



## Readers Letters

Letters do not necessarily reflect the opinion of this publication, its owners, employees or advertisers.

### A GOOD FRIEND

Last week I took to social media to rant about DOGE and the effect of some of those decisions on the US Forest Service, an organization I grew up in and hold extreme loyalty to. Social media rants are not usually helpful and often make one look a fool, but I felt I had to DO SOMETHING or burst.

A friend private-messaged me, stating she had seen my post and wondered if I would be open to hearing her version of events. She didn't want to respond on social media because she knew I was not at my best emotionally, and things can get ugly so quickly in those public forums.

I so appreciated her perspective on this contentious issue. More importantly, she saw, heard, and protected me.

So thank you, Frances Luna. You are one in a million, and I am grateful to have you as a friend.

s/Alice Hutchins  
alicehutchins70@gmail.com  
T-or-C, NM

### PRAYER FOR ENLIGHTENMENT

This is a prayer for enlightenment that I composed. But first a warning, the Church in Rome, which we call the Vatican II Church, is not the true Catholic Church. It is an apostate Church.

Almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, thy Son our Lord, and the mediation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, I beg of thee to show me the way and the truth that leads to everlasting life. If I am not now on that path, please, O please, show me what I must do to enter that path and be saved.

Lord, thy servants teach that, "There is a way that seemeth to a man right, but the ends thereof lead to death..." (Prv. 16:25) and "I am not conscious to myself of anything, yet I am not hereby justified." (1 Cor. 4:4) Please, Lord, help me to truly examine my conscience; expose any sins that I may be hiding from myself. Do not let me make excuses for my sins. "Who can understand sins? From my secret ones cleanse me, O Lord. Let not my heart turn aside to wicked deeds to make excuses for sins." (Ps. 18:13; 140:4) Reveal my sins to me in spite of my stubbornness. I know that none of my sins can be forgiven unless I am inside the Catholic Church because "Outside the Catholic Church there is no salvation or remission of sins." If I am outside the Catholic Church for mortal sins of apostasy, heresy, or schism, show me these sins. Do not let me make excuses for them. Tell me what I must do to enter the Catholic Church in order that my sins can be forgiven so that I may have a hope to be saved. If I am guilty of sins against the moral commandments, show them to me so that I can confess them with perfect contrition and will sin no more.

Lord, thou hast promised that all who wholeheartedly seek thee shall find thee. Thy Son hast said, "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened to you. For everyone that asketh, receiveth; and he that seeketh, findeth; and to him that knocketh, it shall be opened." (Mk. 7:7-8) Behold, I ask, I seek, and I knock.

I know that only those who obey all of thy words are blessed. "Blessed are they who hear the word of God and keep it." (Lk. 11:28) Please, O please, I beg of thee, Lord God, have mercy on me and show me the way to everlasting life and give me whatever I need to follow that way by obedience to all of thy words and commandments.

For I know, Lord, that "our suf-

ficiency is from God." (2 Cor. 3:5) For thy Son hast said that "without me you can do nothing." (Jn. 15:5) Hence I cannot do anything good with a good motive without thy grace and other help. "For it is God who worketh in (me), both to will and to accomplish, according to his good will." (Phili. 2:13) Please, O please, Lord, give me all the grace and other help I need to save my soul, and I pray that I may cooperate with those graces and others' help in order to be saved.

Lord, I have confidence that thou wilt answer my prayer provided I offer it with my whole heart, for thou never refuseth any good thing to those who truly desire it and are willing to love and obey thee. May it not be said of me "You ask and receive not, because you ask amiss." (Ja. 4:3) If I have offered this prayer with a double heart or some other impure motive so as not to be heard by thee, then please reveal this also to me so that I may pray it again with a pure heart and deserve to be heard by thee. O God, this I ask of thee through our Lord Jesus Christ thy Son, the author and finisher of faith,<sup>1</sup> who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen. (RJM)

For your only hope of salvation, please visit my website at [www.JohnTheBaptist.us](http://www.JohnTheBaptist.us)  
s/Richard Joseph Michael Ibranyi  
IbranyiRichard@gmail.com  
T-or-C, NM  
(Over 350 words paid)

### MEDICAID FORWARD

Chaos has engulfed Washington, D.C., and its effects are being felt in New Mexico. A few weeks ago, funding for essential services was cut off abruptly and without explanation, including Medicaid. Thankfully, after several tense days, most of these programs were reinstated, yet looming questions on the fate of federal funding for programs persist.

With the reliability of federal funds in question, we should move to protect our state from instability as best we can, including for those most vulnerable.

Unfortunately, legislation currently making its way through the legislature may do the exact opposite: House Bill 186, a Medicaid Forward initiative. If signed into law, this bill will spell disaster for health care in New Mexico and leave us at the whims of an ever-changing Washington.

The Medicaid Forward pro-



Krystie Wear

## — FINANCIAL FOCUS —

### Cutting Spending Can Help Boost Retirement Savings

Like most of us, you may someday want to enjoy a comfortable retirement. Your ability to achieve this goal will depend on how much you save — but it also matters how much you spend.

And saving and spending are certainly related: The more you can reduce your spending, the more money you could have available to save for retirement through your IRA and your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan. Over many years, even relatively small amounts diverted from spending to saving and investing could add up substantially.

How can you go about potentially reducing your spending? Here are a few suggestions:

Use a budgeting tool. If you're not already doing so, you might want to consider using a free online budgeting tool. Among other capabilities, these apps can place your spending in categories — groceries, travel, entertainment, and so on — which can reveal redundancies that, once eliminated, could save you money. For example, you might find that you're spending a not-insignificant amount on streaming services you rarely use. Or you might be surprised at how often you go the grocery store, rather than consolidating your visits and reducing the likelihood of "impulse" purchases.

Take advantage of employee benefits. If you work for a mid-size or large company, you may have an extensive employee benefit plan, which could include discounts on some products and services. Also, if you are enrolled in a high-deductible health plan through your employer, you

might have access to a health savings account (HSA) or flexible spending account (FSA), either of which may let you lower your out-of-pocket health care costs by using pre-tax dollars to pay for deductibles, copayments, coinsurance and some other qualified expenses.

Shop around for insurance. To some extent, we are all creatures of habit, which can be good in some circumstances and not so good in others. In the "not so good" category, many people stick with their auto, homeowners and life insurance policies year after year, even though they might be able to save some money by switching to another company. But even if you stay with your current company, you might find ways to save money by taking steps such as adding a home security system. Check with your insurer to learn more.

Compare credit cards. There's a piece of financial advice that essentially says: "Pay cash for everything" — and this isn't a bad idea. Ideally, you might want to use a credit card strictly for items such as car rentals or hotel reservations, and you should pay off the bill each month to avoid interest charges. Sometimes, though, you may need to use your card for other purposes, and it may not always be possible to pay your bill in full. That's why you'll want to review credit cards periodically to find one with lower interest rates, a favorable balance transfer offer and a better rewards program.

It's not always easy to cut down on your spending, but when you do, it can provide more peace of mind — and an opportunity to boost your savings for what could be a long and active retirement.

[This article was written by Edward Jones and provided by Krystie Wear, your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor, 405 North Date St. T-or-C, NM, 575-894-9054.] Edward Jones, Member SIPC

## Subscribe to The SENTINEL!



WANT TO SEE MORE PHOTOS??

CHECK OUT OUR GALLERIES AT

[GPKMEDIA.COM/PHOTO\\_GALLERIES/](http://GPKMEDIA.COM/PHOTO_GALLERIES/)



Brings you Apples Oranges & Strawberries

We have the NEW! Evercrisp apples. They are crossed with the famous Honeycrisp and Fuji apple.

Along with Sweet Navel Oranges from Bakersfield CA Strawberries from Ventura CA and Medjool Dates from Palm Springs CA. Come stock up while supplies last! We will be selling at the Chevron Gas station across from McDonalds in T or C, NM Thursday-Saturday 9 am-5 pm.

We are also selling in front of Dun Edwards Paints at 2301 E Lohman Ave, Las Cruces, NM. Hours will be Wednesday-Saturday 10:00 am-5:30 pm

Any questions call Ryan at 575-740-5018



(575) 744-5140  
1-877-744-5140  
[www.plazarealtynm.com](http://www.plazarealtynm.com)



EARL GREER  
Owner/Broker  
(505) 350-1155

CINDY TORRES AARON DOW  
Broker Broker  
(575) 740-0010 (505) 610-7695

419 Warm Springs Blvd. • Elephant Butte, NM 87935

WHEN ONLY THE BEST WILL DO



BEAUTIFUL HOME

509 CORONA: Just blocks from downtown T or C is this comfortable/cozy 3 bedroom, 2 bath home in established neighborhood! Galley kitchen includes all appliances, extra counter space & storage as well as large pantry. The home offers newer laminate flooring in living room; carpet in bedrooms; blinds on all windows, metal roof and best of all central refrigerated air & heat. West facing back yard has covered patio, additional outside storage and low maintenance backyard, fully fenced with drive gates! Washer Dryer hooks up in the 1 car garage with garage door opener. Front yard offers established landscaping, small covered front entry with good views of Turtleback Mountain. Enjoy your home knowing there are no neighbors behind you! Call Cindy Torres 575-740-0010 to view! [MLS#20246381](http://MLS#20246381)



CHARMING HOME!

Charming Home Near the River – A Must-See! Discover this delightful home near the river, offering easy access to the city, I-25, the hot mineral district, hospital, and schools. With its inviting atmosphere and thoughtful design, this property is perfect for comfortable living. Inside, enjoy beautiful laminate and vinyl flooring, a bright and airy living room, and an open kitchen with a convenient island—ideal for cooking and gathering. The spacious primary bathroom features a separate shower and tub, while an additional half-bath in the utility room adds extra convenience. Step outside to find a massive 25x41 building, thoughtfully divided into three separate rooms, each with its own entrance—perfect for a workshop, studio, or extra storage. The property also includes a two-car carport, a separate one-car carport, and a 10x10 storage shed. This gem won't last long! Schedule your showing today and see it for yourself! [MLS 20250683](http://MLS 20250683) Call Earl 505.350.1155 "X" cegreer [MLS#20250683](http://MLS#20250683)



COZY HOME!

Charming & Cozy 3-Bedroom Home Near the Golf Course! This adorable 3-bedroom, 2-bath home offers comfort, space, and a fantastic location—less than a block from the Municipal Golf Course! Inside, you'll find stylish laminate flooring throughout, with tile floors in the kitchen and baths. The home features large, open bedrooms, a spacious family room, and an updated kitchen with elegant French doors leading to the backyard. An additional laundry room, pantry, and storage space are conveniently located off the garage. Complete with a 16'X18' workshop! The large backyard with alley access provides plenty of room to park your toys! With superb access to shopping, schools, the hospital, Hot Mineral Spas, and I-25, this home is a must-see! Schedule your showing today! [MLS 20250881](http://MLS 20250881) Call Earl 505.350.1155 "X" cegreer [MLS#20250881](http://MLS#20250881)



OVER 11 ACRES!

Beautiful lot with wide open spaces providing wonderful views of the Caballo, San Andreas, San Mateo, Magdalena and Frau Cristobal mtns. Excellent access via paved Champagne Hills Rd! Room to roam on over 11 acres! Priced to sell in today's market! Take a look! Call Earl 505.350.1155 X cegreer [MLS#20243475](http://MLS#20243475)



TRACK 3

Nice flat "corner" lot with 75' of frontage on Broadway. High traffic count with great visibility!! Numerous uses possible! Additional acreage is available! Take a look!!! Priced at \$37,700. Call Earl 505-350-1155 twitter cegreer [MLS#20234266](http://MLS#20234266)



HOME LOT!

Great 1/4 acre home lot bordering Turtleback Mountain Resort but without the HOA fees!! Adjacent to residential listing [MLS 20244429](http://MLS 20244429)! Gradual slope on sandy loam soil with great views of the golf course, Turtleback and the Cuchillo Creek valley! Take look!!! Call Earl 505.350.1155 X cegreer [MLS#20244906](http://MLS#20244906)

LET US HELP YOU SELL YOUR ESTATE ITEMS

WILLARD HALL AUCTIONS AND APPRAISAL SERVICES

(575)740-0757

[WILLARDHALLAUCTIONS.COM](http://WILLARDHALLAUCTIONS.COM)  
[WWW.AUCTION.ZIP.COM](http://WWW.AUCTION.ZIP.COM)



THE BEST MARKET IN THE SOUTHWEST

## SIERRA COUNTY SENTINEL

A subsidiary of GPK Media, LLC • A New Mexico Corporation •  
February 27, 2025 • Volume 57, Number 3892

Our Staff:

Frances Luna ..... Publisher  
Dylan Cunningham ..... Graphic Design Mgr./Web  
Kimmy Molsbee ..... Photo Editing/Web/Social Media  
Jim Shiley ..... School/Sports Reporter  
Steve Mull ..... Reporter  
Regina Barnett ..... Freelance Contributor  
Susan Moore ..... Freelance Contributor  
Marsha Wright ..... Billing  
Marianna Clanton ..... Student Intern  
Selena Sinclair ..... Receptionist

We Thank You For Supporting Your Hometown Newspaper.

217 East Third, Truth or Consequences, NM 87901  
(575) 894-3088 • Fax (575) 894-3998

website: [gpkmedia.com](http://gpkmedia.com) • email: [sentinelofficecmgr@gmail.com](mailto:sentinelofficecmgr@gmail.com)

Published each week on Friday by GPK Media LLC, dba Sierra County Sentinel (USPS 495-940), 217 E. Third Ave., Truth or Consequences, New Mexico 87901. Circulation of the Sierra County Sentinel exceeds 4,000 printed copies weekly, with an additional 600+ e-subscribers.

Copies of the Sierra County Sentinel are available via second-class mail, home delivery, store racks and on-line subscriptions.

Classifieds, legals, obituaries, wedding announcements, birth announcements and thank you ads are available by contacting the office manager at 575-894-3088. For all advertising opportunities, call 575-894-3088 and ask to speak to a sales representative. For submission of all editorial copy, press releases or letters to the editor, email [sierracountynews@gmail.com](mailto:sierracountynews@gmail.com), or call our editor at 575-894-3088.

Periodicals: Postage Rates paid at Truth or Consequences, New Mexico 87901-9999.

DEADLINE: Ad Copy Resubmission – 5 p.m. Monday • ALL OTHERS 5 p.m. Tuesdays.

CORRECTION POLICY: Any erroneous reflections on the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation, which may appear in this publication, will be willingly corrected if called to our attention in a timely manner.

LETTER POLICY: The Sierra County Sentinel

welcomes your readers letters, which should be no longer than 350 words. Letters over 350 words may be published, however, overage is charged at .10 cents per word and must be paid before the letter will run. Letters regarding political matters, in support or against of a candidate or issue will be paid for at the .10 per word rate, 90 days before an election. Letters must include the name, address and telephone number or email address of the author for verification and publication. Letters presented before press deadline may be held until the following week upon editor's discretion and space confinements. Once received, all letters become the property of GPK Media LLC.

CARDS OF THANKS: Letters expressing thanks to individuals or businesses are not considered letters to the editor and will be charged at a rate of .10 per word.

DISCLAIMER: The Editor, Publisher and Owners of the Sierra County Sentinel reserve the right to edit or withhold from publication any letter or press release for any reason. Publications and editorials reflect the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the Sierra County Sentinel, GPK Media LLC, staff or its owners.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Sierra County Sentinel, 217 E. Third, Truth or Consequences, NM 87901.