Albuquerque Tribune



Mother-daughter reunited after 25 years

Rhondalee Rohleder-Garner (left) finally meets her biological mother, Elsie Bender, after 25 years, on Saturday at the Shalako Inn in Albuquerque. Mrs. Rohleder-Garner of Phoenix flies into the arms of Mrs. Bender of Albuquerque, who had given her daughter up for adoption when she was an infant. They were reunited through Operation Identity of Albuquerque, a search and support group for

people who've been separated by adoption, and International Soundex Register, an international registry for those seeking relatives lost through adoption. Mrs. Rohleder-Garner had registered with Soundex 10 months ago. Her mother registered a few weeks ago.