

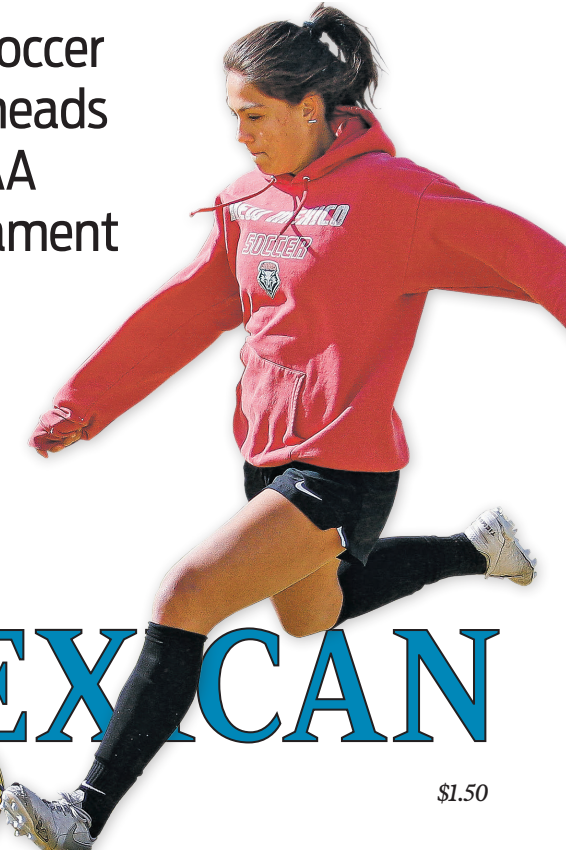


# SUNDAY

Sunday, April 25, 2021

UNM soccer team heads to NCAA Tournament

SPORTS, D-1



\$1.50

# SANTA FE NEW MEXICAN

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## Chavez vows to 'lead with the head and the heart'



GABRIELA CAMPOS/THE NEW MEXICAN

**Larry Chavez walks the field with members of Capital High's staff Friday as they discuss spacing and seating issues for the school's upcoming graduation ceremony. Chavez is banking on his affable nature and work ethic as strengths to lead the district as it transitions from the tenure of Veronica García, who announced in March she will retire at the end of the school year.**

By James Barron  
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The Larry Chavez Introduction Tour hit the ground running Monday. It was only two days after the Santa Fe Board of Education unanimously hired Chavez as its next superintendent starting July 1, but he already was hitting district schools to introduce himself to administrators, teachers and students. Monday began with a visit to sixth graders and kindergartners at Carlos Gilbert Elementary School. On Wednesday, he was off to Acequia Madre Elementary School and Aspen Community School, where he was invited to a future bike parade by Aspen students. Chavez, 44, showed up Friday at Nina

Otero Community School and Capital High School, a place he is quite familiar with because of his roles as district athletic director and now the associate superintendent of athletics, activities and school support. "It's been great. I couldn't have asked a better way to start and end the week," Chavez said. "It was just about popping in and saying hi. It's nothing more than saying, 'Thank you for all the work that you do and all you do for our kids,' and showing that I'm approachable and I respect what they do." Chavez is banking on his affable nature and work ethic as strengths to lead the district as it transitions from the tenure of Veronica García, who announced in March she will retire, after five years, at the end of the school year. He has a tough act to follow.

**INSIDE**  
◆ Five questions with Santa Fe Public Schools' incoming superintendent. **PAGE A-4**

During García's tenure, graduation rates rose from a low of 67 percent for the class of 2015, the year before she arrived, to 86.3 percent for the 2019-20 school year. A former Cabinet secretary of the Public Education Department, she testified in the landmark Yazzie/Martinez education lawsuit, which determined the state was failing to provide an adequate education for many of its at-risk students. García also guided the district through the coronavirus pandemic, as the district's

Please see story on Page A-4



GABRIELA CAMPOS/THE NEW MEXICAN

**Santa Fe residents Norma Bell, left, and Randa Phillips were among 45 people who made investments through Douglas Lien's firm, Westend Investments.**

## 'Mini-Madoff' who took locals' funds ordered to pay \$10.4M

Civil cease-and-desist order bars Lien from soliciting or accepting investments in N.M.

By Teya Vitu  
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An unregistered Santa Fe investment adviser dubbed a "mini-Madoff" was ordered to pay nearly \$10.4 million in restitution and penalties after engaging in a Ponzi scheme for 20 years involving 45 investors across the country. A federal judge issued a consent order April 7 for a permanent injunction against Douglas Lien, 79, after the Securities Division of the New Mexico Regulation and Licensing Department issued a cease-and-desist order against Lien.

Please see story on Page A-4

## Interest grows in pot program

Hundreds seek info on NNMC's certification course. **PAGE C-1**



**Today**  
Sunny and clear. High 74, low 46. **PAGE D-6**

## Obituaries

**Laura Knight Atkins**, 72, April 6  
**Donald Bryant Richard Contreras**, 82, April 4  
**Michael P. Espinoza**, 45, April 11  
**Wray Mountain**, 63, April 19

**Gavin Dean Johnson**, 51, April 10  
**Christopher Gordon Loggains**, 89, April 7  
**Arsenio Regino Montez**, 99, April 21  
**Carlos A. Pacheco**, 68, April 17

**Craig Leroy Vigil**, 50, April 16  
**Procopio "Props" Visarraga**, 91, Santa Fe, April 17  
**Shirley Cue Welch**, 86, April 15  
**John S. Ziegel**, 86, March 21  
**PAGES C-2, C-3**



MATT DAHLSEID/THE NEW MEXICAN

**A mural on a wall of the complex around Mary, Mother of Priests Catholic Church in Jemez Springs.**

## Shadows of a former haven for troubled priests

As archdiocese continues to raise money to settle sex abuse suits, Jemez Springs holds hints of ministry that offered pedophiles retreat

By Rick Ruggles  
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JEMEZ SPRINGS — What remains of the Servants of the Paraclete here is a wisp of the Catholic order that thrived in this mountain town a few decades ago. The ministry that drew hundreds of priests to Jemez Springs for nearly 50 years, treating them for problems ranging from alcoholism to pedophilia, shows hints of its old self. But

its history is inescapable as the Archdiocese of Santa Fe continues to raise money to settle lawsuits filed by dozens of people who say they were sexually abused by priests. Opened in 1947, the Paracletes' properties appear to be mostly empty. There may be as few as two priests and one brother there. One building north of town is for sale. But plaques, signs and other items reveal a time when the Servants of the Paraclete was a big, if reclusive, organization in town.

## INSIDE

◆ Archdiocese tries to shed property to collect funds for settlement. **PAGE A-6**

A park is named after the founder of the Paracletes, the Rev. Gerald Fitzgerald. A corkboard with notes tacked to it says the possibility for retreat remains at the organization's motel-like facility. One 1963 plaque on a church's exterior suggests the gratitude for a Paraclete co-founder should "ring out for many centuries over this canyon."

Please see story on Page A-6

Index Classifieds E-4 Comics Inside Local News C-1 Lotteries A-2 Opinion B-1 Real Estate E-1 Sports D-1 Time Out E-8

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