

# SANTA FE NEW MEXICAN

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Preserving the republic means country over party

**I**t's heartening to learn former Vice President Dick Cheney will be voting republican (as opposed to Republican) in this year's presidential election.

Like his daughter, Liz Cheney — who played a significant role in the Jan. 6 congressional committee's investigation of Donald Trump's attempt to eviscerate our Constitution, and who then paid a heavy political price for her courage and patriotism — Cheney is now supporting the only 2024 presidential nominee who remains loyal to the principles we've long associated with the party of Lincoln.

Let's applaud the Cheneys' enduring commitment to government of the people, by the people and for the people. And let's hope that their example will inspire millions of other conservatives to do what will be required to secure the integrity of our flag and preserve the imperiled "republic for which it stands."

John F. Andrews  
Santa Fe

## Safety first

Was a car theft *really* worth gunfire from public safety officers with crowds of people around ("Fiesta ends in chaos," Sept. 9)? We were downtown Sunday at the time of the gunfire and high-speed chase — chaos ensued. I stood on East Marcy Street and watched the white Jeep and at least 10 police cars fly by. In my opinion, this was a huge mistake. Why didn't police observe from afar and follow?

Being in the place and watching, it

appears police created a huge issue that could have been handled more judiciously. (All of this assuming the car thief didn't have a firearm.)

Safety officers are to be commended for being there to help, but they must be aware of their community, slow to pull a firearm and remain aware of what is safe. This incident of a high-speed car chase with gunfire and the aftermath has had negative repercussions financially and to the community: parade organizers, parade participants, vendors, restaurants, downtown businesses and ultimately the whole of Santa Fe.

Jeff Knipp  
Santa Fe

## Behind the curtain

Watching the recent presidential debate, I realized two things about Donald Trump. One is that he is like a puppet on a stage being manipulated on the one side by his dictator friends: Viktor Orbán, Vladimir Putin and Kim Jong Un. They deftly control his every movement and gestures.

On the other side, he is controlled by the dark forces of the Federalist Society, the Heritage Foundation, the Christian nationalists and, the cherry on top, right-wing conspiracy theorist and racist Laura Loomer.

Trump himself, like a puppet dangling from the strings, has no brain, no heart, no feelings of compassion or empathy. He only thinks of himself. During the debate, Kamala Harris exposed him for who he

really is, and similar to the way Toto pulls back the curtain on the Wizard of Oz, revealed him to be a fake and out-of-touch old man. He is not fit to be president of the United States.

Drew Reese  
Santa Fe

## The deserving

So tell me, Linda Chavez, who deserves to go hungry ("Just desserts," Letters to the Editor, Sept. 12)? How about people who have a mental illness? And what about those with a physical impairment. How about people who are blind? And don't forget the folks who don't have limbs.

Kimball Udall  
Santa Fe

## Intellectual tripe

What sort of human believes homeless people deserve to rot in a ditch? What sort of clueless human being believes all rich people earned their money with hard, honest work?

I pity the person who lives in such a black and white world. I pity the person who lacks the depth of soul to recognize the subtle colors, hues and subtexts in our diverse and complicated world. And shame on *The New Mexican* for printing such intellectual tripe ("Just desserts," Letters to the Editor, Sept. 12).

Susan Coulter  
Santa Fe