

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Repeated warnings: State of nation is fragile

The recent Supreme Court decision on campaign finance provides another sobering reminder that things go bitter with Koch.

These lavish-spending brothers and their increasingly powerful allies appear committed to the proposition that government of the plutocrats, by the plutocrats, and for the plutocrats shall not perish from the Earth. And it's now clear that they can count on all the help they want from a court whose chief justice seems determined to eclipse the bad eminence of Roger B. Taney, a mid-19th-century predecessor whose outrageous Dred Scott ruling in 1857 aroused so much contention that it caused Abraham Lincoln to warn that our nation had become a "House Divided."

Today's rapidly growing chasm between the haves and have-nots might appear unrelated to the conflicts that tore America apart during the Civil War. But when we view our fragile body politic in the light of recent court pronouncements on issues such as minority voting rights and corporate contributions to political candidates, it becomes difficult to avoid seeing polarities that look just as ominous as the ones that prompted our

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Letters to the editor are among the best-read features of *The New Mexican*.

Send your letters of no more than 150 words to letters@sfnewmexican.com. Include your name, address and phone number for verification and questions.

most prophetic statesman to wonder if "any nation so conceived" could "long endure."

John F. Andrews
Santa Fe

Helping CASA

The recent article about our local Court Appointed Special Advocates highlighted the difficult and important work that is being performed by our volunteers and staff as advocates for abused and neglected children across the 1st judicial district of New Mexico. What the article did not mention is that, historically,

CASA has relied on state and federal funding, which has declined substantially in recent years. As a result, CASA First, which operates as a nonprofit charitable organization, needs increased public support through individual contributions in order to continue the crucial work it is doing for the children in our community. Please visit our website www.casafirst.org for additional information about CASA First and to support our work.

Cynthia Melugin
board president
Court Appointed Special Advocates
First Judicial District
Santa Fe

Grocery saturation

What Santa Fe doesn't need is another grocery store. Costco? No!

What Santa Fe does need is to make the Santa Fe Place mall more inviting. It used to be a great mall back in the 1980s and it can be good again if they put in a Chili's or a Subway.

Mary Haynie
Santa Fe