2006 Annual Report THINK NEW MEXICO

THE LOTTERY REFORM VICTORY

Front Cover

The cover features a photograph by New Mexico photographer Alex Candelaria Sedillos, entitled "Summer Storm over the Painted Kiva." The photo is the 2007 first place winner of the El Palacio Magazine photography contest. Alex works as a Ranger at Coronado State Monument. He also teaches workshops focusing on environmental imaging. Alex can be reached at westlight@yahoo.com.

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A Results-Oriented Think Tank Serving New Mexicans

1227 Paseo de Peralta Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Telephone 505 992.1315Fax 505 992.1314E-mail info@thinknewmexico.orgWeb www.thinknewmexico.org

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About Think New Mexico

Think New Mexico is a results-oriented think tank serving the citizens of New Mexico. Our mission is to improve the quality of life for all New Mexicans, especially working low and middle income families. We fulfill this mission by educating the public, the media and policymakers about some of the most serious problems facing New Mexico and by developing effective, comprehensive, sustainable solutions to those problems.

Our approach is to perform and publish sound, nonpartisan, independent research. Unlike many think tanks, Think New Mexico does not subscribe to any particular ideology. Instead, because New Mexico is at or near the bottom of so many national rankings, our focus is on promoting workable solutions. We use advocacy and, as a last resort, legal action in accordance with Federal tax law.

Consistent with our nonpartisan approach, Think New Mexico's board is composed of Democrats, Independents and Republicans. They are statesmen and stateswomen, who have no agenda other than to help New Mexico succeed. They are also the brain trust of this think tank.

Think New Mexico began its operations on January 1, 1999. It is a tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. In order to maintain its independence, Think New Mexico does not accept any government money. However, contributions from individuals, businesses and foundations are welcomed, encouraged and tax-deductible.

Results

As a results-oriented think tank, Think New Mexico measures its success by changes it achieves in law or policy, such as:

- making full-day kindergarten accessible to every child in New Mexico
- · repealing the state's regressive tax on food
- creating a Strategic River Reserve to protect and restore New Mexico's rivers
- enacting the Family Opportunity Accounts Act to alleviate New Mexico's persistent poverty
- reforming the state lottery to reduce its operating costs and reallocate the savings to full-tuition college scholarships

1 Think New Mexico

Think New Mexico's Board of Directors

Edward Archuleta, a 13th generation New Mexican, is a consultant and activist on issues including responsible land-use planning, growth management, and sustainable development. Edward previously served as the top assistant to former New Mexico Secretary of State Stephanie Gonzales.

Paul Bardacke served as Attorney General of New Mexico from 1983–1986. Paul was Chairman of Bill Richardson's successful 2002 gubernatorial campaign. He is a Fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers. Paul currently handles complex commercial litigation and mediation with the firm of Sutin, Thayer and Browne.

David Buchholtz has advised more than a dozen Governors and Cabinet Secretaries of Economic Development on fiscal matters. David has served as Chairman of the Association of Commerce and Industry. He is the senior member of the New Mexico office of Brownstein, Hyatt, and Farber.

Garrey Carruthers served as Governor of New Mexico from 1987– 1990. Garrey is Dean of New Mexico State University's College of Business, and was formerly President and CEO of Cimarron Health Plan. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the United States Chamber of Commerce.

Dr. F. Chris Garcia is a former President of the University of New Mexico and is currently a Distinguished Professor of Political Science. He is the co-editor of, among other books, *Latinos and the Political System* and *New Mexico Government* (3rd edition). Dr. Garcia recently received the Governor's Distinguished Public Service Award.

Elizabeth Gutierrez is the Director of Policy and Program Development for the New Mexico Higher Education Department. She holds a PhD in educational leadership and public policy. Liz was a marketing executive for IBM for nearly two decades. *She is on leave from Think New Mexico's board while she works for the state.*















LaDonna Harris is an enrolled member of the Comanche Nation. LaDonna is Chairman of the Board and Founder of Americans for Indian Opportunity. She is also a founder of the National Women's Political Caucus. LaDonna was a leader in the effort to return the Taos Blue Lake to Taos Pueblo.



Rebecca Koch is the owner of Rebecca Koch & Associates which provides management consulting services, development, and strategic planning for local and national nonprofits. Rebecca was the organizational development consultant for the Santa Fe Business Incubator, Inc. She is a former President of the Board of New Mexico Literary Arts.



Edward Lujan is the former CEO of Manuel Lujan Agencies, the largest privately owned insurance agency in New Mexico. Ed is a former Chairman of the National Hispanic Cultural Center of New Mexico, the Republican Party of New Mexico, and the New Mexico Economic Development Commission.



Fred Nathan founded Think New Mexico and is its Executive Director. Fred served as Special Counsel to New Mexico Attorney General Tom Udall. In that capacity, he was the architect of several successful legislative initiatives and was in charge of New Mexico's lawsuit against the tobacco industry, which resulted in a 1.25 billion dollar settlement for the state.



Roberta Cooper Ramo is the first woman elected President of the American Bar Association. Roberta serves on the State Board of Finance and is a former President of the Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico. She is a shareholder in the Modrall Law Firm and serves on many national boards.



Stewart Udall served as Secretary of the Interior under Presidents Kennedy and Johnson. Prior to that, Stewart served three terms in Congress. He is the author of *The Quiet Crisis* (1963) that tells the story of humankind's stewardship over the planet's resources, and *To the Inland Empire: Coronado and Our Spanish Legacy* (1987) which celebrates Hispanic contributions to our history.

3 Think New Mexico

Dear New Mexican:

I am often asked how the board of Think New Mexico chooses the policy topic that we work on each year. The simple answer is that we endeavor to "pick battles big enough to matter, small enough to win," to borrow the words of writer and educator, Jonathan Kozol.

Increasingly, we are also searching for topics that will produce a solid "return on social investment," for our supporters, like you, who have many good options among a variety of worthy causes in which to invest your charitable dollars.

A good example is last year's successful topic, lottery reform, which is celebrated in this annual report and which will generate an additional \$9 million annually for full-tuition scholarships when it is completely phased in.

Given Think New Mexico's total expenses of \$358,805 for 2006, this represents a social return on investment of about 2,500%. (That does not include the annual dividends that this initiative will continue to pay, or the dividends from Think New Mexico's past policy victories, like full-day kindergarten, the repeal of the food tax, and the Strategic Water Reserve.)

It is highly doubtful that we will be able to achieve such positive results every year. This makes us even more appreciative of our supporters, many of whom fund us in drought years as well as wet years because they share our long-term perspective on social change.

This year, as in years past, Think New Mexico received a lot of help from our friends. Senate Majority Leader Michael Sanchez, Senate Minority Leader Stuart Ingle and Lucky Varela, Deputy Chair of the House Appropriations and Finance Committee, joined forces to create a very effective team of bipartisan sponsors. In addition, Governor Bill Richardson provided critical momentum by endorsing our lottery reform plan in October and then promoting it again in his State of the State address.

Because Think New Mexico is so small, we build a coalition of supporting organizations around our policy solutions to provide grassroots clout. We are particularly proud of the breadth and quality of the members of this year's group, who are listed on page 13. Sponsors of the Lottery Reform bill:



Sen. Michael Sanchez (D-BELEN)



Sen. Stuart Ingle (R-PORTALES)



Rep. Lucky Varela (d-questa)

Photos courtesy of the Legislative Council Service



Governor Bill Richardson at the signing ceremony for the Lottery Reform legislation. Photo by Don Usner

Think New Mexico's Staff



Lynne Loucks Buchen Business Manager



Kristina Gray Fisher Research Director



Fred Nathan Executive Director



Maclovia Quintana Summer Intern



Grant Taylor Field Director

Think New Mexico also enjoyed a good year in 2006 on the basis of the internal metrics that we use to measure our performance. For example, the number of social investors supporting Think New Mexico expanded from 466 in 2005 to 541 in 2006, an increase of 16%. The number of social investors has grown every year of our existence.

In addition, we increased our investments and endowment capital by nearly 27% in 2006. This will help provide a financial cushion in the inevitable lean years when we have no policy victories to report. We have also diversified our revenue sources with the recent launch of Think New Mexico's online store, which you can visit at our website www.thinknewmexico.org. We invite you to outfit your entire family (including your pets).

The profits from the store will be frugally allocated. As you can see on page 20, in 2006 Think New Mexico spent only 5.9% of our revenue on administration and only 5.1% on fundraising. One of the ways that we have been able to keep our costs relatively low is by not having a development director on staff.

Finally, last year we were fortunate to hire Grant Taylor as Think New Mexico's new Field Director. He is profiled on page 19. This year's summer intern is Maclovia Quintana, a Santa Fe Prep Salutatorian, who will be attending Yale University in the fall. Meanwhile, Kristina Fisher, Think New Mexico's Research Director and Webmaster, earned the Robert C. Poole Merit Award, which is bestowed upon the member of the University of New Mexico Law School's first-year class with the highest grade point average. (Obviously, I have been greatly influenced by that old adage about it being hard to fail if you surround yourself with people smarter than you.)

Our small, but growing results-oriented think tank still needs your support for our next initiative. You probably know where this is headed: if you approve of what you read in the following pages, we urge you to make a social investment in Think New Mexico in the conveniently enclosed pre-addressed envelope.

Fred Nathan

Fred Nathan

May 1, 2007

GET INVOLVED WITH THINK NEW MEXICO

Shop at Think New Mexico's New Online Store

Recently, Think New Mexico launched an online store that can be accessed through our website: www.thinknewmexico.org. Be the first on your street to sport a new Think New Mexico sweatshirt, longsleeved t-shirt, or other fine apparel. Items are attractively priced and available in all sizes and a variety of colors, ideal for gifts, and 10% of the revenue generated by the store goes to fund policy initiatives at Think New Mexico. This is a great opportunity to show your support for Think New Mexico while completing your wardrobe.

Join Think New Mexico's Email Alert List

While you are at Think New Mexico's website, please be sure to sign up to join the approximately 4,300 other New Mexicans who receive our email alerts during legislative sessions. You'll be the first to know about progress on our initiatives and you can contact your elected officials straight from our website.





Contribute to Think New Mexico's Endowment Funds

We are pleased to report that Think New Mexico's endowment funds with the Albuquerque Community Foundation, the New Mexico Community Foundation, the Santa Fe Community Foundation, and the Taos Community Foundation are growing steadily, moving us toward our goal of generating enough income to offset all of Think New Mexico's administrative costs.

Thanks to your generosity, these endowments are helping to ensure that Think New Mexico's mission, described on the first page of this annual report, will be sustained in perpetuity.

If you are interested in contributing to Think New Mexico's endowments and have questions, please contact us at 505. 992.1315.



BUOUEROUE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION





Community Foundation WE MAKE IT EASY TO CARE FOR SANTA FE

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AOS
  Community Foundation
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THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Lottery Reform Victory



In 2006, Think New Mexico focused on reforming the New Mexico Lottery by paring back the Lottery's bloated operational and administrative budget, ending the Lottery's practice of engaging in expensive no-bid contracts, and reallocating the savings to full-tuition college scholarships for deserving students. Think New Mexico published a policy report entitled "Averting the Crisis: Making Lottery Success Scholarships Sustainable," drafted legislation based on the report, and with the help of a broad coalition of allies, identified on page 13, enacted the legislation by votes of 39-1 in the Senate and 65-0 in the House.

CARLSBAD RGUS MARCH 15, 2007

Bill would move more dollars to lottery scholarships

Meet Azucena Miranda, a junior at Capital High School in Santa Fe, who is taking three advanced placement classes, working approximately 20 hours a week, and still earning a 4.0 grade point average. Azucena's dream is to become a doctor and practice medicine here in New Mexico, but her parents cannot afford the cost of a college degree.

However, thanks to Senators Michael Sanchez, Stuart Ingle and Tim Jennings, and House leaders like John Heaton, the proceeds of New Mexico's Lottery (after paying for lottery prizes, operating and administrative costs) go to full-tuition college scholarships for students like Azucena.

The good news is that since 1997, these scholarships, known as Lottery Success Scholarships, have helped 43,000 of New Mexico's best students to attend New Mexico's colleges and public universities.

The bad news is that New Mexico's Higher Education Department projects that the scholarship fund will face an \$18 million shortfall in 2011, when Azucena will be a junior in college. At that time, the cost of the scholarships will exceed lottery proceeds and current cash reserves will be depleted.

When that occurs, the eligibility requirements for the scholarship will have to be restricted so that many deserving students will no longer qualify for the lottery scholarships, or the value of the scholarship will have to be cut for all students, increasing the financial burden on New Mexico families who are already stretched thin.

Breaking the commitment to keeping college affordable would send the wrong message to New Mexico's high school students, many of whom, like Azucena, are working hard, staying in school and earning good grades in the hopes of one day qualifying for a full-tuition scholarship.

Last September, Think New Mexico released a report in which we proposed dedicating 30 percent of lottery revenues to the scholarships, rather than restricting the scholarship's eligibility or value. We

By Fred Nathan

found that 11 states already dedicate at least 30 percent of lottery revenues to the beneficiaries of their lotteries.

Currently only about 24 cents of every dollar bet on the New Mexico Lottery actually go to scholarships. Another approximately 21 cents go to pay operating and administrative costs, a higher percentage than all but four of the 43 state lotteries. (The remaining 55 cents go back to players in the form of prizes.)

Early in this legislative session, Senate Minority Leader Ingle and Sen. Jennings introduced Senate Bill 364, which would require the Lottery to dedicate 30 percent 90f its revenues to scholarships. If the bill is enacted, the Legislature's budget staff estimates it will produce an additional \$9 million annually for scholarships, enough to pay for about 2,500 scholarships each year when the legislation is fully phased in.

SB 364 also requires the New Mexico Lottery to abide by the state procurement code, which should help the lottery to reduce its relatively high operating and administrative costs.

Think New Mexico's report documented that the New Mexico Lottery's fiveyear no-bid contract with GTech, its online vendor, costs the scholarships about \$3 million annually when compared with what similar states pay for their online contracts. Specifically, New Mexico pays GTech 8.52 percent of online sales, while comparable states pay

between 2.16 percent and 5.1 percent.

Every dollar the New Mexico Lottery spends on administrative and operating costs, like its no-bid contract with GTech, is a dollar less to invest in scholarships.

Other state lotteries have successfully cut administrative and operating costs without harming overall revenues. For example, between 1998 and 2004, the Florida Lottery cut costs by 19 percent, yet lottery revenues increased by 48 percent during the same time period. Similarly, the Minnesota Lottery cut costs by 26.5 percent in 2004, yet realized an increase in sales of 5.5 percent the following year. Reallocating more of the lottery rev-

Reallocating more of the lottery revenues from overhead to scholarships will strengthen New Mexico's economy. Currently, only one of four New Mexico adults has a college degree, while the Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts that 42 percent of new jobs by the end of the decade will require a college degree. The urgent need to produce more college graduates may explain why the Association of Commerce and Industry and the Hispano Chamber of Commerce and many other business groups from across the state have endorsed SB 364.

They join dozens of other organizations supporting SB 364, including the Catholic Conference of Bishops, the New Mexico Family Council and Governor Bill Richardson.

Ultimately, SB 364 presents state policy-makers with a choice: should more of these lottery proceeds, which come primarily from New Mexicans, be invested in scholarships for the state's deserving high school graduates, like Azucena Miranda, or go to out-of-state special interests, like GTech?

Fred Nathan is executive director of Think New Mexico, a Santa Fe-based think tank.



AN INDEPENDENT HOME-OWNED NEWSPAPER Published Each Thursday in Española, New Mexico by the SUN COMPANY, INC.

Page A6

Thursday, November 23, 2006

Editorials – Opinions

Governor, Think New Mexico Say State Lottery Must Cut Costs

By Jay Miller

Syndicated Columnist

SANTA FE -- A New Mexico think tank, appropriately named Think New Mexico, has to be very proud of itself. Two months ago, it issued a stinging report detailing how the New Mexico lottery needs to cut costs.

Its purpose was to free more money for lottery scholarships, which soon will not generate enough money to fully fund all the students eligible for the state's Lottery Success Scholarships program.

Think New Mexico's solution is to dedicate 30 percent of lottery revenues to the scholarships. Currently only about 24 cents of the lottery dollar goes to scholarships. Most states generate 30 percent or higher for recipients.

The additional six percent needed to achieve 30 percent to scholarships can easily come from administrative costs, according to Think New Mexico.

And the primary place to trim that fat is the online vendor services for which New Mexico pays an out-ofstate firm 8.52 percent of revenues, while some other states our size pay their vendors more like 2.5 percent.

Somewhat surprisingly, only a few weeks after Think New Mexico's report was issued, the state Lottery's chief executive officer, Tom Romero, announced the contract will be rebid before the end of the year.

That's the good news. The rest of the story is that Romero wants to use the money saved to further increase his already high administrative expenses. He wants to hire more staff and do more promotions.

That staff already is large. Their salaries are high. And the promotions do not come close to passing the smell test. They are not broken out in the lottery's budget or audit.

So, it's Gov. Bill Richardson to the rescue. Just a few weeks after Romero's announcement, the governor revealed his plans to keep the lottery solvent.

And one of the proposals is to provide at least 30 percent of lottery revenue for scholarships. That would be accomplished, Richardson says, by reducing administrative costs, which the governor cited as being the fifth highest in the nation.

Mission accomplished. Gov. Richardson and Think New Mexico, headed arm in arm to the Legislature, will be difficult to stop. Think New Mexico proudly calls itself results-oriented. This think tank doesn't just sit around and think.

Its many accomplishments include leading campaigns to provide full-day kindergarten to all New Mexico children and repeal the state's food tax.

Its bipartisan, non-ideological board of directors include former Gov. Garrey Carruthers, former Secretary of the Interior Stuart Udall, former Attorney General Paul Bardacke, and GOP mover and shaker Ed Lujan.



Serving the community since 1879

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

SEPTEMBER 26, 2006

A group that seeks results

ve always been wary of think tanks. They're full of ideas - usually based on their political ideology, whether conservative or liberal.

And they don't really do much to advance their proposals.

Fortunately, in New Mexico, we have a think tank that operates differently.

Santa Fe-based Think New Mexico calls itself a "resultsoriented think tank

GIULIANI serving New Mexicans." And this

group isn't kidding. This group, which includes both Republicans and Democrats as board members, picks a subject and focuses on it. Then it comes up with realworld solutions and lobbies our state Legislature to make needed changes.

This group has a record of success. You can credit Think New Mexico for studying full-day kindergarten and then aggressively pushing the idea. Now, largely because of the group's efforts, full-day kindergarten is a fact of life in New Mexico.

Think New Mexico also found the sales tax on food abhorrent. It looked at what other states were doing and found that only a few poor states still taxed food. Again, the group aggressively lobbied the Legislature, and now, the food tax is a thing of the past.

Just recently, Think New Mexico released a report on the state of the New Mexico Lottery and its proposal for making sure more of the proceeds go toward scholarships for New Mexico college students.

While the lottery seems as if it's doing fine now, it is headed for real problems. Here's what Think New Mexico found:

For starters, our lottery spends far more than most states on administration - 19.6 percent of revenues. Only four states - Arizona, Iowa, South Dakota and Montana - spend more than we do.

Yes, small states will naturally spend more on administration because of economies of scale (for example, receiving volume discounts). But as Think New Mexico points out, some small states - Vermont, Maine, New Hampshire and Idaho - are spending less than we do on administration.

If the lottery dropped administrative expenses to 15 percent of revenues, that would mean \$6.3 million more for scholarships annually - in other words, 2,000 more scholarships per year.

As it stands, 24 percent of lottery revenues are going to scholarships, while some states, including relatively small ones, require that 30 or 35 percent be dedicated for such purposes. And New Mexico's percentage for scholarships is projected to decline over the next five years.

Think New Mexico recommends that the state Legislature require a minimum of 30 percent go to scholarships.

Some might suggest cutting the percentage going for lottery prizes. However, Think New Mexico points out that when Texas lowered what it

paid to players from 60 percent to 50 percent in 1997, it saw a decline of 30 percent in sales. People were apparently discouraged from participating.

So how can the lottery reduce its administrative expenses? Think New Mexico points to the highly questionable contract with its online vendor, Gtech. While New Mexico pays Gtech 8.5 percent of its online revenue, other small states pay from 2 to 5 percent to similar vendors. Why does Gtech get this much in New Mexico? Think New Mexico points out that this firm was the sole bidder bidder in the mid-1990s. In 2002, the lottery extended the contract by another five years, rather than opening the state's contract for online sales to competition.

Think New Mexico quotes a 1996 Fortune Magazine story, "In New Mexico, where Gtech was the only bidder, the company was able to submit a bid millions higher than if it had faced real competition."

Think New Mexico also recommends that the lottery reduce the commissions paid to lottery retailers; our state pays higher than most. However, the group noted that this may be politically difficult.

Think New Mexico's report is eyeopening. Let's hope our legislators take a close look at it and make needed changes.

Most new jobs these days require a college education, and it's important we make it accessible to all who want one.

David Giuliani is managing editor of the Las Vegas Optic. He may be reached at 425-6796 or dgiuliani@lasvegasoptic.com.



DAVID

LAS CRUCES SUN-NEWS

A MediaNews Group Newspaper **David McClain** – President & Publisher **Jim Lawitz** – Editor

Thursday

Sept. 7, 2006 *

Our view

Keep the promise of lottery scholarships

Many state lawmakers will tell you that the Lottery Success Scholarship program has been the greatest accomplishment of the modern-day Legislature.

The program, which allows high school graduates in good academic standing to attend New Mexico colleges and universities without the burden of ever-increasing tuition fees, has helped improve the lives of young people in every county and from every school district in this state.

A college education seemed like little more than a pipe dream for many impoverished New Mexicans before the lottery scholarship program was instituted. Now, thousands of students each year take advantage of the program, many the first in their family to attend college.

But those scholarships may not be there for future students unless the Legislature acts now to ensure that the fund remains healthy. The Higher Education Department has predicted that, if current trends continue, the fund will face an \$18 million deficit by 2011.

The fund will already have to start dipping into reserves this year, said Fred Nathan, head of the public policy group Think New Mexico.

The problem, Nathan said, is that New Mexico pays a higher percentage for administration costs than almost any other state lottery in the country. His group is proposing legislation that would mandate at least 30 percent of lottery proceeds go to the scholarship program.

That would mean a little less money for the convenience store owners who sell the lottery tickets and a little less for promotions and other special events.

But it would also mean improved solvency for the fund and continued opportunities for New Mexico students.

We urge lawmakers to act quickly and protect the lottery scholarship fund, ensuring it will be there for future generations of New Mexico students.

ADDITIONAL EDITORIAL SUPPORT FOR LOTTERY REFORM

RIO GRANDE SUN September 7, 2006

"We're fortunate to have a group like Think New Mexico to be forward-thinking enough to see the lottery fund problem coming."

HOBBS NEWS-SUN September 9, 2006

"If the lottery scholarship is important-and we believe it is-ensuring its future viability is equally important. The single best way is to make sure that the money raised through the lottery truly benefits those it was created for: students. Setting a minimum percentage of revenues for the lottery scholarship should be done."

DEMING HEADLIGHT October 10, 2006

"We urge lawmakers to act quickly and protect the lottery scholarship fund, ensuring it will be there for future generations of New Mexico students."

SANTA FE NEW MEXICAN January 25, 2007

"The lottery reworking was thought up by Think New Mexico, a bipartisan public-policy research organization with an impressive record of reforms – full-day kindergarten, public preschools, the end of the state sales tax on food and the beginnings of a strategic water reserve among them."



Cartoon by Glasgow for the Albuquerque Tribune, September 6, 2006.

A funny thing happened on the way to the legislature...

Only a small fraction of the bills that are introduced make it to the Governor's desk. It is, therefore, much easier to kill legislation than to pass it. However, it becomes more difficult to kill legislation when the media place a spotlight on it. In this regard, the New Mexico Lottery inadvertently assisted us in our efforts to pass lottery reform when they hired a well-known special interest lobbyist for \$32,000 to kill the bill. On the weekend before the legislative session began, the *Albuquerque Journal* published a front-page story about the lobbyist and the editorial below. The following day, Governor Bill Richardson ordered the Lottery Board to fire the lobbyist.

ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL

T.H. LANG, Publisher Kent Walz, Editor An Independent Newspaper

Sunday, January 14, 2007

EDITORIALS

Lottery Lobbyist Fails Scratch-and-Sniff Test

There's truth in advertising on the New Mexico Lottery Web page, where "Lottery Scholarships" comes *after* "Winners." A minimum of half of all revenues — \$154 million in fiscal 2006 — goes to payouts, while less than a quarter went to scholarships last year.

There's also the unadvertised truth that administrative and operating costs eat up an inordinate amount of lottery revenues — more than 20 percent — at the expense of scholarships for state students.

Gov. Bill Richardson is on record supporting an earmark of 30 percent of lotto revenues for scholarships to stay in the black. Ten other states already set aside from 30 to 35 percent from their take for specific beneficiaries. Senate Majority Leader Michael Sanchez, D-Belen, is expected to introduce a 30-percent set-aside bill.

Lottery officials, meanwhile, put lobbyist Ed Mahr on contract to "assist us through the legislative process," according to Lottery Authority CEO Tom Romero. The Lottery Authority has no position on the Sanchez bill, according to officials. It also has no proposed legislation, nothing that would require \$32,000 worth of lobbying. Well, nothing except protecting the 21.4 percent take for administrative and operating costs. A take higher than 35 states and the District of Colombia. Massachusetts is the most frugal, spending a scant 7.5 percent on operations.

Think New Mexico, a Santa Fe think tank, recommends cutting those costs, in part by renegotiating contracts with suppliers and vendors. Lotto officials took that advice, putting out a request for proposals last week for its gaming system and related products and services.

Think New Mexico's Fred Nathan says, "Every dollar that they spend on this lobbyist is a dollar less for scholarships." And while plenty of scholarships have been awarded — more than \$233 million to more than 43,000 New Mexico students since 1996 — officials should take that advice, too.

Because when private entities are making bank at the expense of scholarships, New Mexico students are the real losers.

ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2007, PAGE A1

Lottery Contract Ordered Canceled

Gov. Tells Board To Boot Lobbyist



Coalition in Support of Lottery Reform

SB364 - Co-Sponsored by Senate Majority Leader Sanchez, Senate Minority Leader Ingle and House Appropriations and Finance Committee Deputy Chair Lucky Varela

BUSINESS

Alamogordo Chamber of Commerce Albuquerque Hispano Chamber of Commerce Association of Commerce and Industry Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce Farmington Chamber of Commerce Greater Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce NM Business Roundtable for Educational Excellence Santa Fe Chamber of Commerce

CIVIC

AARP New Mexico American Association of University Women-NM ENLACE (Engaging Latino Communities for Education) New Mexico Coalition Against Gambling New Mexico Family Council Santa Fe Community Foundation Santa Fe United Way

EDUCATION

Council of University Presidents Higher Education Department Secretary Beverlee McClure New Mexico Association of Community Colleges New Mexico Independent Community Colleges Various faculty and student associations

GOVERNMENT

Governor Bill Richardson Lieutenant Governor Diane Denish

RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS New Mexico Conference of Catholic Bishops New Mexico Conference of Churches

NEWSPAPERS

Albuquerque Journal Deming Headlight Hobbs News-Sun Las Cruces Sun-News Las Vegas Daily Optic Rio Grande Sun Santa Fe New Mexican

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MARCH 29, 2007 Governor Bill Richardson signs Think New Mexico's Lottery Reform legislation into law, while members of Think New Mexico's staff and board look on. Photo by Don Usner

Think New Mexico Inspires "Imagine West Virginia"

Civic leaders in West Virginia are proceeding with their plan to start a state-based think tank modeled after Think New Mexico and its results-oriented approach. We are assisting them in every way that we can, as both of our states are at the bottom of too many national rankings. Hopefully, a little cooperation between the Land of Enchantment and the Mountain State may lead to a friendly race to the top.



Sept. 8-14, 2006 • \$1.00

Imagine West Virginia to Help Vision Shared

By BETH GORCZYCA RYAN bethg@statejournal.com

For more than five years, **A** Vision Shared has tried to identify ways that West Virginia needs to change and outline a path to follow to accomplish those changes.

Now the statewide economic development group will have another entity helping it do its job — **Imagine West Virginia**. Imagine West Virginia is an

Imagine West Virginia is an independent, objective policy research and development institution dedicated to identifying and researching policy issues facing the state. Once the issues are thoroughly researched and examined, the Imagine West Virginia 16-member governing board will make specific recommendations as to how board members believe the state should proceed so the outcome significantly improves residents' quality of life.

"Vision Shared is a whole volunteer group of task forces and work teams - I think there are about 800 people around the state who have volunteered their time to A Vision Shared—and through those processes of talking and meeting they've identified a lot of areas that need to change. And a lot of those changes require new public policy," Cain Ceperley said. "And when we start looking at public policy issues, it becomes important to form an objective, independent research arm to look at these policies and really study them.'

That's something the individual groups that make up A Vi-



sion shared may not have the time, money or capability to do. But that is exactly what Imagine West Virginia is looking to tackle.

"We will have the time to collect the data and research the information," Cain Ceperley said.

Getty said West Virginia looked at several other states to find examples of how to form the new institution. They examined efforts in North Carolina, Kentucky, Massachusetts, New Jersey and California. In the end, the group that helped design Imagine West Virginia opted to mimic New Mexico's public policy research organization, known as Think New Mexico.

"We thought they had the best program for us to follow," Getty said. "Believe it or not, New Mexico and West Virginia are similar in a number of different ways."

So what did the design group like the most about New Mexico's organization?

"One thing we really liked was the concept that this is an independent board of governors that included people of stature who do not have political ambitions at this point in their lives," Getty said. "And when that group of people makes a recommendation, it has credibility because of the stature of the people who sit on the board. Another aspect the designers liked about New Mexico's organization is that Think New Mexico only focuses on one policy recommendation at a time."

That's what Imagine West Virginia will do.

"We may take up only one, maybe two, issues each year," Cain Ceperley said. "We're talking really in-deptph analysis of issues here. We're not just going to flip through a question and say, 'Well, six other states do it like this ...' and go for it. What Imagine West Virginia needs to be is in depth and unbiased in its search for solutions that make a difference for people in the state."

Strategic River Reserve Continues to Grow



After a two-year effort, in 2005 the Legislature passed and Governor Richardson signed legislation establishing a Strategic River Reserve, based on a policy report released by Think New Mexico in 2003. The legislature has appropriated \$4.8 million to date, and added another \$500,000 in the 2007 session. The first acquisitions of water for the Reserve have been made to benefit endangered species on the Pecos and Rio Grande rivers.



Governor Richardson declares 2007 'Year of Water' in New Mexico BY APRIL REESE • JANUARY 25, 2007

... Richardson is also asking the Legislature to set aside... \$5 million dollars to acquire or lease more water rights for the Strategic Water Reserve, created by the Legislature two years ago to help the state meet compact obligations and protect instream flows for endangered species such as the silvery minnow.

The reserve allows the state to purchase or lease water rights from willing sellers to create a publicly held "pool" of rights that could then be tapped to help the state meet those needs, which the state has had difficulty doing in the past. Most of the water rights for the reserve would likely come from farmers and ranchers, who hold 80 percent of New Mexico's water rights.

Fred Nathan, director of Think New Mexico, a think tank that first proposed the idea of a water reserve, said he was glad to see the additional funding for the project in the governor's water package – even though no one is really sure how much money will be needed to meet compact obligations and endangered species demands in the future.

"To be candid, we'd need a crystal ball to know how much money would be needed to address those two issues in the coming years," he said. "But we feel the \$5 million that's been already been appropriated [in previous years] and the \$5 million the governor is seeking is a very hefty down payment to get this started."

The state has already begun to lease some water rights from farmers to build up the water reserve, said Estevan Lopez, director of the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission. On the Pecos River, for example, the state recently leased a small amount of water to help keep water in the river for the Pecos blunt-nose shiner.

Individual Development Account Implementation Begins

Individual Development Accounts (IDAs) are an innovative anti-poverty strategy that focus on asset building rather than income transfers. Think New Mexico published a policy report on the topic in the fall of 2005, drafted legislation based on the report, and with the help of Speaker Ben Lujan, Governor Bill Richardson, and a broad coalition of allies, secured \$1.5 million of funding in the 2006 session to open the first publicly funded IDAs in New Mexico.



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New law creates tool to fight pover

By Walter Rubel

SANTA FE BUREAU CHIEF

SANTA FE - New Mexicans fighting to escape poverty may be able to get government assistance for things like buying a home, starting a business or returning to school under a bill passed by the Legislature this session and taking effect today.

The bill appropriates \$1.5 million in recurring money for the creation of the Family Opportunity Fund. Money from that fund will be used to match money earned by participants and placed in a special limited-used bank account.

"We were delighted with what they passed," said Fred Nathan, executive director of the public policy group Think New Mexico, which first proposed the legislation in October 2005. "The only real difference is, we were asking for \$2 million and we got \$1.5."

Reese Fullerton, head of the Office of Workforce Training and Development, said requests for proposals for administration of the program will be reviewed next week, and it is expected that a firm could be named by next week or the following week. "The money should hit the streets by the end of July," Fullerton said.

Eligibility for the program was originally set at 200 percent of the federal poverty level. It was amended to comply with the definition of indigent derived from a recent state Supreme Court ruling.

For every dollar put into an interestbearing saving account by a participant in the program, the state will put in a matching amount yet to be determined. Local governments and private sources will also be allowed to contribute.

Money can be withdrawn from the accounts to buy a home, start or expand a small business or pay for college or vocational school.

Participants will be required to take a course in basic household finances - things like managing a budget, balancing a checkbook and understanding credit card debt and predatory loans.

The Legislature first passed a bill in 2002 that established what were then called individual development accounts, but did not include funding. This bill changes the name to family opportunity accounts, and establishes a nine-person advisory board to oversee the act.

In promoting the proposal before the start of the session, Nathan compared the accounts to the GI bill of the 1940s. He said they were more successful that other social programs because they provided a way out of poverty and into the middle class.

Walter Rubel can be reached at wrubel@lcsunnews.com

Full-Day Kindergarten and Food Tax Repeal In Other States

New Mexico has become a model for other states in expanding access to fullday kindergarten and repealing the food tax. When Think New Mexico won the repeal of the state food tax in 2001, seven other states still fully taxed groceries. One by one, those states have acted to reduce or eliminate their food taxes. Earlier this year, Arkansas cut its food tax in half, leaving only two states-Alabama and Mississippi-that continue to fully tax food. Meanwhile, Think New Mexico's landmark law making full-day kindergarten accessible to every child in New Mexico is being followed by similar reform efforts in Nevada, New Jersey, Oregon, and Washington.



Board Profile: Rebecca Koch

While many New Mexicans know Rebecca Koch's reputation as one of the state's foremost management consultants, few are aware of her international diplomatic exploits.

In 1986, Rebecca inspired headlines when she served as one of 100 delegates from around the world at a UN International Year of Peace event in Poland. An Associated Press account of the event stated that after Rebecca quietly suggested that conference delegates might be on the wrong track with their political harangues, "an unusual thing happened–Western and Eastern bloc delegates stopped bickering and actually started talking about peace."

Vladamir Lebedinsky, the highest ranking Soviet delegate at the conference and a professor at Moscow University, closed the conference by dedicating his speech to Rebecca and handing her a photo of his granddaughter and saying "now Rebecca's three children have a sister in the Soviet Union."

Closer to home, Rebecca's business, aptly titled "Rebecca Koch & Associates," has served a wide range of businesses, not-forprofits and governmental entities for two decades. Her clients include the University of New Mexico, the Santa Fe Institute, Los Alamos National Laboratory, SITE Santa Fe and the M.I.N.D. Institute. One of her proudest accomplishments was moving the Santa Fe Business Incubator, Inc. from conception to reality and managing its capital campaign.

Rebecca has also been an instructor at the Robert O. Anderson School and Graduate School of Management at the University of New Mexico. She now travels internationally to teach the Avatar Course, which focuses on how human consciousness operates.

Rebecca brings her wise advice and counsel to Think New Mexico's board, where she has helped guide the development of Think New Mexico's five-year Strategic Plan.

"I continue to be amazed by what Think New Mexico has been able to accomplish in such a short amount of time and without a lot of money," says Rebecca. "It is critical for New Mexico's future that we find the resources to make Think New Mexico a permanent part of the state's policy landscape."



Staff Profile: Grant Taylor



A fourth-generation New Mexican, Grant Taylor grew up in Artesia, where his large family has worked in farming and the oil fields of southeastern New Mexico since the early 1920s.

With a Lottery Success Scholarship, Grant earned his bachelor's degree in journalism and mass communications from New Mexico State University (NMSU). He also holds a master's degree in business administration from NMSU.

While pursuing his degrees, Grant led many community service initiatives and worked for both Doña Ana County and the university concurrently. After that, he worked in bank marketing and business development in south-central and southeastern New Mexico before joining Think New Mexico.

As Field Director, Grant's major responsibilities include statewide grassroots organizing and coalition-building. In that capacity, Grant traveled the state to visit college campuses and won some key endorsements from faculty and student groups for Think New Mexico's recent lottery reform initiative.

Grant proved his ability to build diverse coalitions when he joined a predominantly African-American fraternity at NMSU and was eventually elected its president.

In addition to coalition-building, Grant assists with advocating for Think New Mexico's legislation. He is also developing a field plan and a marketing plan with an emphasis on building Think New Mexico's presence in rural New Mexico.

"When I was in college, I promised myself my career would be devoted to improving New Mexico," Grant says. "I am thrilled and grateful to work with Fred, Kristina and Lynne, and for an organization whose mission is to serve New Mexicans in such meaningful ways."

Although Santa Fe is growing on him, Grant is strongly rooted in southern New Mexico. His mother, Mary Kay, is a lifelong educator, who has developed special education programs at the preschool and middle school levels in Artesia. Grant's wife, Megan, is from the Hobbs area, where her father served Lea County as its cooperative extension agent for more than two decades. Grant and Megan are expecting their first child later this year.

Statement of Income and Expenditures

INCOME

Businesses	23,625
Foundation Grants	323,536
Individuals	115,342
Investment, Interest & Misc. Income	71,362
Total Income	\$533,865

EXPENDITURES

Audit/Accounting	3,923
Benefits-Health Insurance	38,452
Benefits-Pension Plan	12,584
Computer Consulting, Internet, Website	1,173
Contract Services, Internship	2,500
Depreciation	4,453
Educational Outreach	2,675
Graphic Design	In-kind
Insurance	3,158
Investment Management Fees	1,288
Legal Fees	0
Marketing	6,380
Miscellaneous	126
Payroll Taxes	21,776
Postage	14,297
Printing & Bulk Copying	31,362
Professional Fundraising	0
Rent/Utilities	23,216
Research	475
Salaries	183,472
Security/Janitorial	262
Stewardship/Board Expenses	280
Supplies	2,249
Telephone	3,574
Training/Subscriptions/Dues	880
Travel	250
Total Expenses	\$358,805

Note: These financial statements do not include in-kind contributions and materials from 2006, which totaled \$15,771.

Think New Mexico 20

Think New Mexico's fundraising expense as a percentage of income in 2006 was 5.1%. Think New Mexico's administrative overhead ("management and general"), as a percentage of income in 2006 was 5.9%.

Administration & Fundraising as a Percentage of Income: 2006

5.1% 5.9%



FINANCIAL SUMMARY Year Ended Dec. 31, 2006

Balance Sheet

ASSETS

Cash and Cash Equivalents	288,777	
Endowment Funds	119,745	
Grants Receivable	57,500	
Investments	374,100	
Prepaid Expenses	2,660	
Property and Equipment, Net		
of Accumulated Depreciatic	on 6,771	
Total Assets	\$849,553	

LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	2,500
Accrued Expenses	4,398
Total Liabilities	\$ 6,898

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted Temporarily Restricted	719,855 122,800
Total Net Assets	\$842,655
Total Liabilities	
and Net Assets	\$849,553

Source for pages 20-21: Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2006 and Think New Mexico's IRS Form 990 for 2006. Independent auditors: Bishop and Loggains, LLC CPA.

Summer Storm Over the Painted Kiva Photo by Alex Candelaria Sedillos

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(JANUARY 1, 2006 - MAY 1, 2007)

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"Your Annual Report was put in my mailbox by mistake. I opened it and read it and am THRILLED that you exist and am delighted to support your work. . . . please accept my check with thanks for being an organization that surely is a model for getting meaningful things done."

Linda Cole, new social investor, in a letter to Think New Mexico dated June 16, 2006.

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NEVER DOUBT THAT A SMALL GROUP OF THOUGHTFUL, COMMITTED CITIZENS CAN CHANGE THE WORLD. INDEED, IT IS THE ONLY THING THAT EVER HAS.

Margaret Mead