

KANW/KANM/KIDS/KANR/KGGA/KEDP

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Description of Issue	Program/Segment	Date	Time	Duration	Narrative description of Program or Segment
Transgender population faces issues from lack of legal protection, poverty, harassment, stigma, Anti transgender violence, barriers to healthcare, identity documents	PSA	On-Going			The Transgender Resource Center of New Mexico, is dedicated to serving the transgender communities in the state of New Mexico and strives to exist as a clearing house for resources which can support, assist, educate, and advocate for the transgender and gender non-conforming population of this state and their families and loved ones. For more information visit tgrcnm.org
Lack of space for groups working on peace and justice issues could support and network with one another.	PSA	On-Going			The Albuquerque Center for Peace and Justice provides resources and space for organizations and individuals working on peace and justice issues to network with one another and share information. The center works to support regional and global justice. For more information call 268-9557
Civil liberties, civil rights and constitutional freedom in New Mexico	PSA	On-Going			The American Civil Liberties Union of New Mexico works to maintain and advance the cause of civil liberties, civil rights and constitutional freedom in New Mexico. For volunteer or membership information visit aclu-nm.org.
Poverty, access to food, clean water and shelter, health care, education,	PSA	On-Going			The New Mexico Center on Law and Poverty is dedicated to advancing economic and social justice through education, advocacy and litigation. The Center works with low-income New Mexicans to improve living conditions, increase opportunities and protect the rights of people living in poverty. For more information visit nmpovertylaw.org

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Drinking and services regarding recovering alcoholics	PSA	On-Going			If your drinking is causing issues with your family, your health, and the community, contact Alcoholics anonymous. You will find a fellowship of men & women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other. For information call 266-1900
Eliminate hunger, poverty, & war	PSA	On-Going			Food Not Bombs is seeking a world free of hunger, poverty, exploitation, war and environmental destruction. For information about Food Not Bombs call 575-770-3377.
Addiction to prescription and illegal drugs	PSA	On-Going			Healing Addition in our Community advocates for individuals and families who struggle with addition. For information on in-state and out-of-state agencies, information on medications like Suboxone and Naloxone, therapists, doctors and more visit healingadditionnm.org
Child, family hunger in New Mexico	PSA	On-Going			The Roadrunner Food Bank has drop off locations for non-perishable food donations throughout the KANW listening Area, to find a drop off location near you visit kanw.com
Child care and family support	PSA	On-Going			For information on child care, home visiting, community engagement and support for parents visit pulltogether.org or call 800-691-9067
Violence, employment discrimination, poverty, health care	PSA	On-Going			NMGLBT for a list of upcoming events, information, and discussion about the GLBT community in New Mexico contact, NMGLBT Resources. The online address is nmglbt.org
New Mexico Vaccines	Report from Santa Fe	22-Sep-25	9:30AM	0:27:51	Dr. Miranda Durham discusses vaccines and how to stay healthy during respiratory infection season. Vaccines in NM and recommendations for children and families.

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Universal Child Care	Report from Santa Fe	15-Sep-25	9:30AM	0:27:38	Elizabeth Groginsky, Cabinet Secretary for Early Childhood Education, discusses no-cost universal child care for all families regardless of income.
Public Service	Report from Santa Fe	29-Sep-25	9:30AM	0:28:34	Ambassador (ret.) Tom Udall & Jill Cooper Udall discussing statesmanship & diplomacy, advocacy of native communities round the world.
Flooding in New Mexico Update	Report from Santa Fe	9/1/2025	9:30AM	0:28:11	A new interview with Lt. Gov. Howie Morales, with an update on floods and fires in Silver City.
Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA)	Report from Santa Fe	7/14/2025	9:30AM	0:26:42	This week's guest is Tina Cordova, co-founder of the Tularosa Basin Downwinders Consortium. Recent signing of RECA Act and how New Mexican's will benefit.
Public Lands in New Mexico	Report from Santa Fe	7/28/2025	9:30AM	0:28:17	Stephanie Garcia Richard describes her work to protect and preserve New Mexico's public lands. As Land Commissioner, Stephanie is focused on raising as much money as possible while always keeping an eye toward stewardship and preserving the land for generations to come. We can diversify the revenue that comes into the Land Office by tripling the number of renewable energy projects, promoting outdoor recreation, and encouraging new and innovative commercial development on state trust land. With the largest continuous oil and gas resources potential ever assessed in the world sitting in Southeast New Mexico, and land that is prime for wind and solar development, Commissioner Garcia Richard is committed to working to make more money for New Mexico while protecting the health of our land.

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New Mexico Drug Problems	Report from Santa Fe	8/3/2025	9:30AM	0:28:02	Michael S. Vigil, former Chief of International Operations for the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).
Wildfires in New Mexico	Report from Santa Fe	9/7/2025	9:30AM	0:28:02	Chris Schaum, wildfire mitigation specialist, discusses wildfires, insurance and more. How to mitigate wildfires in New Mexico.
Vaccines	KANW News	9/8/2025	5:06AM	0:02:26	The widening debate over vaccine mandates in the U.S. and recent moves to get rid of them for schoolchildren in Florida are pushing some states to take steps to protect vaccines for children and adults. Massachusetts said this week that insurance carriers will be required to cover vaccinations recommended by the state's health department. Democratic governors in Washington, Oregon and California announced that they have created an alliance to establish their own recommendations for who should receive vaccines. Also this week Colorado and Pennsylvania took action to protect the availability of COVID-19 vaccines for their residents.
Food Insecurities	KANW News	9/8/2025	8:06AM	0:03:06	Recent federal cuts will impact thousands of families relying on food banks, hunger advocates told lawmakers Thursday during the Legislature's interim Economic and Rural Development Committee meeting in Farmington. Officials from the state's largest food banks said earlier this month that charities and other programs will have less food to feed longer lines of hungry people, especially with 40,000 New Mexicans expected to lose Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits in the new Congressional spending bill.

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FEMA	KANW News	9/1/2025	12:05 AM	0:02:02	The Trump administration has floated the idea of downsizing or even eliminating the Federal Emergency Management Agency, but a new poll shows the majority of Americans think the government has a role to play when disaster strikes. The nation's leading disaster relief agency poured millions into New Mexico after a massive wildfire in 2022, and Brian Kennedy, senior researcher at the Pew Research Center, said in its latest poll, 64% of Americans said they believe the federal government should provide money to help local communities recover from a disaster. "Large shares of Democrats and Republicans say that it's a good idea to set stricter building standards in these communities," he said. "And similarly, majorities say it's a good idea for the government to provide financial assistance for people in high-risk areas to rebuild." President Donald Trump has suggested FEMA could be "phased out" after this year's hurricane season, forcing states to cover their own disaster relief costs. New Mexico's massive Hermits Peak/Calf Canyon Fire was triggered by two separate prescribed burns conducted by the U.S. Forest Service. As of 2024, FEMA had paid claimants nearly \$2 billion for the negative outcome.
Regional Issues in News	KANW MWNB News	9/15/2025	9:00AM & 6PM	0:29:51	Weekly regional news in review, rural dr exodus, midwives, methane risk, fire prevention, farmers, conversation rules.
Regional Issues in News	KANW MWNB News	9/22/2025	9:00AM & 6PM	0:22:04	National Park funding, Robotic Bear and keep people safe, USDA and USDI Wildfire consolidations, RECA Claims, NMUnviersial Child Care, Fair Imapces on State and communities. Abandoned Miens, Wave Energy
Regional Issues in News	KANW MWNB News	9/28/2025	9:00AM & 6PM	0:26:12	Whitebark Pine, Winter Outlook, Baby Planet discovery, XCEL Settles 2021 March Fire, Nuclear energy, Armed Guardians in schools, Fire Grants, radioactive release LANL, RECA Claims, LGBTQ+ Health,
Flooding in New Mexico Update	KANW News	7/11/2025	5:06AM & 7:06AM	0:03:08	The governor of New Mexico says the loss of three lives to flash flooding in the mountain village of Ruidoso is “unfathomable and unfair.” Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham spoke Thursday at a news briefing that revealed more homes were damaged in the flooding Tuesday than initially thought. Elected officials meanwhile said the area should be getting an infusion of federal aid to help guard against future flooding. And they warned local residents they remain at risk because more torrential rain is forecast. Congresswoman Melanie Stansbury is urging people to follow emergency orders, saying “we cannot lose another life.”

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FEMA	KANW News	7/21/2025	9:04AM	0:01:28	Just before Christmas last year, Federal Judge James O. Browning issued a 99-page ruling that determined FEMA had wrongly refused to pay victims of the state’s biggest-ever wildfire for “noneconomic damages,” which are payments aimed at compensating victims for the emotional toll the fire and ensuing floods caused. Congress in late 2022 enacted the Hermits Peak-Calf Canyon Fire Assistance Act, which tasks FEMA with “fully compensating” victims of a wildfire that the United States Forest Service accidentally ignited in spring 2022 in two botched prescribed burns. Congress has given FEMA nearly \$5.5 billion for victims, minus about \$380 million in expected administrative costs. Browning’s ruling came more than a year after wildfire victims sued FEMA for refusing to pay for “noneconomic damages” and nine months after the New Mexico Attorney General’s Office issued a formal opinion saying the payments were allowable under New Mexico state law, which was one element of the lawsuit.
Flooding in New Mexico Update	KANW News	7/28/2025	5:04AM	0:01:02	It has been mostly dry across almost all of New Mexico today, with the exception of a few spotty afternoon storms. This will be the same story on Sunday, but with a couple more storms in southern and southeastern parts of the state. A surge of monsoon moisture will move back into New Mexico early next week. This will increase rain chances into the middle of next week. Most of New Mexico will see rain chances return, except for east-central and southeast New Mexico, where high pressure will keep things drier. Temperatures will also cool off for most with the increase in moisture and rain. The rain will also bring back a threat of flash flooding by the middle of week.

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Wildfires in New Mexico	KANW News	7/28/2025	6:05AM	0:02:58	Despite the Trump administration’s public pronouncements that it has hired enough wildland firefighters, documents obtained by ProPublica show a high vacancy rate, as well as internal concern among top officials as more than 1 million acres burn across 10 states. Less than a month ago, Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins announced that the Trump administration had done a historically good job preparing the nation for the summer fire season. “We are on track to meet and potentially exceed our firefighting hiring goals,” said Rollins, during an address to Western governors. Rollins oversees the wildland firefighting workforce at the U.S. Forest Service, a sub agency of the Department of Agriculture. Rollins had noted in her remarks that the administration had exempted firefighters from a federal hiring freeze, and she claimed that the administration was outdoing its predecessor: “We have reached 96% of our hiring goal, far outpacing the rate of hiring and onboarding over the past three years and in the previous administration. "Since then, the Forest Service’s assertions have gotten even more optimistic: The agency now claims it has reached 99% of its firefighting hiring goal. But according to internal data obtained by ProPublica, Rollins’ characterization is dangerously misleading. She omitted a wave of resignations from the agency this spring and that many senior management positions remain vacant. Layoffs by the Department of Government Efficiency, voluntary deferred resignations and early retirements have severely hampered the wildland firefighting force. According to the internal national data, which has not been previously reported, more than 4,500 Forest Service firefighting jobs — as many as 27% — remained vacant as of July 17. A Forest Service employee who is familiar with the data said it comes from administrators who input staffing information into a computer tool used to create organization charts. The employee said that while the data could contain inaccuracies in certain forests, it broadly reflects the agency’s desired staffing levels. The employee said the data showing “active” unfilled positions was “current and up-to-date for last week. "The Department of Agriculture disputes that assessment, but the figures are supported by anecdotal accounts from wildland firefighters in New Mexico, Oregon, Washington, California and Wyoming. According to a recent survey by Forest Service fire managers in California, 26% of engine captain positions and 42% of engineer positions were vacant. A veteran Forest Service firefighter in California characterized the Trump administration’s current estimate of the size of its firefighting workforce as “grossly inaccurate.”

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Flooding in New Mexico Update	KANW News	7/10/2025	7:05AM & 10:05AM	0:03:28	Ruidoso is preparing for another round of monsoon rains as it tries to dig out from historic flooding that killed a man and two children. Dozens of homes have been damaged and crews scrambled Wednesday to clear mud and debris from Ruidoso's streets and culverts. Authorities say the damage assessments will likely take several days. The Rio Ruidoso swelled to about 20 feet Tuesday after more than 3 inches of rain fell in 90 minutes across a burn scar left by a severe wildfire last year. The community has been repeatedly hit by wildfires and flooding over recent years. Ruidoso Mayor Lynn Crawford says it could have been much worse but that people heeded warnings to get to high ground.
Vaccines	KANW News	7/17/2025	6:05AM & 11:05AM	0:01:36	Health officials in Illinois and North Dakota say their measles outbreaks are over. The U.S. added 21 new cases since July 9. States with active outbreaks include Arizona, Colorado, Georgia, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas and Utah. Two elementary school-aged children and an adult have died from measles this year. Measles is caused by a highly contagious virus that's airborne. It is preventable through vaccines and has been considered eliminated from the U.S. since 2000. This year's U.S. tally is the highest since 1991.
Flooding in New Mexico Update & FEMA	KANW News	7/24/2025	5:05AM & 8:05AM	0:02:15	President Donald Trump signed a major disaster declaration for flooding in Ruidoso, the Federal Emergency Management Agency announced Wednesday. Flooding earlier this month in Lincoln County killed three people and damaged hundreds of homes in the village. Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham was quick to welcome the additional resources provided by the declaration. "The federal declaration delivers the action we sought for a community that has shown incredible resilience through repeated disasters," Lujan Grisham said in a statement. "The people of Lincoln County deserve every resource we can provide, and we will continue working until every family and business in New Mexico has fully recovered." FEMA announced Wednesday José M. Gil Montañez would be the federal coordinating officer leading recovery operations in the area. Montañez was previously appointed by President Joe Biden to lead the response to flooding in Chaves County last year. Individuals, households and businesses in Lincoln County can apply for financial assistance at disasterassistance.gov or by calling 800-621-3362.

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RECA	KANW News	7/8/2025	10:06AM & 5:05AM	0:03:02	It’s been a long time coming in the fight for to compensate more people sickened by radiation exposure in the name of national security in the U.S. No one knows that better than Tina Cordova, who began the Tularosa Basin Downwinders Consortium in 2005. “The bill that passed is an amazing and monumental happening. This is a historic event,” she said. “We started our organization 20 years ago. It took five years to finally get Congress to listen to what we were saying about the damage that was done to the people of New Mexico.” For years, New Mexicans living near the Trinity Site have been suffering from radiation exposure. They aren’t alone as people near the Church Rock site, close to Gallup, have too. “I think people right now are feeling a great deal of relief, relief that there’s finally going to be acknowledgement,” Cordova said. While Cordova has been waiting for this day, she believed she always knew this day would come. “I don’t think we’re in a better or worse place this year than we were last year,” Cordova said. “I believe, and I always believed, that someday the stars would align just perfectly.” It took her voice and many others to finish this race. “I know that Senator (Josh) Hawley from Missouri, who is Republican, worked very, very hard with his Republican colleagues to make sure that they understand,” Cordova said. “And so we’re grateful for the work that Senator Hawley did. But let me just remind everybody, without our five members of Congress... who represented us so well, who never allowed this to die, who never stopped talking about the importance of this, we wouldn’t have made it to the finish line.” New Mexico’s congressional delegation supported the inclusion of RECA on the “One Big Beautiful Bill.” However, they did not vote in favor of the bill as a whole. U.S. Sen. Martin Heinrich told us earlier Congress should’ve voted on RECA separately. He said, “we shouldn’t be confronting injustice by inflicting new harm.” For Cordova, it doesn’t feel like she fully won.
Flooding in New Mexico Update	KANW News	7/15/2025	5:05AM & 8:05AM	0:01:56	The National Weather Service issued a flash flood warning for Ruidoso where “rapidly rising floodwaters” were reported in multiple areas. The Village of Ruidoso urged people in the Upper Canyon and Brady Canyon areas to get to higher ground or shelter in place on higher ground. They encouraged people “not [to] cross low water points or water over the road. ”At 104 PM MDT, Doppler radar indicated thunderstorms producing heavy rain over the South Fork Burn Scar. Rainfall amounts of 0.5 to 1 inch are possible in the warned area. Flash flooding is ongoing or expected to being shortly,” the warning read. The warning comes one day shy of a week since flooding devastated Ruidoso and left three people dead.

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Flooding in New Mexico Update	KANW News	7/29/2025	7:05AM & 12:05PM	0:02:09	Like many people in Ruidoso, Gary Garland does not have flood insurance. After floodwaters in the Rio Ruidoso rose to a record-breaking 20 feet this month, Garland’s two properties sustained “serious” damage, he said, totaling between \$50,000 and \$100,000. He plans to fix everything himself. "We lost washers and dryers and refrigerators and ranges, all furniture, anything that was on the lower floor,” Garland said. Garland is among 96% of homeowners nationwide who aren’t insured for floods, according to a Federal Emergency Management Agency estimate. Flood coverage is not typically included in standard property plans, and can be costly, confusing or simply overlooked, experts say. As extreme weather becomes more frequent across the planet, many homeowners are left to shoulder devastating losses on their own when floodwaters rise. In Ruidoso, floods swept trees, parked cars and entire houses downstream and killed three people — a 64-year-old man and two children, a brother and sister, ages 7 and 4. Garland said he has never seen such torrential flooding in his 45 years living in the Sierra Blanca mountain town. On Thursday, the federal government declared the floods in Lincoln County a major disaster. "They're all saying this one here was the big one,” Garland said, “but with global warming, I don’t know that this is not going to be a regular occurrence.”
Vaccines	KANW News	7/9/2025	9:05AM	0:01:31	The United States has reached its highest annual measles case tally in 33 years, hitting at least 1,277 confirmed cases across 38 states and the District of Columbia. The milestone marks a public health reversal in defeating a highly contagious, vaccine-preventable disease as the anti-vaccine movement gains strength. The nation surpassed infections reported in 2019, reaching the largest number of cases since 1992, when officials recorded more than 2,100 infections, according to data published Friday from the Johns Hopkins University Center for Outbreak Response Innovation. "It's devastating,” said Claire Hannan, executive director of the Association of Immunization Managers, a national organization of state and local immunization officials. “We worked so hard to eliminate the threat of measles and to keep it at bay. "Authorities said at least 155 people have been hospitalized and three people have died of measles-related complications this year. The dead include two otherwise healthy children in Texas and a man in New Mexico, all of who were unvaccinated. In contrast, only three measles deaths were reported between 2001 and 2024, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. About 92% of measles cases in 2025 were in people who were either unvaccinated or whose vaccination status was unknown, according to the CDC.

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Flooding in New Mexico Update	KANW News	7/16/2025	5:05AM & 11:05AM	0:01:55	Emergency managers in Ruidoso reported three flash flood impacts Monday afternoon in the Ruidoso area following a new round of warnings and evacuations in the region still reeling from deadly floods last week. Around 2 p.m. meteorologists and local officials urged the public to seek higher ground in Ruidoso and the Mescalero Apache Reservation. The National Weather Service issued a flash flood warning for the South Fork Fire burn scar until 4 p.m., saying slow-moving thunderstorms had formed over the area. Echoing the warning, the Village of Ruidoso Facebook page told residents that “This is a dangerous and life threatening situation. Do not attempt to travel unless you are fleeing an area subject to flooding or under an evacuation order. "The impact of the flash floods remained unclear as of Monday afternoon.. NWS data shows emergency managers reported three separate roads were flooded or covered in debris between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m., including Cedar Creek Drive and Main Road and a third, unspecified road in the southern part of town that had to be closed due to debris.
Flooding in New Mexico Update	KANW News	7/23/2025	6:05AM	0:02:26	Two weeks after deadly flooding in Ruidoso, residents are still picking up the pieces. Each day, many people have been visiting one of the hardest hit areas – the Gavilan Mobile Home Park – to see what they can salvage. However, the park’s manager said she had to break some bad news to several of them. As of Monday, they can’t live there anymore. "They were trying to still stay and sleep in their trailer and we found out about it. And my husband told them they had to go. It’s too dangerous, because water will come again,” said Monda Milton, who has managed the mobile home park with her husband for 14 years. Milton is still cleaning up too.

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Vaccines	KANW News	7/23/2025	5:06AM & 11:05AM	0:01:25	New Mexico health officials Tuesday confirmed Santa Fe’s first case of measles: an unvaccinated child who contracted the virus during travel. The latest case brings the state’s total number of cases to 96, since the outbreak began in mid-February. Health officials also warned that people may have been exposed at an Albuquerque Amusement park last week during the following times and date:11 a.m. – 8 p.m. on Thursday, July 17 at Cliff’s Amusement Park at 4800 Osuna Road NW.Santa Fe makes the ninth county with identified measles cases, joining Chaves, Curry, Doña Ana, Eddy, Lea, Luna, San Juan and Sandoval counties. New Mexico Department of Health officials urged any people recently at the location to check their vaccination statuses and report any symptoms that develop in the next three weeks to health care providers. "Every new case, including those that are a result of travel elsewhere, is a reminder that measles is a highly contagious virus,” NMDOH Chief Medical Officer Dr. Miranda Durham said in a statement. “Thankfully New Mexicans are responding to the call to get a measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine, the best defense against measles. "Health care providers say the vaccine is the only effective prevention against the spread of the highly contagious respiratory virus. Measles symptoms can develop between one to three weeks from exposure and include fever, cough, red eyes and a spotted red rash usually spreading across the face and across the body. People can spread measles in the days before and after symptoms appear. Severe complications from measles, including pneumonia, occur in about one in five cases.
Flooding in New Mexico Update	KANW News	8/1/2025	8:05AM	0:01:35	The Village of Ruidoso hasn’t been able to catch a break all summer – The National Weather Service issued a flash flood warning Thursday for the Ruidoso area as showers and storms are hitting the burn scar areas. The warning is in effect until 3:30 p.m. Social media video from Jesus Figueroa shows flooding in the Upper Canyon area in the midday hours. Many residents say they’re exhausted. The sudden, intense flooding is happening almost weekly. Fortunately, no one was seriously hurt Wednesday. Village leadership said Lincoln County crews rescued one person. Leaders also told KOB 4 crews rescued a 60-year-old woman from the Cherokee Mobile Village, which sits along U.S. Highway 70. It’s an area that typically floods now because it’s near the Salt Fire burn scar. KOB 4 gathered what people in the village were saying on social media during the flooding Wednesday. Some people criticized leaders, claiming officials and state leaders have ignored that area. Brian Schamber says the culverts next to the Cherokee Village are too small. He said he tried donating barriers or digging the ditch deeper but was told he couldn’t do either. He also claims the Ruidoso Downs Racetrack and Casino received \$34 million for repairs – while residents haven’t received a dime. Flooding hit the Downs again Wednesday, leaving the track barely recognizable – save for the white railing to indicate where the track once was.

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Vaccines	KANW News	8/4/2025	5:05AM	0:02:14	On Friday afternoon, the New Mexico Department of Health announced that a child from another state had visited New Mexico while infected with measles and might have exposed other people at a few locations in Santa Fe — including the popular interactive Meow Wolf installation: House of Eternal Return.NMDOH says people may have been exposed during the following times and days at the following locations:10:45 a.m. to 3:45 p.m., Saturday, July 26, Meow Wolf, 1352 Rufina Circle, Santa Fe10:00 p.m. Friday, July 25 to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, July 26. The Hampton Inn, 3430 Cerrillos Road, Santa FeThe department says people who have recently been at any location should check check their vaccination status and report any measles symptoms in the next 21 days to their health care providers.The out-of-state resident’s infection does not count toward New Mexico’s total measles case count, which remains at 96.“Summer travel can increase the risk of catching measles,” NMDOH medical epidemiologist Dr. Chad Smelser said in a statement. “We urge New Mexicans to be sure they are up to date with the measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccination before traveling.According to the state, 46,145 New Mexicans received the MMR vaccination between Feb. 1 and July 31.
Food Insecurities	KANW News	8/7/2025	5:06AM	0:00:54	New Mexico has temporarily expanded SNAP benefits for residents impacted by disaster to allow them to purchase hot and ready-to-eat foods from deli departments. The temporary change applies to customers in Lincoln, Chaves, De Baca, Guadalupe, Otero, Sierra, Socorro, and Torrance counties and will remain in effect through Aug. 30. When disaster happens, families shouldn’t have to worry about how they’re going to put a hot meal on the table,” Kyra Ochoa, deputy secretary for the Health Care Authority, said in a news release. “The ability to buy ready-to-eat, warm meals for themselves and their families can make a significant difference as they navigate tough circumstances.” The waiver applies only to deli departments at EBT-authorized retailers and does not include restaurants or non-EBT-authorized retailers.

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Flooding in New Mexico Update	KANW News	8/5/2025	10:05AM & 5:05AM	0:02:21	Even though flooding has briefly let up, the Village of Ruidoso and surrounding areas continue to face significant impacts to daily life from floods late last week, including water and sewer outages; impassable roads; and the rescue of three people trapped in their cars. Between July 30 and Aug. 1, the National Weather Service compiled 21 impact reports regarding flash floods and debris flows in Lincoln County. That included several overrun bridges, a car stuck in the mud and a flooded horse tunnel, in addition to the water rescues. While the village’s Public Works Department “has been working around the clock to restore services after each flood event, we face the ongoing challenge of new flood events that can undo repair progress and create additional damage to our infrastructure,” officials posted on Facebook. Officials called on residents to conserve water and said they were prioritizing critical water systems as they continue to deal with repeated floods and debris flows that “are testing our infrastructure in ways we haven’t experienced before.”

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Flooding in New Mexico Update	KANW News	8/19/2025	7:05AM	0:01:53	The Albuquerque National Weather Service office has issued more than 180 flash flood warnings — and counting — this year. Todd Shoemake, a meteorologist for the Albuquerque office, said the office is “on pace” to rival the record number of warnings issued last year at 278. Shoemake attributes the rise in warnings issued with a rise in observed flooding events. As of Aug. 15, the office has observed over 200 flooding events. “Our office will issue the Flash Flood Warning 20-40 minutes before flooding is actually observed for any given location,” Shoemake said in an email. “Sometimes, a Flash Flood Warning may be issued and there are multiple instances of flooding observed within the area covered by that particular warning. Additionally, there has been a rise in burn scar related flooding. In the Ruidoso area, the South Fork and Salt fires burned a combined 24,754 acres. There have been 166 preliminary observed flooding events and 27 alerts issued for the area this year. Michael Martinez, deputy village manager for Ruidoso, said the village expects the burn scars to impact flooding for the next seven years to a decade. The village has released a new alert system for residents and visitors, and has partnered with businesses on higher ground to create safe zones should lower areas in the village be flooded. But Martinez said more permanent flood mitigation efforts are taking more time. “A lot of residents right now are very aware of the impacts now of the water and what that water (means) to the community, specifically around the river,” Martinez said. “I think we as a village are actively looking for possible buyout programs the federal government is rolling out. Those haven’t been really made available yet from (the Federal Emergency Management Agency) or (the National Resources Conservation Service), or other federal agencies. “The Albuquerque NWS office covers a majority of the state. The NWS offices in El Paso and Midland, Texas, are responsible for some areas in southern New Mexico.
FEMA	KANW News	8/6/2025	11:05AM	0:01:36	A nearly two-year court battle finally came to an end late last month, with a federal judge ruling — again — that the Federal Emergency Management Agency must pay Hermits Peak-Calf Canyon Fire victims for the emotional toll of the state’s biggest-ever wildfire. The agency told Source New Mexico on Friday that it is still deciding whether to appeal the ruling, potentially beginning another multi-year court battle.

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Vaccines	KANW News	9/5/2025	5:05AM & 8:05AM	0:03:03	Can't find a COVID vaccine? You're not alone. Though the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved updated formulations of the vaccine to combat the virus' latest variants, inconsistent federal recommendations have led to some pharmacies to refuse to provide the vaccine in New Mexico. State officials are looking to alter protocols and ease barriers to the vaccine, particularly for people seeking the shot in pharmacies. The move follows a public health order issued Friday requiring the state Department of Health and Board of Pharmacy to "amend regulations to ... ensure access to COVID-19 vaccines at pharmacies across the state," among other directives. "The COVID vaccine is safe and effective at preventing disease spread as well as preventing severe outcomes like hospitalization and death due to COVID-19," said Dr. Chad Smelser, an epidemiologist with the Health Department. He added, "New Mexico Department Health and the Board of Pharmacy are working diligently to reduce the barriers that some of our population [is encountering] now in order to receive them." New Mexico saw averages of between five and 20 cases of COVID-19 per 100,000 residents during the summer months, state Department of Health data shows. Though it's a far cry from case rates in the hundreds and thousands seen in New Mexico in 2021 and 2022, cases do tend to trend higher during the fall and winter months. Federal shifts The U.S. Food and Drug Administration on Aug. 27 approved the updated formulations of three COVID-19 vaccines for seniors 65 and older as well as children, teenagers and adults with at least one underlying condition putting them at high-risk in case of infection. Last year's version of the vaccine was open to adults and most children.

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Vaccines	KANW News	9/19/2025	5:05AM	0:03:28	Dr. Heather Applewhite, an Albuquerque-based family physician, summed up current vaccine policy this way: “Everyone is confused. "Amid conflicting state and federal guidance on the latest COVID-19 vaccines and shifting pharmacy policies, Applewhite said, “It’s basically a shot in the dark right now of us just trying to do our best and guide people on the easiest way forward. "The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices is scheduled to meet Thursday and Friday to discuss the latest formulation of the COVID-19 vaccine, as well as the birth dose of the hepatitis B vaccine and the measles, mumps, rubella and varicella vaccine. Traditionally, the committee’s guidance would serve as the great clarifier, since the CDC bases its vaccine schedules for children and adults on its recommendations. However, after much upheaval at the agency during the Trump administration — including the removal and replacement of the committee’s members, the ousting of the agency’s most recent director, several resignations and a shooting at the agency’s headquarters in August — Applewhite and other New Mexico doctors said they worry the committee’s meeting could sow yet more confusion, doubt and distrust. "Vaccines have worked, and it may be because they’ve worked so well that people have forgotten what an impact these diseases can have on an entire population, especially when they become endemic,” Applewhite said. The New Mexico Department of Health is taking a “wait and see” approach to the committee’s meetings, agency spokesperson Robert Nott said Tuesday. The Health Department’s standing order — which authorizes health care providers and pharmacists to provide the latest version of COVID-19 vaccines to anyone 6 months and older without a prescription — is likely to remain in place, Nott added. The department still recommends everyone 6 months and older — including pregnant people — stay up to date on COVID-19 vaccinations to help prevent severe illness. One point of certainty comes from the New Mexico Office of the Superintendent of Insurance, the state agency responsible for ensuring private insurance providers comply with New Mexico law. Since private insurance rates already have been set for 2025 and 2026, immunizations should be covered through the end of next year regardless of any changes in guidance made by the CDC’s immunization practices committee, said Viara Ianakieva, life and health division director at the insurance superintendent’s office. State Insurance Superintendent Alice Kane on Wednesday issued a bulletin to health insurers to that effect. After the Department of Health order was announced, the New Mexico Health Care Authority confirmed COVID-19 vaccines will be covered for those enrolled in Medicaid, too. "There is so many changes, and we’re living with so much uncertainty right now,” Ianakieva said. “This applies to regulators and insurers and consumers, and we’re trying our best to navigate this environment.”

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Vaccines	KANW News	9/1/2025	8:05AM	0:01:36	In response to potential federal limitations on access to the COVID-19 vaccine, the state Department of Health has issued a public health order that removes those limitations so that pharmacies can vaccinate people of all ages, including children under 6 months old, a NMDOH news release said. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration this week approved an updated version of the COVID-19 vaccine, but some pharmacies in New Mexico have said they won't be able to give the vaccine to those for whom it is not recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. The NMDOH order states that "the currently available COVID-19 vaccines are safe and the most effective way of preventing infection, serious illness, and death." However, the USFDA approval of vaccine limits their use to those at high risk for severe disease and outcomes, not including children aged 6 months and under. The order says NMDOH will work with the state Board of Pharmacy to remove potential barriers access to COVID-19 vaccines at pharmacies in New Mexico. The state expects the updates COVID-19 vaccine to become available in New Mexico in several weeks "It's important for New Mexican to know that the New Mexico Department of Health is committed to keeping residents safe as we enter the 2025-2026 respiratory virus season," said Health Secretary Gina DeBlassie. "This order will remove obstacles to vaccination access."
Food Insecurities	KANW News	9/8/2025	6:05AM & 8:05AM	0:02:26	Recent federal cuts will impact thousands of families relying on food banks, hunger advocates told lawmakers Thursday during the Legislature's interim Economic and Rural Development Committee meeting in Farmington. Officials from the state's largest food banks said earlier this month that charities and other programs will have less food to feed longer lines of hungry people, especially with 40,000 New Mexicans expected to lose Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits in the new Congressional spending bill. Rural programs will take a particularly big hit, employees from the Farmington-based nonprofit Economic Council on Helping Others Inc., said.
Vaccines	KANW News	9/8/2025	6:05AM &10:06AM	0:01:52	The widening debate over vaccine mandates in the U.S. and recent moves to get rid of them for schoolchildren in Florida are pushing some states to take steps to protect vaccines for children and adults. Massachusetts said this week that insurance carriers will be required to cover vaccinations recommended by the state's health department. Democratic governors in Washington, Oregon and California announced that they have created an alliance to establish their own recommendations for who should receive vaccines. Also this week Colorado and Pennsylvania took action to protect the availability of COVID-19 vaccines for their residents.

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FEMA	KANWS News	9/4/2025	7:05AM & 12:05PM	0:03:06	The Federal Emergency Management Agency cut \$14 million from funding it previously promised to New Mexico to deal with the fallout of the South Fork and Salt fires near Ruidoso, according to documents the state’s emergency management department gave Source New Mexico on Wednesday. The Federal Emergency Management Agency in December told the state that it would receive about \$30 million in Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funding. But in late July, the state received new correspondence from FEMA showing the number reduced to \$16 million, according to emails and financial statements the state’s Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management provided to Source. Democratic Attorneys General late last week updated their complaint against the Trump administration in a lawsuit over whether the Federal Emergency Management Agency can refuse to spend pre-disaster mitigation grants approved by Congress. New Mexico’s grant funding is tied to the presidential disaster declaration from last summer’s South Fork and Salt fires, which damaged or destroyed more than 1,400 structures and also ushered in devastating post-fire flooding that killed three people earlier this year.

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Flooding in New Mexico Update	KANWS News	9/2/2025	8:05AM	0:01:36	In the aftermath of yet another wave of devastating natural disasters, the Village of Ruidoso is looking to implement new tactics to protect residents and businesses that reside near the river. The historic flooding caused the Rio Ruidoso to rise to 20 feet, destroying homes and killing three people. Now, more than a month later, Michael Martinez, the deputy village manager of Ruidoso, says the village is navigating its way out. "Last year, after the fires, we knew that the burn scars would be impactful. We just didn't know how much," explained Martinez. "We think these burn scars and the waters that are coming off of them will really be impacting us anywhere between five to seven years, if not 10. And so that's going to be significant." The village is conducting assessments to figure out its next steps forward by learning from past natural disasters and how it responded. "It's actually very important that we make sure we track last year's disasters and what happened from last year. We do a lot of that. We do damage assessments," said Martinez. The village has conducted costly mitigation work, removing over 350,000 tons of silt from the river and implementing HESCO baskets, which are reinforced sandbags, and trash racks to collect debris in the river. "It costs us \$21 million each time we do it, and so we're limited in the number of times that we qualify for that. So we're definitely working on different programs," emphasized Martinez. The village is also considering a property buy-back program, giving eligible property owners a chance to sell their flood-prone properties. The initiative would convert purchased properties into protected open spaces, but it would be a costly endeavor. "The village has requested roughly \$605 million. That's through Lincoln County as the sponsor for buybacks to help make residents whole and to acquire that land to help mitigate those impacts to future residents in the future," explained Martinez.

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Food Insecurities	KANW News	9/16/2025	6:05AM & 11:05AM	0:03:29	The line at a local food bank’s weekly distribution in Albuquerque’s International District has increased in the last few years, organizers say, as neighbors in nearby homes join the queue alongside the growing population of unhoused residents. Marissa Brown, who runs the Roadrunner Food Bank distribution, says the line has increased by approximately 50 households to 225 each week. She estimated a line once composed mostly of unhoused people pushing carts is now probably 60% people with roofs over their heads. "We are just seeing more of our neighbors who are housed coming, too, because it’s just hard for everyone,” Brown told Source New Mexico as people worked their way through the line Friday morning. “We’re really pleased that we can just expand that reach to anyone who might need it, but it certainly has expanded. "Even before cuts to the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program contained in the “One Big Beautiful Bill Act” take effect, President Donald Trump’s second term has already hurt the food bank’s ability to feed hungry people in a state where more than one in five residents has food stamps, food bank officials told Source New Mexico on Friday. For example, inflation has reduced how much food Roadrunner can buy with donations or grant funding, and the federal “Department of Government Efficiency” cuts to emergency food assistance programs earlier this year by 30 truckloads of food worth a little more than \$1 million, according to Roadrunner officials.

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Vaccines	KANW News	9/30/2025	8:05AM	0:01:55	Six months,100 cases and 56,000 vaccines later, New Mexico’s measles outbreak has come to an end. So said New Mexico health officials on Friday, noting in a news release that the state logged its last case on Aug. 14 in Santa Fe County, meaning more than 42 days have passed without new cases, “a timeframe that represents twice the virus’s maximum incubation period.”NMDOH medical epidemiologist Dr. Chad Smelser told Source NM the end of the outbreak means the risk of measles spread inside New Mexico is lower. However, “We do still have outbreaks ongoing in states surrounding us, so we will remain vigilant for folks in our state traveling to those areas or folks from those areas traveling to us and will work to detect any imported cases,” he said. Smelser said vaccine recommendations remain the same: Two doses of the measles vaccine will be the most protective for most people. New Mexico reported its first measles case on Feb. 11, a Lea County teenager, whose case followed an outbreak in the neighboring Gaines County in Texas. The state subsequently declared an outbreak three days later when two adults in the same county tested positive, meeting the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention threshold for constituting an outbreak. In total, New Mexico’s 100 cases spread across nine counties, with one reported death. Of the cases, 53 were among people 18 years and older; 24 were among people 4-years-old and younger and 23 were among people ages 5 to 17. More than half the cases —57 — were among unvaccinated people. It was the largest outbreak of measles in New Mexico in the past four decades. Since Feb. 1, more than 56,000 people have received the measles, mumps and rubella vaccine, NMDOH says, which remains “widely available” in the state. The number of people seeking a vaccine during the outbreak was 61% higher than the number of people who received shots over the same time last year, which Smelser credited for keeping the rate of spread low. "Folks who came in and got themselves up to date really helped us stop this from getting even worse,” Smelser said.
Election	KANW Special Program	9/30/2025	12:35PM & 6PM	1:00:00	NAIOP New Mexico’s Mayoral Race Forum luncheon on September 30 brought Albuquerque’s mayoral candidates together to discuss their priorities for the city. From crime and the economy to homelessness and housing, the conversation highlighted key issues shaping our community. Candidates, Mayling Armijo, Mayor Tim Keller, Councilor Louie Sanchez, Alex Uballez, Darren White, Eddie Varela