

# LETTERS TO OUTLOOK

## Shame on rogue protests

Has anybody noticed that the Carpenter's Union street-corner protesters were not around (Thanksgiving) week? Yes, our sidewalks have been clear of the "Shame on whoever" signs in front of our hospitals, our hotels, our schools, our banks, a museum and our retail businesses.

Does anyone know why? It's because the out-of-state organizers went back home to be with their families for Thanksgiving. What a respite we received!

What's more surprising is the fact that these poor day laborers are distributing literature, ruining our cityscape and denigrating our community benefactors, but yet they themselves don't have the benefits that the union bosses are alleging certain companies don't provide.

How can one use day laborers with no benefits to fight for benefits? And when they target companies that have full benefits packages, it smacks of hypocrisy and slander, and it's bad for our community.

Every worker deserves health care, dental, a 401(k) and life insurance; and if an employer provides those things they should not be targeted as "rats" just because of some aggressive organizing campaign hatched by an out-of-state rogue union, which has been the case in New Mexico the past 12 months. The eyesore sidewalk protesters are merely a ploy by one specific union that has broken away from all the

other construction unions and they are not backed by the other construction trade unions in our great state.

The bottom line is, these protests are based on lies and slander, they disrupt the businesses they target, they are ruining our business climate, they are ruining the reputations of other construction trade unions, and most of all they have a negative impact on the industry that they allegedly support. Not to mention that they are utilizing day laborers without health benefits, they leave them on street corners without proper restroom facilities, and they subject them to distributing propaganda that is false.

We've had a long history of harmonious labor relations here in New Mexico and there's no reason for members of the business community to turn on each other due to the organizing attempts of people that don't even own a New Mexico driver's license.

**Chet Karnas**  
**President**  
**Lone Sun Builders Inc.**  
**Albuquerque**

## PNM's green claims tainted

PNM claims that it has spent millions "aggressively" addressing climate change. Truthfully, PNM has spent the money on ad campaigns to show how "green" they are and that's about it.

The reality is PNM continues to use less renewable energy than

*Business*

# Outlook

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2009

## THE PIZZA GUY

*Dion's founder proves persistence and a good sense of humor go a very long way.*

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