



THE TRUTH WELL TOLD

Weekend

June 7-8, 2025

Number 133 | Volume 138



Sunny
Winds SW 5-12

HI 87 LO 49
Feels Like: 85

Monday

Independent



GALLUP, NEW MEXICO 87301 ©2025 THE GALLUP INDEPENDENT CO. https://www.gallupindependent.com PHONE 505-863-6811 PER COPY \$1.50

County reassesses risks, strategies in event of disaster

By Independent staff

GALLUP — McKinley County Office of Emergency management announced Wednesday that they have begun their five-year update of the McKinley County Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

The plan refers to a countywide plan that assesses risks and vulnerabilities from both natural and human-caused disasters and outlines strategies to reduce potential damage and loss of life.

Risk assessment

The planning process assists the county, City of Gallup, and Gallup-McKinley County

Schools to identify the natural hazards that impact each community. In addition, the plan will analyze the risks and prioritize actions that can be taken to reduce that risk. Examples of natural hazard mitigation projects are hazardous fuels reduction, such as “wildfire thinning,” drainage improvements; erosion control and public outreach.

The Planning Team is made up of representatives from the County, City of Gallup, and Gallup-McKinley County Schools. The team meets monthly to revise the 2021 version of the plan. Later this summer, the County will establish a mitigation planning web page to provide the status of the mitigation plan update process and share information related to the effort.

Community input

In the fall, community members will be invited to provide feedback and input on the draft plan after the Planning Team prepares the update. When the update is finished, a community open house will be held for in-person participation. The draft plan will be available online for digital comments to be submitted.

Adoption of the plan by the governing bodies is anticipated to occur after the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provides the ‘Approval Pending Adoption.’ Having the approved hazard mitigation plan provides each jurisdiction with a federal government-approved and locally adopted plan, which will support grant applications to imple-

ment natural hazard risk reduction activities. The approved plan is a requirement for FEMA hazard mitigation grant funding and can serve as supporting documentation for other funding opportunities.

If individuals should have questions, or would like to discuss the mitigation planning, they are welcome to contact:

- McKinley County Office of Emergency Management Emergency Manager Adam Berry adam.berry@co.mckinley.nm.us
- City of Gallup Fire Chief/Emergency Manager Jon Pairett jpairett@gallupnm.gov
- Gallup-McKinley County Schools, 505-721-1000

Judge: AmeriCorps must restore grant funding, members to states that sued over cuts

By Hannah Fingerhut
Associated Press

The Trump administration must restore hundreds of millions of dollars in AmeriCorps grant funding and thousands of service workers in about two dozen states, a federal judge ruled Thursday.

U.S. District Judge Deborah L. Boardman granted a temporary block on the agency’s cancellation of grants and early discharge of corps members, but only for the

Arizona man charged with 4th DWI

By Christina Tsosie
Managing Editor
ctosie@gallupindependent.com

GALLUP — An Arizona man is facing his fourth aggravated DWI charge and a slew of other charges after he was seen failing to stay in his lane.



Curley

Matthew E. Curley, 43, of Lupton, Arizona, is charged with aggravated DWI (0.16 or above); possession of an open container; failure to maintain traffic lane; and failure to register or Title a vehicle as required.

On June 1 at 1:43 a.m., New Mexico State Police Patrolman Irvonne Bahe was patrolling Carbon Coal Road heading east

‘Don’t just sit around, move’

