



search recent articles

Weekly Top Ten

Most read Most commented Most recommended

1. Police continue investigation in vehicle-pedestrian collision - 6204 views
2. Girl stable after crash that killed 13-year-old boy - 6109 views
3. Man flees after crashing stolen truck on Cerrillos Road - 4525 views
4. Santa Fe Greenhouses closes doors after 29 years - 4487 views
5. LANL security force employees fired - 3995 views
6. Fatal collision on N.M. 4 closes highway - 3300 views
7. Vandals tag Plaza, Cathedral Park - 3278 views
8. Police investigate resort's missing \$75,000 Navajo wall rug - 3204 views
9. Father sues state police in son's shooting death - 3101 views
10. El Mitote, Nov. 25, 2012 - 2566 views

advertisement

Community Ticker

Interaction with Santa Fe's stories

- Marco Ordonez commented on: Equality survey rates Santa Fe below average in LGBT services · 7 minutes ago
- William Peterson commented on: Equality survey rates Santa Fe below average in LGBT services · 10 minutes ago
- Peter Neal commented on: Father sues state police in son's shooting death · 11 minutes ago
- David Martinez commented on: Advocates of easing laws on marijuana use take case to Legislature · 12 minutes ago
- William Peterson commented on: Equality survey rates Santa Fe below average in LGBT services · 16 minutes ago
- Marco Ordonez commented on: County proposes higher fees, fines for pet owners · 20 minutes ago
- maryannmontoya commented on: Equality survey rates Santa Fe below average in LGBT services · 28 minutes ago
- maryannmontoya commented on: Equality survey rates Santa Fe below average in LGBT services · 31 minutes ago

[View latest comments >>](#)
Powered by Disqus

advertisement

Learning Curve: Hooked on a Nobel Laureate

The New Mexican

Posted: Sunday, November 25, 2012 - 11/25/12

0 Comments and 0 Reactions

"You all are shining lights, you are the hope for the future. Don't stop. Don't give up. Keep fueling your anger into positive things. The world depends on you." So said Liberian peace activist and Nobel Laureate Leymah Gbowee to a group of 16 Northern New Mexico schoolchildren. The students are members of Youth United, which received the 2012 Global Call to Action Challenge Award, co-sponsored by the Pearson Foundation and PeaceJam, in recognition of their literacy campaign, Hooked on Books. The students, from various schools in the region, traveled to Colorado to accept the award and meet Gbowee at the Denver Center for the Arts earlier this month.

Students from the Santa Fe School for Arts and Sciences initially spearheaded the Alliance for Literacy move to start Hooked on Books, which holds contests and offers prizes to encourage reading among youth, in October 2011. With New Mexico's low reading scores, the Hooked on Books effort aims to get kids reading something — anything that they like, in fact, as long as they read. Last summer Youth United hosted a free summer reading camp at the Santa Fe School for Arts and Sciences to help raise proficiency among students. The group has since reported that, on average, participating students raised their level of reading by at least one grade.

Hooked on Books has already held seven contests and is always looking for books and sponsors to set up bookshelves around the community where youth can access free books. Visit its website, www.nm.allianceforliteracy.org, for more information about the group, the contests and this important peace prize that Youth United earned.

At the end of her speech to the kids, Gbowee told the Hooked on Books kids, "If you need me, I'll come — pro bono." Reportedly, she plans to visit Santa Fe and these kids sometime early in 2013.

Gbowee shares the 2011 Nobel Peace Prize with Liberian president Ellen Johnson Sirleaf and Yemen mother and activist Tawakkul Karman.

Filing time looms

Santa Fe County hosts the next school board election on Feb. 5, 2013. The terms of two board members — Frank Montaño, District 5, and Barbara Gudwin, District 3 — end by March 2013, and as of late last week, they hadn't said whether they will seek re-election. "I haven't made up my mind yet," said Montaño, the current president of the board. Gudwin said, "I haven't decided, but I would love to run again. I'm processing things in my personal life and some professional opportunities that may be coming my way. I'm getting close to figuring it out. If I don't run, I hope to maintain my ties to the school district in some way. If I do run again, I'll give it my all."

The filing deadline for interested candidates is Dec. 18. Candidates have until Jan. 2, 2013, to withdraw from the election. You must be a qualified elector in the county, be a resident within the school district in question (visit www.sfps.info and click on the Board of Education link to find out more about that), and be at least 18 years old to run. Terms run for four years.

The board election takes place the same day as the district's next general obligation bond election. Earlier this month, the school board approved a bond-prioritization budget asking voters to OK \$130 million for capital improvements. About \$35 million of that will go toward the district's efforts to revamp secondary education. District Superintendent Joel Boyd is slated to unveil his plan for secondary-education reform at the Dec. 4 board meeting, scheduled for 5:30 p.m. at the district's Educational Services Center on Alta Vista Street.

Boyd, who started his tenure as superintendent with a two-year contract on Aug. 1, gives his first State of the Schools address at 4 p.m. Monday, Nov. 26, in the Rotunda at the Roundhouse. That event is open to the public.

Contact Robert Nott at 986-3021 or rnott@sfnwmexican.com.

You must register with a valid email address and use your real name to comment on this forum. Previous usernames are no longer valid as of Feb. 5. Once you've logged into the system, you'll be able to contribute comments. If you need help logging in or establishing your new user name and password, please [visit this tutorial](#).

All users are expected to abide by the [forum rules](#) and be courteous to other users. Comments can be accepted up to eight days following publication. After that, comments can be read but no new submissions made. Send questions to webeditor@sfnwmexican.com

IMPORTANT: Comments must be posted under your own full, real name. Anonymous comments and those posted under a pseudonym can be removed. Please consult the [forum rules](#). If you have questions, e-mail webeditor@sfnwmexican.com.

Like

Add New Comment

Login