

The following issues and concerns affecting our community and surrounding areas were discussed by our guests on our talk show "Over The Back Fence" on KFUN/FM 103.7, KFUN/AM 1230 which has been on the air since 1965.

& KLVF/FM 100.7

**FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2017:**

12/01/2017: Guest on talk show was the City Manager Mr. Richard Trujillo and Maria Gilvarry, City Utilities Director. They offered an up date on city water, gas, and waste water projects currently in process. City water projects include fixing and or replacing old water lines that are leaking or very old and need replacing with new lines. The city has a very old water pipe delivery system and fixing and or replacing them is an on going job. The new replaced water lines will be placed on the side of the roads between sidewalks so as to eliminate having to dig up roads in the future for pip repairs or replacements. Regarding the gas lines. The owns the line but buys the gas from an independent company. The gas line has some leaks and the city plans to fix most if not all the leaks in the near 2018 future. Many of the waste water lines are also very old and need replacing. The city has invested a lot of money in up grading and maintaining the city waste water treatment plant. The city also had prioritized completing the planned work on both Bradner Dam and Peterson Dam including completing the needed work at the Gallinas ponds in dredging it to remove a lot of the dirt, silt and weeds at the bottom making it deeper and making it longer with the end result of reestablishing our community outdoor natural skating ponds. Length of talk, from 8:30 a. m. to 9:45 a. m.

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12/5/17: Three members of the Aceqias water association. To include, William Gonzales, Gabe Estrada, and Art Gallegos. This water association and the city have been in negotiations for several years and have not been able to come to an agreement that will serve the needs of both parties. The water treaty goes back to 1835 when the city of Las Vegas was established when the water system was owned by the Agua Pura Company, then eventually taken over by the Public Service Company and eventually sold the water system to the city for one dollar, (\$1.00). The matter has not been under the jurisdiction of the courts and the State Engineer and most recently, (a few years back) the state appointed a water master to work with both parties to try to come up with a water management and sharing agreement. The hold up to an agreement is that the city maintains that it owns senior priority of the water and wants the courts to grant the city an 1835 priority date which the water association opposes and won't accept. Mean while, both the city and the water association have spent millions in paying an attorney. A meeting was scheduled for December 21, 2017 with the water master and the courts to further discuss the matter. At this time there has been no information as to whether any decision was reached. The city manager, Mr. Richard Trujillo is scheduled to be a guest on our radio talk show on Friday December 29, 2017 at which time he will announce that he is retiring as city manager with his last day being 12/29/17. So no word yet as to who will become the interim city manager. This change could slow down all city projects and set the community back in its progress. Length of talk, from 9: a. m. to 10: a. m.

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**12/5/17: Talk show guests. Members of the Rio Gallinas Acequia Association. William Gonzales, Gave Estrada, Ray Gallegos. History of water issue. Members of this association have been at odds with the City of Las Vegas governing body for many years as they cannot come to an agreement regarding the equitable use of water from the Gallinas River, which is the only above ground water supply for the community. At the main issue of disagreement is that the city has for a long time requested a water priority designation date of 1835. The Acequia Association has never agreed with this priority date. The matter has been stuck in the court system for many years. There may be light at the end of the tunnel as the Special Water Master is set to issue a recommendation to the State Engineer and to the courts requesting an 1835 priority date on behalf of the city. A listener by the name of Joseph Padilla, another member of the association called in his comments. For now, it's wait and see. Length of discussion. From 9: a.m. To 9:50 a. m.**

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**12/7/17: Dr. Cathy Stauber. Host of the radio show, "To Your Health". The dangers of chemicals in products such as: soaps, tooth pastes, lotions, beauty aids, that all eventually land up in our environment as many of these chemicals land up in our drinking water sources. Many people and hospitals also dispense of these chemicals into toilets, rivers and lakes and eventually find their way into our food via gardens. Talk from 8:05 a. m. to 9: a.m.**

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**12/8/17 U.S. Congressman Steve Pearce. He was visiting our community and walked into our station for an interview. He is a candidate for Governor in the 2018 election and will not seek another term in the U. S. Congress. He spoke about his campaign platform and goals he wishes to accomplish. He wants to work on creating jobs, the state economy, education: ETC. I mentioned to him that Washington is broken and very dysfunctional and that people are tired of the fighting and finger pointing between the Democrats and Republicans and that projects don't get accomplished. I asked him that if he was elected governor, if he would be able to work with the Democrats in the legislature and if he would work to unite State Legislators on both sides and if he would leave Washington Dysfunction in Washington and not bring it into the State house. Length of talk. From 11:30 a. m. to 11:58 a. m.**

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**12/8/17: Cabrini Martinez, director of the City Museum, & Zachary McMellis, city Library manager. Both of them presented an update on the projects and programs offered at both agencies. Talk from 8:25 a. m. to 9:20 a. m.**

**12/13/17: Lacy Houdedk, a family nurse practitioner. She is the owner of Meadow City Family Center. She spoke about what people can do to stay healthy by eating right and healthy foods plus exercising daily. Advised people to get the flu shot and stated that the fly season this year is especially more aggressive and dangerous. She also offered many health tips. Talk from 8:20 a. m. to 8:55 a. m.**

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**12/14/17: Guest on talk show. Mr. Garrett Veneklasen, candidate for New Mexico State Land Commissioner. He introduced himself to our listeners and the community. Spoke about his past experience, discussed some of his platform plans. Invited the community to a public meeting to be held at a local business. Length of talk, from 9:05 a. m. to 9:25 a. m.**

**12/14/17: Mr. Rick Serna, interim president at Luna Community Collage, along with Mr. Jesse Gallegos, public relations coordinator with the collage. Topic of discussion was the current status of an investigation of the college and board of trustees by officials of the New Mexico state Higher Education Commission. The commission is conducting an investigation to determine if collage officials are or have followed state education statutes and regulations. The commission plans to submit a report on their findings some time in February 2018. Mrs. Barbara Damron, State Higher Education Cabinet Secretary is proposing consolidation of our community collage, (Luna Community College) with another two year community collage or with our local university, (Highlands University). There is also concern in our community that Luna Community College may possibly close its doors. That would be a disaster for our community, our students, staff and our economy as it would mean the loss of many local jobs. For now, it's a wait and see what happens and if our community college will lose its accreditation status or not. Length of talk from 8:05 a. m. to 8:45 a. m.**

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**12/15/17: Local fire fighters, Lt. David Garcia, Fire chief David Atencio. Talking about Holiday Fire Safety tips. Reminding homeowners to clean their chimneys, change batteries in smoke and carbon detectors, if homes don't have one, then buy one. Don't throw hot ashes into plastic trash roll outs, have a fire evacuation plan in the home, in case of a house fire, get on your knees and crawl out of the home quickly and stay close to the floor since smoke rises and smoke is what kills people before the flames do. Do NOT run back into a burning building for a person or pet. Let firefighters do that. During a fire, touch a closed door leading into another room with the back side of the hand, not the open palm. ETC. Talk from 8:25 a. m. to 9:35 a. m.**

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**12/20/17: Mike Weinstein, a park ranger with Fort Union National Monument. He talked about different programs offered at the fort that are open to the public. Promoting Dark Sky event and many other events. Length of talk: 8:35 a. m. to 9: a. m.**

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**12/21/17: Talk show guests: DeAnn Barry, Stella Burciaga, co-owners of Buenv Vida Physical Therapy. And Loretta Abreu Martin, representing the City of Las Vegas Recreational Center. Their topic of discussion centered around preventing or managing your diabetes and over weight challenges. They offered support and encouragement for people dealing with diabetes, encouraged diabetics to take their meds. And to perform some form of daily exercise, Walking was suggested along with stretching exercises. Loretta spoke about the weight loss competition event held each year at the recreational center, ETC. talk from 8:08 a. m. to 8:59 a. m.**

**12/22/17: Radio talk show, "What's Cookin at City Hall". Guest was Maria Gilvarry, City of Las Vegas Utilities Director. She gave status report on the work being done on Bradner Dam, Peterson Dam and the proposed skating pond project. Work is on schedule on all three facilities, a contractor has been hired to proceed with the needed work on Bradner Dam. She announced the holiday schedule for the solid waste department and general information regarding water, gas and utility department business. Talk from 8:30 a. m. to 8:50 a.m.**

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**12/27/17: Mr. Matthew Probst, public information director with El Centro Family Health Clinic. He have an over view of the services they offer to the public. Talk from 8:28 a.m. To 8:55 a.m.**

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