

## Kudos for wanting to help teens

Congratulations to the students of the Santa Fe School for the Arts for bringing attention to bear on the plight of homeless teens here after the unfortunate cancellation of the lease Youth Shelters and Family Services had obtained. Kudos, as well, to Las Palomas Inn manager Paul Margetson for offering the program the use of three casitas.

Now is the time for Santa Fe to rally behind these courageous efforts to mitigate the suffering of young people who, for a variety of reasons, find themselves without shelter. Youth Shelters and Family Services runs an exemplary program, offering counseling, food, showers and a place to get off the streets.

Any neighbors of Las Palomas who are considering raising an outcry should consider how they would feel if a son, grandson, nephew, niece or family friend was without shelter during a cold winter night. We have all been there, or we know someone who has.

**Sallie Bingham**

Santa Fe

### Santa Fe pride

Hats off to Paul Margetson and Las Palomas Inn for offering three casitas during the coldest months of the year for use by homeless Santa Fe teens.

When I think about "community" this is it at its finest. Being in the real estate and art businesses, I'm often asked to recommend accommodations for out-of-town visitors.

You can be sure that Las Palomas Inn, already a favorite, will be at the top of the list!

**Ylise Kessler**

Santa Fe

### Taos model

Regarding "Capital crime," a recent letter by Mary Hoggard: Taos has also been dealing with homelessness, and has done very well, although more needs to be accomplished.

Dr. Douglas Scott has spent more than two years finding a facility for the homeless, and it has finally become a reality thanks to contributions from businesses and individuals, the Taos County Commission and the Town of Taos. This facility will be open to men, but the nonprofit organization is working on a place to accommodate women and families with children.

The Taos Coalition to End Homelessness has an option to purchase a motel and has raised about \$250,000 so far. Santa Fe can do this also.

**Jeanette García**

Taos

### Anybody home?

I have a comment for Dale Zlotnick whose letter, "Less is less" appeared Nov. 23. Perhaps Congress is vacationing as a result of modeling itself after President George W. Bush. He holds the all-time record for number of vacation days taken during a presidency. This last August, he surpassed former President Ronald Reagan, the previous record holder.

**Lorna Dyer**

Santa Fe

### Right to write

Imagine! Two letters submitted to the Opinions page by people displaying basic common sense — and they were published on the same day, Nov. 23!

It was incredibly refreshing to read two letters without the more common, fashionable, paranoid, hysterical hypocrisy that *The New Mexican* seems to relish printing. To the dismay of most *New Mexican* readers, (I was born and raised here, by the way), Santa Fe is not filled wall-to-wall with Sean Penn/Hugo Chávez-Michael Moore lemmings and wannabes. I want to extend a hearty thank you and an Amen, Brothers! to David G. Zlotnick ("Less is less") and Leonard Ferran ("SF crybabies").

**David Dean Jr.**

Santa Fe

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