



From The President

Higher Elevations in 2019



Dr. D. Ryan Carstens

A research company recently asked a sampling of Ruidoso and Ruidoso Downs residents what they valued most about their local community college.

Here are the top eight responses:

- 1) ENMU has partnerships with area school districts to provide dual credit classes. Students can earn college credits while in high school, allowing them to complete college in less time and at less expense.
- 2) ENMU-Ruidoso has programs that prepare local residents for careers in nursing, emergency medical, cybersecurity, wildland fire, and other fields important to Lincoln County.
- 3) ENMU-Ruidoso offers needed training programs for many of our area's first responders, including firefighters and emergency medical specialists. People already working as first responders can come to ENMU-Ruidoso to refresh and update their skills.
- 4) ENMU-Ruidoso has a unique relationship with the New Mexico Workforce Connection and is creating a "one-stop shop" for residents who needed training in order to find well-paying jobs.
- 5) ENMU-Ruidoso's Early Childhood Education program

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ENMU-Ruidoso Calls for \$3 Million Bond Referendum to Expand Workforce Training Capacity

The ENMU-Ruidoso Advisory Board took its last step Friday, Aug. 2, to present a \$3 million bond referendum to voters on Nov. 5, 2019.

The board approved ballot language that would ask voters in Ruidoso and Ruidoso Downs to authorize up to \$3 million in general obligation bonds for renovating the college's existing facility

at 709 Mechem Dr., expanding the building's capacity for new workforce degree and certificate programs as requested by local residents.

In July, the Advisory Board affirmed its decision to move forward with a bond referendum after hearing from its Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) composed of area residents, employers,

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Fall Classes Begin August 20!

It's not too late to enroll in some of ENMU-Ruidoso's most popular programs which begin this fall.

Enroll and register for classes now to begin studies in programs such as **Business Administration, Criminal Justice, Early Childhood Education, Elementary/Special Education, Emergency Medical Services, Hotel/Restaurant and Tourism Management, Information Systems (Cybersecurity), Natural Science, Police Science, Pre-Engineering, Pre-Nursing, Psychology, Structural Fire Science, Wildland Fire Science, and University Studies.**



To get started, visit the college's webpage: ruidoso.enmu.edu and click "Apply Now."



Deadline Approaching to File for Board Position

Citizens interested in standing for election to the ENMU-Ruidoso Branch Community College Advisory Board on Nov. 5 must file with the Lincoln County Clerk's office by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 27.

Positions 1, 4, and 5 of the Advisory Board are up for election.

The Lincoln County Clerk's Office is located at 300 Central Ave. in Carrizozo.

For information about the election, contact the office at 575.648.2393, ext. 6, or 800.687.2705, ext. 6.

\$3 Million Bond Referendum to Expand Workforce Training Capacity

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and government officials.

Formed at the request of college President Dr. D. Ryan Carstens, the CAC had met with college officials throughout the summer to review the college's current academic and physical plant situation and review the college's proposed plans for the future.

Debi Lee, manager for the Village of Ruidoso, who spoke on behalf of the committee, said the CAC gave the college a unanimous 'Yes' and encouraged the board to proceed with plans for a bond referendum on Nov. 5.

"The key to economic development and a strong economy is a strong workforce," Lee told the board. "The economy in Lincoln County is growing and community members and businesses are saying a skilled workforce is critical if they are going to grow or expand"

The bond, if passed, Lee said, would provide ENMU-Ruidoso with the classrooms and equipment required to provide specific training and program certificates that address the skilled workforce needs the community is calling for."

ENMU-Ruidoso has never before sought a bond referendum to renovate

its educational facilities located at 709 Mechem Dr. Previous renovations were accomplished with state and local funds. However, in 2018, the New Mexico higher education capital outlay committee advised the college to seek funds from local voters before requesting more state funds for growth.

Using state and local funds, the college is now renovating the adjacent building at 729 Mechem Dr. with new classrooms and technology.

Then, if voters in Ruidoso and Ruidoso Downs approve the bond request on Nov. 5, the college will sell bonds to revitalize its older existing facility into a dynamic workforce center that will include synergetic space for the New Mexico Workforce Connections Center and classrooms designed for specific industry and workforce programs.

According to the college's **Academic Plan**, new programs include wind energy, brewing/distilling/winery, HVAC, electrical, plumbing, and culinary arts.

Such programs, Lee noted, grow the trade-sector industry base, provide job opportunities for local residents, and provide skilled workers needed for existing and future businesses.

"These are important factors in attracting new businesses and creating new jobs here," Lee said.

"The Citizens Advisory Committee believes that, if implemented, these plans will make ENMU-Ruidoso a cornerstone of economic vitality for growing the community.

"An investment in workforce programs and services will bring a range of returns (monetary and non-monetary) that benefit both the person investing in the education and the community," Lee noted.

"And keeping more local students in the community for their education increases the likelihood these students will become our future business owners, managers, leaders and elected officials."

The CAC recommendation to support the referendum was unanimous. One member abstained.

Members included Dr. George Bickert, Zach Cook, Lynn Crawford, Tim Dodge, Dallas Draper, Jason Edmister, Clara Farah, Darren Hooker, Tim Keithley, Debi Lee, Judy Miller, Jimmy Romero, and Cody Thetford.

According to Dr. Carstens, if approved by voters on Nov. 5, bonds would only be sold as needed. The maximum tax impact for the owner of a \$100,000 home would be \$3.50 per month, or \$42 annually. 

ENMU-Ruidoso's Proposed \$3 Million Bond at a Glance

Renovations to existing facilities would provide more space for workforce training

The proposed renovation to 709 Mechem Dr. would expand on ENMU-Ruidoso's unique arrangement with the New Mexico Workforce Connections Center, which operates as part of the college, increasing workforce training and providing a "one-stop-shop" which integrates employment and student services to better help students succeed.

Along with additional workforce degree and certificate programs, renovations of 709 Mechem Dr. would provide:

- Space for workforce readiness training for dual credit students
- Seminar-style technology classrooms that allow local students to pursue advanced degrees at other universities without leaving the community
- Additional space for student interaction, studies and activities

Long-term benefits:

- Expanded capacity to train more nurses, first responders, and local trades workers



The renovated facility at 709 Mechem Dr. will include space for additional workforce programs, as well as an expanded area for the New Mexico Workforce Connections Center and Student Services. Also proposed are high tech seminar classrooms and computer labs.

- Upgraded facilities would encourage local students to remain "home" to continue their education
- ENMU-Ruidoso will become a "destination college" attractive to workers and students from outside the area who come for certification classes

ENMU-Ruidoso is a branch community college established in 1991. Located in the heart of beautiful Ruidoso, New Mexico, the college serves all Lincoln County and the Mescalera Apache Tribe with workforce education and training and university transfer courses. Flagship programs include Cybersecurity, Wildland Fire Science, Structural Fire Science, Early Care Education, Pre-nursing, Emergency Medical Services, and others. 

Construction set to begin on college's Phase 1 renovations

The construction trucks parked outside 721 Mechem Dr., adjacent to ENMU-Ruidoso, are crews ready to begin renovations inside the college's 16,000-plus square-foot annex.

When completed, the college will have added three classrooms able to seat 30 or more students, nine "seminar/study" rooms, holding from eight to 18 students, a 140-seat lecture hall and multi-purpose room, and faculty and support staff offices.

The \$3.582 million renovation also calls for a new roof, retaining wall and an infrastructure brought up to state code.

This Nexus Phase 1 project begins a make-over of the ENMU-Ruidoso property which is planned for three phases over several years.

Phase 1 is being paid for with local funds, state bonds, and an appropriation from the New Mexico Legislature.

Phase 2, which will turn the existing college learning space into a center for workforce degree and certificate programs, will require a locally supported bond. The college's Advisory Board is calling for a \$3 million referendum on Nov. 5 to seek community support for this renovation.

Phase 3, a \$1.5 million project, will add a new "face" or facade to the facility, giving what previously was two distinct buildings a single



look and name.

"We have reached out to local business owners, industry and workforce leaders, community leaders, students and parents asking what ENMU-Ruidoso should provide in programs, services and facilities in the future," said President Dr. D. Ryan Carstens. "The work now beginning is the first step in renovating the college as

the community envisions it."

The smaller seminar rooms will be equipped with technology allowing local students to connect with major universities to complete a four-year or advanced degree without leaving the community.

The 140-seat lecture hall will be a versatile space that can host community conferences and performing and fine arts presentations. There will be space for students to engage and study together, something students have been asking for "for years," Dr. Carstens said.

"We believe the functionality added to the college through this Phase 1 project will greatly enhance students' ability to learn," the President added, "and it will encourage many high school graduates to stay here in Ruidoso to begin their college studies."

Dr. Carstens expects the project to take six-to-nine months to complete.



College's Academic Plan Guides Facilities Development

ENMU-Ruidoso's development into a comprehensive community college with both academic transfer courses and expanded workforce programs is based on a year-long "conversation" the college has had with employers, residents and community leaders across Lincoln County.

Those conversations began early in 2018 when college President Dr. D. Ryan Carstens conducted public forums in each Lincoln County community. The conversations have continued through summer 2019 with business, community and government leaders to help the college define the workforce skills and emerging industry needs facing the community over the next decade.

From these detailed discussions has come an Academic Plan which will serve as a blueprint for future courses in the near future.

Space for specialized programs of the Academic Plan was accounted for in the college's Nexus Plan, a master plan for facility development.

The college is now undertaking Phase 1 of the Nexus Plan—the renovating of 721 Mechem Dr. adjacent to the college.

"Not every program can be brought online immediately," Dr. Carstens said. "We must find and allocate space for specific programs. Plus, it can take several years to get new programs approved by the state. Some programs require expensive equipment; others may require we attract and recruit specialized instructors."

Nonetheless, the President said, ENMU-Ruidoso is moving to bring "onboard" several programs identified in the Academic Plan in the short term.

On the workforce side, the short list of identified programs (programs requested by community businesses) include HVAC, electrical, plumbing, fire sciences, wine/brewing/distilling, wind energy, culinary/cooking, an early childhood education lab, and additional courses for EMS and first responders.

Proposed academic transfer programs include Alternative Teacher Education and healthcare certification programs.

The college and its faculty are working with local business leaders to bring several programs, including Wine/Brewing/Distilling to the campus as quickly as possible when facilities are available.

Elevations

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Title V Grant helps open access to career programs

by Rachel Saenz, Title V Project Manager



ENMU-Ruidoso's Title V grant continues to improve opportunities and access for local students wanting to train as firefighters and

first responders.

This is year five of the federal Title V grant called, "Climbing the Ladder: New Programs for First Responders."

Work done this year has undoubtedly provided expanded opportunities and access for Hispanic and low-income students in our community. Thanks to the unique online and hybrid 8-week course format introduced through grant efforts, students are able to continue to work and earn income while receiving the education and industry-

recognized credentials required to advance their career.

While the majority of the Structural Fire (SF) coursework is delivered online, ENMU-Ruidoso has established a partnership with Cloudcroft that provides access to the town's state-of-the-art burn building. The training and real-life burn scenarios conducted at the burn building provide students with a unique opportunity to experience the raw realities of firefighting.

In July, as part of the Fire Investigations course, students conducted a scene examination from start to finish, and covered unique approaches and multiple accepted methods of conducting a first-class investigation.

Along with the development of the program, Title V staff have been busy

developing an online career specific resource for all of our Structural Fire students. The developed online resource is a "one-stop-shop" for students to plan and prepare for further education or employment.

In collaboration with Student Services and the Department of Workforce Solutions, Title V staff are working to ensure that 100-percent of Structural Fire Safety students enrolled in the program will pilot this new resource.

This resource is housed within the online course platform named "Canvas" which was purchased by the Title V grant.

To learn more about Title V at ENMU-Ruidoso, call the office at 575.257.2120.



College's Summer Partnerships Help Prepare a Skilled Workforce



EMS Class



Water Rescue



EMS Student

ENMU-Ruidoso worked with local partners this spring and summer to train workers for several area programs and services.

The college partnered with Lincoln County, Mescalero and Otero County to teach EMT Basic across 15 weeks. Classes were held from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays at Capitan Schools.

Instructor Julie Guillen provided an introductory survey of emergency medical services with an emphasis on intermediate care, aid and transportation of the sick and injured.

Completers were eligible to sit for the National Registry EMT licensing examination.

With funds provided by the New

Mexico Workforce Connections and Title V, ENMU-Ruidoso trained water rescue personnel needed at Grindstone Lake during the summer.

Twenty firefighters and police attended the certification course, a collaboration with the Village of Ruidoso Fire and Police Department.



Online Dual Credit Courses Get Carrizozo HS Student a Head Start on College

Daniel Zamora wants to become a Conservation Officer.

He got a jump on his career plans as a high school junior—taking dual credit courses from ENMU-Ruidoso.

Daniel was one of three Carrizozo High School students enrolled in the college's dual credit courses, a popular program that allows high school juniors and seniors to enroll in community college credit courses while still in high school. These college credits also count as high school credits.

By the time Daniel graduated from high school, he had already completed the first year-and-a-half of college.

This August he will return to ENMU-Ruidoso as a full-time



Daniel Zamora

college student to complete his associate degree before transferring into a bachelor's program in Fisheries and Wildlife Science at NMSU-Las Cruces.

"I got into dual credit courses because my high school counselor and instructors encouraged me to," Daniel said. "Dual credit classes are free in New Mexico. All you have to do is commit to do the work, and you can save time and money later on."

Daniel took his classes online, taught by ENMU-Ruidoso faculty members, while sitting at a computer in his high school.

"The instructors were very good," he said. "They were there to help me when I had questions. Anyone who wants to learn can do this. There's

really no good reason not to take dual credit classes."

Since graduation, Daniel has been working at the Alto Lakes Outlaw golf course on the maintenance crew.

He says he is ready to take the "next step." When fall classes begin at ENMU-Ruidoso on August 20, Daniel will be there as a sophomore.

ENMU-Ruidoso graduated more than 60 dual credit students in 2019, thanks to agreements with high schools across Lincoln County.

It's not too late to enroll for dual credit classes this fall. For information, see the college's website, Ruidoso.ENMU.edu, or call 575.257.2120, or consult with a high school counselor. 

Nursing Assistants Pinned after Summer Course

Two-thirds of all nurses and first responders earn their credentials at community colleges like ENMU-Ruidoso.

The college recognized a new class of nursing assistants at a brief pinning ceremony this summer, signaling the end of a month-long certificate program.

Completers are eligible to take the state exam for certification, and earn



six college credits.

Newest nursing assistants from ENMU-Ruidoso are Marlene Bruggink, Jacob Griego, Brianna

Holder, Steffanie Hoover, Melissa Ortega and Salina Sabo.

Instructor Christel Dalton-Griego, RN, presented the pins.

To seek information about the Nursing Assistants Program, visit Ruidoso. ENMU.Edu. 



Christel Dalton Griego

New This Fall!

ENMU-Ruidoso's "Success Emporium" will Help Students Succeed

ENMU-Ruidoso is merging two offices to streamline processes and improve services to students.

Beginning this fall, Adult Education (AE) and Student Success will become a single office called the Success Emporium, a one-stop-shop where all students can find the resources needed to advance in their studies at a high level.

Combining the office will merge overlapping services, such as tutoring, into one location. Another service, I-BEST instruction, will be collaboratively supported through four full-time employees who will be cross-trained with primary and secondary roles.

I-BEST, or Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training, is a strategy in which basic skills instructors and technical faculty jointly design and teach college-level occupational classes that admit basic skills-level students.

The Success Emporium will include all student services (such as advising, testing, financial aid, testing) along with the New Mexico Workforce Connections Center.

The reorganization has many benefits for students:

- The Success Emporium will be open later in the evening and on Saturdays, providing student support 62 hours per week.

- Tutoring will be available every hour the emporium is open.
- Workshops and services from Workforce, AE, and Student Success will be available on demand.
- Every employee in the emporium will be trained in all functions, improving service to students.
- All new students will be encouraged to participate in career services offered by Workforce Connections.
- The Success Emporium will be a part of student onboarding at the college, centralizing access to all preparation services in one location.

The Success Emporium begins operation with the fall semester. Classes begin August 20. 

Many happy faces at Kids' College this summer!



Samuel Salcido Carlos Gonzalez Joshua Stallings Charlotte Hargis

ENMU-Ruidoso's popular Kids' College drew rave reviews from its young scholars ages 6-12—and from relieved parents, too!

The June day program, taught by instructors Sonia Contreras and Cheyenne Dowdell, introduced youngsters to a variety of activities, such as cooking, fieldtrips, art, history, science projects and physical education.

Twenty-five happy graduates turned tassels at commencement on June 28.

For information about next summer's class, call 575-257-2120.



Lending a Hand:

ENMU-Ruidoso Employees Help with Local Food Distribution

ENMU-Ruidoso employees live and work in the community and pitch in whenever there's a need.

To highlight one volunteer effort, several employees volunteer time and muscle to help distribute free food from the Lincoln County Food Bank's Mobile Food Pantry each month.

In June, for instance, **James Pawlak**, librarian, **Daniel Waldo**, faculty and coordinator of Student Success, and **Jessica Ortiz**, Student Services specialist, arrived early to help set out food stations, then guide patrons through the maze of boxes and help load cars with food.

In other months, student volunteers, including **Tonia Ashby** and **Clara Farah**, have pitched in to help. James has been helping since 2012.

The distribution is held the first Thursday of each month in

the parking lot of River Crossing Ministries at 1950 Sudderth Rd. in Ruidoso. River Crossing, a 501 (c) 3, is the official "host" of the Lincoln County Health Council's Mobile Food Pantry.

Volunteers fill boxes with fruit, frozen foods, non-perishable can goods and staples such as bread, sugar and flour. From set up to clean up requires about three hours.

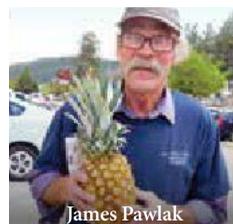
In June, 59 families received food assistance, a number which includes 42 children.

"Our monthly order is for an estimated turnout of 75 households with the delivery running to 5,000 pounds of food," James said. "Two thousand pounds of that is fresh produce, which is often in short supply."

To join volunteers at the distribution each month, call 505.257.3014.



Jessica Ortiz Daniel Waldo



James Pawlak

From the Executive Director

Rhonda Vincent



This year's Aim High Sporting Clay Fundraiser was a huge success, and we have many people to thank!

A special thanks goes to the 140 shooters who brought their game to the beautiful mountains and scenery of Ponderosa Springs Ranch in Lincoln, NM, July 29-30. Because of you and our wonderful sponsors and volunteers, ENMU-Ruidoso Foundation will be able to

We Hit the Mark!

give more than \$31,000 in scholarships to help needy and deserving students attend classes this fall.

Paul Tunell won a 2018 Polaris Ranger Crew and **Brian Samson** won the Beretta A400 xcel on Saturday. On Sunday we were pleased to give away a Mossberg 20 gauge to **Dink Bowen** and a Ruger 10-22 to **Jerry Leonard!**

Top teams this year were **Alliance** with a team score of 366 and **Plaska Contractors** with a score of 357! Our high youth shooter was **Dillon Lopez**

with a score of 91!

As of this writing, we cannot announce the Foundation's final tally for the event, but we are certain it will net a record—all for students and higher education.

A big shout-out of appreciation to the Foundation's loyal supporters. Here's a list by category:

Marksman: BIS Burba Insurance Services, All American Ruidoso Downs, Sierra Blanca Motors, DRN Equipment, Win Place and Show, 3rd

Continued on page 8

Memories from the 2019 Fundraiser

If you missed this year's Aim High Sporting Clay Fundraiser July 29-30 at the Ponderosa Springs Ranch in Lincoln, here are a few photos of these special two days.

Make plans now to join us next July. All fees and contributions to the ENMU-Foundation are tax deductible, so come and give it your best shot!



Meet Foundation President Dr. Lynn Willard

The man who serves as president of the ENMU-Ruidoso Foundation Board has a long track record with the community and the community's college.



Lynn Willard, a Kansas native, grew up on a ranch, and attended high school in Madison.

He married Donna Lindsay, his high school sweetheart in 1965, and graduated from Kansas State University with a DVM degree in 1969.

Following college Willard joined the United States Air Force and was stationed at Kirtland Air Force Base in the early 1970's. He joined the Webster Animal Hospital in Roswell, and two years later, moved to Ruidoso to start the Ruidoso Animal Clinic in 1973.

Career highlights include time as president of the New Mexico Veterinary

Medical Association in 1979-80 and president of the New Mexico Academy of Veterinary Practice in 1978-79 and 1982-83. He was the NMVMA Veterinarian of the Year in 1983.

He has focused his time and energy in Ruidoso on public service.

Willard was a Ruidoso Municipal School Board member for 10 years and president of both the Ruidoso Lions Club and the Ruidoso Rotary Club. He has served as president of the Chamber of Commerce and was the chamber's Citizen of the Year in 2001.

He has a passion for Big Brothers and Big Sisters. He has been president of the Lincoln County Big Brothers for several years and has been a Big Brother for more than 10 years.

Lynn was instrumental in the formation of ENMU-Ruidoso Branch

Community College, and served on its Advisory Board for more than 14 years. He was chair of the Board for five years.

In 2015, he was elected Lincoln County Commissioner.

Though retired professionally, he continues to serve his favorite causes as president of the Foundation, and enjoys part-time small animal practice, trail riding and various sports.

He has three grown children and three granddaughters.

"Lynn brings a wealth of business sense and expertise to the Foundation board," said Executive Director Rhonda Vincent, "and matches that with his passion to help the young people of this community succeed in education and in life.

"We value his contributions very much."

From The President *Continued from page 1*

- and its elementary/special education program helps prepare local residents for teaching positions in local schools.
- 6) ENMU-Ruidoso has academic and workforce associate degree programs that prepare students to transfer into bachelor degree programs at most accredited universities in the nation, making this an affordable option for those seeking four-year degrees.
 - 7) Many graduates remain in the area to live, work, raise families and pay taxes, providing a solid “return on investment” for local taxpayers.
 - 8) ENMU-Ruidoso has an advising model that helps students stay on track to complete their required courses without wasting time and money on unnecessary courses.

Now, with the community growing and businesses seeking to expand, ENMU-Ruidoso is being asked to do even more—namely, to provide the training that prepares the skilled workers the community needs to stay prosperous in coming years.

We have accepted the challenge and have prepared a plan for keeping ENMU-Ruidoso “in step” with the needs of residents and community.

We call it “**Higher Elevations 2019.**” It’s our “blueprint” for renovating existing space into modern workforce instructional space so we can do more—and be more—for our students and residents.

It’s a plan that will encourage local students to stay home to pursue their college education while greatly expanding our workforce instruction

capacity. It’s a plan that is good for students, good for jobs, and good for the community.

To achieve it, the ENMU-Ruidoso advisory board, supported by local citizens, has called for a modest \$3 million bond referendum on Nov. 5, 2019.

I encourage you to get informed about the Higher Elevations 2019 bond proposal. You’ll find information on our website at Ruidoso.ENMU.edu.

With your help, we will reach those higher elevations for Ruidoso and Ruidoso Downs. We haven’t yet reached the pinnacle, but we are on our way.



Dr. Ryan Carstens
 President

We hit the mark! *Continued from page 7*

Rock Energy Services, and Eunice Pump & Supply.

Sharpshooter: Buns R Us, Aspen Real Estate Century 21, Brunell’s, Harvey’s Feed & Supply, Harvey Fuels, Hometown Tire, and White Flyer.

Station: Scott Northam, The Agency, High Country Agency, Evergreen Cleaners, SBRX, Pavelka Sleep, City Bank, Sportsman’s Warehouse, Ruidoso Ford, Illusions, State Farm, Zach Cook,

White Sands Construction, White Flyer, Ruidoso Jockey Club, Farley’s/Cattle Baron, Shane Holder, Angel Chavez, Otero County Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Table Sponsors: First National Bank.

Youth Sponsors: Mossy Oak Properties, Sidwell Services, Flash Paving & Sealcoating.

Supporting the auction and raffle with special gifts and prizes: Crystal Pistol, MCM Elegante, Village Ace

Hardware, Sportsman’s Warehouse, Cattle Baron/Farley’s, Courtesy Sporting and Pawn.

It’s never too late to give to college scholarships through the ENMU-Ruidoso Foundation. Give, and receive a deduction on your 2019 federal income tax!

To give or to learn more, call me at 575.257.2120.