

SANTA FE NEW MEXICAN

The West's oldest newspaper, founded 1849

Robin M. Martin
Owner

Robert M. McKinney
Owner, 1949-2001

Inez Russell Gomez
Editorial Page Editor

Ray Rivera
Editor

OPINIONS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Shakespeare saw the whole thing coming

When George H. W. Bush became our 41st president, the stock market took a brief nosedive. And observers who recognized that Shakespeare had anticipated that moment cited in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, where Theseus says that, "in the night, imagining some feare, / How easie is a Bush suppos'd a Beare?"

It should not surprise us, then, to discover that in I. ii of *Timon of Athens*, reacting to an offstage "Tucket" (trumpet call), the title character calls out, "What means that Trumpe? How now?"

"A question to be askt," as Falstaff puts it in II.iv of *Henry IV, Part 1*, and many of us share his bafflement.

John F. Andrews
president
The Shakespeare Guild
Santa Fe

Meter wise

In March, the Public Service Company of New Mexico proposed installing "smart" electric meters, which other municipalities have found to pose risks to cyber security, overbilling, fires and health problems (replayed in the documentary, *Take Back Your Power*). According to former CIA Director James Woolsey, "A so-called 'smart' grid that's as vulnerable as what we've got [to hacking] is not smart at all. It's a really, really stupid grid."

Please join me in learning more by viewing *Take Back Your Power*, at 2:30 p.m. Sunday at the Main Santa Fe Public Library, 145 Washington Ave. Sharon Noble (www.stopsmartmetersbc.org), whose research focuses on smart meter fires, will take questions after the film.

To learn more about "smart" meters, visit www.electronicssilentspring.com/primers/

We welcome your views

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

We do our best to get every opinion in the paper. It doesn't have to agree with ours.

We try to run them in their turn. Please limit your letters to 150 words.

Please provide verification information for letters: full name, home address and telephone number. We keep numbers and addresses confidential.

Email letters to: letters@sfnewmexican.com.

smart-meters/and www.darksideofsmartmeters

Katie Singer
Santa Fe

Predicted to rise

Insurance rates (call them Affordable Care Act or "Obamacare" or what you will) are going to continue to rise, not because of expenditures on patient care, but because we persist in using a system in which "insurance companies" derive enormous profits from customer premiums and carefully mete out care to guarantee nearly obscene gains from the illnesses of Americans. ("Get ready for higher 'Obamacare' rates next year," May 6).

If ever there were a time to create a single-payer system along the lines of Medicare, it is now. The very term "insurance industry" should be rendered obsolete.

Cathlynn Groh
Santa Fe

Compassion and energy

Neighbors, have you experienced this? You do your civic duty in the voting booth and have high hopes when your person is elected. But the forward-thinking leadership you crave never materializes. Isn't it a treat when an elected official delights us? Santa Fe has a great opportunity right now.

My friend, Anna Hansen, with whom I've worked on peace, environmental and nuclear issues, is running for a seat on the Santa Fe County Commission, District 2. The election is June 7. She works tirelessly for civic and regulatory improvement. We can thank Anna for park improvements, protections built into the Buckman Direct Diversion Facility and much more. She is always there when we need an informed advocate with discipline, compassion and energy.

The county commission makes decisions that affect our quality of life. I want Anna Hansen in that room. Check out this great candidate and see local politics anew — the way it should be.

Sasha Pyle
Santa Fe

Let's help landscape

Surely there are enough potential donors in the city to come up with \$100,000 to landscape the new underpass project at St. Francis Drive and Cerrillos Road ("Underpass at St. Francis, Cerrillos nears green light," May 10). I'll donate \$100 to whoever wants to start a collection. And let's get the caboose freshened up — it's looking a little faded. We need to take better care of our city's highlights. Civic pride is smothered by civic shabbiness.

Jeff Ferris
Santa Fe