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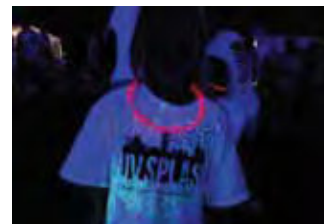
Arts & Leisure in Southern New Mexico



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August 2016

Volume 21 • Number 8





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MLS# 33446 • \$239,900
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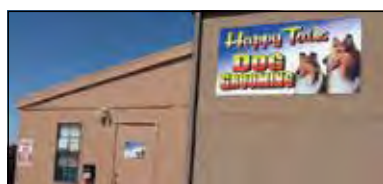
MLS# 33455 • \$99,000
IN-TOWN 0.395 ACRE LOT, WITH OVERSIZED 2 CAR BRICK GARAGE ALREADY BUILT, PLUS A FOUNDATION FOR THE HOME. Southern exposure with views of Boston Hill. Driveway, water tap, electric & gas are on the property. Residential B zoning allows for multi-family.



MLS# 33047 • \$166,063
ATTRACTIVE 3BD/2BA RANCH ON 0.62 ACRES IN INDIAN HILLS. TWO LIVING AREAS, LARGE MASTER BEDROOM SUITE, 2 CAR GARAGE WITH BUILT-IN STORAGE. Private terraced backyard with concrete patio & pull-out awning. Greenhouse, storage shed, plenty of parking. This home will soon be connected to city sewer.



MLS# 33454 • \$1,998,000
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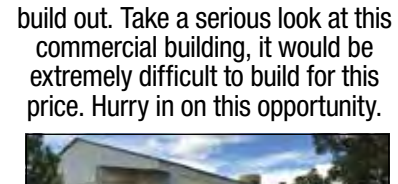
MLS# 33461 • \$98,900
CLASSIC 3BD/1.75BA TYRONE HOME ON CUL-DE-SAC. Dining Room and Master Bath additions provide more room. Ceramic tile in living room & hallway, two sliding glass doors open out to the private backyard.



MLS# 33447 • \$334,000
This is a contemporary 3 bedroom 2.5 bath, southwest, 2 story home with breathtaking views of the Mogollon Mountains and just 20 minutes from downtown. Gentleman, there is a garage/shop office (doghouse) area you've been dreaming of all your life, and it has a shower too, plus plenty of storage and room to tinker. The home is a gorgeous 2x6 frame stucco with a metal roof and all the modern touches and amenities you hoped for, don't hesitate.



MLS# 33434 • \$137,000
CHARMING 2BD/1.75BA HOME IN THE NORTH ADDITION HISTORIC DISTRICT, BUILT 1905. Brick construction, front covered porch, corner lot, large yard. High ceilings, sunroom, efficient floor plan, lots of character. All appliances convey (just two years old).



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"Blue Burro"

ABOUT THE COVER:

Artist Mariah Walker came to Silver City in 2012 seeking balance in her life. She moved from Madison, Wisc. to her aunt's home in Silver City and after being introduced to the watercolor craft, found a niche.

"At first I wasn't too excited about it because of the unpredictable results that often come from painting in this media," Walker said. "Nancy encouraged me to keep going, and I learned that sometimes giving up control could have the most positive results."

Today she enjoys using a variety of media such as watercolor, colored pencils, ink, textiles and photography. She integrates components of Mexican folk art, nature and Southwest motifs to create a variety of expressive pieces.

Walker's artwork can be found in various locations throughout Silver City and is available in prints and note cards as well as originals. She is the Copper Quail Gallery's artist of the month for August. She said she is grateful to the Copper Quail and the gallery's owner Jan Fell, for including her with such a great group of artists.

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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK • ELVA K. ÖSTERREICH

All the Small things

Blame Sesame Street

When the PBS show "Sesame Street" first made the scene in 1969, it not only brought innovation to children's programming specifically and television programming in general, it started changing our brains.

The shift from linear information absorption – taking in information in full, time consuming methodical thought processes to flash-bang short music video style bits – began. Today our information is consumed in short, intense chunks and our brains have been trained to consume it that way. That training has expanded exponentially since 1969 and moved into the world of internet and video games.

Professor Susan Greenfield, a neuroscientist, is concerned about the way we see our own identities in the world.

"Already, it's pretty clear that the screen-based, two dimensional world that so many teenagers – and a growing number of adults – choose to inhabit is producing changes in behavior," she writes in a Daily Mail article. "Attention spans are shorter, personal communication skills are reduced and there's a marked reduction in the ability to think abstractly.

"This games-driven generation interpret the world through screen-shaped eyes. It's almost as if something hasn't really happened until it's been posted on Facebook, Bebo or YouTube.

"Add that to the huge amount of personal information now stored on the internet – births, marriages, telephone numbers, credit ratings, holiday pictures – and it's sometimes difficult to know where the boundaries of our individuality actually lie. Only one thing is certain: those boundaries are weakening."

Our identities might also be experiencing attack on another front, expecting perfection. Another neuropsychologist, Professor Michael

Saling from the University of Melbourne, feels people are unfairly comparing themselves to more perfect memories.

"I get at least one patient a week who is convinced that forgetting things like car keys or picking up children is the result of a serious brain condition or early Alzheimer's," Saling said "The truth is the expansion of the information age has happened so fast, it's bringing us face to face with our brains' limitations. Just because our computer devices have perfect memories we think we should too.

"We've lost sight of the fact that forgetfulness is a normal and necessary phenomenon. We must keep pushing information out so it can deal with information coming in and if it gets overloaded we become forgetful."

But really, changes in the way we think is a constant, it's the way humans adapt. Our brains accept what is poured into them and shaped accordingly, then they in turn shape human identity.

Greenwald said 300 years ago, our notions of human identity were vastly simpler: we were defined by the family we were born into and our position within that family. The concept of individuality only arrived with the Industrial Revolution, which for the first time offered rewards for initiative, ingenuity and ambition. Suddenly, people had their own life stories – ones which could be shaped by their own thoughts and actions. For the first time, individuals had a real sense of self.

We make small, simple adaptations all the time without even realizing we have changed the world. When phonographs were invented, our ideas about song length changed, making four minutes the norm and dropping classical music from the most popular music list. When radios became popular, our brains learned to absorb, imagine

and be exploited by the power of words in the form of commercials and short stories.

We can go all the way back to Socrates, who lamented the invention of books which "create forgetfulness" in the soul. The printing press made things worse with the "vast chaos and confusion of books" that make the eyes and fingers ache, according to Robert Burten in the 17th century (recounted in a book review by Jonah Lehrer of "Our Cluttered Minds" by Nicholas Carr).

By 1890, Lehrer said, the problem was the speed of transmission, or "the pelting of telegrams" for triggering an outbreak of mental illness.

Other changes are making their way down through the years, physical changes indicating a shift in behavior. Our malleable brains may be able to revert to older ways of thinking, but can our physical bodies do the same?

For example, our handshakes are changing our hand strength over time. In a study of Americans ages 20-34, occupational therapists found that men younger than 30 have significantly weaker hand grips than their counterparts in 1985 did. The same was true of women ages 20-24, according to the study published by the "Journal of Hand Therapy" a few months ago.

In the past 100 years people have generally become taller, fatter and longer-lived. But are any of these things really basic genetic changes. Probably not.

They "are simply the developmental responses of organisms to changed conditions," such as differences in nutrition, food distribution, heal care and hygiene practices, according to Stephen Sterns, professor of ecology and evolutionary biology at Yale University.

But is real evolution taking place too?

In 2007, a team led by University

of Wisconsin-Madison anthropologist John Hawks estimated that positive selection in the past 5,000 years has occurred at a rate close to 100 times higher than any other period of human evolution.

These changes, Hawks believes, are occurring around changes in the human diet brought on by the advent of agriculture and resistance to epidemic diseases.

"In evolutionary terms, cultures that grow slowly are at a disadvantage, but the massive growth of human populations has led to far more genetic mutation," he said.

But does the change in the world, brains and bodies, really happen everywhere? One has to wonder, looking just across our southern border as two of our stories in this month's issue do. On pages 22 and 23 writers Marjorie Lilly and Morgan Smith talk about recent events and remarkable individuals in the Mexican towns of Palomas and Ascension. It makes me wonder if those brain changes in our western world carries over to those not so far away.

Do the children of Palomas have the same opportunities for the information bursts and high-pace living to seep into their lives and change their brains?

In the 16th century, pre-industrial era, personal violence was much more prevalent than in modern times. Better communication, through an increase in literacy, allowed government to act faster and better to finding guilty parties.

Today we are connected, we produce more goods more efficiently and our technology saves lives through rapid response times and medical innovations.

But somehow, less than 100 miles away from us, wives and children come home to a table where a meal is half eaten and fathers are missing. Places where "Sesame Street" is a luxury and brains adapt to the world in yet a different way.

Writing Contest deadline approaches

Desert Exposure's yearly writing contest is in full effect and the call has gone out for those who love writing about our world to submit their entries.

Short stories, poems and essays are all welcome to the contest. Winners will be featured in the October and November issues of Desert Exposure.

Entries must be previously un-published and will be judged on literary quality and how well they express some aspect of life in southern New Mexico.

Please limit entries to one or two submissions per person. Maximum length per entry is 4,000 words. The deadline for submitting is Aug. 26. There are four \$25 runner-up prizes and one \$100 grand prize.

Mail entries to: Desert Exposure Writing Contest, 1740-A Calle de Mercado, Las Cruces, NM 88005, or email to contest@desertexposure.com.

Postcards from the edge

Hosting travelers? Take them to your favorite place in southern New Mexico and catch them with a copy of Desert Exposure and send it to us. Traveling? Whether you're going to Nebraska, New England or Nepal, snap a photo of yourself holding a copy of Desert Exposure and send it to me.

Elva K. Österreich is editor of Desert Exposure and enjoys meeting her Silver City readers on the second Wednesday of every month (Aug. 10) from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Yankee Creek Coffee House. Please drop by and say hello if you are in the area.



DESERT DIARY

A Little Confusion

A BIT OF PUNDIMONIUM FROM THE PACKRAT OUT BACK

Evidence has been found that William Tell and his family were avid bowlers. However, all the league records were unfortunately destroyed in a fire. Thus we'll never know for whom the Tells bowled.

Back in the 1800s the Tates Watch Company of Massachusetts wanted to produce other products and, since they already made the cases for pocket watches, decided to market compasses for the pioneers traveling west. It turned out that although their watches were of finest quality, their compasses were so bad that people often ended up in Canada or Mexico rather than California. This, of course, is the origin of the expression; "He who has a Tates is lost!"

A famous Viking explorer re-

turned home from a voyage and found his name missing from the town register. His wife insisted on complaining to the local civic official who apologized profusely saying, "I must have taken Leif off my census."

Many years ago, in the South Pacific, there was a small island kingdom that was ruled by a kind and benevolent King. Each year, on the King's birthday, the residents of the island gave the King a new throne as token of their love and respect for him. And each year, the King would put last year's gift up in the attic of his small house.

After many years of ruling the island, the weight of the large number of birthday presents stored up in the attic became too heavy and caused the house to fall down.

The moral of the story is that people in grass houses shouldn't stow thrones.

There was a man who entered a local paper's pun contest. He sent in 10 different puns, in the hope that at least one of the puns would win. Unfortunately, no pun in 10 did.

A frog goes into a bank and approaches the teller. He can see from her nameplate that the teller's name is Patricia Whack. So he says, "Ms. Whack, I'd like to get a loan to buy a boat and go on a long vacation." Patti looks at the frog in disbelief and asks how much he wants to borrow.

The frog says \$30,000. The teller asks his name and the frog says that his name is Kermit Jagger and that it's OK, he knows the bank manager. Patti explains that \$30,000 is a substantial amount of money and that he will need to secure some collateral against the loan. She asks if he has anything he can use as collateral.

The frog says, "Sure. I have this."

And he produces a tiny pink porcelain elephant, about half an inch tall. It's bright pink and perfectly formed.

Very confused, Patti explains that she'll have to consult with the manager and disappears into a back office.

She finds the manager and reports: "There's a frog called Kermit Jagger out there who claims to know you and he wants to borrow \$30,000. And he wants to use this as collateral." She holds up the tiny pink elephant. "I mean, what the heck is this?"

So the bank manager looks back at her and says: "It's a knick knack, Patti Whack. Give the frog a loan. His old man's a Rolling Stone!"

CAN I GET SYRUP WITH THAT?

Eaglegreen has shared a tickle with us today.

A trucker came into a truck stop restaurant and placed his order. "I want three flat tires, a pair of headlights and a pair of running boards."

The brand-new waitress, not wanting to appear stupid, went to the kitchen and said to the cook, "This guy out there just ordered three flat tires, a pair of headlights and a pair of running boards. ... What does he think this place is, an auto parts store?"

"No," the cook said. "Three flat tires means three pancakes; a pair of headlights is two eggs sunny side up; and a pair of running boards is two slices of crisp bacon!"

"Oh ... OK!" replied the waitress. She thought about it for a moment and then spooned up a bowl of beans and gave it to the customer.

The trucker asked, "What are the

DESERT DIARY
continued on page 10

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LETTERS



A recent delivery to the Grant County food pantries consisted of chicken feet to fill the protein bill. (Courtesy photo)

Chicken Feet for Dinner

I'll just say it. Grant County food pantries received chicken feet as their protein source in May deliveries – no chicken breasts, no hamburger, just chicken feet. Either our food Bank is trying to give their clients a world food cuisine education or they actually think that poor people eat chicken feet. I have lived in Grant County for years and never once had the opportunity to eat chicken feet and to be honest, the mental image of factory – farmed chickens walking in their own fecal matter up to their ankles does not make me want to.

A local nonprofit recently completed an in – depth report on the state of food pantry foods in Southwest New Mexico and found that up to 36 percent of the food distributed by our food bank to regional food pantries is highly processed, sugary or otherwise unhealthy. The prevailing motto seems to be “calories first, quality second,” meaning that it is better to provide people with enough to eat, no matter what it is, than to provide them with healthy food.

In Southwest New Mexico we have had our fair share of food pantry shipments loaded with pallets of smashed bakery cakes, cases of ginger – flavored Easter peeps, hundreds of pounds of expired, sugar – laden yogurt and the list goes on. The study also found that 45 percent of food pantry recipients are either disabled or have a family member who is disabled compared to the statewide average of 19 percent and that 77 percent of food pantry recipients rely on those foods every month. Couple this with what we know about the connection between diet and certain illnesses (diabetes, hypertension, obesity and even depression) and the connection between poverty and medical care, then not only is it counterintuitive to send unhealthy foods to the poor, the supplemental food they rely on is actually harming them.

When you start to understand how the food bank sources their

food, their relatively small budget and an ever growing client base, you begin to have some appreciation for what they do – it certainly doesn't seem easy and the underlying mechanics of our national food system is so complex and bogged down with regulations, tax incentives and logistical issues that it's hard to know where change can begin.

Here is a question we need to seriously reexamine – What is the food bank system's responsibility to the people they serve – low income individuals, families and increasingly, senior citizens?

Food banks are an integral part are of a huge, complex food system that rewards manufacturers of heavily processed foods with tax incentives so they don't lose money gambling with new products (anyone want a few hundred pallets of pizza-flavored cheese nibs?). Our food bank and other members of the Feeding America Food Bank system are in a position to advocate for the proper nutrition for the poor – why don't they?

Until a food bank staffer comes down here and cooks a big batch of chicken feet using their favorite

recipe, we will know they are not doing everything they can to advocate for better nutrition. If they wanted to, they could leverage the voice of hundreds of food pantry coordinators, recipients and community members and gather mountains of data and quite a few powerful stories of how food pantries impact the daily lives of thousands of New Mexicans and use these voices to say enough is enough. No more unhealthy foods. And please, no more chicken feet.

The Southwest New Mexico Food Policy Council is the regional food and farm advocacy voice for Southwest New Mexico. We work to assure that the voices that represent the rural and frontier region is not only heard, but are a key part of the solution.

For more information on Southwest New Mexico Food Policy Council contact 575 – 534 – 0101 ext. 2102.

Ben Rasmussen

*Program Specialist
National Center for Frontier
Communities
Southwest Center for Health
Innovation
Silver City*

Happy Ending

Sometime in early May, I was captured by a force calling from the animal shelter. Fortunately, this doesn't happen too often, but by the same token, I answered. Walking through the kennels, I could see it had been Vato calling, described as a Pit Bull/Australian Cattle Dog mix, one year, male. Inquiring at the desk, I learned Vato was a stray from Lordsburg, and a note in his file said that someone was coming in to pick him up. Good news for Vato, and I certainly didn't need another dog.

For several months, I've been visiting the Silver City dog park weekly with my 10 month old puppy, Flash (Jumpin' Jack, a Pit Bull/Doberman mix — these Pit Bulls

LETTERS

continued on page 10



Flash, left, reluctantly welcomes Vato into his new world at Scott van Linge's home in Silver City. (Courtesy Photo)

BEEZWAX by John Martin

SO, AMOS! HOW DO YOU KEEP THE BEARS AWAY FROM YOUR HONEY?



WE TRIED PUTTING UP "NO BEARS ALLOWED" SIGNS!



NO! STUBBORN BEARS, HUH?



BEEZWAX by John Martin

DEAR BEE TALK: HOW DO BEES KNOW WHEN IT'S GOING TO RAIN?



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LETTERS

continued from page 8

get around) for socialization.

The June issue's article on the dog park caught my eye, and showed that Vato was still hustling for an owner. Thanks, Vivian.

Vato is now happily ensconced in his new home with friends Flash, Carrot and Spud. Flash's nose, however, has been out-of-joint since he realized I'm not taking him back. I expect that will pass soon.

However, the question remains: what will Vato do when the neighbors start grazing real cattle on the adjoining property. At least, they won't be Australian.

Scott van Linge
Silver City

The choice to live the way you want

In the July issue Cliff Appel writes, "If you believe smart meters are harmful, you had better get rid of your Wi-Fi and your cellphone."

Yes, I've done all that long ago. I use a wired-in telephone in my house and even unlock my car with an old-fashioned metal key. I don't allow wireless devices in my home. That is my choice, as it should be.

Against my wishes Silver City installed a wireless water meter in front of my house. Now PNM wants to install a wireless electric meter on my property. Should I not have the right to live my life free of wireless devices?

When technology improves people's lives I'm in favor of it. But polluting our environment with more and more wireless gadgets and gizmos doesn't benefit anyone. In any case, I reserve the right to live my life my way.

Joni Kay Rose
Silver City

Smart meter radiation 'negligible'

I was very disappointed to see the smart meter article by Jonathan Diener in your June issue. Yes, smart meters emit "radiation." Such a scary word! Of course, they emit a tiny fraction of the radiation emitted by your Wi-Fi network, the cellphone you hold next to your ear, and the microwave you stand next to in the kitchen. And goodness, heaven forbid you should step outside and expose yourself to the torrent of radiation emitted by the sun!

Radiation is a dog-whistle scare term, especially to those who grew up in the atomic age. In fact, if there were no radiation, you couldn't see your hand in front of your face, and for good measure you wouldn't be alive, since your temperature would drop to absolute zero. Some forms of radiation are harmful – indeed, all forms probably are if the dosage is high enough (and hence the reason that the WHO declares RF radiation a "possible carcinogen" – it depends on dosage) – but the type and quantity of radiation emitted by smart meters is negligible compared to many others you are exposed to day and night as you go about your daily life.

Smart meters are designed so that they monitor electricity usage at a detailed level, instead of the current meters that are read once a month. This is designed to allow electricity companies to balance their supply load and provide a more efficient service for everyone. It is true that they have been expensive to install and have not led to the level of efficiency savings so far that were hoped for, so there are perfectly legitimate reasons to be cautious about the proposed implementation of smart meters. However, fears of Big Brother beaming dangerous radia-

tion into your home for nefarious if utterly unexplained purposes are most definitely not legitimate reasons.

And no, I do not work for PNM or have the remotest financial interest in smart meters. I do, however, have a vested interest in living in an informed and intelligent society, and bemoan the ever-increasing anti-scientific, unfounded fears that are continually promoted about so many aspects of our modern existence.

Brian Dolton
Las Cruces

PNM's rate case revealed that 'spending targets' come first

Earlier letters to the Desert Exposure have covered egregious aspects of PNM's recent resource acquisitions.

Some focused on evidence of the failure of PNM to contrast their additional expensive coal power shares in the dirty San Juan Generating Station (SJGS) and further investments in the dangerous Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station unit 3 to clean alternatives such as wind and solar power. PNM's executives, their so-called experts, and their PR spin campaigns, have repeatedly insisted that PNM's choices are the most cost-effective options for customers. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Despite the public spotlight on PNM's failure to consider cleaner and less expensive options, last December 2015 our Public Regulation Commission gave PNM the green-light to make additional investments in outdated coal and nuclear power generating stations.

In that SJGS replacement power case, four of the five commis-

sioners abdicated their basic responsibility to regulate and make sure that the commission's decision was based upon substantial evidence. They failed to ensure that cost-effectiveness and least-risk options (risk from regulatory costs, accidents, environmental contamination, rising cost of fuel, pollution controls, etc.) were obtained to safeguard rate payers' interests. These concerns are all dictates of laws put in place for the benefit of PNM's out-of-town shareholders.

Now, in the current rate case, PNM is trying to shackle its customers with expensive nuclear power from Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station Unit 2. PNM wants its customers to purchase the power from Palo Verde 2 for about three times what PNM can sell the power for on the open market.

Also, in this rate case PNM is attempting to tie us to coal power from Four Corners Power Plant for at least another 15 years. They do this, with a take-or-pay-anyway contract costing us \$580 million.. They do this even though clean renewable power costs less.

Once again, PNM has not substantiated their proposals with a comparison analysis to potential renewable energy alternatives in order to document which would be more cost-effective. Once again, PNM did not assess the risks before spending what would total a billion-dollar burden upon ratepayers.

With no cost/benefit analyses, no assessment of risks, and no consideration of alternatives, it is quite obvious that PNM was not prudent in their resource decisions. It is certainly not just nor reasonable to require ratepayers to reimburse PNM considering

their complete lack of due diligence.

Revelations from PNM's rate case testimony explain PNM's frivolous spending requests; the testimony shows that PNM's holding company, PNMR, gives PNM spending targets. They set these spending targets first, and then they identify resources that can be purchased to meet those targets! PNMR gave PNM a target of 1.7 billion dollars to be spent by 2019.

Furthermore, PNM ties executive pay to meeting the spending targets.

To add insult to injury, PNM then tries to justify a higher Return on Equity (profit markup recovered from ratepayers, based on receiving a lower credit rating that resulted from their overspending on resources.

Thankfully, Commissioner Karen Montoya recently lost her seat on the commission. Montoya was a mouthpiece for PNM. She regularly sought their input off-the-record, in private meetings and over dinner. Montoya was given power-points slides from PNM employees, that she presented to the public at the PRC and at conferences; she tried to pass these off as her own. Will our commissioner, Sandy Jones continue to put PNM's interests above interests of his constituent PNM customers as well?

PNM is trying to foist these bad investments onto ratepayers to increase earnings for themselves, at our expense. These costs are not reasonable nor prudent. It is high time that our commissioners protect NM consumers' interests; it is time for the PRC to actually regulate PNM.

Tom Manning

Director, Citizens for Fair Rates and the Environment (CFRE)



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Desert #2 Dumbfounder
by Dave Thomas

The following is a simple substitution cipher; one letter stands for another. Solution is by trial and error. Solution will appear in next month's *Desert Exposure*. Send full solution, or just the Secret Words, to nmsrdave@swcp.com, and be recognized!
TIPS: www.nmsr.org/secretword.htm and www.nmsr.org/cypher-how2.jpg

"VIDA JF EBOP ZDXBPJAL AIJQT DNBOA FOWWLP JQ FBOAILPQ QLV
WLYJHB? . . . WJQL JF AIL FOQKJTIA. WJQL JF AIL WBPQJQT.
DQC AIL NOPPJABF." - UONKJFILP PJHIDPC HBKAIDPU

Use the answer key below to track your clues, and reveal Secret Words!

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Previous Solution: "SILVER CITY CANINES CAN BOAST ABOUT THEIR PLEASANT DOG PARK - A FENCED, BLOCK-WIDE EXPANSE OF GRASS OFF TWELFTH STREET." - VIVIAN SAVITT Secret Words*: FIDO HAS LUCKY GEN
Congrats to #1 solvers Christina* & Vivian* McAlexander.

DESERT DIARY

continued from page 7

beans for?"

She replied, "I thought while you were waiting for the flat tires, headlights and running boards, you might as well gas up!"

HOW TO FIX A WINDMILL

Henry Duchene's wife loves gardening. He recounts this little story.

Unfortunately, she recently hurt her leg so now she's temporarily forced to do her second favorite thing: spend time with me. We were enjoying a hot cup of coffee together in the outside patio one morning, when my elderly father overheard her complain about the small decorative windmill in her garden.

"It's broken?" my dad asked. "I'll fix it."

One of the blades of the windmill had broken off, causing the windmill to wobble wildly when it spun in the wind. My father's solution was to break off the opposing blade to rebalance it.

My wife looked at me, at her twice-broken windmill, and then back at me.

"Don't tell dad I hurt my leg," she whispered.

EMPTY SEAT

The Packrat out Back likes golf an awful lot.

The Masters Golf Tournament will be played by the best golfers in the world and so a man had two of the best tickets for the Augusta Masters, and as he sits down, another man comes along and asks if anyone is sitting in the seat next to him.

"No," he says, "the seat is empty."

"This is incredible!" said the man, "who in their right mind would have a seat like this, the biggest golfing event of the whole world, and not use it?" He says, "Well, actually, the seat belongs to me. My wife always would come with me, but she passed away. This is the first Masters we haven't been to together since we got married."

"Oh... I'm so sorry to hear that. That's terrible.

But, it's amazing that you couldn't find someone else, a friend or relative or even a neighbor to take the seat?"

The man shakes his head...

.... "No. They're all at the funeral."

DIVERSION • LAURA PASKUS

Costly Plans Reined In

Billion-dollar Gila River diversion off the table

The state agency in charge of building a controversial diversion on the Gila River has reined in earlier – and costlier – plans for capturing the river’s water. The agency’s decision might mean good news for project critics who feared its environmental consequences and high cost. But many questions remain around how much money the state has to build the project, the location and scale of the diversion, and who would buy the water once it’s built.

At a meeting on June 21, the New Mexico Central Arizona Project Entity, or NMCAPE, directed its engineering contractor to continue studying only those projects that would cost \$80-100 million to build. That’s how much funding New Mexico anticipates receiving from the federal government to develop water from the Gila and perhaps its tributary, the San Francisco River.

With that vote, the NMCAPE officially rejected earlier large-scale plans, including one with an estimated billion dollar price tag. By tamping down the budget, the board also acknowledged that the project will be smaller – and not one capable of delivering all 14,000 acre feet of water the state has rights to under federal law.

“We just want to create something new, that will be a benefit to New Mexico,” NMCAPE chair Darr Shannon told NMID. A Hidalgo County Commissioner, Shannon represents the Hidalgo Soil and Water Conservation District on the board. “We have visions of helping New Mexico’s municipalities and smaller communities, and to create a revenue source.”

Pete Domenici, Jr., the board’s attorney, told members during Tuesday’s NMCAPE meeting if the entity goes over the \$100 million in federal money to plan, study, and build its project, “I don’t know where the money is going to come from.”

But it’s not clear how much of that estimated \$100 million will be left in the fund when the time comes to break ground. The state

has already spent millions on engineering contractors, attorneys, salaries, grants, meetings and studies. Domenici estimated between \$10 and \$15 million has been spent when asked by NMID, but deferred to the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission’s (ISC) Craig Roepke for a more precise number.

Roepke would not answer during the meeting, citing the agency’s media policy. The agency’s Public Information Officer Melissa Doshier later wrote in an email that only \$5,647,077.26 has been spent. But that figure does not include contracts for services or grants that have been signed but not yet paid.

Critics of the diversion greeted the board’s decision to pare back plans as good news, but said much uncertainty remains.

“We’re certainly pleased that they seem to be saying “no” to the very expensive diversion up by Turkey Creek in the roadless area, but there are still lots of unanswered questions and potentially, some significant impacts in terms of cost as well as the environment,” said Allyson Siwik, executive director of the Gila Conservation Coalition. “We even heard the CAP Entity saying they’re going to have problems paying for the operation and management costs of pumping; there are still a lot of questions in terms of where they’re heading.”

Shannon and some other board members, as well as executive director Anthony Gutierrez, point out that once the project has been built, they could generate revenue by selling water. No buyers have been identified, but Gutierrez said that’s not a concern right now. Water is always valuable, he said, especially during times of drought.

Plans still on the table range from storing Gila River water either in a reservoir on Spar Canyon or in ponds on existing farmland – to diverting water from the river and storing it underground for later use. Another option would rely on existing infrastructure owned by mining company Freeport-Mc-

MoRan, including the Bill Evans Reservoir.

The ISC also presented its work plan budget on the Gila for Fiscal Year 2017. Exceeding \$12 million, the estimated budget includes engineering services (\$1.85 million), environmental compliance studies (\$810,000), public outreach services (\$16,000), legal services (\$340,000), and grant funding for projects like irrigation improvements and municipal water conservation (\$9.1 million.)

The Gila project has been decades in the making.

In a Supreme Court decision nearly seven decades ago, New Mexico was promised additional water rights from the Colorado River, but only if someone in Arizona were willing to trade Colorado River water for water from the Gila or San Francisco rivers. The 2004 Arizona Waters Settlement Act allowed New Mexico to trade with Arizona’s Gila River Indian Community – and gave state officials 10 years to decide if they would meet water demands in Grant, Luna, Hidalgo, and Catron counties through efficiency and conservation or by building a diversion on the Gila River.

In 2014, the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission voted to pursue the diversion alternative.

The NMCAPE was formed in 2015. It works in cooperation with the Interstate Stream Commission, but is its own, separate agency. Each NMCAPE board member represents a county, city, agency, or irrigation district that has committed to building, financing, and operating the diversion.

To receive all of the federal funding promised under the 2004 act, the state has until December 2019 to come up with a plan and complete studies required by the National Environmental Policy Act.

This story was originally published in July by New Mexico In Depth. Laura Paskus is an independent reporter and radio producer.

Gila River Festival

The 12th Annual Gila River Festival Honoring Our Heritage: The Natural and Cultural History of the Gila, held Sept. 22-25, will look at the importance of preserving our region’s cultural and natural history. Visit www.gilaconservation.org for information.



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John Piontowski, Eddie Madrid, Felix Holguin and Cruz Bustillos have all served as Copper Country Cruizer Car Club presidents since the club's inception in August 1992.

CRUISING COPPER COUNTRY

Celebrating 25 Years

Silver City car club still going strong

The Copper Country Cruizers Car Club started in August 1992, and is now preparing for its 25th Annual "Run To Copper Country Car Show" on Aug. 20.

Registration for the show begins on Friday, Aug. 19 at the Holiday Express Motel on U.S. Highway 180 E., and continues until 11 a.m. Saturday. The show will be held at Gough Park in Silver City from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday. Vehicles 1985 and older can register for the show.

This club had its beginning in January 1992, when Jerry Armijo of El Paso, now of Albuquerque, told Felix Holguin, in one of his many frequent visits to the Grant County copper mine, that he was eyeballing this area as a great "weekend get-away Street Rod location."

"Boy was Armijo ever right about Grant County being a great area," Holguin said.

After giving this idea a great deal of thought, Holguin started his quest by visiting and talking to many of the local car buffs in the Grant County area and realized the mining district would support a local street rod club. Holguin then began the process of starting the Club.

Once Holguin let Armijo know the Street Rod Club was a go they were both full of ideas which they kept bouncing back and forth. Next question was "What do we name this club?" Armijo came up with the perfect name, "Copper Country Cruizers" and the annual event

would then be recognized as the "The Run to Copper Country."

Holguin became the first president of the club, and Ron Green, who showed up at Holguin's garage that evening, became the vice president. Sherman Poulson later became the secretary/treasurer, and John Moore was the first Board Member. The first event was held at Old James Stadium at Western New Mexico University on the third weekend of August 1992, and it drew 47 participants.

The first "dash plaque" was provided by Phelps Dodge and was heavy copper in the shape of the state of New Mexico. No trophies or giveaways were handed out that first time.

Many changes have taken place in the car club through the 25 years since. The word Cruizers was changed to Cruizers. Nine club members have served as president during this time. They were Holguin Holguin, Ron Green, Bob Humphrey, Leslie Peck, Eddie Madrid, Cruz Bustillos, Doug Colgan, Terry Ward, Jeff Young and John Piontowski. Cruz Bustillos is serving a second term as present president.

Six members have passed on to the "The Great Car Show in the Heavens." Other members have moved or left the club. Membership has ranged between 15 and 87

CAR CLUB
continued on page 13

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Members at large, Doug and Karlene Colgan, enjoy membership in the Copper Country Cruizers from their home in Oregon state.



Until 2000, the Cruizers would make their way to Camp Thunderbird in Mimbres for a Sunday brunch picnic.

CAR CLUB

continued from page 12

members, including spouses with full voting rights, and varied in age from 15 years to 92 years of age. The club now includes members at large Doug and Karlene Colgan living in Oregon, and Andres and Samantha Bustillos from Albuquerque.

For many years, event registration was held at the Red Barn on Friday night, then early Saturday morning the club members were setting up shade at the stadium to provide cover for the days' activities. After the car show ended at 4 p.m., (sometimes earlier because of rain) one would find the club dismantling all the canopies.

Jerry Holguin, Debbie Holguin and others, would then trek home tired and exhausted to start cooking the meat for Sunday's barbeque brunch at Camp Thunderbird in the upper Mimbres Valley.

Pinos Altos, Lake Roberts, and Mimbres Valley residents still reminisce over the parade of cars that came through their communities on Sunday for a Poker Run & Brunch. The display of colors, makes, and models of street rods drew a large crowd of admirers to the cool pines and grassy picnic area around Camp Thunderbird. After brunch more giveaways were won by participants.

The scenic drive to Camp Thunderbird sadly came to an end in 2000 due to rising fees for use of the property, new laws that required all food be cooked on site, and fewer participants driving to the camp for brunch. The club then booked Santa Rita Park for a Hamburger Brunch, but it was poorly attended and the idea was dropped.

In 1999 the club started giving out yearly \$500 scholarships to three area graduates who went on to college to receive training in automotive/mechanical engineering. Many students have benefited from this money. Some of the students

have stayed in touch with the club as they continue their studies.

In 2005, tired of fighting the sun, rain, wind and wet grass, the car club decided to approach the city to use Gough Park for its car shows. Friday finds us at the Holiday Express Motel with registration, music and the Hot Dog Burn. Saturday morning at the park you can find the club members more relaxed due to less setup work.

Every participant still pays an entry fee of \$35 which has remained the same for many years.

Each entry also includes a t-shirt, dash plaque and a goodie bag. Many women who own vehicles of the proper years also register for the show. They have spent many hours using their automotive and mechanical talents to create one of a kind cars and trucks. Being under the shady trees and cool grass in the park has participants and the public relaxed and enjoying the variety of quality, restored vehicles.

The Trophy Parade around 2 p.m. is held around the small gazebo, and everyone scrambles for a good spot to sit and admire the winning cars. A large number of trophies are designed and constructed by talented car club members with unique ideas.

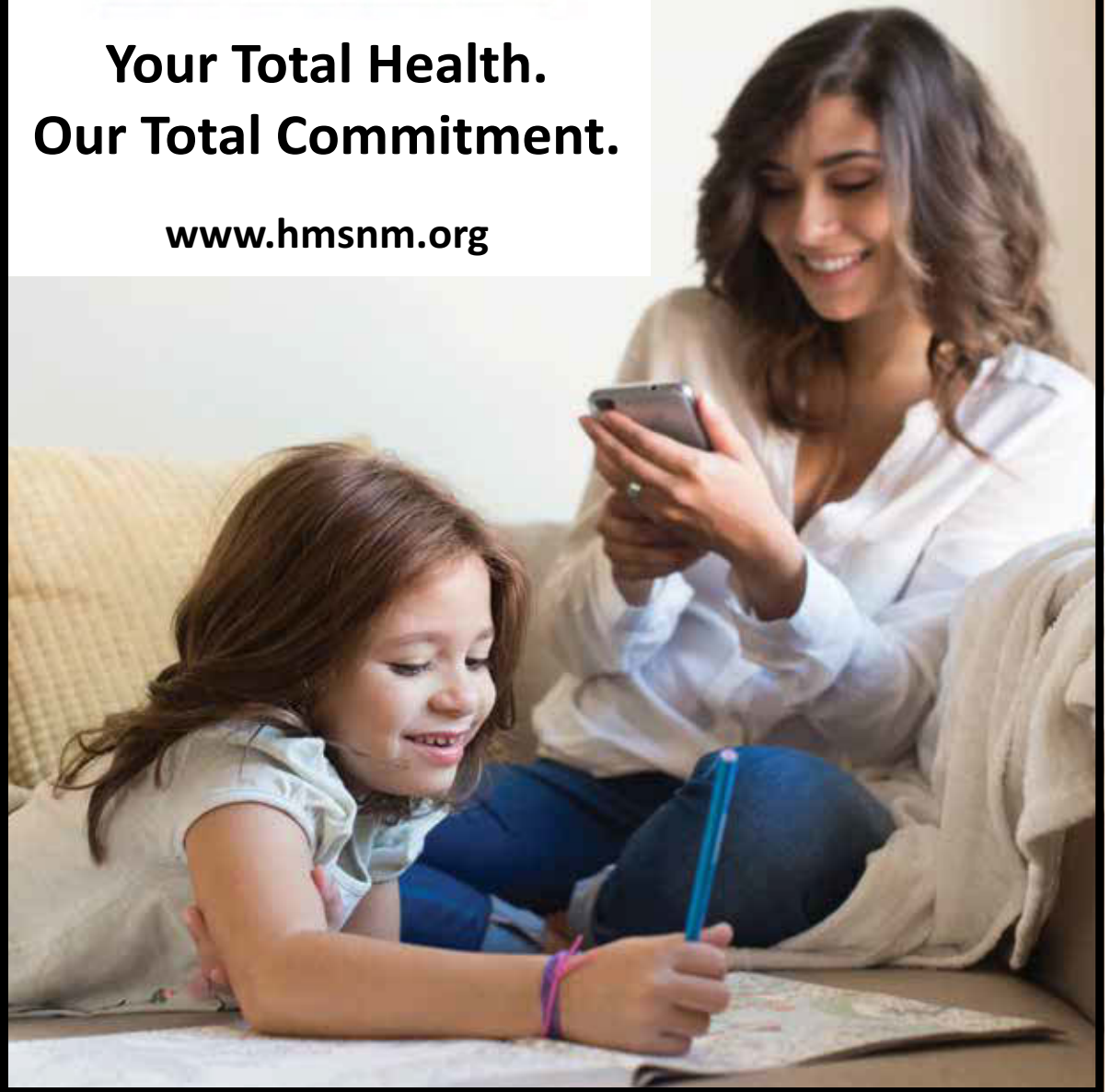
The largest number of participants ever in attendance was 210 vehicles for the club's 10th Anniversary. That year the club had a show, followed by a catered dinner, 50s & 60s sock hop, costume contest, and the favorite "Stroll." Elvis was in attendance that evening with his wife by his side.

This car show is family-oriented and meant to be enjoyed by all ages. The love of classic cars and street rods, show ideas, enthusiasm and energy that helped Felix and Debbie Holguin and the club on that very first show continues today. For more information call President Cruz Bustillos at 575-574-2186 or visit www.coppercruizers.com.



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ON STAGE • JENNIFER GRUGER

Duo Auditions for Apartment

Sailing home through the oasis in the desert

This is a story about a journey. A journey on many levels.

The musical duo of Carl Bernstein and Marilyn Priddy live in La Luz, New Mexico quite by accident, but their musical compatibility and life partnership is no mistake.

Priddy's musical journey began in Fort Worth, Texas at age six, according to the notes on their first CD, "Sailing Home." With almost 15 years of choral and classical piano studies under her belt, she began an extensive career in folk, blues and rock in Austin and Houston. She found her way to Montreal, Quebec and performed in a jazz trio during her six-year stay there. She returned to Texas for a time where she began writing original songs. Eventually, heeding the call of the wild, she moved to rural northern New Mexico in 2001 and continued her singing and songwriting.

Bernstein's musical adventures were launched in Detroit, where he too began at age 6, playing violin. In love with classical guitar by age 16, he went on to pursue musical studies in college and extended Master



Carl Bernstein and Marilyn Priddy play a garden party in a La Luz courtyard. (Photo provided by Marilyn Priddy)

Class study with both Andres Segovia and Julian Bream. Living and playing in a wide range of locations from northern California to Central and South America as well as the Caribbean, he finally settled in northern New Mexico.

Throughout those travels, for more than 40 years, he taught privately and at the college and university level while performing as much as possible. Most recently, he led the guitar program and taught music appreciation at New Mexico Highlands University and the Armand Hammer

United World College of the American in Las Vegas, 20 years there all together.

The two met in Las Vegas where Priddy had put together a band playing all original music and was looking for a guitar player. They played together for over a year and eventually found that it was easier to create, perform and develop musically as a duo.

"Not everyone likes to practice as much as we do," Priddy said.

Soon, they decided to go on the road.

Upcoming performances

- Aug. 2 - 7-10 p.m. at Western Bar, Cloudcroft
- Aug. 6 - 6-8 p.m. at Lowe's Bar, Alamogordo
- Aug. 13 - 5-6 p.m. at Carrizozo Arts Festival, Carrizozo
- Sept. 10 - 8-11 p.m. at Grill 49, Tularosa
- Sept. 17 - 6-8 p.m. at Lowe's Bar, Alamogordo

It sounds like the conversation went a little bit like this:

Bernstein: "Let's go on the road."

Priddy: "Ok!"

Bernstein: "Let's build our own motor home to take on the road!"

Priddy: "Wait...what?!"

Two years later, with the help of dear friend and master craftsman Alan Palmer, they had their very own chemical-free wood-interior gypsy home converted from a "Snap-On" tool truck. The interior was designed personally by Priddy complete with custom cabinets for a full PA system, a violin, a keyboard, four guitars, two ukuleles, percussion instru-

ments and a cello. Off they went.

Playing house concerts, brew pubs, and farmers markets, often finagling their way onto a schedule in venues that normally book out months in advance. Pick a spot. Show up. Audition. Get a gig. Move on. Repeat.

After a three-year trek spanning from the far northwest where they went up into Canada and as far east as Wyoming, the duo made the decision to head toward Montreal, Canada where Priddy had played with a jazz ensemble for six years in a "previous lifetime." Along the way they returned to New Mexico, a state they love, and headed to the Southeast since they hadn't been there before. Arriving in early spring of this year, they thought they might pass through briefly to explore the idea of buying some property to use to park the mobile home when they needed a break from the road - sometime in the future.

It was too cold in Cloudcroft so they spent two weeks in Oliver Lee

DUO

continued on page 18

Las Cruces has a Country Crush

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ARTS EXPOSURE

Arts Scene

Upcoming area art happenings

SILVER CITY

Copper Quail Gallery hosts a collection of new paintings by **Mariah Walker** in her show titled **"Look What the Wind Blew In."** Walker's joyful and vibrantly colorful art in mixed media portrays a wide range of subjects, including many delightful animals. Mariah's show runs Aug. 2 to 30. The opening reception with light refreshments is from 2 - 6 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 6. The Copper Quail can be found at 211-A N. Texas St. in Silver City.

DEMING



"Packrat Palace" by Melody Sears has been accepted for the American Plains Artist annual juried show.

Melody Sears, a member of the **Black Range Artists**, was accepted for her pastel work "Packrat Palace" in the American Plains Artists show in San Angelo, Texas. This was a prestigious fine art show held at San Angelo, Texas from June 30 through August 7. Sears has won many awards for her pastel work. For more information visit www.AmericanPlainsArtists.com.

"**Past & Present**" is the title of the August Exhibit at the **Deming Art Center**. This show honors three Deming artists: Ernestine Holmes, Moses Pastran and Jewely Mosier. The Holmes family has worked with the center to promote the showing of their mother's body of work. She was a versatile artist who worked in water color, acrylic, pastel and also was a China painter. Moses Pastran, a lifelong Deming resident, is a graphite portraiture artist who is well known for his commissioned pieces, but his true love are the pieces of his family and friends. Most people know Mosier for her kindness and caring in working with people, but at the Deming Art Center she is known as an award winning photographer. An artist's reception will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 7 at the Center, located at 100 S. Gold St. The show will run from Aug. 2 to 30. For more information visit www.demingarts.org or call 575-546-3663. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday with extended hours on Thursday evenings until 6:30 p.m. For more information call 575-546-3663, or visit www.demingarts.org.

ALAMOGORDO

Creative Designs Custom Framing and Art



"Millie2" by Gerald Moore is one of the pieces featured at Creative Designs Custom Framing and Art Gallery in Alamogordo.

Gallery, 917 New York Ave. in Alamogordo features photographer Gerald Moore with **"Faces Over Time."** A reception will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Aug. 19. The gallery can be reached at 575-434-4420.

LAS CRUCES

Aa Studios, located behind 2645 Dona Ana Road in Las Cruces features oil paintings titled as a group as **"Sueños con Alas"** (Winged Dreams) by Megan Lemcke from Deming. The show runs through Aug. 31. Lemcke is a former elementary school teacher who has been a full-time artist since 2013. Her primary medium is oil painting in the genres of vanitas still life, landscapes, and surreal-abstract combinations. Her work can also be seen at www.megan-lemcke.square-space.com. About one third of the gallery contains recent non-figurative paintings by Roy van der Aa which he describes as **"Geometric Transcendence."** Aa Studios is open the second weekend each month and by appointment for the rest of the month by calling Roy van der Aa at 575-520-8752.

The **Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery** located at



The **Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery** features the works of **Roberta Leavell Widner** and **Kurt Van Wagner** in August.



2470-A Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla, across from the Fountain Theatre, features for August two artists, **Roberta Leavell Widner** and **Kurt Van Wagner**. "Bobbie" Widner is an oil painter who prefers to express her talent in subject matters from abroad, mainly France and Italy, where she has taken extended workshops rendering her artwork in the old master's style. Wagner is a self-taught digital artist. He transforms his personal photographs into collectable works of art. The results are varied and striking, full of colors and textures. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Sunday. For information, call 575-522-2933 or visit: www.mesillavalleyfinearts.com.

The **Las Cruces Arts Association** has selected Pat Manchaca as artist of the month for August. Manchaca works with colored pencil on black surfaces. She calls her work "Visual Prayers," because they are recorded moments of her personal thoughts and prayers to God. Palma's works will be featured from 5-7 p.m., Aug. 5, at the First Friday Downtown Ramble, from 5-9 p.m. Aug. 10 at the Evening Market and the third Saturday Market in downtown Las Cruces at the Community Enterprise Center next to the Bistro Ale House.

The members of the **Las Cruces Arts Association** have an exhibit themed **"Keeping It Hot"** and visitors are invited to choose their favorite piece of art during the opening reception at the **Gallery at Big Picture**, from 5-7 p.m. on Aug. 5 during the First Friday Art Ramble, or throughout the entire month of August while visiting the Gallery at Big Picture, located at 311 N. Main St. Las Cruces NM 88001 The top three favorite works voted by the people will receive cash prizes.



"Flamenco Flame" by Judy Licht is one of many paintings which are part of the "Keeping It Hot" exhibit at the Gallery at Big Picture.

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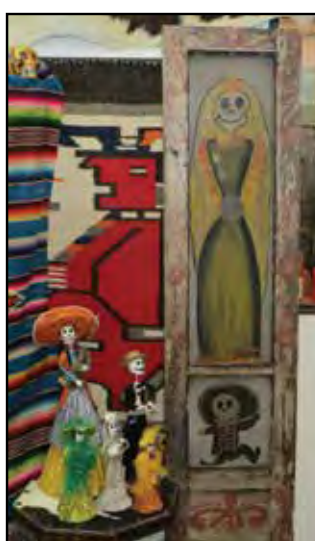



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Judge chosen for GCAG exhibit

Carole Andreen Harris, has been designated as the judge for the Grand Count Art Guild's 31st Annual Purchase Prize Show and Exhibit. Exhibit entry forms are due Aug. 2 and the show will open at the Pinos Altos Gallery with a reception at 5:30 on Sept. 20. This juried show is open to all New Mexico artists and in addition to other cash prizes, the "Best of Show" entry will be purchased for \$1,500. Harris will teach a three-day workshop on Sept. 21-23. The workshop is open to the public and information on the show and classes can be found on the Guild's website, www.gcag.org or by calling 575-538-9462.

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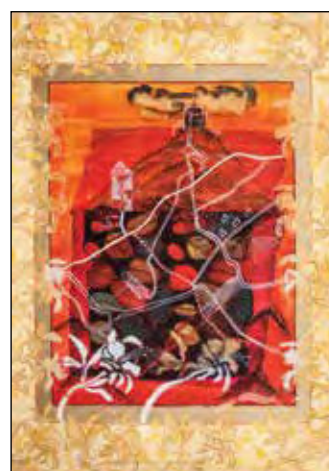
The fine art paintings of **Wendy Robin Weir** and **Marj Leininger** are on permanent exhibit at **Creative Harmony and Gifts**, at 220 North Campo in Las Cruces. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday from noon to 5 p.m. and by appointment. 575-312-3040.



The Branigan Cultural Center features "Plastics Unwrapped" through Aug. 20.

The **Branigan Cultural Center** continues "Color and Vision: Artwork of Aileen Shannon." The exhibit will explore the career of artist **Aileen Shannon**, who lived in Las Cruces from 1925 until her death in 1964. The exhibition is on display through Saturday, Aug. 13. Also continuing from July, "Plastics Unwrapped" examines how plastics have changed the world and will be on display through Aug. 20. Open from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Thursday, and from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, the Branigan Cultural Center is located at 501 N. Main St., Las Cruces. For additional information, visit the website at: <http://las-cruces.org/museums> or call 575-541-2154.

Also at the **Branigan Cultural Center** "Painted Parallels," features the artwork of **Dr. Sohini Dhar** and **Sudshna Sengupta**. Both artists earned their degrees in Fine Arts from Visva Bharati University in India. Dhar lives and teaches in Kolkata, India, and Sengupta lives in Las Cruces. The exhibit runs through Saturday, Aug. 20. The artist's reception for the exhibit will from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 5. Painted Parallels is comprised of paintings, drawings, textiles and prints by Dhar and Sengupta. The exhibit showcases the development of two separate bodies of work by these artists who share common creative roots. While these artists began their career on a similar path, their artwork has evolved separately, resulting in similarities and contrasts that the audience is invited to explore.



"Waterfall" by Sudshna Sengupta and "Visual Voyage" by Dr. Sohini Dahr are part of "Painted Parallels" at the Branigan Cultural Center.

Painter **Kay Susin** is featured at the **Julie Ford Gallery**, Aug. 5 to 31. The exhibit, "Impressions by Kay" opens Aug. 5 during the Downtown Ramble in Las Cruces. The gallery is located at 311 N. Main in Las Cruces.



"Impressions by Kay," opens with a reception Aug. 7 at the Julie Ford Gallery.

The **Tombaugh Gallery** presents the "Shining Stars" exhibit, the art work of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The show opens with a reception at 11:30 a.m., Sunday, Aug. 7. By creating story boards, the artists tell their stories, expressing what makes them a "shining star." The gallery is located at 2000 S. Solano, inside the Unitarian Universalist Church of Las Cruces. The Tombaugh Gallery is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The show closes on Aug. 26.



Contemporary Japanese ceramics are explored at the Las Cruces Museum of Art through Oct. 15.

"Nature, Tradition and Innovation," contemporary Japanese ceramics from the Gordon Brodfuehrer collection opens at the **Las Cruces Museum of Art** Aug. 5 with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. during the Downtown Ramble. The exhibition, curated by Christine Knoke of the Mingei International Museum San Diego, is an engaging interdisciplinary look at contemporary Japanese Ceramics paired with nature photographs. Featuring 43 exceptional Japanese ceramicists, "Nature, Tradition and Innovation" showcases ceramic objects of beauty made for everyday use. The works selected for exhibition are closely associated with Japan's historical pottery centers, reinterpreting traditional methods in a modern context. The display runs through Oct. 15. The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Thursday, and from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, the Museum of Art is located at 491 North Main Street. For additional information, visit the website at: <http://las-cruces.org/museums> or call 575-541-2137.

New Mexico State University Museum, located inside Kent Hall, presents "Itaa Katsi: Our Life," an exhibition of Hopi art. Featuring nearly 80 works from the permanent collection, this show includes art by **Spencer Nutima** (Hopi, Old Oraibi), **Linda Lomahaftewa** (Hopi (Shungopavi)-Choc-taw), **Ramson Lomatewama** (Hopi, Hotevilla) and **Jessica Lomatewama** (Hopi, Hotevilla). In this exhibition, the museum is honored to share Hopi art with visitors in many forms: as gourd rattles, prints on paper, katsina dolls (katsin tihu), silver-work, wicker and coiled plaques, headdresses (kopatsoki), clay ceramic vessels and hand-blown glass figures, among others. "Itaa Katsi" will remain on long-term display through Dec. 17. The New Mexico State University Museum is located inside Kent Hall on the NMSU campus, at 1280 E. University Ave. Hours are noon to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. For more information, call 646-5161 or visit <http://univmuseum.nmsu.edu> for more information.

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ON SCREEN

'Lady Belladonna's Night Shades'

Area production companies find lead lady, ready to begin

Move over Elvira, there's a new mistress in town and what she has to offer is downright diabolical! After months of planning and an extensive casting call to find the perfect hostess, the feature-length anthology film "Lady Belladonna's Night Shades" is in pre-production under the PRC Productions/Borderlands Media banner. Signed to play the pivotal role of Lady Belladonna, the Mistress of Perdition and top Soul Broker of the Abyss, is Las Cruces-based performer Tawnya Bass. Signed to supporting roles in the production are local actors Donny Prosize ("Perfect," "The Baking Dead") and Jack Lutz ("Truth," "Good Night Sleep Tight").

"We had over 50 actresses audition for the part of Lady Belladonna, from all across the state and a few from other states, as well, which is pretty amazing considering we were casting for a micro-budget independent feature shooting in southern New Mexico," said writer/director David Salcido. "I wish we could have cast them all, but feel we have found, in Ms. Bass, the perfect mix of smart, sultry, world-weary, feminine power that is needed to really sell the character. Combine that with exciting short films by New Mexico filmmakers and I think we've got a chance to prove that, contrary to popular belief, independent filmmaking is alive and kicking in southern New Mexico."

To further enhance the production values of this project, PRC Productions has entered into a partnership with Back In Black Creative Services, a four-time Telly Award-winning production studio based in El Paso, Texas, under the direction of owner Frank Villasana and creative director Sabine Green. Through this partnership, produc-



Kent Harkey and Troy Scoughton Jr. man the cameras during Lady Belladonna auditions. (Courtesy Photo)

tion on the film will take place in mid-August at Nequim Studios in El Paso, with none other than Hell Paso Alt Wear providing the kinky clothing and a wide variety of sinful accessories to make Lady Belladonna the most stylish succubus in the Abyss.

Produced by PRC Productions and Borderlands Media, Lady Belladonna's Night Shades is an anthology feature film that takes elements of Rod Serling's Night Gallery, Mystery Science Theatre 3000 and Elvira, Mistress of the Dark, then shakes liberally to create an irreverent showcase for short films packaged together under a common theme: The Sins of Man.

Hosted by seductive hellion Lady Belladonna from her torture dungeon somewhere in the twisting depths of Hades, through segments created to bridge the gap between individual shorts, Lady Belladonna's Night Shades was conceived and created by David Salcido and Troy Scoughton, Sr. The script was written and will be directed by David Salcido. Troy Scoughton Sr. and Troy Scoughton Jr will serve as producers for the film.

PRC Productions is a Las Cruces-based, full-service production

company formed in June of 2010. With several award-winning shorts films, documentaries and commercials under its belt, PRC Productions currently has the feature film "Truth" available on DVD and via iTunes and Amazon, as well as the premiere season of the oral history documentary series Pláticas airing on KRWG-TV. PRC Productions has also produced and assisted in several other feature films including Johnny Tabor's "Eaters," Mark Medoff's "The Heart Outright," "The Lost Padre Mine," "Frankenstein VS The Mummy" and "Day Of The Mummy."

To find out more about PRC Productions and Borderlands Media LLC, visit the websites at PRC-Productions.com and BorderlandsMedia.com or call 575-652-3836. For more information on Truth, visit the website at www.WhatIsTheTruth-Movie.com. For more information on Pláticas visit www.Platicas.org.

For more information on "Lady Belladonna's Night Shades" and all other projects under the PRC Productions/Borderlands Media banner, media outlets may contact David Salcido at 575-571-7694 or via email at David.S@Borderlands-Media.com.

ARTS EXPOSURE

Red Dot Guide

Freshly out, gallery guide available

The Silver City Art Association's 2016-2017 Red Dot Art Guide is now available and features area galleries, studios and artists, full-color pictures of their work and a map to find their locations.

The Red Dot Art Guide is widely distributed throughout New Mexico, neighboring states and beyond as well as locally in member galleries. They can be found at the Silver City Visitor Center.

Funding for this tourism focused publication comes from local Lodgers Tax funding as well as membership dues. The Silver City Art Association is a nonprofit organization with the mission to promote and advance the arts in Silver City and Grant County.

Visit the website at www.silvercityart.com and check out the new guide online at http://www.silvercitygalleries.com/media/red_dot_art_guide.pdf.



Patricia Taber, graphic designer, and Lois Duffy, Red Dot Art Guide coordinator, display the Silver City Art Association's 2016-2017 Red Dot Art Guide hot off the press.

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ARTS EXPOSURE • LISA MAUE

Carrizozo Artists Tour

Town will be buzzing with festival, open studios

This year's Carrizozo Artists Studio Tour is merging with the Carrizozo Festival for the weekend of Aug. 13 and 14. The self-guided tour of 10 studios will take place from noon to 5 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday. The Festival begins at 4 p.m. on Saturday and

concludes with a fireworks show and street dance beginning at 8 p.m. and the historic lighting of the Lyric Theater marquee at 8:30 p.m.

Twenty-four artists are part of the tour this year. Upstairs in the Lutz Building on 12th Street is an artists' collective that also hosts an

artist-in-residence program. Among the artists at this site are painter Paul Peretti; glass artist Patti Payne; Coe Kitten who explores medicine art; Joan Malkerson who has spearheaded the art renaissance on 12th Street and is a painter; and Denise Dorn who is well-known for her batik; Molly Sheahan who excels at custom sewing will be on hand to discuss her custom work.

Downstairs in the Tularosa Basin Gallery of Photography, 30 New Mexico photographers are represented in the spacious room that was once the town hardware store. It is now the state's largest gallery solely dedicated to photography. Although New Mexico Magazine's first ever public exhibit of its contest winners has closed, the state-wide award winning works can be seen at www.photozozo.org and are indicative of the type of work regularly shown.

Also on 12th Street, Judy Pekelsma's Heart of the Raven Gallery features pottery and fine art. Raku



This painting by Randall Robbins reflects the student's attention to detail and will be displayed during the Carrizozo event in mid-August.

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demonstrations will take place during the tour. Across the way at 12th Street Coffee, Shelby Hyatt, Liz Nowotny and Cherie Holmes are showing their jewelry and pottery. Works by Mike Gieb, a long-time Carrizozo jeweler who works in copper, will also be on display and available for purchase.

Mike Lagg and Paula Wilson bought an entire block on 12th Street and are transforming the abandoned Lyric movie theater and Ford garage into a community and art center. Wilson is an eclectic artist who has studied print-making but who is constantly experimenting with color, media and movement. Lagg is a wood worker who prefers to be known as an inventor. His works functional works and kinetic sculpture grace Carrizozo. He is currently busy with renovating the recently acquired historic buildings but will bring out his hand made children's jungle gym and assist them over, under and through the several stations. Wilson and Lagg have started their own artist-in-residence program and their MoMAZoZo concept at the Lyric ComplexU is becoming an important addition to the art scene at Carrizozo.

In the town itself, Tom Picard

and Thom Kerr will share a space on 11th Street and will be offering custom furniture, china painting and upcycled art. Douglas Stanton will open his home to visitors who will be able to view his paintings and photography. On the same street, Rick and Deborah Geary's illustrations and diorama collage will be on display. Rick Geary is a nationally recognized cartoonist and illustrator whose works have appeared in the Funny Pages of National Lampoon, "Heavy Metal," DC comics, "MAD" magazine, the New York Times Book Review, "Rolling Stone" and "The Old Farmer's Almanac," to name just a few. He has written graphic novels and comic books, many based on murder mysteries and historical events and personalities.

Suzanne Donazetti, who is represented by Waxlander Gallery in Santa Fe, will host Ivy Heymann and Lisa Maue and will have pieced by Kenneth Payne available in her home. Donazetti encourages visitors to walk through her sculpture garden that features works by several local artists. She paints and weaves

TOUR

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DUO

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campground and met someone who suggested Laborcita Canyon as a home base. They left the motor home in the park, took a drive in their car and happened across a "For Rent" sign out front of one of the beautiful old structures in La Luz. Just curious, they parked and walked into the courtyard and came upon a full flowing acequia and a volume of rose bushes that would put a master gardener into a tailspin. Blown away by the roses and the water, they were completely mesmerized by the oasis they had stumbled upon.

"Let's stay here," Bernstein said.

Priddy had the sense to suggest they sleep on it and they returned to Oliver Lee for the night.

"It would be slap in the face of the gods to not accept this gift," Priddy remembers saying the next morning.

They went back to La Luz and found the landlady but when they told her "we're interested" she made them play their instruments and rehearse their craft a bit in the back room to see if they would be too loud for the neighbors. They essentially auditioned for their apartment. They got the gig.

"Our specialty is not to specialize," Bernstein said of the duo's music style.

Recorded in 2012 "Sailing Home" is a journey in itself. This 16-track

compilation of original artistry and cover tunes ranging from jazz standards to bluegrass classics (with a samba thrown in for good measure) is as intriguing as their story.

Every cover is a musical interpretation that makes one listen hard to catch a familiar melody, find it only sometimes, and be left captivated by the winding and sometime divergent path they take. The originals are engaging, thoughtful and artfully crafted in a way that shows off both of their gypsy spirits while remaining well informed by the formal training and years of experience. Priddy's slight frame gives way to a volume and range of vocals you wouldn't expect and Bernstein's guitar follows her wherever she goes - or sometimes just waits patiently for her return.

The planning for another CD has begun and a schedule of dates and venues throughout the Tularosa Basin is available at www.Bernstein-andPriddy.com.

In addition to hearing them play together while they're here, Bernstein will also be teaching beginning guitar in six-week sessions through the Community Education program at New Mexico State University-Alamogordo. Classes start Sept. 12 with registration at www.nmsu.edu/continuing-ed/register.

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POLLINATORS • JANE MOORMAN

Native Plants Essential

NMSU new IPM specialist knows importance of landscaping to sustain pollinators

Avibrant ecosystem of native plants and insects is critical for maintaining a healthy pollinator environment, whether it is in urban or rural landscaping.

New Mexico State University's new urban and small farm integrated pest management specialist, Ashley Bennett, was drawn to study the intersection of native plants, landscaping and insects, while completing her undergraduate degree at Millikin University in Decatur, Illinois.

"We're excited to have Dr. Bennett join the New Mexico Cooperative Extension Service," said Natalie Goldberg, Extension plant sciences department head. Bennett will be stationed at NMSU's Agricultural Science Center at Los Lunas.

"She has an outstanding background in urban and small-acreage farm integrated pest management," Goldberg said. "She has a lot of experience working with pollinators, which is a big interest in our state."

While finishing her degrees in biology and chemistry, Bennett took a course in entomology and became interested in the world of insects.

"When I started thinking about what I wanted to do after graduation, I visited the entomology department at the University of Illinois and met with members of the Hanks Lab," Bennett said. "The research in the Hanks Lab was focused on integrated pest management, in the urban landscape, and I found the intersection of beneficial insect conservation and landscape design really interesting."

That visit set Bennett on the path of obtaining a master's degree from the University of Illinois and a doctoral degree from the University of Wisconsin in entomology.

"During my master's and doctoral studies, I took landscape architecture classes and obtained a minor emphasis in landscape architecture," said the native of Windsor, Illinois.

After completing her graduate degrees, she accepted a post-doctoral research position at the University of Illinois, where she focused on pollinator conservation and the provision of services to urban agricultural sites in Chicago.

She expanded her study of pollinators during a second post-doctoral research position at Michigan State University, where she worked on a study of how different biofuel cropping systems would impact native bees.

Prior to arriving in New Mexico in May, Bennett worked in Greensboro, North Carolina, for an agricultural company as a research and development scientist, where she consulted on



New Mexico State University's new urban farm integrated pest management specialist, Ashley Bennett, understands the importance of using native plants to support pollinators and beneficial insects. (New Mexico State University photo by Jane Moorman)

trial design and data analysis for greenhouse and field trials.

New to the Southwest, Bennett said she is quickly learning about the native plants and which type of beneficial insect – pollinator, parasitoid or predator – is attracted to each plant.

"I'm passionate about using native plants in the landscape to support native bees and beneficial insects, so I'm excited to learn about the native plants in New Mexico and how they can be used in the landscape, urban and rural, to provide ecosystem services such as pollination and natural pest suppression," she said.

She plans to use a native plant garden established during the New Mexico Pollinator Project by Tessa Grasswitz, former NMSU entomologist, and David R. Dreesen, retired agronomist and horticulturalist. Both were researchers at NMSU's Agricultural Science Center at Los Lunas and the USDA-NRCS Los Lunas Plant Materials Center.

"I want to identify which plants attract different beneficial insects," she said. "I hope to establish native plant mixes specifically for pollinators, as well as a native plant mixes specifically for predators and parasitoids."

During her first month in Los Lunas, Bennett has been busy meeting farmers and learning what type of research they would like done.

Having worked with urban agriculture in Chicago, Bennett is reaching out to urban and small-acreage farmers in the Middle Rio Grande Valley to learn about their operations.

"Many of the farmers I've met with are practicing organic farming methods," she said. "They seem to be interested in using beneficial insects for natural pest suppression on their farms and conserving native pollinators."

She would like to partner with farmers to monitor the pollinators and insects in their fields.

"This summer I aim to start sampling urban farms and open spaces to see how the beneficial insects are impacted by local and landscape variables," she said. "I have also involved Master Gardeners and citizen scientists in my research. During my graduate work, they helped me sample beneficial insects in their backyards, and during my postdoctoral work in Chicago, they helped sample pollinators on urban farms. I look forward to building partnerships with Master Gardeners and citizen scientists here in New Mexico, too."

While conducting such studies, Bennett hopes to determine what type of research is needed in the Middle Rio Grande Valley to help the farmers and gardeners have healthy ecosystems for pollinators and other beneficial insects.

By the Book

New Guide to Poisonous Range Plants Available

Ranchers with questions about the effects of different range plants on livestock or with unexplained symptoms in their herds can look to the new circular "Poisonous Plants of New Mexico Rangelands," released in March by New Mexico State University's (NMSU's) Cooperative Extension Service and the Lineberry Center for Natural Resource Management, for more information.

Co-authors Chris Allison, Range Scientist with the Lineberry Policy Center for Natural Resource Management; Jason Turner, Professor/Extension Horse Specialist with NMSU's Department of Extension Animal Sciences and Natural Resources; and John Wenzel, Extension Veterinarian with NMSU's Department of Extension Animal Sciences and Natural Resources wrote the guide as a replacement for one published in the early 1990s.

The book, which has been in the works since 2012, is as up to date as possible, Allison

said.

It includes updated information on plants and the symptoms they can cause in livestock; research on new poisonous plants; and a detailed section on loco weeds and the three different ways that genus of plants can affect range livestock.

"This is something I've always had an interest in, and I am tickled with how it came out," he said

Also included in the publication is a table of symptoms which ranchers can use as a reference to help determine which weeds may be causing their problem, a glossary of veterinary terms and a section on common things – not weed related – that could cause an animal's condition. "It can be hard to see what has killed an animal, but not every dead animal was killed by a weed," Allison noted.

The circular should be available soon as an ebook through NMSU's website – www.nmsu.edu. Print copies can also be obtained by contacting one of the authors.

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BORDERLINES • MARJORIE LILLY

Living in Ascension

Tensions in Mexico still underlie communities

Ascension is an hour from the border and is a nice town to visit for the few good places there are to eat and the tall trees in the main plaza that throw thick shade on the people taking shelter there from the burning heat of July.

The population of 16,000 swells somewhat with the hand harvesters who come up from the more southern states of Guerrero, Guanajuato, Veracruz and others to pick onion and chile.

When I first parked near the plaza there was a group of men and women sitting on the ground a few feet from my car. They'd just come up from Guerrero to pick crops and were wearing visor caps over bandanas.

I talked for a while with an older man among them. They were from the town of Tlapa, where about five of the families of the 43 disappeared students of Ayotzina-na lived.

Connections like this make Mexico seem like a small world. Violence provides a common denominator among the states right now.

It's been quiet in Ascension for several years.

But most people know that the power of the drug cartels has not really budged because of the drug war. It's there under the surface. And there are occasionally little spates of violence that run like a rip tide through the towns in Chihuahua.

I was subbing in a class in the Deming High School in late April, when I overheard a couple of guys from Palomas saying in Spanish that there had been some narco violence in Ascension. There was talk of 20 people being killed or disappeared.

A young woman in that class had been visiting her father in Nuevo Casas Grandes over the weekend, and she and her sister were caught in the crossfire of a street battle while driving. This was at a little after 9 p.m.



The Ascension, Mexico, plaza provides a gathering place under large trees and away from some of the tensions in the area for residents of the town. (Photo by Marjorie Lilly)

"My sister saw some people dying," she claimed. "I just wanted to get out of there."

The drug gangs had made checkpoints all around the edge of town to keep tabs on who was coming and going. This girl got out early the next morning and drove back to Deming because one of her uncles was a policeman.

"It was bigger than anything that happened before," she said.

Two of the students in that class lived in Palomas and said they had lost their fathers in a levanton (mass abduction) there in 2007.

While I usually feel a little nervous in the classes for problem kids (with reason sometimes), I found myself respecting these students. They seemed mature in the face of adult problems.

The girl said she had received an online warning from those who were carrying on this campaign. The writers identified themselves

as members of drug cartels.

"We're going to torture, kill, and mutilate the whores of the Gulf Cartel, the bitches of the Zetas, along with the Jaliscas," they wrote to the girls.

They warn "anybody on the street after 11, walking, on a motorcycle, in a car or truck with tinted windshields or without, will be abducted and tortured until they talk or die."

They say they are talking about a "total cleansing of the territory of Chihuahua." They say "we came to stay." The message mentioned many towns in Chihuahua that they were going to visit, including Guadalupe y Calvo, Parral, Balleza, Chihuahua City and Juarez.

Knowing when to stay home

To the residents of Ascension, what they knew was the police went around to businesses and

called for a curfew for a few days. People huddled in houses for a couple of evenings. These events occurred basically from April 16-20 this year.

But people there have different versions of what went on.

In one store a woman said the police had come and told the business to observe a curfew at 8 p.m. for five days. She didn't know what had happened in the nights, but she told me to ask another employee not far from her because he was from a family of policemen.

This was a 30-ish man who smiled a friendly smile but made a sign with his hand of a slit throat, implying he couldn't talk about it.

A calm, well-informed man in another store said he read in the *Diario de Juarez* that 40-50 people had been abducted in Casas Grandes and 20 in Ascension. That's probably where the students had gotten their statistics.

Two relatively well-informed

men in Palomas thought that only about 10 people were levantado in Casas Grandes.

If there was activity for five days and there were checkpoints all around the city, the higher estimates may be true. But some people say the Juarez papers aren't always credible.

According to several news outlets, during this time period, militarized police of the state Attorney General's office discovered a huge cache of weapons, including a powerful missile launcher, ammunition, drugs, stolen cars and cash in a house belonging to La Linea in Casas Grandes. There were even five exotic cats, including tigers, a lion and a bobcat.

The missile launcher was the first found in the possession of Mexican drug cartels and is cause of much concern.

"Police work with the most powerful crime groups," said Howard Campbell of UTEP's Sociology and Anthropology Department. He said they probably took their share of what was confiscated.

It may seem hard to believe, but it's not dangerous to travel to Ascension or Casas Grandes during the day. Levantones are very seldom, maybe one every few years, and if you are traveling during one you would be turned back by police.

The people who live in the towns have learned that if you don't talk, you're safe. So they live pretty freely but with an undercurrent of fear.

Nobody seems to have any idea of how to get rid of the narcos, since they're so much a part of the fabric of society and even of law enforcement. The education, the separation of the drug gangs from the protection of people in government, and the economic development that are prerequisites for real peace aren't in the near future.

But most people find a simulation of peace bearable for now.

MORGAN SMITH

The Queen of the Desert

Palomas woman takes care of others in community

Who is the Queen of the Desert? Reina Cisneros from Palomas, Chihuahua. Born in Hermosillo, Sonora, she moved to Palomas (pop. 5,000) 28 years ago because her husband, Manuel is a mechanic and he thought he could find more work repairing cars next to the border. Although she has 15 children and who knows how many grandchildren, she has dedicated her life to caring for the poor and the abandoned in Palomas and nearby towns like El Modelo and Guadalupe Victoria.

QUEEN

continued on page 23



Reina Cisneros' daughter Adrianna chops firewood for the family home and others in need in the Mexican Town of Palomas. (Photos by Morgan Smith)

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Almost 90 years old, Reina Cisneros helps take care of Cookie who has no family in Palomas and is suffering from Alzheimer's disease.

QUEEN

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She is one of several unique women who live in Palomas and work to improve this impoverished community.

I'm speaking of former mayor or "Presidenta Municipal" Maria Lopez who does so much for the "abuelitas" in Palomas and Ivonne Romero, owner of the Pink Store which is such an important source of employment not only in Palomas but also for the many artisans throughout Mexico who supply her with their artistry. Without women like these and many others I don't know how it would be possible to survive in Palomas. It is not like the United States where we have a network of social services.

These women are also people of great faith.

"I live by faith," Cisneros said. "I don't live for silliness. My treasure is in the sky. That God should give me a corner next to him."

Almost 20 years ago, Cisneros said started an orphanage for abandoned children in Palomas. Being a frontier town, many families came from the south of Mexico so that the man of the family could go to the United States in search of work, thinking that he would return soon with money that they could live on. When he didn't return, the family without any funds would collapse.

For that reason there were – and still are – many abandoned children in Palomas. Eventually the orphanage and the number of chil-

dren grew so much that it was impossible for Cisneros to maintain with her very limited recourses. A coalition of churches – Mexican and American – began to manage the orphanage. The leaders – Jim and Pat Noble, Eunice Herrera and Margie Acuña – are from Santa Fe where I live.

Then Cisneros dedicated her work to older people who had been abandoned in Palomas. Cookie is an example. (I don't know her real name.) Almost 90 years old, Cookie has no family in Palomas and is suffering from Alzheimer's but she has a beautiful voice and sings for Cisneros and her family.

Another example is Santiago or "Chago." With his crooked nose, you can tell that he has been a drinker and bar fighter. Now, instead of living in the bars or on the streets, abandoned by his family, he has a bed, food and care in Cisneros' home.

A young boy, Gabriel, also abandoned, has problems with his legs and is also mildly retarded. But in Cisneros's home, he lives as though he were normal. He's an artist and would like to have a girlfriend. He has family in Palomas but they don't come to visit him. Reina also cares for an older man named Rafael who lives alone in a nearby house, a man with cancer in El Modelo to the south and a friend named Marisol who recently died of cancer.

"I was always both a man and a woman," Cisneros said. Her husband, Manuel, now has eye prob-

lems and can't work so she has to carry the family.

She also faces other problems. Two years ago, she and her daughter, Adrianna, came home at noon from doing errands and Adrianna's husband, Alfredo was gone. His half-eaten breakfast was on the kitchen table and none of his clothing or bathroom items were gone so we assume that it was a kidnapping and that he was murdered and buried in the desert because of a problem with a drug cartel.

One grandson, Enrique, was born with a deformed foot so he has to go to the Shriner's Hospital in Los Angeles for periodic treatments.

Cisneros is also in charge of a rotating number of other grandchildren; you never know who will be there when you visit. In most cases, the fathers of these children are missing and the mothers and Cisneros are in charge.

But her persistence is enormous.

"You can't hide from the eyes of God," she said. In Palomas and many of the border towns I've visited, it is women like Cisneros as well as Lopez and Romero who hold the communities together. For that I believe that she's earned the title of Queen of the Desert.

Morgan Smith is a free-lance writer and photographer who makes monthly trips from Santa Fe to document issues on the border. He can be reached at Morgan-smith@comcast.net.

Sitting on the couch with Reina Cisneros, Gabriel, an abandoned boy who has problems with his legs lives in Cisneros's home. Gabriel dreams of being an artist and would like to have a girlfriend.



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THE STARRY DOME • BERT STEVENS

Ara, the Altar

Constellation provides the smoke called the Milky Way

On our hot August evenings, the constellation Ara, the Altar, peeks over our southern horizon in the early evening. This southern constellation is only two-thirds visible from our latitude with the rest of it hidden below southern horizon. It is shaped like a wind-blown letter “H,” with the northern two stars being blowing off toward the east. Ara is a classical constellation, one of the 48 constellations listed by Ptolemy in the *Almagest*.

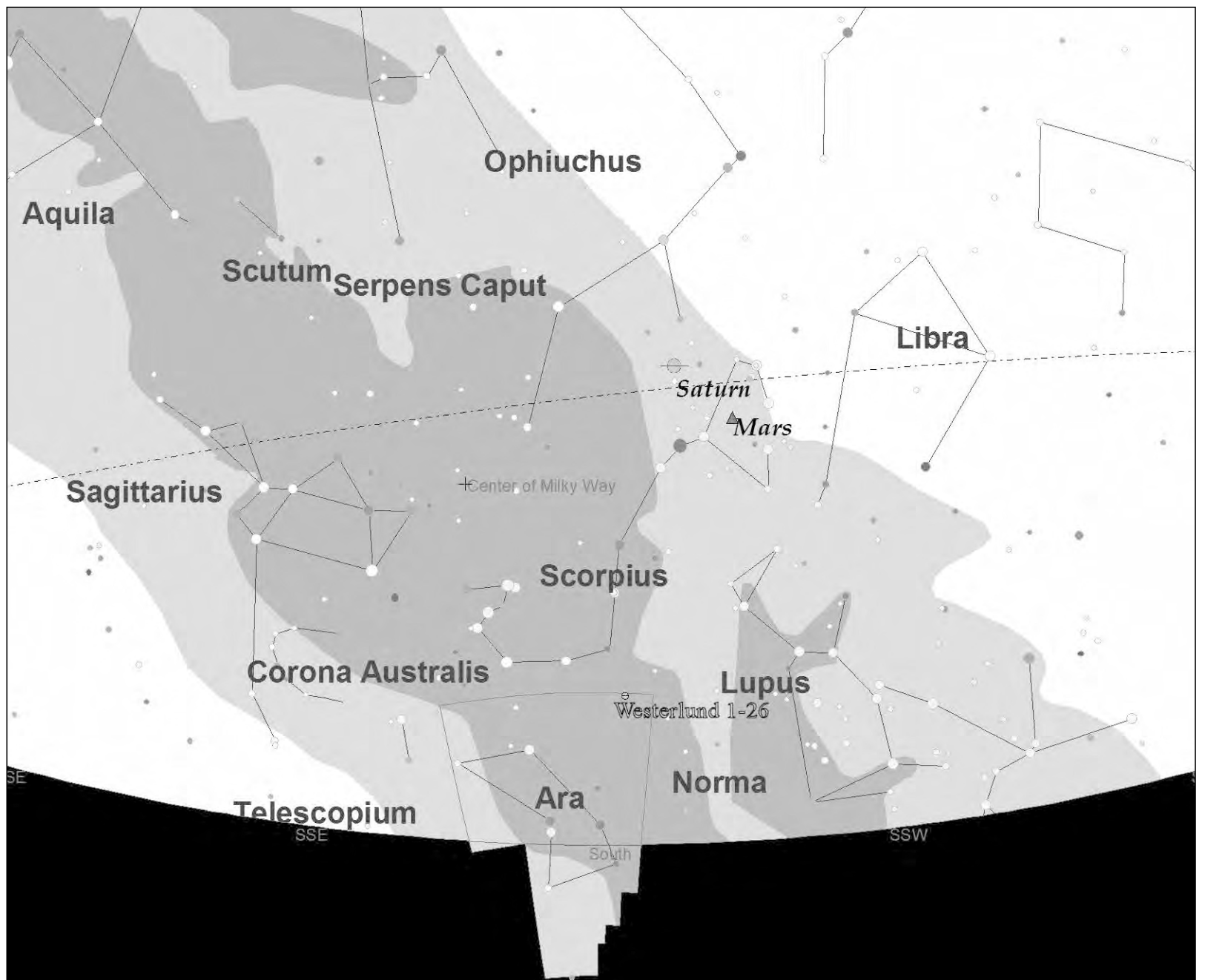
Ara represents the mythological altar that played a part in the battle between the Greek gods and the Titans. It had been predicted that Cronus, the leader of the Titans, would die at the hand of one of his own children, so he swallowed the first five of his children. Cronus’s wife, Rhea, and mother-in-law, Gaia, hid the sixth, Zeus, until he grew up. Zeus poisoned Cronus, causing him to vomit up the other children. Then Zeus and his brothers went to war with Cronus and the other Titans. During the fighting, Zeus freed some of the Titans that Cronus had imprisoned who became Zeus’s allies.

Among these new allies were the Cyclopes who were expert metalworkers. They built a metal altar and burned a sacrifice on it. The smoke from the altar hid Zeus and his brothers as they attached Cronus, allowing them eventually to win the war. Zeus then placed the altar in the heavens on the southern horizon so that its rising smoke would form the Milky Way.

Ara contains the first super star cluster discovered, named Westerlund 1, it was found by Swedish astronomer Bengt Westerlund in 1961, but remained largely unobserved because it is behind the Milky Way, which absorbs much of the light from the cluster. Super star clusters are open star clusters, such as the Pleiades or the Hyades in our sky. Open cluster stars formed from a common cloud of dust and gas and they retain the original motion of that cloud. Super star clusters are scaled up versions of an open star cluster, with Westerlund 1 containing over 200,000 stars. This is the largest cluster in the Milky Way. It is also the closest super star cluster to us at a distance of 16,000 light-years.

It is a very young cluster, only four to five million years old, with thousands of massive stars, some weighing 30 or 40 times the mass of the Sun. With this population of heavy stars, this open cluster will most likely become tighter and tighter knit as it ages, eventually becoming a globular cluster with a core of very heavy stars holding the cluster together with their gravity.

Super star clusters, like all open clusters, formed out of common gas cloud, in this case a massive cloud. Surrounding the



Ara is a small constellation (63rd out of 88 in size) on the southern horizon. This constellation is composed of stars from magnitude 2.8 to magnitude 3.6. Westerlund 1 is a super star cluster that is hiding behind the disc of the Milky Way galaxy. This made it difficult to study Westerlund 1 in visible light. Infrared and radio waves can pass right through, so this cluster is best studied in infrared and radio frequencies.

Calendar of Events – August 2016 (MST)

02	2:45 p.m.	New Moon
10	12:21 p.m.	First Quarter Moon
12	Morning	Perseid meteor shower peaks
13	Noon	Saturn is stationary
16	3 p.m.	Mercury greatest distance east of Sun (27 degrees)
18	3:27 a.m.	Full Moon
23	10 p.m.	Mars 1.8 degrees north of Antares
24	9:41 p.m.	Last Quarter Moon
25	5 a.m.	Mars 4.5 degrees south of Saturn
27	4 p.m.	Venus 11 minutes-of-arc north of Jupiter
29	7 p.m.	Mercury stationary

cluster are the remains of that cloud, composed mostly of hydrogen that has had its electrons stripped away by the ultraviolet radiation coming from the massive stars in the cluster. Outside of the hydrogen is a cocoon of dust that blocks most of the light from the cluster. What does get through is highly reddened and greatly dimmed. Because of this, super star clusters are best observed in radio and infrared frequencies.

One of the giant stars on the outskirts of Westerlund 1 is the red hypergiant star Westerlund 1-26. This is one of the largest stars in our galaxy. It is 1,530 times the diameter of our Sun. If it were placed in our Solar System, it would occupy all the space to the orbit of Jupiter and beyond. With such an extended

atmosphere, some of that atmosphere has drifted away to form a glowing green nebula around this star. It may eventually become a Wolf-Rayet star, losing its entire hydrogen atmosphere and later end its life as a super-brilliant supernova.

The Planets for August 2016.

Mercury, Venus and Jupiter will be next-door neighbors low in the western sky this month. On Aug. 21, the three will fit within an eight-degree circle. This will be a nice grouping with the two brightest planets in our sky being just 11 minutes or arc apart on Aug. 27 with Mercury five degrees southwest of the pair.

Mercury starts the month above Venus in Leo and moves eastward into Virgo, reaching its greatest distance from the Sun

on Aug. 16. On that date, it will be 51 percent sunlit and decreasing, shining at magnitude +0.4. The Messenger of the gods has a disc that is 7.4 seconds-of-arc across, setting around 9 p.m.

Venus is just starting its run in the evening sky. It sets about 10 minutes before Mercury at midmonth when it will be magnitude -3.9, five degrees above the western horizon as it gets dark. The Goddess of Love’s disc will be 10.5 seconds-of-arc across with 94 percent of it being sunlit. Venus starts the month moving eastward in western Leo, entering Virgo just four days after Mercury, where it ends the month in western Virgo.

Just 12 degrees above the western horizon as it gets dark, Jupiter shines at magnitude -1.7. Moving lowly eastward from eastern Leo into western Virgo, Jupiter sets around 9:20 p.m. The King of the planets has a disc that is 31.3 seconds-of-arc across at midmonth.

Mars moves eastward from the pincers of Scorpius, through a corner of Octans and back into more of Scorpius by month end. It will pass Saturn on Aug. 25 at a distance of 4.5 degrees. Saturn is almost stationary in western Octans this month. Saturn will be magnitude +0.5 while Mars glows at magnitude -0.4. The

God of War’s disc will be 10.9 seconds-of-arc across while Saturn’s disc will be 16.8 seconds-of-arc across. Saturn’s Rings will be 38.0 seconds-of-arc across, tilted down 26.0 degrees with the northern face showing. The two planets will be thirty-three degrees above the southern horizon as it gets dark and the pair will set around 12:30 a.m. The bright red star Antares will be just below Mars during the last half of the month.

The annual Perseid meteor shower peaks on the morning of Aug. 12. The Moon will set around 1:30 a.m., leaving the rest of the night dark to view these dust particles from the comet P/109 Swift-Tuttle. They will “burn up” in our upper atmosphere travelling at a speed of 40 miles per second. The best way to view them is to sit in a folding lounge chair facing northeast, encased in a sleeping bag. So sit back, watch the show and “keep watching the sky!”

An amateur astronomer for more than 45 years, Bert Stevens is co-director of Desert Moon Observatory in Las Cruces.





Like many of her human counterparts, for Monroe the dog sometimes the best place to be on a hot summer day is inside under the air conditioning, perhaps lying on a bed with a good book. In this case it's "Hop on Pop" by Dr. Seuss. What's your favorite summer read? (Photo by Richard Coltharp)

Bella has the sense to hang out at the Yankie Street Coffee Shop in Silver City during the heat of the day where patrons can find a cookie to feed her and she can chill out on the couch. (Photo by Elva K. Österreich)

PUBLISHER'S NOTEBOOK • RICHARD COLTHARP

Dog Days

Summer's for Sirius relaxation

Even though it seems like it, "the dog days of summer" do not refer to the times when it's so hot dogs are too lazy to chase cats or do anything besides lie down on the porch.

There's actually a bright star in the sky called Sirius, and it's part of the constellation Canis Major, which is Latin for, roughly, Big Dog. For about a month in July and August, the Dog Star rises with the sun. It just so happens, that time of the year coincides with hot weather in much of the world, especially out here in the exposed desert.

This is why Sirius satellite radio's logo was a dog.

Whether or not you care to be astronomically or scientifically accurate, it's still a good time of year to sit on a shady porch like a big dog, reading a good book and sipping an ice cold lemonade.

It's even better if a dog is with you. Maybe you're sitting in a porch swing or a comfy patio chair, and the dog is underfoot.

Dogs are great this way.

They can be with you or next to you, providing companionship without interrupting your reading.

Unless, of course, a squirrel runs by. Then you might spill your lemonade all over your book and your lap. Even more likely if the dog is already in your lap.

Summer is a great time for reading. It's also a great time for wandering book aisles in a great book shop. Just as you can get lost in a great book, you can get lost in a great bookstore. Being surrounded by more knowledge, information and ideas than you could absorb in a lifetime is both humbling and thrilling.

We're blessed in our region with several of these havens of the printed word.

Ruidoso's got Books Etcetera. Las Cruces has not one but two locations of COAS Books. The Mesilla Book Center on the Mesilla Plaza. Deming has Readers' Cove. Silver City has O'Keefe Book Shop. Truth or Consequences has Xochi's and Black Cat Books & Coffee, but you can't get your summer reading fix there, because they have the good sense to close between Memorial Day and Labor Day.

Each shop is an adventure to itself. And if you're a tourist visiting one of these communities for a getaway, a trip to the bookstore can be an antidote from travel fatigue, a getaway from the getaway.

Southern New Mexico is blessed with great libraries too. Great scenery surrounds the library in Ruidoso. Magical art and atmosphere envelops you at the library in Silver City. Las Cruces has both the Branigan downtown and two libraries at New Mexico State University. Alamogordo's always appealing

library has added a new wrinkle: a book shop of its own. Instead of holding those regular fundraising book sales, the Alamogordo Library Foundation rented a space at White Sands Mall where used books are now always for sale.

Regular readers often adopt a different reading pace in summer.

For me, summer's not summer if I don't read a couple of baseball books. To start the summer, I read "One Shot at Forever," about a small-town Illinois high school baseball team in 1971, that takes an unlikely route to greatness. The story captures the tension of the times, the glory of youth and the power of unorthodoxy. Then I gave the book to a friend who actually grew up in Illinois. He loved it.

Sharing a book with a friend can be like taking a memorable vacation together, but without the arguments and sweaty car rides.

My second summer baseball book was a riveting biography on Yankees player and manager Billy Martin, "Baseball's Flawed Genius." Definitely a fitting title for Martin, a manager who always impressed me. Learning about people great in any field can be valuable and inspiring. Learning about someone whose talent was only exceeded by his ability to say the wrong thing at the wrong time, can be educational and cautionary.

My daughter Avalon, perfectly befitting these Dog Days, is reading "A Dog's Purpose" by Bruce Cameron.

Avalon's dog, Monroe, recently read "Hop on Pop" by Dr. Seuss. Or at least she appeared to be reading it.

In sum, don't let your Dog Days go to the dogs. Pick up a book, magazine, letter. Heck, even a copy of Desert Exposure. Something that doesn't require batteries or electricity. Go find a great park, a cool library or, best of all, a great shady porch. Let the words take you away.

Sirius-ly.

Richard Coltharp is publisher of Desert Exposure and the Las Cruces Bulletin. The only thing he has in common with Stephen King is a favorite author: Cleveland Don Robertson, who wrote, among other things, "The Greatest Thing Since Sliced Bread." Coltharp found the paperback novel at a bookstore called Andy's Grocery in Stillwater, Okla., in the Dog Days of summer 1984. He can be reached at richard@lascrucesbulletin.com.



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RANDOM ACTS OF NONSENSE JIM DUCHENE

Dizzyland

The slap-dap-happiest place on Earth

My wife and kids refuse to travel with me anymore. All because I'm a man who enjoys life at a discount. My wife calls me cheap, but that's not true... I'm frugal. For example, this month I'm going by myself to Dizzyland for vacation.

It's cheaper that way.

If you ever plan on going, let me warn you, Dizzyland is expensive – incredibly expensive – but there are ways around it. For example, when it's your turn to pay for your entrance into the magical kingdom, pretend to twist your ankle. Almost immediately, the amusement park's crack emergency personnel will carry you to the first aid station located inside of the park. Once treated, tell the nurse you're feeling better. She won't know you haven't paid admission, so you're free to walk straight into the park and onto the first ride you see, your newly-wrapped ankle taking you straight to the head of the line.

One thing I like about Dizzyland, they have a great team of maintenance workers constantly cleaning up. Feel free to drop your trash wherever you want, knowing it will immediately be picked up. The dirty little secret about trash is: it's always easy to get rid of. I've noticed if you hand someone something, they'll usually take it. Empty strollers make a convenient trash receptacle, but be careful not to throw your drink cup. You might be thirsty later. Try not to get caught, though. Angry parents may not care about the environment as much as you.

Summer months are hot, so stay hydrated. Keep a lookout for a forgetful tyke who's placed his reusable glass with unlimited refills somewhere near your hand. Same with food. If you walk behind a neglectful parent holding a toddler over his shoulder, if you look pleadingly at them, holding out your hand beggar-esque, the innocent child will usually fork over what's left of their burger.

If you think I'm taking advantage of innocent children, you're wrong. I'm only giving them the attention they deserve. Who else is entertaining them with funny faces on the off-chance they'll toss a chicken nugget my way?

However, a few cast-off morsels does not a meal make. Don't overlook the perfectly good fries that are left behind on tables by people too lazy to throw away their left-overs themselves. Be sure to eat only from food carts when they're being pulled down the Dizzyland streets on their way back to being restocked. Walk behind them and it's like an all-you-can-eat buffet. Speaking of buffets...

Buffets are great. There are so many people stuffing their faces, it's easy to go unnoticed. At Breakfast With Winnie The Pee-Yew, the bathrooms are conveniently located outside of the restaurant. I wait

until it's very busy, then pretend to return from "doing my business."

I get in 100 percent of the time.

At Ariella's Mermaid Grotto, the bathroom is downstairs from the dining area. When I walk in and ask the hostess if I can use their facilities, she always says yes because, at Dizzyland, it's against the law to say no. From the bathroom, it's a quick trip up the stairs to my next meal. Have you ever noticed how much better food tastes when it's free?

I have.

"But how can you get away with eating," you may wonder, "without a receipt?" To which I reply, "It's questions like that which would have kept the United States from pretending we went to the moon."

Eat as you go, my friend. Eat as you go. Whatever you serve yourself, quickly gobble it down as you make your way to the next food station. If you can, take some for later. Finger foods are best, those fit in your pockets quite nicely. In a pinch, however, I've been able to stuff a whole enchilada in my shoe. Once, the manager at Goofy Doofy's Diner caught me doing this, but, before he could say anything, I asked him, "Have you seen my daughter? The last time I saw her she was with Goofy Doofy. You do conduct a criminal background check on all your employees, don't you?"

When he quickly left to find Goofy Doofy, I quickly exited in the opposite direction. If all else had failed, I would have pulled the old Slip & Fall routine, exiting the amusement park the way I came in.

Carried, like a king.

Now that I think about it, instead of white uniforms, the maintenance workers at Dizzyland should all wear Goofy Doofy costumes. In the first place, it would be entertaining to see Goofy Doofy cleaning up cigarette butts and empty water bottles. In the second place, it would remind all the kids to stay in school. And, in the third place... well, there is no third place, but I felt like I needed to make the effort.

I like ending my visit to Dizzyland at one of their deluxe resort hotels. While there, whatever I ask for, as long as I give them a room number, they slap-dap-happily give it to me. They never ask, "Are you staying here?" They ask, "And what room shall I charge this to?"

"1454," I'll suggest.

If you think I'm being dishonest, you're wrong. What I'm doing is thoughtfully giving a departing family a final Dizzyland adventure when they try to check out. So, you see, I am generous.

Generous of spirit.

Born in the Southwest, a frugal Jim Duchene slap-dap-happily makes it his home. Discover more nonsense at JimDuchene.blogspot.com, RaisingMyFather.blogspot.com, and @JimDuchene.

TUMBLEWEEDS • ELVA K. ÖSTERREICH

Arigatou Gozaimasu

A journey to Japan

I just went to Japan to see my son who is a Marine stationed on Okinawa with his wife and three children. It was a wondrous, fabulous trip and my daughter-in-law, Elise, did a lot of research and planning which kept us all going for the full two weeks and gave me the opportunity to see and experience much of Okinawa and enjoy the company of my quirky and sweet grandbabies aged 6, 3 1/2 and almost 2.

Traveling in the company of my youngest son, Lanze, who is 15 now, we started with a day in Tokyo before heading to Okinawa. The first thing I realized as we rode the train from the airport to the city was the lush, green nature of the land. As a tropical, wet place, there is jungle, impenetrable walls of tree and brush, at the edge of everything. The towns, the fields, the city, everything has this dense, lush, green about it.

I saw a bridge over the tracks that looked covered in jungle too. Maybe there was a road in there somewhere but it didn't look big enough. July in Japan is hot and humid, imagine days that are in the low 90s in Fahrenheit degrees and usually more than 80 percent in humidity.

Tokyo is vast – broken up into districts. The area of Tokyo is the world's most populous metropolitan area with about 37.8 million people living there. The district our hotel was in is called Shinjuku and a few of the adventures found there are the Samurai Museum, the Golden Gai, shrines, the Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building



Early morning in the Shinjuku district of Tokyo, Japan. (Photo by Elva K. Österreich)

JAPAN

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Whale shark at the Okinawa Churaumi Aquarium.



Suri Castle: Throne of Ryukyu king, Okinawa.



Nakagusuku Castle ruins in Okinawa, built in the early 1400s.



Take a hike through a river to get to Okinawa's Tadake Falls.



Driving north on the Okinawa coast, near Nago Bay. (Photos by Elva K. Österreich)



Lanze and Elva at the Samurai Museum in Tokyo.



Tidal flats at certain beaches in Okinawa provide perfect low-tide ocean life observation points.



The Tropical Dream Center botanical gardens as seen from the top of the tower.



Elva enjoys one of the many restaurants offering a wide variety of cuisine in Japan.



A tower stands overlooking the Tropical Dream Center at Okinawa's Ocean Expo Park.



Shisa guardian dogs such as this are everywhere in Okinawa where they provide good luck and symbolic protection.

JAPAN

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(where you can take an elevator to the top and look out over the city), numerous ramen places (actually they use soba noodles) and other restaurants of all sorts and flavors, including Mexican.

Most of the people in Japan don't speak English, but all are willing to do whatever they can to help if you ask them. Most signs don't have English components. Politeness and kindness are the rule rather than the exception everywhere.

Once in Okinawa, the orchids greeting us in the airport planters delighted me. My son, Jäger, is there, his always cheerful self, to collect us. The ocean can be seen from almost every main road that carries traffic along the island. And when we get to the apartment, we spend our first hour cuddling the children and having light-saber wars in the hallway.

As a Marine family living in a foreign land, my family has adapted smoothly into the pace around them. There are plenty of services, places to shop and activities for children provided for by the military but they also get off base, shop in the Japanese markets, visit the beaches, play Magic in the Japanese card shops and enjoy eating at the local restaurants. Most of the contracted help on base, including gate guards and shop clerks, are Japanese and I loved hearing my family addressing them in Japanese rather than expecting the locals to adapt to English, even though most who work on the bases clearly are good English speakers. It seems the polite nature of the people of the land is rubbing off on our Americans.

"Arigatou gozaimasu," are the words you will hear the most no matter where you are in Japan. This is the "thank you very much" meme come alive. Everybody

says it on pretty much every occasion.

While there certainly is some resentment toward Americans, there is also a great deal of support. After all, Okinawa's two main industries are tourism and military services. While part of Japan, the people of Okinawa have their own, subtly different, culture and living.

There was a lot of publicity around recent protests in the wake of some incidents involving murder and drunken driving by Americans. Some Okinawans, including Okinawa Gov. Takeshi Onaga, are working to either stop the relocation of one American base or completely oust the U.S. military from the island. A June 19 event bringing together 65,000 protesters, the largest protest against the U.S. presence in 20 years, was reported by the New York Times and other media outlets.

When I was there and we were driving around, I did see protesters on street corners, but they were protesting in defense of the U.S. military presence. And my son told us of the Japanese mother-in-law of one of his coworkers who was paid the equivalent of \$100 just to sit in front of her house with an anti-American protest sign. That makes me wonder how many of those 65,000 people were just making a few bucks by holding a sign.

So we had a whirlwind of ac-

tivity during my two week visit: We went to beaches, including one with creatures in tide pools; castles both ruined and rebuilt; a modern five-story mall; hiked up the middle of a river to a waterfall; got to create our own glasses by blowing glass; went camping at a resort (staying in air-conditioned cabins and walking across the road to the bathrooms); visiting an aquarium with whale sharks and sea turtles; walking through a carefully-designed botanical garden; and eating a nice variety of local foods.

All of the above was accomplished with three small children in tow – seven people in total every time. We had such wonderful adventures together.

But, in the mornings at the apartment I would wake up before anyone else and sit on the balcony with a cup of coffee for a while before the day got too hot. Gradually a little person would wander out with sleepy eyes, looking for Gramma. Someone would climb on my lap, put their little arms around my neck and lay their head on me quietly as they cleared the sleep out of their brains. Then another little face would appear and all of a sudden I would be filling requests – making Playdoh cats, drawing flowers with sidewalk chalk, getting out juice boxes and reading books, all before anyone else was even up. Those were the best moments of all.



Tokyo from the top of the government building in the Shinjuku District.



The two-story Hotel Rouault, at Griggs and Main streets in Las Cruces, would later become the Herndon Hotel. The building directly to the south (right) of it on Main St. was the Manasse building, which MVP has verified as another Trost & Trost design. (Courtesy photo)

AREA ARCHITECTURE • ERIC LIEFELD

A Toast to Trost

Mesilla Valley Preservation rediscovers architectural legacy

For the first third of the 20th century, the acclaimed El Paso architectural firm of Trost & Trost designed most of the important buildings in the Southwest – and many of the important buildings in the Mesilla Valley. Visionary designer Henry C. Trost was a contemporary of Frank Lloyd Wright, and both were influenced by Chicago architect Louis Sullivan, who is often referred to as the spiritual father of American architecture. Trost & Trost had an outsized impact on the architecture of the southwest, with many influences visible in our modern buildings today. Unfortunately, most of the firm's records were lost, and while some communities have capitalized on their Trost & Trost architectural heritage, many buildings designed by the firm in the

Mesilla Valley have remained obscure or have been lost to demolition.

Mesilla Valley Preservation, Inc. (MVP) has been researching both surviving and lost Trost & Trost architecture seeking proof of attribution. In just a few years, MVP has literally doubled the known list of Trost & Trost buildings in the Mesilla Valley.

Born in 1860 in Toledo, Ohio, Trost worked with several architectural firms in Kansas and Colorado, spending influential time in Chicago between 1888 and 1896 when the city was undergoing tremendous growth and rebuilding after the great fire of 1871. He moved to Tucson, Arizona in 1899, where many distinctive structures bear his name.

He moved to El Paso in 1903 to join his brothers Gustavus and Adolphus

and his nephew George to form Trost & Trost.

Their timing could not have been better. El Paso was booming, and Trost & Trost rapidly helped transform the sleepy adobe town with reinforced concrete skyscrapers to support new business activity. New Mexico was near the end of its long quest for statehood, and every community (no matter how small) had to erect schools to demonstrate that the state was properly educating its children.

Every school needed an architect to draw up plans, and often manage the construction process itself.

Unlike many architects who stayed within a single recognizable style, Trost was at home in diverse architectural styles popular at the time. For this

reason, his designs can sometimes be difficult to recognize. Trost & Trost designed everything from brick and reinforced concrete skyscrapers and hotels, to comfortable homes, schools, and other private and municipal buildings.

He was also one of the first green designers, building in what he called his “Arid Southwest” design aesthetic to make the best of the southwestern climate. As a symbol of his versatility, Trost designed several Mesilla Valley buildings from the native adobe. Trost & Trost single-handedly established the look of the New Mexico College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts (now NMSU) and the Texas College of Mines (now UTEP). To this day much of the firm's iconic architecture still defines the downtown El Paso skyline.

VAST LEGACY

Trost & Trost

Visionary architect was green before it was politically correct



Henry Trost's architectural legacy is evident throughout southern New Mexico. (Courtesy Photo)

Henry C. Trost has rightly been called the “Architect of the Southwest.” At the helm of the prolific El Paso architectural firm of Trost & Trost, he helped to establish and refine many of the prevailing architectural styles that still define what we think of as southwestern architecture today. He was fluent in all of the architectural styles of his day — from numerous “revival” styles to Prairie School and several styles of his own invention. Trost applied these styles with a prolific and practiced hand in cities throughout west Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and Mexico.

As designer for the firm, Henry didn't merely echo cookie-cutter styles brought from elsewhere, rather he changed and adapted them in important visual and functional ways. He was strongly influenced by the existing architecture he found in the southwest, noting how the “old Spanish builders adapted their structures to the requirements of environment” – an adaptation learned from

the earliest Native American inhabitants of the southwest.

Trost's own arid Southwest design aesthetic would come to draw heavily on these influences, making him one in a long line of “green” builders seeking to adapt to the challenging southwest climate. Importantly, Trost was designing in a time before air conditioning, and comfort and health were clearly key concerns for his designs.

Many buildings incorporating Trost's arid Southwest design aesthetic were built in the Mesilla Valley, including several built from adobe – a relatively rare material for Trost designs built elsewhere:

The John O. Miller House (aka the Pink House, 1908, demolished in 2008). This house was a unique example of a Prairie School design executed in adobe – built for John O. Miller, the first Regis-

Trost & Trost is responsible for much of Southern New Mexico landscape tradition

In addition to buildings in Las Cruces and the Mesilla Valley, Henry Trost designed much of the original campus for the New Mexico College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts (now New Mexico State University) including “The Horseshoe” which was central to its layout as approached from the Mesilla Park train depot to the west of campus. He designed many of NMSU's early buildings in his own “Spanish Renaissance” style.

Trost & Trost is also responsible for numerous buildings across southern New Mexico including 11 in Alamogordo; three in Cloudcroft; nine in Deming; three in Hatch; one in Hillsboro; 37 in Las Cruces; three in Lordsburg; 19 in Silver City (including Fleming, Boden, and Light halls at Western New Mexico University); seven in Truth or Consequences and more.

TROST

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Phillips Chapel Christian Methodist Episcopal Church after volunteers, including faculty and students from NMSU and Dona Ana Community College, spent seven years restoring the historic church. (Photo by Beth O'Leary)



Phillips Chapel in October 2009 before volunteers began restoring the state's oldest existing African American church. (Photo by Beth O'Leary)

RECONSTRUCTION • MINERVA BALMANN

Chapel Restored

State's oldest African American church complete

Las Cruces volunteers spent the last seven years up to their elbows in mud, mortar and adobe bricks to restore the state's oldest existing African American church. Today there is a bronze plaque, installed July 9, commemorating the Phillips Chapel Christian Methodist Episcopal Church listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Volunteers included students and faculty from New Mexico State University and Doña Ana Community College, who dedicated thousands of hours to restore the one-room church built in 1911. Both the exterior and interior of the building were restored, repairing windows, replacing doors and refinishing interior flooring and woodwork. The church houses a small congrega-

tion and is located in the heart of the African American community in Las Cruces.

"This was a community project from start to finish," said Beth O'Leary, New Mexico State University anthropology professor emeritus, who is among those who lead the restoration efforts. "The youngest volunteer was eight years old and the oldest was 85. Musi-

cians, business owners, gardeners and people from various churches as well as historic preservation groups pitched in to help."

The late NMSU history professor Clarence Fielder, whose grandparents started the church, initiated the effort to restore Phillips Chapel back in 2003. Physical work to restore the structure in the Mesquite historic neighborhood began in

2009. Fielder passed away last year but he did see the restored chapel.

"Clarence loved Phillips Chapel," said O'Leary. "He inspired us all with his vision to ensure Phillips Chapel would remain as a vital part of the community for the next 100 years."

Pastor Rickey Taylor holds regular church services at the chapel each Sunday at 10 a.m.

TROST

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The Holt House 2016. (Photo by Susie Ouderirk.)



The Holt House circa 1908. (Courtesy Photo)

trar of the New Mexico College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts (now NMSU). Popularized by Frank Lloyd Wright, the Prairie School sought to blend the building with the landscape and bring nature into the architecture itself. The thick adobe walls and shallow but massive roofline made the Miller House appear to hug the ground, while broad eaves shaded a wrap-around porch from the sun on the east, south, and west. Like many of Wright's designs, the Miller House sported large paired planters (urns) built into the porch structure itself, further integrating nature with the building.

The Winfred E. Garrison House (later the Convent of the Good Shepherd, 1909). Built for College President Winfred E. Garrison who served from 1908-1913, the house is a grand two-story hacienda centered on a central courtyard that was originally open to the sky. Used for campus events, this house too

was constructed of adobe, with the architecture carefully matching the "Spanish Renaissance" style that Trost had invented for the new buildings at the Agricultural College. Not only did the courtyard let nature into the architecture, but more than half of the second story was completely open to the air through a series of grand arches. This latter feature was likely designed specifically for Garrison, who had come to the southwest with Tuberculosis, and a death sentence hanging over his head. It must have worked, as Garrison would live to a ripe old age.

The H.B. Holt House (1908). Built for lawyer H.B. Holt, this house at the corner of Picacho and Alameda avenues includes many of the same extravagant interior features as Henry Trost's own elegant house in the Sunset Heights neighborhood of El Paso, constructed around the same time. In both, extensive quarter-sawn oak cabinetry

is topped by elegant custom stained glass lanterns. Built with Mission Revival design elements, the house itself is reputed to feature a dual-course brick construction, with a dead air space between for insulation. It is tempting to view the exuberant tower and turret as an architectural flourish, but with operable windows all around it would also have served to draw warmer air up and out of the house in the hot summer months.

With several patents to his name, Trost also contributed a number of inventions and innovations that helped his buildings provide comfort in our southwestern climate. Designed for an El Paso hotel, his elaborate Survent door allowed a bellman to remove and return laundered clothing while also providing a venting mechanism to keep guests comfortable. The vented door also eliminated the need for transoms for ventilation, allowing a hotel builder to specify lower ceilings and

accommodate more floors for a given building height. An elaborate "inside-outside bed" design allowed a hotel guest to literally flip a panel and sleep in the outdoor air, which was thought to be healthful in a time of rampant Tuberculosis infection. While these inventions may seem to odd in our age of air-conditioned comfort, they would have been truly innovative in their day.

MVP's research is ongoing.

"We still have some strong suspects that we are trying to prove," said Eric Liefeld, President of Mesilla Valley Preservation, Inc. "MVP anticipates future announcements regarding the influence of the architectural firm of Trost and Trost in the Mesilla Valley."

Mesilla Valley Preservation, Inc. is dedicated to preserving the architectural legacy of the Mesilla Valley in southern New Mexico, and "Preserving the Future of our Past."

WNMU • ABE VILLARREAL

Leaving a Legacy

University foundation selling memorial bricks

SILVER CITY, NM – A new opportunity to commemorate alumni, loved ones and friends has been initiated by the University Foundation with the sale of Legacy Bricks.

The purchase of a Legacy Brick establishes areas on campus honoring students, university leaders, donors and alumni whose names, dates and special memories will be left as a testament to those times experienced on campus.

“We’re excited that anyone who has an important memory or accomplishment at WNMU has the opportunity to leave their legacy on one of these bricks that will be a part of the landscape of our future,” said Jodi Edens-Crocker, University Foundation Executive Director.

Bricks can contain one line of information for \$100 or two lines



for \$125 of up to ten spaces per line.

“The bricks will be laid out on campus for everyone to see as a way to salute the past, capture the present, and pave the future

for our students and community,” Edens-Crocker said.

To purchase a Legacy Brick, contact the University Foundation at 575-538-6310 or foundation@wnmu.edu.

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WRITING CONTEST



Desert Exposure will continue its longstanding writing contest. Winners will be featured in our October issue.


Mail entries to:
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 Las Cuces, NM 88005
 or email to:
contest@desertexposure.com

Include name and postal address, if you have one. Entries cannot be returned.

Submit your best article, short story, essay, poem or other piece of writing by August 26. Entries must be previously unpublished and will be judged on literacy quality and how well they express some aspect of life in southern New Mexico. Please limit your entries to one or two submissions.

Maximum length per entry is 4,000 words.

Prizes include publication, \$25 runner-up prizes and a \$100 grand prize.



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Grant County Weekly Events

SUNDAYS

Archaeology Society — First Sunday of every month, field trip. 536-3092, whudson43@yahoo.com.

MONDAYS

AARP Widowed and Single Persons of Grant County — Second Monday, 10:30 a.m. Cross Point Assembly of God Church. All singles welcome. Contact Sally, 537-3643.

Al-Anon family group, New Hope — 12:05 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, 1915 Swan, Silver City. Contact: Jerry, 575-534-4866; Matt, 575-313-0330; Diana 575-574-2311. Open meeting.

Art Class — 9-10:45 a.m. Silver City Senior Citizen Center. Beginners to advanced. Contact Jean 519-2977.

Gentle Yoga — 5:30-6:56 p.m. Lotus Center at 211 W. Broadway, Becky Glenn, 404-234-5331.

Mom & Baby Yoga — 5:30-6:30 p.m. La Clinica Health & Birth Center, 3201 Ridge Loop. 388-4251. Free to patients, \$5 for non-patients.

Republican Party of Grant County — Second Monday, 6 p.m. at 3 Rio de Arenas Road (the old Wrangler restaurant).

Silver City Squares — Dancing 7-9 p.m. Presbyterian Church, 1915 N. Swan St. Kay, 388-4227, or Linda, 534-4523.

TUESDAYS

Alzheimer's/Dementia Support — First Tuesday, 1:30 p.m. Senior Center. Margaret, 388-4539.

Bayard Historic Mine Tour — Second Tuesday, meet at Bayard City Hall, 800 Central Ave., by 9:30 a.m. \$5 fee covers two-hour bus tour of historic mines plus literature and map; call 537-3327 for reservation.

Compassionate Friends — Fourth Tuesday, 7 p.m. Support for those who've lost a child. Episcopal Church, Parish Hall, Seventh and Texas St. Mitch Barsh, 534-1134.

Figure/Model Drawing — 4-6 p.m. Contact Sam, 388-5583.

Gilawriters — 2-4 p.m. Silver City Public Library. Trish Heck, trish.heck@gmail.com, 534-0207.

Multiple Sclerosis Support Group — First Tuesday, 11:30 a.m. at local restaurant; email for this month's location: huseworld@yahoo.com.

PFLAG Silver City — First Tuesday, 5:30-7 p.m. at the Yankie Creek Coffee House. Confidential support for LGBTQ persons, their families and friends. 575-590-8797.

Slow Flow Yoga — 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Lotus Center at 211 W. Broadway, Becky Glenn, 404-234-5331.

Southwest New Mexico Quilters Guild — First Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. at the Grant County Extension Office, 2610 N. Silver Street, North Entrance. Newcomers and visitors are welcome. 575-388-8161.

Tai Chi for Better Balance — 10:45 a.m., Senior Center. Call Lydia Moncada to register, 575-534-0059.

WEDNESDAYS

Al-Anon family group — 6 p.m. at Arenas Valley Church of Christ, 5 Race Track Road, Arenas Valley (the old radio station). Contact: Tom, 575-956-8731; Karen 575-313-7094; Dot, 575-654-1643. Open meeting.

Archaeology Society — Third Wednesday of every month, October-November, January-April 7 p.m. Silver City Women's Club. Summers 6 p.m. location TBA. 536-3092, whudson43@yahoo.com.

Back Country Horsemen — Second Wednesday, 6 p.m. Gila Regional Medical Center Conference Room. Subject to change. 574-2888.

Bayard Al-Anon — 6 p.m. Bayard Housing Authority, 100 Runnels Drive 313-7094.

A Course in Miracles — 7:15 p.m., 600 N. Hudson. Information, 534-9172 or 534-1869.

Curbside Consulting — Free for nonprofits. 9 a.m.-noon. Wellness Coalition, 409 N. Bullard, Lisa Jimenez, 534-0665, ext. 232, lisa@wellnesscoalition.org.

Gin Rummy — 1 p.m. Yankie Creek Coffee House.

Grant County Democratic Party — Second Wednesday, potluck at 5:30 p.m., meeting at 6:30 p.m. Sen. Howie Morales' building, 3060 E. Hwy. 180.

Ladies Golf Association — 8 a.m. tee time. Silver City Golf Course.

Lego Club — Ages 4-9. 4 p.m. Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave., 538-3672.

Prenatal Yoga — 5:30-6:30 p.m. at La Clinica Health & Birth Center, 3201 Ridge Loop. 388-4251. Free to patients, \$5 for non-patients.

Prostate Cancer Support Group — Third Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Gila Regional Medical Center Conference Room. 388-1198 ext. 10.

Storytime — all ages. 10:30 a.m. Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave., 538-3672.

THURSDAYS

ARTS Anonymous — 5:30 p.m. Artists Recovering through the 12 Steps. Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 3845 N. Swan St. 534-1329.

De-stressing Meditations — 12-12:45 p.m. New Church of the SW Desert, 1302 Bennett St. 313-4087.

Grant County Rolling Stones Gem and Mineral Society — Second Thursday, 6 p.m. Senior Center, 204 W. Victoria St. Kyle, 538-5706.

Group Meditation — 5:30-6:15 p.m. with Jeff Goin at the Lotus Center. 388-4647.

Historic Mining District & Tourism Meeting — Second Thursday, 10 a.m. Bayard Community Center, 290 Hurley Ave., Bayard. 537-3327.

Tai Chi for Better Balance — 10:45 a.m., Senior Center. Call Lydia Moncada to register, 575-534-0059.

TOPS — 5 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, 1915 Swan, 538-9447.

Vinyasa Flow Yoga — 11:30 a.m. Lotus Center at 211 W. Broadway, Becky Glenn, 404-234-5331.

Yoga class — Free class taught by Colleen Stinar. 1-2 p.m. Episcopal Church fellowship hall, Seventh and Texas.

FRIDAYS

Overeaters Anonymous — 7 p.m. at First United Methodist Church. 575-654-2067.

Silver City Woman's Club — Second Friday, 10:30 a.m., lunch is at noon, 411 Silver Heights Blvd. Kathleen at 538-3452.

Taizé — Second Friday. Service of prayer, songs, scripture readings and quiet contemplation. 6:30 p.m. Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 538-2015.

Woodcarving Club — First and third Fridays except holidays. 1 p.m. Senior Center. 313-1518.

Youth Space — 5:30-10 p.m. Loud music, video games, chill out. Satellite/Wellness Coalition.

SATURDAYS

Alcoholics Anonymous Beginners — 6 p.m. Lions Club, Eighth & Bullard (entrance at Big Ditch behind Domino's). Newcomers and seasoned members welcome.

Alcoholics Anonymous "Black Chip" — 11 a.m. to noon, at First United Methodist Church.

Alzheimer's/Dementia Support — 10 a.m.-noon. Gila Regional Medical Center Conference Room. Margaret, 388-4539.

Blooming Lotus Meditation — 12:45 p.m. Lotus Center at 211 W. Broadway, 313-7417, geofarm@pobox.com.

Double Feature Blockbuster Mega Hit Movie Night — 5:30-11 pm. Satellite/Wellness Coalition.

Evening Prayer in the Eastern Orthodox Tradition — 5 p.m. Theotokos Retreat Center, 5202 Hwy. 152, Santa Clara. 537-4839, theotokos@zianet.com.

Kids Bike Ride — 10 a.m., Bikeworks, 815 E. 10th St. Dave Baker, 388-1444.

Narcotics Anonymous — 6 p.m. New 180 Club, 1661 Hwy. 180 E.

Spinning Group — First Saturday, 1-3 p.m. Yada Yada Yarn, 614 N. Bullard, 388-3350.

Storytime — all ages. 10:30 a.m. Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave., 538-3672.

Vinyasa Flow Yoga — 10 a.m. All levels. Lotus Center at 211 W. Broadway, Becky Glenn, 404-234-5331.

All phone numbers are area code 575 except as noted. Send updates to events@desertexposure.com.



Participants line up in preparation to take part in the 2015 UV Splash Color Dash at Alameda Park in Alamogordo. (Courtesy Photo)

KEEPING SUN SAFE • TRESA VAN WINKLE

Lighting the Night

Alamogordo UV Splash Color Dash to sparkle in Alameda Park

Walkers, runners and rollers will be adding a lot of color to Alamogordo's Alameda Park the evening of Saturday, Aug. 13 for the 2nd Annual UV Splash Color Dash to benefit CAPPED, Inc.'s Children's Sun Safe Programs. An Integrative Health Fair begins at 5 p.m. with food vendors, face painting and a Vintage "Golden Gears" car show. Packet pick-ups begin at 7 and race starts at 9 p.m.

Hundreds of runners are expected to lite up like "psychedelic fireflies" as they run, walk, dance and roll their ways across the finish line. The Dash is a family-friendly, untimed 5K run, walk and roll that welcomes all shapes, sizes, ages and abilities. CAPPED provides the white T-shirt to start and at each kilometer add blue, sprinkle green, splash yellow, spray orange, and finish strong in pink.

The Color Explosion is the after Dash celebration. After a count-down from 10 everyone launches their color packets into the air.

Spectators are welcome to visit the integrative health fair, store, face painting, food vendors and car show but there is no guarantee they'll be able to avoid the color or the colorful wet fun.

Fifty percent of the registration fee and merchandise sales go to CAPPED, Inc., a grassroots organization offering cancer prevention and support services. The CAPPED vision is "a world without cancer and other preventable disease." A hundred percent of the money raised for CAPPED will be used to support programs and services in the community.

In the past 13 years, CAPPED has more than exceeded its goals by educating more than 36,000 children in grades K-3 on methods to prevent skin cancer during their life time.

Register at www.cd5k.com. For more information about CAPPED visit www.capped.org.



Finishing the 5K, a youngster shows off her luminescent T-shirt following the 2015 UV Splash Color Dash. (Courtesy Photo)

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CYCLES OF LIFE • FR. GABRIEL ROCHELLE

Gearing it Up

Some practical information on how bicycles work

Unless you are pedaling a cruiser or a single-speed these days, you have multiple gearing on your bicycle. Gears transfer energy or power from one cog to another. They increase or decrease the power differential, depending on what's necessary. On a bicycle the chain is the instrument for the transfer.

There are two ways to gear a bicycle, either by a derailleur system or with internal (also called planetary or epicyclic) gears. Internal gears used to be limited to three, at most five options but today you can get more.

Internal systems work off a central "sun" gear that engages other gears (the planets). Everything

works within a closed cylindrical sprocket that forms the rear hub. The hub is the agent for the transferred energy, which in turn increases or decreases the needed pedal revolutions.

To see how this works check this site: <http://www.sturmey-archer.com/en/history>. The information on how internal gears work begins three minutes into the video. Internal systems are great for commuting and work cycles precisely because you can use them in all-weather without having to clean the parts after the ride.

Derailleurs are easier to understand than internal gears. They operate by shifting the chain from one cog to another using a cage attached to the gearshift mechanism by cables. You can grasp the transfer of power, because it is visible. This system is standard issue on road and mountain bikes. Here's how it works.

Say you have three cogs on the chain ring (the big front one) and eight on the rear cassette (as the collection of cogs is called). This gives you, in theory, 24 possible gearing combinations. Three times eight is 24, right? Yes, but in prac-

tice this does not work. If you place the chain on the outermost cog on the ring and the innermost one on the cassette, you get what's called cross-chaining. Your bike will chatter, the chain may slip, and you can harm the teeth. So in reality you get a max of 22 gearings, with usable ratios running 16 to 18 (because the crossover ratios, in the middle range, equal each other anyway).

The bigger the chain ring (that is, the more teeth), the harder it is to pedal but you cover more ground with each revolution of the pedals. In the highest gear setting, the ratio is usually 1:4.4, which means that your rear wheel spins four and four-tenths times for each revolution of the pedals. On the other hand, the bigger the cog on the rear cassette, the easier it is to pedal but you will not cover as much ground. The ratio is reversed. Got that? When you are using the larger cog on the rear wheel, it takes less effort to turn the pedals and, thus, these higher gears are for starting a ride or for hill climbing.

If there are three cogs on the chain ring, the smallest one will have about 20 teeth; it's called a granny-gear. These days most bikes

come with only two cogs in the front, the inner one being a compromise between the two that you might have previously had. Today, granny-gears on a road bike will inspire sneers from fellow riders.

You have options for gearing beyond simply buying a bike off the shelf. Cranksets come in differing weights and materials, various kinds of shifters are available, and you can upgrade chains, too. All of these changes will affect performance. Remember, also, that there is already a significant difference in gearing ratios between mountain and road bikes. Numerous websites can give you more information, but enough for this month. Stay upright and keep riding.

Fr. Gabriel Rochelle is pastor of St Anthony of the Desert Orthodox Mission, Las Cruces, an avid cyclist and secretary for Velo Cruces, the local advocacy committee; see Velocruces.org. The church is at <http://stanthonylc.org>.



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Lackeys Welding personnel, including U.S. military veterans, stand with a flag pole the company donated to Hidalgo Medical Services Silver City Community Health Center. (Courtesy Photo)

GIVING BACK

Health Center Donation

Silver City welding company installs flag pole

Lackeys Welding in Silver City recently donated a 16-foot flag pole which is now on top of the Hidalgo Medical Services (HMS) Silver City Community Health Center.

In the process of selecting a vendor to build and install a new flag pole, HMS communicated its specifications to Lackeys Welding and the owner felt he should provide the flag pole at no cost because he is a U.S. Marine Corps veteran.

"We want the team at Lackeys Welding to be recognized for this generous donation," HMS Facilities Manager Jason Lockett said. "The materials and quality of workmanship of this flag pole are second-to-none."

According to HMS CEO Dan Otero, recognizing this donation also provided an opportunity to thank area U.S. Armed Forces members for their service.

"HMS appreciates this donated flag pole for our Silver City Community Health Center," Otero said. "Having recently celebrated Independence Day, HMS sincerely celebrates the contributions of all U.S. Armed Forces personnel, including Jared Lackey and his co-worker, Justin 'Bear' Gerleve."

Lackey was deployed in Iraq, Africa and Afghanistan as a staff sergeant with the Marines, while Gerleve was deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan as a staff sergeant with the Army.

TALKING HORSES • SCOTT THOMSON

Bumps in the Road

How to save a marriage between horse and human

Every now and then you hear a horse story that makes you wonder how things can go so wrong for a horse and the humans that shared her life.

This is one of those stories from my days back in Washington state.

The horse in this story was a little mare, bred by a reputable breeder that showed good conformation, color and attitude. When it was time, the breeder brought in a trainer to start the horse, and unlike so many breeders this one waited until the horse had enough physical and mental maturity to handle important foundation work.

I knew of this trainer, and knew he incorporated the basics of natural horsemanship and would never go to the extremes to get the job done. I also knew he loved this horse and would have bought her if the timing was better. He thought she had a good head and was solid on the trail, in the arena and on the ground right from the start. There were no signs of dangerous behavior. She appeared to be the kind of good all-around horse that would be perfect for a recreational rider.

I also knew something about three different owners who had the horse more or less in succession, and given the horse's age when each owner had her, I doubt there were many other owners in the mix.

Interestingly, these owners all had problems with the horse and all had a wreck or two, a couple of them pretty serious. The horse was put up for sale by one of the owners and was actually sold a couple of times, but was returned after the new owners experienced issues within the first few days. One owner only kept the horse for a couple of months, and one only for a short time as well.

I don't know where she went after this group of owners, but I did find out she was eventually sent to an auction well known for selling to kill buyers. Little doubt about her fate after that.

How could such a promising little horse end up with a life like this?

A simplistic but all too common analysis of such a story would go something like this:

The breeder bred bad horses. Definitely not the case in this situation.

The trainer was incompetent. In this case the original trainer was thorough and professional and was in no way responsible for what evolved. He knew how to start a horse right.

The owners were incompetent. The owners I knew about all had experience with horses and were kind people who would never resort to brutal methods. All could provide good homes and quality care. None of them were skilled enough to train a horse, but all were good enough to be comfortable partners for a good horse.

You could not say any of these owners caused these problems, at least not directly.

It was just a bad horse. As much as we'd like to think there's no such thing as a "bad" horse, there are some that come along that just aren't meant for life with a human. However, you usually see this very early on and in this case there was no indication this horse would be anything but a good horse.

These kinds of stories always depress me. The stars seemed aligned perfectly for this horse to have a great life – good breeder, good early training, good owners. – yet things still didn't work. What could have been done differently, perhaps producing a better outcome?

First, I would have liked the first owner in this sequence to find the original trainer and hire him for a few lessons to see how the horse was actually brought along. Don't assume for one second that a "trained" horse is actually finished and that training will necessarily translate to your personality and skills.

Next, I would have suggested that every one of these owners take a trusted, professional trainer along to look at the horse. This should be someone who has seen you ride, given you lessons and definitely knows about your skills, practice habits and personality. It shouldn't be a friend that just tells you what you want to hear, but someone who can take the emotion out of the decision. The trainer should ride the horse first; then you should ride the horse so the trainer can observe the potential relationship. In this story, I know that none of the three owners I knew had a trainer involved before the purchase. They bought the horse because she was beautiful.

It's always a good idea to buy a horse on trial so the new owner and trainer can have a few days of concentrated attention away from the previous owner and in a new location. Things come to the surface very quickly with horses so this step can save a lot of trouble. If the owner won't sell you the horse on trial, walk away from the deal. Someone unwilling to do this does not have the best interest of the horse at heart.

Once purchased, I would have suggested the new owner immediately sign up for lessons with a good trainer. I'm not talking a lesson a week but an immediate period of lessons, every day if possible for a week or two. I always suggest doing this even before you go riding with your friends on your new horse because a trained eye can see something before it happens, or a potential problem area, and can give you guidance on how to improve things.

In addition to the above, I always tell people to try to make the new horse their top priority right off the bat and spend as much time as possible with the horse.

Take some time off from work, use stored up vacation time, buy lots of frozen dinners – do whatever it takes to create the time to be part of the horse's adjustment to a new place and new person. Front loading your investment in the horse in terms of time and training/lesson dollars will make things go a lot better down the road.

None of the owners in this case took any lessons with this horse, all believing they were skilled and experienced enough to deal with whatever came up – the curse of the internet/YouTube generation of DIY horse owners, or of getting free advice from a friend. This horse paid dearly for that approach.

Finally, at the first sign of trouble, I would have brought in a good vet to see if unwanted behavior had its roots in some physical issue. Don't automatically assume bad behavior is a training issue or that a simple adjustment or massage will fix the problem. He can have many problems affecting behavior that never show up as lameness or obvious soreness. I could write ten columns just on behaviors I've seen that had absolutely nothing to do with training, and when fixed returned a horse to being a good working partner.

I know none of these owners took this step.

We all know how many marriages end in divorce, which may be why people invest so much time and money on match-makers, partner consultants and on-line sites trying to find the perfect match. Maybe this poor horse just found herself in a series of "bad marriages" with basically good people who were not willing or able to go the extra mile to make sure they had given the horse every chance to succeed. Maybe these owners thought they knew more than they actually did, and when things got complicated it was just easier to sell the horse and move on.

In my book, this was not a bad horse that couldn't make someone happy. She simply ended up on a path where the humans she met couldn't take the time to really get to know her and give her what she needed. This doesn't make any of the owners bad people; it's just what life is these days where the emphasis is on fast and immediate. All these owners are still riding and presumably have horses that suit them.

Just makes me sad that this little mare with so much promise didn't meet a person that saw what she had to offer.

Scott Thomson lives in Silver City and teaches natural horsemanship and foundation training. You can contact him at hsthomson@msn.com or 575-388-1830.



MIND, BODY, SPIRIT

Trauma-Informed Yoga

Las Cruces integrative health center offers help for traumatic stress

Eytan Salinger, LCSW, instructs a trauma-informed yoga class every Monday at Tesoro Integrative Health Center in Las Cruces. The class uses traditional and innovative yoga techniques to help restore internal rhythm and integrity often damaged with traumatic experiences. Traumatic stress may come from physical, mental or emotional shock or through chronic stress. PTSD and chronic anxiety are two examples of traumatic stress.

The yoga class involves gentle movement, breath work, coordination and relaxation techniques and is open to adults of all ages and abilities. No yoga experience is required. New students are encouraged to call first before attending class at 575-680-6449. Class price is

\$10. Class time is every Monday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

"Most people think PTSD is something only veterans or first responders experience," said Patti McClure, executive director of Tesoro, "But many people who come to the center with chronic anxiety have experienced trauma through rape, sexual abuse, domestic violence, horrible car accidents and other life-changing events. We don't ask a person how they've been traumatized, we just help them find a way to heal it."

Eytan Salinger, LCSW, is a licensed psychotherapist in private practice in Las Cruces. He combines his clinical experience of trauma treatment with 25 years of yoga practice in a variety of traditions.

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Red or Green? is Desert Exposure's guide to dining in southwest New Mexico. The listings here—a sampling of our complete and recently completely updated guide online at www.desertexposure.com—include some of our favorites and restaurants we've recently reviewed. We emphasize non-national-chain restaurants with sit-down, table service.

With each listing, we include a brief categorization of the type of cuisine plus what meals are served: B=Breakfast; L=Lunch; D=Dinner. Unless otherwise noted, restaurants are open seven days a week. Call for exact hours, which change frequently. All phone numbers are area code 575 except as specified. We also note with a star (*) restaurants where you can pick up copies of Desert Exposure.

Red or Green?



Southwest New Mexico's best restaurant guide.

If we've recently reviewed a restaurant, you'll find a brief capsule of our review and a notation of which issue it originally appeared in. Stories from all back issues of Desert Exposure from January 2005 on are

available on our website.

Though every effort has been made to make these listings complete and up-to-date, errors and omissions are inevitable and restaurants may make changes after this

issue goes to press. That's why we urge you to help us make Red or Green? even better. Drop a note to Red or Green? c/o Desert Exposure, 1740-A Calle de Mercado, Las Cruces, NM 88005, or email editor@desertexposure.com.

Remember, these print listings represent only highlights. You can always find the complete, updated Red or Green? guide online at www.desertexposure.com. Bon appétit!

GRANT COUNTY

Silver City

1ZERO6, 106 N. Texas St., 575-313-4418. Pacific Rim, South East Asian, Oaxacan and Italian: Friday to Sunday D, by reservation only.
ADOBE SPRINGS CAFÉ, 1617 Silver Heights Blvd., 538-3665. Breakfast items, burgers, sandwiches: Sunday B L, all week B L D.*
BURGERS & BROWNIES & BEER, OH MY!, 619 N. Bullard St., 575-597-6469.
CAFÉ OSO AZUL AT BEAR MOUNTAIN LODGE, 60 Bear Mountain Ranch Road, 538-2538. B L, special D by reservation only.*
CHINESE PALACE, 1010 Highway 180E, 538-9300. Chinese: Monday to Friday L D.
COURTYARD CAFÉ, Gila Regional Medical Center, 538-4094. American: B L, with special brunch Sundays.*
DIANE'S RESTAURANT, 510 N. Bullard St., 538-8722. Fine dining (D), steaks, seafood, pasta, sandwiches (L), salads: Tuesday to Saturday L D, Sunday D only (family-style), weekend brunch.
DIANE'S BAKERY & DELI, The Hub, Suite A, Bullard St., 534-9229. Artisan breads, pastries, sandwiches, deli: Monday to Saturday B L early D, Sunday L.*
DON JUAN'S BURRITOS, 418 Silver Heights Blvd., 538-5440. Mexican: B L.
DRIFTER PANCAKE HOUSE, 711 Silver Heights Blvd., 538-2916. Breakfast, American: B L, breakfast served throughout.
EL GALLO PINTO, 901 N. Hudson St., 597-4559. Mexican: Tuesday, Wednesday and Sunday B L Thursday to Saturday B L D.
FORREST'S PIZZA, 601 N. Bullard St. Unit J. 388-1225. Tuesday to Friday L D, Slices only at lunch time.
FRY HOUSE, 601 N. Bullard St. Suite C. 388-1964.
GIL-A BEANS, 1304 N. Bennett St. Coffeeshop.*
GOLDEN STAR, 1602 Silver Heights Blvd., 388-2323. Chinese: L D.
GRANDMA'S CAFÉ, 900 Silver Heights Blvd., 388-2627. American, Mexican: B L.*
GRINDER MILL, 403 W. College Ave., 538-3366. Mexican: B L D.*
HEALTHY EATS, 303 E. 13th St., 534-9404. Sandwiches, burritos, salads, smoothies: L.
JALISCO CAFÉ, 100 S. Bullard St., 388-2060. Mexican. Monday to Saturday L D.
JAVALINA COFFEE HOUSE, 117 Market St., 388-1350.

Coffeeshop.*

JUMPING CACTUS, 503 N. Bullard St. Coffeeshop, baked goods, sandwiches, wraps: B L.*
KOUNTRY KITCHEN, 1700 Mountain View Road, 388-4512. Mexican: Tuesday to Saturday B L D.*
LA COCINA RESTAURANT, 201 W. College Ave., 388-8687. Mexican: L D.
LA FAMILIA, 503 N. Hudson St., 388-4600. Mexican: Tuesday to Sunday B L D.*
LA MEXICANA, Hwy. 180E and Memory Lane, 534-0142. Mexican and American: B L.
LITTLE TOAD CREEK BREWERY & DISTILLERY, 200 N. Bullard St., 956-6144. Burgers, wings, salads, fish, pasta, craft beers and cocktails: Wednesday to Monday L D.*
MARKET CAFÉ, 614 Bullard St., 956-6487. Organic and vegetarian deli food. Wednesday to Monday (closed Tuesday) B L.
MEXICO VIEJO, Hwy. 90 and Broadway Mexican food stand: Monday to Saturday B L early D.
MI CASITA, 2340 Bosworth Dr., 538-5533. New Mexican cuisine: Monday to Thursday L, Friday L D.
MILLIE'S BAKE HOUSE, 602 N. Bullard St., 597-2253. Soup, salads, sandwiches, baked goods: Tuesday to Saturday.*
NANCY'S SILVER CAFÉ, 514 N. Bullard St., 388-3480. Mexican: Monday to Saturday B L D.
THE PARLOR AT DIANE'S, 510 N. Bullard St., 538-8722. Burgers, sandwiches, homemade pizzas, paninis: Tuesday to Sunday L D.
PRETTY SWEET EMPORIUM, 312 N. Bullard St., 388-8600. Dessert, ice cream: Monday to Saturday.*
Q'S SOUTHERN BISTRO AND BREWERY, 101 E. College Ave., 534-4401. American, steaks, barbecue, brewpub: Monday to Saturday L D.
SILVER BOWLING CENTER CAFÉ, 2020 Memory Lane, 538-3612. American, Mexican, hamburgers: L D.*
SUNRISE ESPRESSO, 1530 N. Hudson, 388-2027. Coffee shop: Monday to Saturday B L, early D.
SUNRISE ESPRESSO, 1212 E. 32nd St., 534-9565. Coffee shop, bakery: Monday to Friday B L, early D, Saturday B L only.*
TAPAS TREE, 601 N. Bullard St. in The Hub, Wednesday to Sunday L, Fridays L D.
TERRY'S ORIGINAL BARBEQUE, Hwy. 180 and Ranch Club Road. Barbeque to go: L D.
TRE ROSAT CAFÉ, 304 N. Bullard St., 654-4919. International

eclectic: Monday to Saturday L, D.*
VICKI'S EATERY, 315 N. Texas, 388-5430. American: Monday to Friday L, Saturday B L, Sunday B L (to 2 p.m.).*
WRANGLER'S BAR & GRILL, 2005 Hwy. 180E, 538-4387. Steak, burgers, appetizers, salads: L D.*
YANKIE CREEK COFFEE HOUSE, 112 W. Yankee St. Coffee shop, coffee, home-made pastries and ice cream, fresh fruit smoothies.*

Bayard

FIDENCIO'S TACO SHOP, 1108 Tom Foy Blvd. Mexican: B L D.
LITTLE NISHA'S, 1101 Tom Foy Blvd., 537-3526. Mexican: Wednesday to Sunday B L D.
LOS COMPAS, 1203 Tom Foy Blvd, 654-4109. Sonoran-style Mexican, hot dogs, portos, menudo: L D.
M & A BAYARD CAFÉ, 1101 N. Central Ave., 537-2251. Mexican and American: Monday to Friday B L D.
SPANISH CAFÉ, 106 Central Ave., 537-2640. Mexican, tamales and menudo (takeout only): B.
Sugar Shack, 1102 Tom Foy Blvd., 537-0500. Mexican: Sunday to Friday B L.

Cliff

D'S CAFÉ, 8409 Hwy 180. Breakfast dishes, burritos, burgers, weekend smoked meats and ribs: Thursday to Sunday B L.
PARKEY'S, 8414 Hwy. 180W, 535-4000. Coffee shop: Monday to Saturday.

Lake Roberts

SPIRIT CANYON LODGE & CAFÉ, 684 Hwy. 35, 536-9459. German specialties, American lunch and dinner entrées: Saturday D.

Mimbres

ELK X-ING CAFÉ, (352) 212-0448. Home-style meals, sandwiches and desserts: B L.
RESTAURANT DEL SOL, 2676 Hwy. 35, San Lorenzo. Breakfasts, burgers, sandwiches, Mexican: Daily B L early D.

Pinos Altos

BUCKHORN SALOON AND OPERA HOUSE, Main Street, 538-9911. Steakhouse, pasta, burgers: Monday to Saturday D.

DOÑA ANA COUNTY

Las Cruces & Mesilla ABRAHAM'S BANK TOWER RESTAURANT, 500 S. Main St. 434, 523-5911. American: Monday to Friday B L.

A DONG, 504 E. Amador Ave., 527-9248. Vietnamese: L D.
ANDELE'S DOG HOUSE, 2184 Avenida de Mesilla, 526-1271. Mexican plus hot dogs, burgers, quesadillas: B L D.
ANDELE RESTAURANTE, 1950 Calle del Norte, 526-9631. Mexican: Monday B L, Tuesday to Sunday B L D.
ANTONIO'S RESTAURANT & PIZZERIA, 5195 Bataan Memorial West, 373-0222. Pizza, Italian, Mexican: Tuesday to Sunday L D.
AQUA REEF, 900-B S. Telshor, 522-7333. Asian, sushi: D.
THE BEAN, 2011 Avenida de Mesilla, 523-0560. Coffeeshop.
A BITE OF BELGIUM, 741 N. Alameda St., 527-2483. Belgian food: Monday to Friday B L.
BOBA CAFÉ, 1900 S. Espina, Ste. 8, 647-5900. Sandwiches, salads, casual fare, espresso: Monday to Saturday L D.*
BRAVO'S CAFÉ, 3205 S. Main St., 526-8604. Mexican: Tuesday to Sunday B L.
BURGER NOOK, 1204 E. Madrid Ave., 523-9806. Outstanding greenchile cheeseburgers. Tuesday to Saturday L D.
BURRITOS VICTORIA, 1295 El Paseo Road, 541-5534. Burritos: B L D. Now serving beer.
CAFÉ AGOGO, 1120 Commerce Dr., Suite A, 636-4580. Asian, American, sandwich, salad, rice bowl: Monday to Saturday L D.
CARILLO'S CAFÉ, 330 S. Church, 523-9913. Mexican, American: Monday to Saturday L D.
CATTLEMAN'S STEAKHOUSE, 2375 Bataan Memorial Hwy., 382-9051. Steakhouse: D.
CHA CHI'S RESTAURANT, 2460 S. Locust St.-A, 522-7322. Mexican: B L D.
CHILITOS, 2405 S. Valley Dr., 526-4184. Mexican: Monday to Saturday B L D.
CHILITOS, 3850 Foothills Rd. Ste. 10, 532-0141. Mexican: B L D.
CRAVINGS CAFÉ, 3115 N. Main St., 323-3353. Burgers, sandwiches, wraps, egg dishes, salads: B L.
DAY'S HAMBURGERS, WATER & LAS CRUCES ST., 523-8665. Burgers: Monday to Saturday L D.
PECAN GRILL & BREWERY, 500 S. Telshor Blvd., 521-1099. Pecan-smoked meats, sandwiches, steaks, seafood, craft beers: L D.
DELICIAS DEL MAR, 1401 El Paseo, 524-2396. Mexican, seafood: B L D.
DICK'S CAFÉ, 2305 S. Valley Dr., 524-1360. Mexican, burgers: Sunday B L, Monday to Saturday B L D.

DION'S PIZZA, 3950 E. Lohman, 521-3434. Pizza: L D.
DOUBLE EAGLE, 2355 Calle De Guadalupe, 523-6700. Southwestern, steaks, seafood: L D, Sun. champagne brunch buffet.
DUBLIN STREET PUB, 1745 E. University Ave., 522-0932. Irish, American: L D.
EL SOMBRERO PATIO CAFÉ, 363 S. Espina St., 524-9911. Mexican: L D.
EMILIA'S, 2290 Calle de Parian, 652-3007. Burgers, Mexican, soup, sandwiches, pastry, juices, smoothies: L D.
ENRIQUE'S, 830 W. Picacho, 647-0240. Mexican: B L D.
FARLEY'S, 3499 Foothills Rd., 522-0466. Pizza, burgers, American, Mexican: L D.
FIDENCIO'S, 800 S. Telshor, 532-5624. Mexican: B L D.
FORK IN THE ROAD, 202 N. Motel Blvd., 527-7400. Buffet: B L D 24 hrs.
THE GAME BAR & GRILL, 2605 S. Espina, 524-GAME. Sports bar and grill: L D.
GARDUÑO'S, 705 S. Telshor (Hotel Encanto), 522-4300. Mexican: B L D.
GIROS MEXICAN RESTAURANT, 160 W. Picacho Ave., 541-0341. Mexican: B L D.
GO BURGER DRIVE-IN, 1008 E. Lohman, 524-9251. Burgers, Mexican: Monday to Friday B L.
GOLDEN STAR CHINESE FAST FOOD, 1420 El Paseo, 523-2828. Chinese: L D.
GRANDY'S COUNTRY COOKING, 1345 El Paseo Rd., 526-4803. American: B L D.
HABANERO'S 600 E. Amador Ave., 524-1829. Fresh Mexican.: B L D.
HIGH DESERT BREWING COMPANY, 1201 W. Hadley Ave., 525-6752. Brew pub: L D.*
INTERNATIONAL DELIGHTS, 1245 El Paseo Rd., 647-5956. Greek and International: B L D.
J.C. TORTAS, 1196 W. Picacho Ave., 647-1408. Mexican: L D.
JOSE MURPHY'S, 1201 E. Amador (inside Ten Pin Alley), 541-4064. Mexican, American: L D.
JOSEFINA'S OLD GATE CAFÉ, 2261 Calle de Guadalupe, 525-2620. Pastries, soups, salads, sandwiches: Monday to Thursday L, Friday to Sunday B L.
KATANA TEPPANYAKI GRILL, 1001 E. University Ave., 522-0526. Meals created before your very eyes. Japanese: Monday to Friday L D, Saturday D.

ON REVIEW • MATTHEW TORRES

Chala's Wood Fire Grill

New Mexico is filled with many different types of Mexican restaurants. Many times we get some kind of twist on traditional Mexican food and it becomes something more unique.

Chala's Wood Fire Grill in Las

Cruces is a Mexican restaurant with its own atmosphere opened by Frankie Torres, who wanted to open a restaurant since his days at Las Cruces High School.

Torres has worked in many kitchens previously and has com-

bined that real-world experience with education from the well-respected culinary school at El Centro College in Dallas.

Like many Mexican restaurants Chala's serves chips and salsa; here the chips were homemade and the salsa is tasty. Chala's also offers hamburgers, sandwiches, and burritos, as well as traditional Mexican food such as enchiladas and tacos.

But Torres has his own spin on many of these meals. With a slight twist on Mexican food, Chala's offers more meats, bacon and sausage and still includes salad and veggie taco options. It stays true to its name as there is a wood fire grill. With this grill the food is less greasy and tastes better; the vegetables are fresh and mix with the food perfectly. The meats are smoked authentically, and even the bacon is house made, starting from Torres' hand-selected pork bellies.

I had the chilacas and the quality of the food did not disappoint;



Chala's offers unique selections as well as traditional New Mexican cuisine, such as red cheese enchiladas.

the overall meal was sizable, the chile con carne was cooked just right, while the corn masa boat had its own sweet taste. It was all topped with fresh vegetables and mixed perfectly. The beans and rice tasted both marvelous and had good flavor. My friend had the A-Mountain Burger, Chala's

version of the green chile cheese-burger; he enjoyed the burger and the seasoned fries. Another favored meal is the Hefty Cuban which contains pork, ham, and the house-made bacon.

CHALA'S

continued on page 41

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TABLE TALK

Youth Brew Root Beer

Minor's Menace a hit in Albuquerque



Xavier and Kenya Leahy prepare for their presentation of Minor's Menace root beer at the Albuquerque Fermentation Festival. (Photos by Otto Khera)

Youth brewing club members Josephine Khera, Jennifer Bjornstad, Rita J Herbst, Ava Bjornstad, and Kenya Leahy get their Minor's Menace root beer ready to be judged at the Albuquerque Fermentation Festival.

Minor's Menace youth root beer brewing club, sponsored by Dave Chandler of the Grant County Youth Business Initiative and led by Rita J Herbst of the Nuevos Comienzos Community Kitchen, traveled to the south valley of Albuquerque to attend the first annual New Mexico Fermentation Festival.

This celebration of all things fermented took place at the historic Gutierrez Hubble House on Saturday, June 25. Many vendors were represented including the Barrio Brinery, the Old Windmill Dairy and The Kombucha Project.

Minor's Menace proposed to be and was accepted as a lecturer along with an impressive lineup of experts and entrepreneurs. They gave an interactive presentation to a packed house about the history of the club, presented by Ava Bjornstad.

The club's collaboration began on Feb. 9, with a mission to create a business centered on a traditional, delicious and relatively healthy root beer. The group first tested commercially available root beers and discovered that they do not all taste the same. Nor are they fermented or brewed; they are only carbonated water with added root beer flavoring.

Minor's Menace initial brews were unsuccessful due to failures and faults with using yeast to carbonate our beverage. Sharon Bookwalter introduced the group to a probiotic water kefir fermentation method as an alternative, which gave our root beer a marketing and health benefit/ advantage. Kenya Leahy presented on the brewing process.

The next step was to perfect our flavor. Tasting each of the herbs and roots separately, both as

a hot and cold brew, enables them to identify desirable or not-so-desirable flavors in the finished mix. Josephine Khera explained this and distributed samples to the audience. Xavier Khera and Rainier Fischer collaborated to give an overview of our market strategy and a previously conducted market survey.

For the survey, each member had created their own brew to be sampled and surveyed by passerby's at the local Market Café downtown. They included a commercial root beer sample to act as a constant and a comparative to their own. The surveys showed which aspects from each of our brews consumers enjoyed. This resulted

in the root beer taken to the New Mexico Fermentation Festival, brewed by Anatole Beffort at the Nuevos Comienzos Community Kitchen and poured by Jennifer Bjornstad.

"The audience response was very positive and they gave useful feedback," Herbst said. "As a result of all our hard work and tireless research, our product, Minor's Menace, is well on its way to greatness and to you."

More information about The Volunteer Center is available at www.tvcgrantcounty.org. For more information about Nuevos Comienzos Kitchen, contact Herbst at 575-404-5551, or email rita@tvcgrantcounty.org.

CASA TACO, 704, Hwy 195, 575-744-4859, American, Mexican, Vegetarian, L D.
HODGES CORNER, 915 NM 195, American, Mexican, B L.
IVORY TUSK TAVERN & RESTAURANT, 401 Hwy 195, 575-744-5431, American, Mexican, Vegetarian, Seafood, Daily L D, Sunday Buffet.
THE CLUB RESTAURANT, 101 Club House Drive, 575-744-7100, American, Seafood, L D.

Hatch
B & E BURRITOS, 303 Franklin, 575-267-5191, Mexican, B L.
PEPPER POT, 207 W Hall, 575-267-3822, Mexican, B L.
SPARKY'S, 115 Franklin, 575-267-4222, American, Mexican, Thursday-Sunday L D.
VALLEY CAFÉ, 335 W. Hall St. 575-267-4798, Mexican, American, B L.

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BAR-B-QUE ON BROADWAY, 308 Broadway, 575-894-7047, American, Mexican, B L.
BRAZEN FOX, 313 North Broadway, 575-297-0070, Mexican, Vegetarian, Wednesday-Sunday, L D.
CAFÉ BELLA LUCA, 301 S. Jones, 575-894-9866, Italian, American, Vegetarian, Seafood, D.
CARMEN'S KITCHEN, 1806 S. Broadway, 575-894-0006, American, Mexican, Vegetarian, Monday-Friday B L D, Saturday, B L.
EL FARO, 315 N. Broadway, 575-894-2886, American, Mexican, Vegetarian, Monday-Friday B L D, Saturday, B L.
GRAPEVINE BISTRO, 413 Broadway, 575-894-0404, American, Vegetarian, B L.
JOHNNY B'S, 2260 N. Date Street, (575-894-0147, American, Mexican, B L D.
LA COCINA/HOT STUFF, 1 Lakeway Drive, 575-894-6499, American, Mexican, Vegetarian, L D.

LATITUDE 33, 304 S. Pershing, 575-740-7804, American, Vegetarian, Asian, L D.
LOS ARCOS STEAK & LOBSTER, 1400 N. Date Street, 575-894-6200, American, Seafood, D.
LOS FIDENCIOS, 1615 S. Broadway, 575-894-3737, Mexican, Monday-Saturday B L D, Sunday, B L.
MARIAS, 1990 S. Broadway, 575-894-9047, American, Mexican, Vegetarian, Monday-Saturday B L D.
PACIFIC GRILL, 800 N. Date St., 575-894-7687, Italian, American, Vegetarian, Asian, Seafood, Tuesday-Thursday-Friday L D, Saturday D, Sunday L.
PASSION PIE CAFÉ, 406 Main, 575-894-0008, American, Vegetarian, B L.
R & C SUMTHINS, 902 Date St. 575-894-1040, American, Tuesday-Sunday L .

STONE AGE CAFÉ & POINT BLANC WINERY, 165 E. Ninth St., (575)894-2582, American, L D.
SUNSET GRILL, 1301 N. Date, 575-894-8904, American, Mexican, Thursday-Monday B L D.
THE RESTAURANT AT SIERRA GRANDE LODGE, 501 McAdoo, 575-894-6976, American, Seafood, B L D.
TURTLEBACK OASIS MARKETPLACE, 520 Broadway, 575-894-0179, American, Vegetarian, Monday-Saturday B L.
YOUR PLACE, 400 Date St., 575-740-1544, American, Monday-Saturday L D, Sunday L.

Williamsburg
MEXICAN GRILL, Shell Gas Station 719 S. Broadway, 575-894-0713, Mexican, Monday-Saturday B L.

LINCOLN COUNTY
Ruidoso
CAN'T STOP SMOKIN' BBQ, 418 Mechem Dr., 575-630-0000: Monday-Sunday L, D
CASA BLANCA, 501 Mechem Dr., 575-257-2495: Mexican, Monday-Sunday L, D

CATTLE BARON STEAK & SEAFOOD, 657 Sudderth Dr., 575-257-9355: L, D
CHEF LUPE'S FAMILY RESTAURANT, 1101 Sudderth Dr., 575-257-4687: Mexican, Monday-Sunday B, L, D
CIRCLE J BBQ, 1825 Sudderth Dr., 575-257-4105: Monday-Sunday L, D
COMAL MEXICAN RESTAURANT, 2117 Sudderth Dr., 575-258-1397: Monday-Sunday L, D
EL PARAISO, 721 Mechem Dr., 575-257-0279: Mexican, Monday-Saturday, B, L, D
GRACE O'MALLEY'S IRISH PUB, 2331 Sudderth Dr., 575-630-0219: D
THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA RESTAURANT, 2913 Sudderth Dr., 575-257-2522: Monday-Sunday L, D
GRILL CALIENTE, 2800 Sudderth Dr., 575-630-0224: Mexican, burgers, Tuesday-Sunday L, D
HALL OF FLAME BURGERS, 2500 Sudderth Dr., 575-257-9987: Monday-Saturday L, D
LINCOLN COUNTY GRILL, 2717 Sudderth Dr., 575-257-7669: American, Monday-Sunday B, L, D
LUCY'S MEXICALI RESTAURANT, 2408 Sudderth Dr., 575-257-8754: Mexican, Monday-Saturday L, D
LOG CABIN RESTAURANT, 1074 Mechem Dr., 575-258-5029: Breakfast, Wednesday-Saturday B, L
MICHELENA'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT, 2703 Sudderth Dr., 575-257-5753: Wednesday-Sunday L, D
NEW CALI CAFÉ, 201 Eagle Dr., 575-257-8652: Comfort food, Monday-Saturday B, L
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PENA'S PLACE, 2963 Sudderth Dr., 575-257-4135: Breakfast, Mexican, B, L
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SACRED GROUNDS COFFEE & TEA HOUSE, 2704 Sudderth Dr., 575-257-2273: Coffee, pastries, B, L, D
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TINA'S CAFÉ, 522 Sudderth Dr., 575-257-8930: Comfort food, Tuesday-Sunday B, L
THE VILLAGE BUTTERY, 2107 Sudderth Dr., 575-257-9251: American, Monday-Saturday B, L
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ALAMO GRILL, 2913 N. White Sands Blvd., 575-434-5982: Burgers, breakfast food, Monday-Sunday B, L, D
BROWN BAG DELI, 900 Washington Ave., 575-437-9751: Monday-Sunday B, L, D
CAN'T STOP SMOKING BBQ, 900 E. 10th St., 575-437-4227: Monday-Sunday L, D
COWBOYS STEAKHOUSE, 606 Hwy. 70 W., 575-446-6300: Monday-Sunday B, L, D
EDDIE'S BURRITOS, 700 E. 1st St., 575-437-0266: Monday-Saturday B, L
EL CAMINO, 1022 N. White Sands Blvd., 575-437-8809: Mexican, Monday-Sunday L, D

HI-D-HO DRIVE IN, 414 S. White Sands Blvd., 575-437-6400: Monday-Sunday B, L, D
LA HACIENDA, 804 N. White Sands Blvd., 575-443-1860: Monday-Sunday B, L, D
MARGO'S MEXICAN FOOD, 504 E. 1st St., 575-434-0689: Monday-Sunday B, L, D
MEMORIES RESTAURANT, 1223 N. New York Ave., 575-437-0077: American, Tuesday-Saturday L, D
MIZU SUSHI ASIAN CUISINE, 1115 S. White Sands Blvd., 575-434-2348: Monday-Sunday L, D
NUCKLEWEED PLACE, 526 Laborcita Canyon Rd., La Luz, NM, 575-434-0000: Comfort food, Thursday-Friday D, Saturday-Sunday B, L, D
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PIZZA MILL & SUB FACTORY, 1315 10th St., 575-434-1313: Monday-Sunday L, D
PIZZA PATIO, 2203 E. 1st St., 575-434-9633: Monday-Saturday L, D
RIZO'S RESTAURANT, 1480 N. White Sands Blvd., 575-434-2607: Mexican, Tuesday-Sunday L, D
ROCKET NATIONAL BUFFET, 607 S. White Sands Blvd, 575-437-5905: Chinese, Monday-Sunday L, D
ROCKIN' BZ BURGERS, 3005 N. White Sands Blvd., 575-434-2375: Tuesday-Sunday L, D
SI SEÑOR, 2300 N. White Sands Blvd., 575-437-7879: Monday-Saturday L, D
STELLA VITA, 902 N. New York Ave.: Steaks, Monday-Wednesday L, Thursday-Friday L, D, Saturday D
WAFFLE & PANCAKE SHOPPE, 905 S. White Sands Blvd., 575-437-0433: Monday-Sunday B, L
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TULIE FREEZE, 419 St. Francis Drive, 585-2525. Open daily except Tuesdays, L D.

Note—Restaurant hours and meals served vary by day of the week and change frequently; call ahead to make sure. Key to abbreviations: B=Breakfast; L=Lunch; D=Dinner.*=Find copies of Desert Exposure here. Send updates, additions and corrections to: editor@desertexposure.com.



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The A-Mountain Burger at Chala's combines beef, green chile, cheese and house-made bacon. (Photos by Matthew Torres)



CHALA'S
continued from page 38

The staff is attentive and friendly. While waiting, our server refilled our drinks at just the right time. She was friendly and quick, making sure to get our food out on time. The atmosphere of the restaurant is calm and feels like home. The flowers on the tables are real and the architecture is modern yet quaint. Smoke from the grill and the aroma of the great food flowed from the open kitchen into the restaurant.

Different weekend menus give diners a chance to try Chala's variety.



Frankie Torres of Las Cruces started Chala's Wood Fire Grill more than a year ago and has found a solid audience for his creative twists on New Mexican food and barbecue.

The restaurant was wonderful; good food with a twist, friendly and attentive staff, and an overall unique atmosphere.

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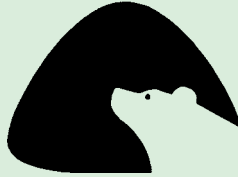


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DELVING INTO HISTORY • ROBERT B. LOREN

Leading up to Detonation

How did you manage to get born so close to the Trinity Site?

This is Part I of a two-part story. A list of sources will be printed with the second part of this story coming out in September.

Just such a strange question was asked of an American pioneer of the physics of quantum mechanics – the basis of our modern electronic world. It was asked on a life path that follows the rails starting from the Alamogordo – Cloudcroft “Cloud Climbing Railroad” onward to the creation of the atomic bomb and then to the McCarthy era witch-hunting hearings in the 1950s. Such a path was followed by, not one, but two sons of fathers from Otero County.

William Edward Condon's son Edward Uhler Condon, and William Ashton Hawkins's son, David Hawkins, lived lives tracked like parallel rails, repeatedly travelling to the same places and events.

W. A. Hawkins practiced law in Silver City in 1885. In 1895 he set up a law practice in El Paso. By 1897 the El Paso and Northeastern Railroad was being constructed through the desert northeast of El Paso, arriving in Alamogordo in 1898. Timber required for railroad ties was unavailable, so a branch, the Alamogordo and Sacramento Mountain Railroad was built by Charles Bishop Eddy (co-founder of Alamogordo) to get lumber from the forest around Cloudcroft. A remnant of this rail line is the trestle seen as you approach Cloudcroft from the west.

In 1898, Eddy's lawyer, W. A. Hawkins, set up the stock offering for this “cloud climbing railroad.” William Condon was a supervisor constructing this and other railroads around the west.

W. A. Hawkins was elected to the New Mexico territorial legislature in 1902 representing Doña Ana, Grant, Luna and Otero Counties. When living in El Paso the Hawkins family, at first, spent summers at Albert B. Fall's Three Rivers Ranch. Enchanted by the area, they started summering in La Luz, but their law office remained in El Paso.

When W. A. Hawkins retired in 1927 he built a permanent home in La Luz, raising seven children. One son, David, was born Feb. 28, 1913 in El Paso but was raised in La Luz. As a boy, David explored the Tularosa Basin and surrounding area, including what would become the northwestern corner of the Alamogordo bombing range. He went to Stanford University, studying philosophy as an undergraduate. His doctorate in mathematics was obtained at the University of California, Berkeley in 1940. He stayed at Berkeley to teach where he first met physicist, J. Robert Oppenheimer.

Hawkins joined Oppenheimer in forming a teachers union at Berkeley with the intent to reform the system – not start a revolution. They were responding to the anti-labor violence occurring at the time in California's factory farms.

William Edward Condon's son, Edward Uhler Condon, was born on March 2, 1902, in Alamogordo. The family relocated repeatedly to follow railroad construction jobs. Edward's



Edward Uhler Condon

parents split up and his mother moved him to Oakland, California where he graduated from high school. He studied physics at the University of California-Berkeley receiving his doctorate in 1926.

From La Luz and Alamogordo, in the shadow of the railroad that their fathers helped build, David Hawkins and Edward Condon's journey led them both to Berkeley Ph.D.'s. Their futures would lead both to quite different roles in the Manhattan Project.

E. U. Condon went to Germany to study with the creators of the revolutionary physics of quantum mechanics. There, Condon boarded with J. Robert Oppenheimer. Condon and the other Americans that trained in Germany returned home determined to make American physics the best in the world. Condon became an American pioneer in this field, writing the first English language quantum mechanics textbook and the classic book, “The Theory of Atomic Spectra,” which is still referenced more than 70 years later.

Upon Condon's return to America he taught at Columbia University, University of Minnesota and Stanford University, and from 1930 to 1937, at Princeton University. His colleagues described crew-cut Condon as creative, energetic, perceptive, humorous, restless, eloquent, worldly and friendly. Condon's lectures were described as a combination of logic, anecdotes and humor. He disliked the Princeton atmosphere of snobbery and elitism. Condon was flamboyantly cheerful practically all of the time, his occasional bursts of wrath being directed at petty annoyances of everyday life.

Condon was much sought after for his expertise. In 1940 his advice helped to establish MIT's radiation lab where innovations in microwave radar were so important in winning World War II. In 1941 he was on the committee that developed Caltech's Jet Propulsion Lab (JPL) which worked on rocket research. During 1940 – 1941, he commuted between Westinghouse in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and the MIT Rad Lab in Cambridge, Massachusetts, working on microwave radar systems.

American physicists were especially aware of the threat of Nazi Germany. They had received their knowledge of quantum mechanics in German universities and became

friends and colleagues of the German physicists. They became acutely concerned about those German scientists who willingly participated in Hitler's ejection of Jewish scientists from German universities.

From 1933 onward many Jewish physicists, like Albert Einstein, immigrated to the United States. In one response, April 3, 1940, Condon wrote to a German colleague, “You imply that our press does not deal fairly with Germany. It is hard for me to understand your basis for thinking so ... you cannot deny that America is flooded with refugees from Germany ... who are here because of German barbarism. I have one Czech refugee living in my own house ... life in a world under victorious Germany would be simply intolerable.

“They (Americans) hope that Britain and France are equal to the dirty job of stopping German rapacity, but if they are not equal to it, we will come in, as we did before, to make sure that liberal political principles are not crushed from the earth. I shall help the cause of democracy by every means I can.”

Concerns about the Nazis were elevated in January, 1939 when Danish physicist, Niels Bohr, arrived in New York from Europe and reported that the previous month two German scientists had split the uranium nucleus. This result was correctly interpreted as nuclear fission by Lise Meitner and Otto Frisch, two Jewish scientists who had been driven out of Germany by Hitler's anti-Jewish laws. Many American labs stampeded to verify the results with additional experiments. They attempted self-censorship to prevent open publication of their results and to keep them away from the Germans. It would be years before the Army's Manhattan Project was created and Condon and Hawkins became involved.

Small scale initial research was funded at modest levels by the government. As a consequence of a letter signed by Albert Einstein, President Franklin D. Roosevelt directed the civilian research scientists of the National Bureau of Standards, on Oct. 4, 1941, to investigate the technical feasibility of using nuclear fission to build an atomic bomb. Estimates of the costs were high (but woefully underestimated), and a decision was made to transfer the project to the Army in June 1942, so as to hide the

expenses in the massive budget of the Corp. of Engineers shielding it from inquisitive congressmen.

Gen. Leslie Groves was appointed the military head of the now named, Manhattan Project, on September 23, 1942. In 1905 Groves' father, an Army chaplain, spent three years at Fort Bayard Hospital recuperating from tuberculosis.

Los Alamos was chosen as a secret remote site, where in March 1943, scientists began to collect to design, construct and test such a bomb. Groves chose J. Robert Oppenheimer as the Los Alamos Director. Groves initially wanted to commission the top scientists as Officers in the Army. Many of these scientists felt that the Army had been a hindrance to developing the bomb and a condition for success of the lab was that it be demilitarized. One division head went so far as to include in his letter of acceptance, a letter of resignation to take effect “the day the Army takes over.”

One of Oppenheimer's first decisions was to bring in E. U. Condon as associate director to handle personnel. When discussing the proposed site of the Los Alamos lab with Oppenheimer and Groves, Condon asked “as a western boy, I am wondering how we are going to supply this place with water?” To this question Groves always answered, “If there's anything the Army engineers do know how to do, it's to keep water flowing to a community” and brusquely said that was his own problem and Condon should concern himself with physics. Unfazed, Condon replied, “Yes, but just how are you to get the water?”

It turned out Groves was wrong and water would always be one of the town's biggest headaches. In the official project history, D. Hawkins wrote, “Early in this work a half dozen small fires a week were not unusual.” This clash between Condon and Groves would not be their last – a more serious one would follow shortly. It would have important consequences for the success of the project.

Oppenheimer regarded no one better suited than Condon to get newly arriving scientists up to speed on the progress of the secret work. Condon made notes for a series of lectures which were given by Robert Serber, becoming known as the “Los Alamos Primer” (this now declassified report can be purchased on-line).

This immediately resulted in another conflict with Gen. Groves who said, “Each man should know everything he needed to know to do his job and nothing else.” Condon regarded restricting knowledge to a need-to-know basis as impossible since they didn't yet know what they needed to know. Even a general can't get nature to obey an order.

After only six weeks at Los Alamos, Condon wrote a letter of “resignation” to Oppenheimer stating his “decision not to accept a permanent connection with the Los Alamos project and return to Westinghouse Research Laboratories,” and “I am decidedly more useful to the war here at Westinghouse.” There he directed microwave radar research jointly with MIT.

From Westinghouse, Condon

went on to head the Theoretical Physics Division at the U. C. Berkeley Radiation Laboratory from August 1943, to February 1945, which worked on separation of fissionable isotopes of uranium. Condon had been involved with this subject as early as mid-1940, two years before the Los Alamos lab was established.

This acrimonious confrontation with Condon stuck in Groves' craw to such an extent that two decades later, in his autobiographical history of the Manhattan Project, he devoted four full pages to printing Condon's letter of resignation in its entirety.

In response to the concerns of Condon and the other scientists for open communication, Groves was smart enough to relax his strict Army security rules to allow the civilian scientists to communicate with each other in the confines of Los Alamos, but at the cost of isolating Los Alamos from other Manhattan Project sites. The perimeter fence and Army guards at Los Alamos were as much to keep the scientists inside as to keep spies out.

Oppenheimer also brought Hawkins to Los Alamos in May 1943, just as Condon left, as a mediator between the scientists and the Army. Despite his wife being a lifelong pacifist and his own left-wing politics, Hawkins decided to join the Los Alamos project.

“I think my reaction was just that I wanted to be in on it rather than outside it – as a momentous thing that was going to happen,” Hawkins said.

Hawkins became the project historian and wrote the official technical history for “Site Y” (Los Alamos). He called this a “Biography of the Bomb.” From his youthful explorations of the Tularosa Basin he knew of an ideal isolated desert site where the first atomic bomb could be exploded. That was subsequently named the “Trinity Site.”

Hawkins brought his boyhood friend, Berlyn Brixner, a photographer, to Los Alamos where he used high speed cameras (10,000 frames per second – exhausting the film supplies in several hundredths of a second) to capture the iconic sequence of photographs of the Trinity Site test. Brixner, whose mother was an 1898 graduate of Western New Mexico University, is also credited with identifying the location of the Trinity Site.

The moral consequences of actually using the bomb troubled many of the Los Alamos scientists – two even left the project when Germany surrendered.

“I could have demanded a grandstand seat, but I didn't want to see it,” Hawkins said when it came time for the Trinity test.

When the scientists who witnessed the tests returned to Los Alamos, Hawkins said “I was disturbed by the enthusiasm people seemed to have. They seemed to have lost sight of the grave consequences of doing the job.”

These two sons from Otero County, Condon and Hawkins, had important roles at critical points in the Man-

HISTORY

continued on page 43

40 DAYS & 40 NIGHTS

What's Going On in August

SATURDAY, JULY 30

Silver City/Grant County Hummingbird Festival — All day starting at dawn at Little Toad Creek Inn & Tavern on Hwy 35 at the junction of Hwy 15. Festivities will engage all ages in the magical lives of our tiniest avian residents featuring adult and children programs. Schedule: Dawn until 10 a.m. (approximate) — Hummingbird Banding with Bill Talbot and team, outdoors; 10:30 a.m. — The Lives of Hummingbirds with Bill Talbot, conference room; 2 p.m. — Birds and the Mimbres People with Marilyn Markel, conference room. The remote restaurant, lodge, and brewery is located on Hwy 35 at the junction of Hwy 15, on the way to the Gila Cliff Dwellings north of Silver City. Lodging and dining is available. The event is free and open to the public. Info: call 575-536-9649 or visit littletoadcreek.com.

2016 CLAY Festival — All day, events including workshops, film festival, exhibits and much more. Info: www.clayfestival.com.

Silver City Food Co-op Community Flea Market — 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The 2016 Elephant Butte Balloon Regatta begins at 6:45 a.m. on Aug. 27 and 28. (Courtesy Photo)

**HISTORY**

continued from page 42

hattan Project, but after the war their paths converge once again a decade later as targets of the McCarthy ERA hearings.

The Army, after taking over the atom bomb project, required scientists, even those who had been working on the research for more than two years, to get security clearances. Overly aggressive or misdirected application of security regulations could be counter-productive. An Army intelligence report, dated Aug. 13, 1940, concerning physicists Enrico Fermi and Leo Szilard, stated that Fermi "is undoubtedly a fascist" and Szilard is "very pro-German" and, for both, concluded "employment of this person on secret work is not recommended."

Who were Fermi and Szilard? If the atomic bomb won World War II, no two individuals were more important to the United States starting to build this bomb. Physicist Szilard was a Hungarian Jew who worked in Germany but escaped Hitler's anti-Jewish laws by moving to England.

There, walking down a street, he had the sudden insight that a nuclear chain reaction could provide an incredibly powerful explosive bomb. He patented the idea in 1934 but to prevent this knowledge from getting to Germany he assigned the patent

at 614 N. Bullard St. Info: 575-388-2343 or www.silvercityfoodcoop.com.

Fort Bayard Walking Tour — 9:15 a.m.-noon, Fort Bayard is located two miles north of U.S. Highway 180 at Santa Clara. Info: 575-956-3294.

Mud Pie Contest — 10 a.m. at 614 N. Bullard St. Info: 575-388-2343.

Deming/Luna County

Luna County Salsa Festival 5K Run — 8 a.m. at Starmax, 333 N. Country Club Road, Deming. Info: 575-543-6619.

Luna County Salsa Festival — 10 a.m.-6 p.m., at 700 S. Silver, Deming. Info: 575-546-2674.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

Storytellers of Las Cruces — 10:30 a.m. at both COAS

Bookstore locations in Las Cruces. The Downtown location features Louise O'Donnell and the Solano location features Gloria Hacker. Children who attend receive a \$2 book coupon.

2016 Butterfield Trail**Friends of the NRA**

Fundraising Banquet — 6.m. at the Grapevine Plaza Event Center, 3900 W. Picacho Ave. Las Cruces. Info: 915-422-

7320.

James Taylor/Carole King Tribute Concert — 7 p.m. at Boba Café and Cabaret, 1900 Espina, Las Cruces. The Hard Road Trio plays to benefit a family struggling with cancer. Info: chrisclarksanders@gmail.com.

After Affect Acoustic performance — 8-10 p.m. at N.M. Vintage Wines, 2461 Calle de Principal, Mesilla. High energy acoustic rock. Info: 575-523-9463.

Alamogordo/Tularosa/Otero County

The Tularosa Farmers Market — 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. on the corner of Bookout Road and Central Ave. Seasonal market runs every Saturday morning to Sept. 3. Senior WIC checks accepted. Info: 575-585-2297.

Harry Potter Celebration

— 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Alamogordo Public Library to celebrate the release of the 8th Harry Potter installment. Activities, costume contest, quidditch and more. Info: 575-439-4140.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County Farmer's Market — 7 a.m.-3

p.m. at All American Park in Ruidoso Downs. Info: 575-808-0630.

Grindstone Trail Runs — 7:30- 11:30 a.m. at Wingfield Park/Grindstone Lake. Discover the multiple use trail

system in downtown Ruidoso with three different distances. The event is a fundraiser for Ski Apache Adaptive Sports and sanctioned by U.S. Track and Field. Info: 575-937-7106.

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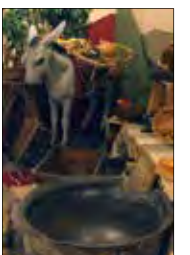
Brown Bag: Mining Landscapes, a Presentation by Ann McMahon
Saturday, August 6 -12 noon to 1 pm at the Silver City Museum Annex, 302 W. Broadway. Come listen to and see Ms. McMahon's documentation about the "Disappearing Mining Landscape of Grant County, New Mexico."

Children's Activity - Make Wind Chimes

Saturday, August 20 - 12 noon to 1 pm at the Silver City Museum, 312 W. Broadway. Come to the museum and make tinkling wind chimes out of paper plates and plastic cutlery. Hang them outside your window or in front of an air conditioner vent to hear them sing to you.

Current Exhibits at the Museum:

Stories of Southwest New Mexico Women: Stories, Photos, and Artifacts of Women's Contributions to the Development of SW New Mexico Built to Change: The Evolving History of the Historic Ailman House Flood Season: How Silver City's Main Street Became the Big Ditch The Ailman Family Parlor: An Interactive, Family Friendly Experience



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT THE MUSEUM'S WEBSITE AT WWW.SILVERCITYMUSEUM.ORG OR CONTACT THE MUSEUM AT (575) 538-5921, INFO@SILVERCITYMUSEUM.ORG.

Such a reactor could produce fissile plutonium for a bomb. These steps might not have happened as soon as they did if the émigrés' Szilard and Fermi had been excluded from secret bomb work because of the Army's misguided security concerns.

The atom bombing of Japan revealed the most important secret of the Manhattan Project to the entire world, that a nuclear weapon was possible. The project scientists warned our government that the soviets could build a bomb within five years. General Groves predicted it would take 20 years. It took them only four years. They were aided by undetected spies in the project. Fear of communists would develop into full blown hysteria in the McCarthy era and would entangle Condon and Hawkins.

The continuation of this tale in Part II (next month) will reveal how the location of Condon's birth came to be questioned retroactively.

Robert B. Loren is a research astronomer who worked with the Department of Astronomy and Electrical Engineering Research Laboratory at University of Texas at Austin. He is a 29-year resident of Silver City, New Mexico.



On Aug. 13 Austin Jim is but one of the performers to take the stage at the Red, White and Blues Festival in Las Cruces. (Courtesy Photo)

Cultural Red fiber arts exhibit — Continues at the Hubbard Museum of the American West, 26301 U.S. Highway 70, Ruidoso Downs. Info: 575-378-4142.

Music with Paper Moon Shiners — 7-10 p.m. at Sacred Grounds Coffee and Tea House, 2704 Sudderth Drive in Ruidoso. The group hails from Austin, Texas. Info: 575-257-2273.

Stoney LaRue in concert — 8 p.m. at the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts in Alto. Info 888-818-7872.

Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County
Sierra County Farmers Market — 8:30-11:30 a.m. at Ralph Edwards Park in Truth or Consequences. Info: 575-894-9375.

Old Time Fiddlers Saturday Night Dance — 7-9 p.m. at 710 Elm Street in Truth or Consequences. Info 575-744-9137.

SUNDAY, JULY 31
Silver City/Grant County Hummingbird Festival — All day starting at dawn at Little

Toad Creek Inn & Tavern on Hwy 35 at the junction of Hwy 15. Festivities will engage all ages in the magical lives of our tiniest avian residents featuring adult and children programs. Schedule: Dawn until 10 a.m. (approximate) — Hummingbird Banding with Bill Talbot and team, outdoors; 10:30 a.m. — The Lives of Hummingbirds with Bill Talbot, conference room; 2 p.m. — Birds and the Mimbres People with Marilyn Markel, conference room. The remote restaurant, lodge, and brewery is located on Hwy 35 at the junction of Hwy 15, on the way to the Gila Cliff Dwellings north of Silver City. Lodging and dining is available. The event is free and open to the public. Info: call 575-536-9649 or visit littletoadcreek.com.

2016 CLAY Festival — All day, events including workshops, film festival, exhibits and much more. Info: www.clayfestival.com.

Deming/Luna County
Luna County Salsa Festival — 10 a.m.-6 p.m., at 700 S. Silver, Deming. Info: 575-546-2674.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County
Sunday Under the Stars — 6-11 p.m. at the Inn of the Mountain Gods in Mescalero outdoors and free live music with the Abe Mac Band followed by a movie, "The Little Mermaid." Info: 575-464-7777.

Music with Lubbock Bluesman Mike Pritchard — 6-8 p.m. at Sacred Grounds Coffee and Tea House, 2704 Sudderth Drive in Ruidoso. Info: 575-257-2273.

TUESDAY, AUG. 2
Silver City/Grant County WNMU Cultural Affairs

Book Signing with Jan Sherman — 4:30-6 p.m. at Alumni Gardens adjacent to Hunter Hall, 10th St. Free. Meet author and local treasure, Jan Sherman for a book signing of her new book, "Hypnotizing Chickens and Other Stories." Light refreshments will be served. Info: www.wnmu.edu/culture or 575-538-6469.

Trivia Night — 6:30 p.m. at Burgers & Brownies & Beer Oh My! At 619 N. Bullard St. Gift certificate prizes for top three teams. Info: 575-597-6469.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
Favorite places, events and subjects to photograph — 7 p.m. at the SW Environmental Center, 275 N. Main St with the Doña Ana Photography Club. Members showcase a series of photos that focus on a trip, an event or favorite subjects. Info: www.daphotoclub.org.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 3
Ruidoso/Lincoln County
Lincoln County Fair — 8 a.m. Indoor exhibits open, 9 a.m. critter shows begin. Wednesday is goats, poultry, rabbits and swine. Info: 575-648-2311.

THURSDAY, AUG. 4
Silver City/Grant County
Fort Bayard Historic Preservation Society summer film "Ulzana's Raid" — 7 p.m. at the Old National Guard building, Highway 180 East, across from Santa Clara. This series of films explores "Hollywood and the Indian wars: documentary vs. entertainment." The film will be introduced by Dr. Douglas Dinwiddie, retired history professor, and a member of the FBHPS. Following the film, there will be a discussion period with the audience, also moderated by Dr. Dinwiddie. Info: 575-538-4862.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County
Lincoln County Fair — 8 a.m. Indoor exhibits open, 9 a.m. critter shows begin. Thursday features heifers,

cabritos and sheep. Info: 575-648-2311.

Alto Artists Studio Tour Preview Party — 5-7 p.m. at the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts in Alto. Info: www.altoartists.com.

FRIDAY, AUG. 5
Las Cruces/Mesilla
James Taylor/Carole King Tribute Concert — 7 p.m. at Boba Café and Cabaret, 1900 Espina, Las Cruces. The Hard Road Trio plays to benefit a family struggling with cancer. Info: chrisclarksanders@gmail.com.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County
Lincoln County Fair — 8 a.m. Indoor exhibits open, 9 a.m. critter shows begin. Friday features breeding heifers, market steers, cabritos, lambs, horses, a buyers dinner and, at 7 p.m. the junior livestock auction. Info: 575-648-2311.

Alto Artists Studio Tour — 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Self-guided tour behind the scenes of the Alto art community taking the visitor to visit private studios and home of local artists. Info: www.altoartists.com.

Farmer's Market — 6-9 p.m. at All American Park in Ruidoso Downs. Info: 575-808-0630.

SATURDAY, AUG. 6
Silver City/Grant County
New2U Rummage Sale — 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Silver City Woman's Club, 411 Silver Heights Blvd. Info: silvercitywomansclub1909@gmail.com.

Artisan Market — 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at 614 N. Bullard St. Info: 575-388-2343.

Fiber Arts Sale — 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Market Café, 614 N. Bullard St. in Silver City.

Fort Bayard Walking Tour — 9:15 a.m.-noon, Fort Bayard is located two miles north of U.S. Highway 180 at Santa Clara. Info: 575-956-3294.

Disappearing Mining Landscape: Silver City Museum Brown Bag — noon-1 p.m. at the Silver City Museum Annex, 312 W. Broadway. Listen to and see Ann McMahon's documentation about the

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Sandia National Laboratory Director Jill Hruby will talk at the Western New Mexico University Global Resource Center in Silver City about peaceful applications of SNL at 7 p.m. (Courtesy Photo)



Ruidoso Quilter Vicki Conley shows her quilts during a presentation for Las Cruces quilters with the Las Cruces Las Colcheras Quilt Guild which has moved its meeting place to the American Legion Post 10 Hall in Las Cruces. Their August meeting is on Aug. 14. (Photo by Elva K. Österreich)

“Disappearing Mining Landscape of Grant County, New Mexico. Info: www.silvercitymuseum.org or 575-538-5921.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Benefit yard/bake sale — 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at 13325 Robledo Vista, Radium Springs. All proceeds help Rockin Horse Academy riding therapy programs. Info: epettit07@gmail.com.

Storytellers of Las Cruces — 10:30 a.m. at both COAS Bookstore locations in Las Cruces. Children who attend receive a \$2 book coupon.
James Taylor/Carole King Tribute Concert — 7 p.m. at Boba Café and Cabaret, 1900 Espina, Las Cruces. The Hard Road Trio plays to benefit a family struggling with cancer. Info: chrisclarksanders@gmail.com.

Tularosa/Otero County The Tularosa Farmers Market — 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. on the corner of Bookout Road and Central Ave. Seasonal market runs every Saturday morning to Sept. 3. Senior WIC checks accepted. Info: 575-585-2297.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County Farmer's Market — 7 a.m.-3 p.m. at All American Park in Ruidoso Downs. Info: 575-808-0630.

Lincoln County Fair — 8 a.m. Indoor exhibits open. Awards are given at 10 a.m. and at 11 begin stick horse races, lead class and a pet show. Info: 575-648-2311.

Alto Artists Studio Tour — 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Self-guided tour behind the scenes of the Alto art community taking the visitor to visit private studios and home of local artists. Info: www.altoartists.com.

Bella Voce de Las Cruces — 7:30 p.m. at Sacred Grounds Coffee and Tea House, 2704 Sudderth Drive in Ruidoso. Info: 575-257-2273.

Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County

Sierra County Farmers Market — 8:30-11:30 a.m. at Ralph Edwards Park in Truth of Consequences. Info: 575-894-9375.

Old Time Fiddlers Saturday Night Dance — 7-9 p.m. at 710 Elm Street in Truth or Consequences. Info 575-744-9137.

SUNDAY, AUG. 7

Deming/Luna County “Past & Present” art show reception — 1-3 p.m. at the Deming Art Center, 100 S. Gold in Deming. Three Deming artists are honored in this show, Ernestine Holms, Moses Pastran and Jewelry Mosier. Info: 575-546-3663.

Alamogordo/Otero County

The Art of Wine — 1-4 p.m. at Heart of the Desert Wines & Sierra Blanca Brews, 7288 Hwy. 54-70. Learn to paint step-by-step under the guidance of local artist Keri Steen. Registration & Pre-pay is required. Make reservations online, space is limited to 20 participants. \$35 per person. Info: 575-434-0035.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County

Alto Artists Studio Tour — 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Self-guided tour behind the scenes of the Alto art community taking the visitor to visit private studios and home of local artists. Info: www.altoartists.com.

Sunday under the Stars — 6-11 p.m. at the Inn of the Mountain Gods in Mescalero outdoors and free live music followed by a movie. Info: 575-464-7777.

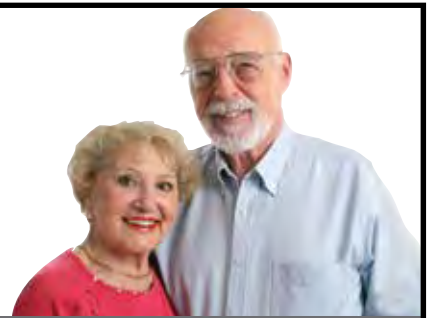
MONDAY, AUG. 8

Silver City/Grant County Widowed and Single Persons of Grant County monthly meeting — 10:30 a.m. at Cross Point Assembly of God Church, 11600 Hwy 180 E. Jerry Giedd will talk to us about his experiences



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in the Peace Corp. Cost for lunch is \$12. All singles are welcome. Info: call 575-537-3643.

TUESDAY, AUG. 9

Silver City/Grant County Trivia Night — 6:30 p.m. at Burgers & Brownies & Beer Oh My! At 619 N. Bullard St. Gift certificate prizes for top three teams. Info: 575-597-6469.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 10

Silver City/Grant County Military Veterans Business Development Lunch Workshop — 11:30 a.m.-1:15 p.m. at the Western New Mexico University Student Cafeteria, 1000 W. College Ave. Lunch is free for those veterans interested in starting or expanding their own business. Info: 575-538-3785.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Second Wednesday Evening Market and ART-IN — 5 to 9 p.m. Artists doing demonstrations. Info: www.lascrucesarts.org.

THURSDAY, AUG. 11

Silver City/Grant County Community Forum — noon to 1 p.m. at 614 N. Bullard St. "Phenology: Gardening by Season" with Gale Green. Info: www.silvercityfoodcoop.com.

Fort Bayard Historic Preservation Society summer film "Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee" — 7 p.m. at the Old National Guard building, Highway 180 East, across from Santa Clara. This series of films explores "Hollywood and the Indian wars: documentary vs. entertainment." The film will be introduced by Dr. Douglas Dinwiddie, retired history professor, and a member of the FBHPS. Following the film, there will be a discussion period with the audience, also moderated by Dr. Dinwiddie. Info: 575-538-4862.



Children will be making wind chimes at noon at the Silver City Museum, Aug. 20. (Photo by Elva K. Österreich)

Las Cruces/Mesilla New Mexico's Living Landscapes — 7 p.m. at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road, Las Cruces. Free program with Bill Dunmire's slide-illustrated talk. Info: 575-522-4100.

FRIDAY, AUG. 12 Silver City/Grant County Sandia National Lab Director Speaks — 7 p.m. at the WNMU Global Resource Center. Jill Hruby, the first female SNL director will address the peaceful applications of the facility. Info: fevafotos@gmail.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Coloring Club for adults — 10 a.m.-noon at the Las Cruces Railroad Museum, 351 N. Mesilla St. Enjoy the companionship of other women who want to release their inner artist. Gentlemen

are welcome, also, but no children, please. BYOB and C - Bring Your Own Book and Colored pencils, or use provided materials. Info: las-cruces.org/museums or call 575-647-4480.

Alamogordo/Otero County Fill Your Glass Friday — 6-9 p.m. at Heart of the Desert Wines & Sierra Blanca Brews, 7288 Hwy. 54-70. \$12.50 cover at the door (Includes live entertainment & first glass of wine or beer). Must be 21 & over to enter. Info: 575-434-0035.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County Farmer's Market — 6-9 p.m. at All American Park in Ruidoso Downs. Info: 575-808-0630.

SATURDAY, AUG. 13 Silver City/Grant County Silver City Food Co-op Artisan Market — 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 614 N. Bullard St. Info: 575-388-2343 or www.silvercityfoodcoop.com. **Fort Bayard Walking Tour** — 9:15 a.m.-noon, Fort Bayard is located two miles north of U.S. Highway 180 at Santa Clara. Info: 575-956-3294.

Alamogordo/Tularosa/Otero County The Tularosa Farmers Market — 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. on the corner of Bookout Road and Central Ave. Seasonal market runs every Saturday morning to Sept. 3. Senior WIC checks accepted. Info: 575-585-2297.

UV Splash Color Dash/ Integrative Health Fair — 5 p.m., race starts at 9 p.m. at Alameda Park in Alamogordo. The dash to light up Alameda Park with colorful runners, music and fun benefits CAPPED Inc.'s Children's Sun Safe Program. Info: www.capped.org. To register: www.cd5k.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Photography boot camp workshops — 9 a.m.-noon at the SW Environmental Center, 275 N. Main St with the Doña Ana Photography Club. The first session is learning about the camera. Info: education@photoclub.org.

Storytellers of Las Cruces — 10:30 a.m. at both COAS Bookstore locations in Las Cruces. Children who attend receive a \$2 book coupon. **Red, White and Blues Festival** — 4-10 p.m. at St. Clair Winery & Bistro, 1720 Avenida de Mesilla, Las Cruces. Live music all evening. Info: www.mvjazzblues.net.

Kyle Park at Whiskey Dicks — Evening at 101 E. Union Ave. Info: 917-293-0716.

Ruidoso/Carrizozo/Lincoln County Farmer's Market — 7 a.m.-3 p.m. at All American Park in Ruidoso Downs. Info: 575-808-0630.

Carrizozo Artist Studio Tour — noon-5 p.m. at various locations. Carrizozo is located at the crossroads of U.S. Highways 54 and 380, north of Alamogordo. A historic house tour beginning at the Wells Fargo parking lot on Central Avenue. Info: www.carrizozoworks.org. **Celebrate the Light Carrizozo Festival** — 4-11 p.m. including parade, street dance, crafts, children's activities, fireworks and the lighting of the Lyric Theater marquee after decades of being dark. Info: www.carrizozoworks.org.

Truth or Consequences/Sierra County Sierra County Farmers Market — 8:30-11:30 a.m. at Ralph Edwards Park in Truth of Consequences. Info: 575-894-9375. **Second Saturday Art Hop** — 6-9 p.m. in downtown Truth of Consequences.

Info:promotions@torcmainstreet.org. **Old Time Fiddlers Saturday Night Dance** — 7-9 p.m. at 710 Elm Street in Truth or Consequences. Info 575-744-9137.

SUNDAY, AUG. 14 Ruidoso/Carrizozo/ Lincoln County

Carrizozo Artist Studio Tour — noon-5 p.m. at various locations. Carrizozo is located at the crossroads of U.S. Highways 54 and 380, north of Alamogordo. A historic house tour beginning at the Wells Fargo parking lot on Central Avenue. Info: www.carrizozoworks.org. **Sunday under the Stars** — 6-11 p.m. at the Inn of the Mountain Gods in Mescalero outdoors and free live music followed by a movie. Info: 575-464-7777.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Las Colcheras Quilt Guild has a new location — 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion Post 10 Hall, 1185 Madrid. Guests are always welcome. Info: www.lcqq.org.

TUESDAY, AUG. 16 Silver City/Grant County Trivia Night — 6:30 p.m. at Burgers & Brownies & Beer Oh My! At 619 N. Bullard St. Gift certificate prizes for top three teams. Info: 575-597-6469.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Photo field trips to local zoos, print contest and STORMS photos — 7 p.m. at the SW Environmental Center, 275 N. Main St with the Doña Ana Photography Club. Info: www.daphotoclub.org.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 17 Alamogordo/Otero County Full Moon Hike — 7:30 p.m. at White Sands National Monument. Info 575-479-6124.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Children's story time at Tutti Bambini — 10:45 a.m. at 300 El Molino St. Parents can shop for children's clothes at half price while the kids enjoy a story. Tutti Bambini is a non-profit resale shop that raises funds for at-risk children in the area. The program, which occurs every Wednesday, is in collaboration with The Children's Reading Foundation of Doña Ana County which provides free books for the children. Info: 526-9752.

THURSDAY, AUG. 18 Truth or Consequences/Sierra County Sierra Twirlers Square Dance Club dance — 6-8 p.m. at New Mexico Old Time Fiddler's Playhouse, 710 Elm St. Mainstream dancing every Thursday evening. Cost is \$3 per person; no charge to come and watch. Visitors always welcome. Info: 575-894-0083 or 575-313-9971.

Alamogordo/Otero County Full Moon Night with Shock

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Wave from Fort Bliss — 8 p.m. at White Sands National Monument. Info 575-479-6124.

FRIDAY, AUG. 19
Silver City/Grant County Popcorn Fridays — all day at 614 N. Bullard St. Free popcorn and food samples. Info: 575-388-2343.

Alamogordo/Otero County Downtown Merchant's Art Walk — 6-8 p.m. at the 900 Block of New York Avenue. Info: 575-312-5065.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County Farmer's Market — 6-9 p.m. at All American Park in Ruidoso Downs. Info: 575-808-0630.

SATURDAY, AUG. 20
Silver City/Grant County Run to Copper Country Car Show — 8 a.m.-3 p.m. at Gough Park. Registration for the Copper County Cruisers Car Club show begins on Friday, Aug. 19 at the Holiday Express Motel on Highway 180 East and continues Saturday morning till 11 a.m. Vehicles 1985 and older can register for the show. Trophy parade, giveaways. Info: call President Cruz Bustillos at 575-574-2186 or visit www.coppercountrycruisers.com.
Artisan Market — 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at 614 N. Bullard St. Info: 575-388-2343.
Fort Bayard Walking Tour — 9:15 a.m.-noon, Fort Bayard is located two miles north of U.S. Highway 180 at Santa Clara. Info: 575-956-3294.
Children's activity, make wind chimes — noon-1 p.m. at the Silver City Museum 312 W. Broadway. Info: www.silvercitymuseum.org or 575-538-5921.

silvercitymuseum.org or 575-538-5921.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Paws and Claws Road Rally — 9 a.m. registration at The Body Works, 124 Westgate St. Ride your bike or drive your car to benefit the pets of Dona Ana County. Visit the rally stops at Chope's, Barnett's Las Cruces Harley-Davidson and PicQuik (University & I-25) then head to Elks Lodge, 3000 Elks Drive, for an afternoon of prizes, trophies, door prizes, food, drink, music and more. Benefits the Doña Ana County Humane Society. Info: 575-541-5772 or 575-642-2648.

Storytellers of Las Cruces — 10:30 a.m. at both COAS Bookstore locations in Las Cruces. Children who attend receive a \$2 book coupon.
New Mexico Craft Brew & Winery Summerfest — noon-11 p.m. at the Grapevine Plaza Event Center, 3900 W. Picacho. Enjoy hand crafted beers from state wide brewers. Event includes New Mexico wineries, local food trucks, giveaways, door prizes, fun and games in New Mexico's largest Beer Garden. Live music all day from 1 p.m. through 10:30 p.m., featuring Derrick Harris, C.W. Ayan, Soulshine, Damn Union, and Ghetto Blasters. \$15.00 advance tickets on sale now at www.holdmyticket.com or call 505-886-1251, or \$20.00 at the door. Info and bookings: 575-312-3070 or grapevineplaza@gmail.com.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County Farmer's Market — 7 a.m.-3 p.m. at All American Park in



The Southwest Women's Fiber Arts Collective Fiber Arts Sale is Aug. 6 at 614 N. Bullard St. (Photo by Elva K. Österreich)

Ruidoso Downs. Info: 575-808-0630.

Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County Sierra County Farmers Market — 8:30-11:30 a.m. at Ralph Edwards Park in Truth of Consequences. Info: 575-894-9375.
Old Time Fiddlers Saturday Night Dance — 7-9 p.m. at 710 Elm Street in Truth or Consequences. Info 575-744-9137.

SUNDAY, AUG. 21
Silver City/Grant County Gila Native Plant Society field trip — 8 a.m. at the south parking lot of the Fine Arts Center Theatre on the WNMU campus for carpooling. Field trip will explore native flora. Destination will depend on the weather and the state of the plants. Free and open to the public. Info: 575-535-4064.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County Sunday under the Stars — 6-11 p.m. at the Inn of the Mountain Gods in Mescalero outdoors and free live music followed by a movie. Info: 575-464-7777.

TUESDAY, AUG. 23
Silver City/Grant County Trivia Night — 6:30 p.m. at Burgers & Brownies & Beer Oh My! At 619 N. Bullard St. Gift certificate prizes for top three teams. Info: 575-597-6469.

THURSDAY, AUG. 25
Las Cruces/Mesilla Narrie Toole: Honoring the Past, Bridging Culture and Sharing Wisdom — 4-7 p.m. at the New Mexico Farm &

American spirituality, wisdom and leadership. Info: 575-522-4100.

FRIDAY, AUG. 26
Silver City/Grant County Popcorn Fridays — all day at 614 N. Bullard St. Free popcorn and food samples. Info: 575-388-2343.

Alamogordo/Otero County Fill Your Glass Friday — 6-9 p.m. at Heart of the Desert Wines & Sierra Blanca Brews, 7288 Hwy. 54-70. \$12.50 cover at the door (Includes live entertainment & first glass of wine or beer). Must be 21 and over to enter. Info: 575-434-0035.

SATURDAY, AUG. 27
Silver City/Grant County Artisan Market — 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at 614 N. Bullard St. Info: 575-388-2343.
Fort Bayard Walking Tour — 9:15 a.m.-noon, Fort Bayard is located two miles north of U.S. Highway 180 at Santa Clara. Info: 575-956-3294.

Alamogordo/Otero County Alamogordo Movies under the Stars — 6-10 p.m. at the Alameda Park Zoo, 1321 N. White Sands. Blvd. Kung Fu Panda 3 begins after sunset. Info: 575-479-7002.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Community Appreciation Day — 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road, Las Cruces. Free



The Steve Chavez Marimba from Albuquerque is one of several bands playing for the Southwest Print Fiesta on Sept. 3 in Silver City. (Courtesy Photo)

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August 26-September 1: **A Bigger Splash**
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The Copper County Cruizers car club is celebrating 25 years with its biggest event ever and the Run to Copper Country Aug. 20. (Courtesy Photo)

admission celebrating the 20th anniversary of the construction of the Museum's main building. Info: 575-522-4100.

Storytellers of Las Cruces — 10:30 a.m. at both COAS Bookstore locations in Las Cruces. Children who attend receive a \$2 book coupon.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County Farmer's Market — 7 a.m.-3 p.m. at All American Park in Ruidoso Downs. Info: 575-808-0630.

Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County

2016 Elephant Butte Balloon Regatta — 6:45-10 a.m. at Elephant Butte Lake. Hot air balloons rise from the beach and fly over the lake, weather permitting. Info: 505-821-8558.

Sierra County Farmers Market — 8:30-11:30 a.m. at Ralph Edwards Park in Truth of Consequences. Info: 575-894-9375.

Old Time Fiddlers Saturday Night Dance — 7-9 p.m. at 710 Elm Street in Truth or Consequences. Info 575-744-9137.

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TUESDAY, AUG. 30
Silver City/Grant County

Trivia Night — 6:30 p.m. at Burgers & Brownies & Beer Oh My! At 619 N. Bullard St. Gift certificate prizes for top three teams. Info: 575-597-6469.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 2
Silver City/Grant County Popcorn Fridays — all day at 614 N. Bullard St. Free popcorn and food samples. Info: 575-388-2343.

Alamogordo/Otero County 26th Annual Cottonwood Festival — all day at Alameda Park in Alamogordo. Info: 575-437-6120.

Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County
Hillsboro Second Annual Antiques Festival — 5-7 p.m. in Hillsboro. Info: 575-895-5326.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County Farmer's Market — 6-9 p.m. at All American Park in Ruidoso Downs. Info: 575-808-0630.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 3
Silver City/Grant County Artisan Market — 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at 614 N. Bullard St. Info: 575-388-2343.

Fort Bayard Walking Tour — 9:15 a.m.-noon, Fort Bayard is located two miles north of U.S. Highway 180 at Santa Clara. Info: 575-956-3294.

Taste of Downtown Silver City — noon-3 p.m. all around Downtown Silver City. Pie judging at the Farmers Market at 11 a.m. Advance ticket purchases available at the Silver City Visitor Center, 201 N. Hudson St. or on line at silvercitymainstreet.com after Aug. 15. Info: 575-534-.

Southwest Print Fiesta — noon-7 p.m. at the Seedboat Center for the Arts, 214 W. Yankee Street, Silver City. Printmakers from across

the state get together to show and sell their artwork. Live music featured for the whole event including the Big Ditch Crickets, Hawk and a Hacksaw, Bayou Seco, Gleemaiden and more. Info: 575-538-8505.

Alamogordo/Otero County 26th Annual Cottonwood Festival — all day at Alameda Park in Alamogordo. Info: 575-437-6120.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Storytellers of Las Cruces — 10:30 a.m. at both COAS Bookstore locations in Las Cruces. Children who attend receive a \$2 book coupon.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County Farmer's Market — 7 a.m.-3 p.m. at All American Park in Ruidoso Downs. Info: 575-808-0630.

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Old Time Fiddlers Saturday Night Dance — 7-9 p.m. at 710 Elm Street in Truth or Consequences. Info 575-744-9137.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 4
Alamogordo/Otero County 26th Annual Cottonwood Festival — all day at Alameda Park in Alamogordo. Info: 575-437-6120.

MONDAY, SEPT. 5
Alamogordo/Otero County 26th Annual Cottonwood Festival — all day at Alameda Park in Alamogordo. Info: 575-437-6120.

GETTING ACTIVE • LAURA SMART

Putting Zest Back In

Add joy, good health to life with pickleball

In 1965 on Bainbridge Island, Washington, a U.S. congressman, his friends and family created the game of pickleball. The court is the size of a badminton court: 20 feet by 44 feet. The net is 36 inches high on each end and 34 inches high in the middle. Equipment includes a solid paddle and a whiffle ball. As the Washington friends began hitting the ball, their dog, Pickle, would retrieve it, hence the name.

On Dec. 9, 2014, my 92-year-old father died. I had lost my zest for life. I wanted to laugh again and somehow restore joy in my heart. I knew that Picacho Hills Country Club had begun a pickleball program thanks to my friend, Carrie, so I decided to give it a shot.

I have been active all of my life participating in various sports and aerobic classes and yoga. I even got my certification as an aerobics instructor but I didn't really want to be locked into a set schedule. I must say that I have never experienced so much laughter and joy as when I'm playing pickleball.

Depending on your partner's and opponents' personalities, you may need to stop playing during the game due to excessive laughter. It's difficult to explain why playing pickleball is so much fun unless you actually get in the game and play. So you just have to trust me.

If you are an uptight, always-have-to-be-in-control person, this is just the sport for you because you will learn to laugh at yourself and undoubtedly lose control some time during the game. It happens to everyone.

I played with a 12-year-old boy who was just learning to play

pickleball. He was hitting the ball as if he were hitting home runs. He was all over the court like a scrapper and was so funny that our opponents had to stop before their serve because they were laughing uncontrollably.

I enjoy playing with my 82-year-old friend, Wally. He is truly remarkable with his quick reaction and strategic shots.

Carlos has Parkinson's yet he still manages to place the ball in an unreturnable location and continues to amaze everyone with his playing ability.

Bob is a Sr. Olympics national champion and last year had some serious heart problems. He didn't play for as long as the doctor ordered, but then was right back on the court.

My point with just these four examples of players is that there is almost no excuse for not playing pickleball. The learning curve is shallow and if you continue to play and ask for constructive criticism, you will have so much healthy fun you will be asking yourself "Why did I wait so long to get in the game?"

It only took three sessions before I was hooked. Now we all kid about how we are all "addicts" and have to get our pickleball "fix." Your endorphins explode and your hand/eye coordination is challenged at every shot. It's been said that pickleball is a great Alzheimer's preventive since you have to strategize on where to place your next shot.

You can play pickleball in Las Cruces at the Meerscheidt Recreational Center, Picacho Hills Country Club, Apodaca Park and



Pickleball enthusiasts take to the court at Picacho Hills Country Club. (Courtesy photo)

a few other private locations. Picacho Hills offers round-robin play free for members and a small fee for non-members. They also have an event called "Saturday Night Fever" which is offered the third Saturday of the month when music is played on the hillside and dozens of pickleball

I suggest you get in the game. But beware – pickleball is highly contagious and there is no known cure.

Laura Smart is an independent health and wellness consultant and may be reached at lauralsmart@comcast.net.



Pickleball is a touch of tennis, a bit of badminton and a heaping dose of comedy. (Courtesy photo)

NATURAL BUILDING

Builders Without Borders

Straw bales, stones and local lumber workshop



Volunteers with Builders Without Borders raise a straw bale wall. (Courtesy Photo)

Previous natural building workshop attendees learn to create archways. (Courtesy Photo)



Got mud? You'll find it here, along with straw bales, stones, locally-harvested lumber and more, plus practitioners who will demonstrate the art of natural building. Builders Without Borders is offering a natural building workshop in Kingston. Aug. 14 – 19.

Contractor Frank Meyer of Austin, Texas, plus authors and builders Doni Kiffmeyer and Kaki Hunter teach participants how to build with straw-bales and cob, and plaster with clay and lime.

Derek Roff and Catherine Wanek of Builders Without Borders, offer presentations on straw bale building design essentials, composting toilets and rain-water harvesting. The workshop location is in Kingston, at the Black Range Lodge. The Lodge

is a bed and breakfast and retreat center for sustainable living.

World-wide, the popularity of natural building has grown by leaps and bounds, spurred by a grassroots desire for housing that is healthy, affordable and environmentally responsible. Natural buildings bring satisfaction to their makers, health to their occupants, and leave the gentlest footprint on the planet.

These minimally-processed building materials are non-toxic, are typically "dirt-cheap," and they are friendly to owner-builders. Adding rain-water harvesting, graywater systems and solar panels can also save costs, while reducing our ecological footprint. These are homes that feel good, and you can feel good about them.

The workshop is offered by

Builders Without Borders, an educational non-profit organization supporting sustainable shelter in areas of need. Currently BWB is designing seismically-stable, eco-friendly buildings for rebuilding after the Nepal earthquake last year. BWB also helps support the Pakistan Straw Bale and Appropriate Building (PAKSAB) organization, which has developed an affordable, comfortable and earthquake-resistant straw-bale home design, while training local builders. Paksbab recently completed its 27th building in rural Pakistan. See www.builderswithoutborders.org for more information about this work.

Persons interested in attending the workshop can email mail@builderswithoutborders.org or call 575-895-5652.

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The Organ Mountains stand out against the sky as seen from the East side. (Photo by Gabriele Teich)

HIGH PLACES • GABRIELE TEICH

Hiking for Fame

Walking with a film crew, new experience

When our friend called for a midweek hike on the "other" side of the Organ Mountains, I was certain about two things: It would be a diverse group of hikers and we would hear some fun hiking stories. Having hiked the Organ Needle (highest peak of the Organ Mountains) a few times with him in recent years I had probably heard some of them before. But they were fun nonetheless – most of them anyway. I wasn't disappointed on either account.

The added bonus on this hike: We would get our chance at 15 minutes of fame. The film team from the "New Mexico True" series ac-

companied us.

So we met on a Tuesday morning at the group parking lot of the Aguirre Spring Campground to do the Indian Hollow hike. If anyone expected this to be fast and furious they would have been disappointed, but I don't think any of the 15 hikers had that in mind. We started out and soon were asked to wait for the cameras to be set up a few hundred feet ahead. When we got the signal we walked past them pretending not to see them. Then we hiked a

HIKING
 continued on page 51

August 15:

Space reservation and ad copy due

August 16:

All stories and notices for the editorial section

September
DEADLINES



If you have any questions, please contact:

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LIVING ON WHEELS • SHEILA SOWDER

Lessons Learned

The best of times, the worst of times

I know I keep harping on the importance of research before making any RVing decisions, but no matter how much you do, things will still go wrong occasionally. Parts will break, water will flood, plumbing will clog. But don't despair. These bad times will be more than balanced by the many fantastic experiences you will have that could only have happened because you're RVing.

Gerri and Josh Kalish of Silver City had an experience that combined both the worst and the best. First time out in their 27-ft travel trailer, they pulled into a Love's Truck Stop to spend a free night, and found a spot between two semis. The next morning, they pulled out and heard a loud clunk! Their trailer had separated from their truck because the hitch pin had been stolen.

They panicked because they were blocking traffic, but suddenly an angel, in the form of a Texan cowboy trucker, swooped down upon them, told them an RV-hating trucker had probably stolen the pin, and sincerely apologized for truckers as a category in the name of all Texans everywhere. He hooked their rig up his truck, moved it out of the way of traffic, took them to an RV parts store, and helped them hook back up.

The moral: always use locking hitch pins when traveling because some truckers hate RVers and delight in causing this kind of aggravation. And hope for an angel in any form when disaster strikes.

Kirk Martinez and Ronda Wakeman recently moved back to Silver City from New England, towing their vintage 1970 Hi-Lo Funchaser. At a welcome center in western Missouri, a fellow traveler pointed out a large bulge on the back tire of their trailer. Kirk called his AAA-RV+ service, and when the service person arrived he discovered that all four of their new tires, recently installed at a Walmart Auto Center, were being worn away on the out-



For Kirk and Rhonda, happiness is finally rolling across the New Mexico state line. (Courtesy Photo)

Further investigation showed the tires all slanted inward, due to bent axles resulting from the trailer being jacked up in the middle of the axles rather than one tire at a time when the tires were put on. They limped into the nearest Walmart, got three tires free in exchange for the bad ones, had to pay for the fourth, and then were informed that Walmart doesn't install RV tires. They slowly drove across town to a mechanic that did, and from Missouri to New Mexico they had to flip tires every 150 miles to keep them from wearing down on the edges. Kirk told me when they hit the New Mexico border, he knelt down and kissed the ground,

and he's now wrangling with corporate Walmart about reimbursement.

The moral? Don't trust Walmart to install your RV tires, even if one of the mechanics says "I can do it, boss, I used to work at Camping World." Go to an accredited RV tire facility.

Diane Fausser of Silver City believes you see things differently when RVing with small children, and sometimes experience miracles you would otherwise have missed. On her family's first motor home trip, she and her then 6-year-old son Will were sitting under a tree at a Wyoming RV park at sunset. Suddenly it started raining small, round, white balls which fell



To Jimmy and Sheila, happiness is making it to the dealership to trade in that old RV. (Courtesy Photo)

from the tree and then bounced back up as soon as they hit the ground. Turned out to be hundreds of tiny white tree owls diving for insects for their evening meal. She and Will sat amidst the shower for about an hour, ignored by the hungry owls, and consider it one of the most wondrous events of his childhood.

And my own best and worst? How about the night on our first cross-country trip when we came back from dinner to find water pouring out of the bottom of our motor home. That's how we learned the value of that water pressure regulator I mentioned in last month's article.

Or maybe the three hours in 95 degree Texas weather Jimmy spent UNDER the motor home replacing a blown engine line, although several generous locals did stop by to offer assistance. Jimmy says that's where he learned to never just assume something that looks dodgy will be OK.

However, our absolutely worst experience so far has to be when three belts broke, one by one, on our way from Silver City to Phoenix to trade in our old motor home for a brand new fifth wheel. Each time Jimmy had to crawl under the RV on the side of the highway, and the last belt got repaired long after dark and way past the closing of the RV dealership.

The lesson here? Always keep spare belts, and check them occasionally to make sure they haven't rotted apart. Also, if you have to

replace one belt, replace them all. And from my own perspective, always travel with someone like Jimmy.

I had to think for a while about what has been our best RVing experience. I thought about all the places we'd been over the past eight years, the sights we've seen, the people we've met. We've traveled from Indiana to California to Maine to Florida, sometimes working seasonally at resorts, sometimes just kicking back and relaxing. But the best part? The people. I soon realized that at home, back in Indianapolis, we had known the same people for years, and most of them were pretty much like us.

On the road, we met all kinds of people, each with his or her own fascinating story. We were reminded every day that just because someone's politics or religion or background isn't the same as ours, we can still enjoy each other and help each other and learn from each other. What an education! What good entertainment! What a life!

Sheila and husband Jimmy Sowder have lived at Rose Valley RV Ranch in Silver City for four years following

four years of wandering the US from Maine to California. She can be contacted at skslowder@aol.com.



HIKING

continued from page 50

The view of the desert from the Aguirre Springs area looking East provides a vast display of sand and shrub. (Photo by Gabrielle Tech)



bit further and repeated the procedure. And so it went on. After three hours we got to a point that could have been reached in 45 minutes at a regular hiking pace. We had a lunch and photo break and chatted.

At that speed it would be evening before we would complete the round. With kids coming home from school and other previous arrangements four of the group decided to return at that point. The others hiked on.

The loop is fun and a bit more adventurous than others because for the first half the trail is not always visible or easy to follow. Our friend uses a bit of a shortcut at the beginning and scrambles down into the arroyo over some boulders and up again on the other side. The official trail leads up and around which adds another half an hour to the hike.

What follows next is my personal favorite part of the hike – a wide open meadow with views of White Sands National Monument as well as the Missile Range of the same name. You go through a cattle gate and soon come upon the only sign this trail

has to offer. It points right towards the mountains. So you scramble up, keeping towards the right rock face. If you venture left you get to the base of Sugarloaf Mountain which demands a whole different level of rock climbing.

On top you hit the Pine Tree Trail which leads to the parking lot – aka the easy part of the hike. The group made it back around 6 p.m. (This is usually a 3 ½ to 4 hour hike).

Hiking with a professional film team made this a different and extra special experience. Everyone had a great time meeting new people and quickly made new friends. Now we just have to wait until February or March next year to get a glimpse of ourselves on television. And in the meantime we catch up on the previous seasons on YouTube.

As always: If you go, remember hats, sunscreen, and sturdy shoes, and bring enough water along. Best to do these more strenuous hikes in the cooler months to avoid close encounters with snakes.

Happy trails!

The Power of III



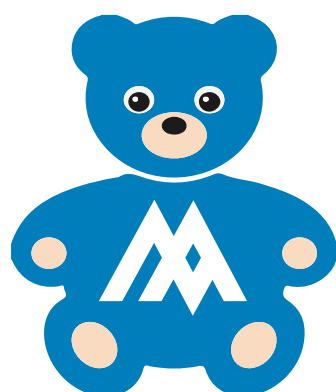
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