

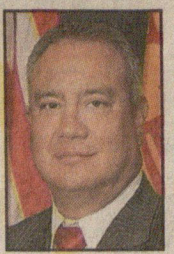
# METRO & NM

SECTION C | TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2014 | ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL ••

## NO RESIGNATION

Santa Fe district attorney will go to court to clarify position of recently convicted Sheriff Tommy Rodella

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# Teachers union sues over evaluation system

Claims it violates state constitution

BY JON SWEDIEN  
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

New Mexico's second-largest teachers union filed a lawsuit Monday, asking a judge to declare the state's teacher evaluation system illegal.

In the suit, the National Education Association New Mexico argues state law gives school districts authority over teacher evaluations and the system Education Secretary-designate Hanna Skandera put in place last year takes away that local control. Skandera launched the system last school year under an administrative rule after legislators

twice rejected the plan.

The state Public Education Department called it a "frivolous" challenge timed to the fall elections.

The court action, filed in the 1st Judicial District, asks a judge to declare the evaluation system illegal and to prevent its further use.

"With the support of Governor (Susana) Martinez, (Skandera) has unilaterally implemented a statewide teacher evaluation system. Her implementation of that system was done in violation of the New Mexico Constitution and in violation of state statute," said Charles Bowyer, executive director of NEA New Mexico.

Also named as plaintiffs in the suit are state Rep. Mimi Stewart, D-Albuquerque, and two teachers — Deborah Romero, a third-grade teacher from Las Cruces, and Manessa Young Padilla, a high school math and science teacher from Los Lunas.

Teachers aren't opposed to being evaluated, but many do oppose this particular evaluation system, Romero said.

"The truth is we want to be evaluated. We want to be able to identify strengths and weaknesses," she said, adding she doesn't believe the current system is fair or accurate.

The union said it opposes the use of value-added models — calculations that use test scores to rate teachers' impact on classroom learning — because it does not believe

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## SURPRISE STORM SLAMS FAIRGROUNDS



DEAN HANSON/JOURNAL

Workers picked up the mess Monday after wind collapsed an arts festival tent at Expo New Mexico in Albuquerque.

Shortly after 2 p.m., a powerful wind gust swept over the Expo New Mexico racetrack infield collapsing a tent that had been set up for the upcoming Rio Grande Arts and Crafts Festival, Expo New Mexico spokeswoman Erin Kinnard Thompson said.

She said one person was transported to the hospital for evaluation but no other significant injuries were reported.

The gust was associated with a fast-moving severe storm involving hail and strong winds that the National Weather Service measured at 65 mph at the Albuquerque International Sunport, Kinnard Thompson said. According to the National Weather Service, there were no advance indications of the storm. She added that Expo New Mexico is securing the site to ensure safety in the area.



Light stands toppled like Pick Up Sticks at the New Mexico state fairgrounds Monday afternoon.

## Jury will continue deliberations in Casaus case

Ex-APD officer charged in crash that killed woman, injured sister

BY RYAN BOETEL  
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

A jury will continue to consider the fate of former Albuquerque police Sgt. Adam Casaus today.

The jury deliberated for close to four hours on Monday before breaking for the day.

Casaus is charged with vehicular homicide and reckless driving causing great bodily injury. Lawyers made closing arguments Monday morning to end the trial, which started last Tuesday in front of District Judge Richard Knowles.

On Feb. 10, 2013, Casaus was driving west on Paseo del Norte and he ran into Lindsay Browder, who was driving north on Eagle Ranch. Ashley Browder, Lindsay's 21-year-old sister, was killed.



CASAUS: Witnesses say he ran a red light

Casaus said on the witness stand on Friday that the light had just turned green when he entered the intersection, which was the first time a witness in the case said his light was green and not red.

"You do not have enough information as to what color the lights were," John D'Amato, Casaus' attorney, said during closing.

Deputy District Attorney Guinevere Ice said that Lindsay Browder and two other witnesses all said Casaus had a red light.

"That light was red. He ran a red light," Ice said. Casaus' testimony "is completely inconsistent with every other witness in the case."

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## ABQ author honored on Wall of Fame

The 'godfather of contemporary Chicano literature' is second honoree

BY MIKE BUSH  
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

Albuquerque City Hall calls Rudolfo Anaya the "godfather of contemporary Chicano literature," a ground-breaking author and professor emeritus at the University of New Mexico whose work not only evokes images of the desert flatlands, but also the humble Latino world of rural and urban New Mexico.

Today, the city pays tribute to Anaya by inscribing his name on the Albuquerque Wall of Fame. He

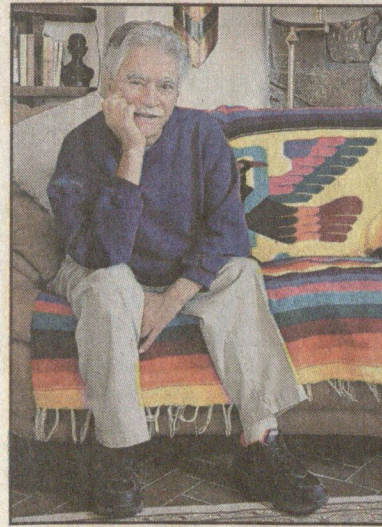
"RUDOLFO ANAYA, THROUGH HIS DESCRIPTIVE NARRATIVES, HAS POSITIVELY OPENED UP ALBUQUERQUE AND NEW MEXICO TO THE WORLD."

RICHARD BERRY  
MAYOR OF ALBUQUERQUE

"becomes the wall's second honoree at a ceremony at the Alvarado Transportation Center at 1st and Central at an 11:30 a.m. ceremony. "Our Wall of Fame honors peo-

ple of achievement who have contributed positively toward making our community better," said Mayor Richard Berry. "Rudolfo Anaya, through his descriptive narratives, has positively opened up Albuquerque and New Mexico to the world."

Anaya was born Oct. 30, 1937, in Pastura, not far from Santa Rosa in eastern New Mexico. He moved to Albuquerque at a young age and attended public schools. In 1963, he received a bachelor's degree in English from UNM and, five years later, earned a master's degree, also in English. In 1972, he earned a second M.A. from UNM, this one in guidance and counseling.



JOURNAL FILE

Rudolfo Anaya, acclaimed author of "Bless Me, Ultima" and other works, will be honored today when his name is inscribed on the Albuquerque Wall of Fame.

See ABQ >> C2

## WNMU's choice of sexual awareness program criticized

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BY MIKE BUSH  
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

Western New Mexico University has come under fire recently for something it hasn't done — at least not yet — and isn't even required to do until next year.

At issue is the Silver City university's selection of an online program called CampusClarity to satisfy a federal requirement for training students, faculty and staff about sexual misconduct, including assault. By law, publicly funded schools must have sexual awareness programs in place by the summer 2015.

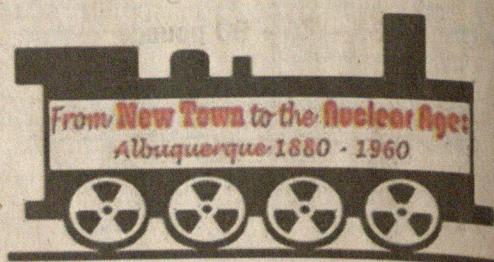
The news site New Mexico Watchdog reported that WNMU has chosen CampusClarity and provided details about one controversial aspect of the program. CampusClarity — the preferred training program of nearly 200 colleges and universities nationwide — includes a questionnaire about sex.

Several of the questions focus on personal

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### Run the Bosque this Sunday

The Bosque Boogie, a 10K, 5K and 1K fun run for kids to benefit the Explora Science Center and the Children's Museum of Albuquerque, is set for Sunday. The timed event takes place along the bosque, with parking in the Montañito Plaza Shopping Center by Coors and Montañito. For details or to register, go to [www.tcrproductions.com](http://www.tcrproductions.com).



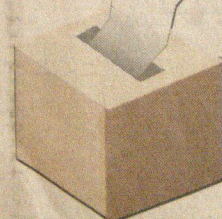
### 2014 Speaker Series

"From New Town to the Nuclear Age: Albuquerque 1880-1960" is a series of topics presented at the Special Collections Library on one Saturday a month, exploring how a small town of 1,300 grew into a city of 200,000 in just 80 years. Upcoming: Albuquerque Indian School's history, Oct. 11, 10:30 a.m. to noon, 423 Central NE, at the corner of Edith and Central. Free.

### Quote of the day

"The topic areas can be controversial, but they are also promoting respect, safety and safer sex practices. Whether they use it tonight or five years from now after they get married, the information is still useful. ..."

— Summer Little, director of the Women's Resource Center, about topics presented at "Celebrate Sex" week at the University of New Mexico.



### Voter registration deadline: Oct. 7

The deadline for registering to vote in the Nov. 4 general election is Oct. 7. And check [ABQjournal.com](http://ABQjournal.com) early next week for the Albuquerque Journal's online voter guide.

### All the NM, ABQ information you need

From useful telephone numbers to restaurant reviews, everything you'd want to know about New Mexico and Albuquerque is one click away. Go to [ABQjournal.com/about-abq](http://ABQjournal.com/about-abq).



### Flying the colors

The flag is to be flown at full staff today.