

August 2022 Newsletter

SANDOVAL DEMS

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Message from the Chair

DPSC Chair **Alex Piland**, The election cycle is here, and it will take all of us to win.

Gimme Some Truth

House District 23 candidate **Ramon Montaño** will advocate for infrastructure, public safety, and education.

Your Sandoval County Election Connection

Get your 2022 general election information here!

- ❖ [Michelle Lujan Grisham for Governor 2022](#)
- ❖ [Federal Congressional Candidates](#)
- ❖ [Statewide Candidates](#)
- ❖ [State House Candidates](#)
- ❖ [Sandoval County Commission Candidates](#)
- ❖ [Sandoval County Government Candidates](#)
- ❖ [Election Deadlines](#)
- ❖ [Vote YES for Early Childhood Education!](#)

Land Acknowledgment

Help Us Grow!

Resilience: Surviving Political Stress and Making a Difference

DPSC Deputy Treasurer, **Ilean R. Galloway, Ed.D.**, How to keep up our spirits in these challenging times.

Miss Information

DPSC Secretary **Judy Gordon**, Republican county commissioners are working hard to suppress our vote.

Executive Committee Update

DPSC Secretary **Judy Gordon**, Election season is in high gear; help us elect Democrats!

Volunteer Opportunities and Contacts

Message from the Chair



The election cycle is here, and it will take all of us to win

By Alex Piland, Chair, DPSC

Our amazing
CD-1 U.S.
Representative
Melanie
Stansbury will be

in La Entrada Park on August 1
from 5:00-7:00 p.m. along with
Sandoval County Commissioner
Kathy Bruch and candidate for
House District 44,
Kathleen Cates.
It would be great
if you could
attend and get to
know the people
who represent (or
will be
representing)
you! All are
welcome.

you? If you are interested in
becoming a ward or precinct chair,
consider filling these most
important organizing positions as
a team. Please email me at
chair@sandovaldemocrats.org to
talk about how you can help us
elect more county Democrats.



Thank you to
everyone who
attended the
DPSC office
opening
celebration! Over
50 people
attended. We had
Wi-Fi issues and
were not able to
view the movie,
Slay the Dragon,
but if you have

Amazon, you can watch it free.

DPSC's Ward C
had a phenomenal rally at Cochiti
Lake on July 29. In addition to
tribal officials, some wonderful
candidates turned out, and there
was food and great music.

We are still looking for ward and
precinct chairs. If you do not feel
ready to take on this task alone, is
there a friend, neighbor, or loved
one who could team up with

If you don't have Amazon, here is
one of my favorite short films that I
hope you will enjoy instead:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BzKtl9OfEpk>. I promise it's worth
the 12 minutes it takes to watch!

Our office hours are limited right now. We have DPSC volunteers covering Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to noon and from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Those are great times to drop in and pick up our “Sandoval Dems – Your Vote – Your Voice” signs. We are asking for a minimum \$10 donation to cover the cost of the signs.



We will also have “Roe-Roe-Roe Your Vote” T’s for \$15. Those are going quickly. We haven’t even received them from the printer yet, and we have sold many! But don’t wait to come by. Right now, we have too many signs and not enough space, so getting a sign will help a lot!



Hailey Fortin, the Sandoval County field organizer for the Coordinated Campaign, has begun sending out volunteers to canvass in Sandoval County. I know it’s hot, but there is so much at stake in this election and no time to waste. If you can canvass, please contact Hailey at Hailey@nmdemocrats.org.

While canvassing remains the best way to get voters to the polls, phone banking is effective, too,

and we are also looking for volunteers to phone bank. We can help you set up phone banking from your very own computer. If you are not keen to canvass right now, please consider calling people from home. It’s easy, cool, and COVID-safe.

Early voting begins at the County Clerk’s office on October 11 and expanded early voting begins on October 20. (Watch for an early-voting kick-off in Bernalillo!) The election cycle is here, and it will take all of us to win.

Please remember that First Friday is cancelled for the months of August and September, and Second Saturday is cancelled for August only. As always, watch our event calendar for event updates.

Alex

Gimme Some Truth

State house candidate will advocate for infrastructure, public safety, and education



By Ramon Montaño, Candidate for New Mexico House District 23, as told to June Anglin, Chair, Precinct 146, DPSC

On a beautiful day at the end of June, on a patio in Corrales, Judy Gordon and I sat down to visit with “Swoops,” also known as Ramon Montaño.

What first attracted you to politics and public service?

My father was a Reagan Republican who was able to communicate respectfully with both political parties. He could work with a Democrat like Bruce King as well as a Republican like Pete Domenici. He served as the director of the New Mexico Department of Labor.

A native New Mexican born and educated in Las Vegas, the Democratic candidate for House District 23 has a long history of public service with an emphasis on education including serving as a three-term board member of the Las Vegas City Schools Board of Education. In 2010 he was elected president of the New Mexico School Boards Association and after moving to Rio Rancho, he was elected to the Rio Rancho School Board.

Ramon’s two older children graduated from Rio Rancho High School, and his youngest child will be a student there this coming year. A strong supporter of youth sports, he has been a volunteer coach for basketball, Little League, and a girls’ tennis team.

Early in his career, Ramon worked in several capacities at the Las Vegas City Police Department. This led to his employment as Director of Security for a company that provides security for properties throughout the states of Colorado, Texas, and New Mexico.

“I would like to go back to the days when we could communicate with each other, work together, and reach shared resolutions.”

I wanted to understand politics. My father not only let me stay up to watch the late night news with him, but he also let me attend government meetings with him.

I grew up in Las Vegas, New Mexico. When a liquor store was built near my house, and the unruly patrons started

bothering the little children, I discovered a liquor store required a 6-foot wall between it and nearby residences. At age 16, I went to a city council meeting to demand the wall. By age 22, I was running for city council. I did not win that first race, but soon after, I ran for a position on the school board, and won.

What elected official do you admire most and why?

I admire elected officials who speak up to leadership, including the leadership of their own party. This includes Hector Balderas, current New Mexico Attorney General, when he was a young state representative and would question bad policy no matter which party put it forward. I also admired Pete Domenici who would talk to both sides of the aisle and treat Democrats with respect. These men motivated me and set the example that I followed in my work.

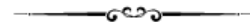
If you could change one thing about politics, what would it be?

I would like to go back to the days when we could communicate with each other, work together, and reach shared resolutions. If elected, I want to be able to stand apart from leadership and speak up for the good of the people in my district.

If elected, what would you like to accomplish in the New Mexico Legislature?

First, I am concerned with infrastructure. I want to ensure that my district gets what it needs to make improvements for roads, schools, public safety including first responders, the judiciary to prevent “catch and release” for criminals, and water quality and water availability for development.

We also need common sense bills for our people and money for education. Money needs to go into the classrooms rather than to administrative staff.



The Ramon Montañño Campaign needs help canvassing, soliciting donations, and getting out the vote.

Visit <http://ramonmontano4nm.com> to learn about Ramon!

Contact Ramon at (505)514-3715

Find Ramon on Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/ramonmontano4hd23>





- ❖ **Michelle Lujan Grisham for Governor 2022**
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- ❖ **Statewide Candidates**
- ❖ **State Legislature Candidates**
- ❖ **Sandoval County Government Candidates**
- ❖ **Sandoval County Commission Candidates**
- ❖ **Election Deadlines**
- ❖ **Vote YES for Early Childhood Education!**

[Click Here to Find Your Voting Districts](#)



Michelle Lujan Grisham for Governor in 2022

Saving Money for Families and Businesses



- Cut taxes for 550,000 working families
- Cut the Gross Receipts Tax (GRT), saving money for businesses
- Cut taxes on social security, helping New Mexico's seniors
- Lowered everyday costs from prescription drugs to childcare





2022 Federal Democratic Congressional Candidates

Click on candidate photo for more information.

Congressional District 1 Melanie Stansbury	Congressional District 3 Teresa Leger Fernandez	
		
		



2022 Statewide Democratic Candidates

Click on candidate photo for more information.

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





2022 Democratic State House Candidates

Click on candidate photo for more information.

Candidate for
House District 23
Ramon Montaño



House District 41
Rep. Susan K.
Herrera



House District 47
Rep. Christine
Chandler



Candidate for
House District 44
Kathleen M. Cates



House District 50
Rep. Matthew McQueen



Candidate for
House District 57
Michelle Eleanor Sandoval



House District 65
Rep. Derrick J. Lente





2022 Democratic Sandoval County Commission Candidates

Click on candidate photo for more information.

<p>District 1 Commissioner Katherine A. Bruch</p> 		<p>District 3 Candidate Gregory Deforest Bennett</p> 
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2022 Democratic Sandoval County Government Candidates

Click on candidate photo for more information.

<p>Sandoval County Assessor Linda Gallegos</p> 		<p>Sandoval County Sheriff Jesse James Casaus</p> 
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These
candidates do
not yet have
campaign
websites.



UPDATE YOUR VOTER
REGISTRATION
CLICK HERE

REGISTER TO VOTE
CLICK HERE

Important Deadlines for the 2022 General Election

- **October 11:** Voter registration (by mail or online) closes.
- **October 11:** First day that absentee ballots can be mailed to voters (who have submitted an absentee application), and first day of Early Voting (at the county clerk's office).*
- **October 22:** Expanded Early Voting begins at alternate voting locations.
- **November 3:** Last day to request an absentee ballot.
- **November 5:** Last day of early voting.
- **November 8:** General Election Day.

*Please Note: The online absentee portal for the 2022 General Election will be coming soon. Requests for absentee ballots for the general election can currently be made using the paper application.



Early Childhood Education is on the November ballot!

Vote YES for this important constitutional amendment!

Frequently Asked Questions



►Why go through the effort of a Constitutional Amendment instead of just allocating money from the General Fund?

Early childhood development is one of the most important ways New Mexico can invest state dollars and it deserves permanent and sustainable funding. By committing 1% of the Land Grant Permanent Fund to early childhood we are ensuring we build programs that will not get cut from one year to the next.

►Will this deplete the Land Grant Permanent Fund?

The Land Grant Permanent Fund (LGPF) grows approximately 11% per year and HJR1 would increase distribution by just 1%, making the total withdrawal 6%. This means the fund still grows by 5% per year. The LGPF will continue to grow, and we can invest in the early childhood education and care programs that hard working New Mexicans desperately need.

Investing in Early Childhood Education Has Overwhelming Support

83% [of survey respondents] agree that the single greatest investment we can make to build New Mexico's economy is to educate our children. Today's students are tomorrow's workforce. Early childhood education can unleash our state's potential if children are provided access to high quality programs like childcare, preschool and home visiting for families with a new baby.

Source: Invest in Kids Now! <https://investinkidsnow.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.**



Help us grow!

Like, Share, and Comment on
our Social Media Posts



Visit our website at
Sandovaldemocrats.org

Resilience: Surviving Political Stress and Making a Difference

How to keep up our spirits in challenging times

By Ilean R. Galloway, Ed.D., Deputy Treasurer, DPSC

A failed insurrection to prevent the peaceful transfer of presidential power. Decisions from the Supreme Court undermining abortion rights, the EPA, and our ability to control gun violence. The impending climate crisis. A global pandemic. And more.

Are you feeling overwhelmed and stressed by the state of politics in America? You are not alone.

Not only are many of us stressed by politics, but we must also cope with the state of the economy and world events (see box).

RESILIENCE

The good news is that we can take steps to manage stress.

Coping with stress is all about resilience—our ability to bounce back after adversity, anxiety, or challenging situations.

This article offers a few coping strategies for ameliorating stress and building your resilience.



Recent Surveys Report Top Sources of Stress

- Rise in prices of everyday items due to inflation (e.g., gas prices, energy bills, grocery costs, etc.) (87%)
- Supply chain issues (81%)
- Global uncertainty (81%).

Source: [American Psychological Association. \(March 11, 2022\). Stress in America™: Money, inflation, war pile on to nation stuck in COVID-19 survival mode.](#)

- **Make a Choice to Be Resilient.** Building resilience is primarily an individual endeavor that requires persistent effort. Through decisions we make, we have an extraordinary capacity for personal growth and development.

Choosing resilience doesn't mean the path will be straight or easy.

Elevated stress is a normal reaction to today's political climate and managing it can be a difficult challenge. We shouldn't feel bad about ourselves or engage in victim blaming if, despite our best efforts, elevated stress persists.



- **Limit exposure to disturbing political news.** We may find ourselves frequently, perhaps obsessively, checking the news.

Instead, being deliberate about when we consume news and avoiding news late in the day when we are typically ready to relax or sleep can help reduce stress.

- **Generate and Sustain Positive Emotions.** This can be done by finding ways to give ourselves a burst of joy and pleasure such as spending time with other people, joining a class, listening to uplifting music, or starting a hobby.

Generating and sustaining positive emotions allows our brains to take a break from politics and other stressors. Building resilience this way works best when we find ways to experience positive emotions for at least moments each day.

- **Get Involved with Making Change.** Feeling powerless to change things you care about deeply is stressful, and there are limits to what we can do by

ourselves. Working with like-minded people to effect political and social change can significantly increase our impact and reduce our stress.

We can directly affect local issues by, for example, volunteering with our local political party (see shameless plug for volunteers below) or with community support organizations.

The two most important actions we can do politically are (1) running for office and becoming an elected agent of change and (2) voting in national, state, and local elections.

And don't overlook the many excellent Sandoval County Democratic candidates on the ballot in November who urgently need our support.

Taking action on issues that matter gives us a voice and an opportunity to exert some influence over a situation. Getting involved in activism makes us part of the solution to many of the political issues about which we are all intensely concerned.

I hope you will try some of these techniques to reduce stress. You may find yourself rewarded with an improved sense of wellbeing, wonderful new friends, and a better world for everyone.

LITTLE MISS

HELPS A FRIEND

REGISTER TO VOTE

[REGISTER TO VOTE](#)

[CLICK HERE](#)



MAGGIE

Miss Information

Republican County Commissioners are working hard to suppress our vote

By Judy Gordon, DPSC Secretary

Re-printed from the Rio Rancho Journal permission.



No matter our color, party, or where

sent to the state legislature designed to suppress our vote.

They are doing this despite the fact that New Mexico has an exemplary election system that is a model for the rest of the

country. If you need proof that access to the ballot box and election security are fully compatible, look no further than our own great state.

we live, we all want an equal say in issues that affect Sandoval County. For this to happen, our county must be a place where every eligible voter can cast a ballot.

"Our vote is our power. By coming together in Sandoval County, we can elect commissioners who will work for all of us, not just the MAGA base."

But three Sandoval county commissioners — Michael Meek, Jay Block and David Heil — are working to restrict access to the ballot box. Writing in the *Observer* on July 3, Meek touts a recent resolution being

Yet these three Sandoval County

commissioners want to tear down our existing fair, equitable and secure system. They have spent taxpayer money entertaining unfounded rumors and innuendo about voter fraud

from outside groups spouting the Big Lie.

Then, after raising baseless doubts, Meek uses high-minded language about election integrity to promote the Big Lie while denying he is doing just that. His denial is contradicted by the classic voter suppression measures contained in the resolution.

Undermining Sandoval County voters' trust in our electoral system is nothing less than an attack on democracy. If these commissioners were truly concerned about election integrity, they would cherish and protect New Mexico's model system.

The people of Sandoval County want

commissioners who will focus on real problems: water, infrastructure, public safety, environment, economic development, behavioral health and much more.

Instead, Meek, Block, and Heil have chosen to use hard-earned taxpayer money and precious commission and constituent time to pursue dangerously undemocratic goals. The people of Sandoval County deserve much better.

Our vote is our power. By coming together in Sandoval County, we can elect commissioners who will work for all of us, not just the MAGA base.



**LITTLE MISS
WANTS EVERYONE TO
BE AN INFORMED VOTER**

YOUR VOTER
BILL OF RIGHTS

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MAGGIE



Executive Committee Update

Election season is in high gear; help us elect Democrats!

By Judy Gordon, DPSC Secretary



July's Executive Committee meeting left no doubt that election season is in high gear.

July, you got to see for yourself. We have established temporary office hours (see box), which we will extend, but can only do this with your help. Please contact [Chair Alex Piland](#) to volunteer to staff the office for a few hours each week. You will help us better support candidates and keep our county blue.

As we reported last month, we are excited to now have an office! Located at 661 Quantum Dr., Suite 12, it's a beautiful (and economical) space that gives us use of the building's conference room, pergola area, and parking lot to hold meetings and rallies. If you made it to our grand opening potluck in

DPSC Temporary Office Hours **661 Quantum Rd, Suite 2, Rio Rancho**

**Monday thru Friday:
10 am to 12 pm and 3 pm to 5 pm**

Until we have volunteer staffers all set up, please call 505-350-6590 to make sure the office is open.

An office phone number will be announced soon, and the hours will be extended as we get more volunteers.

If you would be interested in volunteering for a few hours at the office, please email Alex at chair@sandovaldemocrats.org.

The Communications Committee is also in high gear. Chair Delbert Schafer reported that yard signs are complete (see image on next page). Kudos to Karen Schafer for managing the contract and design. We are asking for a donation of \$10

(or more!) to help cover the cost of these beautiful signs.



The Communications Committee is also strategizing about how best to support candidates. This includes how we will use social media, digital advertising, and other methods to get Democrats

engaged and out to vote. Under Delbert's leadership, we will soon have an action plan.

And, of course, we need volunteers—not only for office coverage but to canvass, phone bank, and text for candidates. Please contact [Alex](#) or go to the candidates' websites to sign up.

We will not be holding First Friday or Second Saturday in August but we'll see you in September and hopefully before at other Democratic events, on the campaign trail, or at our new office.

LITTLE MISS "HAVE YOU VISITED NMVOTE.ORG?"

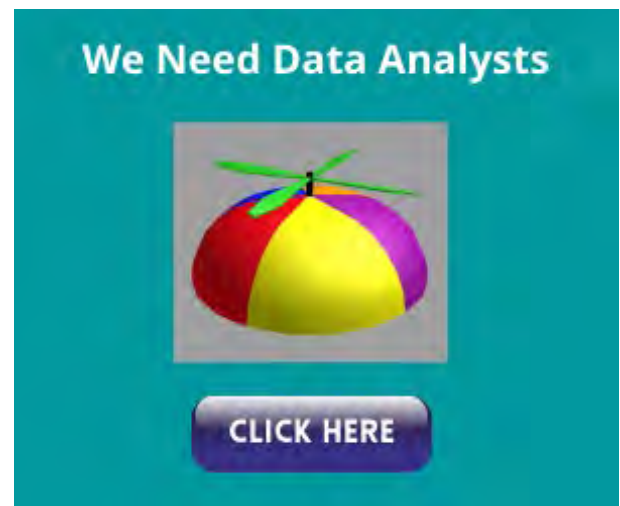


MAGGIE



Democracy: Not A Spectator Sport

Volunteer Opportunities and Contacts



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.