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TUESDAY

Sheriff, magistrate judge candidates speak at forum

TIMOTHY P. HOSWARE
ROSWELL EDITOR

All six candidates running for magistrate judge and county sheriff addressed a crowd of about 50 people Monday night at First Baptist Church of Roswell during a forum sponsored by the Roswell Leadership Alumni Association and the Roswell Daily Record.

Local business owner and legal aide Bobby Arnett and incumbent K.C. Rogers are running for magistrate judge. Rogers was appointed eight months by Gov.

Susana Martinez to fill the vacancy created when Eugene M. De Los Santos retired. Arnett had also applied to fill the vacancy.

The four candidates for sheriff are Patrick Barncastle, lead investigator with the 5th Judicial District Attorney's Office; Arthur Fleming, a gas company foreman and 16-year member of the New Mexico Mounted Patrol; Gary W. Graves, a 21-year law enforcement veteran; and J. Britt Snyder, who began as a deputy with the sheriff's office 24 years ago and is now chief deputy.

All six candidates are Republicans, which means the winner for both seats will be determined at the June 3 Republican Primary.

The forum was broadcast live by cable Channel 75 and KBIM 910 radio.

The forum, which lasted about 70 minutes, will be rebroadcast every Monday at 6 p.m. on Channel 75 until June 2.

The forum was moderated by Rick Kraft, a local attorney and member of the alumni association who writes a column for the Roswell Daily Record.

"The purpose of this forum is to inform and educate," Kraft said during his opening remarks.

Each candidate was given two minutes for opening and closing statements along with a minute and a half to answer five questions that were put together by the Roswell Leadership Alumni Association's forum committee.

There were no debates or questions from the audience.

Nearly all of the candidates pointed out that 80

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Absentee voting begins today

Absentee voting begins today for the June 3 primary elections. Today also is the last day to register to vote before the primaries. Early voting in Chaves County will be held at the following locations and times:

- Roswell Mall, 4501 N. Main St. May 17-31, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. Closed Sunday and Monday.

- Chaves County Clerk's Office "Area D." 1

St. Mary's Place. May 17-31, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday.

- Hagerman Sheriff's Office Substation, 7690 Wichita Road, Hagerman. May 20-29, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday. Closed Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday.

For more information, call 624-6614 or email jortega@co.chaves.nm.us.



Timothy P. Howsare Photo

Members of the New Mexico Youth Challenge Academy present the colors during a fundraising event Friday, May 2, for Republican candidates in state and local elections. State Secretary of State Dianna J. Duran, who is running for re-election, was the guest speaker. The event was held at the Liberty.

State Republicans vow to 'take back the House' in fall

Secretary of State Dianna Duran guest speaker at fundraising event

TIMOTHY P. HOSWARE
ROSWELL EDITOR

If Chaves County Republicans have their way, the party will take back control of the New Mexico House of Representatives in the fall.

The House has had a Democratic majority for 60 years.

That was the underlying theme at a banquet and auction that was held Friday, at the Liberty private club by the Chaves County Republican Party.

The guest speaker was New Mexico Secretary of State Dianna J. Duran, who is running for re-election.

She is unopposed in the primary and will be the party's candidate in the November General Election.

Duran, a Tularosa resident who had served the New Mexico Senate for 18 years, is the first Republican to hold that office since 1928.

Duran said her office holds a "sacred trust" for the citizens of New Mexico.

"The office is charged with supervising all elections in New Mexico," she

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'Give Grande' fundraising campaign event held today

RANDAL SEYLER
RECORD STAFF WRITER

"Give Grande! New Mexico," and online fundraising campaign supporting local nonprofits, will be held all day today.

The Community Foundation Coalition of New Mexico has organized this day of giving dedicated to supporting local causes. "Give Grande!" is one of many giving days happening across the country today as part of the national Give Local America event.

"Together, we will send a message to the people of New Mexico that giving is good," said Randy Royster, executive director of the Albuquerque Community Foundation. "Working together will make our state a better place."

Until 11:59 p.m. tonight, donors are able to donate directly to the following nonprofits working in Roswell and Chaves County — Wings for L.I.F.E., Down Syndrome Foundation of Southeastern New Mexico, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Assurance Home, Embrace Inc. and the NMMI Foundation.

To donate to "Give Grande!" go to the website givegrandenm.org.

Visitors to the website will also be able to search for nonprofits by name, city, geographic area and cause, and see in real-time what is raised across the state and for each nonprofit.

Because "Give Grande!" is one of many giving days being held across the country, it is likely to be part of

the largest online fundraising event in history, Royster said.

The coalition is encouraging everyone in the community to be a philanthropist.

"A lot of people think you have to be rich to give back, but even the smallest donation can make a big difference to nonprofits," said Denise Gonzales, event coordinator. "Give Grande!" is designed to make it easy for donors to connect with nonprofits via a secure and simple website."

Wings for L.I.F.E. is excited to be participating in the first statewide Day of Giving that is also part of a nationwide Day of Giving set up to support local nonprofits, said Shelly Currier.

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Learning to fly



Shawn Naranjo Photo

Alamogordo resident Liz Tribble, left, got in some training hours Sunday morning at the Old Timers Balloon Rally. Tribble is learning all the aspects of ballooning, including set up, chasing, flying and packing after the flight is finished. She is accumulating hours for her student-pilot logbook in hopes of getting her own pilot's license. Assisting Tribble is Amanda Jones, also from Alamogordo, who is a member of the U.S. Air Force and stationed at Holloman. The Old Timers Balloon Club established a scholarship in her name at New Mexico Military Institute in 2013 while she was deployed in Afghanistan. The club donated \$2,100 to the fund at this year's rally. The owners of the balloon, called Silver Spirit, are Roger MacKechnie (behind Jones) and Karen Martin (not pictured) from Tucson, Ariz.



Randal Seyler Photo

City Manager Larry Fry, left, and City Councilor Jason Perry, second from left, visit with Darren and Sandy Van Soye at Roswell City Hall on Monday. The Van Soyes were in town traveling the route that the Race Across USA is going to follow through New Mexico in February 2015.

Race Across USA to run through Roswell

RANDAL SEYLER
RECORD STAFF WRITER

In January, a team of runners will take to the roads for a run across America, with the intention of bringing fitness to the forefront in public schools.

The route for that run will bring the athletes through Roswell in late February, said Darren and Sandy Van Soye, Race Across USA co-directors.

The Van Soyes were in

Roswell Monday visiting with local officials in preparation for next year's event.

"We're driving the route, and meeting people and officials along the way," said Darren Van Soye. "As we go along, I jump out of the car and run for six miles or so each day."

The race starts on Jan. 16 and passes through California, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, South Car-

olina, North Carolina, Virginia and finally Maryland.

There are about a dozen runners signed up so far for the entire run, and about as many signed up for the shorter, cross-state runs which will also be part of the event.

In February, the Race Across New Mexico takes place as a band of athletes will take an extreme sport to new extremes as they run 15 back-to-back marathons to cross the "Land of Enchantment,"

Van Soye said.

The total distance for Race Across New Mexico is 389 miles.

"We have organized the race at two levels," Darren Van Soye said, "and we have received applications and have selected 10 core team runners who will run the entire route coast to coast."

"We have also opened registration for state run-

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TODAY'S FORECAST

HIGH 92
LOW 56

TODAY'S OBITUARY PAGE B4

• GEORGIA NORRIS

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Deadly side effect to fracking boom

CLARKSBURG, W.Va. (AP) — Booming production of oil and natural gas has exacted a little-known price on some of the nation's roads, contributing to a spike in traffic fatalities in states where many streets and highways are choked with large trucks and heavy drilling equipment.

An Associated Press analysis of traffic deaths and U.S. census data in six drilling states shows that in some places, fatalities have more than quadrupled since 2004 — a period when most American roads have become much safer even as the population has grown.

"We are just so swamped," said Sheriff Dwayne Villanueva of Karnes County, Texas, where authorities have been overwhelmed by the surge in serious accidents.

The industry acknowledges the problem, and traffic agencies and oil companies say they are taking steps to improve safety. But no one imag-

ines that the risks will be eliminated quickly or easily.

"I don't see it slowing down anytime soon," Villanueva said.

The energy boom, fueled largely by new drilling technology, has created badly needed jobs, lifted local economies and drawn global manufacturers back to the United States. But the frenzy of drilling activity contributes heavily to the flood of traffic of all kinds that experts say has led to the increase in serious accidents and deaths.

Not all of the crashes involved trucks from drilling projects, and the accidents have been blamed on both ordinary motorists and heavy equipment drivers.

But the accidents have devastated families: two young boys crushed to death last year by a tanker truck in West Virginia; a Pennsylvania father killed by another tanker in 2011; a 19-year old Texas man fatally injured

in 2012 after colliding with a drilling truck on his way to work. A month later, on the same road, three retired teachers died in another collision with a truck.

Deadly crashes are "recognized as one of the key risk areas of the business," said Marvin Odum, who runs Royal Dutch Shell's exploration operations in the Americas.

Crashes often increase when the volume of traffic goes up, whether because of an improving economy, a new shopping mall or more people moving into the area. Still, the number of traffic fatalities in some regions has climbed far faster than the population or the number of miles driven.

In North Dakota drilling counties, the population has soared 43 percent over the last decade, while traffic fatalities increased 350 percent, to 63 last year from 14 ten years ago.

Duran

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said. "If the elections and voting are wrong then everything is wrong. The system doesn't have integrity."

Duran said she favors voters presenting photo IDs at the polls, which recently became the law in Texas.

"Voter ID prevents someone from stealing your vote," she said.

Duran said 80 percent of New Mexicans favor voter IDs, including many of the Democrats at the statehouse.

However, it is the more radical "progressive Democrats" who oppose the IDs, she said.

She said the City of Albuquerque has had a voter ID requirement in place for past eight years, and has not had significant issues with its law.

Duran said since tak-

ing office she has slashed operating costs by \$1 million.

In an interview with the Roswell Daily Record earlier in the day, Duran said another important accomplishment that has occurred under her watch is the transfer of the Corporations Bureau of the N.M. Public Regulation Commission Corporations to the Secretary of State's office.

A constitutional amendment was passed by the electorate in 2012 to allow the challenge.

Before the transfer of authority, Duran said there was an average backlog of four months for a corporation to get chartered.

"We now average three days," she said.

Duran said at the banquet she cannot take her successes for granted, because her office has been targeted by the Democrats.

Forum

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percent of all the crime in Roswell is related to drug trafficking.

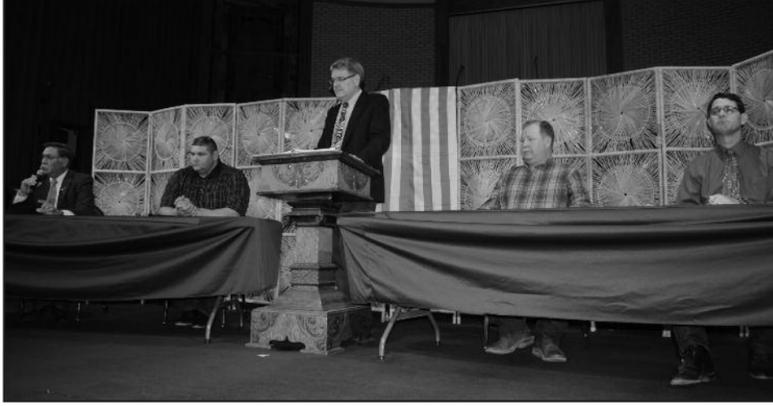
Arnett said he and his family are personally affected by crime because of repeated thefts at their fireworks business. He said that being a judge is similar to being a minister, because both require one to have a strong moral compass.

"I care about the safety of the community, families and businesses," he said.

Rogers said he retired from the New Mexico State Police after 21 years. In his early years on the state police force, Rogers said he worked as an undercover narcotics agent and knows firsthand what the drug element is like.

In the sheriff's race, Barncastle was critical of the current administration for taking the sheriff's office out of the drug task force. If elected, Barncastle said bringing the agency back into the task force would be a top priority.

Snyder said although he supported the current sheriff's decision for the department to exit the drug task force, he, too, would bring the agency back into the task force if



Timothy P. Howsare Photos

Above: Seated from left are the four Republican candidates for Chaves County sheriff, Patrick Barncastle, Arthur Fleming, Gary W. Graves and J. Britt Snyder. Standing is moderator Rick Kraft. Left: Bobby Arnett, left, and K.C. Rogers, center, face off in race for magistrate judge in the June 3 Republican Primary. Rick Kraft, served as the moderator.

elected. He said the sheriff's office pulled out of the task force because of deteriorating relationships.

Graves said the sheriff is the lead law enforcement officer in the county. Graves frequently expressed his sentiments as a Christian, stating that he does not consume alcohol and would follow the examples set by Jesus.

When the candidates were asked to identify resources needed by the agency, Fleming said deputies need the ability to print warrants from their patrol cars and to utilize the New Mexico Mounted Patrol, which has the same arrest powers and jurisdiction as the agencies it works under.

The Albuquerque Police Department has made

headlines in recent months for its alleged use of excessive force in apprehending several suspects.

When asked what they would do as sheriff to prevent such incidents in Chaves County, all the candidates agreed that proper training and supervision of deputies is imperative.

Race

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ners who will run one or more of the states," he said.

Since the Van Soyes wanted to run the Race Across USA while school was still in session, they were more or less forced to select a southern route to avoid the highest mountain passes along the Continental Divide during the winter, Darren Van Soye said.

After some Internet research, they found the website of Colon Terrell, a 64-year-old heart attack survivor from Raleigh, N.C.

His trek took him from the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse on the Atlantic Coast to the Santa Monica, Calif., pier on the Pacific.

The course Race Across

USA will use is divided into 120 segments over 140 days (or approximately four and a half months). Rest days were added more or less, once a week, so that the runners could visit schools along the route.

"As we go across the country, riding the route, we're also visiting with schools on behalf of the 100 Mile Club, a program that encourages school children to walk or run 100 miles in a school year," Sandy Van Soye said. "They can do it either before school, during recess or after school."

The 100 Mile Club program began in California, and Sandy Van Soye said the couple is scheduled to meet with Socorro school district officials tomorrow to discuss starting a 100 Mile Club there.

"We are doing this as a

fundraiser for the 100 Mile Club program," she said. "The program asks students to pay \$10 each to participate, but we want to raise funds for schools where the students can't afford to pay the entry fee."

Students receive certificates as they reach milestones on their 100-mile journey, such as a 25-mile recognition, she added.

Milestone incentives provide rewards and excitement to help kids stay focused during the school year, and year-end medal ceremonies celebrate the year's achievements for all students with a certificate of completion and gold medal for those who complete their 100 miles, according to the program's website.

"We want to encourage children to exercise, and we

want to have our runners visit schools as they pass through communities," Sandy Van Soye said. "We really are doing this to promote fitness, especially for the children."

For more information on the run, visit the website raceacrossusa.org. For more information about the 100 Mile Club, visit 100mileclub.com.

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NEW MEXICO

Campaign

Continued from Page A1

executive director of Roswell's Wings for L.I.F.E. program.

Wings for L.I.F.E. has 17 weekly programs that service adults, youth and children in our communities (as well as adults and juveniles in detention), Currier said.

"Our Sunday community outreach that meets twice a month provides excellent programs as well as a delicious meal."

In 2013, more than 1,650 people attended this program, Currier said.

"There are 230 children currently in our

weekly after-school program. We have a teen program that meets weekly, as well as weekly parenting classes."

All the Wings for L.I.F.E. programs are offered free of charge to all those who attend.

"We don't want to prevent anyone from utilizing our services because of financial considerations," Currier said.

"That is why our programs are free. Because of this, Wings for L.I.F.E. absorbs all costs which is why we need your support."

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