

July 2022 Newsletter

SANDOVAL DEMS

DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF SANDOVAL COUNTY



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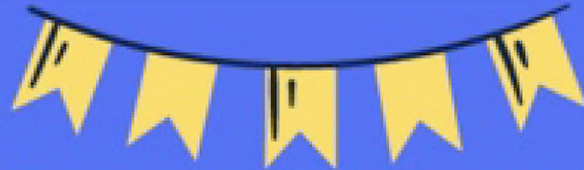
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**DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF
SANDOVAL COUNTY
HEADQUARTERS
GRAND OPENING
POTLUCK**

WEDNESDAY, JULY 6TH, 2022

**661 QUANTUM RD. NE,
SUITE 12
RIO RANCHO, NM 87124**

BRING A CHAIR AND A DISH TO SHARE!



Go Back

Message from the Chair

Activism Works! We need YOU to volunteer!



By Alex Piland, Chair, DPSC

How many times have you heard Democratic Party of Sandoval County officers

say that we need your help? We need ward chairs, precinct chairs, volunteer coordinators, canvassers, phone bankers, texters, people to help staff the office, and communications volunteers. Too many to count?

a friend or two who would like to volunteer, consider becoming a ward or precinct team!

The DPSC will give you training and direction. We know activism like this works. Most recently we have seen it work in the Corrales municipal election. If we can organize the rest of our wards as well as Ward D in Corrales, we will see major improvements to our county!

Since we are now past the primary and focusing our efforts on the November election, the need for volunteers is larger than ever. If you can spare two to four hours a week, we have work for you. If you have more time, consider becoming a precinct or ward chair. If you have

“The Democratic Party, **YOUR** Democratic Party, needs **EVERYONE** to do **EVERYTHING** they can to help keep New Mexico Blue. Volunteer, and bring your friends and family to help, too!”

When Democrats work, Democrats vote. When Democrats vote, Democrats win. Let's work to win in November!

DPSC's mission is to help elect Democrats up and down the ticket. This means we need to work to help reelect our amazing governor, **Michelle Lujan**

Grisham, our incredible statewide

candidates like Sandoval's very own **Laura Montoya**, who is running for NM State Treasurer, and our congressional representatives up and down the ballot.

This past year, **Rep. Derrick Lente** (HD 65) served the entire county well by being an outspoken critic of the Sandoval County Commission's blatantly inequitable gerrymandering during the redistricting process.

HD 50 incumbent, **Rep. Matthew McQueen** serves Placitas and has been an active supporter of all things Democratic in that area.

We need you to talk up ALL of our candidates, up and down the ticket. Our Sandoval County candidates need your help:

- **Commissioner Kathy Bruch** is running for her second term in Sandoval County Commission District 1.
- A strong candidate for Sandoval County Commission District 3 is **Greg Bennett**. Greg is working hard and winning the contest for the most consistent canvassing!
- New Mexico House Candidate **Ramon Montaño** is making a splash in House District 23.

- **Kathleen Cates** is our stellar candidate for House District 44 (formerly HD 23, which is Daymon Ely's current seat).
- Scrappy newcomer **Michelle Sandoval** is the candidate in House District 57.

Delilah Baca, Ann Maxwell Chavez, and **Ken Eichwald** are the only candidates for the three magistrate judge positions in our county, so please feel free to congratulate them on their win the next time you see them.

Likewise, **Ed Lovato** will be our new probate judge as he is running unopposed.

Finally, we have incumbent **Linda Gallegos** running for her second term as the County Assessor. Linda's race is the only county-wide administrative seat, so it is crucial that we get out the vote for her.

As of June 16, we have an office in Rio Rancho located at 661 Quantum Rd. NE, Suite 12, Rio Rancho, NM 87124. We do not yet have our staff or hours ironed out but will determine that before the end of the month. It will serve as a

meeting place, a rally site, and a launch site for canvassing, We will have a grand opening on July 6. You will receive an email about it. Please also watch our event calendar for details.

Finally, and most importantly, the United States Supreme Court has gone insane. First the concealed carry repeal in New York, and now they have taken away a woman's fundamental right. I do not have to tell you that our legislators saw this on the horizon and moved to protect abortion rights not only for New Mexican women but for any woman who needs to travel to our great state for health care.

I am thankful for a governor who is committed to making sure that women have the right to reproductive freedom. (You know that nitwit weatherman doesn't want women to have reproductive freedom.) There is so much on the line.

Keep in mind, that if it were up to Traitor Ginny Thomas' husband, same sex marriage, same-sex consensual relations, and contraception would no longer be legal either. Women's rights, LGBTQQIAAP rights, AMERICAN rights are on the ballot this November.

This really takes us full circle. The Democratic Party, YOUR Democratic Party, needs EVERYONE to do EVERYTHING they can to help keep New Mexico Blue. Volunteer, and bring your friends and family to help, too!

Alex



We Need You!

To volunteer or for more information,
please email



ALEX PILAND

CHAIR@SANDOVALDEMOCRATS.ORG

or call

505-404-6672



**2022 SANDOVAL COUNTY STATE HOUSE
DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES FOR THE
GENERAL ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 8***
(Click on Candidate Photo to Access Website)

DISTRICT 23
Ramon M. Montaña



DISTRICT 44
Kathleen M. Cates



DISTRICT 50
Rep. Matthew McQueen



DISTRICT 57
Michelle Eleanor Sandoval



DISTRICT 65
Rep. Derrick J. Lente



*Representatives Susan K. Herrera and Christine Chandler are also running in a small number of Sandoval County precincts.



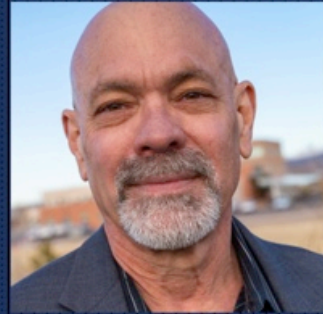
Click on candidate photo to access website.

2022 SANDOVAL COUNTY COMMISSION CANDIDATES FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 8

DISTRICT 1
Commissioner
Katherine A. Bruch



DISTRICT 3
Gregory Deforest
Bennett



2022 Statewide Democratic Candidates

Meet your Democratic Candidates for the General Election on November 8th.

Governor
Michelle
Lujan Grisham



Lieutenant
Governor
Howie Morales



Sec. of State
Maggie
Toulouse Oliver



Candidate for
Attorney General
Raúl Torrez



Candidate for
State Auditor
Joseph Maestas



Candidate for
State Treasurer
Laura Montoya



Land Commissioner
Stephanie
Garcia Richard





Help us grow!

Like, Share, and Comment on
our Social Media Posts



Visit our website at
Sandovaldemocrats.org

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.**



Take the survey



**Help bring affordable housing to
Rio Rancho**



Gimme Some Truth

County commission candidate will promote family businesses, water conservation, and sustainable growth

By Gregory Bennett, Candidate for County Commission District 3, as told to June Anglin, Chair, Precinct 146.1, DPSC



Why did you choose New Mexico for your retirement?

My wife and I first chose New Mexico for its scenic beauty and wonderful, open people. As we have lived here, we have enjoyed New Mexico's progressive politics and how the government, including the governor, the legislature, and the pueblo and tribal governments, work so hard for the good of the people.

Given the shortage of health care providers, the height of the pandemic could have been much worse here if not for the leadership of our governor.

Born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area, Greg graduated with a bachelor's degree in chemistry from California State University, East Bay. He moved to Pullman, Washington, where he obtained his Ph.D. in Pharmacology and Toxicology from Washington State University. He spent nearly 30 years researching drug- and environment-induced birth defects at various institutions (University of Cincinnati, Texas A&M, and the University of Nebraska Medical Center). He also taught biology at Metropolitan Community College in Omaha, Nebraska, for several years. After his recent retirement, he and his wife, Jeannie, moved to Rio Rancho. During the pandemic, he volunteered at several mass vaccination clinics in Albuquerque.

New Mexico's progressive politics has been a breath of fresh air.

"My promise to the people of Sandoval County is to work for the common good, not for one "side" or one "team." Time is short and the needs are great. I will work, not play politics."

If elected, what skills would you bring to the Sandoval County Commission?

I listen. This skill enables me to work with others. My history as a biomedical researcher

also helps me to work with diverse individuals with differing opinions. In my field, we had to collaborate to obtain grants. We had to be able to

articulate clearly what we wanted to do and how we would achieve our goals.

I would like to bring this skill to Sandoval County not only to work through what already lies before the commission, but also to obtain federal grants. For example, I would like to obtain economic development grants to create small business development centers to help family businesses in Sandoval County survive and thrive.

What changes would you like to see in Sandoval County?

We need to invest millions in our aging infrastructure. We need to work on water conservation in ways large and small. I would like to see the expansion of broadband internet services throughout our County. I would like to see voter participation increase.

With more people involved in politics, we have a better chance at keeping more local business opportunities in

Sandoval County. I envision Sandoval County being more than simply a bedroom community, a thriving county where people live, work and recreate.

Additionally, my hope is that this county becomes attractive to young people so kids might want to stay here rather than move away.

Finally, we need a sustainable plan for growth. As an example, I'd like to see more venues for restaurants and music here in Sandoval County.

Gregory Bennett

For Sandoval County Commissioner District 3

Advocate for

- **Planned Growth**
- **Accessibility**
- **Transparency**

Why did young people become disengaged from politics and government?

Perhaps our failures to deal with guns and the climate have left them feeling cynical or sold out. Also, how politics has been conducted in the last five or six years has changed everything. The lies and the name calling may have caused kids to tune out.

Let's be honest, we need young people to know that their votes count and that the local elections truly matter. We need to find young people who want to get involved and

encourage them to participate. We need their voices to be heard.

We need to bring civics courses back into the schools so young people can better understand the American system of government. These courses also demonstrate why their involvement in the political process is vital to our democracy.

Finally, we need to pay our legislature and their staff year-round so that young people can afford to take these jobs and be involved.

What are your ideas on bridging the gap between Democrats and Republicans?

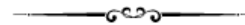
I agree that the gap should be bridged. We must do something about the polarization in our country, our state,

and our county. On our best days, we all want to get things done for the people. We just disagree on how the job should be done.

But on our worst days, we forget the pressing needs of the people and the demands of our time to indulge in simple political grandstanding.

My promise to the people of Sandoval County is to work for the common good, not for one “side” or one “team.” Time is short and the needs are great. I will work, not play politics.

“Perhaps our failures to deal with guns and the climate have left [young people] feeling cynical or sold out.”



Visit <http://gregorybennett4nm.com/> to learn about Greg!

Contact Greg at 505-705-7938 or Greg4NM@gmail.com

Find Greg on Facebook: Gregory Bennett 4 NM



JULY 1: FIRST FRIDAY MEETING

Featuring Sheila Lewis,
Vice Chair, Santa Fe NOW

11:00 a.m. at the Range
Cafe, 925 Camino Del
Pueblo, Bernalillo
Also, on Facebook Live



www.sandovaldemocrats.org



Join us for
First Friday at
The Range
Cafe or
streaming on
Facebook Live.

Join us for **Second**
Saturday at
M'Tucci's Moderno or
streaming on
Facebook Live.

July 9 at 11:00 am
Second Saturday Meeting
M'Tucci's Moderno
1908 Wellspring Rd SE, Rio Rancho

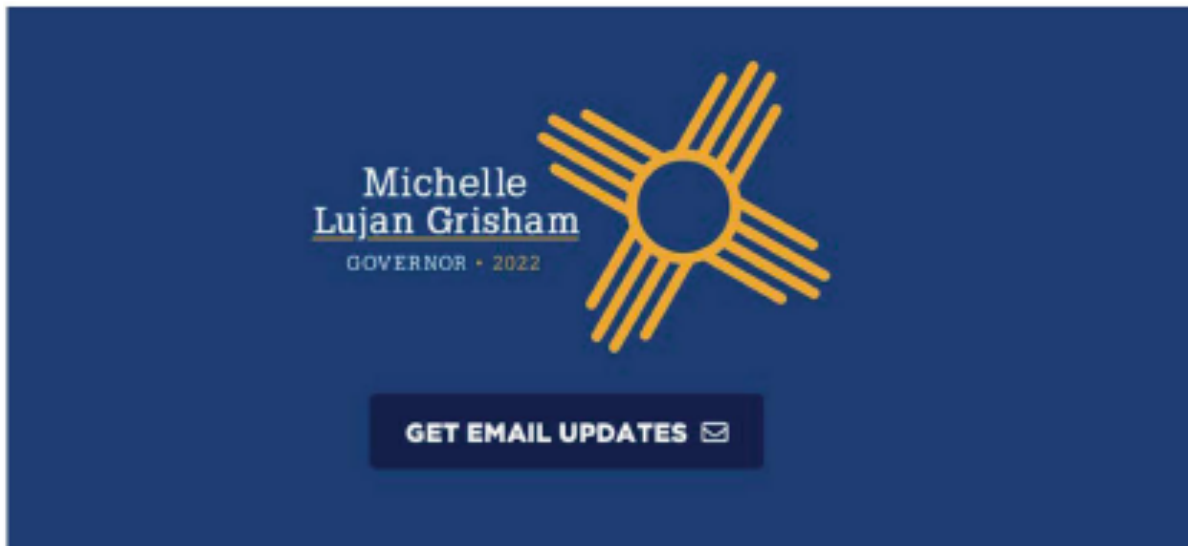


Featured Speaker
Josette Arvizu, Deputy Director
ProgressNow NM



Michelle Lujan Grisham for Governor in 2022

Protect Women's Reproductive Rights
Protect Health Care



- Lowered the cost of health insurance premiums
- Cut the cost of prescription drugs
- Invested in and cut copays for behavioral health care
- Protected women's reproductive rights

“Every woman and every New Mexican deserves access to reproductive health care—that’s why Michelle will continue to be a champion for women’s health care. In 2021, Michelle made history by repealing New Mexico’s 50-year-old criminal abortion statute, protecting New Mexicans access to abortion and ensuring women and their families have the right to make their own choices about pregnancy and reproductive health.”



Vote “Yes” for Kids

New Mexico Land Grant Permanent Fund Distribution for Early Childhood Education Amendment 2022

The **New Mexico Funding for Early Childhood Programs Amendment** is on the ballot on November 8.

**Election date**

November 8, 2022

Type

Constitutional Amendment

A "yes" vote supports allocating 1.25% of the five-year average of year-end market values of the money in the Land Grant Permanent Fund (LGPF) to early childhood education and the public school permanent fund and providing that the allocation would not occur if the average year-end market value for the preceding five years of the LGPF fund balance was below \$17 billion.

A "no" vote opposes this amendment to allocate 1.25% of the five-year average of year-end market values of the money in the Land Grant Permanent Fund (LGPF) to early childhood education and the public school permanent fund.

Source: [Ballotpedia](https://www.ballotpedia.org/new-mexico-land-grant-permanent-fund-distribution-for-early-childhood-education-amendment-2022)



US Founders Had Racist Ideals, but Provided Language to Move toward Freedom for All



On the Fourth of July, party like you're John Adams

By Mitchell Freedman, Chair, Ward G, DPSC

Re-printed from the [Rio Rancho Observer](#) with permission

On July 3, 1776, John Adams wrote his wife, Abigail (see box):

We celebrate Independence Day on July 4 because, while the Continental Congress approved the independence resolution on July 2, the Declaration of Independence document is dated July 4.

There is much to unpack in Adams' sentiments and the Declaration. First, Adams' desire for a festive holiday seems ironic because Adams was viewed in his time as a party-pooper, though close family and friends saw Adams as a decently fun guy.

Adams' reference to guns was not to intimidate, but to use guns akin to firecrackers. Adams referenced "God Almighty," but as president in 1799, Adams signed a treaty with entities in North Africa, which treaty stated the U.S. government "is not one founded on the Christian religion..."

While often considered more "conservative" than other founders, Adams supported a federal government dedicated to infrastructure development and a government medical insurance program for naval personnel.

"The second day of

July 1776, will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever more." –Letter from John Adams to Abigail Adams, July 3, 1776

As president, in a near-state of war with France, Adams tried to limit immigration — yet Jefferson opposed restricting immigration. Also, the declaration specifically attacked Britain for not allowing more immigration.

Adams saw the declaration as “deliverance,” but race-based slavery was expanding in various states. However, Adams owned no enslaved people and was morally against slavery.

In a late declaration draft, Jefferson said slavery “violat(ed) (the) most sacred rights of life and liberty in the persons of a distant people.” In 1767, 1769 and 1772, Virginia’s colonial legislature enacted high taxes to limit importing slaves, but British officials overruled those laws!

A British court decision, in 1772, ended slavery inside Britain, but the British government strongly backed slavery in its colonies — only gradually beginning to end colonial slavery in 1833.

In 1776, New England states were closer to abolishing slavery in their land. The declaration horribly referred to Native Americans as “savages” — while Adams’ letter called for festivities from “one end of this continent to the other...” when the 13 British colonies were only on the East Coast.

This sadly reflects our founders’ general intent toward Native American removal — eventually, genocide — across the continent.

Our founders’ limitations concerning race and support for settler-colonialism are clear.

However, we should recognize their vision in providing a language for freedom and pluralism, which gives us a right to criticize today. It is good to celebrate the Fourth, and thank our founders for inspiring us to be more enlightened in ways many could only conceive in their most hopeful dreams.



Not Everyone Is at Fault for Gun Violence

We must vote the gun nuts out of office

By Alexis Jimenez, Sandoval County Democrat

Re-printed from the [Rio Rancho Observer](#) with permission



Your editorial headline on May 29, 2022, is wrong.

NO, we are not ALL at fault for mass shootings!

Some of us have been fighting for changes in gun laws since Sandy Hook.

Some have been fighting since before that.

Some of us have been trying to talk to our legislators about common-sense gun laws, only to have doors closed on us, while others follow us around the halls of our capitol with their long guns.

Some of us fight for things like laws which can temporarily remove guns from individuals who are acting dangerously toward themselves or others. And we fight for the temporary removal of guns from people under restraining orders because of domestic violence. Others use their votes in the roundhouse to

assure those people can keep their guns.

Some of us have been working for safe gun storage laws and are training others to safely store their guns, while others come to these trainings looking for a fight

“Some of us take our protests to stop gun violence to the streets. Others bring their pistols on one hip and their toddlers on the other.”

and finding they agree with what we have to say.

Some of us take our protests to stop gun violence to the streets. Others bring their pistols on one hip and their toddlers on the other. Some even form networks and share with each other where we are and what they should do when they see us, usually it's violence.

“Just enforce the laws we have,” you say? Great, but our county commission passed a ridiculous resolution with the full support of the county sheriff, saying, “No, we won’t enforce laws we don’t agree with,” despite their taking oaths to uphold the constitution and laws of the state.

And what of the city council? They’re afraid to stand up to people who shoot illegal fireworks. We can’t count on them for common sense protections.

Finally, the school board. They actually put MORE guns in our schools, at great expense.

Two weeks later, schools were shut down due to COVID, and then we had armed guards watching while lunches were being handed out to hungry children.

Now that school is back in, have they stopped anyone from bringing a gun onto campus?

Possibly, but they haven’t stopped them all, clearly. Let’s hope that none have even drawn their weapon.

But, I agree... vote them out! When

these political leaders come knocking on your door, ask, what will they do about gun violence?

Do they even knock on your door? Or do they know you’ll vote for them because of the R next to their names on the ballot?

Every single legislator from Rio Rancho has voted against every single gun safety bill that came before them in the last 10 years.

Maybe the *Observer* could help. In their candidate questionnaires they can ask candidates if they



support a particular common sense gun law, or they can ask what, specifically will that candidate do to address gun violence.

There is plenty of blame to go around, but not ALL of us are to blame.



Democracy truly is on the ballot in November, and your donation couldn't be more important. Your contribution will help elect Democrats up and down the ballot. Your contribution will help DPSC fund our lawsuit challenging illegal partisan Republican gerrymandering of the Sandoval County Commission districts.

We also welcome one-time donations, which can be made using this same link. Click [here](#) to donate.

Thank you!

We ❤️ ALL our donors!



Miss Information

Owning libs doesn't help feed our babies

By Judy Gordon, DPSC Secretary

Re-printed from the [Albuquerque Journal](#)

So-called pro-life Republicans are willing—almost literally—to throw out the baby with the bathwater if it furthers their lust for power. On May 12, nearly all U.S. House Republicans, including New Mexico's own Rep. Yvette Herrell, voted to deny emergency funding to help alleviate the baby formula shortage and make sure it doesn't happen again.

Republican message to babies: Pull yourself up by your booties.

New Mexico's parents are facing empty store shelves, putting their babies at risk for hunger and illness.



But hey, if Republicans can undermine President Biden and own the libs by perpetuating the crises, what's not to like?

Although the baby formula shortage is being remedied by our Democratic lawmakers and president, the only cure for the malice and cruelty of Republicans is vote them out.



Executive Committee Update



By Judy Gordon, DPSC Secretary

At our June meeting, the Executive Committee voted unanimously

to rent a small office, which will serve as the focal point for the November election. Since then, Chair Alex Piland has signed the lease, and we are now the proud occupants of a 150 sq. ft. office located at 661 Quantum Rd NE, Rio Rancho.

The office will serve as central location for meeting with volunteers, picking up signs and literature, holding rallies (on the large parking lot after hours), and more. Now that we can do much of our campaigning electronically (e.g., receiving and recording canvassing assignments, texting, and phone banking), we felt a smaller space would serve

our needs while being responsible with your donations. We are able to rent this space thanks to your generous sustaining and one-time donations.

Now that the primary election is over, we are working on our campaign strategy for the November election. This includes

rallies throughout the county, hosting a grand opening for our new office, and planning the myriad of other events and activities required to elect Democrats up and down the ballot.



Over the next few days, DPSC will celebrate Independence Day by participating in parades and other events with our signs and banners in the Town of Bernalillo, Corrales, Cuba, Placitas, and Rio Rancho.

Help us make DPSC's presence known by joining us at these happenings!

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

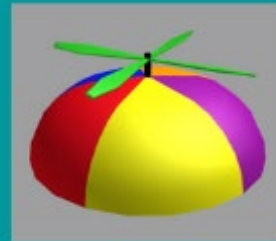
Click to Volunteer

Join the Research Task Force



CLICK HERE

We Need Data Analysts



CLICK HERE

Volunteer Opportunities and Contacts

- **Run for Office, Ward Chair, or Precinct Chair**—contact **Isaac Chavez** at vicechair@sandovaldemocrats.org.
- **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.