Life is as wonderful as it is full of surprises. But a health plan from New Mexico Health Connections means you’re covered for doctor visits, hospital stays, medications and whatever life has in store. To find the perfect plan for you and your family, call 505-322-2360 or visit myNMHC.org.
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To the Editor:

When subjected to a careful examination, G.E. Nordell’s recent op-ed [“Facing Down the Fascist Threat on the U.S. Supreme Court” Nov. 2-8 issue] is revealed as a farrago of errors, falsehoods and muddled interpretations of a disjointed collection of facts.

Nordell begins his diatribe by complaining about a syndicated column by Diane Diamond in the Albuquerque Journal wherein Diamond discussed U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg’s comments on Donald Trump. Yes, it’s true: Ginsberg has the First Amendment right to spout off about anyone or anything. Doesn’t she also have the duty to exercise some discretion?

I cannot recall one occasion in the past 40 years when a Supreme Court justice has made a public statement about a presidential candidate’s fitness for office. Ginsberg is not following an established precedent of justices remaining silent about presidential candidates.

Nordell next accuses certain members of the Supreme Court of being “fascists.” Since he does not define the word “fascist,” his accusation is worthless. Later on, Nordell says that in the Citizens United decision, Chief Justice Roberts “declared the United States to be a fascist country.” The word “fascist” does not appear in the Citizens United decision; hence, Nordell’s claim is false. In the interests of exactitude, I must point out that Justice Roberts did not deliver the decision of the court in Citizens United. Justice Kennedy delivered the decision, and Justice Roberts wrote a concurring opinion.

Nordell claims that the decision was “wrong.” (“He refers to its “wrongness.””) Does he have any qualification to make this allegation? What are they?

Somewhat more to the point, the question of whether the Citizens United decision was right or wrong has been the subject of heated disputes by legal scholars who are eminently qualified to comment on it.

Justice Roberts is also accused of supporting his concurring decision “only with ludicrous legal citations.” What are Nordell’s qualifications to call them ludicrous?

He also excoriates Justice Roberts for citing dissenting decisions. All of the justices who participated in the Citizens United case cited cases wherein some justices had dissented. Some of the justices in Citizens United concurred on portions of the decision and dissented on other portions of it. Nordell’s attack on Justice Roberts’ citations is itself ludicrous.

Before commenting on the balance of Nordell’s article, I must point out that the American Civil Liberties Union supported the Supreme Court’s decision in Citizens United. You may make of that what you will.

Nordell appears to object to the fact that certain members of the Supreme Court are members of the Federalist Society. So what if they are? They have just as much right to belong to the Federalist Society as Ruth Bader Ginsberg has to spout off about Donald Trump.

He complains about these same members — never named, except for Antonin Scalia, who is dead — being “signatories” to the Project for the New American Century (PNAC) and says this constitutes a violation of their oath of office. A list of signatories to the PNAC’s Statement of Principles can be found online, and no Supreme Court justices are on this list.

Besides, the PNAC became defunct in 2006, so why is Nordell complaining about it? The PNAC addressed itself to foreign policy, so why would a Supreme Court justice have joined it?

Finally, Nordell bemoans what he calls a “secret” memo written by Justice Lewis Powell in 1971 and claims that the memo “spelled out how business could take control of the federal government.” This is false. The memo influenced the Chamber of Commerce to modernize its efforts to lobby Congress. The Chamber of Commerce has as much right to lobby Congress as Ruth Bader Ginsberg has to spout off about presidential candidates, doesn’t it?

— Steven Dapra

To the Editor:

The Middle Rio Grande Council of Governments had up to 2013 a Public Involvement Committee with a broad, diverse cross section of interests. It met monthly, and when I had chaired it, almost a decade previously, we discussed long-term urban transit needs.

Kevin, in his letter to you [the Nov. 9-15 issue], stated that the need and value goes back to Planned Growth Strategy. While I do agree with a consideration of need, the linear use of such an Albuquerque Rapid Transit system was not contemplated to be used without full consideration of need and strengths.

The Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Metropolitan Comprehensive Plan provided some major policy guidance. Those systems considering the expense were to speed transit between urban centers in a direct link. Uptown Downtown would have been the most obvious choice had it been discussed and examined by the PIC.

— Stephen Verchinski

To the Editor:

Yes, the Democrats offered American voters the wrong candidate.

In the justified zeal among mainline Democrats to elect a female president, the Democrats took their finger off the pulse of the American political body. Clinton proved unpersuasive, and her campaign leaders were as inept and insular in 2016 as they were in 2008.

What to do now?

There are four forces in favor of a recovery by the nation’s Progressives. Anger and disappointment can fuel motivation. So, Democrats, stop moaning and dissipating your energy.

The 2018 midterm election and New Mexico state election has now begun. Tea Partiers were successful because they understood that the roots of a movement had to be planted and nourished before it could grow and spread.

Instead of kvetching and blaming, run for city councils and school committees. Learn what it takes to win office and the give and take of how to get things done. To garner attention exponentially and save money, campaign as a slate with common goals. Don’t expect slate allies to agree on everything — just enough of the important issues.

Listen to constituents more than you preach. It’s not about you, the individual. It’s about us, the citizenry. What you hear should inform your issues. And people notice when you listen.

Second, keep in mind that Trump is not yet triumphant. What happens when Trump reneges and fails on his promises to his hard-core fans to build “the wall”? Or fails to create a deportation force, reverse marriage equality, overturn Roe vs. Wade? What happens when he lets Big Ag plow small farmers into the ground?

What happens when Trump discovers he cannot turn back the clock economically or socially, or he fails to bring old-school manufacturing jobs back to the USA from Asia? Disgruntled Trump supporters will be the Progressives’ second most reliable, if unwitting, ally.

Third: Progressives’ most reliable ally is demographic dominance. This last campaign may prove to be the last hurrah for crucial aging segments of the 2016 Trump Coalition. Remember, Trump lost the popular vote. Old white men (like me) will be dead or marginalized by 2020. If Democrats don’t continue to ignore rural voters, they may sway some of them away from politicians who shill for Wall Street, Big Ag, Big Energy, Big Chemical and the rest of the GOP’s client base.

Fourth: Take back the state governments. The Electoral College originally allowed small, weak states a bulwark against the power and influence of larger, more affluent states. But now those small states can obstruct the will of the united collection of states.

But the Electoral College won’t simply fade away. So, instead, concentrate on redistricting. Because the DNC and Democrats at large failed to pay enough attention to winning state governments in 2010 and 2014, the GOP has redrawn districts all over the country to favor incumbents, especially Republican incumbents. Taking back state legislatures and governorships is critical to winning the White House and especially the U.S. House of Representatives. Without the Congress, a president gets little accomplished. Please, gear up for the 2018 mid-term campaigns for the House, Senate and your town’s elections. Election work will start before Labor Day 2017, so on your mark, get ready! As for 2020, the Democrats have a great “bench” of candidates ready to replace President Trump: Sens. Cory Booker, Tammy Duckworth, Jeff Merkel, Chris Murphy, Patty Murray, Kirsten Gillibrand — and maybe a few Democratic governors.

— Frank Cullen
Joanne Fine thought the answers she got from the Albuquerque Police Department were condescending, even insulting.

Fine, a member of the Civilian Police Oversight Board, and the board’s chairperson, Beth Mohr, were meeting on Nov. 9 in the U.S. Attorney’s Office in downtown Albuquerque to find out why APD had sent the CPOB a redacted version of a report on APD’s progress in reforming itself.

The draft report by the independent monitor in the city’s settlement agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice had several paragraphs that were blacked out.

So Fine and Mohr asked APD employee Bill Slauson and City Attorney Jessica Hernandez why APD had censored its report.

“They said it was redacted for things we didn’t need to see,” Fine told ABQ Free Press Weekly.

But Fine and Mohr wanted DOJ officials, who were also in the meeting, to know what APD was up to. So Mohr, using a copy of the unredacted report by James Ginger, the independent monitor, read aloud the things she believed APD had redacted from the draft report.

“The redacted stuff was about us [CPOB and the Civilian Police Oversight Agency], and it directly related to our work,” Fine said. Ginger and DOJ officials seemed surprised to learn what APD had failed to give the CPOB.

What APD blacked out of the draft report was Ginger’s review of how the CPOA and the CPOB were performing in relation to the settlement agreement and APD’s reform effort.

After apparently realizing they had been caught, both Hernandez and Slauson said the redactions were a mistake.

“It defies description as to how stupid this is. It’s condescending, insulting, and it is infuriating,” Fine said. “They got caught, they were so stupid this is. It’s condescending, insulting, even insulting.”

What APD blacked out of the draft report was Ginger’s review of how the CPOA and the CPOB were performing in relation to the settlement agreement and APD’s reform effort.

Under the city law that created the Civilian Police Oversight Board, APD Chief Gorden Eden has 30 days to respond in writing to the board after it makes disciplinary recommendations for police officers. So far, the board has sent 58 such cases and recommendations to Eden’s office, and he hasn’t responded to a single one, Fine said.

“It’s hard to believe that the behavior we are seeing is that of a police department that wants meaningful civilian input,” Fine said.

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**Could Trump Affect the APD Reform Effort?**

Some people involved in APD’s reform process are worried that the Trump administration might not be as aggressive in enforcing the requirements of the city’s settlement agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice.

Coupled with what some say is APD’s unwillingness to reform itself, a less aggressive enforcement effort could wreck the reform process and put APD back where it was two years ago. Peter Simonson, the executive director of ACLU of New Mexico, said a worst case scenario would be “that they change out the existing lawyers who are staffing the settlement agreement and that they just lose interest in the agreement and don’t receive the necessary resources to push for a successful conclusion,” Simonson said.

Joanne Fine, a member of the Civilian Police Oversight Board, worries that, considering its poor record on reforming itself to date, APD would backslide if the DOJ under Trump were to back off the settlement agreement.

“If you judge the last two years, my forecast [for APD] isn’t great. The best forecast for future behavior is past behavior,” Fine said. “Civilian oversight needs to happen, and it has to be effective, and so far I haven’t seen it.”

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*I’m very concerned that the whole thing is going to fall apart once a new attorney general and U.S. attorney are appointed*

– former City Councilor Pete Dinelli

Former City Councilor Pete Dinelli said there will most likely be a new U.S. attorney in the state within six months after Trump takes office and that that person could be less aggressive in holding APD to the requirements of the settlement agreement.

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*‘If you judge the last two years, my forecast [for APD] isn’t great. The best forecast for future behavior is past behavior’*

– Joanne Fine, member of APD’s Civilian Police Oversight Board

“I think the city has always been trying to run the clock on this,” Dinelli said. “I’m very concerned that the whole thing is going to fall apart once a new attorney general and U.S. attorney are appointed. I don’t think they’re going to have the same stomach for going after police misconduct cases.”

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One thing reform proponents have going is that there is a signed settlement that is being overseen by a federal court judge.

Sam Walker, a professor and police accountability and civil liberties expert at the University of Nebraska- Omaha, said the signed settlement offers some protection for reform proponents.

“You actually have a settled court case where a judge is in charge,” Walker said. “That [settlement agreement] can’t be changed unless one of the parties asks for it to be changed. That’s the judge’s decision, so they can’t touch that.”

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City to Clarify Parking in Yards:

BY DENNIS DOMRZALSKI

It happens. And some say it’s happening way too much in Albuquerque—people parking their cars not in garages or on their driveways but in their front yards. Local critical care nurse Brad Tingley doesn’t like it at all. The life-long resident of Albuquerque’s East San Pedro neighborhood said he’s opposed to people parking in their yards for a number of reasons— including his belief that it can lower the worth of surrounding property owners’ homes.

“I haven’t talked with any realtors about how this would affect the value of homes but I can assure you it certainly doesn’t raise the value of your home in the neighborhood,” Tingley said.

“I guess my beef of it is having been born and raised in this area, nobody had ever parked in their yard and I have seen that change over the years,” he said. “Now people are parking in their front yards and then, one, it’s an eyesore, it doesn’t look good to me, especially if there’s a neighbor that has one car kind of parked a little bit off center—sideways—when they pull in,” he said.

“But when you start getting four, five, six, seven, eight, or more cars—that becomes a parking lot and it has affected our neighbors,” said Tingley, who has researched the zoning code.

“Neighbors are saying, “What is going on with these people?”

The practice is fueling a debate across the city and city officials are trying to decide what to do about it. Until nine years ago, the city’s zoning code didn’t have much to say about yard parking, but in 2007 city councilors Isaac Benton and Sally Mayer introduced a bill to limit how many of a front yard in residential zones R-1, R-LT and R-L can be used to park cars.

“Parking on any portion of a front yard setback area, other than the improved parking and maneuvering areas, is prohibited,” according to the code.

The current point of debate is whether the regulation affects homes built before 2007. Diane Dolan, Benton’s policy analyst, said it was Benton’s goal in 2007 for the ordinance to affect every homeowner in Albuquerque.

“His intent, when he sponsored it, he did not include a grandfather clause. And it was not his intent that this would apply only to homes built after 2006—particularly the prohibition on parking on an unapproved (space) in your front yard itself,” she said.

Benton himself told ABQ Free Press Weekly in an email, “I do not recall any intention to grandfather properties built prior to its passage.” He plans to introduce legislation clarifying that.

“There was strong support in 2007 for some control on front yard parking, particularly on unimproved dirt, with the belief that it degraded neighborhoods and lowered property values,” Benton said. “I am now hearing that people are upset due to the non-enforcement. Such laws can always bear re-evaluation and tweaking.”

Other city officials, including Albuquerque Associate Planning Director Brennon Williams, interpret the zoning code differently.

“There is a section of the code that deals with non-conformities—uses or structures that were established prior to a change in the rules, and that section of the code indicates that unless there is an addition of 200 or more square feet [of building square footage] to the property, or the property remains vacant for a continuous period of 12 or more months, then folks are grandfathered in for the life of the property,” Williams said.

Dolan said city officials are working to address that disconnect.

“Some council staff has already met with the planning department to sort of figure out, you know, what their specific concerns are and how they can be addressed in the amendment,” which will be introduced in the next few weeks but won’t be heard until December or, more likely, early next year, she said.

Tingley said his quest to get the zoning code change was an eye-opener. “To get to see that, even though the wheels turn slow in government, as I know, as I am finding out, that things can be done by an individual citizen,” he said.

Dennis Domrzalski is an associate editor at ABQ Free Press Weekly.

Local Briefs

BY ABQ FREE PRESS WEEKLY STAFF

Barelas unchained

Albuquerque’s historic Barelas neighborhood once again has its own neighborhood association. On Nov. 8, the Albuquerque Planning Department reversed a decision that had allowed Barelas to be swallowed up by the upstart Silver-Platinum Downtown Neighborhood Association. Now, Barelas has a newly constituted Barelas Neighborhood Association. Planning Director Susan Lubar said she reversed the decision to let the Silver-Platinum neighborhood absorb Barelas for several reasons, including the fact that with Barelas included in its boundaries, the Silver-Platinum association had a larger geographic area than is allowed by city ordinance, and because people in Barelas were hostile to the takeover. The battle over Barelas began in September of 2015 when the old Barelas association lost its certification as a city-recognized neighborhood association by failing to file a required two-page report listing its officers, number of dues-paying members and bylaws. New Church sex lawsuits Two Albuquerque area men have filed lawsuits against the Archdiocese of Santa Fe alleging they were sexually abused by Catholic priests when they were altar boys. The lawsuits were filed on Nov. 9 in Bernalillo County District Court and bring to 62 the number of lawsuits that have been filed against the Catholic church in the state since 2010. Since the early 1990s, more than 300 priest sexual abuse lawsuits have been filed against the Catholic church in New Mexico.

Ten Commandments

The U.S. 10th Circuit Court of Appeals issued a legal opinion upholding a district court ruling that found that the five-foot granite Ten Commandments monument at the city hall lawn in Bloomfield violated the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment. The lawsuit was originally filed in 2012 by the American Civil Liberties Union of New Mexico on behalf of two Bloomfield residents who objected to their city government endorsing one particular religion. The city plans to appeal the decision to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Balloon stats

Final numbers for the 45th annual Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta are in: 550 registered balloon teams, including 108 special shape balloons; balloons representing 19 countries; balloons from 43 states; and an estimated 839,309 visits, which is down from 2015’s estimated 955,700 visits and slightly above the fiesta’s estimated 5-year average of 817,899.

Luminaria tickets

Tickets for ABQ Ride’s Annual Luminaria tour around Old Town and the Albuquerque Country Club neighborhood go on sale at 8 a.m. Friday, Nov. 25 via the website luminariatour.com. They are also available that day at the Hold My Ticket box office in the Sunshine Building, 112 Second St. SW. The box office is open 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday through Friday, and from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. “Last year, tickets sold out in only four hours for this annual event, so we urge you to buy them as soon as possible,” said Bruce Rizzieri, Director of ABQ Ride.

Methane rule

The Sierra Club is applauding the Obama administration’s passage of a rule limiting pollution from oil and gas operations on public lands. The U.S. Bureau of Land Management’s new rule aims to reduce venting, flaring, and leaks of methane from both existing and new drilling and production sources. Methane, a greenhouse gas 87 times more potent than carbon dioxide, causes respiratory illnesses, primarily in children. Nearly 75,000 people live within half a mile of oil and gas facilities operating on public lands. That estimate does not include Native Americans who live near energy facilities near the Four Corners. The Trump administration, if it wanted to roll back the rule, would need congressional approval to do so. Infrared imaging shows a methane “hot spot” over the Four Corners, where methane is released by operators during drilling and processing in the San Juan Basin.
Why They Took to ABQ Streets after Trump’s Win

BY JOHNNY VIZCAINO

Albuquerque joined more than a dozen U.S. cities that saw protests following the election of Donald Trump as president of the United States. Protesters here said they were fearful that Trump would curb civil rights, limit the right to abortion and dismantle unions.

Here are some of the reasons people said they took to the streets:

Chris Banks, New Mexico Party for Socialism and Liberation chairperson: “(Donald) Trump’s campaign has signaled to the most backward elements of society, white supremacist elements, that it’s okay to be open and aggressive in your racism in public…. Those forces are feeling very strong and energized by his campaign, and, now, his victory. … We’ve already seen the number of hate crimes against Muslim-Americans spike.”

Sylvia, union organizer, Committee of Interns and Residents at UNMH: “We see a lot of indigent care done at our hospital. A lot of undocumented people who have no other ability to get services, they come [to UNMH], it’s a safety-net hospital. … Trump is obviously not a union-friendly guy. … I’m afraid he’s going to attack the unions.”

Courtney Hinman, teacher, Albuquerque High School, Albuquerque Caucus of Rank and File Educators member: “I’m still processing it, but my deepest held fear of what’s coming is that we on the left aren’t going to be able to mobilize. … It’s not so much what Trump might do but the internal contradictions and conflicts on the left end of things, I’m worried that we won’t be able to pull together and put up a real fight. … It’s an all-out attack on the working class, on every front. I don’t think that anything is safe with Trump in office. … He isn’t going to respect anything, politically.”

Zabrina Chavez, CNM Student: “I don’t like that we have him as a ruler to be the face of America’s ignorance. … [His presidency] is just going to be a lot of showboating; he doesn’t have any political experience. Him being in the media, and him being blown up so much, was all just a joke. We’ll all wake up in the morning just waiting for him to make fun of a disabled person or say something ridiculous just for the hell of it. It’s all just a distraction.”

Anita Vallesjo: “We know that one Supreme Court justice is getting in. What if Ruth [Bader-Ginsburg] ends up dying or retiring? There is the potential that he will be nominating three, which would absolutely decimate our Progressive movement. … He has threatened the First Amendment rights of the LGBTQ community, as far as discrimination goes, taking away some of those protections.”

Jessica Avery, senior, UNM: “There are a lot of immigrants here now who are afraid for their lives and who are afraid for their homes and their families. … The concern that affects me most directly is abortion access and women’s healthcare, which has been under attack for the past 10 years. It’s almost impossible to get access to an abortion in some states already, and Trump and his vice president are an immediate threat to that. It’s horrifying.”

Pat Ward, lifelong Democrat: “In the first 20 minutes of his first national security briefing, [Trump reportedly] asked three times, three times, why he can’t drop nuclear bombs. His own attorney told him to shut the fuck up.”

Demetrius Johnson, UNM Kiva Club president: “[Native Americans] won’t be respected. We’ll probably be treated worse than we have ever been in the history of these United States.”

James Friedman, Socialist: “I’m most nervous for people of color in this country, for Muslims who have been on the receiving end of anti-Muslim violence both at home and abroad. I am worried for the state of reproductive rights in this country. I’m worried that Mike Pence, the vice president-elect, will attack workers’ rights through right-to-work legislation.”

Arabelle Helsell, high school junior: “I’m afraid of all three branches of government being conservative. I’m afraid for Planned Parenthood. I’m afraid for healthcare. I’m afraid for every working-class individual in this country who’s being threatened. … I’m afraid he’s going to keep persuading people that he’s good for them and that we’re not going to be able to reach those people.”

Johnny Vizcaino is an editorial intern for the ABQ Free Press Weekly.
Field for '18: Governor’s Race Has Plenty of Familiar Names

BY MATTHEW REICHBACH

The results of the 2016 elections have barely come in, and already attention is turning toward 2018.

There is no presidential election in 2018, but New Mexico will elect a new governor, and many statewide elected officials will be up for re-election.

U.S. Sen. Tom Udall is perhaps signaling an end to his time as an elected official in Washington, D.C., and a run for governor.

“I’ve heard from many New Mexicans who are urging me to run for governor. I’m flattered by their support, I have an open mind, and I’m considering it,” Udall, a Democrat, said in a statement.

“However, there are a lot of changes happening in our country, and right now, I’m focused on getting back to Washington and fighting for New Mexico priorities.”

Udall first won election to the Senate in 2008 after serving in the U.S. House for a decade.

But he isn’t the only one who might be looking this early at a run for governor.

U.S. Rep. Michelle Lujan Grisham said in a phone interview that she was not going to rule anything out but that it was too soon after the election to make any sort of decision in running for the state’s highest office.

“I haven’t had a chance to really think about that,” Lujan Grisham said. “And I really want to do this work.”

She mentioned infrastructure as one thing she hoped Congress would work on.

As for a timeline of a decision for a gubernatorial run, Lujan Grisham said any decision would have to be made before the end of 2017 because of the amount of fundraising that would be needed to mount a campaign – unless through self-funding.

“And I cannot self-fund,” Lujan Grisham said.

She also said she believed the Democratic nominee would not get a free ride in the primary.

“I think you’ll have a primary because there are some great Democrats there with a variety of important skills,” she said.

Attorney General Hector Balderas is another Democrat whose name frequently comes up in conversations about potential candidates for governor.

“Attorney General Balderas has deep concerns about our state and will evaluate serving in a greater capacity in the near future,” Caroline Buerkle, a political strategist who has worked with Balderas in the past, said in a statement.

On the Republican side, many believe Lt. Gov. John Sanchez will throw his hat in the ring. A spokesman for Sanchez responded to a request for comment Thursday.

“In recent months, Lieutenant Governor Sanchez has been asked by many New Mexicans – both Republicans and Democrats – to run for governor in 2018, and he is seriously considering it,” said Manny Gonzales, Sanchez’s campaign treasurer. “In the weeks ahead, he plans to discuss this further with his family and supporters and make a final decision about his future at the appropriate time. Meanwhile, he will continue to devote his time to serving and helping citizens across the state as their lieutenant governor.”

And U.S. Rep. Steve Pearce, who left his seat in 2008 for an unsuccessful run for U.S. Senate before returning to the House in 2011, told the Albuquerque Journal his focus right now is on the U.S. House.

“We’ll sit down and start looking at that sometime next year,” Pearce told the Journal.

Albuquerque Mayor Richard Berry, a Republican, has also been mentioned as a possible candidate for governor.

The race for governor will be big in 2018 for beyond the usual reasons – state legislative and congressional seats must be redistricted during the governor’s next term.

The governor will also have veto power over any redistricting maps passed by the Legislature.

Matthew Reichbach is the editor of NM Political Report, a nonprofit online news agency that can be found at nmpoliticalreport.com.
Trump’s Win May Mean Good News for NM Bases

BY JOE MONAHAN

More than a few voters treated this election’s outcome like an unwanted Christmas gift. They moved quickly to try to return it, pass it on to a friend, or put it in the attic to be forgotten. But as the old saying goes: “Elections have consequences,” and they can’t be ignored, no matter how disconsolate one is over the outcome.

Here are some of those consequences for our fair New Mexico:

The Legislature is about to take a step toward the left as it adds two Democrats to the Senate and five Democrats to the House. This means the 2014 historic Republican takeover of the House ends at two years. But will the deeper blue shading of the Roundhouse mean big policy changes?

It’s not likely. Remember, Republican Gov. Martinez still has two years left and is buying new ink for her veto pen for use if the Democrats start sending her legislation that makes her frown.

Trump has pledged to “rebuild” the military and rescind defense cuts. That’s a big deal for the state’s four military bases as well as Los Alamos and Sandia national laboratories, which are deeply entwined with the defense industry. He is also saying a federal hiring freeze he plans will not apply to the military. Because federal funding remains the principal driver of the state’s economy, that’s a bit of good news.

Trump is pledging to quickly deport millions of undocumented immigrants whom he deems to be criminals.

On the other hand, a Trump presidency, combined with Republican control of both houses of Congress, could mean a hit to the social safety net programs so much of the state is dependent upon in the form of Medicaid and food stamps. These programs are exploding with recipients as the state’s economic stagnation makes more residents eligible.

The individual fortunes of a slew of state politicians were reshaped by Election ’16. Gov. Martinez’s refusal to endorse Trump cost her dearly with the Republican base. Don’t look for Trump to plot revenge against her, but do look for her to be ignored by the White House.

Southern GOP Congressman Steve Pearce was the only prominent state office holder to go all in for Trump. That could mean more power (and pressure) for him as the state looks to Pearce to hold off any especially damaging fallout from Washington. He’ll also have a big say in the passing out of plum federal jobs here.

Democrat U.S. Sen. Tom Udall may have had it with D.C. His party failed to take back the Senate, and Udall is now publicly acknowledging that he is looking at running for the 2018 Democratic nomination for governor. He is a big fish in a small pond, and if he gets in, it could end the nomination hopes of Albuquerque U.S. Rep. Michelle Lujan Grisham.

Up next? The October 2017 Albuquerque mayoral election, but after the tumult of this year, we’re all permitted to take a break from La Politica, but only until the Christmas trees come down.

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

What Trump’s Win Means; Fundraiser for HACIA

BY SAYRAH NAMASTÉ

Don’t mourn, organize!” proclaimed labor activist Joe Hill.

Many people told me they cried after the presidential election. What keeps me going is remembering all of the people’s movements that have changed our society, even under tremendous odds.

The courageous labor movement of Joe Hill’s time, in which workers had no basic rights and children labored in factories, fought enormous oppression. We are still reaping the fruits of their organizing with the eight-hour workday, paid leave, minimum wages, worker safety laws, child labor laws … the list goes on.

Another obvious example is the civil rights movement’s incredible struggle and victories. We have to carry on this work.

Local social justice organizations and activists have begun moving from grief and shock to strategizing about how to prepare for the Donald Trump presidency. One opportunity to analyze the election results is the event “The Election Is Over: Now What?” a discussion on what it means for New Mexico.

HACIA is a proven K-12 college readiness strategy that builds an intergenerational culture of engagement and lifelong learning.

The event, sponsored by the Congregation Albert Brotherhood, is scheduled for 10 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 20, 3800 Louisiana Blvd. NE. This is a brunch event with speakers Steve Terrell, the political columnist for the Santa Fe New Mexican, and Joe Monahan, an ABQ Free Press Weekly columnist and long-time political blogger. Reservations must be made by emailing brotherhood@congregationalbert.org or by calling (505) 883-1818, ext. 3203, by Nov. 18.

Ho, Ho, Huh?

Christmas decorations are already popping up, and you can be part of a great holiday party “Eat, Drink & Be Giving!” to help support the Southwest Creations Collaborative.

Since 1994, Southwest Creations Collaborative has provided dignified employment while improving access to education for youth and adults. On-site childcare at just 25 cents an hour has been a central part of Southwest Creations since day one, allowing parents to work while their children are cared for in a nurturing environment. Additionally, all Southwest Creations Collaborative employees receive paid school involvement leave, which means they can be involved in their children’s educations without having their pay docked.

“Eat, Drink and Be Giving” is a festive fundraiser for the collaborative’s program HACIA: Toward the University. HACIA is a proven K-12 college readiness strategy that builds an intergenerational culture of engagement and lifelong learning that is sometimes lacking in families with low levels of formal education.

Results of the HACIA program are impressive. A four-year pilot in the Albuquerque Public Schools that was completed in May 2016 helped 310 families in building skills, systems literacy, and social capital to attain educational goals. The HACIA pilot achieved a 93 percent high school graduation rate and 81 percent college admission rate for the students in the pilot. HACIA is about to expand its services to more than 600 families.

Shop for beautiful gifts at a silent auction, wine raffle and marketplace from 5-8 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 19, at Southwest Creations Collaborative, 1308 Fourth St. NW. Silent auction items include tickets and airfare to the 2017 Kentucky Derby.

Donations are being made by Los Poblanos, Ten Thousand Waves, Mimi Green, Santacafe, Tewa Tees, Maude Andrade Designs, Hotel Parq Central, Kei & Molly Textiles, Vinaigrette, Blissful Spirits Hot Yoga, Kim Jew Photography and other businesses. RSVP to tracy@southwestcreations.com

Sayrah Namasté is an organizer with the American Friends Service Committee in Albuquerque. She writes about events of interest to Albuquerque’s activist community.
As I pulled the cap from the emergency bottle of vodka I hadn’t really thought we’d need on election night, I thought to myself, “How can there be this much hate in the world?”

We raised our shot glasses, someone muttered, “Fucking damn it” as a toast, and we drank. I looked around at my loved ones and counted the targets on our backs. Some are women. Some are persons of color, or queer, or ill. The swell of fear rolled off us in waves.

There’s been talk from people who do not understand the stakes. They say this is no big deal, that it’s only four years, that we shouldn’t be sore losers. Worse, that we should come together and unite under Trump.

But this is a big deal. This isn’t just about disliking the president-elect. Trump has embozled every person who ever wanted to say or do something cruel to someone who was different from them. Trump has made hateful acts perfectly acceptable. Trump’s victory has told people they no longer have to consider other people. Trump’s victory has made it clear to the masses that they don’t have to pretend they’re not bigots. This is about the health, wellness and safety of millions.

For some of us, this could be life or death. Because 59,424,248 million Americans voted for a man who admitted to sexually assaulting women, instead of a qualified female candidate, and this puts many people in danger.

If you are a white, heterosexual, physically fit, mentally capable American man, it’s very likely you don’t have any experience with the type of fear I’m talking about. And I want you – actually, millions of us need you – to understand.

Imagine you are in a completely dark room. You have to cross from one side to the other, but you don’t know how big the room is and you don’t know where any of the furniture is. You pick your way through. Sometimes you catch a table with your knee, or find a pile of Legos with your foot. There are other things moving in the dark too, but there’s no way to tell if those things are helpful or harmful without letting them get within arm’s reach.

Now imagine that room is your life. The furniture are laws and systems designed to hold you back, and the things that move in the dark are other people who are likely to be covertly biased toward you – which is far more dangerous than outward bias.

Can you imagine the constant uncertainty, the panic? For some of us, that’s everyday life.

Let’s talk about some real-life examples, all from Nov. 9:

In Minnesota, a Black high school student’s locker was graffitied with things like “F**k N**gers,” and “Trump Train.”

In California, a man in a Make America Great Again hat grabbed a woman’s crotch outside a store and whispered, “Are you scared now, you liberal cunt?”

In North Carolina, a gay couple found a note on their car that said, “Can’t wait for your marriage to be overturned by a real president! Gays families = burn in hell!”

There are plenty of examples in Albuquerque, as well:

Someone left a sign that said “Whites Only” outside of a pizza shop on Central.

Another person pulled the hijab off of a student who was studying at Zimmerman Library.

A truck driver intentionally crashed into a transgender woman and drove off (she’s recovering, and police have a lead on a suspect).

There are just a few of the horrible things that happened to people in a single day.

There are very real dangers the president-elect himself poses as well. Trump will select at least one, possibly up to three, U.S. Supreme Court judges. He has the support of a Republican-controlled House and a Republican-controlled Senate. Repealing Obamacare is almost a certainty, and, for many people living with chronic illnesses, it could mean the end of accessible treatment. Overturning Roe v. Wade is now a distinct possibility. Overturning Obergefell v. Hodges, the case in which the court declared marriage a fundamental right whether you’re straight or gay, could be overturned as well.

And let’s not forget the U.S. Constitution itself. With the consent of two-thirds of both the Senate and House of Representatives and three-quarters of the states, it’s possible to repeal birthright citizenship and the right of women and minorities to vote.

These are very real threats to the lives of people you know.

Jyllian Roach is the arts and entertainment editor at ABQ Free Press Weekly. Reach her at jyllian@freeabq.com
W

ithout a doubt, it was the most surprising election result in the history of American presidential contests. Donald Trump, bombastic reality star and maybe successful businessman, managed to get elected president of the United States.

The man who was easily baited into losing his cool by a well-prepared woman in a set-piece presidential debate is poised to become the man in charge of America’s position with the world in the balance – with one finger on the nuclear trigger.

He who denigrated minorities, women, Muslims, Mexicans and plump beauty queens is now in charge of binding up the wounds in a deeply divided country. He who boasted of grabbing women by the pussy and getting away with it because of his celebrity status is now the Mother of All Celebrities.

Taxes, Obamacare, Mexico border wall, trade agreements, global security alignments – there is virtually no significant policy arena Trump didn’t upend during the campaign.

But here we are. We have a national Republican Establishment making nice for the television cameras, but very anxious behind the scenes on who will do what to modify or block which Trumpian gambit. The GOP leadership in Congress now has the majorities – and the presidency – for doing a number on Obamacare. All they have to do is come up with a scheme that will please the already flush health insurance behemoths and blunt the rising premiums – while simultaneously keeping accessible insurance for the Obamacare contingent and the permanent disability sufferers.

They face a Trump agenda that in several significant areas flies in the face of orthodox Republican doctrine and/or goes the opposite way of GOP-allied interest groups.

Republicans face interesting times ahead, in the curse of the old Chinese proverb. Both major political parties come out of this election in disarray; if not shambles – at least in terms of their old patterns of national organization and leadership. With the ever-increasing role of Citizens United political money dominating the debate, it may be we are already deep into the decay of the parties as relevant entities.

All that said, only a minority of the Americans who swept Donald Trump into the presidency were bona fide inhabitants of Hillary Clinton’s basket of deplorables. The significant if not overwhelming majority were middle-class Americans a lot like the Clinton voters, who differed only in that they were against the political status quo more than anything else.

They despaired of the verbose gridlock of the Washington political colony. They probably didn’t care for the offensive aspects of Trump’s talk and behavior any more than the Clinton voters, but above all else they wanted deep and permanent change in the distant and indifferent laws and regulation radiating out of the nation’s Capitol. It doesn’t register with them that the media routinely exaggerate the scope and effect of it.

The only presidential result that came close to my dismay at the Trump victory during my journalist years was when that retread actor Ronald Reagan ascended to the oval office.

No background, no experience (well, he had been governor of California), all talk and no leadership depth – that was my assessment. Well, Reagan is remembered today as one of the great presidents of the 20th century – at least among Republicans.

After all, didn’t he bring down the Soviet Union? That occurring on his watch was likely as attributable to him as was the unprecedented budget boom of federal surpluses during the Clinton years primarily attributable to Clinton. Intentions and resolve notwithstanding, the inertial resistance to directional change of the Battlestar Galactica that is the federal government makes any basic restructuring of the system a pipe dream.

But, Reagan had the gift of gab – and from his original “Shining City on a Hill” image of America forward, he spoke positively and optimistically – and people believed. He was, in a word, a leader. A leader in the sense of being someone who could go to the front and people would follow. Not necessarily one who had the best, brightest and most prudent plan for where to go. How will Trump prove to be relative to that model?

In the final analysis, the people with whom Trump surrounds himself will probably prove more significant in the record of his administration than Trump himself. It’s not even certain it will prove to be a conservative administration in all aspects.

We survived Reagan, we survived Nixon, we survived Bush and Clinton – in fact, American democracy survived all of our presidents prior to Trump. The odds are good we’ll survive him as well.
It’s cocktail hour on a Friday night, and you want to be prepared. You could go out to a bar and have your favorite cocktail made for you by a professional bartender; however, with the right tools and some practice, you could do it yourself at home.

Stocking up on all the handy tools to make cocktails at home can start to add up quickly. As a kitchen and bar tool addict, I know this from experience. So, we’ll start with a few basics and I’ll leave it up to you to upgrade or add as you see fit.

Of course, the most critical of ingredients for your home cocktail experience is booze. The six base liquors are: whiskey, tequila, brandy, rum, vodka and gin. Beyond these, grab some bitters, vermouth (sweet and dry), and various liqueurs (such as triple sec, crème de cassis, or schnapps).

With your tools and booze acquired, you’ll find it helpful to keep a few ingredients such as sugar (honey, sweetener, etc.) and citrus on hand. Remember to use the freshest ingredients you can in your cocktail; it makes all the difference.

Please drink responsibly and enjoy your cocktails.

Veronica Rinaldi is a bartender for Albuquerque Press Club who never shies away from a new cocktail.

Mixing Up a Home Bar

BY VERONICA RINALDI

Cocktail shaker

These are available in three configurations: the Boston, French and the cobbler. The cobbler is a three-piece shaker made up of a shaking tin, a strainer top and cap for the pour spout on top. For the beginner this is the one I recommend, it is all inclusive and doesn’t require the purchase of an additional strainer.

Jigger or measuring cup

A jigger is the small hourglass-shaped metal device you’ve probably seen in many bars. It usually measures one jigger, or 1.5 ounces, on one side and half a jigger, or ¾ ounce, on the smaller side. These come in different measurements, so make sure you know what you’re working with. Alternatively, you can use any measuring device with markings from ¼ ounce to 2 ounces. No matter what you use to measure, it is very important to be consistent with your ingredients.

Strainer

There are two types of strainers to pick from, the most commonly used is the Hawthorne. This strainer consists of a flat disc with several holes affixed to a coiled spring on the bottom. The alternative is the julep strainer, which looks like a large metal scoop with holes in it. The julep strainer can also double as an ice scoop, but unless you only make juleps at home I would recommend starting with the Hawthorne. You will find it comes in handy even with the cobbler shaker.

Long bar spoon

A bar spoon can be very essential for making stirred drinks. Look for a spoon that is about 12 inches or longer. Many long bar spoons will have a useful little tool on the end such as a muddler or olive trident.

Muddler

Imagine a 9-inch baseball bat and you’re pretty close. Muddlers are usually made of wood (some lacquered, some not), but you will also be able to find plastic or stainless ones that are dishwasher safe. Muddling is a culinary technique in which an ingredient is crushed to extract its juices for Mojitos or the old fashioned and other drinks.

Citrus squeeze

There are many styles of citrus juicers out there, from professional lever-style hand press to a simple wooden reamer. You can go old fashioned with a fork if you want, the important point here is to use fresh juices whenever possible. I recommend the lever-style press, you’ll find it handy in the kitchen as well as the bar.
Albuquerque is overall a pretty blue city, so it’s safe to assume many of our readers are going through the same feelings of disorientation and despair that I am in the wake of Trump’s victory. With that in mind, this being the booze issue AND the post-election issue has me a little concerned.

The morning of Nov. 9, Clinton voters everywhere were in despair, and, unfortunately, multiple venues were recommending alcohol as an antidote to that despair, from the New York Times – where columnist Gail Collins suggested liberals “start with a night of heavy drinking” to help adjust to a Trump administration – to social media, where tweets and status updates announcing intended drunkenness abounded.

Everywhere, it seems, unhappy liberals are suggesting one way to get through the uncertainty and angst of the next four years is to drink it away. And that, even in jest, is a terrible idea. So, you won’t see that in Beer Town, even though this is a beer column in a booze issue.

The fact is, I have been a problem drinker at various stages of my life, and I know too well the pain such behavior can cause. I’m not an “alcoholic,” as I’ve never been physically dependent on the sauce, but I have certainly been a self-medicating binge drinker.

I suffer from depression serious enough to have landed me in the psych emergency center on more than one occasion and one of my attempted ways to deal with that problem was, as so many well-meaning opinion writers are suggesting now, to drink. And let me state unequivocally: it didn’t work.

Drinking problems away only leads to bigger problems, whether that’s a DWI, the dissolution of important relationships, long-term health problems or even death.

Maybe it seems strange that I’m taking a moment to voice these concerns in a column titled “Beer Town,” but I strongly believe that beer (and other imbibables) should be enjoyed in moderation. Alcohol is a dangerous beast, and attempting to use it to deal with election-triggered depression is irresponsible.

So please, feel free to grab a beer with some friends down at the local brewery and hash out your feelings surrounding the election, but do so with the knowledge that you need to get home safely. Fortunately, most breweries have a posted three-beer limit, which should keep you from getting into too much trouble, and chances are you’ve already got the Uber or Lyft app on your phone.

Everywhere, it seems, unhappy liberals are suggesting one way to get through the uncertainty and angst of the next four years is to drink it away. And that, even in jest, is a terrible idea.

If you happen to be out on a Friday or Saturday night between 10 p.m. and 2 a.m., you groovy young hipster you, you can use Bernalillo County’s free Tavern Taxi. You don’t even have to remember the number (999-1400), all you have to do is slur the words in your bartender’s direction and he or she will dial them up for you.

That should take care of the most acute of drinking issues, which is to say alcohol’s propensity to turn a driver and car into a deadly weapon, and also keep you out of jail.

Self-medication is a far more subtle and pernicious problem that can’t really be solved in this column, no matter how amazing my prose might be. All I can really do is suggest that if you find yourself struggling with depression and/or problem drinking, give the Agora Crisis Center a ring at 277-3013. The call is anonymous and they’ll help you find the support you need.

Let’s be clear, I want you to enjoy Albuquerque’s resplendent brewery scene, I just want you to be safe and healthy while you do it.

Ty Bannerman is a beer drinker, co-host of the City on the Edge podcast and author of “Forgotten Albuquerque.”
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SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT
COURT
COUNTY OF BERNALILLO
STATE OF NEW MEXICO
JOYCE FENEDICK, Petitioner

JONATHON OLES, Respondent
and
STATE OF NEW MEXICO (HSD),
Intervener

NOTICE OF ACTION FOR
Jonathon Oles
Last Known Address
3109 Alamogordo Dr NW,
Albuquerque, 87120.

You are notified that a Memorandum Order Clarifying Prior Order and Notice of Hearing has been filed and lists you as a party. You are required to appear before the Honorable Debra Ramirez on January 12, 2016 at 11:00am, at Bernalillo County Courthouse, 400 Lomas Blvd Albuquerque NM 87102 second floor. If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you, and you may be held in contempt of Court.
Booze and Food: An Inseparable Team

BY STEVE “MO” FYE

Alcohol and food seem to be eternally linked. People spend years learning how to pair wines with specific victuals. I believe people who have a love of food naturally have the same appreciation for fermented and distilled beverages. I know a great many cooks; most are beer, wine or spirit aficionados. Some are just drunks. Others are teetotalers who still have a great knowledge of the boozy arts.

Alcohol is hugely useful in the kitchen. Wine, liqueurs and hard liquors are great for deglazing pans to release and dissolve the fond – the caramelized bits left as a result of searing food.

Wine’s rich or subtle flavors lend a depth to sauces. Wine, liquor or beer is often the basis for fondue cheese sauces.

Bakers use booze extensively, whether to flavor ganache (chocolate and cream) or to boost the intense darkness of a Guinness cupcake. Vodka is sometimes substituted for part of the water in pie or biscuit dough to help make it flaky and prevent toughness.

A dish that has fallen out of favor in the U.S. is Steak Diane. Popular at high-end restaurants, especially in New York, in the post-WWII era, this dish was usually prepared tableside by trained wait staff and is quite the show, akin to the presentation of Bananas Foster, Cherries Jubilee or a flashy preparation of Caesar salad.

Modern restaurants rarely have the room or staff to do tableside service anymore. Also, the flare of burning brandy risks setting off fire suppression systems. No matter, it can be made safely and fairly easily by the home chef.

I have adapted the original recipe, which typically featured beef tenderloin and reduced veal stock, to use poultry stock and turkey for the protein.

Turkey Diane

**Ingredients:**
- 4 turkey cutlets, 3-4 ounces
- ½ cup flour
- 2 Tbsp. butter, divided
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 2 Tbsp. minced shallot
- 3 Tbsp. finely chopped parsley, divided
- 2 cups sliced mushrooms
- 2 fl. oz. Cognac or brandy
- 1 tsp. Dijon mustard
- ½ tsp. Worcestershire sauce
- ½ tsp. hot sauce
- 2 fl. oz. Port
- 2 fl. oz. Heavy cream or half-and-half
- 1 to 1-1/2 cups reduced chicken, turkey or duck stock
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste

**Directions:**

1. It is crucial to have all the ingredients, equipment and plates prepared, measured and before starting the dish.
2. Cut the turkey breast across the grain and pound flat with a meat hammer or the back of a skillet. Season the turkey liberally on both cut sides with salt and fresh-ground black pepper. Coat the cutlets in flour and shake off the excess.
3. In a large, heavy-bottomed skillet or sauté pan, melt 1 Tbsp. butter over medium-high heat. Once the butter is melted and bubbling, pan fry the turkey until just done (165°F). Remove the cutlets to a warm plate and cover.
4. Add the second tablespoon of butter and sauté the shallots, mushrooms, garlic and a third of the parsley. Once the mushrooms are soft and the aromatics are translucent, tip the pan toward you and add the brandy or Cognac. Carefully tip the pan away and allow the flame to ignite the alcohol.
5. Let the alcohol burn off and add mustard, Worcestershire sauce, hot sauce and chicken stock. Swirl the sauce to mix and add the cream and port, as well as a second tablespoon of parsley.
6. Continue to swirl and blend the sauce as it reduces and thickens to the texture of heavy cream.
7. Place the turkey back in the sauce to reheat and coat the cutlets.
8. Adjust seasoning with salt and pepper and plate the turkey, spooning the thick, rich sauce over the cutlets. Garnish with the final tablespoon of parsley.

This dish goes well with a neutral starch such as rice, egg noodles or potatoes. Any hearty green vegetable with a sharp, vinegary sauce is a great accompaniment.

The dish is not necessarily exciting visually, but the cooking process can be very impressive, and the flavorful sauce that mates rich, deep meat flavors and the tang of alcohol is something to be remembered. Pair with a hearty red wine and enjoy.

Steve “Mo” Fye is an Instructional Tech in the Culinary Arts program at Central New Mexico Community College and refuses to cook with any alcohol he wouldn’t drink.
Sunday's not Fun-day without Beer, Art and Music

BY JESSICA HELEN LOPEZ

The taproom is well lit. Live painters flank the stage and an assortment of local arts and craft vendors camp out throughout the room. A group of belly dancers shimmy across the stage while a band provides music. Between songs a poet espouses into the mic.

Welcome to the I’ll Drink to That variety show at Tractor Brewing Company, Wells Park.

Known as IDTT, the monthly show highlights the best talent that Burque has to offer, including poets, comedians, musicians and visual artists.

Carlos Contreras is the curator, founder and master of ceremonies of IDTT. Part soothsayer, part savvy business guy and an intuitive artist of DTT, part soothsayer, part savvy founder and master of ceremonies has to offer, including poets, comedians, musicians and visual artists. Contreras said he recognized there was a niche for live performance in the ever-booming business of local craft beer and breweries. Thus was the inception of the biggest, baddest and booziest variety show this side of the Sandia Mountains.

“There was a platform there that was not being tapped,” Contreras said. “I recognized that local businesses, tap rooms and breweries, could benefit from placing local artists and live art in their spaces. Likewise, artists would then have a place to be artists.”

Artists networking, creating and performing for a naturally receptive audience is integral to Contreras’s vision. He said IDTT and his event planning company, Immastar Productions, supports amazing happenings in New Mexico and the amazing people who make it happen.

“We aim to engage and create community,” he said. “We are artists in collaboration with organizations and businesses.”

Often, IDTT will partner with local grassroots organizations and showcase benefits and other fundraising efforts. In the past, IDTT has partnered with TEDxABQ, We Are This City, Humans of New Mexico, Global Ties Film Foundation and more.

Contreras said more than likely, ‘I’ll Drink to That will take the show on the road at the end of the year. IDTT will likely create at least four or more pop-up satellite shows around town, but will eventually work its magic into other local tap rooms.

The next IDTT show will be on Sunday Nov. 20 at 4 p.m. for the special, “Let’s Buy a Van for The Riddims Band” edition.

Jessica Helen Lopez is a freelance reporter.

Local Artists Plan Healing Through Creation

BY JOHNNY VIZCAINO

It’s been said there’s an art to everything, but how do artists navigate life’s ugly parts? Where does art happen within a system of oppression, alongside a tradition of destruction, violence and trauma?

Nancy Zastudil, owner of Central Features Contemporary Art Gallery, invited local artists to a town hall-style meetup on Monday in hopes of finding answers to those questions.

“It probably goes without saying, but after Tuesday’s election results, that is a timely topic,” Zastudil said to an anxious crowd. “I’m definitely feeling some urgency.”

There is power in being able to give tangible substance to our ideas, she said, and this is how art contributes to a discourse of social progress, “by giving people a touchstone, something to directly address, and to talk about and ask questions about, and reflect back on themselves.”

The evening’s agenda included a moderated discussion with questions and comments from the audience, and an opportunity for anyone representing an organization to share information with other interested attendees.

The meeting emphasized the importance of providing the space for conversations to take place, both physically and intellectually.

Ebony Isis Booth is the programs and communications coordinator at the Harwood Art Center, and the co-founder of the highly-lauded, annual Burque Noir event.

As a working-class black woman, Booth said, poetry and art provide a way to demand identity and visibility from a society designed to deny her these things.

“You have to be honest and brave, and say what you mean and say who it’s for, and then find people who support that. They will help you make it happen,” she said. “The exchange of personhood and humanity, and friendship and love, and beautiful art and amazing experience is worth it. We just have to kick the door in, you have to demand it.”

Although the conversation was centered on where art meets activism, Booth said it is important to acknowledge the differences between the two.

“When you go out into the community, you have to tell the truth there, too, because they don’t give a damn about your creative process,” she said. “There’s a difference between art and activism, and you have to really be ready to roll up your sleeves and get in there and do the work.”

Barbara Grothus, a local artist andulist, said in order to make demands of the system one must first make demands of oneself. Effective activism requires sacrifice, she said, and she has sacrificed working on her art to participate in the social struggle for justice.

Activism is exhausting work, and help is badly needed in the fight against oppression and injustice; while solidarity safety pins are a nice gesture, Grothus said there are questions people must ask themselves about what those mean to them,

“What are we going to do to get in front of the train? This is really the bottom line for me. Who is going to get out there?” she asked.

Johnny Vizcaino is an editorial intern at ABQ Free Press Weekly.
The Callboard: Local Auditions, on One Page

Do you dream of spotlights and cheering fans? Then maybe it’s time to take those dreams and make them a reality. And it all starts with picking up a copy of ABQ Free Press Weekly, where we make it easy to find all the local auditions for stage and screen. See? The first step is simple. The rest? That’s up to you.

Screen

**MALE**
Caucasian, 20s-30s
Shaved heads
“Midnight, Texas”
Must have valid ID
Visit lathamcasting.com
PAID

Open ethnicity, 20s – Phil
“Doors of Lloyd”
Nov. 11 and 12, 6 to 8 p.m.
Santa Fe
Email headshot, resume and contact info to kyle.sherling@student.santafeuniversity.edu

Open ethnicity, 50-65 – Markus
“Soledad”
Nov. 15, 5 to 8 p.m.
1600 St. Michael's Drive, Santa Fe
Rm. 105
Facogliati@hotmail.com
PAID

**FEMALE**
Hispanic, 25-35 – Soledad
“Soledad”
Nov. 15, 5 to 8 p.m.
1600 St. Michael's Drive, Santa Fe
Rm. 105
Facogliati@hotmail.com
PAID

Open ethnicity, 18-23 – Francesca
“Sarah”
Thursday, Nov. 10, 5 to 8 p.m.
1600 St. Michael's Drive, Santa Fe
Rm. 105
federica.sosso@student.santafeuniversity.edu
PAID

Open ethnicity, 25-35 – Sarah
“Sarah”
Thursday, Nov. 10, 5 to 8 p.m.
1600 St. Michael's Drive, Santa Fe
Rm. 105
federica.sosso@student.santafeuniversity.edu
PAID

Hispanic, 25-45
Voice-over
Accion Commercial
Send voice/acting reel, resume and contact info to casting@8292productions.com
PAID

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Unique look
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**NM Film Focus: Spirits in Cinema**

**BY CHRISTA VALDEZ**

From a sloppy sip of a White Russian to bootlegging crates of whiskey or the ubiquitous pop of bottles of beer, booze on film can be anything from a prop to a character, to a storyline.

Actor Jeff Bridges, who should just go ahead and officially become a New Mexican already, took the White Russian in his script from prop to co-star in “The Big Lebowski.”

The drink is now synonymous with the outrageously popular film and the cult figure “The Dude,” which Bridges also embodied to perfection.

In "Hell or High Water," dubbed the best film of the year by Forbes magazine, Chris Pine and Ben Foster play an epic pair of bank robbing brothers who popped more bottle caps than bullets on their heart wrenching crime spree across west Texas, which was beautifully portrayed by eastern New Mexico.

The brothers commiserating and refueling over beers lent a calm and centering feel to the storyline that seemed to drive home the many relatable themes in this great New Mexico made movie.

Johnny Depp has made two New Mexico movies, one the little known, but very solid sci-fi drama, “Transcendence” and the underwhelming ”The Lone Ranger,” but he’s known the world over for playing a boozed-up pirate in the blockbuster franchise “Pirates of the Caribbean.”

Whether the portrayal is life imitating art or vice versa, Depp’s yo-ho-ho and many, many bottles of rum performances in the series of films has earned him box office gold.

And then there’s New Mexico’s own booze-specific feature length film “Beerfest,” an “Animal House”-esque comedy that was filmed in Albuquerque.

Again centered on brothers, “Beerfest” follows Jan and Tod Wolfhouse to Germany for Oktoberfest, where the brothers find themselves responsible for defending their family honor in “Fight Club” style beer games. The film co-stars big hitters Cloris Leachman, Will Forte, Nat Faxon and local favorite Steven Michael Quezada.

Our beer, wine and liquor dalliances are also blooming in popularity on and off screen as our state’s presence grows in the global film industry. Local brews, vintages and distilled spirits alike have been featured in local productions, and New Mexico hot spots for libations are well known to the never-ending string of stars who film in our fair state. Cheers!

New Mexico film expert Christa Valdez, of OneHeadlightInk.com and ChristaValdez.com, reports on movie industry news for ABQ Free Press.

**A Timeless Sci-Fi Flick Has Finally Arrived**

**BY DAVID LYNCH**

Maintaining good communication – whether between governments of countries or two people in a relationship – isn’t always easy. Sometimes the mediation of an outside party is necessary.

For director Denis Villeneuve, it takes a visit from aliens for humanity to discover its communicative flaws. At least, that’s the premise of “Arrival,” a film depicting close encounters of a thrilling kind that takes the audience on a mesmerizing ride as intelligent as the story itself.

Like some of the best sci-fi, “Arrival” utilizes an outlandish concept to make very relevant comments on the state of humanity, with Villeneuve deconstructing a concept as simple as communication by reminding us of the paranoia that can manifest when we take communication for granted.

The story is told through the eyes of Louise Banks, a linguistics professor recruited by the military, along with another expert in Jeremy Renner’s Ian Donnelly, to help communicate with extraterrestrial beings. We don’t know if these aliens come in peace; all we know is they come via one of 12 pods resembling a slice of fruit to different places around the globe. And every day they hover a few dozen feet above the surface, humanity grows even more weary.

With “Arrival,” Villeneuve begins to cement himself as one of the premiere directors in Hollywood exploring deep themes through multilayered, provocative stories. Like “Prisoners” and “Sicario,” his latest is a slow-burning escalation towards a mind-bending, tense finish that eventually places a new connotation on its title.

To be clear, this isn’t particularly an alien invasion movie – our visitors never even set foot on Earth – and the audience shouldn’t expect the normal sort of blockbuster action associated with that moniker. These are thrills of a much more subdued kind.

Amy Adams gives a subtle but powerhouse performance as Banks, the ever-anxious but curious expert whose personal ties to the mission anchor themselves in her believable quest to be able to communicate with our visitors. Renner is also terrific in what has to be the most vulnerable role we’ve ever seen him in.

“Arrival” isn’t just thematically astounding – the film is totally immersive, engaging nearly all our senses. Conversations between characters through headsets limit outside noise. We feel as claustrophobic as Banks does when she enters the alien craft in a hazmat suit. The IMAX-worthy camerawork is sweeping and gorgeous, bold in portraying the film’s grand scale. The music is daringly ambiguous too, conveying a tone that is all at once threatening and captivating.

The way “Arrival” plays with light, in particular, provides its own symbolic value. It makes excellent use of a dark, brooding aesthetic, with shadows playing a prominent role. Half-clouded faces and environments tease moral flaws, and the brightness associated with the spaceship’s interior resonates with the film’s central questions: Is language a gift, or a weapon?

In other words, it is very much like Villeneuve’s previous works as far as his focus on the visuals. It’s incredibly well-directed in that regard, all of the film’s elements work in tandem to deliver a memorable experience that rivals the best sci-fi of recent years, maybe decades.

David Lynch is an award-winning film critic.
Craft Fair Weekend

BY ERIKA EDDY

Shopping feels good when you’re supporting local artisans, organizations and charities. Get started on your holiday shopping or stock up on the unique staples not found on Amazon at a couple of craft fairs this weekend.

On Saturday, Nov. 19, the National Hispanic Cultural Center Foundation is hosting its annual Regalos: Holiday Craft Fair from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., outside of La Tiendita in the NHCC’s Visual Arts Building.

On Sunday, Nov. 20 check out local charter school Tierra Adentro’s holiday arts market from 2 to 6 p.m. at the YDI Wool Warehouse. They will feature live music and flamenco dancing as well as food concessions.

SHOWS

NOVEMBER 17-19
Sunshine Theater
120 Central Ave SW, 764-0249, sunshinetheaterlive.com
November 17, Aaron Watson, Jon Wolfe
November 19, Switchfoot, Relient K

NOVEMBER 17-21
Sister Bar
407 Central Ave SW, 242-4900, sisterthebar.com
November 17, The UNM Honky Tonk Ensemble
November 18, Def-i’s Birthday Celebration
November 19, Vektor & Black Fast
November 20, Useless ID/Crushed!?
November 21, Night Beats

NOVEMBER 17-22
Launchpad
618 Central Ave SW, 764-8887, launchpadrocks.com
November 17, Get Action
November 18, Crime Lab
November 19, Gordyfest II

November 20, Soundwave
Music Fest
November 21, (HED)P.E.
November 22, Hirie

NOVEMBER 17-23
Low Spirits
2823 2nd St NW, 344-9555, lowspiritslive.com
November 17, Mexican Slang
November 18, The Riddims
November 19, David Ramirez: Beatleg Tour
November 20, CRTRZ
November 22, Big Sandy & His Fly Rite Boys
November 23, Wednesday Open Mic

Dirty Bourbon
9800 Montgomery Blvd NE, 296-2726, thedirtybourbon.com
November 17-18, Sim Balkey & The Honky Tonk Crew
November 23, Shawn Brooks

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17
Claudia Villela & Vitor Goncalves
7:30 pm, Outpost Performance

Space, 210 Yale Blvd SE, 268-0044, outpostspace.org
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18
Seun Kuti & Egypt 80
7:30 pm, Taos Mesa Brewing, 20 ABC Mesa Rd, El Prado, (575) 758-1900, taosmesabrewing.com

Chispa Concert: Music from the Americas Series – Alberto Cruzprieto
7:30 pm, National Hispanic Cultural Center, 1701 4th St SW, 724-4771, nhcnn.org

Grace Kelly Quartet
7:30 pm, Taos Mesa Brewing, 20 ABC Mesa Rd, El Prado, (575) 758-1900, taosmesabrewing.com

Helen Sung Solo Piano: The Music Of Thelonious Monk
7:30 pm, Outpost Performance
Space, 210 Yale Blvd SE, 268-0044, outpostspace.org
Lysander Piano Trio
7:30 pm, Rio Rancho High School, 301 Loma Colorado Blvd NE, Rio Rancho, musicincorrales.org

Stars of the Future: Olga Kern International Piano Competition Finals
Popejoy Hall, UNM Main Campus, 203 Cornell Dr, 925-9558, nmphl.org

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20
Figueroa Duo: Duo, Trio, Quartet
6 pm, Las Placitas Presbyterian Church, 7 Paseo de San Antonio, Placitas, 867-8080, plactitasartists-series.org

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21
Jono Manson
7 pm, Jean Cocteau Cinema, 418 Montezuma Ave, Santa Fe, (505) 466-5528, jeancocteaucinema.com

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22
Qais Essar
1 pm, Free, East Mountain Library, 1 Old Tijeras Rd, Tijeras, 281-8508, abqlibrary.org

NOVEMBER 17-24
Guild Cinema
3405 Central Ave NE, 255-1848, guildcinema.com
Through November 17, Landfill Harmonic: A Symphony of the Human Spirit
Through November 17, SEED: The Untold Story
November 18-21, London Town
November 18-21, Love Witch
November 19, We Are X
November 19-20, Do Not Resist
November 22-24, 18th Annual Animation Show of Shows
November 22-24, Tampopo – A Happy Thanksgiving Treat Japanese Noodle Style!

NOVEMBER 18-20
Center for Contemporary Arts
1050 Old Pecos Trail, Santa Fe, (505) 826-6700,.guildcinema.com

NOVEMBER 18-21
London Town
1050 Old Pecos Trail, Santa Fe, (505) 826-6700,.guildcinema.com

NOVEMBER 18-21
Love Witch
1050 Old Pecos Trail, Santa Fe, (505) 826-6700,.guildcinema.com

NOVEMBER 18-21
Motorcycle Diaries
Diarios de Motocicleta/The Motorcycle Diaries

NOVEMBER 18-23
London Town
1050 Old Pecos Trail, Santa Fe, (505) 826-6700,.guildcinema.com

NOVEMBER 18-24
The Love Witch
1050 Old Pecos Trail, Santa Fe, (505) 826-6700,.guildcinema.com

NOVEMBER 18-24
Animation Show of Shows

NOVEMBER 18-24
The Seasons of La Llorona
National Hispanic Cultural Center, 1701 4th St SW, 724-4771, nhcnn.org

NOVEMBER 18-24
The Seasons of La Llorona
National Hispanic Cultural Center, 1701 4th St SW, 724-4771, nhcnn.org

NOVEMBER 19-20
Do Not Resist
1050 Old Pecos Trail, Santa Fe, (505) 826-6700,.guildcinema.com

NOVEMBER 19-20
London Town
1050 Old Pecos Trail, Santa Fe, (505) 826-6700,.guildcinema.com

NOVEMBER 19-20
We Are X
1050 Old Pecos Trail, Santa Fe, (505) 826-6700,.guildcinema.com

NOVEMBER 19-20
Sci-Fi Screenings

NOVEMBER 19-20
Pueblo Film Festival
5:30 pm, Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, 2401 12th St NW, 843-7270, indianpueblo.org

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20
A Passage to India: Dinner & Movie
4 pm, Jean Cocteau Cinema, 418 Montezuma Ave, Santa Fe, (505) 466-5528, jeancocteaucinema.com

EVENTS

THROUGH NOVEMBER 17
Letting Go of the Past
Thursdays, 7 pm, Kadampa Meditation Center, 142 Monroe St NE, 292-5993, meditationinnewmexico.org

THROUGH NOVEMBER 20
Hedda Gabler
UNM Experimental Theatre, UNM Main Campus, 203 Cornell Drive, theatre.unm.edu

You Can’t Take It With You
The Adobe Theater, 9813 4th St NW, 898-9222, adobetheater.org

Lady Chatterley’s Lover
The Cell Theatre, 700 1st St NW, 766-9412, fusionnm.org

The Seasons of La Llorona National Hispanic Cultural Center, 1701 4th St SW, 724-4771, nhcnn.org

29th Annual Festival of the Cranes Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge, 1001 New Mexico 1, San Antonio, NM, festivalofthecranes.com

Pocahontas
KMo Theatre, 423 Central Ave NW, 768-3544, mmyoungactors.org

THROUGH NOVEMBER 25
9x9 Art Show
Reception, Friday, November 4, 5-8 pm
African American Performing Arts Center, 310 San Pedro Dr NE, 222-0778, aapacnm.org

THROUGH NOVEMBER 26
New Mexico Chroma:
The Influence of the Past: Marla Allison
Loma Colorado Main Library, 755 Loma Colorado Blvd NE, Rio Rancho, 891-5013x3033, riorancholibrary.org

THROUGH NOVEMBER 28
Influence of the Past: Marla Allison
Loma Colorado Main Library, 755 Loma Colorado Blvd NE, Rio Rancho, 891-5013x3033, riorancholibrary.org

THROUGH DECEMBER 4
The Henry Project: Henry IV & Henry V
The Vortex Theatre, 290 Carlisle NE, 247-8600, vortexabq.org
THROUGH DECEMBER 31
Native Realities: Superheroes of Past, Present, and Future
Form & Concept, 435 S Guadalupe St, Santa Fe, 982-8111, formandconcept.center

THROUGH JANUARY 31
DADA Centennial: Day of the Dead Reception, Friday, November 4, 5-7 pm
International Museum of Collage, Assemblage and Construction Archives, 1925 Rosina St Ste C, Santa Fe, (505) 466-9528, jeancotceucainemuseum.com

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17
Author Event: Dan Wells, Bracken MacLeod & Robert Brockway
7 pm, Jean Cocteau Cinema, 418 Montezuma Ave, Santa Fe, (505) 466-9528, jeancotceucainemuseum.com

Diamonds at Dusk: Catalina Claussen
6:30 pm, Free, Page One Books, 5850 Eubank Blvd NE Ste B-41, 294-2026, page1book.com

Marla Allison – Painting & Pat Kiro – Guitar
6 pm, Free, Loma Colorado Main Library, 755 Loma Colorado Blvd NE, Rio Rancho, 891-5013x3033, riorancholibraries.org

Meeting of the Minds: Within & Beyond the Canvas
Noon, Free, UNM Art Museum, 203 Cornell Drive, 277-4001, unmartmuseum.com

Salud y Sabor: Honduras
5:30, Free, National Hispanic Cultural Center, 1701 4th St SW, 724-4771, nhccnm.org

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18
Aquarium Overnight
6:30 pm, ABQ BioPark, 2601 Central Ave NE, 764-6200, abqbiopark.com

Discovery Festival
9 am, Free, Albuquerque Convention Center, 401 2nd St SW, 768-4575, discoveryfestivalalbuquerque.com

Joke Injection Comedy Show!
7:30 pm, El Rey Theater, 622 Central Ave SW, elreyabq.com

Magic vs Science
6:30 pm, Explora, 1701 Mountain Rd NW, 224-8300, explora.us

State Health Insurance & Assistance Program
1 pm, Free, Esther Bone Memorial Library, 950 Pinetree Rd SE, Rio Rancho, 891-5012x3128, riorancholibraries.org

NOVEMBER 18-19
Lights Out
South Broadway Cultural Center, 1025 Broadway Blvd SW, 848-1320, southbroadwaytickets.com

NOVEMBER 18-20
Indigenous Comic Con
National Hispanic Cultural Center, 1701 4th St SW, 724-4771, indigenouscomiccon.com

This Above All
AirDance ArtSpace, 3030 Isleta Blvd SW, 842-9418, airdance.org

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19
Bird Research: Relationship Among Species and Patterns of Global Diversity: Andy Johnson
5 pm, Free, Bachechi Open Space, 9521 Rio Grande NE, RSVP: 314-0398, bernco.gov/openspace

Book and Bake Sale
10 am, Free, Placitas Community Library, 453 Hwy 165, 867-3355, placitaslibrary.com

Family Program: Autumn Antics
9:30 am, Free, Georgia O’Keeffe Museum, 217 Johnson St, Santa Fe, (505) 946-1000, okeefemuseum.org

Holiday Craft Fair
10 am, Free, National Hispanic Cultural Center, 1701 4th St SW, 724-4771, nhccnm.org

International Game Day
9:30 am, Free, Esther Bone Memorial Library, 950 Pinetree Rd SE, Rio Rancho, 891-5012x3128, riorancholibraries.org

La Canoa: Los Machatines de Bernaillio, New Mexico: Joseph Moreno
2 pm, Free, National Hispanic Cultural Center, 1701 4th St SW, 724-4771, nhccnm.org

Navajo Weaving Demonstration: Tyra Preston
11 am, Free, Loma Colorado Main Library, 755 Loma Colorado Blvd NE, Rio Rancho, 891-5013x3033, riorancholibraries.org

Teubrelión! – A Worldwide Celebration of Storytelling: Sarah Malone
10:30 am, Free, Ema Ferguson Library, 3700 San Mateo Blvd NE, 888-8100, abqlibrary.org

Teubrelión! – A Worldwide Celebration of Storytelling: Steven Pla
1 pm, Free, Main Library, 501 Copper Ave NW, 768-5170, abqlibrary.org/mainlibrary

Teubrelión! – A Worldwide Celebration of Storytelling: Flavia Cota
7:30 pm, Free, El Rey Theater, 622 Central Ave SW, elreyabq.com

Teubrelión! – A Worldwide Celebration of Storytelling: Joseph Moreno
Education Sessions: 9:30 am, Free, Placitas Community Library, 755 Loma Colorado Blvd NE, 891-5012x3128, riorancholibraries.org

NOVEMBER 19-20
Fall Fiber Fiesta
Scottish Rite Temple, 463 Paseo de Peralta, Santa Fe, evfac.org

Rains Along the Rio Grande Train Show
9 am, Balloon Fiesta Park, 5500 Balloon Fiesta Parkway, 768-6050, railsalongtheriogrande.org

NOVEMBER 19-APRIL 2, 2017
The Jews of Albuquerque in the 20th Century: Building Community Along the Rio Grande
Albuquerque Museum of Art & History, 2000 Mountain Rd NW, 242-4600, albuquerqueumuseum.org

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20
The Election is Over – Now What: Steve Terrell & Joe Monahan
10 am, Congregation Albert, 3800 Louisiana Blvd NE, RSVP: (505) 883-1818 x3203 or brother-hood@congregationalbert.org

From Sand to Subdivisions – The Development of ABQ’s East Mesa after WWII: Bill Dodge
2 pm, Free, Albuquerque Museum of Art & History, 2000 Mountain Rd NW, 242-4600, albuquerqueumuseum.org

The Jews of Albuquerque in the 20th Century: Building Community along the Rio Grande: Dr. Noel Pu-gach
1 pm, Free, Albuquerque Museum of Art & History, 2000 Mountain Rd NW, 242-4600, albuquerqueumuseum.org

The Placitas Artists Series
November Visual Artists Reception: Peter Böhinger, Vicki Bolen, Amy Haut-man, Pam Neas
5 pm, Free, Las Placitas Presbyterian Church, 7 Paseo de San Antonio, Placitas, 867-8080, placitasartists-series.org

Underground Ranger – Adventures in Carlsbad Caverns National Park and Other Remarkable Places: Doug Thompson
3 pm, Free, Page One Books, 5850 Eubank Blvd NE Ste B-41, 294-2026, page1book.com

NOVEMBER 21-JANUARY 18
Grow the Growers Program
5:30 pm, Bernalillo County Extension Office, 1510 Menaul Blvd NW Ext, 314-0400, bernco.gov

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22
CrossTalk: Connie Willis
6 pm, Free, Page One Books, 5850 Eubank Blvd NE Ste B-41, 294-2026, page1book.com

BY ERIKA EDDY

Witness local businesses duke it out in a “Shark Tank”-like contest at the Scrapy Startup Challenge.

Nine start-ups will pitch their companies to a panel of venture capitalist judges for a chance to win tickets to a SXSW conference in Austin, Texas. Pitches from participating companies include an app that helps you choose the right beer, a wearable patch that detects alcohol consumption, a workshop for community use, and an online platform for videos.

Root for your favorite on Thursday, Nov. 17 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at Sister Bar. Reserve your tickets at holdmyticket.com
On A Tank of Gas: Beer!
BY MORIAH CARTY

Editor’s note: We hope you enjoy this quick tour of some of the local beer spots in town, and invite you to check them out. Please remember to be safe when you do so, and make sure the beer isn’t affecting your abilities to make good choices when you leave.

So, it’s Saturday and you want an adventure, but you really want a beer. Why not combine them?

Believe it or not, there are more than 20 different microbrews throughout Albuquerque and surrounding areas.

This week’s adventure will take a tour of a few of them. The following breweries were selected for their interesting interior design and overall cleverness. This list is by no means comprehensive, just a few places to go.

Albuquerque to Kaktus Brewery, Bernalillo: 18 miles

Tucked away on a backroad in Bernalillo, Kaktus has one of the funkiest vibes for a brewery. Don’t let the distance scare you away, it’s absolutely worth the drive. Chairs hang from trees in the parking lot, and scattered about are brightly colored doors. The beer names are about as creative as the space: Harry Porter, Shhtout, and so on.

When I think of Kaktus, I think of colors and eccentricity. Everything is a different color, every piece of art is a different medium, and the patio is a montage of outdoor fixtures. Overall, the space is mellow and cozy. A favorite place for a relaxing afternoon and tasty beer, which pairs nicely with their delicious pizza selections.

Albuquerque to Boxing Bear Brewing Co.: 14 miles

Boxing Bear almost feels like a pub with the low lighting and dark wood interior. Their menu also reflects that vibe, touting various Paninis and sandwiches.

Like Kaktus, their beer names are inventive, definitely taking the cake for cleverness: Paw Swipe Pale Ale, Ambear Ale, Uppercut IPA. All of their beer names relate to some aspect of boxing or bears.

Boxing Bear Brewing Co. to Red Door Brewing Co.: 8 miles

Red Door Brewing Company is an all-time favorite. The vibe is relaxed but energized. The brewery hides amidst big industrial businesses.

Like Boxing Bear, Red Door showcases local artists, a new one every month. On occasion, they’ll have live music. If that’s not for you, they have a Nintendo 64 with Mario Kart. Though they don’t have a kitchen, delicious food is always nearby. They regularly have food trucks on site that suggest the food and beer to pair.

Red Door excels at their diversity of available beers, and they don’t disappoint. Porters are dark and IPAs robust, to name a few. Their cider (gluten free) is remarkably dry, and they do a fabulous hot cider in the winter – cinnamon sticks, honey and all.

Red Door Brewing Co. to Santa Fe Brewing Co., Albuquerque Tap Room: 2.4 miles

Most people know Santa Fe Brewery Company for their canned beer, but the delicious Happy Camper IPA is also available on tap at the Santa Fe Brewing Co., Albuquerque Tap Room. And if you’ve exhausted all the options, the tap room always has a guest brew on tap.

With one of the most innovative uses of space, the taproom calls shipping containers its home. The repurposed containers are also home to several other, mostly food, vendors. So be it pizza or tacos or burgers you desire, food options are abundant and savory. The tap room allows outside food in, so dinner can be had with a beer.

Remember, don’t drink and drive, but have fun. After a long day of drinking, it’s bed time.

Moriah Carty is an Albuquerque local with a strong sense of wanderlust.
Each Sudoku puzzle consists of a 9x9 grid that has been subdivided into nine smaller grids of 3x3 squares. To solve the puzzle, each row, column and box must contain each of the numbers 1 to 9.
Holiday Wild!

Avoid the crowds and do your shopping at Wildlife Rescue of New Mexico! Your purchases help us feed and house rescued wildlife!

Saturday, December 3, 2016
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Wildlife Rescue Clinic

We’ll have...
- Gift and Bake Sale Items
- Free Beverages
- Kids’ Activities
- Face Painting
- Raffle Items

Meet an owl, hawk or falcon!

2901 Candelaria Rd. NW
At the entrance of the Rio Grande Nature Center; parking at Rio Grande Nature Center Main Lot, $3.00

Need more info? (505) 344-2500