



### Beleaguered

After 5-1 start, Tiger football team struggling in 3-4A league play

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### Walk Way

MainStreet TorC recipient of AARP grant for sidewalk project

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### Fired Up

Hot Springs nearly upsets district favorite Silver at Tiger Gym

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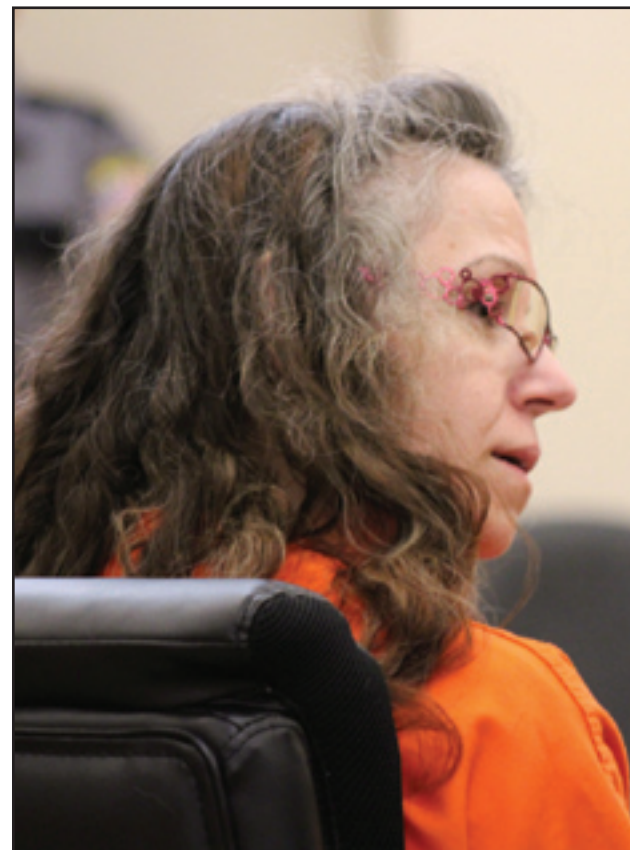
# The HERALD

Truth or Consequences, New Mexico



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Kandi Adams

## Murder Trial Set for Dec. 11

**By Betsy Phillips**  
**HERALD Reporter**  
A pretrial hearing was held in the murder and fraud case against Kandi Adams and her trial seems to be on track to begin Dec. 11.

Adams is accused in the March 20, 2015, death of Richard Harris, 53, at his home in Hillsboro where Adams also lived. Adams has been incarcerated since her arrest April 13, 2016 in Ely, Nevada, where she had been living and working at William B Ririe Medical Center as an operating room nurse soon after Harris' death.

The case was originally set for a Dec. 5, 2016, trial, but there were problems getting the Office of the Medial Investigator to

release evidence samples for testing.

Defense attorney Gary Mitchell expressed frustration to Judge Mercedes Murphy regarding OMI and its lack of response to his requests for lab evidence to be turned over to his expert.

Mitchell has said from the beginning that the case is heavily dependant on toxicology.

Senior Trial Attorney for the District Attorney's Office Ron Lolardo told Judge Murphy Tuesday, Oct. 10, that the state is being required to pay for interviews with two defense witnesses (toxicologists). Lolardo told the judge that District Attorney Clint Wellborn refuses to pay for

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## Sierra County Joins 'Minimum Pool' Effort

**By Tony A. Archuleta**  
**HERALD Reporter**  
In Sierra County, local government officials are teaming up in an effort to maintain what's been dubbed a "minimum pool" at Elephant Butte Lake.

As lake elevation levels go, so go visitation numbers at Elephant Butte Lake State Park, tourism officials have long said.

On Tuesday, Oct. 10, the County Commission appointed Chairman Ken Lyon to the local board working with state and federal officials to maintain water storage levels that help bolster boating, fishing and other recreational activities at the lake.

County Manager Bruce Swingle says the initiative should pay dividends for the county in general, and the state park in particular. "Everybody understands

the significance of the lake and the recreational dollars that that brings in, not only to the community but to the state," Swingle said, adding revenue at EBLSP amounts to about 83 percent of the State Parks budget. "That is revenue that they do not have to provide to the other state parks because this park is generating that revenue. It's a matter of coming up with a plan that everyone can live with."

Swingle said local officials are also taking into account the needs of other stakeholders in the lake, including the agricultural industry.

Said Lyon, "It's a win-win for everybody, that's what we're looking for."

### SPACEPORT BUSINESS

Lyon echoed New Mexico Spaceport Authority Exec-

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## Probate Judge Resigns, Faces Fraud Investigation

**By Betsy Phillips**  
**HERALD Reporter**

Sierra County Probate Judge Pamela Smith agreed to resign Wednesday (Oct. 11) rather than face further disciplinary proceedings by the Judicial Standards Commission.

There is also an investigation of felony fraud being conducted by New Mexico State Police that names Pam Smith and her husband, Randy Smith.

The notice of formal proceedings filed by the New Mexico Judicial Standards Commission alleges 16 counts of willful misconduct in the matter of the estate of Dominic Domingo. The tangled web began to weave on March 9 when Dominic Domingo was found dead in his TorC apartment.

Smith then served as a deputy field investiga-



Resigning Sierra County Probate Judge Pamela Smith

tor with the state Office of Medical Investigations, but April 18, Smith opened has also been placed on un-

paid administrative leave. Smith responded to the death of Domingo, 82, of TorC, March 9. In her field report she identified her husband, Randy Smith, as

The same day, the com-

### NOTICE OF SPECIAL COUNTY MEETING

The Sierra County Commission is scheduled to hold a special meeting at 9 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 18, to appoint a Sierra County probate judge to replace resigning judge Pamela Smith.

mission alleges she signed and filed the statement of acceptance, asserting Smith had considered her husband's application for the duties of special administrator, when no such application had been submitted.

The allegations say that since April, Smith failed to recuse herself from Domingo's case, or transfer the case to district court despite the fact that she was the OMI investigator who

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## Mayor Green Responds to Fenn's Petition Against Armory Renovation

**By Tony A. Archuleta**  
**HERALD Reporter**

The City of TorC's plan to convert the former National Guard armory on North Cedar Street into police department headquarters is being challenged via petition by local government activist Ron Fenn after the city recently approved a \$2.18 million bond issue to help finance the project.

At Wednesday's, Oct. 11, City Commission meeting Mayor Steve Green said it appears Fenn has collected enough signatures to force a special election allowing voters to settle the issue.

"I support, as surprising as this might sound, I support Mr. Fenn's right to question a decision that's been looked at for over three years, about taking the armory and converting it into a safety complex," Green said. "I support that democratic process. I think it's money that is not wisely spent because if he gets over 168 signatures, and he has until Friday (Oct. 13) to turn that petition in, it will mandate an election, and that's part of the government that we exist under, which is a commission manager form of government. For example, if we were Elephant Butte where we had a mayor/council form of government, that would not be allowed to have a petition like that, but so it is, and we abide by that."

Green, however, urged citizens who signed the petition to reconsider before

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PETITIONING THE CITY - Local government activist Ron Fenn (right), shown with local resident Perry Wolff, appears at the Truth or Consequences City Clerk's Office on Friday, Oct. 13, to turn over a petition challenging the city's plan to convert the former National Guard armory on North Cedar Street into TorC Police Department headquarters.

HERALD photo/BETSY PHILLIPS

### WEEKLY WEATHER WATCH 8-DAY FORECAST

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 18	THURSDAY OCTOBER 19	FRIDAY OCTOBER 20	SATURDAY OCTOBER 21	SUNDAY OCTOBER 22	MONDAY OCTOBER 23	TUESDAY OCTOBER 24	WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 25	NEED PRINTING? Competitive Prices! Let Us Bid On Your Next Printing Job. The HERALD 1204 North Dale PO Box 752 TorC, NM 87901
High 87 Low 58 Partly Cloudy SSE Breeze: 5 mph Sunrise: 7:16 am Set: 6:31 pm	High 87 Low 57 Partly Cloudy S Wind: 11 mph Sunrise: 7:16 am Set: 6:30 pm	High 89 Low 59 Mostly Sunny SW Wind: 17 mph Sunrise: 7:17 am Set: 6:29 pm	High 86 Low 52 Sunny WSW Wind: 15 mph Sunrise: 7:18 am Set: 6:28 pm	High 77 Low 50 Sunny NNE Wind: 15 mph Sunrise: 7:19 am Set: 6:26 pm	High 78 Low 54 Sunny NNE Wind: 11 mph Sunrise: 7:20 am Set: 6:25 pm	High 78 Low 53 Sunny ENE Wind: 10 mph Sunrise: 7:21 am Set: 6:24 pm	High 79 Low 53 Sunny SW Breeze: 9 mph Sunrise: 7:21 am Set: 6:23 pm	