Garcia, Kumar reclaim city council seats

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votes separate Kumar and Chavez

By Bernie Dotson

Sun Correspondent

The two incumbents running for city council seats March 14 reclaimed their seats, according to unofficial election results from Gallup City Hall.

Linda Garcia and Yogash Kumar won council seats in District 1 and District 3, respectively. There are 6,459 eligible voters in Gallup. There were 799 votes cast in the election.

"Everything went very well," Gallup Deputy City Clerk Alicia Palacios said. "There were no problems with the voting machines."

Garcia ran unopposed and garnered 96 total votes. Kumar was challenged by political newcomer and restaurateur Angela Chavez and former city parks and recreation director Esco Chavez. Garcia and Esco Chavez are Gallup natives. Angela Chavez and Kumar are Gallup transplants. Kumar is a hotelier with holdings as far away as Albuquerque.

Garcia, the only candidate present at City Hall to monitor election results, got 96 votes. Kumar won District 3 with 301 total votes and Esco Chavez accumulated 224. Angela Chavez garnered 175 total votes.

Gallup councilors serve four-year staggered terms and earn an annual salary of $15,000. Palacios said an election canvassing will take place March 15 at 10 am. At City Council chambers.