

A vehicle that struck a downtown gas meter caused employees at various businesses to evacuate for safety reasons Jan. 27, officials said.

Gallup Deputy Fire Chief Jesus Morales a vehicle apparently hit a gas meter in the alley behind Zimmerman's Western Wear. The Gallup Fire Department was on the scene within minutes and were able to get things under control, Morales said.

"No one was injured in the incident," he said. Morales explained that a leak was found near a shut off valve and personnel from the New Mexico Gas Company were summoned. The city police manned traffic zones to expedite rectifying the situation, Morales said.

Zimmerman's, Richardson's and Eagle Café closed for business to facilitate repairs. "We were told to evacuate by the fire department," an employee at Zimmerman's said. "They got it fixed."

## By Bernie Dotson

## Sun Correspondent