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The New Mexico Municipal League holds district meetings soon after the end of each legislative session, giving staff the opportunity to give a hot-off-the-presses update on what happened at the Roundhouse of relevance to our communities. Eight district meetings across a large state like ours means lots of hours in a car over two weeks. One of my predecessors in this position, Cloudcroft Mayor Dave Venable, made a point of attending each one of the eight district meetings so he could personally thank communities for their support of the League and give his personal perspective on what happened in Santa Fe.

I thought this was a great idea and promised myself that I would do this if and when I had the opportunity. Although other commitments got in the way of achieving Mayor Venable’s record-breaking odyssey, I did get a chance to join Bill Fulginiti, Regina Romero and Ed Zendel in attending the five district meetings in the southern half of the state, and experience such diverse spots as the Blue Hole in Santa Rosa, the beautiful new library in Artesia, and a classic spa in Truth or Consequences. Everywhere we were warmly and proudly welcomed in communities large and small, in mountain communities as well as some where the horizon stretched forever. It reinforced in my mind the diversity of economics, culture and ecology of our state, something that one just cannot fully appreciate unless you experience it in person.

Although I was able to visit the tomb of Billy the Kid in Fort Sumner and the famous (and haunted) Lodge in Cloudcroft, there are still many nooks and crannies in our state left for me to explore. You may not be on a five-day road trip reminiscent of college escapades like we were on that long week in March, but maybe on your next trip you can make a detour and visit with one or more of your sister communities. I am sure you will be as warmly welcomed as we were, find common topics of discussion about municipal matters, and discover a pretty hiking trail, a quirky restaurant, or maybe even a friendly ghost.

Regards,
David Izraelevitz, President Elect
The motion is the building block of parliamentary procedure. Motions perform a variety of functions, but in their most basic form, the **main motion** provides a method of bringing business to the body for consideration and action. A main motion may itself bring its subject to the assembly’s attention, or the main motion may follow upon the presentation of a report or other communication. Action by a body is normally initiated by a motion of some sort.

There are basically four types of motions: main, subsidiary, incidental and privileged.

**Main motion:** A main motion formally states and brings business before the meeting. It can only be made when no other question is on the floor. An example of a main motion is, “I move that we adopt the following resolution....”

**Subsidiary motions:** A subsidiary motion is used to assist the membership in treating or disposing of the main motion. Subsidiary motions can expedite action upon, delay action upon, modify the main motion or even kill the main motion. You can move to table, to refer to a committee, to modify or even end debate or more commonly, to amend. Subsidiary motions all relate to or are “attached” to a pending motion.

**Incidental motions:** Incidental motions relate to the method of transacting business rather than to the business itself. (They are incidental to the business at hand.) Incidental motions all relate to or determine a method of action. An incidental motion deals with questions of procedure that arise out of other motions. Incidental motions must be considered and resolved before the returning to the motion being discussed. Examples of incidental motions are points of order, points of information, and parliamentary inquiries.

**Privileged motions:** Privileged motions do not relate to the pending question but have to do with matters of such urgency or importance that, without debate, are allowed to interrupt the consideration of anything else. Privileged motions deal with the rights and privileges of members, or the group as a whole, and do not directly affect a main motion. The four privileged are to adjourn, to recess, to raise a question of privilege and to call for the orders of the day.

How to present a motion: The first step to making a motion is obtaining the floor. This can usually be done by either getting on a speaker’s list and waiting for your turn, or by waiting until the last speaker is finished, rising (or raising your hand), and addressing the chairman, depending upon whichever procedure your chair-
person may choose. When the chair recognizes you, you can then make your motion. It is generally out of order to interrupt another speaker except in extraordinary circumstances. If the main motion is adopted, it becomes the officially recorded statement of an action taken by the Body. Main motions should therefore be worded in a concise, unambiguous and complete form appropriate to achieve such a purpose.

To avoid ambiguity, main motions should also always be worded in the affirmative. This is sometimes awkward, but affirmative wording prevents unclear action by the body.

Example: “I move we approve the appointment of Joe Blow to the Planning Commission”.

This is true EVEN IF the member really wants to defeat the appointment.

In this motion, the member wanting to defeat the appointment would vote NAY.

If the same motion is made in the negative, a confusing vote may occur.

Example: “I move we not appoint Joe Blow to the Planning Commission.”

In this motion, the member wanting to defeat the appointment would vote Aye.

When is debate and discussion appropriate?

One of the drawbacks to a strict application of parliamentary procedure is the principle that debate on a question cannot take place until after a question has been submitted to the body (most commonly in the form of a motion). This drawback is clear when we consider that a motion is a proposed course of action, a solution to a problem or a decision. By making a motion first, we are proposing a solution before we know the dimensions of the issue or problem, what the facts are concerning the problem, and what the possible alternatives are. This approach tends to focus the discussion on the motion rather than the problem and on a single alternative rather than an exploration of the various alternatives. On the other hand, generalized discussion of the problem before the body formulated a solution can lead to the dreaded “I so move”.

This unauthorized motion commonly occurs after a question has been discussed with the member simply saying those three ugly words. Many times the “I so move” motion is voted and later the members realize that the motion voted is not what was intended. If the body is going to permit discussion and debate on a question before entertaining a formal motion, I suggest that the presiding officer should always ask for a main motion rather than simply accepting an “I so move”
ROBERT'S RULES Explained

Much of this multi-part piece concerning parliamentary procedure is based on the book Robert’s Rules of Order, probably the most widely-used guide for parliamentary procedure. The first edition of the book, whose full title was Pocket Manual of Rules of Order for Deliberative Assemblies, was published in February 1876 by then U.S. Army Major Henry Martyn Robert (1837–1923) with the short title Robert’s Rules of Order placed on its cover.

The procedures prescribed by the book were loosely modeled after those used in the United States House of Representatives, with such adaptations as Robert saw fit for use in ordinary societies. Although he was in the military, the rules in his book were not based on military rules. The author’s interest in parliamentary procedure began in 1863 when he was chosen to preside over a church meeting and, although he accepted the task, he felt that he did not have the necessary knowledge of proper procedure.

In his later work as an active member of several organizations, Robert discovered that members from different areas of the country had very different views regarding what the proper parliamentary rules were, and these conflicting views hampered the organizations in their work. He eventually became convinced of the need for a new manual on the subject, one which would enable many organizations to adopt the same set of rules.

Generally, Robert’s Rules of Order is a guide for conducting meetings and making decisions as a group. The purpose of the book is «to enable assemblies of any size, with due regard for every member›s opinion, to arrive at the general will on the maximum number of questions of varying complexity in a minimum amount of time and under all kinds of internal climate ranging from total harmony to hardened or impassioned division of opinion.»

The book is designed for use in ordinary societies rather than legislative assemblies, and it is the most commonly adopted parliamentary authority among societies in the United States. It is also recognized as “the most widely used reference for meeting procedure and business rules in the English-speaking world.”

The book states that it is “a codification of the present-day general parliamentary law.” “General parliamentary law” refers to the common rules and customs for conducting business in organizations and assemblies. It does not refer to statutory legal requirements nor to common-law precedent derived from court judgments. In other words, the book is about procedures for meetings and not about what is “legal” (i.e. it is not a law book).

(Source: Wikipedia)
Gayle A. Jones, MMC, Clerk/Administrator for the Village of Bosque Farms, has been chosen “Clerk of the Year” by the New Mexico Clerks and Finance Officers Association. She was named during the Clerks and Finance Officers Spring Meeting April 20 in Albuquerque.

Jones has been Clerk/Administrator for Bosque Farms since 2005. From 2001 to 2005, she was Clerk/Treasurer for the Village of Willard and was Clerk/Treasurer from 1993 to 2000 for the Town of Mountainair.

She received her MMC (Master Municipal Clerk) designation in 2005 and received the Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) designation in 1996.

Jones has volunteered with the Mountainair Fire and Rescue as a Firefighter and EMT for 32 years. She has served in the same positions for Bosque Farms for 11 years. During this time, she also served as an instructor and mentor to new EMTs. She has served 11 years on the Valencia Regional Emergency Communications Center 911 Board.

She has been a member of Rotary Club for nine years and has served as President-Elect and President of the organization. She also served four years as a Town of Mountainair Trustee. She has been very active with the New Mexico Municipal Clerks and Finance Officers Association, including serving as President of the association in 2006-07, 2009-2010 and 2010-11. She also has been Co-Chair and Chair of several of the Association’s Committees.

In their nominating letter, Bosque Farms Mayor Wayne Ake and Planning and Zoning Administrator Loretta Hatch wrote: “Mention the name Gayle Jones to anyone in local government in the State of New Mexico and you will be hard pressed to find someone who does not know who she is. Gayle has touched countless individuals through her willingness to serve.”

Other nominees for this year’s award were: Michael Anne Antonucci, Clerk/Treasurer for the City of Raton; Stephanie Finch, Clerk/Treasurer for the Village of Magdalena; Renee Lucero, Retired Clerk for the Town of Taos; Nora Sanchez, Clerk/Treasurer for the Village of Wagon Mound; and Ann Marie Wooldridge, Clerk for the Village of Taos Ski Valley.
Attending spring break programs at the library not only helps combat boredom over the week-long break, but also provides fun-filled ways to learn new things as well as keep those brain gears turning. This year, the Roswell Public Library Children’s Department provided six days of activities for children, teens and adults, ranging from arts and crafts, to STEM-related (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) digital video production, and even health and wellness.

Each year during spring break, the Children’s Department strives to provide engaging and unique activities to the Roswell youth that are fun and educational and help improve or exercise fine motor skills and creative thinking. This year’s activities began with a 45-minute session of yoga for ages 10-18 led by the library’s part-time Reference Librarian Colette Speer, who also teaches yoga. The free session of yoga allowed tweens and teen to gain relaxation, healthy body image and improved self-esteem.

The following evening, kids enjoyed the monthly Brick by Brick/littleBits Mashup program where we bring out the Children’s collection of Legos and littleBits, which are color-coded, magnetic electronic modules that can...
Right page: Children’s Librarian Claire Gutierrez instructing patrons on how to make their own mini ‘zine. inset A finished product.

This page top: A young lady’s postcard and letter to her grandma during the Happy Mail workshop. Top right: Part-time Reference Librarian Colette Speer leads two young yogis in a Warrior 2 pose during a relaxing session of Tween and Teen Yoga. A family that plays together, learns together during the Brick by Brick Lego program. Seven-year-old Bailey McClain and her grandma work as a team to create a stop-motion film about water pollution. Bottom: A group of young artists use color-mixing techniques to create a work of art during a session of Rock Painting.

be mixed and matched to create small inventions and teach circuitry in a simple and fun way. Legos are also a great way to sneak in engineering and math while they play.

One of my passions is seeing young people discover a new type of art and make it their own. I discovered zines (pronounced zEEEn) a couple years back. Zines are commonly known as self-published, small-circulation works of original art, text or other images reproduced with a photocopier. Those who attended the Zine Scene workshop were able to take old magazines and other materials to create their own unique zine to take home or make copies of to share with friends. The zines that were produced varied from a collection of cute cats, a wild animal book, a collection of celestial bodies, and even mini comic books.

The following day the library hosted two sessions of Rock Painting. Youth and their parents got to create cool animal and mandala rocks. Primary colors (red, yellow, blue) and black and white paint were provided to teach color theory and encourage exploration of color mixing.

Encapsulating all four aspects of STEM were two sessions on how to create a unique stop-motion short

Continued on page 20
As budget-conscious consumers increasingly opt for the convenience and economy of online shopping, states like New Mexico are ramping up pressure on internet-based retailers to collect and remit the taxes states need to provide essential services.

While Amazon.com recently agreed to charge New Mexico consumers the state portion of the gross receipts tax (GRT), more change is needed to erase what states see as an unfair advantage for online retailers over local merchants who are required to collect and remit the entire combination of state and local taxes.

New Mexico consumers, for example, can still avoid paying the state GRT when buying from a third-party vendor on the Amazon marketplace platform. And they don’t pay local option taxes that communities levy to subsidize local needs. For example, a Santa Fean who buys a book from Amazon pays 5.125 percent of the purchase price to cover state taxes, but she won’t be assessed the additional 3.3125 percent in local taxes to support city services.

Local governments have few options to correct this imbalance, but states are taking action.

Fighting for fairness

Businesses and elected officials are awaiting a U.S. Supreme Court ruling this summer in the case of South Dakota v. Wayfair Inc., which seeks to overturn a 1992 decision (Quill Corp v. North Dakota) that established current tax-collection ground rules for out-of-state retailers. Quill, an Illinois-based catalog retailer of office supplies, lacks a physical location in the state and successfully argued that it shouldn’t have to reimburse state taxes for benefits it doesn’t enjoy. The South Dakota case hopes to rescind the physical-presence requirement and bypass constitutional restrictions that empower only the federal government to regulate interstate commerce.

Barring a national remedy, New Mexico could reform its own laws to shift the tax burden from the seller’s location to the buyer’s, which would preempt the need to meet the physical-presence test and would affect all online sales — not just Amazon’s — to New Mexico consumers.

“That would be a paradigm shift,” said Randy Van Vleck, general counsel for the New Mexico Municipal League.
Supporting local business

Amid the myriad legal challenges to existing tax laws, the state is taking steps to level the playing field for local businesses required to charge higher GRT than online retailers.

A new state law encourages holiday shoppers in New Mexico to buy from local merchants on the Saturday after Thanksgiving by exempting qualifying purchases of less than $500 from the GRT. The law gives locals an incentive to support small, independent storefront retailers that have 10 or fewer employees.

Legislators hope that experience will prompt locals to take a closer look at the benefits of spending money closer to home year-round.

Customers who shop locally support small community businesses and the people who work for them. They also shoulder their share of the tax burden for the public services they use, including first responders, parks and community centers. It’s an important proposition because many cities, towns and villages derive as much as 85 percent of their annual revenue from GRT proceeds.


Finance New Mexico partners with the New Mexico Municipal League on the Grow It! project and other economic development initiatives. To learn more, go to www.FinanceNewMexico.org and www.GrowItNM.org.
A matter of minutes. That’s how long it took for a fire to destroy a Kansas apartment building in early 2017. In the next hour, it damaged 22 more homes. What caused this fire and allowed it to spread so quickly? A piece of metal overheated while being welded and caused some nearby concealed wood to catch fire. This took place in a building containing construction materials and chemicals. What could have been done to prevent such damage? A hot work permit system.

**Hot work is any work that produces heat or sparks, such as grinding, brazing, welding, cutting or smoldering. Hot work is most dangerous when it is done in an area not designed for hot work. In such areas, a permit should be required to reduce these hazards and risks to life and property loss.**
WHERE DO FIRES BEGIN?

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Peak areas</th>
<th>Home fires</th>
<th>Non-home incidents</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wall assemblies, concealed spaces,</td>
<td>Exterior roof surfaces, processing/</td>
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<td></td>
<td>bathrooms</td>
<td>manufacturing areas</td>
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<td>First ignited</td>
<td>Structural members, framing,</td>
<td>Flammable/combustible liquids, gasses,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>insulation</td>
<td>exterior roof coverings or finish</td>
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Source: National Fire Protection Association

HOT WORK PERMIT SYSTEM

A written hot work permit helps ensure that all precautions have been taken to reduce the risk of fire. Below are essential sections to include in any hot work permit:

PERMIT AUTHORIZATION: A hot work permit should contain but is not limited to the following information:

- The name of the employee or contractor authorized to perform the work.
- The location of the hot work area.
- The nature of the work to be performed.
- The issue date and expiration date of the permit.
- The signature of the authorizing supervisor.

Most organizations develop a hot work permit that can be used by both employees and contractors. When contractors are performing the hot work, the organization should provide additional supervision because the contractors are less familiar with the hazards of that location.

PERMIT POSTING: Hot work permits must be printed on highly visible color paper and posted in a public location in the work area. This lets everyone in the area, including both employees and contractors, know when hot work is in progress.

PRECAUTIONS AND SAFEGUARDS: The precautions and safeguards to take when performing hot work will vary in each situation. Before authorizing the permit and beginning work, verify that all hazards are controlled and precautions are taken in the hot work area. Some of the precautions or safeguards to evaluate before authorizing hot work are:

- Sprinklers, hoses and fire extinguishers are in the area and are in good working order.
- Hot work equipment is in good condition.
- No combustibles are within a recommended 35 feet of the hot work area.
- The area is clear of flammable dust and liquids.
- Areas and floors are clean and clear of debris.

Continued on page 20
Nearly 200 citizens from all state regions say reforms urgently needed to stem ‘brain drain,’ lift families out of poverty and improve healthcare outcomes

Albuquerque, N.M. – New Mexicans attending a statewide town hall on higher education this week delivered a dozen reform proposals for a system they said is not adequately preparing students for careers in the state.

Public policy organization New Mexico First convened its regular town hall, the organization’s 42nd, which invites residents from all over the state to converge on a chosen topic, discuss solutions and agree by consensus on a slate of reforms that New Mexico First then implements through legislation and other means. Some past town halls have discussed health-care, economic vitality and water.

This week’s town hall, entitled “Strengthening Higher Education and Tomorrow’s Workforce,” hosted nearly 200 New Mexicans on Tuesday and Wednesday in Albuquerque to discuss the state’s higher education and workforce development systems.

“Education changes lives, it changes families and it changes our future,” Heather Balas, president and executive director of New Mexico First, said. “New Mexicans know the impact of education and the urgency with which we need to make reforms, as evidenced by the hundreds of citizens in attendance who came from two-thirds of the state’s counties and representing rural, tribal and urban areas.”

Balas said higher education and workforce development are “inextricably connected” to the state’s high rate of poverty, years-long high unemployment rate and the outmigration of working-age adults, especially graduates of New Mexico colleges and universities.

“More can be done to align degrees and certificates with the abundance of job vacancies in the state,” Balas said. “A critical sector with an ongoing shortage of workers is healthcare, which limits residents’ access to health services. We had a group of participants focus specifically on how to fill the healthcare workforce pipeline with qualified workers.”

Bringing down barriers was a common theme that emerged from the half-dozen discussion groups, with each group focusing on a different topic. Collectively, groups said the state’s higher education system will benefit from greater collaboration between community colleges and universities, and making post-high school education more accessible will improve completion and career outcomes.

“Many of the state’s higher education institutions are written into our constitution, so they cannot be eliminated, and it was recently concluded by a task force that doing so would not help much,” Del Archuleta, one of two co-chairs heading up efforts to implement the town hall’s recommendations. “With only so much money to be shared by our universities and colleges, what we can do is find ways for them to collaborate so that New Mexico has a more cohesive educational system.”

Each of the six discussion groups was tasked with
crafting a vision statement at the beginning of the town hall. For example, the discussion group whose topic was titled “Student Success: High school preparedness and community college” envision that “[b]y 2028 New Mexico will lead the nation in high school and post-secondary enrollment and graduation rates. K-12 and post-secondary improvements, incorporating experiential and relevant learning has resulted in an increase in college and career readiness and living wages.”

Groups were then directed to propose two goals, each with three to five strategies on how to attain the goal. Goals and accompanying strategies had to receive a vote by the full town hall of 85 percent to move forward as a consensus-based recommendation.

Randy Grissom, a former Santa Fe Community College president and Archuleta’s implementation co-chair, said that detailed action plans of the recommendations will be determined in the coming months as the implementation committee and sub-committees convene.

“Our job, after the town hall, is to work with the committee to winnow down that list to a small set for which we can advocate to the Legislature,” Grissom said. “Implementing the full body of work created by the town hall will require even more New Mexicans’ rallying for these changes, and we will work with community leaders, educators, the media and others to get it accomplished. New Mexico’s future depends on it.”

The complete report on the town hall will be released later this month on the nonprofit’s website, nmfirst.org. Goals outlined by the town hall fall into three categories: student success in high school preparation, community colleges and universities; higher education institution governance and funding; and workforce alignment and integration, particularly in the energy and healthcare industries. Specific examples are:

- Improve the transition from high school to college.
- Create a highly qualified and diverse pool of K-12 teachers.
- Get all students off the good start in college by identifying risk factors early, reducing the use of remedial courses, and advancing top-notch instruction in the classroom.
- Provide more financial and advising support to college students so they meet their graduation and career goals.
- Meet the rapidly changing workforce needs of the energy sector by aligning education and training program with skills employers require.
- Make New Mexico a global leader for energy education and research.
- Improve collaboration between New Mexico’s colleges and universities, improving student success and reducing duplication.
- Strengthen the governance and accountability systems for New Mexico’s colleges and universities.
- Expand highly qualified workforce of health professionals, including physical, behavioral, dental and elder care providers.
- Ensure that New Mexico’s health workforce is highly diverse and culturally competent.
- Advance a governance system (such as a board or coalition) to manage coordination between employers, education entities, and government agencies to improve workforce training throughout all school.
- Improve career-based education for students of all ages.

“As a result of this town hall’s recommendations and the ensuing implementation over the next couple of years,” Balas said, “we are confident more New Mexicans will achieve fulfilling lives and sustaining and successful careers in New Mexico.”

Established in 1986, NM First offers unique town halls and forums that create recommendations for policymakers and the public. New Mexico First also produces nonpartisan reports on critical issues facing the state. These reports on topics like water, education, healthcare, economic development, and energy – are available at nmfirst.org.
The reservoir had been seldom used for drinking water due to a problem with its original design. The outlet for the reservoir was at the bottom, near the dam, where much of the sediment settled. As a consequence, the water drawn from Bradner had high levels of particulate matter, making the water impractical to purify.

The solution to the problem is the installation of an outlet tower, with a series of gates from top to bottom which will allow the city to draw upon whichever layer of water in the reservoir is cleanest at the time. Water treatment workers will have the ability to operate and control the gates remotely from the water treatment plant.

The reservoir was drained in 2015. This enabled the geological assessment which was needed to identify the most stable area in which to anchor the outlet tower, and that had to happen in order to begin the design phase.

The project also includes rehabilitation of the reservoir’s embankment and spillway.

The City of Las Vegas had been making due for years with the storage in Peterson Reservoir. Bradner’s capacity is 294 acre-feet, while Peterson’s is just under 200 acre-feet.

The City of Las Vegas also recently acquired 800 acre-feet of permanent water storage in Storrie Lake. Glorieta Geoscience, a hydrogeologic research firm, determined after extensive study, that the 800 acre-feet of additional storage is the maximum that the city is likely to use. Between the Bradner Reservoir renovation and the water storage in Storrie Lake, the city’s useable raw water storage capacity will be increased more than six-fold, from the 197 acre-feet in Peterson Reservoir to roughly 1,300 acre-feet of storage between the Bradner, Peterson and Storrie Reservoirs.
IN THE NEWS

STATE PREEMPTION OF LOCAL AUTHORITY CONTINUES TO RISE, ACCORDING TO NEW DATA FROM THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES

The National League of Cities (NLC), in partnership with state municipal leagues, has released an update to its report, *City Rights in an Era of Preemption*, that reveals state preemption of local authority is increasing throughout the country. From minimum wage to municipal broadband, the report illuminates the worsening trend of infringements on local democracy.

“People who live in cities and towns want control over their own destinies,” said National League of Cities (NLC) CEO and Executive Director Clarence E. Anthony. “When states take away the ability of local leaders to make decisions, the values and will of the people are ignored.”

More than half of all states now ban local efforts to combat inequality through minimum wage policy, while 23 states have denied local governments the power to enact paid sick leave policies. States have shut down local LGBTQ anti-discrimination ordinances, undermined efforts to advance environmental protection and stifled innovation by preventing cities from having a say on high-speed broadband.

NLC’s research analyzes state preemption bills and judicial activity in the areas of minimum wage, paid leave, anti-discrimination, ride hailing, home sharing, municipal broadband, and tax and expenditure limitations. Compared to last year, 19 new laws were passed that will prevent cities from helping their communities across these 7 policy areas.

Additional states preempted local governments in the following ways:

- 12 percent increase in minimum wage preemption laws (3 additional states for a total of 28)
- 21 percent increase in paid leave preemption laws (4 additional states for a total of 23)
- 11 percent increase in ride sharing preemption laws (4 additional states for a total of 41)
- 67 percent increase in home sharing preemption laws (2 additional states for a total of 5)
- 18 percent increase in municipal broadband preemption laws (3 additional states for a total of 20)

Increased preemption has been linked to lobbying efforts by special interests, the spatial sorting of political preferences between urban and rural areas, and single-party dominance in most state governments. As preemption proliferates, local leaders are prevented from keeping people safe, expanding rights, building stronger economies and promoting innovation.

“When state laws nullify municipal ordinances or authority, the loss of local control can have far-reaching economic and social impacts in communities,” said Brooks Rainwater, Senior Executive and Director, NLC’s Center for City Solutions. “Local control and city rights are priority number one. We know well that innovation happens in cities and then percolates upwards – this process should be celebrated not stymied.”

Divorcing decision-making from the wants and needs of community members in this way creates an environment that counters the values of local democracy. To ensure that the core values of community members are heard and reflected in the policies and priorities of government, NLC launched the Local Democracy Initiative, of which this report is a key component. NLC is also working to equip city leaders with tools and strategies to prevent and reverse preemption through peer learning, evidence-based research and policy development.
The National Complete Streets Coalition has recognized the City of Las Cruces for its collaborative efforts in developing one of the best complete streets initiatives in the U.S.

“The City of Las Cruces, NM is one of many cities across the U.S. creating a more mixed-use, accessible, and walkable community,” said a portion of report. “The key to their success? A Downtown Master Plan championed by local residents, business people, elected officials and city staff that recognizes the strong connection between land use, and transportation. Originally adopted back in 2004 and updated in 2013, and again in 2016, the Downtown Master Plan is a living document that reflects the community’s vision.”

Updates of the Las Cruces Downtown Master plan have kept it current, and the revised plan ensures it reflects the desires of the community. The most recent update, in 2016, involved five consecutive days of community discussions followed by several open houses during the next few months to refine the recommendations. The plan is impactful due to its focus on creating safe and convenient streets that serve people and not just cars.

Specifically, the plan calls for road diets that are converting one-way streets into two-way streets – a switch that slows car traffic and encourages more foot traffic, adding wider sidewalks, bike amenities, and a public plaza. These are considerations that will make it safer and easier for residents of Las Cruces to get to the places they want to go, whether by foot, bike, public transit, or car.

Las Cruces Community Development Director Larry Nichols is excited about the national attention the City has received.

“Las Cruces is making headlines,” Nichols said. “Thanks to all the staff input and forward thinking for a better Las Cruces, particularly with the recent initiative of the Active Transportation Plan.”

The “Best Complete Streets Policies Report” will be publicly released March 21.

The entire online report can be read online at: https://smartgrowthamerica.org/best-complete-streets-initiatives-las-cruces-nm/.
CONTINUING STORIES

Preventing Fires
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- Openings in the ceiling, floor or walls are protected.

FIRE WATCH: Watch for fire immediately after work has been completed, and continue for a minimum of 30 minutes. Fire watch personnel should not take breaks or lunch or leave for any other reason, unless they are relieved by another person. Some important things to remember are:

- The person on watch should be trained on and supplied with a fire extinguisher or equipment to stop or prevent a fire.
- The person on watch should be able to monitor all areas around where the hot work was performed, such as above, below and behind the work, to ensure that a fire does not start.
- Sign the permit and ensure that it stays posted after the fire watch is complete.
- The area should be monitored periodically after the initial 30 minutes to ensure that a fire has not started. The recommended amount of time for additional monitoring is 90 minutes.
- After periodic inspections, the authorizing personnel should do one final check and sign the permit. Retain the permit per company policy.

EMPLOYEE TRAINING: Employees involved in hot work operations should receive training on the hot work permit system. All hot work training should happen upon hire and as needed in case of any deficiencies. Document all training with the names of the employees and trainer as well as the date.

Hot work permit systems dramatically reduce the number of work-site fires, which ultimately can prevent death, injuries and property damage. Lockton’s Loss Control team can assist you in putting a permit system in place to avoid employee injury and property loss.

Additional resources
  - https://www.emcins.com/losscontrol/insights-d/2016/06/hotwork-losses/

Roswell Library
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film around the theme Earth Day. Stop motion is a cinematographic technique whereby the camera is repeatedly stopped and started, for example to give animated figures the impression of movement. Young patrons received a presentation on a very brief history of animation, from black-and-white films, cartoons, animation and stop-motion films. They were instructed on how to use the free iOS app iMotion to capture their shots and string them together to create a motion picture. The science and engineering aspects were addressed by having each participant choose a subject pertaining to how to keep the earth healthy and do research using books, then create a storyboard and use materials to make their idea come to life. Math was used when counting frames to help figure out how long their film would be and how many shots it would take to make their objects appear to move.

Lastly, the library provided an educational and creative outlet on the importance of writing letters for National Card and Letter Writing Month. Based around the book and templates from “Happy Mail: Keep in touch with cool & stylish handmade snail mail!” by Eunice Moyle of HelloLucky, children received a lesson on how to address a letter and an envelope to send by mail. With all the technology and its common distractions, writing a letter or sending a personal card re-humanizes human interaction and helps to reinforce relationships. Each participant had the opportunity to write a letter or postcard, then decorate and address an envelope to send to someone.

The Roswell Public Library continues to strive to provide free educational programs that reinforce creative expression and encourage life-long learning.
motion. Neither the recording clerk nor any member of the body should hesitate to request clarification of the motion. Remember, this is going into the official record.

Main motions: all subsidiary motions require a second before action on the motion can proceed. A second merely implies that another member agrees that the motion should come before the meeting and not that the member necessarily favors the motion. The requirement of a second is for the chair's guidance as to whether the chair should state the question, thus placing it before the body. Its purpose is to prevent time from being consumed by the body's having to dispose of a motion that only one person wants to see introduced.

Before a question is ready for debate and discussion, it must be stated by the chair. Stating the question is simply the chair repeating the motion as it was made and seconded. By stating the motion, the motion becomes the property of the body and is now ready for discussion, debate and resolution.

NEXT MONTH: WHAT ARE THESE MOTIONS AND WHAT DO THEY MEAN?
IN MEMORIAM

Los Lunas Village Councilor Paulette Sanchez-Montoya died at 4:24 p.m. Sunday, April 15, after a long illness. She was 61 years old.

A devoted mother and grandmother, Paulette was home surrounded by her husband and children, as well as her extended family when she passed.

In March 2014, she ran for and won the District 4 seat. Last month, she ran for re-election and was unopposed.

It is with deepest sympathy we announce that our employee, co-worker and friend, Georgina “Gina” Monte, was taken home to be with our Lord on April 3, 2018. Gina’s beautiful smile and contagious giggle brought so much joy to our lives. Gina was a kind and gentle soul. She made friends with everyone she came in contact with. Gina will forever be in our hearts and memories.

If you would like to make a donation to help cover funeral expenses, you may do so at Village Hall.

LiUNA! Local 16 BUILDs NEW MEXICO

LiUNA Local 16 partners with responsible contractors, public and private entities, elected officials, and community groups to build and maintain the infrastructure needs of communities throughout New Mexico while providing residents a career in the construction industry.
TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

TRAINING FOR ASSOCIATION TREASURERS

We are very excited to announce that we will offer a training customized to the duties of a treasurer. If you are currently a treasurer or are interested in serving your association as treasurer in the future, this training is for you!

- When: Wednesday, May 23rd, 2018 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- Where: Holiday Park Community Center, 11710 Comanche Rd NE

We will discuss topics such as:
- what it means to be a treasurer
- what to consider when picking a bank
- what to expect when setting up a bank account
- how to give a successful financial statement report
- how to reconcile a bank statement
- the importance of creating a budget
- suggestions for a smooth transition between incoming and outgoing treasurers

We’d love to customize this training to your needs so if you have specific questions that you’d like addressed let us know so we can get those questions to the trainer. If you feel comfortable in your duties as a treasurer we encourage you to come and share your insights and experiences with the rest of the group.

Space is limited so please RSVP. Light refreshments will be provided.

(Stay tuned for upcoming trainings such as: 501(c)/non-profit/incorporation; all things technology; and customized trainings for secretaries, presidents, and vice-presidents.)

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Website: www.cabq.gov/neighborhoods

MEDIA RELATIONS & PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER TRAINING

The New Mexico Department of Transportation will sponsor a Media Relations & Public Information Officer Training on Thursday, May 10 and Friday, May 11, 2018 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the New Mexico Broadcasters Association office, 2333 Wisconsin St., NE, Albuquerque. The training is free and lunch is provided for participants. Instructors for the seminars will be Melanie Majors of the New Mexico Broadcasters Association and Kevin Bruno, retired New Mexico State Police lieutenant.

During the two-day class you will learn:
- spokesperson preparation
- how to develop key messages for traditional and social media
- work with the media to broadcast your message
- understand the rules of engagement, and
- master effective delivery of your message

You’ll participate in exercises, hear from media experts and practice your interview techniques on-camera. Plus, law enforcement officers will earn 14 hours of NMLEA credits.

For information call Melanie J. Majors at (505) 881-4444 or (800) 622-2414, fax (505) 881-5353 or e-mail: melaniemajors@nmba.org