

SENATE DEMOCRATS

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SENATE PRO TEMPORE MARY KAY PAPEN TO APPEAR ON “REPORT FROM SANTA FE”

New Senate President Pro Tempore Mary Kay Papen (Dona Ana, District 38) will be this week’s guest on “Report from Santa Fe,” airing statewide on PBS.

Senator Papen describes the illustrious road that led her to the Senate Pro-Tem post, starting with visits to the Legislature as a citizen advocate for domestic violence and mental health issues, then on to her election as a senator from Dona Ana County in 2000, and culminating with her recent selection to the current leadership post in the New Mexico State Senate.

She also addresses mental-health issues in ongoing gun-violence legislative discussions, her multiyear efforts on behalf of Spaceport America, and her bills for drug-testing enhancements that will help reform the horse-racing industry. Other hot topics include help for *colonias*, and shoring up the state's retirement funds.

“Education is another big piece that we're having to look at,” Senator Papen said. “And the dropouts, and retaining people in school -- all the way through college, university -- and giving them the best education that we possibly can.

“Because they're our workforce, and that is economic development.”

In 2012, Senator Papen was named “State Legislator of the Year,” a national award from the American Psychological Association Practice Organization. The state Senate awarded her the prestigious 2012 Milagro Award and in 2010, the National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI) honored her with the Domenici Family Award for her service.

“Report from Santa Fe” is hosted by veteran journalist Lorene Mills, who promises that this interview with Senator Papen is an “especially good one.” Here are the times this weekend that the show will air throughout New Mexico on public television and radio:

Saturday night, February 2, 6 p.m.: The entire east side of the state, on Channel 3, KENW-TV, the PBS station in Portales. In addition, statewide DirecTV and the Dish Network will air the program on Channel 3 at this time.

Sunday morning, February 3, 6 a.m.: Las Cruces and the southern part of the state, on KRWG-TV, Channel 22, in Las Cruces.

Sunday morning, February 3, 8 a.m.: Albuquerque, Santa Fe and all of northern New Mexico, on Channel 5, KNME-TV, in Albuquerque.

In addition, the interview will air at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, February 4, on KANW-FM, 89.1. A week or so after it airs, watch it online at www.reportfromsantafe.com.