers, plan to raise \$889 million to influence the 2016 election cycle, according to the Washington Post and Politico. That's more than either the Democratic or Republican parties raised during the 2011-2012 campaign cycle. Legally, details of the Koch network's fundraising can be kept secret. "The network has many members beyond Charles and David Koch, and while some of their names have leaked to the press, the names of others - and the amounts they contribute – are unknown," the website Vox. com reported. In the last presidential election, the Kochs stayed out of the Republican primary, but this time they are exploring whether their network "would coalesce around a single candidate" among GOP contenders.

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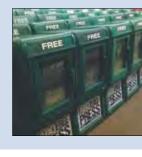
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Will Ferguson and Dan Vukelich

Corrections policy:

It is the policy of ABQ Free Press to correct errors in a timely fashion. Contact the editors at the email addresses on this page.



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A STIFFEE PRES

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ON THE COVER: Jonathan Banks discusses his "Breaking Bad" and "Better Call Saul" character, Mike Ehrmantraut, with Betsy Model of ABQ Free Press (Photo Courtesy of Ben Leuner/AMC/Sony Pictures Television)

NEWS

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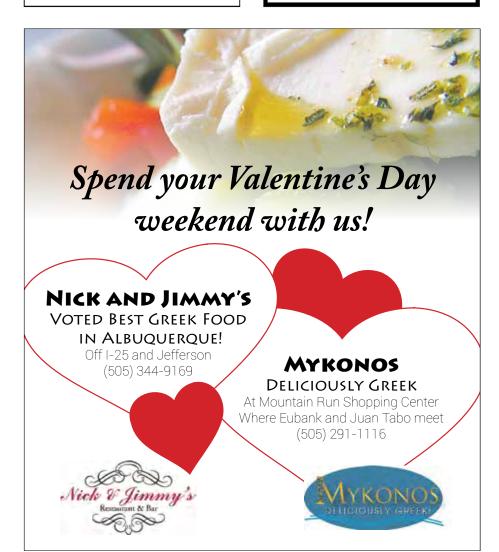
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City was Out of Bounds Denying DA Access to Police Shooting Scene

BY DENNIS DOMRZALSKI

ob Perry, the city of Albuquerque's Chief administrative officer, is on weak legal ground in ordering a representative from the Bernalillo County District Attorney's Office away from the scene of a recent fatal police shooting, legal experts say.

And, in barring the DA's Office from the scene of the Jan. 13 shooting by police, the city could be violating the stipulated agreement it signed last year with the U.S. Department of Justice regarding excessive use of police force, the experts said.

That's because the agreement calls for police shootings to be investigated by a multiagency task force that includes the DA's Office. By agreeing to the settlement, the city has effectively entered into a contract with the federal government, a source in the U.S. Attorney's Office said.

"That agreement [task force memorandum of understanding (MOU)] is part of the settlement. There is an MOU between the parties [APD, Rio Rancho Police Department, New Mexico Department of Public Safety and the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office] involved when a shooting occurs, and the DA is part of that," Damon Martinez, the U.S. attorney for New Mexico, said on Jan. 20

That agreement is part of the settlement agreement. The settlement agreement itself has not been ratified by the court, and so that agreement is not in place, which is part of the negotiations."

The Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was signed in late September and early October by the agencies involved. It says:

"The District Attorney's Office shall send a senior prosecutor to the scene of the investigation in the three delineated situations [officer-involved shootings, other serious use of force, and in-custody deaths] identified in the Memorandum of Agreement," the MOA said.

On Jan. 14, Perry sent a letter to District Attorney Kari Brandenburg, asking her to appoint independent prosecutors to handle future police shooting cases because of what he said were potential conflicts of interest.

Legal experts said that Perry was wrong in trying to prevent the DA's Office from sending a representative to the scene of police shootings.

"I was absolutely flabbergasted with what happened," said Albuquerque attorney Pete Dinelli, a former city councilor and chief deputy district attorney. "The MOU, which is part of the consent decree, is very clear that the DA is to be involved and go to these shooting

sites. The city had no business in denying the DA's Office access to the site.

"The City Attorney's Office misused their authority. It did not have the right or the authority to order the DA off the

Attorney Paul Kennedy agreed that Perry's office did not have the authority to order the DA off the scene.

"She [Brandenburg] has prosecuted officers in the past, and in the end she is the elected DA," Kennedy said. "If they [the city] keep pushing Brandenburg away, the feds are going to get involved, and I don't think that is what they want.'

Anne Kass, a former state District Court judge, said the settlement agreement "codifies that the DA is the investigating force" in police shootings, but she added that she thought the DA's Office did have a conflict of interest in investigating police shootings. Those cases, Kass said, should be handled by the state Attorney General's Office.

Exactly how the city's settlement agreement with the feds affects the MOA. because the settlement hasn't yet been ratified by a judge, is a question mark. But one source in the U.S. Attorney's Office who asked not to be identified said the city entered into a contract with the federal government when it signed the settlement. As such, the U.S. attorney can sue the city for violations of the agreement, if it wanted to, the source said.

Martinez said the DA's role in future police shootings mostly likely will be the first issue to be addressed by the new monitor hired by the city and the DOJ.

On Jan. 20, the city and the DOJ announced that they had jointly selected James Ginger, a nationally recognized expert on police reform, to monitor the settlement agreement. Ginger is the CEO of Public Management Resources Inc. and has overseen court-enforceable settlement agreements in Pittsburgh and for the New Jersey State Police. He also has worked with law enforcement agencies in New York, Ohio, Texas, Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Indiana and others, the DOI said.

Ginger will be backed by a team of seven experts on police reform from Pittsburgh and New Jersey, but the team won't give APD orders; it'll make suggestions on how to change APD's culture and training, Ginger explained.

"It will be a collaborative relationship. I'll promise the chief, like I promised the other chiefs, that you will never get a direct order, that's not my job," Ginger said.

"He's the chief, I'm not. I might

CONT ON PAGE!

Measuring the James Boyd Shooting Scene

The video has been seen worldwide on YouTube. It features three police officers, a police dog and James Boyd.

A flashbang grenade is fired and explodes, the pop-pop-pop of semi-automatic weapons is heard, and Boyd goes down, fatally shot.

ABQ Free Press recently went to the scene of the shooting in the Sandia foothills, which appears undisturbed except for the addition of a grave-like memorial left by mourners months ago.

Using the landmarks in the video – distinctive rocks, a cactus and bushes – we attempted to estimate the distances involved in the shooting that occurred the afternoon of March 16, 2014, and which led to murder charges against two police officers, Keith Sandy and Dominique Perez.

Using a tape measure, we estimated that the canine unit officer who was closest to Boyd when he was shot was about 10 to 12 feet away from him. Perez, whose helmet-cam video was posted on YouTube, was downhill from Boyd, about 30 to 32 feet away from him at the time of the shooting.

The other officer in the video, who was uphill of Perez and who fired the flashbang grenade, was 26 to 28 feet away from Boyd. The video shows that both Perez and the officer who fired the flashbang grenade had their weapons at the ready or trained on Boyd before shots were fired.

Using a tape measure, we estimated that the canine unit officer who was closest to Boyd when he was shot was about 10 to 12 feet away from him

The distances involved will likely play a role in Sandy's and Perez's likely defense - that they feared for their safety or the safety of a fellow officer. Boyd was holding two camping knives, turning away from the officers and picking up his backpack when he was shot in the back and arms. After he went down, police turned the police dog loose on him and shot him with bean-bag rounds as he said, "I can't move" and "Please don't hurt me."

Former APD officer and former president of the Albuquerque Police Officers' Association, Mark Bralley, who has written tactical manuals for APD and other organizations, believes that once officers got into close proximity of Boyd, they were in danger.

"If the distance is 20 feet or less, and the suspect makes a move for the officer, the officer cannot



draw his weapon and effectively place rounds at the person attacking," Bralley said.

One possible reason that Boyd was shot was because of his close proximity to the K-9 unit officer and his dog, and because two attempts to take Boyd down without lethal force failed, Bralley said.

"With Boyd having the knives out and being yelled at by officers, he appears to turn away, but one cannot determine exactly what was going on, or be able to anticipate what Boyd was doing," Bralley said. "So, with the K-9 officer being right there armed, but holstered, he was in danger of great bodily harm or death, and it ended up with officers being put in the position of where the defense of life and use of deadly force came into play."

'If the distance is 20 feet or less. and the suspect makes a move for the officer, the officer cannot draw his weapon and effectively place rounds at the person attacking'

-former APD Officer Mark Bralley

When firing a flashbang grenade at Boyd didn't work, officers released the police dog, which was unable to get at Boyd because his backpack blocked the area the dog would have gone after.

Bernalillo County District Attorney Kari Brandenburg has requested a public preliminary hearing in the cases against Perez and Sandy

before District Court Judge Alisa Hadfield

The judge will be asked to determine if either Perez or Sandy should be tried for murder. A date for the preliminary hearing has not yet been set, but Perez has gotten support for his defense on a campaign page at FundRazr.com, where people have donated more than \$5,000 with a goal of \$100,000 for his legal fees. Sandy retired from APD in November, 2014, after 19 years of service and is collecting a pension.

There also is a civil lawsuit pending against the city and APD filed by Boyd's brother, Andrew Jones. The suit seeks \$1.75 million. The family said it would use some of the money to start a foundation to help homeless people with mental illness.

Rene Thompson is a journalism intern at ABQ Free Press.

BRANDENBURG. PAGE 4

suggest. I might offer examples. I might do a number of things, but he runs the police department. We are here to assess things. That process works."

Basically, the team will assess whether APD is making progress to comply with the settlement agreement.

"We are here to assess compliance with

the settlement agreement, that is our only iob." Ginger said. "I have advised my staff that we don't want to get into the business of technical assistance – telling the PD how to do things, mainly because we're not infallible either. There may be some things that we don't see and the chief does see."

So what will the first step be?

"The first piece in Pittsburgh was a comprehensive needs assessment. In other words, where are we weak? Where are we strong? Where can we marginally do better? Where can we really do better and make a big difference," Ginger said.

Albuquerque Mayor Richard Berry said

the reform effort will cost the city \$1.3 million during its first two years.

"No one is under the illusion that this is going to be quick or easy or inexpensive," Berry said.

Dennis Domrzalski is an associate editor at ABQ Free Press.

As Tent City Grows South of Downtown, So Do Complaints

BY ABQ FREE PRESS STAFF

A growing tent city of homeless people near First Street and Iron Avenue Southwest has local residents and businesspeople calling for city action to cut down on public urination and defecation.

The existence of what is being called "Tent City" – an encampment comprising about 20 tents and leantos – highlights Albuquerque's failure to address its chronic homelessness problem. You Tube videos have been posted about Tent City featuring trash, old mattresses and feces in the area. Albuquerque TV stations have aired similar footage.

A Jan. 19 letter written by James Llewellyn Dodd, attorney for Courtney Bell, manager of the Orpheum Arts Space, 500 Second Street Southwest, alleges Bell was chased by a homeless person while walking her dog. Ironically, Bell has been an advocate for improving conditions at Tent City, including the installation of portable toilets.

Dodd's letter demands action from Mayor Richard Berry and the City Council but notably does not call for the dismantling of Tent City, which lies about 900 yards southeast of Mayor Richard Berry's 11th floor office.

ABQ Free Press presents two accounts of what is going on at First and Iron Southwest.

The first is drawn from excerpts of Dodd's letter to City Hall. The second is drawn from a visit by freelance photojournalist and ABQ Free Press contributor Juan Antonio Labreche to Tent City.

Dodd's letter on behalf of Courtney Bell:

Currently, Ms. Bell, and the residents of, not only the Orpheum Arts Space, but a large part of the beloved, and also historic, Barelas Neighborhood, find themselves incredibly frustrated, and unsure of what direction to channel their concerns. ...

As all parties are aware, a "Tent City" has sprung up at the intersection of First Street and Iron. As of today's count there are now approximately 20 tents. This number also appears to be growing, if not daily, speaking conservatively, weekly. ... In correspondence with Councilman [Isaac] Benton and the City, it has become apparent that the City is also aware of these issues.

These include, but are not limited to, clear violations of law ranging in scope



An unidentified man walks north past Tent City at First Street and Iron Avenue Southwest. The former Santa Fe Railroad yards are on the far side of the fence.

from public urination/defecation, open container violations, public intoxication, use of illicit drugs, littering, to noise violations at all times of day/night. Again, this is in no way meant to serve as a comprehensive list of the issues facing local, permanent residents.

Despite the City's and Councilman Benton's acknowledgement of these issues, they remain rampant and unchecked. ...

There is no reason to share graphic details, and it does not take great imagination to picture the filth that quickly generates when the residents of approximately 20 tents do not have proper bathroom facilities. ...

Most recently, Ms. Bell was chased by a man as she attempted to walk her dog around the block. Fearing for her personal safety, Ms. Bell was forced to run back to her home. Walking one's dog is one of the simple, mundane pleasures that comprise all of our lives, in all parts of Albuquerque. Are Downtown residents now expected to abandon all activity except the most urgent and necessary? ...

Tent City's continuing expansion, if left unchecked, will only serve to undermine the hard-earned progress that has been made. Working from within this spirit of cooperation we would, at this time, like to formally invite both Mayor Berry and Councilman Benton to meet with myself and Ms. Bell to tour the area and discuss not only our concerns, but, even more importantly, the opportunities this

situation now presents.

[We are not] necessarily advocating for the removal of the tents, however, if the City has decided to let Tent City remain, at least semi-permanently, then we hope that it will be formally acknowledged, and that immediate steps will be taken to address some of the more dire aspects of this vulnerable community and the surrounding neighborhoods.

These steps would, at a minimum, have to ameliorate the security and safety concerns of both the residents of Downtown and Tent City.

A journalist's visit to "Tent City"

Walking up to "Tent City," I did not know what to expect. I could see many eyes of residents fall upon me as I approached the space. I felt as though I would receive a cold welcome or be turned away at best. I approached two gentlemen bundled in sweaters and winter coats. The two men nodded, acknowledging me as I came closer.

They appeared to be in their late 40s, early 50s: Rudy Alvarez and Omar Echenique. Both Alvarez and Echenique are Cuban nationals who said they arrived to the United States in 1995. Alvarez laid out his thoughts on the efforts of the government to help the people of Tent City while two of Tent City's residents, wearing surgical gloves, bagged trash filling the immediate area.

"We need them [the government]

to work more sincerely, more frankly, not to come and put on the show saying, 'we are doing [helping] for them but they don't want to leave here,'" Alvarez said. "No one wants to live like this. One would rather live with dignity, with a roof over their head. Omar is sick, he needs a kidney transplant," Alvarez said. "There's, one here [resident] that needs a lung."

"There is a young girl here that's pregnant," Echenique added

I looked down the row of tents to see two young women, in their late 20s, standing together. Both were quite thin, one standing wrapped in a large coat with a large protruding belly, Valerie (pregnant) and Roxy Sanchez, both 27 years old. Roxy stated that they did not like to go to the shelters because they "were horrible." She added that the

west side shelter was a terrible option because they "pick you up at 5 p.m. and have you right back out on the street at 5 a.m."

Another Cuban national, Giovanis Garcia, expressed his frustration with the glacial pace of the bureaucracy that is supposed to help the people of Tent City.

"You have to fill out all the paperwork, qualify and then wait. And wait," Garcia said. "It's especially hard as an immigrant, the process is even slower. Forget it if you are a felon, you can't even qualify for the services, much less if you are an immigrant and a felon."

As for the encampment being a nuisance to the permanent residents of the area, Garcia said that the area is a low-traffic industrial area, with the train yard providing so much constant noise that you can hardly hear anything.

Tent City lies along the western fence of the former Santa Fe railroad maintenance facility. To the east is the disused railroad yard. To the west lies the domain of true urban pioneers, the people who through lofts and shareduse spaces are trying to build a toehold of urban redevelopment, among them Orpheum Arts Space.

"There's blacks, there's Mexicans, there's Cubans, there's whites. At the end of the day, we all share the same floor to sleep on," Garcia said of Tent City.

"I would much rather be here enjoying my freedom than living under communistic rule back in Cuba."

Santolina: Planned Community or More Urban Sprawl?

BY DENNIS DOMRZALSKI

t's a project that has some people asking, "Are we crazy?"

They're referring to the 14,000acre Santolina master-planned community proposed for the far West Mesa in an unincorporated area of Bernalillo County.

Critics question the wisdom of building the 22-square-mile community that eventually would have 38,000 homes and 90,000 residents – a proposal that is progressing even as the 12,900-acre Mesa del Sol community south of the Albuquerque International Sunport limps along with only 136 occupied homes and another 17 under construction.

Criticisms of Santolina are many.
Some wonder whether there's
enough water to serve another
city the size of Rio Rancho. There are worries about
the effect a massive development on the fringe of
the built-up area will cause to the older parts of the
metropolitan area and on home values.

There are questions about Santolina's lack of a plan to woo the 75,000 jobs it says it will generate. And then there is the bottom-line question of who will pay for all the water lines, sewers, parks, schools, and fire and police stations the new mini-city will need.

"There are a lot of zombie subdivisions out there that have not been filled, so why do we need another one?" asked Rod Mahoney, president of the South Valley Coalition of Neighborhood Associations. "It really comes down to an entitlement mentality for developers. It's a typical New Mexico political story."

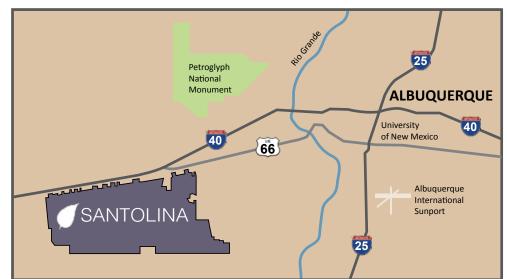
Paul Lusk, who served as the principal planner for Bernalillo County and the city of Albuquerque from 1968 to 1978, said Santolina is riddled with flaws.

'The blight you see on Fourth Street and on Central Avenue and from Tramway down to UNM and down Lomas is because you can make money if you are a developer and build on the fringe'

– former City Councilor Eric Griego

"The Santolina proposal seems to be based more on greed than on need; it would perpetuate a long-established pattern of politically powerful landowners (or developers) proposing to build on more distant, often lower-cost land, with the goal of optimizing development profit and, when possible, to transfer much of the burden of providing utility extensions and services to the tax-paying public," Lusk said.

Former Albuquerque City Councilor Alan Reed



What is Santolina?

Where: south of I-40 and west of the city limits

How big: 13,851 acres
Time frame: 40-50 years
Homes and apartments: 38,000

Residents: 100,000 **Jobs:** 75,000

Industrial park: 2,052 acres Business park: 697 acres Town Center: 536 acres Regional parks: 466 acres Open space: 1,797

Source: Santolina Master Plan

said there is simply no population or job growth to justify building Santolina.

"This thing is going to be the size of Rio Rancho, and there is no support for it," Reed said. "There is nothing that would justify committing to a major development out there."

Albuquerque City Councilor Isaac Benton said that considering the Albuquerque area's housing market, which has been weak for the past five years, it's "absurd" to be talking about a development the size of Santolina.

Santolina officials did not return ABQ Free Press phone calls, but the proposed development does have supporters.

John Garcia, executive vice president of the HBA [formerly the Home Builders Association of Central New Mexico] said that while the demand for Santolina does not yet exist, plans for the area need to be made, even 50 years ahead.

"This is a project that has a life beyond next year. We're looking into future years for some smart planning," Garcia said. "If we don't attract population to the community, we will atrophy. We should be encouraged by this, because it represents a big private investment in the community. Communities either grow or they die; it's just a natural

occurrence."

Albuquerque City Councilor Trudy Jones supports Santolina because it represents planned growth.

"If we don't plan ahead what we want to happen, then what happens, because things will happen, is what we don't want to happen," Jones said. "If we want to be a no-growth city, then we will be a shrinking city. If a city doesn't grow, it does not stay the same. We need to have lots developed so people can build homes" when they are needed.

Simply not needed

Perhaps the biggest argument against Santolina is Mesa del Sol. The 12,900-acre development south of the Albuquerque International

Sunport was more than 30 years in the making and was the largest master-planned community in the nation.

The goal over 50 years was to have 37,500 homes and 100,000 residents. The project's developer, Forest City Enterprise Inc., began plopping down the first homes on the site in early 2011.

This thing is going to be the size of Rio Rancho, and there is no support for it. There is nothing that would justify committing to a major development out there'

– former Albuquerque City Councilor Alan Reed

But because the Albuquerque metro area has been locked in an ongoing recession with almost no job growth, the development hasn't seen much activity. It currently has 136 occupied homes with another 17 under construction and an additional three custombuilt homes, said Joanie Griffin, spokeswoman for Mesa del Sol.

According to Data Traq, a firm that analyzes home building in metro areas, there were 50 active subdivisions in the Albuquerque metro area in November 2014.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the city of Albuquerque's population grew by a sickly 1,847, or 0.3 percent in the 12 months that ended July 30, 2013. Bernalillo County as a whole fared just as badly. Between 2012 and 2013, the county added 1,777 people for a 0.3 percent growth rate.

The metro area's home building situation has nosedived since its high of 7,936 new permits in 2003, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. The industry bottomed out in 2011 when 1,634 single and multifamily permits were issued. In 2013, 2,606 permits were pulled.

According to the Brookings Institution, the Albuquerque area's economy was one of the worst

SANTOLINA, PAGE 7

in the nation in 2014 with almost no job growth. No job growth means no population growth, which means no demand for houses.

"There is no market for Mesa del Sol today, and there is no market" for other residential projects, City Councilor Jones said.

'If we don't attract population to the community, we will atrophy'

- John Garcia, executive vice president of HBA

Jeff Mitchell, director of the University of New Mexico Bureau of Business and Economic Research, recently said that the area won't reach those prerecession home building levels any time soon.

Cannibalizing older parts of the city

When it comes time every couple of years for the city and county to ask voters to approve hundreds of millions of dollars in capital improvement bonds, officials are fond of saying that the area has more than \$1 billion of current infrastructure needs in the developed areas of the city and county.

Which raises the question, Santolina opponents said, of why we would want to build new roads, sewers, schools, water mains, police stations and libraries when we can't take care of the ones we have? Spending money on new development on the far west side will only lead to disinvestment and blight in the already developed areas.

"It is cannibalizing the built-up areas and throwing foolish money after bad money," said Albuquerque City Councilor Rey Garduño. "It's building houses in the short term, and the only people that make money off of this are developers."

Former Albuquerque City Councilor Eric Griego was in office in the early 2000s when it passed the Planned Growth Strategy, a policy designed to limit growth on the city's fringes and to encourage development in the built-up areas through infill

To meet those goals, the PGS included impact fees charged to developers for every home they built. The idea was to have developers instead of taxpayers pay for new infrastructure in existing areas of the

'The Santolina proposal seems to be based more on greed than on need; it would perpetuate a longestablished pattern of politically powerful landowners ... proposing to build on more distant, often lower-cost land'

- former Bernalillo County Planner Paul Lusk

The impact fees took effect in the mid-2000s and were starting to work, but then the recession hit. The City Council suspended the fees and changed their structure to eliminate the infill incentive, Griego said. As a result, the area went back to the same old "build on the fringe" mentality, he said.

For or Against Santolina

The Bernalillo County Planning Commission approved the Santolina project in December. Whether the development goes forward is up to the Bernalillo County Commission, which will decide the project's fate at a special meeting at 1:30 p.m. Feb. 19 in the City Council chambers at City Hall.

Arguments for

- Represents a coordinated plan as opposed to haphazard development
- · Brings in much-needed private-sector investment
- Opens up huge spaces for industrial development

Arguments against

- Will result in disinvestment in the existing areas of the city and county and lead to inner-city blight
- Not needed, considering the area's stagnant economy, near-zero population growth and the inability to fill the 12,900-acre Mesa del Sol development
- · Will stress the area's water supply and result in more groundwater pumping

Yet More Housing?

Opponents of the proposed 14,000-acre Santolina community on the west side say there is no demand for 38,000 new homes. They add that there are 50 active subdivisions in the metro area, including the 12,900-acre Mesa del Sol community south of the airport. Census Bureau data show the decline in issuance of housing permits in the four-county area since 2008, the start of the recession, as well as the housing bubble that preceded it:

2013	2,606
.012	2,084
.011	1,634
.010	1,764
900	1,692
800	2,555
.007	4,499
2006	6,822
2005	7,038
2004	7,455
2003	7,936
002	7,022
2001	5,925
2000	4,773

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

"The truth is that they restored the [fringe home building machine because they made it easier for developers to make money on the fringe," Griego said. "The blight you see on Fourth Street and on Central Avenue and from Tramway down to UNM and down Lomas is because you can make money if you are a developer and build on the fringe. It is a lot cheaper and a lot less risky to build a strip mall on the west side than to renovate a building in the

older part of the city."

John Hooker, an architect and former mayor of the village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque just north of Albuquerque, agrees with the argument that a massive development such as Santolina will lead to decreased property values and blight in the older parts of the city.

"The key problem is that a new development like this will draw resources away from the existing part of the city, as it has in the past," Hooker explained. "We have a pattern of disinvestment, which we need to change.

"Look at the aging commercial strips on streets like North Fourth to Juan Tabo and Menaul: Why aren't we investing in those first?"

Benton also said that Santolina will siphon investment from the community. "It's a zero-sum game,"

Santolina is set to go before the Bernalillo County Commission on March 26. For county officials, who face a \$60 million budget deficit, the project boils down to new tax revenues.

"Sandoval, Bernalillo and Valencia counties are addicted to new housing construction because of the gross receipts tax revenue it generates," Hooker said while cautioning that a one-time rush of new money comes with a cost. "The long-term property taxes and the other economic activity won't pay for the stuff over time that is needed - the police stations, the parks and the fire stations."

John Garcia, executive vice president of an industry homebuilders group, said that while the demand for Santolina doesn't yet exist, plans for the area need to be made, even 50 years ahead

Hooker and others point to another potential future problem. "At first, Santolina will not have the tax base to pay for schools themselves, and so the property owners in the established district will pay for the new schools," Hooker said.

"If they spin off from Albuquerque Public Schools like Rio Rancho did, they'll have to come up with their own money to provide schools. It's a huge

Where will the jobs come from?

Santolina's proposal to the county claims the area will have 75,000 jobs by buildout in 50 years. Where those jobs will come from, and what types of jobs they will be, is anybody's guess. The Santolina proposal includes no details as to where those jobs will come from.

That's a huge difference between Santolina and Mesa del Sol. The latter's master plan agreement with the city of Albuquerque called on it to create thousands of economic base jobs before a single home could be built, which, along with the timing of the recession, explains Mesa del Sol's slow progress.

An economic base job is one in which 60 percent of the product or service it creates is exported outside the city or state. That brings new money into an

COLUMNS -

APD-Brandenburg Dispute Fuels Election Conspiracy Theories

BY JOE MONAHAN



The bitter and very public battle between two of the city's top politicos has the tongues wagging downtown and the conspiracy theories Supporters of

Democratic District Attorney Kari Brandenburg are floating the notion that Republican Albuquerque Mayor Richard J. Berry is out to get the DA. Their proof? They contend he pulled the trigger on the APD's bribery investigation of her, the results of which are now on the desk of the attorney

The theory is that Berry has his eyes on a 2018 run for governor and that he and APD have been seeking to keep Brandenburg from prosecuting APD officers for the many fatal police shootings since 2010. Such prosecutions could only damage Berry politically.

So, the theory goes, when the DA decided to file murder charges against the two officers involved in the killing of homeless camper James Boyd, the APD, with Berry's blessing, made the bribery allegations public.

The theory is that Berry has his eyes on a 2018 run for governor and that he and APD have been seeking to keep Brandenburg from prosecuting APD officers for the many fatal police shootings since 2010

Like we said, that's the theory. Berry backers say its absurd to believe that the mayor would involve himself so deeply in controversial allegations, and they say that APD had every reason to look at Brandenburg. They say her interactions with victims of property crimes committed by her son, who wrestles with drug addiction, were way out of line.

If Berry does go after the 2018 GOP governor nomination, the APD crisis will be front and center with or without prosecutions of police officers. As for Brandenburg, she's the longest-serving district attorney for Bernalillo County and is now in the middle of her fourth, four-year term. And now we learn she just might go for number five.

When Brandenburg last ran in 2012, she indicated this term would be her last, but she recently told this columnist that in light

of recent developments, she is back on the fence when deciding whether to seek re-election yet again next year.

You can be sure Berry and company will be looking to take her out if she does make that fifth run. And that's no conspiracy theory.

Things could heat up even more over the APD crisis in the months ahead. You may not know it but this is an election year. Four of the nine Albuquerque City Council seats will be up for grabs in October. (City elections are held in October, while the general election is held in November.) We'll be getting at least two new faces on the panel as GOP Councilors Brad Winter and Trudy Jones of the NE Heights will not be seeking re-election. Democratic Councilors Isaac Benton and Rey Garduño indicate they will run. The 2013 mayoral race glossed over the police troubles but they've multiplied by leaps and bounds since then. Will it be different in this election?

A sidebar: There is only one attorney on the council, fewer than in years past. With all the legal troubles the city faces in the years ahead might this be the time for a couple of them to make a run? (And that's no lawyer joke.)

Only a tiny fraction of Albuquerque's many minimum wage workers can expect to get a pay raise from this year's Legislature. That's the word we're getting from the Roundhouse where Republicans are friendly toward raising the statewide minimum but only from \$7.50 to about \$8 an hour. But Albuquerque's hourly minimum wage is already \$8.75, with these exceptions: It's \$7.75 for employees whose employers offer health coverage or child care benefits (not many of those) and \$5.25 for tipped employees.

So while it will sound real nice if and when the Legislature approves a minimum wage hike, it will be a big yawn for the Duke City's working stiffs. It's an even bigger sleeper in the city of Santa Fe where on March 1 the minimum will go to \$10.84 an hour.

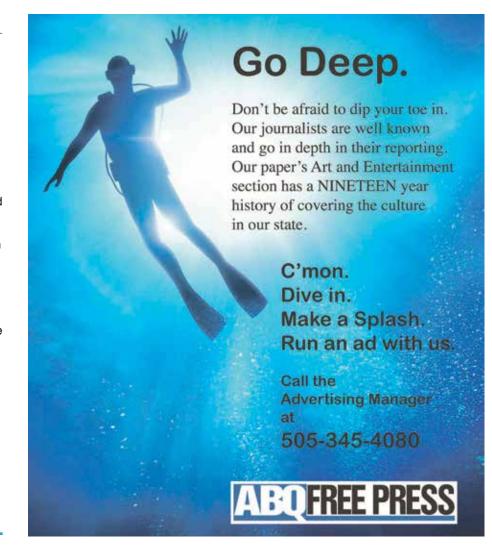
Out in the hinterlands, however, any hike in the minimum will be warmly welcomed. The New Mexico Center on Law and Poverty says many of New Mexico's agricultural workers are field workers and some of the poorest wage earners in the nation, earning an average of \$9,000 per year for a family of four. Dairy and cattle workers earn approximately \$18,000 per

Joe Monahan is a veteran of New Mexico politics. His daily blog can be found at joemonahan.com



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SANTOLINA, PAGE 8

economy and is the only way an economy can grow, said Mark Lautman, an economic development expert who formerly worked for Mesa del Sol.

Forest City, a land development company, committed to bringing thousands of economic base jobs to Mesa del Sol before homes could be built, and those jobs had to be net new jobs for the area to have avoided cannibalizing jobs from other areas of the city, Lautman explained.

Forest City hired an economic development team that included Lautman. The team recruited Schott Solar, Fidelity, a film studio and other economic base employers to Mesa del Sol. But then the recession hit, and Forest City disbanded the economic development team.

The Santolina proposal has no economic development analysis and no mention of what types of jobs it seeks to attract.

Water

The Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority has told Santolina officials that it has the water resources to supply the development's water needs, which are estimated to be 19 million gallons per day at buildout.

Not everyone agrees.

Elaine Hebard, a South Valley activist who opposes Santolina, doesn't think, for a variety of reasons, the water authority can make good on that

First, the agency originally promised that 90 percent of the area's drinking water would come from

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the San Juan-Chama project, which uses surface water, rather than groundwater. But last year, only 60 percent of the area's drinking water came from San Juan Chama, according to the water authority.

"I don't see how they can meet this new demand with anything but groundwater," Hebard said. "If they can't meet the current demand with surface water, the new demand will have to come from groundwater?"

In addition, there are the costs of providing service to a new community, Hebard and other opponents

Water authority spokesman David Morris said that under state law, new developments cannot impose any net new costs to the agency. "We are not allowed to subsidize new growth, and we are not allowed to ask current ratepayers to subsidize new growth,"

That requires the water authority to impose fees and charges on new developments to pay for new infrastructure costs. "Then we maintain the infrastructure, but at that point, the rate base is there in the new development, and they are paying their fair share and contributing to the maintenance costs," Morris said.

There's a big problem with that argument, Hebard said. Since fiscal year 2009, the water authority has been running operational budget shortfalls. In fiscal year 2014, the operational shortfall was \$16.8 million. The year before, it was \$15.7 million, water authority records show.

In addition, the agency has \$645.8 million in

long-term bond debt that Hebard said limits its ability to take on new projects and initiatives. For Hebard, Santolina just doesn't make sense. "It's asking me to pay for someone else's dream," she said.

Dennis Domrzalski is an associate editor at ABQ Free Press. Reach him at dennis@freeabq.com

How we got here

January 2003 was a bad month for those in Albuquerque who were trying to fight fringe development. That's when the New Mexico Legislature passed Senate Bill 887, which transferred control of Albuquerque's city-owned water and wastewater utility to a new entity called the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority.

With that transfer of assets from city control to a joint city-county panel, say opponents of the proposed 14,000-acre Santolina development, the city lost the ability to control growth on its fringes. Before that, the city alone could decide whether it wanted to extend water and sewer lines beyond the city's limits.

The day that Senate Bill 887 was signed into law was the moment that land use in the metro area became divorced from water use, Santolina's critics charge.

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N.M.'s 'Runaway Grand Jury' Meted **Out Justice with a Vengeance**

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BY RODERICK KENNEDY

NFWS

or as much as grand juries have been in the news recently, they seem to be a mystery to the press and public. The founding fathers put grand juries right there in the Fifth Amendment with due process of law as a right protecting persons against the government's power to level criminal accusations.

Grand juries almost always operate in secret. That's part of the protection for citizens, but it's also at the root of the complaint against their recent use in police shooting cases in Ferguson, Mo., and Staten Island, N.Y.

"Cricket Coogler." "We are all concerned about the failure of a secret process to provide any vehicle for accountability in the case of Eric Garner," said the director of the New York Civil Liberties Union. Access to grand jury records in unindicted cases is so rare as to almost be nonexistent.

However, in Ferguson, the district attorney released all of the record – testimony and other evidence - presented in that case. In New York, a judge was to rule at the end of January on a motion for public release of the record in that case. Commentators reading the Ferguson record have criticized the New York district attorney for essentially fixing the case. Either way, the fact that prosecutors, who depend on the police as their primary investigators, and witnesses in criminal cases, as well as frequently advising the police, is always going to be a taint - real or imagined - on the legitimacy of a secret grand jury called by a prosecutor to impartially present a case targeting a police officer.

All told, the grand jury returned 58 indictments against 25 people

That is why special prosecutors and independent police-oversight boards with investigative powers have been urged as a solution to the problem, most recently here in

In the interest of the public, grand juries can be convened and can conduct their own investigations without specific guidance by a prosecutor. For a historical perspective on the idea of independent investigations versus grand juries, there was a case here in New Mexico where – for one fall and winter 66 years ago – a "runaway" grand jury took on police and government corruption head on.

Eighteen-year-old Cricket Coogler, a waitress and reputed party girl known to associate with politicians in Doña Ana County, as well as those visiting from Santa Fe, disappeared in March 1949. Her body was found, bruised and partially clothed, in the desert outside of Las Cruces. Although

Sheriff A.L. "Happy" Apodaca announced that Coogler had been the victim of rape and murder, no autopsy was performed. Bizarrely, her body was quickly covered with lime and reburied.

After being held "voluntarily" incommunicado for three days, a Black student from New Mexico State University was charged with Coogler's murder. An El Paso reporter

> nosing around on his day off talked to the man and exposed the illegal detention after which Sheriff Apodaca put the prisoner in solitary confinement. Apodaca later released him after his landlady (who had been threatened by the sheriff

against doing so) backed his alibi.

Another Black man was tortured for information but released. According to a Time magazine article in 1949, a bunch of ranchers were all for handling Apodaca and his political cronies "in the good old western way," but New Mexico State University students circulated a petition for a grand jury that got enough signatures, and one was convened.

The grand jury, according to the Time article, "began laying about with a trumpeting, trunk-swinging fury." Grand juries are allowed to conduct their own investigations and call their own witnesses. This one did so with a vengeance, indicting the sheriff for attempted rape of a 15-year-old who had nothing to do with the Coogler killing. It raided gambling joints on its own and confiscated gambling machines. It has been credited with stymieing the Cleveland mob's attempt to turn New Mexico's southern border into a mini Las

The grand jury also indicted Dan Sedillo. chairman of the New Mexico State Corporation Commission, for getting Coogler drunk and for "possessing her for evil purposes." In the end, the grand jury never determined who killed Coogler, although the State Police and other politicians were implicated.

All told, the grand jury returned 58 indictments against 25 people, ended widespread illegal gambling in Doña Ana County, and brought a "cold sweat of apprehension springing to the brows of many highly placed public officials."

Separately, Sheriff Apodaca and two others wound up doing federal time for violating the civil rights of the man they tortured. It was one of the first federal prosecutions for civil rights in the country. New Mexico's famous "runaway grand jury" set an example of the progressive havoc an inspired group of citizens might accomplish against crime, corruption and cronyism.

Roderick Kennedy is the chief judge of the New Mexico Court of Appeals.

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BY DENNIS DOMRZALSKI

lbuquerque Mayor Richard Berry's office is being Albuquerque Mayor Richard Berry Ellasted for calling a news conference and then refusing to allow a reporter to attend the event.

Margaret Wright, a reporter for the New Mexico Political Report, received an email notice from the Mayor's Office on Jan. 20 saying that Berry, U.S. Attorney Damon Martinez and others would be available to answer questions from the media, at 4:30 p.m. in the mayor's conference room on the 11th floor of City Hall, about the selection of a monitor to oversee implementation of police reforms under the city's settlement agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice.

But when Wright showed up in the waiting area outside the Mayor's Office, she was confronted by an Albuquerque police officer who asked if she had media credentials. When she said she didn't, Wright was walked away from the Mayor's Office and told she would not be allowed inside. A reporter from this newspaper was briefly denied entrance into the news conference but ultimately gained entrance to

The request for credentials, which many reporters don't carry, and the city's refusal to let Wright into the news conference that it called, has outraged the local chapter of the nation's oldest professional journalists group.

"If Mayor Richard Berry's administration is going

to send out news releases inviting news organizations to news conferences, then the mayor and his subordinates must allow those news organizations' journalists to attend when they show up," the Rio Grande Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists said in a statement.

"The Rio Grande chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists strongly condemns the mayor's arbitrary barring of journalists from important news events that impact the community.

"The practice runs the risk of giving the public the perception that it is used to keep out members of the press that the city doesn't like. Powerful government officials should not be allowed to pick and choose which reporters cover them."

Mayor's Office spokeswoman Rhiannon Schroeder said staff and security asked reporters for credentials because it wanted to avoid a repeat of the experience last spring when activists staged a sit-in at the Mayor's Office to protest police shootings.

"Security is our primary concern here and we do need credentialed media," Schroeder said, adding that Wright would be allowed in to mayoral news conferences once she gets a credential.

Wright said she tried explaining to the officer that she was a reporter with a legitimate news organization, but that the officer would not listen.

"He said he had gotten orders from high up that

only credentialed media would be admitted. I asked what constituted credentials and he couldn't answer that," Wright said. "I felt intimidated, by the proximity of the police officer and his body language. He used his body to physically urge me out of the room.

"I didn't feel like I had much choice and I didn't feel like getting arrested," Wright said.

Wright, a former editor at the Weekly Alibi, tweeted about her experience, and on Jan. 23 got a call from Berry's Chief of Staff Gilbert Montaño who "all but apologized" for the incident, Wright said.

Albuquerque attorney Greg Williams, board chair of the New Mexico Foundation for Open Government, said the law generally allows government entities to limit access to news events to members of the media for efficiency and safety reasons.

"The gray area, though, is what is the media?" Williams asked. "Do you have to be a brick-and-mortar TV station or newspaper? Or can you be a blogger? All this has changed in the last 10 years as the walls have come down. To the extent that someone who seeks access is in the news gathering business, they should be allowed access.

"I think public entities and the City of Albuquerque should err on the side of allowing as much access as possible. This is such an important issue, and the citizenry is best served by as much media scrutiny as possible."

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Lack of Funding Could Derail Amtrak Service to N.M.

BY BILL DIVEN

With venerable ritual, Amtrak's Southwest Chief trundles twice daily into Albuquerque where passengers cooped up for hours stretch their legs while the train is fueled and serviced.

The scene dates to the 19th century, travelers lighting up cigarettes or scanning the wares of trackside vendors peddling burritos, jewelry and New Mexico trinkets. No one sends telegrams anymore, so some of the idling passengers punch cell phones. Others barely linger on the platform as they stretch their legs en route to Chicago, Los Angeles or any of 30 Amtrak stops in between.

The Chief logged about 80,000 passenger arrivals and departures in Albuquerque last budget vear. Add another 34,000 in northeast New Mexico passing through Lamy, a gateway to Santa Fe, Las Vegas, home to state and international colleges, and Raton, the railhead for Philmont Scout Ranch. Out west, Gallup counted 16,000 more.

Where residents, students and thousands of Boy Scouts take advantage of a useful travel service, civic leaders see a valuable source of tourism and economic development.

One that could all go away.

"The losses would be substantial," Las Vegas Mayor Alfonso E. Gonzales, Jr. told ABQ Free Press. "We have local travelers, out-of-state travelers, the fiscal impact, we'd be losing taxes. It's just unbelievable the amount of people employed directly from Amtrak in food, lodging and retail."

The new owners of the Plaza Hotel in Las Vegas are already drawing rail travelers familiar with their previous restoration of La Posada, the Fred Harvey hotel fronting the tracks in Winslow, Ariz. The owners hope for similar success with their restoration of La Castañeda, the 1899 Harvey hotel adjacent to the Las Vegas Amtrak station.

In Santa Fe two months ago, Amtrak's Ray Lang told a legislative committee that without state help the federal rail corporation can't maintain deteriorating track in western Kansas, southeast Colorado and northeast New Mexico. It can even less afford to shift the Chief to an alternate route on the BNSF Railway through Oklahoma, north Texas and the New Mexico cities of Clovis and Belen, he added.

"This is an existential threat to this train," said Lang, Amtrak's senior director of national state relations. "The train is at great risk."

The single local New Mexico news report of the meeting touched lightly on the Chief's future while highlighting an economic impact study released by the state Department of Transportation. A DOT consultant found Amtrak's current route adds \$26 million a year to the regional economy with the state taking a hit of under \$4 million in lost jobs, taxes and



An Amtrak train arrives in Albuquerque from Chicago earlier this year. The high cost of fixing deteriorating track could

business if the train moved to the Clovis-Belen line. Amtrak critics and government watchdogs

promptly pounced on it making no sense to spend \$4 million a year to save less than that. "I think even middle school graduates can figure out this is a bad deal for New Mexico," wrote the author of one letter

'The losses would be substantial. We have local travelers, out-of-state travelers, the fiscal impact, we'd be losing taxes. It's just unbelievable the amount of people employed directly from Amtrak in food, lodging and retail'

- Las Vegas Mayor Alfonso E. Gonzales Jr.

The DOT study, however, assumed BNSF would welcome Amtrak on the busy freight-only section of what it calls the Southern Transcon. It also took for granted the Chief would still call at Albuquerque, an up-and-back detour off the Transcon an Amtrak spokesman has called "problematic." There was no mention of losing the train altogether.

This trouble arose when BNSF announced it would only maintain track for freight-train speeds after its contract with Amtrak expires in January 2016. The edict covers 632 miles from near Hutchinson, Kan., to Dalies, N.M., a rail junction 40 miles southwest of Albuquerque, but excludes state-owned Rail Runner Express track between Lamy and Isleta Pueblo.

The downgrade in speed would add hours to the Amtrak schedule, shaving 20 miles an hour off the 79 mph speed limit on the better track (that once was rated at 90 mph). On about 300 miles of older track a John Deere tractor could outrun the train.

Compounding New Mexico's problem – the 1995 merger creating BNSF led to elimination of long-haul freight trains through Albuquerque in favor of routings via Amarillo, Texas. Gov. Bill Richardson claimed that fees from those freight trains would underwrite maintenance on the Lamy-Raton track that the state agreed to buy in 2006 as part of the Rail Runner project. Gov. Susana Martinez backed out of the purchase early in 2013.

From its founding in 1971, Amtrak has limped along on the funding whims of Congress and now squeezes money from states like California and Illinois for regional train operations. Three years ago, Amtrak came hat in hand to Kansas, Colorado and New Mexico proposing a five-way split on \$200 million to maintain the Southwest Chief's track. The states would pony up \$4 million each for 10 years, and Amtrak and BNSF would cover the rest.

Then in September the city of Garden City, Kan won a highly competitive \$13 million federal grant backed by \$9 million in local matches, enough to upgrade the worst 56 miles of track on either side of the Kansas-Colorado state line. Garden City's application rallied financial support from the Kansas DOT, Amtrak, BNSF, local governments in both states and the Colorado Rail Passenger Association.

Also in 2014, Colorado legislators formed a commission to hunt for and administer whatever money is raised there while the 2014 New Mexico Legislature funded two studies: the DOT cost-benefit report and a legal analysis finding the state can subsidize

Garden City's grant (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery, TIGER for short) relieved some immediate pressure as New Mexico missed a Dec. 31 deadline to take action, according to spokesmen for both BNSF and Amtrak. So train speeds won't suddenly drop next Jan. 1.

But Amtrak has yet to update how that grant affects aid from New Mexico, frustrating officials and advocates trying to lobby legislators for the maintenance subsidy. The lack of firm cost estimates also stalled a local TIGER grant application likely due in March and aimed at signal and bridge upgrades.

"This is a one-year extension of the TIGER grant program Congress graciously funded albeit at \$100 million less," said Ford Robbins, who heads the New Mexico section of the Amtrak Southwest Chief Coalition. "For me this is it, or it's a lost situation."

During the 2014 Legislature Rep. Roberto "Bobby" Gonzales, a Democrat from Ranchos de Taos, gathered bipartisan support to cover Amtrak's \$4 million annual subsidy through severance-tax bonds repaid mostly by oil and gas taxes. The bill passed 47-12 but stalled in the Senate along with the companion bill introduced by Sen. Pete Campos, a

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Four Years Later, Unanswered Questions Linger in Mary Han's Death

BY DAVID CORREIA

At 3:26 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 17, 2010, prominent Albuquerque attorney Mary Han emailed her banker at Wells Fargo. "I'm about to pay off the remainder of the balance on my line of credit," she wrote. "I would like to know whether I will be able to borrow another \$120,000 next year and at what interest rate. Thanks. Mary.'

Less than 24 hours later she would be dead. According to at least one Albuquerque Police official, she killed herself because she was depressed. The New Mexico Office of Medical Investigation called it a suicide by carbon monoxide poisoning.

But the events of the last few days of her life - days spent making short- and long-term plans for the future – and the strange circumstances surrounding what her family calls a "botched" investigation of her death, have led her family, friends and even some former Albuquerque police officers to doubt the claim by APD officials that she killed herself.

Wednesday, Nov. 17, 2010

Mary's friends and family describe her as a creature of habit. She was predictable and kept to a routine. Most days she got up early, before dawn, and either worked out at the gym or went for a run. She often stopped at the La Montañita Co-op on Rio Grande Boulevard Northwest before meeting her law partner, Paul Kennedy, at a coffee shop and then heading to her downtown law office.

Just after 8 a.m. on Nov. 17, she stopped at the co-op to buy a small breakfast and a sandwich and soup for lunch later. If she stuck to routine, she then met Paul Kennedy for coffee.

The call to 911 was 'in reference to a 52-year-old female in a vehicle in the garage no longer breathing'

Kennedy is a prominent defense attorney and widely regarded as one of the best criminal defense lawyers in New Mexico. In 2010, he led Susana Martinez's transition team after she was elected governor. He was appointed to fill unexpired terms on the New Mexico Supreme Court by Martinez in 2012 and former Gov. Gary Johnson in 2002.

Just after 1 p.m., Han went to her regularly scheduled acupuncture appointment where, before leaving, she confirmed a follow-up appointment for the next week. After a quick lunch, she met with her accountant in Uptown.

In late October, Han had told a family member that she planned to dissolve her law partnership with Kennedy. "I'm done," she said. "But this will be worse than a divorce, but I'm going to just get out because I'm sick and tired of Paul."

She said she might take the bar exam in California, where her daughter lived. But she also considered



staying in Albuquerque. Twice in early November, once with Kennedy, she took a tour of available office space on Albuquerque's West Side. The owner asked if Han was looking for space to house the Kennedy & Associates Law firm. She said they would be offices for her alone.

It was after the meeting with her accountant that Han sent the email to Wells Fargo asking to keep her line of credit open. Sometime after 4 p.m. she went to her office for a late meeting with Kennedy and a prospective client. After the meeting, she left the office and drove the 10 minutes home in her BMW

At 6:25 p.m. she called her sister Liz. They talked, as they usually did, about their day. They discussed Thanksgiving plans. Fifteen minutes into the conversation, Mary interrupted Liz to say that someone was at the door. "I'll call you back," she said. She never did.

Thursday, Nov. 18, 2010

Former APD Officer Tom Grover and Mary Han were regular workout partners. They planned to meet that morning at 6 at a local gym. Han never showed up. Her assistant Andrea arrived at the law office around 8 a.m. She was still in training and new to the job. Usually, each morning, Han would text or email her assistant a lengthy and detailed todo list. Neither arrived that morning. While waiting, Andrea worked on unfinished business. At 10 a.m., Andrea asked Kennedy if he knew where Han was. Kennedy called Han's cell phone at 11:30 a.m. There was no answer. He left the office and drove to Han's

An unattended death

APD Officers Jacob Welch and Tim Lonz were dispatched to 3022 Colonnade Ct. N.W., a territorial-style townhouse in a cul-de-sac near Rio Grande Boulevard and Candelaria Road Northwest at 12:39 p.m. The call was "in reference to a 52-year-old female in a vehicle in the garage no longer breathing." Welch was first on the scene minutes after dispatch contacted him.

An Albuquerque Fire Department rescue engine arrived at 12:45. The front door was wide open and

the garage door was up. Welch reported finding Kennedy standing in the open garage next to Han's BMW.

According to police reports, Kennedy told the officers that Han didn't answer the door when he knocked so he entered the house with a key that he said Han had given him He called out for Han from the foyer, he told Welch. Hearing no response he walked to the kitchen and through the living room and into the garage where he told police he saw Han sitting in her car.

He told Welch he opened the driver's-side door of the car and tried to "wake Ms. Han or get a response." He called 911 and reported an "accidental suicide." He then opened the garage.

According to police reports, Kennedy told the officers that Han didn't answer the door when he knocked so he entered the house with a key that he said Han had given him

Welch checked for vital signs and found none. He noted that the car was turned off and the windows rolled down. Han's feet were propped up on the dashboard to the left of the steering wheel and her arms were folded and in her lap. She was wearing work-out clothes and reading glasses.

The key was in the ignition and a glass of what Lonz reported as "an unknown clear liquid" was on the center console. Welch said it "smelled like vodka." The glass, however, was not collected into evidence and was never tested.

Welch noted that "the vehicle engine was completely cold to the touch and the vehicle also appeared to have a dead battery."

APD Field Investigator Mike Muniz arrived on the scene along with additional APD officers, sergeants, and commanders. This was the beginning of what would become a parade of APD and City officials and even civilians into and throughout the house and garage. Welch reported that 15 APD personnel, from deputy chiefs to officers, were in the house as

In late October, Han had told a family member that she planned to dissolve her law partnership with Kennedy. 'I'm done,' she said. 'But this will be worse than a divorce'

well as city officials, and "additional personnel that were not identified" entered the house and garage. Days later Muniz would tell APD Forensics Unit Lt. Brian McCutcheon, who investigated APD's response, that officers had "lost control of the scene."

MARY HAN, PAGE 14

APD officers removed Han's body from the car and laid her on the concrete garage floor. It took 20 minutes to jump-start the car. When it started Welch noted that the gas tank was half-full and nothing electrical was turned on. Emergency personnel from the fire department concluded it was a "possible crime scene." They left and turned the scene over to APD.

If the tank was half-full, how had the car shut off? Welch called the local BMW dealership, Sandia BMW, and talked to a technician who told him the vehicle "did not have any built-in safeguards that would automatically shut the vehicle off for running for an extended period." Welch passed this along to Detective Muniz. Nothing in any of the official police reports answers the question.

A thorn in APD's side

Han was prominent among civil rights and criminal defense attorneys, but was especially prominent for her success in bringing lawsuits against the Albuquerque Police Department, against which she had won judgments. News of Han's death began to spread via texts and phone calls among APD officers and officials. Within an hour of Kennedy's 911 call, every one of APD's deputy chiefs was on the scene.

Then-City Attorney Rob Perry and Albuquerque Public Safety Director Darren White, who had previously served as director of New Mexico's Department of Public Safety under Gov. Gary Johnson, arrived at the scene.

Between 30 and 50 civilians unconnected to APD ducked under the crime scene tape and walked around the house. Muniz later found the tape torn down

Some people stood in front of the house with Kennedy and Han's sister Liz. Some walked into, around and through the house. Muniz put up crime scene tape in order to secure the scene during the investigation, but between 30 and 50 civilians unconnected to APD ducked under the crime scene tape and walked around the house. Muniz later found the tape torn down.

According to Grover, who arrived at the scene with Officer Robbin Burge shortly after the first responders, Deputy Chief Alan Banks, who would later serve as APD's interim police chief, entered a section of the house at one point and shut out the principal investigating officers. Grover said that action "displaced the principal officers and obviously acted in concert with [APD Commander Paul] Feist to thwart proper processing of the scene."

Sgt. Tim Lopez, who also arrived on the scene after the first responders, would later tell McCutcheon that he found Banks in the house looking through Han's private legal files, which included an active lawsuit in which Banks was named as a defendant.

Rob Perry, an attorney and a former prisons chief under Gov. Johnson, was friends with Kennedy and Han and once shared office space with them.

According to Mc-Cutcheon, Kennedy told Perry he wanted Han's computer. Perry ordered Banks to retrieve it from the BMW. Banks directed APD officer Robbin Burge to walk into the garage in the middle of the investigation, open the trunk, take out Han's computer and give it to Kennedy. Kennedy eventually left the scene with Han's computer. McCutcheon described this as an "absolute violation of every APD policy, word-for-word." Banks retired from

APD in January 2014 to become chief of police in Round Rock, Texas, a town north of Austin. I called Banks in Round Rock, leaving a message and asking if he could explain his actions, as reported by other APD officers, on the day of Han's death. He did not return the call.

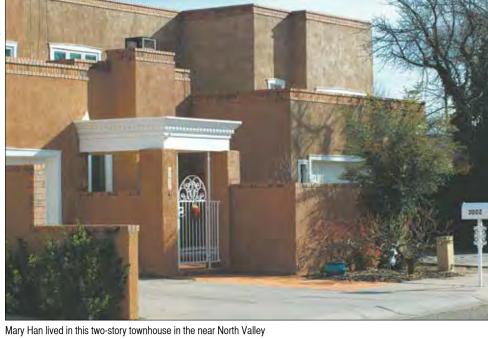
Suicide or homicide?

APD Commander Paul Feist walked into the garage with crime lab director Mark Adams while Muniz and a medical examiner were taking photographs of the body and the car. Feist had 20 years experience in the criminalistics unit. McCutcheon described Feist as someone who "literally wrote the book on crime scene investigation," telling me, "If you were at a crime scene you wanted Feist there. He did things by the book. He always took the extra step. And yet on this case he violated every standard operating procedure," McCutcheon said.

> Banks directed APD officer Robbin Burge to walk into the garage in the middle of the investigation, open the trunk, take out Han's computer and give it to Kennedy

According to McCutcheon, a field investigator at the scene of a possible suicide or accidental death should determine "if it's immediately obvious it's a suicide." Is there a suicide note? An eyewitness?

Lacking that, he said, an unattended death should be investigated as a possible homicide. The BMW technician could not explain why the car had shut off. There were no eyewitnesses to her death and no one found a suicide note. Sgt. Mike Meisinger told Grover and other officers on the scene to prepare to investigate the death as a homicide. Feist put an end to these plans. According to McCutcheon, Feist



looked quickly around the garage and told Muniz to stop taking photographs. "This is a suicide," he said. "Let's get this done quick."

In a nine-sentence supplemental report filed more than four months later, Feist wrote, "I learned that the victim was located inside her vehicle inside the

According to McCutcheon, Feist looked quickly around the garage and told Muniz to stop taking photographs. 'This is a suicide," he said. 'Let's get this done quick

garage and the death was possibly a suicide." His report does not explain how he learned this.

Despite the fact that first responders found Han's front door and garage wide open when they arrived on the scene, Mark Adams filed a late supplemental report as well, writing "[Commander Feist and I] were told the scene was consistent with a suicide scene being that the residence was locked and the victim was sitting inside a vehicle in the garage."

After telling Muniz to stop taking photos, Feist told Welch and Lonz not to canvass the neighborhood.

One of McCutcheon's criminalistics sergeants, Keith Johnson, was at a conference when he got a text about Han's death. Johnson got up to leave the conference in order to join the investigation. Feist contacted him to say he wasn't needed.

Han's cell phone was not recovered at the scene. Weeks later, Kennedy returned it to Han's sister. The phone's data had been deleted. A second laptop was in the house on the day Han died. A few days later Han's family noted that it was missing. There were no signs of forced entry.

A few months after her death, Mary Han's family reported that two diamond rings were missing. When McCutcheon told Feist that APD should investigate, Feist reportedly told him, "We don't

CONT. ON PAGE 15

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know if on the day before she died she didn't give those diamonds to some transient on the street."

The New Mexico Office of the Medical Investigator found that Han died with a carbon monoxide saturation in her system of 84.8 percent. According to Forensics Unit investigators, most saturation levels

A few months after her death, Mary Han's family reported that two diamond rings were missing

in suicides by carbon monoxide poisoning are in the 30 to 40 percent range. McCutcheon was unable to locate a single suicide case by carbon monoxide poisoning with levels as high as Han's.

Despite these discrepancies, the OMI ruled Han's death a suicide. When McCutcheon called to ask how they arrived at that determination, he was told the determination was based partly on a call made by Paul Feist to the OMI in which Feist said that Han was depressed at the time of her death.

Feist also called the crime lab and told the photo manager to personally call him with the name of anyone who requested access to any of the photos from the scene. I asked McCutcheon why Feist would make such an order. He told me, "It's not uncommon in an officer-involved shooting, but I've never seen it done for a suicide."

I reached Feist by telephone seeking to clarify his role in the investigation and to ask questions based on other officers' accounts of his actions at Han's home that day. He cut off my questions and said only, "I'm not going to comment at all on this story." Feist is no longer with APD. He now works as a hearing officer at the New Mexico Law Enforcement Academy in Santa Fe.

I repeatedly left phone messages for Kennedy – through his law office number, a cell phone number that another lawyer told me was his, and to a second office number – telling him I had questions about his actions the day he said he found Han's body. I left a message with one of his office staff outlining in detail the nature of my inquiry. Kennedy did not return the calls.

'Either it was an absolute case of total incompetence by everyone involved, or it was cover-up. Those are the only two possibilities'

- Retired APD Lt. Brian McCutcheon

A year after Han's death, Rosario Vega Lynn, an Albuquerque attorney representing Mary Han's estate, arranged to have the BMW 330i tested to find out why it had turned off. On two separate occasions in the fall of 2011, McCutcheon, by then retired from APD, and another technician placed the car in an enclosed trailer with a tank full of gas and a carbon monoxide monitor. With cameras

running, they sat around a video display and a bucket of chicken and waited. They were long nights. The car never shut off. On both occasions it ran until it was out of gas. In both tests, in a trailer three-times smaller than Han's garage, it took nearly four hours to achieve fatal levels of carbon

Han's family sued the City of Albuquerque claiming that APD "hindered, obstructed, and defeated the due course of justice with the intent to deny Plaintiffs equal protection under the law." A judge dismissed their claim. In a move that has generated controversy in the city's legal community, the City is now suing Mary Han's family to recoup its legal costs in the lawsuit. That case, and an appeal of the dismissal, is pending.

Regardless of the outcome of the legal cases, it would be difficult now to investigate Han's death as a possible homicide, or even prove a suicide. Evidence is missing. The scene was unsecured. Many of the people at the scene were not interviewed.

"When I realized what happened at that house," McCutcheon told me, "the hair stood up on the back of my neck. One of two things happened that day. Either it was an absolute case of total incompetence by everyone involved, or it was cover-up. Those are the only two possibilities."

David Correia is a freelance writer and a professor at the University of New Mexico.

AMTRAK, PAGE 13

Las Vegas Democrat.

Since then Republicans have taken control of the state House for the first time in 60 years, and the crashing price of oil has carried state revenues down with it. Rep. James Smith, the second-ranking Republican on the House Appropriations and Finance Committee, said he's "not real optimistic" Amtrak will get its subsidy.

"Three months ago, that looked like a great idea; right now it's looking like less of a great idea," Smith said recently. "They make a great argument that it's a great benefit, but they don't move that many people."

'Three months ago, [a state subsidy to the Southwest Chief] looked like a great idea; right now it's looking like less of a great idea'

– Sen. John Arthur Smith

Both Campos and Gonzales said they will try again in the session now underway. And both are approaching it as an economic development issue affecting more than two New Mexico cities and an unincorporated village.

"Infrastructure is very much the survival of any economic area," Gonzales said. "We can't just shut doors to that and wait for the right time."

Campos said the state helped the east-west Union Pacific Railroad develop its \$400 million Santa

Teresa terminal and cargo center opened last year in southern New Mexico and cannot dismiss the north-south Raton line as part of future economic development. Meanwhile the governor's just-proposed budget includes \$50 million for a fund to attract new employers to the state and \$180 million for major highway projects.

One unknown in all this is the internal thinking at BNSF, a corporation privately held by investor Warren

Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway, Inc. Among many questions is how much value BNSF sees in its own future on the

unused tracks or simply tear them up. "I think this is all a poker game," one participant in behind-the-scenes discussions told this newspaper. "That's what I've thought for the last four years."

Chief route and whether it's willing to pay taxes on



During the 2014 budget year 130,000 people stepped off Amtrak trains in New Mexico, visitors who could disappear if Amtrak service through the state is cut due to funding problems.

BNSF is playing its cards close to the vest saying it is not involved in talks between Amtrak and New Mexico. It did not respond to questions about the future of the New Mexico line should those

Bill Diven is a freelance journalist who lives in Placitas.

To the Editor

I love your paper. I love the fact that your paper exists. My take on it is this: the Alibi stopped being relevant a long time ago. There is not a voice for anyone that is not regurgitating AP articles anymore and then there is you guys.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR -

And you guys stick your neck out and your cover stories are always kind of not just grabbing, but they are actually tackling issues that are important and often just get swept under the rug. And that, to me, shows balls, if you will pardon my French. Because in this day and age, nobody takes those chances. Everybody plays it safe. They just want to sell papers to their advertisers and put out a paper that gets smaller and smaller and raise their advertising rates

It is hard enough to do press of any form. But to do a paper like that comes out and is free. Of course you guys need advertisers and things like that, but you cover real-world issues and real articles and things that relate to our city. When I first saw it, I was blown away.

I had been so disappointed in small press in this city for so long because it just became the same thing, or it became super glossy and irrelevant. ... There was no depth and there was no calling people out. Who is going to point fingers now-a-days and be like, "What you do is wrong!" How come this happens and nobody talks about it. And you guys do those things. You can't make it just about the money coming in. There has to be journalistic integrity to some point and you lose that in this day and age.

The people that have it are bloggers and little websites and things like that. People [call] them conspiracy theorists and freaks. And they are the ones that are talking the truth nowadays. You don't get that. You may get an op-ed piece in the paper once in a while, but pick up the Journal and what do you got? Nothing. So you guys actually write the articles that people need to hear. Maybe don't want to hear, but need to hear and that is kind of nice.

— Mike D-Elia, Astro-Zombies

To the Editor:

We've all heard the mantra, "Think globally, act locally." It was a refreshing new insight when it appeared on the scene. It was meant to remind us that we have power and responsibility to address big issues, and that we can do that without having to travel the world.

Unfortunately, we seem to have concentrated so hard on the "local" part that we are in danger of forgetting our global responsibility. Newspapers in particular are pretty firm about editorializing on only "local" issues.

So let's address the question of "what is local in today's world?"

By the time this is published, the funding conference for Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, will be over. We will know if Gavi, which has already vaccinated close to half a billion children and saved an estimated five million lives, will have enough resources to save an additional six million children's lives over the next four years. We will know if the U.S. pledged our share, \$1 billion, to make sure that happens.

So far no New Mexico newspaper has editorialized on what role our nation should play in bringing this measure of security to millions of families. As a member of RESULTS, a grassroots citizens lobby against hunger and poverty, I feel that is a loss.

Why? Why are global child welfare and other issues "local" and worthy of attention?

Because the poverty and conflict that accompanies child deaths costs the U.S. a lot of money in emergency and military aid, money that is drained from our cities and states.

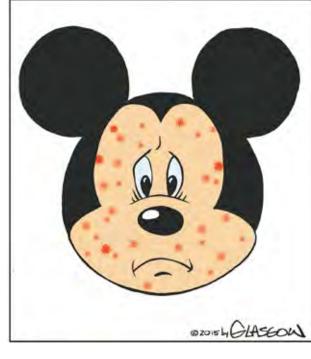
Because when we act locally, by communicating with our elected officials and building public support, we change the course of public policy and build a new relationship with our government. Even if we can't make the whole decision on a foreign aid question, we still have

Because keeping children everywhere safe is a moral imperative, and knowing that we can touch lives beyond our physical reach adds to our quality of life as human beings.

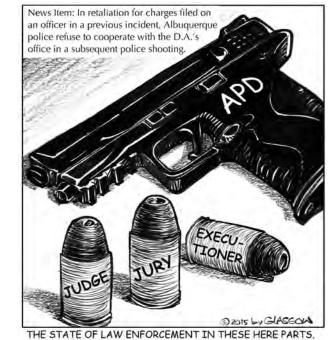
Let's re-examine "Think globally, act locally," and use it to reconnect with the world instead of insulating ourselves.

— Roxanne Allen

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Free Trade Pact Would Gut U.S. Consumer Protection

BY ROBERT REICH



Republicans who now run Congress say they want to cooperate with President Obama, and point to the administration's Trans-Pacific Partnership, or TPP, as the model. The only problem is the TPP would be a disaster.

If you haven't heard much about the TPP, that's part of the

problem right there. It would be the largest trade deal in history – involving countries stretching from Chile to Japan, representing 792 million people and accounting for 40 percent of the world economy – yet it's been devised in secret.

Lobbyists from America's biggest corporations and Wall Street's biggest banks have been involved but not the American public. That's a recipe for fatter profits and bigger paychecks at the top, but not a good deal for most of us, or even for most of the rest of the world.

First some background. We used to think about trade policy as a choice between "free trade" and "protectionism." Free trade meant opening our borders to products made elsewhere. Protectionism meant putting up tariffs and quotas to keep them out.

In the decades after World War II, America chose free trade. The idea was that each country would specialize in goods it produced best and at least cost. That way, living standards would rise here and abroad. New jobs would be created to take the place of jobs that were lost. And communism would be contained.

The foreign subsidiaries of U.S.-based corporations could just as easily challenge any U.S. government regulation they claim unfairly diminishes their profits – say, a regulation protecting American consumers from unsafe products or unhealthy foods

For three decades, free trade worked. It was a win-win-win.

But in more recent decades the choice has become far more complicated and the payoff from trade agreements more skewed to those at the top.

Tariffs are already low. Negotiations now involve such things as intellectual property, financial regulations, labor laws, and rules for health, safety, and the environment

It's no longer free trade versus protectionism. Big corporations and Wall Street want some of both.

They want more international protection when it comes to their intellectual property and other assets. So they've been seeking trade rules that secure and extend their patents, trademarks, and copyrights abroad, and protect their global franchise agreements, securities, and loans.

But they want less protection of consumers,



workers, small investors, and the environment, because these interfere with their profits. So they've been seeking trade rules that allow them to override these protections.

Not surprisingly for a deal that's been drafted mostly by corporate and Wall Street lobbyists, the TPP provides exactly this mix.

What's been leaked about it so far reveals, for example, that the pharmaceutical industry gets stronger patent protections, delaying cheaper generic versions of drugs. That will be a good deal for Big Pharma but not necessarily for the inhabitants of developing nations who won't get certain life-saving drugs at a cost they can afford.

The TPP also gives global corporations an international tribunal of private attorneys, outside any nation's legal system, who can order compensation for any "unjust expropriation" of foreign assets.

Even better for global companies, the tribunal can order compensation for any lost profits found to result from a nation's regulations. Philip Morris is using a similar provision against Uruguay (the provision appears in a bilateral trade treaty between Uruguay and Switzerland), claiming that Uruguay's strong anti-smoking regulations unfairly diminish the company's profits.

Anyone believing the TPP is good for Americans take note: The foreign subsidiaries of U.S.-based corporations could just as easily challenge any U.S. government regulation they claim unfairly diminishes their profits – say, a regulation protecting American consumers from unsafe products or unhealthy foods, investors from fraudulent securities or predatory lending, workers from unsafe working conditions, taxpayers from another bailout of Wall Street, or the environment from toxic emissions.

The administration says the trade deal will boost U.S. exports in the fast-growing Pacific basin where the United States faces growing economic competition from China. The TPP is part of Obama's strategy to contain China's economic and strategic prowess.

Fine. But the deal will also allow American corporations to outsource even more jobs abroad.

In other words, the TPP is a Trojan horse in a global race to the bottom, giving big corporations and Wall Street banks a way to eliminate any and all laws and regulations that get in the way of their profits.

At a time when corporate profits are at record highs and the real median wage is lower than it's been in four decades, most Americans need protection – not from international trade but from the political power of large corporations and Wall Street.

The Trans Pacific Partnership is the wrong remedy to the wrong problem. Any way you look at it, it's just plain wrong.

Robert B. Reich, chancellor's professor of public policy at the University of California at Berkeley and senior fellow at the Blum Center for Developing Economies, was secretary of labor in the Clinton administration. Time magazine named him one of the 10 most effective cabinet secretaries of the 20th century. He has written 13 books, including the bestsellers "Aftershock" and "The Work of Nations." His latest, "Beyond Outrage," is now out in paperback. He is also a founding editor of the American Prospect magazine and chairman of Common Cause. His new film, "Inequality for All," is available on Netflix, iTunes, DVD and On Demand. His blog is robertreich.org

Banking on 'Better Call Saul'

BY RETSY MODEL

Goodness knows Genny Banks knows most of the challenges of being married to a successful actor: being a quasi-single parent for long stretches of time, the surprises that come with a show being picked up (or let go), and the interruptions that come in public when people just want a quick word, autograph or photo op.

But, Genny admits with a rueful smile and a shake of her head, the last couple of years have been ... unusual.

"It's quite strange actually. We'll be out together, in a restaurant maybe, and if someone has an opportunity to come up to me when he's stepped away for a second they have these strange expressions on their face and show great concern," she laughs. "For my physical safety! They ask me 'Are you okay?' and 'Is he treating you okay?' and I have to reassure them that I'm fine. That I have a

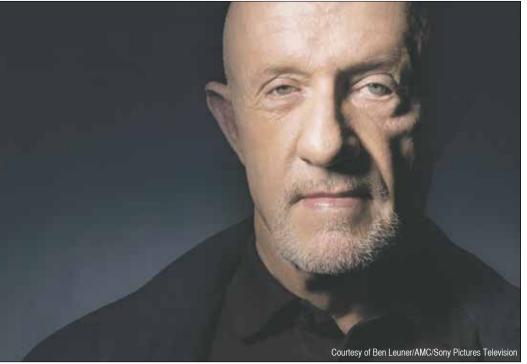
wonderful husband, that he's kind and loving and that we're actually a very happy couple. It's kind of a nice statement about him and his acting, I suppose, and about the show and the writers but it's also very odd for me as a woman. I actually have a fabulous husband!"

That her husband, actor Jonathan Banks, is being mistaken for his "Breaking Bad" – and now "Better Call Saul" – character Mike Ehrmantraut is a testament to his acting ability and to the show's writers because, really, who'd want to be married to a guy who offs people for a living?

For the global audience that made "Breaking Bad" a cult must-watch and helped it garner 114 film industry nominations, Banks's believability as Ehrmantraut, the former Philadelphia cop who winds up as a solver of messy problems – hit man, cleaner, enforcer, investigator – is so deeply entrenched that it's easy to forgive them for confusing the man for the character.

Banks admits there are certainly bits and pieces of each personality embedded in the other. For example, if Ehrmantraut, as the hired muscle for a huge crystal meth cartel, kills and disposes of bodies on a regular basis, he won't sugarcoat it or try and make up excuses for why it happened. For Ehrmantraut, Banks explains, it just is what it is.

"You know, I genuinely like Mike but I think the fans actually feel an affinity for Mike," he said. "He's beyond flawed. He knows he's lost his soul and he's never forgiven himself for it. He's not one of those people who justify what he does. But what Mike is, is honorable to his word. Mike's word can be taken to the bank, and I think fans care about him because they see that the one last bit of decency that he has and that he hungers for is his granddaughter,



Jonathan Banks returns as his "Breaking Bad" character Mike Ehrmantraut in the prequel "Better Call Saul," premiering in two segments on Sun., Feb. 8 and Mon., Feb. 9 on AMC.

whom he loves beyond words. And people understand that love and feel for Mike because of it."

Mike was killed off at the end of the series, a blow to fans, but a quick reprieve came when the show's creators and AMC announced that they were bringing at least two of the characters back – perhaps more – in a series focused on Bob Odenkirk's character Saul Goodman.

Based on the refrain heard when the boys got themselves into trouble and needed their attorney's help, "Better Call Saul" would focus on why the attorney formerly known as Jimmy McGill became Saul Goodman ("to sound more Jewish") and viewers would also see an early version of Mike Ehrmantraut as Goodman's investigator. It has been reported that Mike's back story will even serve up a slice of his days as a Philadelphia cop.

Prequels, more commonly attempted for the big screen, are fairly rare in television. For Banks the opportunity to keep playing Mike was a happy gift even if the announcement of the new series wasn't a complete surprise.

Banks admits that he began hearing rumors about a possible prequel a year earlier.

"I knew that Peter (director Peter Gould) and Vince (creator Vince Gilligan) loved the character of Saul and so when they began discussing a show built around Bob's character, I wasn't surprised. And, let's face it, Bob's incredible in the role. Unbelievably good. And the chance to keep playing Mike and to keep working with the team? Look, I love my writers and the writers love my character. They throw me bouquets (laughs) and give me staircase entrances. I have no complaints - none - and they've done a phenomenal job of giving Mike a distinct personality that's his own.

"For example, Mike's smart. You can't dumb Mike down. You'll never hear him use bad grammar or the wrong word. In fact, as far as I can tell Mike is

brighter and certainly more experienced (laughs) than poor Jonathan Banks is or probably ever will be."

Banks, 67, acknowledges that the hundred-plus industry nominations and wins that came with "Breaking Bad' was heady stuff, but he's no newbie to either quality work in film or earning accolades. He grew up in Washington D.C. and earned his first check for acting by doing summer stock theater. What followed was a mix of movies, television series and one-off guest appearances that remained remarkably steady for nearly 40 years.

In fact, says Banks, when people aren't mistaking him for Mike, they're calling out "Dutch" to him (from "Gangster Wars"), "Zach" (from "Beverly Hills Cop") or confusing him with Detective Frank McPike, the role he played for years on "Wiseguy."

If you could just move the Pacific Ocean to Albuquerque, I could very seriously live here.

— Jonathan Banks

Still, there's no question that "Breaking Bad" and now "Better Call Saul" will forever imprint Banks as Mike in fans' minds and Banks is perfectly happy with that. If initially the series was television's version of The Little Engine That Could ("Breaking Bad" was produced and aired on AMC only after four years of pitching to four other networks had failed) Banks says that what happened next when the final cast was assembled and came together was magic.

His role as Mike, he says, was initially only a one-off part as far as he knows.

"Honestly, I'm not positive about this but I think

JONATHAN BANKS, PAGE 19

when I initially got a call it was for "a cleaner" for one episode. I think they must have liked what I did because it became a recurring role. I've never asked the full details of what they had in mind and how it came about but I do remember, distinctly, going home to California from filming in Albuquerque and saying to Genny, 'I'm not sure but I think I just worked with a kid (actor Aaron Paul) that's really, really, really good.' I love Aaron Paul and as I became part of the cast I fell in awe and in love with everyone there."

Banks makes a quick face when asked if it became "family" but then pauses and admits, okay, yeah. Like family.

"Look, my first paycheck as an actor was 46, 47 years ago in summer stock and I can honestly say it was never, ever, ever any better than "Breaking Bad." C'mon, we're actors ... we didn't set out to care for each other as people. We're not bliss-mates, you know?! We went out there and it just happened. We didn't just win the lottery in the success of the show but we won the lotto with the ensemble.

"Trust me ... out of the whole crew I'm the last one in the bunch who's likely to get all warm and fuzzy but what we had was magic. Pure magic. And I feel the same way right now with the new show."

What Banks is also feeling at the time of this interview is excited about returning home to California for a few months alone with his wife – to hear him tell the quite romantic story of their meeting twentysix years ago, it was love at first sight and from the goo-goo eyes he continues to make, it still is – and



then, he says, he's back in New Mexico.

"Breaking Bad," initially scheduled to shoot in Riverside, California, was moved to locations in New Mexico because of the tax breaks offered the film industry six years ago and Banks, like all of the actors associated with "Breaking Bad" and now "Better Call Saul," has spent a fair amount of time going back and forth to either Los Angeles or New York.

To a large degree that's okay with Banks, he says. He's become fond of Albuquerque – with the possible exception of Menaul Boulevard – and enjoys his time spent shooting here. He's found a couple of favorite cafes, has gotten to know the staff in each by name and could easily see living here full-time except for one small item.

"What I've learned to love over the six seasons (filming in New Mexico) is discovering the little places ... the funny, simple little places. And, honestly, you've got the best airport in the world. The

world! It's easy, it's pretty, it's clean. The Sunport has the largest, best, cleanest restrooms - no, really! of any airport anywhere."

Driving and filming on the local roads? Banks isn't quite so enthusiastic. "You know, Menaul pisses me off! There's all this beautiful high desert and you see that rain coming across the mountains and big clouds and you're looking up at this magnificent light and sky and then ... there's Menaul. Somehow, paved over and full of tire stores, it feels like a desecration! Now, I can say the same thing about Los Angeles, for sure, maybe even more so, but when you go someplace as physically beautiful as New Mexico is with all the vistas and open space that's here that what you notice is the paving over of land."

Banks grins as he goes off about Menaul and then lists fourteen other reasons he's come to love shooting here including, he says, less tension.

"When you live in a big city like LA you tend to be guarded. You come here and people are more open, sometimes almost guileless. When they come up to you and say 'aren't you so-and-so' or 'didn't you play so-and-so,' it's sweet ... it's not like LA. It's not a business to them.

"I've met a lot of nice people here. Truly, a lot of spectacularly nice people. If you could just move the Pacific Ocean to Albuquerque, I could very seriously live here."

Betsy Model specializes in investigative pieces and personality profiles. She's a regular contributor to ABQ Free Press and her work has appeared in Rolling Stone, Vanity Fair and other national publications.





Deep Dish: Secrets of the Sommelier

Do you know what the phrase "fine dining" really means? Adrian Cabral does. And it has nothing to do with what you wear or even the quality of the food.

"Fine dining is the Captain's Service system, where they have up to three people serving your table," said Prairie Star's new sommelier. "Here, the only two places we really have fine dining service are The Rancher's Club and Geronimo [in Santa Fe]. At Prairie Star and other places like Seasons and Scalo, what we have is 'casual fine dining.' That's very good, consistent service."

Cabral and Executive Chef Chris Olsen worked together at Seasons in Albuquerque, where Cabral was general manager. Recently, Cabral was at Scalo; he has also worked at Los Poblanos and Inn of the Anasazi, and is now a Level II Certified Sommelier, having received his designation from The Court of Master Sommeliers in San Francisco. (See sidebar for a description of sommelier designations and education requirements).

"I've been really lucky to work at a lot of great places," he said. "That's where I got most of my knowledge of wine service, at the restaurants I've worked

Sommelier Cabral works closely with Chef Olsen coordinating the wine list to be sure his wine choices are in line with the food menu, and keeping up with customers' changing tastes.

"Wine selection all depends on what's seasonal, what Chef is excited about, and what people are into," Cabral said.

Prairie Star already has "a lot of wine on property," Cabral noted. "I know Sam (the former sommelier) had Old World tastes, so there is a lot of Southern Rhône, Nebbiolo, a good selection of Italy, Spain and France right now."

Pairing wine with food uses many techniques, not the least of which is contrasting, the opposite of harmonizing. Sometimes, Cabral told me, you want to "cut through" a flavor instead of choosing something that sets it off. "Look at the wine as a tool, and figure out what you can do with that tool."

So I asked him my burning question: which tool goes with salad? "There are definitely wines that lend themselves to greens, just as there are things to stay away from,"

he said. "We do vegetarian wine tastings here often." Cabral suggested White Burgundy or White Bordeaux that have no heavy wood or vanilla flavors. White Bordeaux uses the Sauvignon Blanc grape, "mellowed out with just a touch of Semillon, and the honey gives it a light sweetness," he said.

Heavier and winter dishes in general need wines that are "a little warmer, a touch more fruit forward,



not so much tannin," Cabral said. "A lot of French wine goes with just about any kind of food."

Working with an already existing wine collection requires editing, organizing and, most of all, knowing your customer. Cabral's work at Inn of the Anasazi taught him a lot.

"There's a high-end clientele from New York and L.A. and Texas, the larger markets. A lot of those folks are into their comfort zone, so you'll see wine names that are easily recognizable from any great restaurant menu. But you also want to push the boundaries a little bit: you want to be there when somebody's ready to make the jump to something different. I want to keep on the safe side, but also stay true to what I think would excite my patron's

Wine drinkers tend to stick to their favorite wines, and so are very subjective about their choices. However, according to Cabral, one quality of a good sommelier is objectivity.

"Lots of people say, for example, 'I don't like Chardonnay.' But it depends on how it's made and where it's from," he said. "Some only want to taste a creamy, buttery, oaky Chardonnay, and, if that's

To Be a Sommelier

Special duties and rigorous training *characterize the profession* BY JIM HAMMOND

Fine-dining restaurants often employ a sommelier to handle many, if not all, wine duties. While waiters at these restaurants may also possess knowledge of the wine list and can offer wine advice, it is the sommelier who is trained for that job.

Not all sommeliers wear the silver tasting cup or tastevin, but their confidence with wine makes them instantly recognizable.

The Court of Master Sommeliers (CMS), established in 1977, is an independent examining body that offers four levels of expertise with wine and wine service. There are many organizations involved in wine education and certification, but CMS is the largest and most respected. The North American Sommelier Association (NASA) is another organization that provides sommelier certification. (This NASA has nothing to do with space exploration.)

A first level sommelier is not a certified sommelier. That requires level two or above. A level one student attends an intensive two-day class given by Master Sommeliers, followed by a 70-question written exam. Candidates learn the CMS Deductive Tasting Method and taste and evaluate wines during the class. The class reviews the world of wine, wine laws, viticulture and even beer, Sake and spirits.

Significant preparation for the exam assures success. Years of wine service are recommended but not required, to gain a diploma.

Above level two are an advanced sommelier (level three) and finally, the master sommelier (level four). The advanced exams are harder to pass than a state bar exam. There are currently around 220 master sommeliers worldwide, attesting to the difficulty of reaching this level of wine mastery.

A high-end restaurant that prides itself on its wine cellar might employ a certified sommelier, but most fine-dining establishments only require a level one diploma. The sommelier's duties can include making up the wine list, ordering the wine and managing the wine cellar, working with the chef to provide wines that pair well with the cuisine, training the wait staff and even waiting tables and busing

Making wine recommendations is perhaps the easiest part of the job, but a good sommelier elevates the quality and service of a restaurant.

Even wine-savvy diners should avail themselves of a "somm" as they are sometimes called. A good one knows the entire wine list and which wines pair well with menu entrées. They are happy to make suggestions and most will even steer a diner away from a higher-priced wine if a less expensive one pairs better with the food.

The sommelier is there to make the diner's experience exceptional.

Jim Hammond is The Southwestern Wine Guy.

SOMMELIER, PAGE 21



what you're into, that's fantastic. It wouldn't be my first choice. It's not about being pretentious or being a wine snob, it's keying into where this person is on their journey."

As body chemistry changes over the years, you might find yourself branching out or returning to old favorites. "Your palate changes," Cabral said. "Some wines that piqued my interest when I was young, I'm kind of moving back to. It's about finding that moment and finding the right match for it."

With a pregnant wife and three little girls at home, Cabral cooks for the family "big time," and is a fan of seasonal food and drink."If it's hot outside, I drink sparkling wine, beer and lighter reds. In the winter time, I start looking towards Bordeaux and deeper reds."

For a man from New Mexico, Cabral's experience living in Seattle for a time was a shock. "When I first got there they had 100 days of rain in a row. Friends told me 'Get a UV lamp, drink some coffee,' but it's overgrown with gray skies, not very pastoral or open." He didn't stay long but he did learn how to pair wines with seafood.

"Restaurant chefs look online at photos of justcaught fish, pick it out, and it's on the doorstep within the day," Cabral pointed out. "You can get fresh seafood here in New Mexico."

You can also get homegrown wines. Cabral is happy that New Mexico wines are getting more national attention, and thinks there are a lot of strong wineries here striving to be great. They are sometimes hampered by the climate.

"Wine making is really hard. You have to get three things to line up – science, Mother Nature and art," he said. Prairie Star carries Gruet wines on their menu.

All in all, Cabral feels the restaurant business chose him, his fine wine palate aside.

"I was lucky to get into Geronimo when I was very young," he recalled. "I started right when Eric DiStefano (now of Coyote Café) did. He opened my eyes to a different world of cuisine – in the '90s, fusion was big. It was fun and I made great money."

Saffron Tomato would like to make great money

Morning Brew Loses Ahrens, Gains New Format

BY ABQ FREE PRESS STAFF

The Morning Brew TV talk show hosted by local broadcast personality Larry Ahrens closed for several weeks in December and January to restage and retool. Starting Mon., Feb. 2, the show will be back with a new host, Dan Mayfield, a reporter with Albuquerque Business First.

Ahrens has left to host a new online radio program. The name of the TV show, formerly The Morning Brew

With Larry Ahrens, will be called The Morning Brew With

The format for the show will also change. It will retain the present four-segment schedule, but many of the guests will stay on screen for the full hour. The program will culminate in a round-table discussion of a daily topic selected by Mayfield and the producers. Guests will be asked to comment on the topic presented.

The Morning Brew airs live at 7-8 a.m. Mon.-Fri. and is rebroadcast at 9 a.m. and 10 p.m. on uPUBLIC. uPUBLIC operates uABQTheIndependent Producers Network on Comcast cable under the uTV umbrella. The video is rerun on YouTube.com and now will also be available at AlbuquerqueBusinessFirst.com.

At present, ABQ Free Press partners with uPUBLIC to produce an 11-minute news and arts segment on Tuesday mornings at 7:32 a.m. That segment will expand into the full hour on Tuesdays.

Over the past year, ABQ Free Press has brought news reporters, performers and a variety of out-of-town and local personalities to their weekly segment. For information on TV appearances, contact Stephanie Hainsfurther at (505) 301-0905.





Thirsty Gardener: Snow Day!

BY STEPHANIE HAINSFURTHER

Ty backyard border measures nearly 250 feet around the perimeter. You'd think it would be lush by now; I've been throwing perennials into it for 15 years. But it's January and I can't see a thing out there except the stout twigs of a Fernbush and one surviving evergreen tree.

The evergreen (I can't remember what type, purchased from Plants of the Southwest on Fourth Street) is smallish, maybe five feet high, and weighed down with snow. I was hoping it would grow to the promised 15 feet and screen out the neighbors' looming treehouse with the ugly blue tarp wrapped around it. But the tree gets too much wind and so remains stunted.

The more I look at that evergreen today, the more I like the size it decided to be. The winter-bare border would benefit from more of the same. Although autumn is for planting, especially trees, now is the perfect time to plan for next winter's snow days, and design an evergreen border to fill in when flowering perennials die back.

My friend Sam, who also grew up in the rural reaches of New Jersey (it's not all turnpikes and graveyards), tells me every former country kid needs woods to wander in. But that green, secret place may be difficult to achieve if you have a yard like mine that is overlooked by neighbors.

Even a yard smaller than mine can sport a mini-grove with a few evergreen shrubs and small trees. They don't have to be huge. Hedge plants can grow tall enough to cast some shade and screen out unwanted views. A stand of evergreens also lends protection to small creatures and birds and encourages them to linger.

Here are a few evergreen trees and shrubs that can add year-round interest



to your garden. All are suitable for our high-desert climate.

Evergreens for full- or part-sun locations

Colorado Blue Spruce (Picea pungens) is that giant tree of the forest that one of my neighbors had for many years in his front yard. It dwarfed the house and made his pick-up truck look like a Tonka toy. Last winter it fell over. He replaced it with another one, now just three feet high. I'd say that was a bad idea, but we'll all be dead by the time it grows up to its original 40 feet, so who cares?

I urge you, however, to try a blue spruce cultivar, 'Fat Albert,' that grows to about 15 feet and has that same deepblue color to its needles if you plant it in full sun. And if you have any luck with the dwarf spruce 'Baby Blue Eyes,' let me know. I've killed three of them.

A pine tree that is scaled well for

Albuquerque yards is *Pinus strobus*. Its folk name is Eastern White Pine, but this tree will grow here in well-drained soils and makes an excellent windbreak.

I am enthusiastic about Fernbush (Chamaebatiaria millefolium), an evergreen that puts out long, white panicles of flowers in June and July. The rich, green foliage looks like tiny ferns. It survives on almost no additional water after establishing. Fly to your nearest nursery and get this plant. And a really good set of pruners. Mine got to be almost six-feet tall last year, so I gave it a radical haircut and cut the bush in half. After last summer's rains, it's now up to five feet and almost as wide. If you want a dense, private hedge, Fernbush will do the trick.

Evergreens for shade

No evergreen really likes dense shade, but afternoon shade can keep the tips from turning brown. The taller evergreens you plant will shade their own roots, so anything you plant under and around them will need to adapt, too.

I've seen Mahonia aquifolium (Oregon Grape-Holly) thrive in a friend's Northeast Heights backyard beneath evergreens, deciduous trees and climbing roses.

Plant a dwarf variety like 'Compactum' or 'Atropurpurea.' *Mahonia* has interest in every season, including winter.

Japanese Yew (Taxus x media) stays low here, about three feet, and is a quirky partner to the American Yews we see here at Home Depot and Lowe's. It also withstands dry heat.

As an alternative to the ubiquitous Nandina spp., try Winter Daphne (Daphne odora). It gets dark glossy leaves in the cold season and sometimes has red berries. I have nothing against Nandina - there is one I absolutely love outside a favorite window – but having something different than your neighbor does spark engaging over-the-fence conversations.

One last word of advice: If you want to rest your eyes on green in winter, and cannot abide the views from your neighbor's yard, get yourself a big old Ponderosa pine (Pinus ponderosa) that grows 45-150 feet tall. It will make your patio home look like a Tumbleweed Tinv House but you won't have to stare back all summer at the kids in the tree.

Stephanie Hainsfurther is the author of "Pocket Gardening for Your Outdoor Spaces." Send gardening questions to her at Stephanie@freeabq.com

Enter our Flash Fiction Contest



Submission Deadline:

Friday, February 27, 2015

Write short, and write fast. Enter the ABQ Free Press Flash Fiction Contest for a chance to win \$75 and publication in our March 11, 2015 issue.

Only unpublished short stories no longer than 650 words submitted by email or snail mail will be accepted. Any subject matter, but keep the words clean. No matter how short, your submission should be a complete story, with a beginning, middle and end.

No entry fee. Multiple entries OK. Include your name, email and phone number. Entries will be judged by a panel of professional writers whose decisions are final.

DEADLINE: Entries must be emailed or snail mailed by midnight Mountain time, Friday, February 27, 2015. No exceptions. Email to stephanie@freeabg.com or snail mail to Flash Fiction Contest, ABQ Free Press, PO Box 6070, 87197-6070. Winners will be notified by Friday, March 6. No phone calls, please.



Must-See Shows Connect Art, Design to ABQ

Exhibit celebrates the marriage of two major cultures

To an art lover, there is nothing better on a warm winter day than a personal tour of a new museum show by the head curator herself.

"We wanted to show the complexity of Brazilian culture," said Tey Marianna Nunn of the National Hispanic Cultural Center, who speaks Portugese herself. "Brazil hosted the World Cup, and I remember watching it and not seeing a lot of Afro-Brazilian culture on display. It was quite astonishing that you wouldn't see that conveyed in worldwide



Artwork by Tiago Gualberto. Image courtesy of National Hispanic Cultural Center

Nunn and her fellow curators and collaborators have certainly taken this opportunity to bring together the top contemporary artists in Brazil. There are materials, media and subject matters that many viewers will have never

That they did it on a small budget is even more praiseworthy.

"Our mission is to cover it all [among the Hispanic world cultures], but we have a penchant and a budget for doing things closer," Nunn said.

A state grant barely covered the backdrops and paint, but Nunn has influential friends and can-do colleagues.

She called in Tamarind Institute at UNM so she could display the works of six lithographers, three from Brazil and three from North America, from Tamarind's 2012 invitational event "AFRO: Black Identity in America." At the beginning of the exhibit a wall installation features cordeles (chapbooks), colorfully illustrated, low-cost literature sold on the streets in Afro-Brazilian communities. The cordeles are from the collection of UNM's Center for Southwest Research and the UNM Art Museum. Dr. Paulo Lima, a photographer, lent his extraordinary images to the NHCC to show the garments of believers in Candomblé, an Afro-Brazilian religion.

Candomblé is central to the fourth and final room of the exhibit, showing ofrendas (altars) dedicated to the Yoruban gods and goddesses (Orixás) whose images hang above them. Many of the ofrenda objects and images were donated by UNM's Center for Southwest Research; the rest came from

Nunn expects about 50,000 people to see the exhibit by the time it closes in mid-August, twice as many as usually visit an NHCC museum show.





The visual arts insiders of Albuquerque like to collaborate with each other. And when they do, there is nothing they do better than citywide events connected by theme.

"On the Map: Unfolding Albuquerque Art + Design" (abgonthemap. com) is a collaboration by 24 visual arts organizations (to date) to place the city's name in the forefront of contemporary art worldwide. To that end, the organizers have obtained separate grants to put on exhibits and other events, and to advertise them outside of New Mexico. The hope is that residents and visitors alike will understand that Albuquerque is a nerve center for art.

For instance, 516 Arts is putting on a series of events surrounding the alliance, the first of which is "From the Ground Up: Design Here + Now" (516arts.org). The four curators are from the fields of design and architecture and are well known, in and outside of New Mexico.

"They choose to live here," said Suzanne Sbarge, executive director of 516 Arts. "Albuquerque is a place where innovation is generated. But we're both connected to and isolated from the rest of the world's creative economy. We want to raise our profile."

Each of the four curators – Viviette Hunt, Kristen Shaw, Katva Crawford and Mira Woodson - is both an artist and an entrepreneur, said Sbarge, and the exhibit in particular will show "how their creative minds work."

"From the Ground Up" opens Sat., Jan. 31. From 5-6 p.m., there will be a preview and curator's tour. A public reception will be held from 6-8 p.m. with food and drink from Tractor Brewing and Cuisine del Corazón.

Dance and musical performances are part of the evening's entertainment, and there is a one-night-only pop-up exhibit around the corner at Central Features Gallery. The larger exhibit runs through April 11.

Over at South Broadway Cultural Center, "The Bomb" art show is also part of "On the Map" now through Feb. 28 (cabq.gov/sbcc).

"We're highlighting local and regional artists," said Curator Augustine Romero. "They're all part of the contemporary art scene in Albuquerque.'

Albuquerque is a place where innovation is generated. But we're both connected to and isolated from the rest of the world's creative economy. We want to raise our profile.

At Albuquerque Museum of Art and History (cabq.gov/museum) "Visualizing Albuquerque," curated by Joseph Traugott with an accompanying book, is opening Sat., Jan. 31 and will close after May 3. This special combination of history and art tells the story of the arts in Albuquerque in a way that Museum Director Cathy Wright calls "ground breaking." In the Museum West gallery is "All Over the Map: The Ongoing Dialogue of Public Art" through April 5, which includes an interactive portion so visitors can contribute to that discourse.

Look for more coverage of upcoming "On the Map" exhibits and other events in our Artspree pages throughout the year.

Italian Film Fest Pairs Films and Food

The very best events just get better every vear, a reflection of the organizers' passion for their work.

"I am very excited because we are having three showcase films this year, and we have never had that before," said Maria Arancio Berry, managing director of the New Mexico Italian Film & Culture Festival.

The three BIG films are "Salvo," an awardwinning crime thriller, "beautifully done," according to Berry; "Che Strano Chiamarsi Federico (How Strange to Be Named Federico)," a film by Federico Fellini friend and acclaimed director Ettore Scola, commemorating the anniversary of Fellini's death; and "Il Capitale Humano (Human Capital)," a drama documenting the toll that class divisions and greed take on families and winner FEBRUARY 5-15,

of the 2014 David di Donatello Award, Italy's version of the Oscar italianfilmfest.org for best picture.

All festival films shown will be contemporary Italian films with English subtitles. And there are many more than the three listed above. The festival kicks off on Thursday, Feb. 5, in Santa Fe at Jean Cocteau Cinema with a food-and-wine reception and the film "Happy Family." "Salvo" premieres on Friday, Feb. 6. "Bianca Come il Latte Rossa Come il Sangue" (from the novel, "White Like

Milk, Red Like Blood") shows prior to a dinner and silent auction at Osteria d'Assisi.

The Albuquerque opening gala takes place on Sunday, Feb. 8, at the Hyatt Regency Downtown and continues through Feb. 15 at various Albuquerque venues. Check the website at italianfilmfest.org for a full schedule, tickets and event details.

Each year, the festival, dinner and silent auction benefit UNM Children's Hospital, a legacy from festival founder Ronaldo Patrizio-Steiner, who began the fest as a fund-raiser. This year will mark the festival's eighth year.

The films may take center stage, but there is much more to this festival, the "culture" part. "Tango in Venice," a photography

show by Donatella Davanzo, the official festival photographer, runs through Feb. 3 at the 1629 Club at Casa Rondeña. Tony De Nonno and his Papa Monteo Sicilian

Marionettes will entertain children, parents and staff on Feb. 7 at UNM Children's Hospital. De Nonno, a filmmaker, also will headline the opening gala in Santa Fe.

A fest finale will be held at Saggio's (107 Cornell SE) with food and wine after the showing of the last film, the funny and touching "Si Può Fare (We Can Do That)."



Umano (Human Capital)" is about what happens to two married couples after a hit-and-run accident, RIGHT: Director Ettore Scola was a friend of Federico Fellini. The young Fellini is played in "Che Strano Chiamarsi Federico (How Strange to Be Named Federico)" by

ABOVE: Multiaward winning "Il Capitale

Stephanie Hainsfurther is an associate editor for ABQ Free Press.



















'Selma' Documents an Unfinished Journey

BY RICHARD OYAMA

Director Ava DuVernay's "Selma" achieves two heartening correctives. One, it rescues history from the sainted icon of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., because David Oyelowo's strong performance gives back to the viewer a flawed, weary, compassionate tactician. Two, it places Dr. King and other civil rights leaders within the context of a movement of ordinary, extraordinary black people that's one of the shining moments in American life. The wonder isn't that the story of the march for voting rights in the South is being told, but that it took so damned long to be told. How long, how long?

DuVernay's third film is a nearclassical, straightforward retelling of the effort of demonstrators to march across the Edmund Pettis Bridge to the Alabama state capitol of Montgomery, where they were met by state troopers and county residents who beat and attacked them with clubs and tear gas. Some died.

The director alludes to the Birmingham church bombing, the generational fissures between King's Southern Christian Leadership Conference

(SCLC) and the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), and FBI wiretapping of the civil rights leader. This economy of storytelling is a virtue, not a drawback.

Cinematographer Bradford Young prefers a somber, grainy palette fit for the subject. In fact, "Selma" seems to vacillate between shadowy night and the white glare of day. Also welcome is the choice of songs on the soundtrack — Mahalia Jackson, Otis Redding, the Impressions — that are true to the period, and heard only in unobtrusive snippets.

What "Selma" presents, too, is a delicate, nuanced portrait of a marriage, and the tensions that result when the husband lives under an ever-present "fog of death" and his soul is given over to a freedom struggle. Carmen Ejogo as Coretta Scott King is exquisitely restrained.

At the same time, how does one portray figures who have assumed a bigger than life, mythic dimension among those who have preserved them in historical memory? Good as Oyelowo is, his King doesn't have the rich, orotund voice of the leader.

not grant permission to quote his speeches — why? — screenwriter Paul Webb had to produce a simulacrum of Dr. King's unforgettable eloquence. Since I hear his words and cadences in my head still, that created a sort of cognitive dissonance for me.

Tom Wilkinson's President Lyndon Johnson and Tim Roth's segregationist Gov. George Wallace are persuasive enough. But I remember a more tired, haggard LBJ hounded by anti-Vietnam War protesters who called him a "baby killer." And Wallace was even more diabolical than Roth's sinister performance suggests.

However, "Selma's" snapshot of the civil rights movement doesn't shy away from the brutalities of police violence and white supremacist hate. Webb's screenplay implies the need for a notion of white identity that is not-racist, as cultural critic bell hooks said. Over the end credits, Common and John Legend's song refers explicitly to recent events in Ferguson, Mo. In other words, the long journey that is "Selma" remains unfinished.

FILM

Richard Oyama's first novel is entitled "A Riot Goin' On."

Paranoia Struck Deep

BY RICHARD OYAMA

aul Thomas Anderson's "Inherent" Vice" translates novelist Thomas Pynchon's dark, comedic vision to the big screen for the first time. The genre is Southern California beach noir circa 1970.

This movie isn't epic like Anderson's masterpiece, "There Will be Blood," a tale of oil and evangelism, nor as wide in its scope as a "Boogie Nights" tableaux of the porn industry. But it does cut a swath across California's underbelly like "Chinatown." Brutal cops, dental heroin cartels, FBI, Nazis, right wingers, black militants, religious cults and those whose day is dictated by horoscope make an appearance. Oh, did I mention copious lids of marijuana?

Los Angeles lies under a smog of Manson fear, bad vibrations, and badder drugs. Joaquin Phoenix is Larry "Doc" Sportello, a granny glasses-wearing, mutton-chopped private eye with an insatiable taste for weed. Phoenix imbues Doc with squeaky Cary Grant-type noises and a stoned languor. It's a wry, tender performance. Here I disagree with Manohla Dargis.

Bigfoot Bjornson (Josh Brolin), an LAPD detective, equally colludes with and abuses Doc whilst sucking on a chocolate-coated banana. Thus the department's "civil rights violations" and homoeroticism are casually inferred. Tea Partiers will not be pleased. Reese Witherspoon (cast against usual type as an uptight D.A.), Martin Short and, oh my God, Eric Roberts are solid. Sortilege (Joanna Newsom) puts a female spin on film noir voiceover.

Shasta Fay Hepworth (Katherine

Waterston) unspools an all-naked monologue about the erotics of power. It's an unforgettable mimicry. The film's title refers to "anything you can't avoid" — the contradictions of the human heart, the cravings of the flesh, and the arrogance of power.

Insomuch as I can make out, Shasta asks Doc to look into the disappearance of real estate developer Mickey Wolfmann (Roberts). Doc's long, strange trip takes him to places high and low in El Lay — corporeal and otherwise — chemically induced and not. Smartly, the director spares us the trip sequence. Doc runs into moguls and dope addicts, Republicans and hippie chicks, the rich and obscure, dream factories and cold facts.

Welcome to Hotel California. This could be heaven, this could be hell.

"Chinatown" was about water. "Inherent Vice" is about land. In the script is mentioned Chavez Ravine, the Dodgers' new home that was built to grow the city by displacing a Mexican American community. Anderson and Pynchon wrapped a secret message about how power works inside baroque complications of plot.

Like the brainy, subversive novelist, Paul Thomas Anderson's storytelling gets as nutty and elliptical as a Marx Brothers gag or screwball comedy about the end of the world. My friend and I were giggling throughout in the back row like punk kids. But we're both poets.

"Paranoia strikes deep," Buffalo Springfield sang, "Into your heart it will creep." It starts with "Inherent Vice."

Richard Oyama is a novelist, poet and freelance writer.

Take Five with Author Philip Connors

BY STEPHANIE HAINSFURTHER

n his first book "Fire Season: Field Notes from a Wilderness Lookout," Philip Connors wrote about keeping watch for fires and other perils while overlooking the Gila National Forest. The book was widely praised and won the Banff Mountain Book Competition Grand Prize among other awards. In part, "Fire Season"

was about healing in solitude from the repercussions of a family tragedy. In his new memoir coming out this month, "All the Wrong Places: A Life Lost and Found," Connors tells about the tragedy of his brother's death, and its consequences for the author's life. Connors will begin his 14th season as a fire lookout this spring.

Q: How painful was this book to write?

A: I did not experience pain while writing, except the usual minor pain of seeing repeated attempts to get a thing right — a sentence, a scene, a mood — fail. Some of what I wrote about was certainly painful in the moment of experiencing it, but I had a vantage point of many years, and in most cases more than a decade, from which to look back. It's not as if I was forced to live those moments again while writing about them. If anything, it was

liberating to transform them into a story on a page, a way of making coherence out of chaos.

Q: What techniques did you use to make yourself keep going in the writing?

A: Midwestern discipline, continual awareness of a publisher's deadline, and copious amounts of coffee. What's the old saying? Amateurs wait around for inspiration; professionals just show up and do the work every day.

Q: Can you share with us one surprising thing you learned through writing this book, about your brother or about yourself?

A: In the years after his death I tracked down a number of people who knew my brother while he lived, seeking some bit of his story I didn't know. Ultimately I learned a very surprising thing about him, but to share it here would be a major spoiler, and anyway I learned it before I ever started writing the book. As the title says, I found myself in all the wrong places for years after my brother's death, and it was only in the act of telling the story that I understood how intentional that was on my part. To have found comfort in

my surroundings, a real sense of purpose and place, would have been, I half-consciously felt, a violation of my grief for him. So I gravitated to all the wrong places, in order to perpetuate the discomfort his suicide instilled in me.

Q: Have you gone back to journalism after your 10 years as a fire lookout in New Mexico? Do you live here now?

A: I've dabbled in journalism over the years, most recently as a columnist for the daily paper in Silver City, where I've lived for 13 years. But I'm basically a recovering journalist. I still work as a fire lookout down in southern New Mexico. ... It's the best job in the world, getting paid to look at mountains all day.

Q: What's your next project, personally or professionally?

A: I'm not sure what I'll write next. Whatever it is, I expect it will arise organically out of the solitude I find so creatively stimulating on my mountaintop. But my major project in the near term is to improve my Spanish. Living on la frontera, it seems a crime to deny myself the ability to speak in one of the two languages that dominate my part of the world.

'Guantánamo Diary' Tells of Torture and Confinement

BY STEPHANIE HAINSFURTHER

A man from Mauritania who has been in U.S. custody since November 2001 kept a diary of his detention at Guantánamo Bay, writing that he completed it in 2005. Mohamedou Photo by Riley Stevens Ould Slahi's book



recently has been published, the first and only release to date of a book by a Guantánamo prisoner. Even though Slahi's case has never gone to trial, the allegations against him – that he knew the 9/11 hijackers, for example – still stand. He remains in custody at Guantánamo. The book tour for "Guantánamo Diary" starts in Albuquerque with his lawyer, Nancy Hollander of the local firm Freedman Boyd Hollander Goldberg Urias & Ward as spokesperson.

"I have been Mr. Slahi's lead lawyer since 2005," Hollander said. "He has entrusted me to speak for him since he cannot speak publicly. But, his 'voice' is his book. All I am doing is presenting it."

Parts of the book have been redacted by U.S. officials (names, for instance), a state of affairs reflected on the book's cover. However, Slahi writes about his long days of torture,

sleep deprivation and sexual humiliation in as much detail as any reader can stand.

"The book contains many things most Americans don't know about Guantánamo: that prisoners were tortured there; that innocent prisoners, such as Mr. Slahi, are held there for many years without charges; that the prisoners come from many different countries; that Mr.

Slahi is a man of great compassion and humor even after all that we have done to him. And they will learn much more," Hollander said.

A brief excerpt from the book gives just a glimpse into the author's plight

"I was living literally in terror. For the next 70 days, I wouldn't know the sweetness of sleeping: interrogation

24 hours a day, three and sometimes four shifts a day," Slahi wrote.

PHILIP CONNORS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19

PHILIP CONNORS. "ALL

THE WRONG PLACES"

Bookworks, 4022 Rio

7 pm, Free, 344-8139,

Grande Blvd NW

bkwrks.com

Hollander hopes the CIA torture report released by the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence will help

Slahi's case.

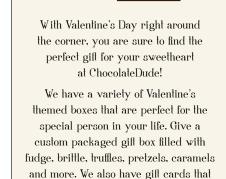
GUANTÁNAMO

"The torture report at least informs people that agencies of the U.S. government have tortured prisoners. We can no longer toss this under the rug and say it didn't happen," she said. "In Mr. Slahi's case, his torture was disclosed years ago, but the public paid no attention to it. Now, maybe they will."

Hollander will speak

about her client and "Guantánamo Diary" at 7 p.m. on Feb. 3 at the Albuquerque Academy Little Theater, 6400 Wyoming Blvd. NE. The event is sponsored by Bookworks (bkwrks.com) and is free and open to the public.

Stephanie Hainsfurther is an associate editor for ABQ Free Press.



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'Anatomy of a Murder' Comes to ALT

 ↑ natomy of a Murder" has a complicated history, Avet in all of its manifestations, it remains an accurate and powerful representation of courtroom drama, legal manipulation, and the twists that accompany the pursuit of justice. The Albuquerque Little Theatre production of the theatrical adaptation, directed by Ryan Jason Cook, delivers an authentic courtroom aura: tension, intrigue, strategy and a bit of tedium.

"Anatomy of a Murder" first appeared as a best-selling novel by Michigan lawyer John D. Voelker, writing under the pen name of Robert Traver, published in 1959.

This courtroom drama revolves around a 1952 homicide in which Voelker was the defense attorney. The defendant admitted killing the victim but accused the victim of raping the defendant's wife.

The heart of the book is the trial in which lawyers for the state and the defense use every maneuver available and push ethical boundaries in pursuit of conviction or acquittal. A parade of fascinating witnesses adds to the book's appeal. I won't tell you the verdict.

As soon as the film rights were available. Otto Preminger obtained them and directed an all-star cast (James Stewart, George C. Scott, Lee Remick and Ben Gazarra among them) in a film adaptation that won the 1959 Oscar for Best Picture.

It wasn't until 1964 that a stage version of "Anatomy of a Murder" premiered. Written by Elihu Winer, this drama simplifies the original plot of the novel and film by eliminating an important character and her story. As a result, the play's trial ends too abruptly and blandly.

The large ALT cast, however, is generally strong with even the smallest parts given satisfying attention.



Paige Underwood as Laura Manion and Michael Weppler as Frederic Manion star in "Anatomy of a Murder."

THROUGH FEBRUARY 8

224 San Pasquale SW

ANATOMY OF A MURDER

Albuquerque Little Theatre

Fri.-Sat, 7:30 p.m., Sun. 2 p.m

albuquerquelittletheatre.org

Tickets: \$12-24; 242-4750;

The year is 1956. and the setting is Michigan's Upper Peninsula, Army Lt. Frederic Manion (crisply played by Michael Weppler) killed Barney Quill bartender at the Thunder Bay Inn.

after Manion's beautiful wife, Laura (powerfully portrayed by Paige Underwood) was beaten and raped by Quill. Manion then returned to his trailer home and told

The play begins as lawyer Paul Biegler, recently defeated for re-election as district attorney, returns from a fishing trip to learn of the killing from his Falstaffian partner (played with élan by David Nava). Laura

the caretaker that he thought he killed someone.

Manion wants Paul to defend her husband. When Biegler interviews Manion in prison, the lawyer comes perilously close to suggesting a defense of temporary insanity or "irresistible impulse." The prisoner says he can't remember what happened during the shooting.

The trial is presided over by Judge Weaver (a crusty and imposing Thom Hinks). The local district attorney (Yannig Morin) is assisted and overshadowed by Assistant Attorney General Claude Dancer, sent from Lansing to assure a conviction.

The opposing lawyers are evenly matched. John Wylie is a wily and committed Biegler, while Dehron Foster is an unctuous and slick Dancer. The two have some heated exchanges and work well together.

Among the witnesses, actor Chris Boros is delightfully entertaining as he gives and retracts evidence in his testimony. David Bryant is all business and efficiency as a police detective. Lando Ruiz is effective as the crime scene photographer, and Steven Suttle finds humor as the local pathologist.

The defense psychiatrist is portrayed with integrity and command by Allen Schlegel, while the prosecution shrink — Hugh Witemeyer — sits silent and smug for most of the play until he is called to the witness stand.

Director Cook also designed the fine sets that move on and off the stage with ease. There were moments when lines were remembered reluctantly or not at all, but these were opening-night jitters, and the flow will improve. "Anatomy of a Murder" is a classic courtroom drama and as close to a trial as any of us may wish to get.

Barry Gaines is the theater critic for ABQ Free Press. He is a professor emeritus at UNM and administrator of the American Theater Critics Association.

A Conversation with the Director of 'The Whipping Man'

ff The Whipping Man" by Matthew Lopez is a three-man drama with an unusual premise. The play is set in the once-grand DeLeon home in Richmond, Va., former proud capitol of the Confederacy. The date is mid-April 1865, when history presents one of its ironic juxtapositions. Just as Gen. Robert E. Lee surrenders at Appomattox and officially ends the Civil War, thereby freeing the slaves in the South, Jews everywhere are celebrating the annual festival of Passover that celebrates the liberation of the Children of Israel from slavery in ancient Egypt.

In Lopez's powerful play, the DeLeon family is Jewish, and they have brought up their slaves in their religion. Son Caleb DeLeon makes his way back from the war to the ruins of his family home to find it occupied by two family slaves, wise elder Si-

FEBRUARY 6-MARCH 1

THE WHIPPING MAN

The Vortex Theatre

vortexabq.org

2900 Carlisle Blvd. NE

Fri.-Sat. 7:30 p.m., Sun. 2 p.m.

Tickets: \$22 & \$15: 247-8600.

mon and younger, desperate John. At Simon's instigation, the three stage a seder, the ritual Passover service and meal complete with symbolic foods, ceremonial prayers and music — all celebrating freedom from bondage.

In "The Whipping Man," the characters wrestle with the paradoxical incongruity of former slaves now owning slaves and the challenges of freedom in the face of destruction and defeat.

Barbara Geary, a graduate of the Dell'Arte International School of Physical Theatre, directs the play.

Q: What attracted you to this play?

A: I first heard of the play when I was living in Baltimore a few years ago. When I heard what it was about, I realized that I had never been taught about the role of Jews in the Confederate South and their position as slave owners. Given that enslavement and liberation are touchstones in the experience of the Jewish faith, I was very curious to see the story the playwright Matthew Lopez would tell with these elements.

The production was a good one, and I was impressed that it is not a didactic play. It carries a message, but that message is expressed through the characters and their actions. It also struck me as deeply human. You really feel for these characters,

as all the expectations they had for their lives fall away, not just through the external circumstance of the war but through the upturning of their own assumptions about themselves and the people closest to them.

Q: Would you tell us about your cast? A: Van Overton, who plays Simon,

brings a wonderful gravitas and at the same time a humor to the role, which is essential. He grounds the play, and his strong presence lets the younger members of the cast take flight.

Mikael Ayele plays John, and his energy and physical presence combine wonderfully with his intelligence as an actor. He has an effortless range.

Rob Faithe brings a toughness and vulnerability to the role of Caleb. Though he has the least stage experience, he is open to going for everything I give him. It's been great to watch him blossom.

O: How will you handle the amputation of Caleb's leg?

A: The amputation scene presents a challenge on a staging level since we're presenting the play in the round, but I've made the decision not to go the Grand Guignol [19th century French theater specializing in naturalistic horror shows | route and leave something to the audience's imagination. The horror of the act comes through the acting, and I don't think it will disappoint.

Q: Will your production cause controversy?

A: Thematically, the play is so well written that the challenges to the audience's assumptions will come in a way that allows thoughtful consideration rather than defensive denial. I look forward to all the discussion the production engenders.

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

THE AVETT BROTHERS

CASINOS

Santa Ana Star Center 3001 Civic Center Circle NE, Rio Rancho 891-7300 santaanastarcenter.com

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14

ALL-4-ONE DINNER & SHOW

Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort & Casino 287 Carrizo Canvon Rd. Mescalero (800) 545-9011. ticketmaster.com

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28

CHARLIE PRIDE

Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort & Casino, 287 Carrizo Canyon Rd, Mescalero, 8 pm, (800) 545-9011, ticketmaster.com

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

DWIGHT YOAKAM

Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort & Casino 287 Carrizo Canyon Rd, Mescalero, 8 pm, (800) 545-9011, ticketmaster.com

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

AARON LEWIS

Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort & Casino 287 Carrizo Canyon Rd, Mescalero, 8 pm, (800) 545-9011, ticketmaster.com

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

BUCKCHERRY

Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort & Casino 287 Carrizo Canvon Rd. Mescalero, 8 pm. (800) 545-9011, ticketmaster.com

CLUBS & PUBS

JANUARY 28-FEBRUARY 19

LOW SPIRITS

2823 2nd St NW, lowspiritslive.com January 28, 9 pm, Ben Miller Band, Crow Moses January 29, 9 pm, The Joseph General Band, Innastate Tha Yoties

February 7, 9 pm, The Blasters, The Yawpers February 8, 8:30 pm, Urban Pioneers February 19, 9 pm, Penny and Sparrow

JANUARY 29-FEBRUARY 10

LAUNCHPAD 618 Central Ave SW, 764-8887.

launchpadrocks com January 29, 9 pm, Black Widow Cabal, Diverje, The Ballistic Batz, Vorpal Vision February 3, 9:30 pm, Blackwitch Pudding, Hanta. Death Rides a Horse February 10, 8:30 pm, Murder by Death, Rocky Votolato

JANUARY 31-FEBRUARY 24

SISTER THE BAR

407 Central Ave SW, 242-4900 January 31, Gothic Winter Ball February 4, Dax Riggs, The Angel Babies James Whiton February 6, Geeks Who Drink Bowl, Le Chat

Lunatique, DJ Brad Cole February 7, Beach Party in February February 10, Pharmakon, Raven Chacon

Pleasure Breath, Horse Thief February 12, Chicharra, You, The Holy Glories February 13, Baracutanga, B-Side Players February 14. Reighnbeau DJ Set February 24, Cursive

FEBRUARY 2-24

SUNSHINE THEATER

120 Central Ave SW, sunshinetheaterlive.com February 2, 7:30 pm. Behemoth, Cannibal Corpse February 6, 8 pm, The Wailers

February 7, 7:30 pm, Silverstein, Hands Like

Houses, Major League, My Iron Lung February 10, 7 pm, Partynextdoor

February 18, 7 pm, Logic

February 24, 5:30 pm, Napalm Death, Voivod, Exhumed, Iron Reagan, Phobia, Black Crown Initiate

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16

DRAG QUEEN BINGO

Tractor Brewing Wells Park, 1800 4th St NW, 243-6752, getplowed.com For the benefit of Truman Health Services.

ONGOING

ZINC CELLAR BAR

3009 Central Ave NE, 254-9462, zincabg.com Every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, enjoy good music, tasty food and great drinks in the cellar bar. Live music on Tuesday features blues duos from 8 pm to 11 pm. On Thursday and Saturday nights, larger bands perform from 9:30 pm to 12:30 am. During Sunday brunch, enjoy the live music of solo artists in the main dining room from 11 am until 2 pm.

MUSIC

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

NM PHILHARMONIC: FUMI PLAYS TCHAI-

Popejoy Hall, UNM Main Campus, 203 Cornell NE, 6 pm, 925-5858, unmtickets.com

ACOUSTIC EAST-WESTERN ROAD MOVIE

Rodey Theatre, UNM Main Campus, 8 pm, ampconcerts.org

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30

THE GREAT WAR IN POETRY AND MUSIC

Keller Hall, UNM Main Campus, 6 pm. airandhammers.com

Presented by Air & Hammers, with Spencer Beckwith, Maxine Thévenot, Edmund Connolly

JMSN FEATURING ROCHELLE JORDAN Historic El Rey Theater, 622 Central Ave SW, 9 pm, 21+, 510-2582, elreyabq.com

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1

CHATTER SUNDAY: OCTET + CONCERTO Kosmos Performance Space at the Factory on 5th, 1715 Fifth St NW

Chamber music, poetry and coffee, in an informal, acoustically excellent setting. Doors open 9:30 am, chatterabg.org

CHATTER CABARET: A TRIO + 1 OF FUN Hotel Andaluz

125 2nd St NW. Casablanca Room Modern and classical music in a nightclub setting. Food and drink extra. 5 pm, brownpapertickets.com, chatterabq.org

LEO "BUG" WELCH

The Cooperage, 7220 Lomas Blvd NE, 7:30 pm, ampconcerts.org

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

THE FRED EAGLE SMITH TRAVELING SHOW

The Cooperage, 7220 Lomas Blvd NE, 7:30 pm, ampconcerts.org

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5

DAN HICKS AND THE HOT LICKS

1025 Broadway SE, 8 pm, ampconcerts.org

LA NOCHE ENCANTADA: BARCELONA

401 2nd St NW, 6 pm-midnight, black tie,

Featuring Tony Orlando and dance band

Juntos Unidos, presented by Albuquerque

South Broadway Cultural Center.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Albuquerque Convention Center,

Hispano Chamber of Commerce

ampconcerts.org

ahcnm.org

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

KATE VOEGELE WITH LEROY SANCHEZ The Cooperage, 7220 Lomas Blvd NE, 7:30 pm.

musicincorrales org

Free, ampconcerts.org

ELIZA RICKMAN

LILY AND MADELEINE The Cooperage, 7220 Lomas Blvd NE, 7:30 pm,

SZYMANOWSKI STRING QUARTET

(505) 988-4640, santafepromusica.com

107 West Palace Avenue, Santa Fe, 3 pm,

Cherry Hills Library, 6901 Barstow NE, 12 pm,

ampconcerts.org

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12

SANTA FE PRO MUSICA:

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9

St. Francis Auditorium

WORLD-RENOWNED VIOLINIST MIDORI Sue Cleveland High School, 4800 Laban Road NE, Rio Rancho Presented by Music in Corrales; 6:30 pm,

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14

A PERFECT VALENTINE

Popejoy Hall, UNM Main Campus, 203 Cornell Drive, 6 pm, 925-5858. unmtickets.com, nmphil.org Pops concert by the NM Philharmonic.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15

CHATTER SUNDAY: THE COFFEE CANTATA

Kosmos Performance Space at the Factory on 5th, 1715 Fifth St NW Chamber music, poetry and coffee, in an informal, acoustically excellent setting. Doors open 9:30 am, chatterabg.org



KiMo Theatre, 423 Central Ave NW, 7:30 pm, ampconcerts.org

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

BLIFFY SAINTF-MARIE

SMALL POTATOES

East Mountain Library 1 Old Tijeras Rd, Tijeras, 12 pm, Free, ampconcerts.org

SMALL POTATOES

Taylor Ranch Library, 5700 Bogart NW, 6 pm, Free, ampconcerts.org

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21

MUSIC IN CORRALES: GAELLE SOLAL

Historic Old San Ysidro Church, 966 Old Church Rd. Corrales A quitarist of extraordinary passion and virtuosity. 7:30 pm, musicincorrales.org, brownpapertickets.com

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22

CHATTER SUNDAY: GOLDBERG VARIATIONS Kosmos Performance Space at the Factory on

5th 1715 Fifth St NW Chamber music, poetry and coffee, in an informal, acoustically excellent setting. Doors open 9:30 am, chatterabg.org

Reach ABQ's most informed audience

TO ADVERTISE:

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

MISSA SANCTI NICOLAI

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5th, 1715 Fifth St NW

nmphil.org

CHATTER SUNDAY: BACH + SCHNITTKE

Kosmos Performance Space at the Factory on

Chamber music, poetry and coffee, in an

informal, acoustically excellent setting.

Doors open 9:30 am, chatterabq.org

BACH: PIANO CONCERT, HAYDN:

314 Lead Avenue SW, 3 pm, 323-4343.

Cummings as conductor and soloist

The New Mexico Philharmonic with Daniel

Contact Greta Weiner (505) 345-4080 greta@freeabq.com

Carlos Archuleta, Baritone



PLACITAS ARTISTS SERIES CONCERT

Las Placitas Presbyterian Church, 7 Paseo de San Antonio, Placitas, 3 pm, 867-8080, placitasartistsseries.org

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27

CLAIRE LYNCH BAND

Outpost Performance Space, 210 Yale SE, 8 pm, ampconcerts.org

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28

CARLOS NÚÑEZ

National Hispanic Cultural Center, 1701 4th St SW, 8 pm, ampconcerts.org

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

MUSIC IN CORRALES: CRAICMORE Historic Old San Ysidro Church.

966 Old Church Rd. Corrales Contemporary and traditional Celtic music 7:30 pm. musicincorrales.org. brownpapertickets com

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

THE CYPRESS STRING QUARTET Simms Center for the Performing Arts,

Albuquerque Academy Presented by Chamber Music Albuquerque 3 pm, chambermusicabg.org

SATURDAY, APRIL 11

MUSIC IN CORRALES: THOMAS PANDOLFI

Historic Old San Ysidro Church. 966 Old Church Rd. Corrales The young American pianist. 7:30 pm, musicincorrales.org, brownpapertickets.com

FILM

JANUARY 28-MARCH 3

FILMS AT THE GUILD

The Guild Cinema, 3405 Central Ave NE 255-1848, for more movies: quildcinema.com January 28, Roger Beebe: Films for One to Eight Projectors

January 29, Advanced Style

January 31-February 8, Oscar Nominated Short Films - 2015

February 1, Jeff Berg's Made In NM series -Indian Country

February 7, The Stuart Hall Project February 8, A Place At The Table

February 9-15. The 2015 New Mexico Italian Film Festival

February 10, Nightmare in Las Cruces Part 2 February 14, Bonnie & Clyde - HAPPY

VALENTINE'S DAY! February 16-19, Amira & Sam

February 16-19, The Organizer

February 22, The Vessel February 23-26, Human Capital

February 27-March 3. Beloved Sisters February 27-March 3. Song of the Sea

THROUGH MARCH 15

PANDAS: THE JOURNEY HOME

Lockheed Martin Dyna Theater, New Mexico Museum of Natural History, Old Town, 841-2800. nmnaturalhistory.org. napandas.com

FEBRUARY 5-15

NM ITALIAN FILM & CULTURE FESTIVAL In Santa Fe Feb 5-7: in Albuquerque Feb 8-15:

italianfilmfest org Read our story on page 17 in this issue.

FESTIVALS, FIESTAS & FAMILY

THROUGH MARCH 12

SCIENCE IN THE SKY

Albuquerque Balloon Museum, 9201 Balloon Museum Drive NE, 768-6020, balloonmuseum.com

FEBRUARY 7

TASTE OF RIO RANCHO

Santa Ana Star Center. 3001 Civic Center Cir NE, Rio Rancho, 4-7 pm, rioranchonm.org

MARCH 6-8

NATIONAL FIERY FOODS & BARBECUE

Sandia Resort & Casino, 30 Rainbow Rd

The 27th year for this popular fiesta. Fri 4-8 pm. Sat 11 am-7 pm. Sun 11 am-6 pm. fiervfoodsshow.com

GARDENS

THROUGH APRIL 26

MORPHING NATURE

Santa Fe Botanical Garden 715 Camino Lejo, Santa Fe

Students from the Institute of American Indian Arts and the Santa Fe University of Art and Design are creating site-specific sculptures made from recovered plant materials cleared from the site of the Botanical Garden's next phase, and other found objects.

Free, Winter hours: Thurs-Sun 11-3, (505) 471-9103, santafebotanicalgarden.org

THEATER

THROUGH FEBRUARY 1

THE NIGHT THOREAU SPENT IN JAIL Adobe Theater

9813 4th Street NW 898-9222

adobetheater.org Play based on Thoreau's refusal to pay war tax during the Mexican-American War.

MR. BURNS, A POST-ELECTRIC PLAY Aux Dog Theatre, 3011-15 Monte Vista Blvd NE, 254-7716 auxdog.com

ALICE IN WONDERLAND, THE MUSICAL African American Performing Arts Center,

Expo NM

Presented by Enchanted Rose Theatre, brownpapertickets.com

A WRINKLE IN TIME

The Vortex Theatre, 2900 Carlisle Blvd NE. 247-8600, vortexabq.com

THROUGH FEBRUARY 8

ANATOMY OF A MURDER

Albuquerque Little Theatre, 224 San Pasquale Ave SW, 242-4750, albuquerquelittletheatre.org Read Barry Gaines's review on page 28 in this issue.

THROUGH FEBRUARY 28

NOIR POINT BLANK

Foul Play Café, 2600 Louisiana Blvd NE Dinner Theater, Fri-Sat 7:30 pm. Reservations required: 377-9593, foulplaycafe.com

JANUARY 29-31

NEW MEXICO SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS:RADIUM GIRLS

James A. Little Theater 1060 Cerrillos Road, Santa Fe, (505) 982-6124, nmschoolforthearts.org

FEBRUARY 5-7

BLUE MAN GROUP

Popejoy Hall, UNM Main Campus, 203 Cornell Dr NE. 925-5858. popejoypresents.com

FEBRUARY 5-21

ΔΝΝΔΡΙΙΚΝΔ

The Cell Theatre, 700 1st St NW, 766-9412, liveatthecell.com FUSION Theatre Company brings in a hot new play.

FEBRUARY 6-8

DEFENDING THE CAVEMAN

KiMo Theater, 423 Central Avenue NW. 768-3544, kimotickets.com The battle of the sexes, on stage

CONFESSIONS OF A MEXPATRIATE

Teatro Paraguas, 3205 Calle Marie Suite B, Santa Fe, (505) 424-1601, teatroparaguas.org

FEBRUARY 6-MARCH 1

THE WHIPPING MAN

The Vortex Theatre, 2900 Carlisle Blvd NE, 247-8600, vortexabq.com After the Civil War, a story of master and slaves.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

THE WORLD OF DOWNTON ABBEY: JESSICA FELLOWES

Popejoy Hall, UNM Main Campus, 203 Cornell Dr NE, 3 pm, 925-5858, unmtickets com

FEBRUARY 13-MARCH 1

AMERICAN BUFFALO

Tricklock Performance Laboratory, 110 Gold Ave SW, 243-0596, motherroad.org By David Mamet, produced by the folks at Mother Road Theatre Company



FEBRUARY 19-MAY 14

SIEMBRA: LATINO THEATRE FESTIVAL

EVENTS

National Hispanic Cultural Center, 1701 4th Street SW. 724-4771. nhccnm.org February 19-22, Xicanos with Guns February 26-March 1, Xicanos with Guns March 19-22. Semillas del Corazon March 26-29, Semillas del Corazon April 16-19, Bless Me, Ultima April 23-26, Hembras de Pluma

FEBRUARY 20-MARCH 15

May 7-10, The Sad Room

May 14-17, The Sad Room

April 30-May 3, Hembras de Pluma

SOUVENIR

Adobe Theater, 9813 4th Street NW, 898-9222, adobetheater.org The story of a rich woman who thought she could sina.

FEBRUARY 27-MARCH 22

THE KING AND I

Albuquerque Little Theatre, 224 San Pasquale Ave SW, 242-4750, albuquerquelittletheatre.org

MARCH 5-15

GEORGE ORWELL'S ANIMAL FARM

Duke City Repertory Theatre at The Cell Theatre, 700 1st St NW, 797-7081, dukecityrep.org

MARCH 7-22

A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM

Rodey Theatre, UNM Main Campus, 925-5858, unmtickets.com

MARCH 13-APRIL 5

THE GLASS MENAGERIE

The Vortex Theatre, 2900 Carlisle Blvd NE, 247-8600, vortexabq.com

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

STORMY WEATHER: THE STORY OF

LENA HORNE Popejoy Hall, UNM Main Campus, 203 Cornell Dr NE, 925-5858, popejoypresents.com

SUNDAY, MARCH 15

HMS PINAFORE

Popejoy Hall, UNM Main Campus, 203 Cornell Dr NE, 925-5858, popeiovpresents.com

MARCH 19-22

CAMELOT

Popejoy Hall, UNM Main Campus, 203 Cornell Dr NE, 925-5858, popejoypresents.com

DANCE

THROUGH JANUARY 31

THE SHOE ROOM

North 4th Theater, 4904 Fourth Street NW, 440-0434, elitenm.net

JANUARY 29

THE SLEEPING BEAUTY

Popejoy Hall, UNM Main Campus 203 Cornell Dr NE, 928-5858, popejoypresents.com

BOOKS & POETRY

JANUARY 28-FEBRUARY 15

BOOKWORKS

4022 Rio Grande NW, 344-8139, bkwrks.com Free unless otherwise noted; some events take place at other venues as noted.

January 28, 4:30 pm. Magic Treehouse Book Club January 28, 7 pm. Jann Arrington-Wolcott, "Brujo" January 29, 7 pm. Sylvia Wilkinson, "Big Cactus" January 30, 7 pm, Rebecca Scherm, "Unbecoming"

February 3, 7 pm, Nancy Hollander, "Guantánamo Diary" by Mohamedou Ould Slahi Event takes place at Albuquerque Academy,

January 31, 3 pm, Paul Secord, "Pecos"

6400 Wyoming Blvd NE. Read our interview with Nancy Hollander on Page 27 in this issue of ABQ Free Press. February 7, 5 pm, Lawrence Welsh, "Begging

February 15, 3 pm, James Penner, "Timothy Leary: The Harvard Years"

TOURS

for Vultures"

THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS, YEAR ROUND

ALBUCREEPY DOWNTOWN GHOST WALK By ABQ Trolley Co., start at Hotel Andaluz, 125 2nd St NW

Led by an experienced paranormal investigator, Albucreepy features historic (and reportedly haunted) sites, including the KiMo Theater, Kiva Auditorium, old Bernalillo County Courthouse, Wool Warehouse, and the former red light district known as "Hell's Half Acre." Rated PG13. 8 pm. 90 minutes, \$25 with valet parking and free appetizers at Ibiza or MAS, albucreepy.com

FRIDAYS, SATURDAYS. SUNDAYS. **MONDAYS, YEAR ROUND**

BREAKING BAD RV TOURS

1919 Old Town Rd.

Behind La Hacienda Restaurant Miss Breaking Bad? Now you can relive the experience in an RV just like the one used by Walt and Jesse

10 am, \$65, 205-7294, breakingbadrvtours.com

FRIDAYS, SATURDAYS, YEAR ROUND TOAST A GHOST! HAUNTED PUB CRAWL

History & Ghost Tours of Old Town 303 Romero St NW-N120 A three-hour ghost walk that visits Old Town Albuquerque's haunted bars, pubs and saloons.

Adults only, 9 pm, \$10 not including drinks, taxes, or gratuities, 246-8687.

RECURRING DAILY, YEAR ROUND

BOSQUE BIKE TOUR Routes Bicycle Rentals & Tours.

404 San Felipe St NW This two-hour ride showcases beautiful scenery. flora and fauna as our professional tour guides identify the many historic and significant

landmarks along the trail. 10-2 pm, \$28, 933-5667, routesrentals.com **FLY THE INDIGO SKIES WITH WORLD**

BALLOON World Balloon, 6390 Coors Blvd NW Our adventure will take place over the course of approximately three to three-and-one-half hours beginning with arrival at the launch site in time to

inflate the balloon while enjoying a beautiful

New Mexico sunrise over the Sandia Mountains.

Everyday at sunrise, \$99-159. 293-6800, worldballoon.com

GHOST TOUR OF OLD TOWN ALBUQUERQUE

History & Ghost Tours of Old Town 303 Romero St NW-N120

Legends, folklore, ghost stories and history come to life as you depart on an intriguing excursion through 300 years of haunted history Old Town was founded in 1706, and for more than three centuries people have lived and died around the Old Town Plaza. Professional tour guides escort you on a 90-minute, lantern-lit adventure

MUSEUMS

CALENDAR

AFROBRASII · ART AND IDENTITIES

1701 Fourth St SW, 246-2261, nhccnm.org Read our story of this ongoing exhibit on

JANUARY 31- APRIL 26

ELECTRICITY: SPARK YOUR CURIOSITY National Museum of Nuclear Science & History,

Science & Technology Park, 245-2137, nuclearmuseum.org

JANUARY 31-MAY 10

Mountain Rd NW, 243-7255, cabq.gov/museum Showcasing the area's diverse artists and how they transcend their differences through art.

Casa San Ysidro.

OPENS FEBRUARY 14

OPENS FEBRUARY 15

Hill Santa Fe (505) 476-1269

THROUGH FEBRUARY 14 HIROSHI WATANABE. THE DAY THE

photo-eye Bookstore + Project Space, 376 Garcia St. Suite A. Santa Fe. (505) 988-5152, photoeve.com

TANGO IN VENICE: DONATELLA DAVANZO

casarondena.com **THROUGH FEBRUARY 22**

(505) 988-3250, lewallengalleries.com **THROUGH FEBRUARY 24**

ORDER AND CHAOS

(505) 982-1320, vivocontemporary.com

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THROUGH FEBRUARY 27

PLACITAS ARTISTS SERIES

Las Placitas Presbyterian Church, 7 Paseo de San Antonio, Placitas, 867-8080, placitasartistsseries.org

THROUGH FEBRUARY 28

ANIMAS, CRYSTAL FOREMAN DSG Fine Art, 510 14th St SW, 266-7751, (by appointment only), dsg-art.com DISTRACTED BY HAPPINESS

Mariposa Gallery, 3500 Central Ave SE,

268-6828, mariposa-gallery.com

THROUGH MARCH 1 TINA MION

David Anthony Fine Art 132 Kit Carson Road Taos, (575) 758-7113, davidanthonyfineart.com

THROUGH MARCH 22 GEORGIA O'KEEFFE: GHOST RANCH

268-8952, matrixfineart.com

Georgia O'Keeffe Museum, 217 Johnson St. Santa Fe, (505) 946-1000, okeeffemuseum.org

FEBRUARY 6-28 THE LANGUAGE OF HUMANITY, JERI MOORE

Taos, (575) 758-7831, actonegallery.com DOG AND PONY SHOW, LAURA WACHA Matrix Fine Art, 3812 Central Ave SE,

Act One Gallery, 218 Paseo del Pueblo Norte,



HEROES, SAINTS AND EXPEDITIONS, **RAY MASEMAN** New Grounds Printmaking Lab, 3812 Central

35TH ANNIVERSARY SHOWCASE OffCenter Community Arts Project, 808 Park Ave SW, 247-1172, offcenterarts.org

Sumner & Dene. 517 Central Ave NW 842-1400, sumnerdene.com

HOMEBOUND: THE ART OF ISOLATION

THE LANDSCAPE OF MEDITATION

Wevrich Gallery, 2935 D Louisiana Blvd N. 883-7410, weyrichgallery.com

FEBRUARY 6-MARCH 1

PFFPSHOW

Stranger Factory, 109 Carlisle Blvd NE, 508-3049, strangerfactory.com

FEBRUARY 25-APRIL 21

GIVING VOICE TO IMAGE

Vivo Contemporary, 725 Canyon Road, Santa Fe. (505) 982-1320. vivocontemporary.com

ARTWARD BOUND

DENVER ART MUSEUM

100 W 14th Ave Pkwy, Denver, Colo. (720) 865-5000, denverartmuseum.org Tue-Thurs 10-5, Fri 10-8, Sat-Sun 10-5 THROUGH FEBRUARY 8, Matisse and Friends

THROUGH FEBRUARY 15, Drawings: Carroll Dunham THROUGH MARCH 15, Brilliant: Cartier in the

THROUGH MAY 17, William Matthews: Tres-MCNAY MUSEUM

20th Century

6000 North New Braunfels Avenue, San Antonio, Tex., (210) 824-5368, mcnayart.org Tues-Weds-Fri 10-4, Thurs 10-9, Sat 10-5, Sun 12-5

THROUGH MAY 10, World War II Photographs THROUGH MAY 17, Rodin to Warhol THROUGH MAY 17, Regarding Ruscha THROUGH JULY 26. Paul Villinski: Burst

FEBRUARY 18-JUNE 21. Design. Fashion.

Theater and All The Rage in Paris

of The Buddha

PHOENIX MUSEUM OF ART 1625 North Central Avenue, Phoenix, Ariz., (602) 257-1222, phxart.org Weds 10-9, Thurs-Fri-Sat 10-5, Sun 12-5 THROUGH MARCH 1, All That Glitters Is Not Gold (Photos) THROUGH MARCH 8. Sacred Stories/Images

THROUGH MARCH 15. Fashioned in America

THROUGH APRIL 5, Platinum Contemporary

THROUGH APRIL 19, Mysteries from Europe

THROUGH APRIL 1. Resonance of Clav

Crossword Puzzle appears on page 32

A S R B E R S E

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CARRIEUNDERWOOD

| J | A | T | ∃

8 pm, \$10-20, 246-8687, toursofoldtown.com

THROUGH AUGUST 15

National Hispanic Cultural Center,

Page 24 in this issue.

601 Eubank Blvd SE, at the entrance to Sandia

VISUALIZING ALBUQUERQUE Albuquerque Museum of Art & History, 19th &

CASA SAN YSIDRO: PIMENTEL GUITARS

973 Old Church Road, Corrales, 897-8828, caba.gov

INDIAN COUNTRY: THE ART OF **DAVID BRADLEY** Museum of Indian Arts and Culture Museum

ARTSPREE

indianartsandculture.org

DAM COLLAPSES

Casa Rondeña Winery, 733 Chavez Road NW, Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, 344-5911,

STEVE WILLIAMS: THE LEGACY OF LANDSCAPE Lewallen Gallery, 1613 Paseo de Peralta, Santa Fe,

Vivo Contemporary, 725 Canyon Road, Santa Fe,

Ave. SE, 268-8952, newgroundsgallery.com



Sponsor: The Sponsor of the Sweepstakes is ABQ Free Press, PO Box 6070, Albuquerque, NM 87197-6070

For complete rules and eligibility go to www.freeabq.com

ALCOFREE PRESS

Chanteuses

by Sally York and Myles Mellor

Across

- 1. Certain bird
- 6. Keats, for one
- **10.** "The Sound of Music" backdrop
- 14. Antipasto morsel
- 15. Biblical preposition
- **16.** Gloss
- 17. George's aunt
- 20. Calendar abbr.
- 21. Puzzle
- 22. Put something on
- 23. Blast from the past
- 26. Reduces friction
- 27. Contradicted
- 29. Arouse desire
- 30. Bouquet
- **31.** "___ No Sunshine"
- **32.** "A pox on you!"
- 35. "Stony End" singer
- 39. Numbskull
- 40. Irritate
- 41. Salsa. for one
- **42.** Mark
- 44. Colorful bird
- 45. Call a koala an elk, e.g.
- 48. Chipper
- 49. Secrets
- **50.** Arctic bird

51. TV doc

- 54. She beat Bo Bice
- 58. And others, for short
- **59.** '80s rock band
- 60. As such
- 61. Gym set
- **62.** 1987 Costner role
- 63. Myers and Douglas

Down

- 1. Microsoft product
- 2. African plant
- 3. Stains
- 4. Holiday lead-in
- **5.** "Losing My Religion" rock group
- 6. Blender button
- 7. Black stone
- **8.** "Yadda, yadda, yadda"
- 9. Bear
- **10.** Ancient meeting places
- 11. Floor coverings
- 12. Newbie, of sorts
- **13.** Eye sores
- **18.** All fired up
- 19. Aces, sometimes
- 24. Arm or leg

- 25. Abby address?
- 26. Romance, e.g.
- 27. Cake with a kick
- 28. "-zoic" things
- **29.** Deed
- 31. Line to the audience
- 32. Needlepoint, e.g.
- 33. Ancient Andean
- **34.** "Our Time in ___" (10,000 Maniacs album)
- 36. Speech of old Syria
- **37.** Matinee ____
- 38. Handel oratorio
- **42.** "St. Elsewhere" singer, _____ Barkley
- 43. Eastern royal
- 44. Tip for the dealer
- 45. Court officer
- 46. Fit to be tied
- **47.** Deep-six
- 48. Disloyal one
- 50. Cuckoos
- 52. Cheat, slangily
- 53. Lofty lines
- **55.** Fair ___ doctrine
- **56.** Engine speed, for
- short
- 57. Chinese dynasty

Answers on page 31

