

November 2021 Newsletter

SANDOVAL DEMS

DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF SANDOVAL COUNTY



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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

DPSC Chair **Alex Piland**, Meet part of DPSC's Dream Team.

YOUR VOTE MATTERS!

If you live in Rio Rancho School District 1, **vote tomorrow (Nov. 2)**, **Gary Tripp** for school board.

FIRST FRIDAY

November 5 at **The Range** with **Maggie Toulouse Oliver**, New Mexico Secretary of State

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN SANDOVAL COUNTY

Commissioner of public lands **Stephanie Garcia Richard** protects our natural resources for generations to come.

DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES: SUBMIT YOUR CAMPAIGN EVENTS FOR POSTING ON OUR WEBSITE

FUNDRAISER FOR BARBARA JORDAN, RIO RANCHO MAYORAL CANDIDATE

DPSC HONORS SANDOVAL COUNTY'S NATIVE AMERICANS AND VETERANS

SANDOVAL COUNTY INDIVISIBLE PROMOTES PROGRESSIVE AGENDA

Bert Coxe, Join us for progressive politics, education, and camaraderie.

DEMOCRATIC WOMEN COMMITTED TO REDUCING CHILD HUNGER

Feed Rio Rancho Kids Coordinator, **Karen Schafer**, SCFDW dedicates time and resources to Feed Rio Rancho Kids.

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DEMOCRACY: NOT A SPECTATOR SPORT Volunteer Opportunities and Contacts

Message from the Chair



Meet Part of DPSC's Dream Team

By Alex Piland, DPSC Chair

The executive officers of the Democratic Party of Sandoval County work hard for the

party, but do you know who they are?

The best place to start is with our incomparable Vice Chair, Isaac Chavez. Isaac is from the Town of Bernalillo, and if you were lucky enough to get through the traffic on I-550 last Saturday morning, you know that Isaac organized and ran the Town of Bernalillo Get Together.

In addition to Isaac's organizational talents, he is a pro with creating maps and logically finding boundaries. Isaac has been the hub of the mapping effort for the ward reapportionment, and he has also created a training program. He is kind, thoughtful, and has been instrumental in all that DPSC has accomplished so far this year.

Judy Gordon (a.k.a Miss Information) is the DPSC Secretary. Literally this newsletter would not exist without her. Month after month Judy encourages the executive committee to write and submit articles in addition to the other volunteer duties. Judy has several other projects she is involved with from letter writing to research.

Dr. Doug Clark has been the DPSC treasurer for three years. During the Keep Sandoval Blue Event, Doug kept track of all of the income and expenses. He also makes sure that our required federal and state reporting is completed on time.

Dr. Ilene Galloway is Vice Treasurer and a new member of the treasurer's team.

These volunteers approach their positions with kindness, professionalism, and a can-do attitude! If you see them at a meeting or while out and about in the community, please introduce yourself and say hi!



Alex

Your Vote Matters!



Do you live in Rio Rancho School District 1?

Tomorrow (November 2) is election day and your last chance to vote for Gary Tripp for Rio Rancho School Board.

Please vote for Gary. We can't afford to have his right-wing extremist opponent on the school board.

Gary is an exceptionally experienced educator and servant leader whose life's work has been devoted to K-12 education.

This is one of the most important ballots you can cast.

SCHOOL ESCOLAR
SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER POSITION 1 MIEMBRO DE LA JUNTA ESCOLAR POSICIÓN 1 RIO RANCHO PUBLIC SCHOOL 1 RIO RANCHO PUBLIC SCHOOL 1 FOUR YEAR TERM / PERIODO DE CUATRO AÑOS VOTE FOR ONE / VOTE POR UNO
<input checked="" type="radio"/> GARY J TRIPP
<input type="radio"/> PATRICK MONROE BRENNER

THE RIO RANCHO OBSERVER IN ITS OCTOBER 10 EDITORIAL AND OPINIONS PAGE THREW ITS POLICY OUT THE WINDOW THAT BANNED PUBLICATION OF LETTERS THAT TOUT OR ATTACK SPECIFIC CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE HERE.](#)

[AND READ GARY'S RESPONSE TO THE FALSE ACCUSATIONS.](#)

[READ A SAMPLE OF TWEETS FROM GARY TRIPP'S OPPONENT.](#)



First Friday and Land Acknowledgment

**Maggie Toulouse Oliver,
New Mexico
Secretary of State**

**11 a.m. November 5
The Range Cafe,
Bernalillo,
First Friday Meeting**





New Mexico's Secretary of State will inform voters about voting rights in the state. Attend in person for the luncheon meeting or stream on Facebook Live at the [Democratic Party of Sandoval County Facebook](#) page.

Land Acknowledgement

We as the Democratic Party of Sandoval County recognize that Sandoval County is located on the ancestral land of Indigenous People. We acknowledge and honor our land caretakers and commit to retain and advocate for the traditions and cultural knowledge Indigenous People have practiced since time immemorial.

**Click image for full text of Land Acknowledgement
by Leah Ahkee-Bacziewicz.**

Making A Difference in Sandoval County

Commissioner of public lands protects our natural resources for generations to come

By Stephanie Garcia Richard, Commissioner of Public Lands

Hello fellow Democrats! This is Stephanie Garcia Richard, your commissioner of public



lands, reaching out to let you know how we've been stewarding YOUR

public land in Sandoval County and throughout the state on your behalf!

Just three years ago, when I was elected to this position as the first woman, Latina, and educator, I made a campaign promise—to bird dog *every single* dime and penny raised by my office on behalf of public schools, universities, and hospitals and to do so while protecting our precious natural resources. Well, I'm pleased to announce that to the tune of over

\$3 billion, we've had three record-breaking years in a row! For the first time EVER in the history of the land office we have brought in \$1 billion *each* and *every year* I've been in office! And we're doing so while simultaneously implementing the *first ever of its kind* "Enforcement and Accountability" program, which holds the users of your public lands accountable for proper stewardship and protection of the land.

"... because we know that fresh drinking water for human consumption is at such a premium in our arid state, we have ceased all sale of freshwater from state land for fracking, ensuring that we are protecting that very precious, scarce resource from overuse and pollution."

In the 2 years this program has been operational, we've directed industry to properly plug 31 oil and gas wells so that old infrastructure and equipment are not leaking methane and other harmful emissions into the air, and we've reclaimed thousands of acres of land, ensuring that it is properly cleaned up and restored.

We've also taken 17 bad actors to court.

We have a mandate from the state constitution to our office to protect the natural resources in our care for generations to come, and we are prepared to follow that mandate all the way to a court of law if we have to!

Additionally, because we know that fresh drinking water for human consumption is at such a premium in our arid state, we have ceased all sale of freshwater from state land for fracking, ensuring that we are protecting that very precious,

scarce resource from overuse and pollution.

Finally, because we know that diversification away from such a heavy budgetary reliance on extractive industries is long overdue for environmental, health, and economic reasons, we are targeting expansion of state land for renewable energy development and

outdoor recreation.

We have established the first ever Office of Renewable Energy whose sole mission is to develop wind and solar

projects on state land. In the last 3 years, this tiny but mighty office has been responsible for developing 4 large wind leases on state land, including the largest single phase wind project in North America, generating hundreds of megawatts of clean, sustainable electrons, and raising millions of dollars for public schools, universities and hospitals that benefit from our revenue.



In Sandoval County itself we've been just as busy! With large swaths of state land near Rio Rancho, we are able to partner with developers to solve problems like the "food desert" issues near Paseo Gateway.

Sandoval County, such as bike trails, Golden Open Space near Paa Koa in the East Mountains, and sections of the Continental Divide Trail through-hike near Cuba! For more information visit our [website](#).

Our office recently held a public meeting regarding a proposal to bring in grocery and retail stores and heard overwhelmingly from residents that that is something they would like to see! Stay tuned for future development of state land in that area!

Additionally, we are working with the federal government on a possible establishment of the state's next VA cemetery in Sandoval County!

Finally, there are many beautiful landscapes and pristine opportunities to enjoy the outdoors on state land in

Fun Fact
The land where
Sue Cleveland High School
sits was once state land.

We've accomplished a lot this first term, but we still have so much more to do. I'm counting on your support to help ensure I can win a tough re-election battle in a non-presidential election year!

All these firsts don't only mean bragging rights, but they also paint a big fat target on my back from the oil and gas industry. You can be sure if they bet 10 to 1 against me last time, they're coming harder this time around!

I hope I can count on you to help us keep up the good work!



Submit Events and Barbara Jordan Fundraiser

**CALLING ALL DEMOCRATIC
CANDIDATES**



**Submit your campaign events for
posting on our website.**

**Click image to
submit events.**



KATHERINE A. BRUCH

Cordially Invites you to a
Fundraiser for

BARBARA JORDAN

Candidate for Mayor of Rio Rancho

Tuesday, November 16th
5:30pm to 7pm

Please RSVP to

KatherineBruch4Sandoval@gmail.com to receive
the location and directions for the event



DPSC Honors Native American Heritage Month

LET'S CONTINUE TO AMPLIFY INDIGENOUS VOICES
AND HIGHLIGHT AND CELEBRATE THE DIVERSE AND
RICH CULTURE OF NATIVE AMERICAN PEOPLE.



DPSC Is Grateful to Our Sandoval County Veterans



Sandoval County Indivisible Promotes Progressive Agenda

Join us for progressive politics, education, and camaraderie

By Bert Coxe for the members of Sandoval County Indivisible.

I was asked by our fearless Chairwoman Alex Piland to write a paragraph letting you all know about Sandoval County Indivisible (SCI).

SCI is part of a progressive grass-roots movement

started in the fall of 2016 as a response to the election of President Trump. We are not specifically part of the Democratic Party, but most of our members are Democrats and many of us are leaders in the Party (e.g., five of the six SCI steering committee members are elected members of the NM Democratic Party State Central Committee).

There is a national Indivisible organization, but all of the thousands of local Indivisible groups across the country are independent, have their own governing structure, and work

on projects that are salient to their own members.



In the Albuquerque area there are four currently active Indivisible groups, and about twelve across the state, from Farmington to Las Cruces and from Angel Fire to Silver City.

Locally, our SCI group would like to meet once a month. Of course, like everything, COVID has upset this plan, and we have oscillated in the last 5 months between in-

person meetings and Zoom meetings.

Our goals have been to advance a progressive agenda, get like-minded people elected to office (from school board members to the US President) and to provide a forum to educate each other and to find friendship and camaraderie in our activities.

Recent speakers to our meetings have included Rep. Teresa Leger Fernandez;

NM-ACLU Director Peter Simonson; candidates for state offices Laura Montoya, Joe Maestas, and Zack Quintero; and others.

If you would like to know about Sandoval County Indivisible and/or get involved, please email me at corralesindivisible@gmail.com.

DPSC Wants You



To Volunteer



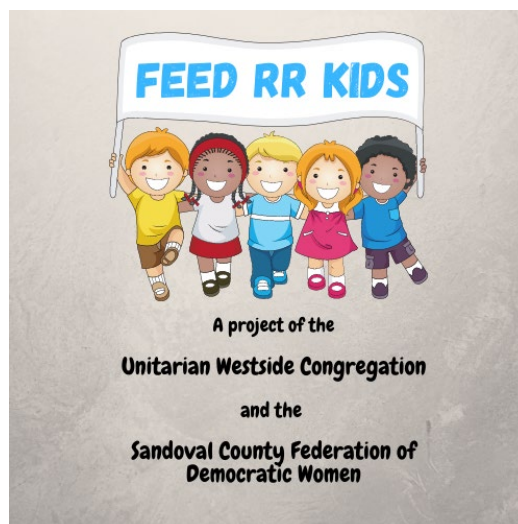
Democratic Women Committed to Reducing Child Hunger

SCFDW dedicates time and resources to Feed Rio Rancho Kids

By Karen Schafer, Coordinator, Feed Rio Rancho Kids

Volunteers came together once again on October 12 for another successful weekend snack pack assembly session. On that day 150 packets were assembled. The next assembly is set for November 9. If you want to join the fun, contact Karen Schafer, karenjeann4@gmail.com or Kitty Perez, kittyperez639@gmail.com. The goal for November 9 is 200 packets.

Delbert Schafer purchased and assembled a new trolley for transporting food from one room to another. We are very grateful for this addition to our work. UU Westside Congregation donated some shelving to us, which is working out very well. However, we still need more. If you know of anyone who might donate shelving, please let us know.



Many thanks to our October volunteers

- Emily Seiler
- Virginia Breeding
- Chris Spigarelli
- Sherry Noffke
- Alex Piland
- Nanette Lenfest
- Sonia Baca
- Kitty Perez
- Patty Lewis
- Kenya Paley
- Betty McMichael
- Nancy Gloman
- Barbara Jordan
- Cheryl (Charlie) Casarez
- Roxey Cast-Hecht
- June Anglin
- Hobbitt Merritt

Donated food and cash contribution needs continue. Karen or Kitty can supply you with a list of needed items and an easy way to donate online.



Delbert Schafer and Kitty Perez pose with our new trolley.



**We need more shelf space!
Can you donate some?**



Miss Information

Medicare Drug Price Negotiation: Big PhRMA Claims of Harm “Overblown”

By Judy Gordon, DPSC Secretary



hospital stays. Gilead, its developer, received \$162 million in federal funding for clinical trials and other assistance to accelerate its market availability.

Gilead also benefited from billions of dollars in government funded basic research. Today, remdesivir sells for \$3,120 for a five day course of treatment.

Americans pay two to four times more for brand-name drugs than residents of other high-income countries. It's no surprise that a July poll found

Remdesivir is the COVID-19 drug that can shorten



81 percent of those surveyed are in favor of allowing Medicare to negotiate drug prices.

In September, in an attempt to squelch Democratic attempts to obtain reasonable drug prices, the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA) announced a seven-figure ad campaign against proposals to lower prescription drug prices.

The group also released an open letter signed by the heads of all of its member companies claiming that Medicare price negotiation will “...threaten patients’ access to medicines and sacrifice future medical advances.”

On the same day PhRMA published its letter, Democratic Reps. Scott Peters of California, Kurt Schrader of Oregon, and Kathleen Rice of New York joined all Republicans in voting against this critical piece of the President's Build Back Better package in committee. Decreased drug company innovation was cited as a rationale. Over the course of their tenure in Congress, Peters and Schrader together have raked in \$1.5 million in contributions from the pharmaceutical and health products industries.

Many analysts disagree that lower prices will stifle research and development. A recent investigation by the House Oversight and Reform Committee found that between 2016 and 2020, large makers of brand-name drugs spent more on stock buybacks, dividends, and executive compensation than on R&D. In its review of 14 large drug makers, the committee found they spent \$577 billion on stock buybacks and dividends, \$56 billion more than they spent on R&D over the same period.

Committee Democrats concluded that this perennial PhRMA scare tactic is "overblown."

Other studies find that the excess revenues pharmaceutical companies receive from higher prices in the US are substantially more than the companies spend globally on their research and development.

A study by the National Academy of Medicine reported that between 2003 and 2015 expenditures on marketing and administration, including executive pay, increased noticeably and exceeded research and development investments by up to 80 percent.

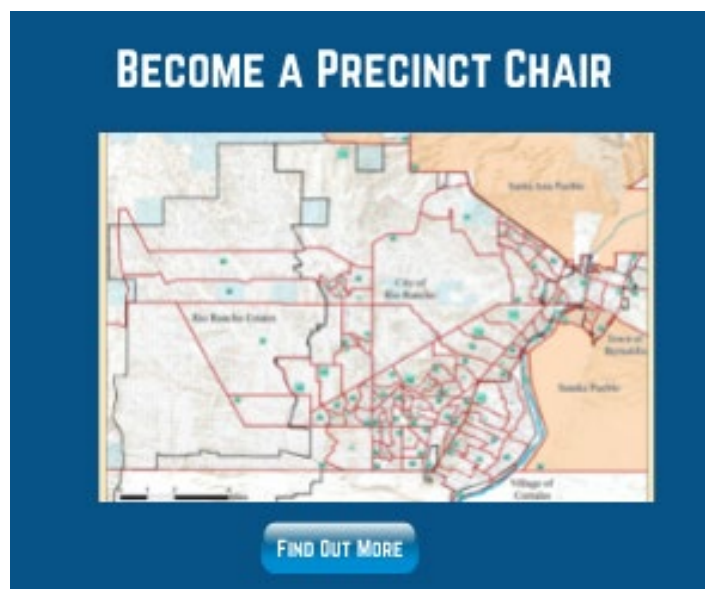
In many cases, large pharmaceutical companies do not actually develop many of the drugs they sell, instead acquiring them from research conducted in universities and other academic centers or the purchase of other pharmaceutical companies, often small startups.

Exorbitant spending on stock buybacks and dividends, as

opposed to investing in R&D, is a pharmaceutical company choice, as are inflated spending on marketing and bloated executive pay.

contributions, or they can allow life-saving prescription drugs to remain out of reach of countless Americans in need.

Members of Congress also have a choice: they can prioritize our health above the health of the pharmaceutical industry's bottom line and its millions in campaign



Contact Isaac Chavez
ichavez@gmail.com



Democracy: Not A Spectator Sport

Volunteer Opportunities and Contacts

VOLUNTEER FOR FUNDRAISING OR EVENT PLANNING



CLICK HERE

Videographers Wanted

Record DPSC
Live
Events



Create
Videos for
Social Media

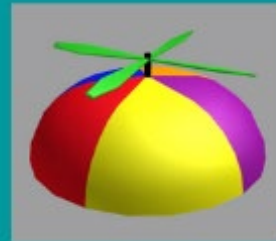
Click to Volunteer

Join the Research Task Force



CLICK HERE

We Need Data Analysts



CLICK HERE

Volunteer Opportunities and Contacts

- **Run for Office or Precinct Chair**—contact **Isaac Chavez** at icvez9@gmail.com.
- **Communications Team and Data Analysis Team**—contact **Delbert Schafer** at schafer42@gmail.com.
- **Fundraising and Event Planning**—contact **Karen Schafer** at karenjean44@gmail.com.
- **Research Team**—contact **Ann Kepley** at ann.kepley@gmail.com.
- **Videography/Event Streaming**—contact **June Anglin** at juneanglin@gmail.com.



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