

DESERT exposure

Arts & Leisure in Southern New Mexico



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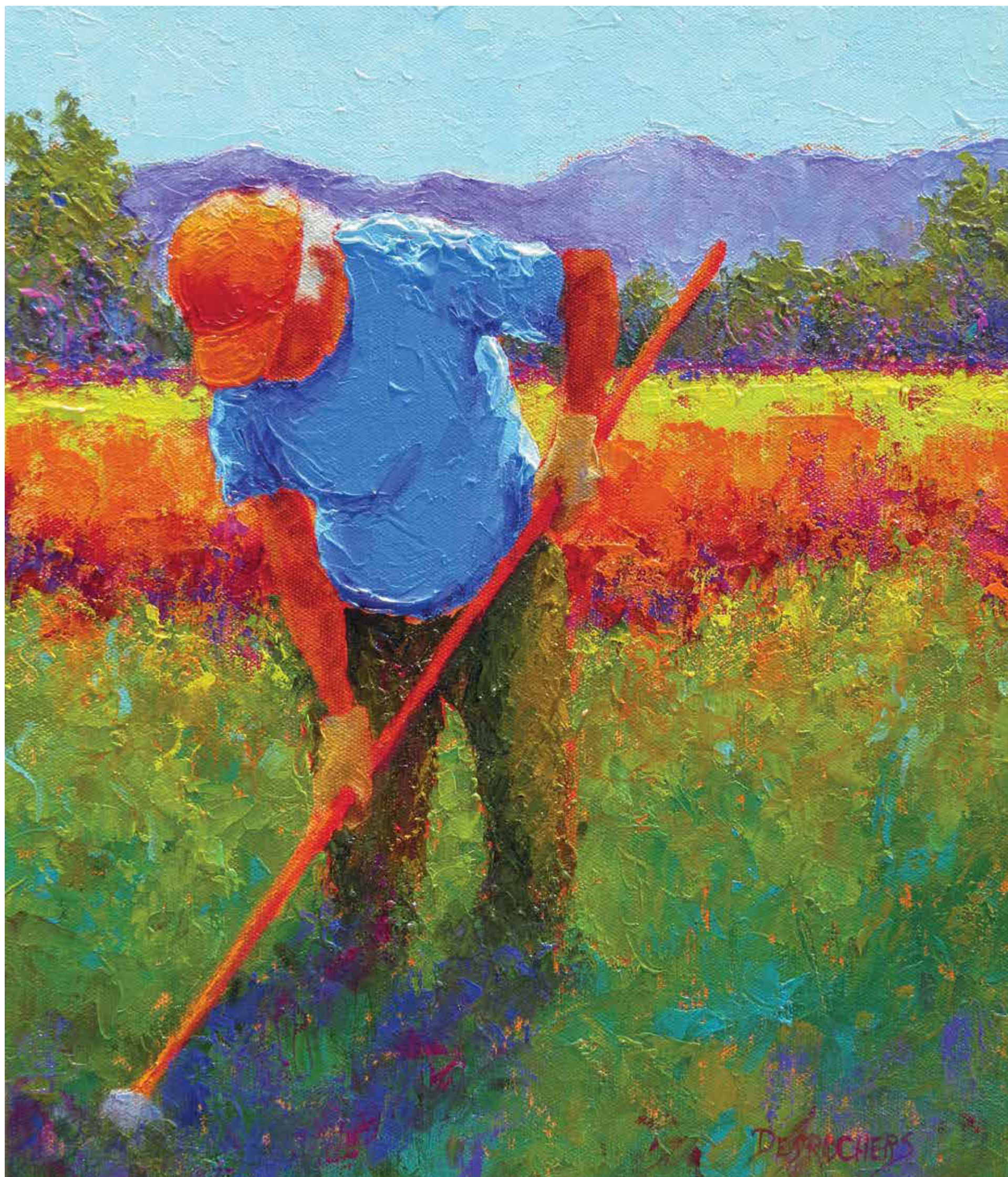
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JANUARY 2018

Volume 23 • Number 1



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1500 W. KELLY ST. UNIVERSITY AREA – with a great view of Boston Hill. This 3 BR 2 BA home is easy to button up and leave, with security shutters already in place over sliding glass doors. Double garage and storage areas. Accessibility features like a walk-in tub and bidet. Nearly 2000 sq. ft. Extra lot and storage barn available separately. \$185,000. MLS # 34945



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MIMBRES MANSION – 5 BR 3 BA house + extra guest-house on one acre with community water system. Adaptable for group-living, bed & breakfast, or other care-giving business. Fully furnished, if desired, for more. Nicely landscaped, sunny sundecks and patio areas, garage and storage buildings. \$350,000. MLS #34414



CORNER CUTEY – UNIVERSITY AREA – Neat as a button! 1 or 2 bedroom, 1 bath home has extra sunroom, + extra large lot and single garage. Large patio. Only 1 block from WNMU and priced to sell at \$125,000. MLS # 34066



PRICE REDUCED! APARTMENTS, BED & BREAKFAST, or MANSION! – This charming and roomy 3 story red brick home is currently set up for apartments. One large unit on the ground floor, several upstairs. \$350,000 – less than \$100/sq. ft. See it soon! MLS# 34272



OVER 5,000 SQ. FT. – of built-to-last artistic space, just waiting for your idea! Built in 1905 as a Baptist church, this corner building near downtown has a great auditorium space, + living quarters/office & classroom spaces, storage and much more. Priced to sell at \$198,000. MLS #34521



HIGH ON A HILLTOP – overlooking most of Silver City, this 3 BR 2 BA awaits its new owner! Hardwood floors, picture windows, extra-large lot, storage building, and all for \$149,000. See it soon! #34951



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MLS# 34931 • \$24,900

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MLS# 34928 • \$110,000

Charming bungalow on corner lot just blocks from the University and near downtown.

Many updates include windows, blinds, wood kitchen cabinets, tiled walk-in shower in large bathroom, newer wall furnace.



MLS# 34554 • \$149,900

Well-maintained 5 bedroom, 2.5 bath on 2 lots, wrap-around portico on north and west sides, walking distance to university and downtown. **ADA suite includes 2 of the bedrooms, sitting room, and full spa-like bath, has its own separate HW heater, furnace, and evap cooling. ** New roof in 2016, exterior painted in 2017.



MLS# 34635 • \$164,500

End of road privacy for you and your farm animals. 2052 square foot 4 bedroom manufactured home on 10 acres with barn and shop. Variety of fruit trees and fenced yard to keep animals out. Seasonal creek runs through property. If you want private you better call on this one.



MLS# 34738 • \$245,000

Tons of great living space in this home. 4th bedroom being used as a library/office currently. Private backyard patio with lots of trees for privacy. Two, thermostatically controlled, programmable pellet stoves make this home very cozy in the colder months. Move In Ready! Lots of square footage for the price, here! Take a look!



MLS# 34934 • \$124,500

RENOVATED 3BD/1.5BA HOME IN SILVER HEIGHTS, CENTRALLY LOCATED. All new paint & laminate flooring, newer furnace, windows, & stucco. Light & Bright, with bonus area for an office. Workshop, storage, xeriscaped front yard & large terraced backyard.



MLS# 34940 • \$154,000

This is an adobe ranch home with baked adobe brick exterior on a corner lot. Beautiful flooring throughout most of the home. Easy low maintenance landscape in the front and room for your RV or Boat and extra vehicle in the back. Two storage sheds and tasteful rock wall give the yard some privacy.



MLS# 34462 • \$33,900

This lot has many home sites that would be easy to develop with wonderful views in all directions. Take a look at this lot, you won't be sorry!



MLS# 33369 • \$77,500

The absolute best commercial location in the mining district, complete with a drive-through window! As an investment, this property historically has proven better than a 10% yield. Great exposure (right on the highway, in a low MPH zone) and ample parking are welcoming to almost any type of business venture! ADA approved. Formerly a local bank location, vaults and night-drop are still in place. This versatile building has most recently been used as a doctor's office and a construction office. Move-in ready!



MLS# 34926 • \$315,000

Wonderful executive-style home right next to the golf course. Technically a 2 bedroom however, there is a huge bonus room that would make a great 3rd bedroom. In addition, there are two other large living areas, formal dining room, eat-in kitchen with solid-surface countertops, master suite with huge walk-in closet and tons of storage. The park-like 1.75 acre lot features two carports, numerous fruit trees and some of the most amazing views around. Property has city water in addition to a well for watering. With over 3400 s.f. and a price of \$315,000, there is a lot to offer for the money.

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PUBLISHER

Richard Coltharp
575-524-8061
editor@desertexposure.com

EDITOR

Elva K. Österreich
575-680-1978
editor@desertexposure.com

ADVERTISING COORDINATOR

Pam Rossi 575-635-6614
pam@lascrucesbulletin.com

ADVERTISING SALES

Silver City
Ilene Wignall 575-313-0002
jiwignall@comcast.net

DISTRIBUTION COORDINATOR

Teresa Tolonen 575-680-1841
teresa@lascrucesbulletin.com

LAYOUT AND DESIGN

Stacey Neal and Monica Kekuewa

COLUMNISTS

Fr. Gabriel Rochelle, Morgan Smith, Sheila Sowder, Scott Thomson, Bert Stevens, Jim Duchene

WEB DESIGNER

Ryan Galloway

1740-A Calle de Mercado
Las Cruces, NM 88005
575-524-8061
www.desertexposure.com



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QUEST COLUMN • JONATHAN DIENER

Keep Wilderness Quiet

Flyover training questionable choice for Gila skies

I was on Highway 78 driving from Mule Creek to Silver City. On the radio was Earth Matters, a talk show on KURU our local radio station. A woman from the Pacific Northwest was talking about how the U.S. Navy had more or less taken over the Olympic Peninsula outside Seattle for training and wargames. The residents were extremely upset. Their homes in the magnificent seaside forests were being buzzed by a new breed of jets called "growlers" which, she said, were the loudest jets ever built. They were flying at low altitudes making unbelievable amounts of noise. There were military convoys driving through the forest to provide targets for the bombers to shoot non-lethal practice weapons at. The jets send out flares which turn into chaff, burned out particles down to the ground creating a fire risk. It sounded like a nightmare.

And then the discussion turned to the Gila Wilderness and another kind of bomb dropped. Holloman Air Force Base is making plans to use the Gila Wilderness, my Gila Wilderness, your Gila Wilderness, as their new training area for their bomber pilots. Plans include an estimated 10,000 training sorties over the Gila Wilderness annually. It is not clear whether each indi-

vidual sortie involves one jet or more than one jet or how many times they will be flying back and forth across the wilderness during their flight lesson.

My first reaction to this news was guilt. I know that my government is bombing all over the planet and has been throughout many decades. One horrendous example I just now recalled is the carpet-bombing of Laos, a country which was not involved in the nearby Vietnam war, causing the rural Laotians to live in caves while their villages and farms were being destroyed. So, while my government's military is currently destroying towns, villages and people in Iraq, Syria, Libya and other nations halfway across the world, I live a peaceful and unscathed life in the beauty of Grant County.

Maybe now it is my turn to suffer as my country had made others suffer. How could I complain when others have lost their homes, limbs and family members through American bombs when what I would have to endure was unsettling loud noise (and maybe an increased risk of forest fire?) As I contemplated the situation, I realized that I need not be the guilty, accepting victim of military madness when it is impacting my

own life, no matter to what extent. Reaching out across the Internet, I learned that there are people and organizations in our area who are dedicated to protecting the Gila Wilderness. The New Mexico Wilderness Alliance, Gila Conservation Coalition, Peaceful Skies and others are aware of the Air Force's plans and organizing to try to stop it.

Holloman Air Force Base is required, as part of the process of obtaining this airspace for their flyovers, to hold meetings with affected communities to give them an opportunity to give feedback. They held a meeting in T or C and one in Las Cruces, but not in Silver City, and the public comment period was officially closed before many Grant County residents even knew about their plans. The Air Force says that comments posted to their website will continue to be reviewed.

Perhaps as a result of Holloman receiving many emails from Grant County residents or the Grant County Commission's ear being bent by residents, a meeting was arranged between the Air Force and the Grant County Commissioners. The public was invited. A demonstration against the Air Force's plans was held outside the county office before the meeting.

For me the meeting was a frustrating experience. While two of the commissioners questioned the Air Force spokespersons very pointedly, others were mostly silent. The deep anger I and many citizens there felt seemed to have little avenue for expression in this formal setting. However, during the public comment period peo-

ple spoke passionately about the Gila being a refuge for lovers of Nature, that many of us had moved here for that reason, that it was the first protected wilderness area ever created not only in the U.S. but in the world, that not

QUIET

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Letters to the Editor

Street Names History Corrected

Hello Editor,
I am writing to you in reference to an article that was published in your paper in January 2017. The title of the article was "Dead Poets in Deming - Who labeled the streets after 19th century writers?"

My daughter discovered this article when looking up information on her deceased Grandfather, J. Edward Gilmore of Deming, New Mexico.

I would like to correct the record as I believe the sources for the article were incorrect.

Dick Gilmore was not the sole owner of Thunderbird Land Development which developed the subdivision of Whitehill Estates which is where these streets are located and named after poets.

My father, J Edward Gilmore, was a co-owner of Thunderbird

Land Development (T-Bird) with his younger brother, Richard (Dick) Gilmore. For the record, my father was the president of T-Bird up until his death in January 1991. My father, along with Dick Gilmore, purchased tracks of land throughout Deming, New Mexico beginning in the late 1950's and worked together as family developing subdivisions. Dick Gilmore did not purchase on his own 80 acres from the Whitehill sisters. This was purchased by both Ed Gilmore and Dick Gilmore and some of the money was borrowed from Bob Palmer, of Palmers Building Supply. My father and brother actually paved some of the roads in the subdivisions.

The streets were actually named by my father, mother, two brothers and myself.

It was at the insistence of my father, Ed, that these streets should be named after classic poets. This

did not happen overnight, but I clearly remember my father talking to us, as a family, and telling each of us to pick a poet from the five he had selected, and that would be the name of the street. We were driving home from church on a Sunday and when he said it was finally time to make our selections.

My father had given us a background on each of the poets, so we would understand the uniqueness of each of them. My selection was Rudyard Kipling. I don't remember who my brothers selected. However, the fact of the matter is I had shared this with both of my daughters several times when they were young. My father had also talked to them about it because of the memory when we drove down Kipling Drive, where

LETTERS

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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

"WRM EOH [CEV W-16] YTANUHERU, OPY NEM WRMFY HIEAAYS OPY IYJ
'HFRAEUUV' ANMO RW OPY UYAN AMRFYHH, NO DYNHO WRM HEDXYM FEOJ
NUS HRBOPLYHO UYL ZYTEFR." - HONoy HYUNORM PRLEY ZRMNDYH

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: "I IMAGINE IT CAN INTRODUCE THE YOUNG ONES TO THE SCIENCE OF PLANTS - AND GIVE THEM SOMETHING TO DO DURING A BREAK." - GABRIELE TEICH, ON THE NEW MEXICO WILDFLOWERS APP. Secret Words*: "GENOTYPICAL BUSH"

Congrats to #19 solvers George Egert*, Claudette Gallegos*, Will Adams*, Mike Arms*, Ann Boulden*, and Shorty Vaiza*!

QUEST COLUMN • MICHAEL SWICKARD

Be Thankful for the Noise

Military jets are the sounds of freedom

Jet engines make lots of noise, especially military jets. It seems several communities in New Mexico are bothered by the thought that jets from Holloman Air Force Base may fly over their towns and surrounding lands while they are training for the role of combat pilot.

The Air Force leadership at Holloman has announced that the jet pilots they are training need more area to practice what they do before they get into actual combat. It goes without saying that when you

are in combat is a bad time to learn some things that should be taught before they get into combat.

The rub is that many people in these towns don't want to hear military jets flying over their homes. The very thought of it annoys some people. They are writing angry letters and protesting having to hear the noise of jets. They say that the pilots should fly somewhere else. What they are saying is don't fly over my backyard.

When I was much younger I was working on a barbed wire fence

one day about 20 miles south of Carrizozo on my grandfather's ranch. It was a warm, quiet day and I was almost falling asleep on my feet while I worked on this fence. Bees were buzzing and birds were singing. Then it happened.

Four F-4 Phantom jets from Holloman AFB came over me doing about 400 knots at 200 feet above the terrain. Instantly I went from being almost asleep on my feet to throwing the hammer and running over the fence in a panic. Then it was quiet again.

It is much worse for those cowpokes on horseback, when a horse is spooked this way. That said, I am not troubled by the military jets. To me that is the sound of freedom

and I normally look up appreciatively.

The syndrome is called, "Not in my backyard." Be it jets overhead or highways or power lines, people will object and demand that these things not be in their backyard, they should be in someone else's backyard.

How do we decide who has a backyard that should be protected from things that annoy and who does not? In 1965, I lived in Aurora, Colorado, under the landing and takeoff pattern of Stapleton Airport. It was often very loud but we got used to it. The airport moved after we left.

What we are dealing with is volunteers to our nation's military

who put their lives on the line for our freedom. They must have a place to train. The rigors are such that some pilots will not survive the training. And we should worry that the noise bothers some people?

Every effort should be taken to not annoy people up to the point that the pilots are not able to get the very best training preparing them for real combat. At that point, we should take their training as more important than our convenience.

Swickard's novel, "Hideaway Hills," is available at Amazon.com. He may be reached at michael.swickard@gmail.com.

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QUIET
continued from page 5

only the campers, hikers, hunters and others who live in or visit the wilderness will be impacted but the animals who live there as well, and that the chaff from the flares excreted by the jets have already caused fires in Grant County.

One commissioner asked the Air Force representative what it's like to be directly under a military

jet flying at altitudes as low as the 500 to 2,000 feet that is being proposed. His reply was he had been around many jets landing, taking off, etc. and he liked the sound. Later during the public comment period, a veteran who had been in some special forces outfit and had flown on or knew all about military jets, told the commissioners and audience that he had been out hiking in a slot canyon in the Gila when some military jets had flown directly overhead. He was a very strong healthy-looking guy. He said the noise was so loud it practically knocked him to the ground. This vet voiced a very emphatic, "No!" to Holloman's plans and received huge applause.

As I am sitting in front of my computer writing this article, in a private inholding in the national forest, I am interrupted by two military jets flying over my little valley. The noise is absolutely deafening and continues for several minutes. I run out and curse them. They appear to be fairly high up maybe two or three thousand feet. What if they were at 500 feet? What a synchronistic and painful reminder that this flyover issue is real. If this were to happen

on a daily basis or several times a day, it would destroy my peaceful life here.

It is recommended by those organizing against Holloman's flyover plans that anyone interested in fighting it contact your senators, Congressman Pearce, our County Commissioners (ask them to take a vocal and active stand against the plan) and email comments to the Air Force at <http://www.hollomanafbairspaceeis.com/Comments.aspx>.

I am told that in Taos, people, with the help of the Peaceful Skies organization from up there, were able to stop the military from using the area for training flyovers. Perhaps we can too. But this is the U.S. Military we are talking about so we have to be as LOUD as their damn jets in our protest if we are going to stop them.

Jonathan Diener has lived in Pine Cienega (population 9) south of Mule Cree for 20 years. He has had a general practice law office in Silver City for most of that time. He enjoys playing guitar and singing, farming, armchair travel and trying to answer life's big questions.

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Tues., January 16, noon:
Space reservation
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Wed., January 17, noon:
All stories and notices
for the editorial section

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT:

<p>EDITOR Elva K. Österreich 575-680-1978 editor@desertexposure.com</p>	<p>DISTRIBUTION Teresa Tolonen 575-680-1841 teresa@lascrucesbulletin.com</p>	<p>SALES COORDINATOR Pam Rossi 575-635-6614 pam@lascrucesbulletin.com</p>	<p>SILVER CITY SALES MANAGER Ilene Wignall 575-313-0002 jiwignall@comcast.net</p>
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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK • ELVA K. ÖSTERREICH

What Would Batman Do?

A newly released study by six researchers builds on several past studies, had four- and six-year-olds choosing between doing work and playing on an iPad. The study was reported by Jenny Anderson with Quartz – Atlantic Media as below.

Children, 180 of them, were assigned to one of three groups. The control group asked the children to think about their thoughts and feelings as they went through the task and ask themselves “Am I working hard?” The second group was asked to think of themselves in the third-person, for example (if the kid’s name is Hannah), “Is Hannah working hard?”

In the third group, the youngsters were asked to think about someone else who is really good at working hard. They could pick from some well-known superhero types: Batman, Bob the Builder, Rapunzel and Dora the Explorer. The kids got to dress up as the character they picked and then were asked, “Is Batman working hard?”

For 10 minutes the kids could move between the “work” and iPad. They were reminded every minute, through a loud speaker, of their “condition” (“Is Dora working hard?”). All the kids were told, “This is a very important activity and it would be helpful if you worked hard on this for as long as you could.” Perseverance was measured as time spent on the work task.

Not surprisingly to anyone who has kids, and iPads, the children spent 37 percent of their time on the work task, and 63 percent on the iPad. But those kids pretending to be superheroes worked more than those who thought of themselves in the third person, and both of those groups did better than the children who just thought of themselves as “me.”

The study, published by “Child Development,” (a peer-reviewed academic journal) is about early development of perseverance and the value of providing children with strategies to cope with a tempting distraction. It is saying that taking a mental step back from one’s own situation could help children persevere in the face of distraction.



Elva's granddaughter, Kaliopée Hibler takes after her grandmother as she chooses to play the Sith Lord in Star Wars play.

The imaginations of adults have been taken by the image of their small children learning better by wearing superhero costumes. Everyone wants a magical way to encourage their children to focus, and this is a great one.

A 2016 article in “Fatherly” (an online magazine) by Steve Schiff, “Pretending to Be a Superhero Is Good for Your Child’s Development — Here’s How to Make It Even Better,” he calls superhero play in children “pro-social.”

“Kids build their imaginations around characters and concepts they know, and if they know superheroes, their imaginative play involves swooping in at the last second to save their teddy bear from certain doom,” Schiff wrote. “This is developmentally significant, first because it’s truly interactive (no screens), and second because, ‘The more kids act out pro-social roles using those models, the more likely they are to keep doing so.’ (Dr. Alison Bryant, chief play officer at Play-Science).”

Of course, for every positive, there must be a negative, so BYU family life professor Sarah M. Coyne completed yet another study (published in January 2017 by “BYU News”). Her study suggests rather than positive superhero traits, children are more apt to pick up the contentious themes.

“So many preschoolers are into superheroes and so many parents think that the superhero culture will help their kids defend others and be nicer to

their peers,” Coyne said, “but our study shows the exact opposite. Kids pick up on the aggressive themes and not the defending ones.”

To sum up: for me, the answers are pretty simple.

- Being a superhero is better than playing with an iPad and
- Getting outside and running around is better than just about any alternative, whether defending the weak, or punching out the bad guy.

I wonder what the psychiatrists would say about me. Is it good that I am drawn to the bad guys?

At Little Dude Rancho, a preschool in Albuquerque, I insisted on being Catwoman in the playground. In elementary school, I flew on the swing set as “Poison Ivy.” A little older, high school, and I was fascinated by Morgan le Faye/Morgaine of the numerous Arthurian legends and books.

Who is the best character in “Zena, Warrior Princess”? The evil Callisto, of course.

In the “Wizard of Oz,” the Wicked Witch of the West is the most interesting, later redeemed in “Wicked: The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West,” where Elphaba is the hero. By the way, her name was Momba in the 1910 silent film “The Wonderful Wizard of Oz.”

And is superhero play only for children?

In a 2011 “Psychology Today” article by Robin S. Rosenberg, she addresses why you, an adult, may want to stand like a superhe-



Meanwhile, Paxton Hibler, has no problem channeling Iron Man. (Photos courtesy Hibler family)

ro — legs apart, arms on hips, elbows bent. This is what psychologists refer to as an open posture in which limbs are spread out in a way to take up more space.

Rosenberg points out numerous psychological studies have demonstrated open postures convey power and closed postures, in which the body takes up relatively little space, convey a sense of the individual having little power.

She goes on to describe another study which shows simply assuming high or low power poses can cause the brain to shift hormonal gears. Test participants who assumed high-power poses had their testosterone levels increase relative to their baseline, while participants who assumed low-power poses had their testosterone levels drop. The reverse was true of cortisol, “stress hormone,” levels.

The same study also showed that those adopting low-power poses are less likely to take risks. So, Rosenberg concludes, “It seems that participants who assume a couple of superhero-type stances for a grand total of two minutes feel more powerful and act that way: Stand like a superhero, feel like a superhero, act like a superhero”

“There is a wonderful scene in the first Superman film, by Richard Donner, in which Clark Kent (Christopher Reeve) and Lois Lane (Margot Kidder) are about to go out and grab dinner. Clark is in Lois Lane’s apartment waiting for her to get a sweater. As Superman he has just finished being interviewed by Lois and flown her around Metropo-

lis. She is star-struck. As Clark waits for Lois, he’s hunching over, trying to appear timid and unpowerful. He has a moment when he decides to tell Lois his real identity; he stands up tall, takes his glasses off and changes the tilt of his head. His body fully assumes a position of power and it is a pleasure to watch this embodiment of power as he allows himself to take up more space. Reeve did a fantastic job in that scene.” — Rosenberg

Letters

We would like to hear from you, so please don’t hesitate to share your thoughts.

We welcome letters to the editor including your opinions and feedback regarding news, events and issues published here. Traditional letters to the editor offer an opportunity to start a new discussion, share your opinions or provide information you believe is of interest to other readers.

Desert Exposure reserves the right to review, edit or refuse letters to the editor. Include your full name, city, state and phone number. Only your name and city will appear in print, but we need to be able to verify the author.

The views and opinions expressed in letters to the editor published by Desert Exposure do not necessarily reflect those of Desert Exposure or its advertisers. It is the responsibility of the reader to research facts/opinions expressed in the letters to the editor to form their own opinions from an informed position.

Elva K Österreich is editor of Desert Exposure and would love to meet Desert Exposure readers during her office hours in Silver City on Thursday, Jan. 25 at the Tranquil Buzz Coffee House, located at the corner of Yankee and Texas streets. If that is not a good time, Elva will be glad to arrange another day to meet and you can always reach her at editor@desertexposure.com or by cell phone at 575-443-4408.



LETTERS

continued from page 5

my father lived the last 20 years of his life.

There was a reason he wanted to name the streets after these poets. Both my father,

and my uncle Dick Gilmore grew up during the depression, but it was Ed Gilmore who always loved the arts and culture. He adored opera, art and ballet,

as well as poetry. He had a collection of books from each of the poets on our bookshelves in our home at 851 West Ash. He sometimes would recite short

excerpts from Gunga Din.

So, please set the record straight. Dick Gilmore did not name the streets in Whitehill Estates after these foregone po-

ets. It was the brainchild of my father, Ed Gilmore.

Krista Gilmore
Deming

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ON SCREEN

'By the Sweat of Their Brows: The Life of the Miner'

Fort Bayard Historic Preservation Society announces winter film series

The Fort Bayard Historic Preservation Society will present its next film series beginning on Thursday, January 18, at 7 p.m. in the Santa Clara National Guard Armory. The series is entitled "By the Sweat of Their Brows: The Life of the Miner", and will run on Thursday evenings from January 18th through March 8th. Each movie will be introduced by a member of the Society, and concessions will be available for purchase. Dates and titles are as follows:

Jan. 18 — "The Mine Wars", a PBS documentary brings to life the decades-long struggle that turned the coalfields of West Virginia into a blood-soaked war zone where basic constitutional rights and freedoms were violently contested.

Jan. 25 — "How Green Was My Valley" is a classic movie released in 1941, starring Roddy McDowall, Donald Crisp and Maureen O'Hara. It follows the struggles of a family in a small Welsh mining town. It was

nominated for 10 Oscars, and won Best Picture.

Feb. 1 — "The Molly Maguires" starring Sean Connery and Richard Harris traces the battle between Irish-American miners and the mine owners in the coal fields of America.

Feb. 8 — "The Treasure of the Sierra Madre" starring Humphrey Bogart and Walter Huston, examines how the quest for gold, and wealth in general, can expose the worst side of human nature in terms of greed and suspicion. Made in Mexico, and released in 1948, it is considered a Hollywood classic.

Feb. 15 — "October Sky", acclaimed as the Best Family Film of 1999 is set in Coalwood, West Virginia. It follows the quest by a talented youngster to break away from family expectations that he toil in the coal mines as the previous generations of his family had, in order to pursue his dreams in the space industry. The film examines the fami-

MINER

continued on page 24

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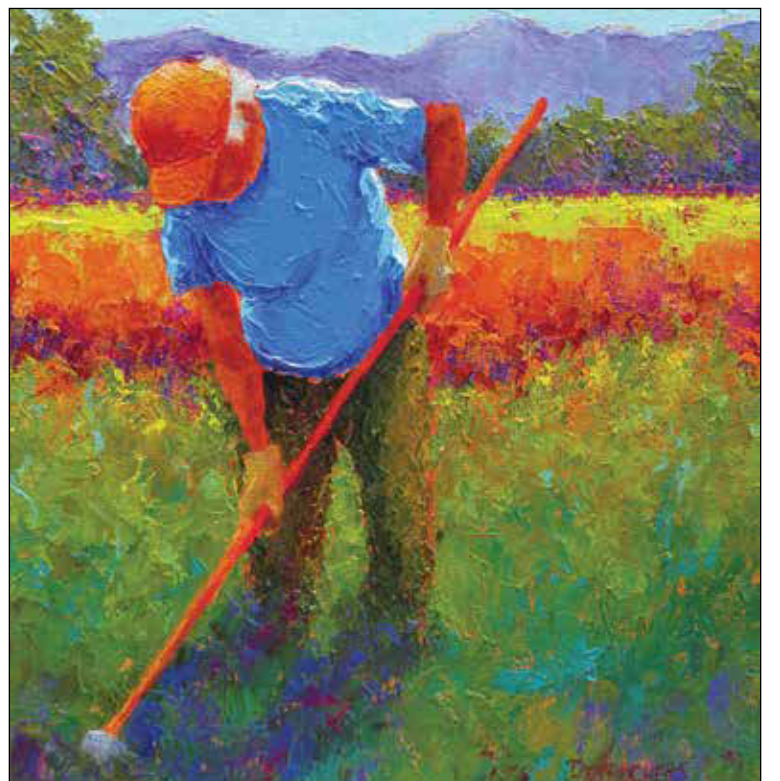
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ABOUT THE COVER

Jeri Desrochers has been painting in the Las Cruces/Rio Grande Valley area for long enough to be sought out and honored by many.

Her work, as well as that of sculptor Diana LeMarbe, is part of the "Braceros- Melding History and Art" exhibit at the Deming Arts Center opening Jan. 6.

The show begins with a live event journey into the past. Meeting at the Transportation Room of the Deming Luna Mimbres Museum at 1 p.m. Raymond Cobos will talk about the history of the Braceros. A walking tour

back to the Art Center encountering actors portraying Braceros giving their names, stories, and dreams. The exhibit runs through Jan. 30 at the Deming Art Center.

Desrochers confesses to an emotional reaction to the intense light and color of the western landscape which inspires her to paint. The agricultural lands of the Rio Grande valley have a special place in her heart as she grew up on a small family-run farm. Derochers' paintings seek to honor the people who work close to the earth.



Cybill Shepherd



Pam Grier



RJ Mitte

MARCH MADNESS

On Screen, In Person

Cybill Shepherd, Pam Grier, RJ Mitte coming to 2018 film festival

The 2018 Las Cruces International Film Festival (LCIFF) will screen outstanding films and welcome major celebrities, including television and movie actors Cybill Shepherd and Pam Greer and actor, producer and model, RJ Mitte.

Shepherd starred in the late-1980 television series "Moonlighting" opposite Bruce Willis and in her own situation comedy, "Cybill" in the late 1990s. Her film credits include "The Last Picture Show," "The Heartbreak Kid" and "Taxi Driver."

Shepherd made her Broadway debut in 2012 in the revival of Gore Vidal's "The Best Man." She has recorded 11 albums and, in 2000, published her memoirs: "Cybill Disobedience: How I Survived Beauty Pageants, Elvis, Sex, Bruce Willis, Lies, Marriage, Motherhood, Hollywood, and the Irrepressible Urge to Say What I Think."

Grier's acting career covers almost 50 years and includes Golden Globe and Emmy award nominations. She is perhaps best known for her starring role in Quentin Tarantino's 1997 film "Jackie Brown."

Mitte is best known for her performance as Walter "Flynn" White Jr., the son of a high school science teacher turned drug dealer (played by Bryan Cranston) on the 2008-13 AMC television series "Breaking Bad," which was filmed in Albuquerque.

Mitte, 25, will attend the film festival as a celebrity presenter and will be inducted into the New Mexico Film and Television Hall of Fame, according to an LCIFF news release.

Mitte was diagnosed with cerebral palsy at age 3, and wore leg braces for much of his childhood. He serves as a celebrity ambassador for United Cerebral Palsy.

Shepherd and Grier (along with James Brolin), star in "Rose," the film selected as LCIFF's opening-night screening, which begins at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 7, 2018 at Allen Theatres Cineport 10 at Mesilla Valley Mall, 700 S. Telshor Blvd., according to a film festival news release.

Shepherd and Grier will attend the screening and the ques-

Film festival poster release party is Jan. 26

The Las Cruces International Film Festival will host its annual poster release party beginning at 6 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 26, 2018 at the Cutter Gallery, 2640 El Paseo Road, festival Executive Director Ross Marks said.

"We will reveal Mike Groves' 2018 collectible poster and sell VIP tickets (to the festival) at a discounted rate at that time," Marks said.

"People should take advantage of the discounted passes and get a beautiful signed, collectible Mike Groves film festival poster.

tion-and-answer session that follows. There will also be an after-party with Shepherd and Grier for VIP Ticket holders, the news release said.

Shepherd will also receive LCIFF's Outstanding Achievement in Entertainment Award on Thursday night, March 8.

"Rose" was filmed on location in Truth or Consequences, New Mexico and was written and directed by Las Cruces' Rod McCall.

It follows Rose (Shepherd), a recently disabled and widowed ex-cop who discovers that she may have a life-threatening illness, according to the LCIFF release.

"On her journey, Rose discovers more than just the simple beauty of New Mexico when she meets – and falls in love with – Max (Brolin), an old cowboy who comes to a crossroads of his own."

"She decides to go on a solo road trip in a motorized wheelchair through the Land of Enchantment in an effort to reconcile with her estranged son and make her peace with life," the news release said.

"We are excited to have 'Rose' as our opening night film because it was shot locally by my dear friend, local filmmaker Rod McCall," LCIFF Executive Director Ross Marks said.

"One of the main objectives of the film festival to is to grow the entertainment industry in southern New Mexico," Marks said. "There is no better way to do that than to showcase the films made here, like 'Rose.' The fact that 'Rose' is a fabulous film with a terrific cast makes it all the more sweet.

"We are excited to host 'Rose,' director Rod McCall, producer

Greg Clonts, Cybill Shepherd, Pam Grier and all the folks that helped make the film possible," he said. "It will be a great opening night of what promises to be the best Las Cruces International

Film Festival yet."

"The cast of "Rose" also includes a number of local actors, including Mark Vasconcellos, Cassandra Rochelle Fetters, Melissa Chambers and David Edwards.

During the festival, LCIFF will present awards for short film, short subject documentary, student film, feature films (including grand jury prize, audience choice award, best screenplay, best cinematography, best director and feature documentary (including grand jury prize, audience choice award and best documentary).

VIP tickets for the film festival are \$150. All film and workshop

access passes are \$75. A \$20 daily screening pass provides access to the opening night film and all day on Thursday, March 8. Single tickets, if still available, can be purchased for \$8 at Cineport 10 on March 7.

For all other ticket prices and packages, visit LasCrucesFilmFest.com.

Tickets can also be purchased at the Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St. downtown, and at Eventbrite.

"My advice is for film fans to get their tickets to the film festival soon as we expect that many of the events, like opening night will sell out quickly," Marks said.

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The Shower Curtain Rod

Technology sometimes chooses people

“Honey,” my wife said, giving me her sweetest smile. “I need you to fix the shower curtain in dad’s bathroom.”

“Again?” I questioned. “Again,” she confirmed. “But I just fixed it,” I griped. “Well, fix it again,” she countered.

“It can’t be broken,” I insisted.

“And yet it is,” she insisted back.

“Again?” I mumbled to myself, because I knew the only one in this room interested in hearing my complaints was me.

I must have fixed that darn thing — what? — eight, nine, 10 times? It seems I retired from a job I enjoyed just to spend that retirement fixing my father’s shower curtain. It’s not that it’s hard to fix, because it’s not, but that’s not the problem.

“The problem,” I explained to my wife, “is that dad uses the curtain for support when he gets out of the shower. We have the same kind of rod in our shower, and how many times has it fallen? ZERO times.”

“I know,” my wife agreed. That ended the conversation, because how do you argue with someone who’s agreeing with you? What she left out, however, was, “He’s your dad.” My wife is good that way. She never tells me, “He’s your dad.” She just tells me to fix the things he breaks.

That’s the funny thing. At one time my father could fix anything, and I mean anything. During World War Two, when he was stationed in the Philippines, he built a washing machine while fighting the Japanese. Well, not exactly while he was fighting the Japanese, but in between fighting the Japanese.

I know that story is true, because I’ve seen pictures of the washing machine. It was essentially a barrel rigged to the front wheel of an Army Jeep. Crude, but effective.

Had washing machines even been invented yet in the 1940s, or was this an original invention of his? That seems like too much work to look up, so let’s just say they weren’t. I’d rather continue writing this story than spend my time looking up unnecessary facts.

Just then, my father walked



Jim and Henry Duchene’s father built a washing machine out of a barrel rigged to a Jeep when he was stationed in the Philippines during World War II. (Photo courtesy the Duchenes)

into the kitchen and sat down, ready for breakfast.

“What happened to the shower curtain, dad?” I asked him, putting aside the book I was reading, the one I told you about in my October column. It’s called “The Joke Man: Bow To Stern,” and it’s written by my favorite comedian, Jackie Martling. I had ordered it on jackiethel jokeman.com, and it was shipped out on the 24th of that same month. I got the book a few days after, but haven’t been able to find the time to read it.

I’ve been too busy fixing shower curtain rods.

Hmm... maybe I should have ordered a book on home repair instead.

My father looked over his shoulder to see if my wife was on her way with his food. She wisely kept her back to us.

“What?” he said, turning back.

“The shower curtain,” I repeated.

“It’s broken,” he said.

“What happened?” I asked him.

“It just fell. I could fix it, but I know you like to take care of this stuff.”

I don’t know where he got the idea I like to fix things, because I don’t. I remember, back when I knew everything, I told him that when I grew up I was going to hire handymen to do all my work for me. He laughed at that. When I grew up, I understood why he laughed, even though I was offended at the time.

“It sure does break a lot,” I told him.

“Yeah,” my dad said. “It sure does.” I guess he felt the need to say something else, because he added, “They just don’t make things the way they used to.”

I tried to arch an eyebrow the way my wife does when she’s irritated with me, but I probably only managed to look like Popeye the Sailor, rather than a skeptical son.

“They sure don’t,” I agreed, sarcastically.

My wife put a plate of food in front of him, and my father began to eat with the enthusiasm of a man who doesn’t have to constantly fix the things he breaks and leaves behind.

“The problem is,” my dad continued, pointing a forkful of scrambled egg at me, “there’s something wrong with the rod in the shower area, it keeps falling.”

My father emphasized his point by doing his David Copperfield impersonation and making the egg on his fork disappear.

“Yeah, they just don’t make things like they used to,” he repeated, chewing his breakfast. “Stuff, nowadays, is cheap. Those characters that built this house knew they were using cheap materials. That’s why the rods keep falling by themselves.”

“Not the ‘rods,’ dad,” I wanted to tell him. “The rod in my shower is fine.”

My wife glanced over her shoulder to see my reaction. It reminded me to keep my temper. I take issue with my dad telling me we live in a cheap house. My house is not cheap. Just the garage is probably worth more than the house I grew up in. I’d tell you how much it cost me, but I don’t want any recently unemployed former Chicago community organizers showing up at my front door.

So I fixed it.

What’s the big deal?

And three more times, before the month was out, I had to fix it again.

When I’m not busy making the same repairs over and over again, you can find me doing nothing at RaisingMyFather.BlogSpot.com, JimDuchene.BlogSpot.com, or @JimDuchene.

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Wild horses drinking at Sandwash Basin Water Hole in Colorado. (Photo by Laurie Ford)

WILD HORSES • LAURIE FORD

Running to Freedom

“What’s next?” President Trump asks, referring to the destruction of historical monuments, and the history of our country being “ripped apart,” during a speech to the Heritage Foundation last October.

What’s next? Further attacks on symbols of our American history — only these are living, beautiful, breathing ones, and the onslaught is by his own administration. If certain provisions in the FY 2018 budget are passed, tens of thousands of wild horses and burros will not only be ripped apart from their homes and families, but will die.

Mitochondrial DNA science indicates that the horse originated in North America, died out, and was re-introduced by the Spanish in the 15th century. Beginning with these Spanish horses that escaped from explorers and settlers, the mustang became an integral part of the American landscape. Over time, they were joined by other breeds of escapees — each one representing a segment of American history.

From the paints and appaloosas of the Native American tribes to the draft stock of eastern settlers, these horses played a vital role in the culture and development of the west as they carried men and women through the historical events that shaped our country. Hundreds of thousands fought, and died, in countless wars to protect the essence of freedom, and even today they continue to be recruited to do the same. Although the Spanish blood has become diluted, the spirit and perseverance of the mustang — a breed we equate with freedom — has not.

But, by the end of the 19th century the words of the Spanish explorer, Herman Cortez, “next to God we owe our victory to the horses” were forgotten, and America waged its own war on the very animals that had brought us success. Much like what is occurring today, their presence was interfering with a booming cattle industry and further development, and the solution was to eradicate them from the very land they had helped fight for. The cruelty these animals have suffered at the hands of man has not stopped since then — it is only the methods that have changed.

In 1971 our wild horses and

burros were given a temporary reprieve with the signing of the Wild Horse and Burro Act by Congress who agreed they were “living symbols of the history and spirit of the west” and should be protected from “capture, branding, harassment and death” — protected from the very things that our government is practicing today and embracing for the future.

When the Act was passed, most of horses and burros were to be managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) as the primary use on the 53 million acres of land they roamed. Today, not only has a third of that acreage been eliminated, but they must share their remaining designated habitat with livestock, energy projects and other forms of public use. In addition, the U.S. Forest Service is responsible for the horses and burros found on national forest land (2.5 million acres), and the small herds that roam federal park lands, such as Theodore Roosevelt and Assateague Island national parks, are managed by the National Park Service.

The BLM was given the task to decide how many wild horses and burros the land, along with its mandated uses, could sustain — a number referred to as the Appropriate Management Level — or AML. Rather than take a scientific approach, the BLM focused on inaccurate and inconsistent population surveys, and the availability of forage and its allocation — the majority going to livestock. The current national AML is set at 26,715 wild horses and burros — a single animal for every 9,171 acres — and continues to be a central point of controversy.

To satisfy the AML, the BLM has been conducting round — ups for decades, removing the excess horses and burros from their land and placing them in short — term holding facilities. From there, they are either adopted or sold with limitations — the remaining animals are then sent to long term facilities.

As of March 2017, there were almost 46,000 horses and burros in holding facilities.

Only 624 have been placed in eco sanctuaries that raise public awareness and provide ecotourism opportunities.

An estimated 73,000 — in addition to 10-13,000 2017 foals — still roam

free, almost 60,000 over the BLM’s projected AML.

The FY 2018 budget request to Congress proposes shaving 10 million from the Wild Horse and Burro Program by removing some existing restrictions on the sale, and the disposition of excess animals — that includes the 60,000 mentioned above. In short, to deal with the imploding program, the answer is to kill the horses and burros, or sell them, without limitation, to those who will.

Within the budget lurks the Appropriations Bills — for the Department of the Interior and Department of Agriculture — that will ultimately determine the fate of these animals. In September, the House passed a combined appropriations bill that would permit, in accordance with the proposed budget, the BLM to “dispose” of the excess, unadoptable horses and burros as they see fit. The bill did not prohibit the funding of horse meat inspections by the USDA — opening the door to horse slaughter resuming in the US. The Senate, on the other hand, has barred the BLM from killing the animals, and the USDA from funding the inspections. Now, the two versions of bills will be merged, and the real battle ensues as to what stays, and what goes.

The Senate also requested the BLM — which is funded by the Dept. of Interior — to come up with humane and politically viable solutions to manage the wild horses and burros. It is unlikely that this would include the recent recommendations from the BLM’s Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board to permanently phase out the long term holding facilities, and the animals within them, or to consider a proposal from Russia to purchase large amounts of horses for their big cat re-wilding project.

Where will the BLM find these solutions? “Look at the science,” affirms Karen Herman, co-founder of Sky Mountain Wild Horse Sanctuary here in New Mexico. The sanctuary, along with partners Mt. Taylor Mustangs and the Carson National Forest, implemented and funded the first use of the fertility control vaccine Porcine Zona Pel-

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WILD

continued on page 13

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Exhibit: "Melding History and Art"
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@ 1:00 pm Raymond Cobos will give a presentation about the Braceros at the Transportation Room in the Deming Luna Mimbres Museum, 301 South Silver. Guests will then do a walking tour to the Deming Arts Center interacting with actors portraying Braceros.

Exhibit will be January 3, 2018 through January 30, 2018

Artists are: Diana Le Marbe, Jeri Deroschers, Raymond Cobos, and Richard Boutwell

Deming Arts Center, 100 S Gold St, Deming NM 88030
575-546-3663 Check us out on Facebook

This project is supported in part by New Mexico Arts, a division of the Department of Cultural Affairs **www.demingarts.org**



Josué Rosales works with fellow patients at Vision in Action asylum in Mexico.

SOUTH OF THE BORDER • MORGAN SMITH
Redemption
The stories of Josué and Viridiana

"I used to feel like a snake crawling along the ground," said Josué Rosales describing his days as a heroin addict on the streets of Juárez. We're at Vision in Action, the mental asylum in the desert on the west side of Juárez where he has been a patient since 2007.

Born in Juárez, he migrated to the Los Angeles at a young age and almost immediately began getting in trouble with drugs.

"I grew up with heroin." The result was almost 10 years in prisons like San Quentin, Susanville and Folsom, then deportation and finally life as a street addict back in Juárez.

Finally, he collapsed from drug overuse and was taken to Vision in Action on Valentine's Day in 2007, close to death with one hand so infected that he lost several fingers. For months, he was too weak to stand or walk; other patients had to feed and bathe him. Then, as he was recovering, a voice said to him, "Kill this person inside of you who is killing you" and he decided to begin caring for the others in the asylum.

This included washing and bathing them, keeping watch over the main patio where most of them congregate during daytime and, eventually, being placed in charge of dispensing the medications by Pastor José Antonio Galván, the founder and director of Vision in Action.

Several years ago, Rosales began studying to be a nurse at the Centro Medico de la Mujer and in June, 2017 he received his degree.

"Before they brought me here, I was just garbage," he said. "Now I am proud."

Yocelyn Viridiana Morales, or Viri as everyone calls her, has a story that involves drug abuse, life as a pole dancer, depression, a bi-polar diagnosis and commitments to several mental and rehab facilities. She was brought to Vision in Action in May of 2016 and quickly made an im-



Viri and Benito at their wedding.

pact. In fact, on Feb. 8, 2017 she married another patient, Benito Torres, in a beautiful ceremony presided over by Pastor Galván.

"I was always taking medications in those other facilities," she said, "and always felt drugged up and unable to think for myself."

Despite her problems, Viri has a talent for numbers. When Galván discovered this, he asked her help with Vision in Action's financial records. Now she works countless hours every day, knows how much money is spent on gasoline, vehicle repairs, food, clothing and all the other key elements of running a facility like this with 120 patients and has come up with evidence,

for example, that it would be cheaper to buy a new pickup truck than continue the endless and costly repairs necessary to keep the old fleet of donated junkers on the road.

Isn't it odd that two patients like these could become leaders in the management of a mental hospital here in the US if they would hire a former felon, addict and deportee to distribute the medications and be in charge of monitoring the patients. But if Josué didn't distribute the medications, who would? If Viri wasn't available to do the books,

WILD

continued from page 11

lucida, or PZP, on the forest's wild horses.

Although it was the BLM, in the 1970s, that sparked the initial research to control population through fertility control, they have been slow to embrace the supporting scientific results. In many instances it has been wild horse advocates – in cooperation with government agencies — who have pioneered ahead with administering PZP and, in less than a decade, have been able to stabilize the population of targeted herds. A 2013 economic model published in the Journal of Zoo and Wildlife Medicine determined that the BLM could reach its management goals within 12 years using fertility control — saving taxpayers millions by eliminating costly round-ups – estimated at \$1,000 per horse — and long-term care – up to \$50,000 per animal over their lifetime. The vaccine, at \$24 a dose, is administered every 1 to 3 years with a single booster following the initial dose. The well — known Assateague wild horses — managed by the National Park Service — have been receiving fertility control for more than 30 years and today are a thriving, healthy, sustainable herd.

These partnerships between wild horse and burro advocates, and the BLM and USFS, are crucial to the survival of our country's wild horses and burros. Most of these groups are made up of dedicated volunteers, who share in a mission to protect the horses and burros and their surrounding habitat. Not only do these volunteers assist with on, and off, range programs,

What is next?

You can contact your representatives in Congress, and the involved government agencies, to voice your concerns. And, you can stay informed by visiting: americanwildhorsecampaign.org
returntofreedom.org
www.blm.gov/programs/wild-horse-and-burro

but in doing so, reduce costs and personnel time of their partner agencies. Providing sanctuaries, training, and placement for those animals removed from the range, raising public awareness, and devoting countless hours of their time are only a few additional examples of how organizations, such as Sky Mountain, have helped, and will continue to help, protect our wild horses and burros.

Managing our wild horse and burro herds through euthanization, or reopening horse slaughter, is not a humane, science — based solution. Neither is the practice of gather and removal which, in a 2013 study by the National Academy of Science, found “likely to keep the population at a size that maximizes population growth rates, which in turn maximizes the number of animals that must be removed to holding facilities.” Despite the Academy's recommendation to increase the use of fertility control to manage herd populations, it has never been allocated more than 4% of the Wild Horses and Burro Program's budget, and the upcoming budget would practically zero out even this miniscule funding.

The words of Bob Seager, “living to run, and running to live” are a



perfect assessment of the situation our wild horses and burros are currently facing. The question is, can they outrun the antiquated methods of controlling their population, and the special interest groups intent on destroying them?

Yes, President Trump, it has to be stopped. It's heritage. And yes, it needs to be preserved. I could not have said it any better.

Laurie Ford moved to New Mexico 14 years ago, photography and horses have always been her passion. For the past five years she has been travelling around the west, camping in wild horse areas to observe and photograph the animals in their natural environment.



REDEMPTION

continued from page 12

who would? We believe that mental health programs are underfunded in the United States but here in Juárez the amount of public money available is a pittance of what is available in our country. So, you have to improvise. That means that the better functioning patients perform almost all of the work of managing the facility.

“Work is therapy,” Galván said. “Being useful and productive brings dignity and pride.”

One example is the washing and drying of the blankets that keep each of the patients warm at night. These blankets are washed every day and then taken out into the desert and draped over mesquite bushes to dry. At about 4:30 or 5 p.m. every

day, another patient named Ángel leads some 40 ragged looking patients out into the desert to retrieve them. Many of them are incoherent yet they gather up the blankets and return to the asylum as the smoothest functioning team you can imagine. In less than 15 minutes, all the blankets have been retrieved.

Josué and Viri are now different people. They have repented; they are now committed to serving others and have found ways in which they can do this effectively. It is Galván who has inspired the change with his endless optimism, his belief in becoming productive and useful and his ability to bring out the strength and goodness in people whose histories have been dark.



Josué Rosales Pastor José Antonio Galván, the founder and director of Vision in Action.

**Braceros—
Melding History and Art**

how the U.S. was fed during World War II

Diana LeMarbe sculptor • Jeri Desrochers painter
Raymond Cobos historian • Richard Boutwell fabricator




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Silver City

New work by **Jean-robert p béffort** at a)s p...”A”© e Contemporary Studio•Art•Gallery, 110 W. 7th St. in Silver City. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays and 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sundays and by appointment. Info: 575-538-3333.



Mariah's Copper Quail in Silver City is closed for renovations this month.

Mariah's Copper Quail Gallery at 211 A. N. Texas St, in Silver City will be temporarily closed Friday, Jan. 5-26, for a fabulous new upgrade. New year, new look. The gallery will be showing off its makeover beginning Saturday, Jan. 27. Info: 575-388-2646.



Finn's Gallery will be closed for reorganization for January.

Finn's Gallery in Silver City will be closed Jan. 2-24. They are compiling inventory and

ARTS EXPOSURE

Arts Scene

Upcoming area art happenings

working on production. In February expect a **Bruce Bloy** art show, *Chocolate Fantasia* and Chinese New Year event. Info: finns406bullard@gmail.com.

Deming



Braceros, Mexican laborers in the U.S., are the subject of exhibit at the Deming Art Center through January.

Sculpture, painting, wood-working and performance art will come together to tell a story that is an often-forgotten part of New Mexico history. **“Braceros – Melding History and Art”** opens at the **Deming Art Center**, 100 S. Gold Ave. in Deming, on Saturday, Jan. 6. In 1942, as thousands of American men left to fight in World War II the pro-

gram was developed by the U.S. government to provide labor for farms, dairies and railroads. Lasting until 1964, this program provided millions of Mexican workers with employment and thousands of farmers with a way to address the massive labor shortage. Regular gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Info: 575-544-7708 or www.demingarts.org.

Alamogordo/ Cloudcroft

The Tunnel Stop Gallery is located approximately one mile east of the tunnel on U.S. Highway 82 heading toward Cloudcroft. The gallery is open 9 a.m.-6 p.m., seven days a week, year-round. There is a large garden room where many different classes are held year-round (jewelry, pottery, stained glass, spinning and weaving, TaiChi, flute playing and more). The building is 5,000 sq. ft. and it is filled with 300-plus local artists. Info: 575-682-5676.

Las Cruces



“Fly Away Home,” is on display at the Doña Ana Arts and Cultural Center Gallery in January.

The Doña Ana Arts Council (DAAC) Arts & Cultural Center's gallery opening reception for visual artist **Laurel Wethersbee** will be held from 5-7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 13. Attendees can meet the artist and discuss her work while enjoy-

ing refreshments. The gallery is located at the new DAAC Arts & Cultural Center at 1740 Calle de Mercado, Suite D, in the Bulletin Plaza. Weathersbee graduated Summa Cum Laude with a BA in art from Park College in Missouri and has taken numerous workshops and seminars in art from regionally, nationally, and internationally-recognized instructors in the intervening years. She has taught workshops for adults and children and is a signature member of the New Mexico Watercolor Society. Each month, DAAC showcases a different local artist. Info: www.daarts.org for additional information or 575-523-6403.



“Masks, Maidens and More” is the exhibit at the Tombaugh Gallery through Jan. 26.

A show and sale of gourd **“Masks, Maidens and More,”** features the work of gourd artists **Joanna Bradley, Sylvia Henderson, Karen Phillips, and Kathe Stark** continues 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Wednesdays-Saturdays through Jan. 26 at **Tombaugh Gallery** inside the Unitarian Universalist Church, 2000 S. Solano Drive. The exhibit features functional, spiritual and whimsical objects. Info: Lurene John, 503-490-4908.

“MakeShift,” an exhibition put together by partners and artist duo **Ramon and Christian Cardenas**, who together

form the artist collaborative **Lxs Dos**, continues at the **Branigan Cultural Center**, 501 N. Main St. through March 10, 2018. The exhibit comes from the artists' need to create and express themselves using materials and resource available to the them. The work is ethnographic in nature, describing the socio-cultural relations of the United States/Mexico border region and its people. Branigan Cultural Center is open 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Saturdays. Info: 575-541-2154, museums.las-cruces.org.



“Winter Beach,” above, by Penny Duncklee, and “Fragile,” left, by Dani Anderson, are part of the “My Earth” Exhibit at the Southwest Environmental Center.

The **10 a.m.-ers** are exhibiting at the **Southwest Environmental Center** in Las Cruces. The show opens at 5 p.m., Jan. 5. **Downtown Art Ramble.** The exhibit is titled **“My Earth”** and will reflect what that means to the exhibiting artists. Info: Contact Kathleen Deasy at 828-467-9060 or kdarts2u@gmail.com.

Rokoko Art Gallery presents the opening of a mixed media exhibit titled **“Opposites Attract.”** An opening reception for participating artists will be held from 5-8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 13. Snacks and refreshments will be served. The exhibit closes Saturday, March 17. The gallery is located in Mesilla at 1785 Avenida de Mercado (cross street Calle de Alvarez). Info: A.me at 575-522-5553.

ARTS SCENE

continued on page 15

Mariah's Copper Quail Gallery
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Dancer Betty Serna Cárdenas performing for the USO, ca. 1947. (Photo Courtesy of Elizabeth Serna Cárdenas)



DANCE EXPOSURE

Flamenco Experience

Silver City Museum holds 'Evening in Spain' dinner fundraiser

Silver City Museum is featuring "An Evening in Spain," exclusive dinner — a Spanish themed fundraiser to include a VIP museum tour and delicious Spanish meal with a live performance of Spanish guitar music. The guests are invited to enjoy a private tour of the museum and a dinner at Café Izero6 on Wednesday, Jan. 24 to benefit the Silver City Museum's exhibition and education programs.

The evening begins with a private tour of the newest exhibition "Flamenco: From Spain to New Mexico" by museum director Carmen Vendelin at 5:30 p.m. The exhibition is the first ever to show the history and develop-

ment of flamenco and its treasured role within the cultural environment of New Mexico and will be the largest, interactive exhibit the museum has hosted to date.

Guests will then travel from the museum to Café Izero6 (106 North Texas Street), where entertainment begins at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner served at 7. Chef Jake Politte has crafted a beautiful menu of traditional Spanish cuisine and a decadent dessert that will have your taste buds swearing they are in Seville. The menu includes: Gambas al Ajillo, Paella de Carne, Ensalada de Invierno, Pequeños Pasteles y Café. Well-loved, local performer Farhad Arasteh

will play classical Spanish guitar starting at 6:30 and during the meal to complete the Flamenco experience.

Tickets for the event are on sale in the Silver City Museum Society store for \$150 per person. Purchase tickets over the phone by calling 575-538-5921 (extension 2) or in person at the Silver City Museum Society Store.

"Flamenco: From Spain to New Mexico" has been organized by the Museum of International Folk Art in Santa Fe and is touring through Guest Curator Traveling Exhibitions. The exhibition will run from Jan. 13 through May 28.

ARTS SCENE

continued from page 14

Las Cruces artist Frank Peacock's "Selections from the Orchard Series" paintings and drawings inspired by the pecan orchards of the Mesilla Valley, will be on exhibit through Jan. 25 at **Mas Art Frame and Art Supplies**, 126 S. Main St. downtown.



Connie Garcia's work is on display at the Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum.

Las Cruces artist **Connie June Garcia** (1950-2017) had a creative flair and a love of art that is evident in her work. Featured in the **Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum's Arts Corridor** through April 1, 2018, she expressed her creativity through tile, foil, drawing, contemporary

painting, cards and more. Connie began creating her artwork in the 1970s, starting with batik art, which she sold at art shows throughout the U.S. The museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road in Las Cruces. Regular hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Saturday and noon-5 p.m. Sunday. Info: 575-522-4100, www.nmfarmandranchmuseum.org.



Alan Small's work is featured at the Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery.

The **Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery**, 2470-A Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla, across from the Fountain Theatre, features two local artists for the month of January, **Nanci Bissell** and **Weeden "Rockwell" Nichols**. Bissell has been an educator, teacher, principal and assistant principal

in the elementary schools, retiring after a 26-year career. Nichols has been a photographer for 48 years, mastering a great deal of technology of cameras and darkrooms. He enjoys simple compositions of shape and color, landscapes and seascapes. The gallery's newest member, **Alan Small**, has a diverse background including landscape design, woodturning, pen, ink and watercolor. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Sunday. Info: 575-522-2933 or www.mesillavalleyfinearts.com.

Rosemary McLoughlin shares her love of Ireland and its rich culture in "Beyond the Familiar" which continues through Jan. 6 at the **Glen Cutter Gallery**, 2640 El Paseo Road. Hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday at 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday. McLoughlin was born in Brooklyn and moved to New Mexico in 1973. She taught art at New Mexico State University until 1990 when she became education director at NMSU Art Gallery. In 1998 she retired to become a full-time professional artist. Her show's paintings depict colorful tales of rich and colorful voyages by Saint Brendan, a 6th century saint visited by an angel who told him he must go forth and build monasteries. Info: 575-541-0658.

Calling for Artists

Tularosa

The **MERC**, a fine art and gift shop co-operative located at 316 Granado St. in Tularosa, is seeking new artists. There are two levels of participation with varying levels of commitment and obligation. Interested artists can email founder, Darryl Willison at greatrepm@gmail.com.

Doña Ana County

The **Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery** at 2470-A Calle De Guadalupe, across from the Fountain Theatre in Las Cruces, is accepting applications from

artists to display their art. For details, stop by the gallery, open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily or call 575-522-2933.

Rokoko Art Gallery announces a call for artists working in all media for an upcoming group show opening Jan. 13, 2018. The event is titled "Opposites Attract" and work should reflect this theme. Submissions are due in the gallery, 1785 Avenida de Mercado, in Mesilla, on Saturday Jan. 6. The entry fee is \$15 per piece. Info: A.me at 575-522-5553

EXPLORING CULTURE

Native Voices

Native Peoples' Concepts of Health and Illness exhibit at Branigan Cultural Center

The traveling exhibit "Native Voices: Native Peoples' concept of Health and Illness" opens runs through Jan. 13, at the Branigan Cultural Center. "Native Voices" examines how wellness and illness interconnect with cultural life.

Stories drawn from both past and present examine how the determinants of health for American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native

Hawaiians are tied to community, the land, and spirit.

Admission is free to the Branigan Cultural Center, located at 501 North Main Street.

The museum is open Tuesday through Friday from 10am to 4:30pm, and Saturday from 9am to 4:30pm. For additional information, visit the website at museums.las-cruces.org or call 575-541-2154.

Finn's Gallery

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* call for January hours • 575.534.1136

ARTS EXPOSURE

Studio Art Classes

Las Cruces Museum of Art offers variety of workshops

The Las Cruces Museum of Art is excited to announce that the Studio Art Classes for Spring 2018 is open. Classes will be offered in two seven-week sessions; session one begins Wednesday, Jan. 24, and runs through Saturday, March 10 and Session Two begins Wednesday, March 28, and

runs through Saturday, May 12.

The Studio Art Classes exist to give the community access to creative learning opportunities. Children and adults are given the opportunity to learn new skills or enhance existing knowledge while guided by local, experienced and qualified professional artists. Students are encouraged to have fun and be inspired to discover their in-

ner creativity through various class options including beginning and intermediate/advanced ceramics, oil and watercolor painting, printmaking and more! Classes are offered to all levels of artists.

Register in person at the Museum of Nature and Science between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, located at 411 North Main

Street. Registration will close for session one on Saturday, January 20, and for session two on Saturday, March 24.

The Museum of Art is open from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday and is located at 491 N. Main Street. For information about the classes offered museums.las-cruces.org or call 575-541-2137.

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ON THE SHELF

Owl in a Straw Hat

Rudolfo Anaya's New Mexico fairy tale is a hoot

Rudolfo Anaya's works of fiction and poetry have spread a love of literature and an appreciation of New Mexican culture across generations. Best known for his 1972 bestseller, "Bless Me, Ultima," Anaya has lent his talent to dozen children's books. His latest, "Owl in a Straw Hat," published by the Museum of New Mexico Press, continues his mission as an educator and literacy advocate. Set against the magic and lore of northern New Mexico, "Owl in a Straw Hat" reminds young readers of the importance of reading skills while encouraging



parents to take an active role in teaching reading.

The story follows a young owl named Ollie who lives in an orchard with his parents in northern New Mexico. Ollie is supposed to

attend school but prefers to hang out with his friends Raven and Crow instead. Ollie's parents discover he cannot read and they send Ollie off to see his grandmother, Nana, a teacher and farmer in Chimayó. Along the way, Ollie's illiteracy causes mischief as he meets up with some shady characters on the path including Gloria La Zorra (a fox), Trickster Coyote, and a hungry wolf named Luis Lobo who has sold some bad house plans to the Three Little Pigs.

"Owl in a Straw Hat" includes 40 original, full-color illustrations by New Mexico artist El Moisés.



"Nearly Heaven," watercolor by Penny Duncklee.

ARTS EXPOSURE

Colorful Trails

Studio exploration in Las cruces

The following artists are opening their studios to visitors from noon to 5 p.m., Jan. 13

Penny Duncklee

Watercolors, prints and cards. Duncklee's studio is in a farm house built around 1878. Her studio is located at 1201 Second St. Info: 575-523-1889.

Roy Van der AA

Nonobjective media

2645 Dona Anna Road Las Cruces, Studio is located behind the house on Calle de Oro

Kathleen Deasy

Oils and mixed media on paper and canvas. Studio is at 625 Van Patten Ave. Info: 828-467-9060.

There will not be Second Saturday Open Studios in February because of the Love of Art Studio Tours which these artists will be a part of.

ON SCREEN

Student Filmmakers Take Notice

2018 Desert Light Film Competition calls for entries from state youth

The Desert Light Film Festival organizers announce the 2018 Desert Light Film Festival will be held on Friday, April 27, in Alamogordo.

This competition gives students an opportunity to showcase their work, compete for prizes, and participate in seminars designed for young filmmakers. Desert Light is open to all New Mexico high school and middle school students, including students who attend public, private or charter schools, or who are home schooled.

Categories include drama/comedy, animation, music video, documentary, experimental film, and 30-second commercial. The criteria for all categories include production quality, creativity and originality, resourcefulness and entertainment value. Films are submitted and judged in either the high school or middle school division.

Desert Light offers prizes in every category and division. First Place awards are \$100 each. Honorable Mention awards are \$50 each. Seminars this year will include special effects makeup for film, and pyrotechnic special effects. Other seminars will be announced.

The Otero Hunger Coalition is once again offering a prize for a Documentary Film on "Hunger or Homelessness in New Mexico." The award will consist of \$150 cash prize to the winner, and an additional \$150 will be donated to the "food pantry" or "soup kitchen" of the winner's choice. Films should promote respect for all individuals and recognize the human dignity of the people whose lives are documented. Filmmakers should be especially sensitive to the need to obtain permission from anyone for use of their photograph or film image, or other images or recordings of any indi-

vidual appearing in the film.

A new prize of \$1,000 will also be awarded to that film judged Best of Festival. This award comes in the form of a scholarship from New Mexico State University-Alamogordo which can be used at the Alamogordo or Las Cruces campus when the winning student attends college.

The preferred method for submitting all student films for Desert Light Film Festival is via Vimeo. Information about accessing the Vimeo account will be released later. Films that cannot be submitted via Vimeo will still be accepted on disk. In this case, please submit individual, single DVDs for each film submission.

Locations of the festival this year include New Mexico State University Alamogordo, the Flickinger Center for Performing Arts and White Sands National Monument.

Submit films anytime from now

until Friday, March 16. Entry fees are \$5 per film. For more information, contact K. Jan Wafful, Otero

County Film Liaison at jwafful@ci.alamogordo.nm.us or Joan Griggs at griggs1331@msn.com.

WRITTEN WORD

Call for Submissions

'Twisted Vine' looking for poetry, short fiction, creative nonfiction, interviews and art

Western New Mexico University's student-run "Twisted Vine Literary Arts Journal" put out a call for submissions and asked artists to send original and unpublished works of poetry, short fiction, creative nonfiction, interviews and visual arts for possible publication.

Curated by WNMU's Master of Arts Interdisciplinary Studies program, "Twisted Vine" publishes work by both emerging and established literary and visual artists.

Students in a graduate-level course called "Literary Journal" run "Twisted Vine." The staff consists of a managing editor, design specialists, communications specialists and screeners for all genres. All of these positions are held by graduate students, and the staff usually changes semester-to-semester. The course gives students real-life experience running a literary journal and provides practice in publishing that they can put on their résumés.

The journal was started by WNMU professor John Gist and

is currently run by Dr. Heather M. Steinmann, Assistant Professor of English at WNMU. Since its inception, "Twisted Vine" has published work by writers and visual artists from all over the world. The five past issues are archived online.

According to the staff-developed call for submissions, "Twisted Vine" seeks to represent an eclectic mix of ideas and values.

"We have a particular interest in pieces that challenge or redefine expression in new and inviting ways," the Twisted Vine website says. "We will give preference to pieces that capture the spirit of our interdisciplinary theme."

"Twisted Vine" adheres to a blind review policy, so contributors should not include any identifying information in submissions. Works from Twisted Vine and Western New Mexico University staff and faculty will not be accepted.

Pieces can be submitted to Twisted Vine at twistedvine.wnmu.edu. Announcements about the literary journal's final selec-

tions will be posted on Facebook and Twitter. The deadline for submissions is Feb. 11.



Cutline: A Western New Mexico University art student works on a submission for "Twisted Vine Literary Arts Journal." (Courtesy Photo)



February 16, 17, 18, 2018
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ARTS EXPOSURE Gallery Guide

Silver City
Alaska Mudhead Studio-Gallery, 371 Camino de Vento in Wind Canyon. By appointment, Letha Cress Woolf, potter, 907-783-2780. [a]SP.“A”©E, 110 W. Seventh St., 538-3333, aspace.studiogallery@gmail.com.
Barbara Nance Gallery & Stonewalker Studio, 105 Country Road, 534-0530. By appointment. Stone, steel, wood and paint. Sculpture path. www.barbaraNanceArt.com.
Blue Dome Gallery, 307 N. Texas, 534-8671. Monday to Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. www.bluedomegallery.com.
The Cliffs Studio & Gallery, 205 N. Lyon St. and Yankie, 520-622-0251. By appointment.
Common Ground, 102 W. Kelly, 534-2087. Open by appointment.
Cow Trail Art Studio, 119 Cow Trail in Arenas Valley. Monday, 12-3 p.m. or by appointment, 706-533-1897, www.victoriachick.com.
Elemental Artisans, 406-B Bullard St., 215-593-6738
Finn's Gallery, 300 N. Arizona St., 406-790-0573
Francis McCray Gallery, 1000 College Ave., WNMU, 538-6517. Monday to Friday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
The Glasserie Studio and Store, 106 E. College Ave., 590-0044. Monday to Saturday 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
Guadalupe's, 505 N. Bullard, 535-2624. Thursday to Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Leyba & Ingalls Arts, 315 N. Bullard St., 388-5725. Monday to Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Contemporary art ranging from realism to abstraction in a variety of media. www.LeybalngallsARTS.com, LeybalngallsART@zianet.com.
Lois Duffy Art Studio, 211C N. Texas, 534-0822. Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. or by appointment. Original paintings, cards and prints.

www.loisduffy.com, loisduffy@signalpeak.net.
Lumiere Editions, 108 W. Broadway, 956-6369. Vintage and contemporary photography. Monday to Friday.
The Makery, 108 W. Yankie, 590-1263, www.makerysvc.com. Freestyle weaving studio and school of fiber, book and paper arts. Thursday to Monday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
Mariah's Copper Quail Gallery, 211-A Texas St., corner of Yankie and Texas streets, 388-2646. Open 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday - Thursday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. Fine arts and crafts.
Mimbres Regional Arts Council Gallery, Wells Fargo Bank Bldg., 1201 N. Pope St. 538-2005. Tuesday to Sunday 9 a.m.-4 p.m. www.mimbresarts.org.
Molly Ramolla Gallery & Framing, 203 N. Bullard, 538-5538. www.ramollaart.com.
Moonstruck Art Gallery, 110 W. Yankie St., featuring fiber, mixed media, pottery, and jewelry. 575-654-5316. Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday-11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Ol' West Gallery & Mercantile, 104 W. Broadway, 388-1811/313-2595. Monday to Friday, 8:30 -10 a.m.
The Place is at 201 N. Bullard St. in Silver City.
Seedboat Gallery, 214 W. Yankie St., 534-1136. Wednesday to Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. or by appointment. info@seedboatgallery.com.
Studio Behind the Mountain, 23 Wagon Wheel Lane, 388-3277. By appointment. www.jimpalmerbronze.com.
Studio Upstairs, 109 N. Bullard St., 574-2493. By appointment. 21 Latigo Trail, 388-4557. Works by Barbara Harrison and others.
Soul River Gallery, 400 N. Bullard St., 303-888-1358. Monday and

Wednesday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Thursday to Saturday.
Wild West Weaving, 211-D N. Texas, 313-1032, www.wildwestweaving.com. Monday to Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Wind Canyon Studio, 11 Quail Run Road off Hwy. 180, mile marker 107, 574-2308, 619-933-8034. Louise Sackett. Monday and Wednesday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and by appointment.
Wynnegate Gallery, 1105 W. Market Street; 575-534-9717; hours are Saturday & Sunday, noon - 4 p.m.; also open for Red Dot Tour, artist showings, and by appointment.
Zoe's Studio/Gallery, 305 N. Cooper St., 654-4910. By chance or appointment.

Pinos Altos
Pinos Altos Art Gallery-Hearst Church Gallery, 14 Golden Ave. Pinos Altos, 574-2831. Open late-April to early October. Friday, Saturday, Sunday and holidays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Mimbres
Chamomile Connection, 3918 U.S. Highway 35N, 536-9845. Lynnae McConaha. By appointment.
Kate Brown Pottery and Tile, HC 15 Box 1335, San Lorenzo, 536-9935, katebrown@gilantel.com, www.katebrownpottery.com. By appointment.
Narrie Toole, Estudio de La Montura, 313-7390, www.narrietoole.com. Contemporary western oils, giclées and art prints. By appointment.

Bayard
Kathryn Allen Clay Studio, 601 Erie St., 537-3332. By appointment.
Cliff
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Northern Grant County & Catron County
Casitas de Gila, 50 Casita Flats Road, Gila, 535-4455. By appointment. gallery@casitasdegila.com, www.galleryatthecasitas.com.

Mesilla
Galeri Azul, Old Mesilla Plaza, 523-8783. Monday to Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
Galeria on the Plaza, 2310 Calle de Principal, 526-9771. Daily 10 am.-6 p.m.
Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery, 2470 Calle de Guadalupe, 522-2933. Daily 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
The Potteries, 2260 Calle de Santiago, 524-0538. Tuesday to Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.
Rokoko, 1785 Avenida de Mercado, 405-8877.

Las Cruces
Blue Gate Gallery, 4901 Chagar (intersection of Valley Drive and Taylor Road, open by appointment, 523-2950.
Camino Real Book Store and Art Gallery, 314 South Tornillo St. 523-3988. Thursday to Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.
Cottonwood Gallery, 275 N. Downtown Mall (Southwest Environmental Center), 522-5552. Monday to Friday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
Cutter Gallery, 2640 El Paseo, 541-0658. Tuesday to Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Justus Wright Galeria, 266 W. Court Ave., 526-6101, jud@delvalleprintingllc.com. Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Las Cruces Arts Association, Community Enterprise Center Building, 125 N. Main St. www.lacrucesarts.org.
Las Cruces Museum of Art, 491 N. Main St., 541-2137. Tuesday to Friday, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Saturday, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Main Street Gallery, 311 N. Main St., 647-0508. Tuesday to Friday. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
Mesquite Art Gallery, 340 N. Mesquite St., 640-3502. Thursday to Friday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday 2-5 p.m.
M. Phillip's Fine Art Gallery, 221 N. Main St., 525-1367.
New Dimension Art Works, 615 E. Piñon, 373-0043, 410-925-9126. By Appointment.
NMSU Art Gallery, Williams Hall, University Ave. east of Solano, 646-2545. Tuesday to Sunday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Nopalito's Galeria, 326 S. Mesquite. Friday to Sunday, 8 a.m.-8:30 p.m.
Ouida Touchon Studio, 2615 Calle de Guadalupe, 635-7899. By appointment. ouida@ouidatouchon.com, www.ouidatouchon.com.
Quillin Studio and Gallery, behind downtown Coas Books, 575-312-1064. By appointment only.
Tombaugh Gallery, Unitarian Universalist Church, 2000 S. Solano, 522-7281. Wednesday to Friday 10 a.m.-2 p.m. or by appointment.
Unsettled Gallery & Studio, 905 N. Mesquite, 635-2285. Wednesday, noon-5 p.m.; Thursday to Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Virginia Maria Romero Studio, 4636 Maxim Court, 644-0214. By appointment. agzromero@zianet.com, www.virginiamariaromero.com.

Deming
Deming Arts Center, 100 S. Gold St., 546-3663. Tuesday to Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Gold Street Gallery, 112-116 S. Gold St., 546-8200. Open Monday to Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Call first to be sure they are open.
Orona Art Studio, 546-4650. By appointment. lyntheoilpainter@gmail.com, www.lynorona.com.
Reader's Cove Used Books & Gallery, 200 S. Copper, 544-2512. Monday to Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Photography by Daniel Gauss.
Studio LeMarbe, 4025 Chaparral SE, 544-7708. By appointment.

Rodeo
Chiricahua Gallery, 5 Pine St., 557-2225. Open daily except Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Hillsboro
Barbara Massengill Gallery, 894-9511/895-3377, open weekends and by appointment.
Ruidoso
Art Ruidoso Gallery, 575-808-1133, www.artruidoso.com, 127 Rio St. Ruidoso.
The Adobe, 2905 Sudderth Drive, 257-5795. Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
DJ's Jewelry, 618 Carrizo Canyon Road, 630-1514. Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Specializing in turquoise, Native American traditional, New Mexican contemporary and estate jewelry.
Earth-N-Stone, 2117 Sudderth Drive, Ste. 14, 257-2768., 808-1157. Pottery studio/gallery of Alan Miner.
Gazebo Potters, 2117 Sudderth Drive No. 7, 808-1157. Pottery classes, workshops, wheel time, kiln firing, works by local potters.
Josie's Framery, 2917 Sudderth Drive, 257-4156. Framing, gallery representing regional artists and photographers.
LongCoat Fine Art, 2825 Sudderth Drive (at Mechem), 257-9102. Monday through Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Contemporary Masters and historical works of art. Burnett Interiors showroom.
Mountain Arts, 2530 Sudderth Drive, 257-9748, www.mountainartsgallery.com. Daily, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Tanner Tradition, 624 Sudderth Drive., 257-8675. Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Quality Native American art and jewelry.
Thunder Horse Gallery, 200 Mechem Drive, Ste. 1, 257-3989. info@thunderhorsegallery.com. Tuesday to Saturday 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Bronze sculpture by Rory Combs, Sarinova Glass and fine art.
The White Dove, 2825 Sudderth Drive, No. A (at Mechem), 866-257-6609, www.thewhitedove2825.com. Daily, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Authentic Native American jewelry and artifacts.
Kenneth Wyatt Galleries of Ruidoso, 2205 Sudderth Drive, 257-1529, www.kennethwyatt.com. Fine art by the Wyatt family.
Ruidoso Downs
Pinon Pottery, MM. 26465 U.S. Hwy. 70, 937-0873, 937-1822, www.pinonpottery.com. Pottery by Vicki Conley and other area artists, fine art by Anita Keegan and Virgil Stephens.
Alamogordo
Creative Designs Custom Framing & Gallery, 575-434-4420, 917 New York Ave.
Patron's Hall/Flickinger Center for Performing Arts, 575-434-2202, 1110 New York Ave.
Tularosa
Horse Feathers, 318 Granado St. 575-585-4407. Art, southwest furniture and decor.
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Carrizozo
Heart of the Raven, 415 Twelfth St., 937-7459, www.JudyPekelsmac.com. Functional and decorative pottery, classes.
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San Patricio
Hurd La Rinconada, MM 281 U.S. Hwy. 70, 653-4331, www.wyethartists.com. Monday through Saturday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Works by Peter Hurd, Henriette Wyeth, Andrew Wyeth, N.C. Wyeth and resident artist, Michael Hurd.
White Oaks
White Oaks Pottery, 445 Jicarilla Drive (three miles past White Oaks), 648-2985. Daily 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Porcelainpottery by Ivy Heymann.

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OFF THE SHELF

Las Peregrinas Stop in Las Cruces

From The Noun Peregrinación — To Journey To A Sacred Place

Writer Yaccaira Salvatierra came up with the idea of four California women poets, Las Peregrinas, driving along the border sharing their work. These poets feel it is very important for California border poets to be in communication with other border states and other communities and to share stories and build community.

One of the poets' stops is Las Cruces at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 3. The reading will take place at the Mesilla Community Center. The reading is free, but donations are appreciated to help Las Peregrinas on their tour.

The poets include Marisol Baca, the author of "Tremor" (Three Mile Harbor Press). She has been published in "Narrative Northeast," "Riverlit," "Shadowed: An Anthology of Women Writers" and "Acetos Review," among other publications.

She received her Master of Fine Arts from Cornell University where she won the Robert Chasen poetry award for her poem, "Revelato." She is also a recipient of the Andres Montoya poetry scholarship. Currently, Marisol is an English professor at Fresno City College.

Xochitl-Julisa Bermejo, a first-generation Chicana, is the author of "Posada: Offerings of



Yaccaira Salvatierra



Xochitl-Julisa Bermejo



Marisol Baca



Vanessa Villarreal

Witness and Refuge" (Sundress Publications 2016). A former Steinbeck Fellow, Poets & Writers California Writers Exchange winner and Barbara Deming Memorial Fund grantee, she's received residencies from Hedgebrook, Ragdale, National Parks Arts Foundation and Poetry Foundation.

Her work is published in "Acetos Review," "CALYX," "crazyhorse" and "American Poetry Review" among others. A dramatization of her poem "Our Lady of the Water Gallons," directed by Jesús Salvador Treviño, can be viewed at latino.com. She is a cofounder of "Women Who Submit" and a member of Macondo Writers' Workshop.

Yaccaira Salvatierra's poems have appeared in "Huizache," "Diálogo," "Puerto del Sol" and "Rattle" among others. She is a VONA alumna, the recipient of the Dorrit Sibley Award for achievement in poetry, and the 2015 winner of the Puerto del Sol Poetry Prize.

She has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize and a Best of

the Net. An educator and art instructor, she lives in San José, California with her two sons.

Vanessa Angélica Villarreal was born in the Rio Grande Valley borderlands to formerly undocumented Mexican immigrants. Her work has appeared or is forthcoming in Buzzfeed Reader, Epiphany, Apogee, Sporklet, PBS Newshour, Poor Claudia, Waxwing, The Wanderer, DIAGRAM, The Feminist Wire, The Poetry Foundation Harriet Blog, and others. She has served as an editor for the Bettering American Poetry project and is a CantoMundo Fellow. She is the author of *Beast Meridian* (Noemi Press, Akrilica Series, 2017). She is currently pursuing her Ph.D. at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, but her hometown is Houston, Texas.

The group will be hosted by Casa Camino Real Bookstore & Art Gallery, The Town of Mesilla, Hotel Encanto and other local organizations and individuals. Other sponsors are invited to join this celebration of culture and words.

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HISTORY TRAILS

Fort Bayard Tours

The Fort Bayard Museum will be open every Saturday in January from 9:15 a.m. - 1 p.m.. Walking tours are scheduled Jan. 13 and 27 at 9:30 a.m. The tours start from the Fort Bayard Museum located at Building 26 on the west side of the Parade Ground.

Although there is no charge, donations to support the preservation and upkeep of the National Historic landmark are welcome. For more information or to arrange a private tour, call 575-388-4477 or 575-956-3294.

Fort Bayard Historic Preservation Society Annual Meeting

On Saturday, Jan 20, the Fort Bayard Historic Preservation Society holds its Annual Membership Meeting at the Silver City Woman's Club located at 1715 Silver Heights Blvd.

"Tom Jeffords: Friend of Cochise" will be the topic of the presentation by guest speaker, Doug Hocking. Doors open at 6 p.m. and dinner (\$20) will be served at 6:30. RSVP by Jan. 15 by calling 575-388-4477 or 575-956-3294.

Growing up among the Jicarilla Apache, Doug Hocking was grounded in western history and lore. He resides in Sierra Vista, Arizona and has written several historical novels. His articles have been printed in "True West," "Des-



Author Doug Hocking is slated to speak during the Fort Bayard Historic Preservation Society's Annual Membership Meeting. (Courtesy Photo)

ert Tracks," and "The Journal of Arizona History." He is a member of the Oregon-California Trails Association - Southern Chapter, the Huachuca Museum Society and serves as sheriff for the Cochise County Corral of the Westerners,

Fort Bayard Historic Preservation Society membership dues are \$15 for one person and \$25 for families. Because Fort Bayard Historic Preservation Society is a non-profit organization, dues are tax deductible. Donations to support the preservation and upkeep of Fort Bayard National Historic Landmark are welcomed.

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Gila Cliff Dwellings



Tammy Buonasera studied residue samples from cupules in 2010. One sample yielded evidence of sunflower oil.



Larry Nordby and Kara Naber documented standing architecture at Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument in 2003. (Photo courtesy of the National Park Service)

Past, More Recent and — Hopefully — Future

In the late spring of 1991, my husband, Mark, and I drove north to Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument — a place we had heard and read about, but never seen. This was no pleasure trip: we had accepted positions as seasonal park rangers and were on our way to work.

The drive from our home in Columbus through Deming, Silver City and beyond took us farther away from the dry, scrub-filled, low desert. We went higher and higher into an area covered with green grass and tall, stately trees. Somewhere above Pinos Altos, we rolled down the windows to breathe in the cooler, pine-scented air. We both sensed that we were entering another world and, in a way, we were. The cave dwellings can transport visitors to the world of the 13th century.

Stepping into the vast, dark expanse of the largest cave for the first time almost took my breath away. The reaction to the space was immediate, but my fascination with the 700-plus-year-old buildings and the Mogollon people who built and lived in them came later. That day was just the beginning of a long and intimate relationship with this special place. I had no idea that I would live, work and perform research there off and on over many years to come.

Mark and I promptly began learning about the cliff dwellings and the cliff dwellers in earnest and soon realized that information specific to the site was limited. And, as the monument's unfortunate archaeological history began to unfold, the reason became clear: archaeological research began early at the Gila Cliff Dwellings, but not early enough. By the time Adolf Bandelier, an early archaeologist, visited the site in 1884, relic hunters had already taken a toll.

"The place, as it is, is now rifled," Bandelier wrote in his notes.

Indiscriminate digging continued for decades, not only depriving later researchers of important clues, but causing confusion by mixing older artifacts from lower layers with newer ones nearer the surface. Thanks to a few concerned individuals, the site would be given special status by the federal govern-

ment early in the next century.

Protection in name only

In 1907, President Teddy Roosevelt signed a proclamation declaring the Gila Hot Springs Cliff-Houses, as they were then called, a national monument. Unfortunately, provisions for the protection of the new monument were not included. Even Doc Campbell, the monument's first part-time caretaker hired in 1942, could not prevent continued damage to the site. In 1958, he reported that a group of hunters wrenched beams from the walls to use as firewood. But vandals were not the only ones who contributed to the loss of archaeological information.

In the early 1960s, the majority of the site was excavated, but the Park Service's lead archaeologist either did not record provenience (specific location) information for the artifacts or somehow that data was lost. In any case, what remains today is a large collection of artifacts and practically no information about which room or sometimes even which cave they came from. So a simple question such as, "What was this room used for?" cannot be answered with confidence.

Ultimately, the interpretation of the daily life of the cliff dwellers became more or less generalized and simplistic. It was largely based on data from other, better-documented sites in the region from the same time period. Hunting game, gathering native plants and farming corn, beans and squash would be the standard for years, and it was assumed that little more could be learned from what remained in the site. As a result, the next site-wide research project would not occur for several decades.

Dendrochronology - Tree-Ring Dating

In 1995, Thomas Windes, an archaeologist specializing in wood resources, arrived to inventory the remaining wood — primarily roof beams and door lintels — and take samples for tree-ring dating. While some specimens had previously been dated, this was the first project to systematically document and sam-

ple all the wood in the site. His assistant, Chris Simon and I mapped in-situ wood specimens while Tom took core samples that were later sent to the Laboratory of Tree-Ring Research at the University of Arizona for analysis and dating.

The information provided in the report helps rangers answer common questions such as, "What kind of trees did they use?" and "When was this place built?" The analyses also revealed that the builders' preferred woods were Ponderosa pine, Douglas fir and juniper.

The results of the research suggested that construction may have begun as early as the 1240s — decades earlier than previously thought — but the majority of the building took place several decades later. In his report, Windes wrote, "It is apparent. . . that between AD 1282 and 1287, a major effort of room construction took place."

Non-destructive Archaeology

Several years later, another site-wide project examined and recorded the largest remaining artifact that was still in its original place — the architecture. For decades, archaeologists primarily focused their attention on the usual items such as stones, bones and pottery. But unlike the smaller items, masonry architecture can't be brought into the lab to be analyzed: it must be studied in the field. Enter Larry Nordby.

In the late 1990s, Nordby, then chief research archaeologist at Mesa Verde National Park in Colorado, began working to develop methods to document and evaluate standing, pre-Columbian architecture. In 1999, he hired me to join his Architectural Documentation team. In 2003, funding became available for a project at Gila Cliff Dwellings. I was excited to be back and eager to get to work and see exactly what the walls could tell us. In the end, they told us quite a lot.

Nothing we discovered radically changed our interpretation of the cliff dwellings or the cliff dwellers. But I was drawn to the work because it gave me some insight into the builders' minds. But even in cases where the build-



National Park Service archaeologist, The

er had used substandard masonry techniques. I realized that after more than 700 years, the stone wall was still standing — a thought that always made me smile.

A disappointment was what we did not learn. What did they use for mortar? It's an important question since — aside from the stone — it's the most important element in the masonry walls. Unfortunately, analyzing and sourcing the mortars was out of the project's scope of work and not in the budget.

"Virtually nothing is known about the kind of soils that might have been used to create durable buildings. . . . No soil borrow pit has ever been discovered nearby, nor have there been detailed soil or mortar studies," Nordby wrote in his report.

Whatever it was, it was not just mud. Even those of us who have never built a masonry wall know that if we went to the garden, dug up some dirt, mixed it with water and used it to build a stone wall, it wouldn't last for long. The soil mortar they used not only held the walls together but withstood efforts to destroy them in the late 1800s.

Unfortunate History

Two unrelated eyewitnesses visited the cliff dwellings in the mid-1880s. Both reported that the buildings, including the roofs, were in perfect condition. But, by the end of the decade, every one of the roofs had been intentionally burned down. The fact that the walls still stood after this deliberate destruction is a testament to the knowledge and ability of the masons.

Interestingly, after so much effort to build these sturdy homes, the estimated 40 to 60 residents occupied the cliff dwellings for 20 to 30 years, which was typical for similar villages of the time. Because they left the legacy of those standing masonry walls, the Mogollon occupational period has been the focus of interpretation and research for over 100 years.

BY KARA NABER

Cliff Dwellings Research



Thomas Windes, removed a core sample from a roof beam in 1995. (Photos by Kara Naber)

But there is evidence of much earlier use of the caves.

“It is likely that the caves of the Gila Cliff Dwellings have seen intermittent use throughout several millennia ...,” Nordby stated in his summary report.

Some of the evidence for this is in the form of artifacts including fragments of an atlatl — a spear thrower that preceded the invention of the bow and arrow. Other evidence is subtler but no less convincing. In several places, clean masonry walls were built against heavily sooted cave surfaces. The “intermittent use” that Nordby referred to would likely have been during a pre-bow and arrow, pre-pottery time before people built permanent homes. The Gila would have been a perfect seasonal stop for hunter-gatherers on their annual migration route.

The caves provided shelter with a reliable water supply just outside. In the late summer and early fall, wild foods such as prickly pear fruit, wild grapes, acorns and piñon nuts were available. Game was abundant, and rabbits, deer and elk were also on the menu. Judging from the thick layers of soot on many cave walls, more than a few generations enjoyed this seasonal bounty. But while this period is of interest, so far, very little research has been done to study the earliest occupation of the caves.

In 2010, Tammy Buonasera, a doctoral candidate from the University of Arizona, did some preliminary research that may lead to learning more about this earlier time. Buonasera is a specialist in groundstone. Groundstones include everything from large metates used to grind corn, to narrow grooves on boulders used for straightening arrow shafts. Her target specimens at the Gila were on the small side.

Buonasera took residue samples from several cupules, round depressions ground into boulders. These small features — most only a few inches in diameter — are found through-

out the cave complex. A few clearly pre-date the masonry buildings: in a few places, masonry walls were built over them. But what were they used for? There has been much speculation ranging from grinding pigments for paint to board games, but we wanted evidence.

Back in the lab, Buonasera specifically looked for lipids, fats derived from plants or animals. Several of the samples were inconclusive, but one tested positive for sunflower. The results were tantalizing, but they don’t tell us what the ground sunflower seed or its oil was used for — food? pigment? cooking? They also do not tell us when the grinding took place — during the Mogollon occupation? If earlier, how much earlier? Buonasera seems optimistic and plans to return next year to continue sampling and attempting to identify residues.

“Dry sheltered environments are known to provide good organic preservation ... it seems likely that similarly large quantities of lipids ... might be preserved,” she stated in her report.

Perhaps at some point the residues could be dated, but this is a much more complicated process. And what about the heavy soot deposits? In some cases, they can provide a date range, but the process is tedious and expensive. More research may ultimately prove Nordby right, that the caves were used for not just hundreds but for thousands of years.

Kara Naber is a freelance writer who currently lives in Luna County. She worked at Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument as a seasonal Interpretive Ranger from 1991 to 1995 and as Volunteer Coordinator in 2010 and 2011. She also worked at Mesa Verde National Park from 1999 to 2007 as an Archaeological Technician and Museum Technician.



On the far right, a masonry wall was built against the heavily sooted cave surface, suggesting earlier and long-term use of the caves.



Small, round grinding features called cupules are found throughout the cliff dwellings. Some of them pre-date the masonry walls. In the photo, the masonry can be seen overlying some of the cupules on the boulder.



The protection of the dry caves has preserved residues that can be seen inside many of the cupules.

PUBLISHER'S NOTEBOOK • RICHARD COLTHARP

I Get Snow Emotional

When winter weather changes your attitude

"It's too early. I never eat December snowflakes. I always wait until January."

— Lucy Van Pelt

It took until December, but southern New Mexico finally got some winter weather. In a day, we went from 15-20 degrees above normal high temperatures to 10-15 degrees below normal. It would have been nice to have the temperatures gradually lower over a two-

three-week period, but I guess it all averages out.

When I think of averages, I always think of what Clif McDonald of Alamogordo used to say.

"You know about averages, don't you?" Clif would ask rhetorically. "Well, if a fellow has one foot in the camp fire, and the other foot in a bucket of ice water, on average, he's comfortable."

Weather predictions are by and large a fruitless effort, and

even tougher in New Mexico, where weather can be as fickle as it is frightening. I'll never forget the summer evening about 20 years ago it was raining in my next-door neighbor's yard, but not mine.

There is something about snow, though, that can play on your emotions.

Fear can definitely be an emotion accompanying snow, particularly if you're driving, and the roads become treacherous. When it's coming down aggressively – or blowing sideways – the white stuff can induce white knuckles on the steering wheel. I've experienced this in the Gila, as well as on U.S. Hwy. 70 between Ruidoso and Mescale-ro and, most scary, along U.S. Hwy. 54 north of Corona. In each case, my trusty solar yellow Nissan Xterra, and its four-wheel drive, carried me through the day.

Peace is another emotion snow can bring. We've all experienced the quiet of a deep, thick snow. You walk outside and it feels as if there were a ceiling to the world, and all the tones are hushed. The snow falls silently, and you absorb it in, not wanting to hear any sounds. One year when I lived in Alamogordo, it snowed just once all winter. That day, however, was Dec. 25. How nice and peaceful to eat Christmas dinner and see the snow falling outside the picture window. Where Christmas dinners can sometimes be laughing, noisy affairs, no one spoke much that year. We let the peacefulness do the talking.

Wonder often accompanies snow, particularly when it is

unexpected, or especially beautiful due to the light and the surroundings. I'll never forget the day at White Sands National Monument, when the wonder of snow really threw me for a loop.

On a bright, clear, sunny day when my oldest daughter, Jessica, was about 10 (she's 27 now), I took her and a friend to White Sands. As kids will do, they soon started digging in the sand.

At some point, I heard the two of them get so excited, I worried they may have encountered a rattlesnake. Except their voices had more amazement and wonder than fear. I scrambled up the dune toward them to see the source of their excitement.

There, a foot or two beneath the sands' surface, was snow.

It had been at least three weeks since it last snowed.

Evidently, while there was still snow on the gypsum dune, enough sand had blown over the top of the snow to insulate at least this segment of snow. I stood up on top of the dune, looking at all the other dunes in the distance, wondering how much intact snow could be lurking underneath.

Excitement may be the most common emotion triggered by snow.

That excitement may be most manifest in school children, as they await the announcement regarding possible school cancellations due to the fresh flurries.

Frustration sometimes comes along with snow. (Especially if the kids learn that school is still on.) A day or two after a good snow, particularly in the city, it doesn't take long until the soft fluffy white stuff becomes ugly

piles of dirty, gray muck. Sometimes they form big, chunky parasites that cling to the underside of your vehicle before finally shedding, leaving a five-pound hunk of black ice in the road or on your driveway. They look like mini-Shiprocks, and typically fall off the car driving in front of you on the highway, scaring the crap out of you, or making a frustratingly clunky noise as you run over them. It can also be frustrating if snow lingers around on the ground too long. That means the temperature has remained below freezing for several days, causing you to whine, "Enough already! Let's get back to the warmer temperatures. I don't have to have 85, but 55 would be nice."

Happiness is probably the most common emotion associated with snow. You can't help but smile when some of those big fat flakes float down from the sky, along with their best friends and relatives.

A beautiful, welcome change from the ordinary pace of things.

Let it snow.

Richard Coltharp is publisher of *Desert Exposure*. He recently learned that

unlike in some Eskimo languages, in English – at least according to the thesaurus on his laptop – there is only one word for snow. He can be reached at richard@lascrucesbulletin.com.



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TALKING HORSES • SCOTT THOMSON

It Doesn't Have to Be Like This

Many equine accidents preventable

After all these years in the horse business, nothing bothers me more than hearing stories of people having accidents with their horses. I've devoted my practice to showing people how they can be safer around horses without sacrificing any of the fun, so it really gets to me when it's clear how many people still believe this is just what happens if you ride.

Over the past few months there's been a real up tick in equine related accidents in the Silver City area. No matter where I've been, when people realize who I am or what I do, the conversation has gone immediately to a story about some recent accident they heard about or know of. Some have been riding accidents; others have been horse handling accidents. Being around horses is always a risky activity, but it seems a little more so recently here locally.

So, what's going on? I could offer a laundry list of possibilities, but after investigating a few of these circumstances I see these factors as common threads.

We have many older riders in the area, often riding horses they've ridden for years. If you've ridden for years without problems, you unconsciously start to believe your horse has somehow ceased being a horse, a naturally reactive flight animal, and you start to believe you're more competent than you are and that nothing will happen. Your horse is just a loyal well-behaved partner. So, you ride in a state similar to the "highway hypnosis" you might experience on a long familiar drive. You're doing it, but you're really not in the moment. You're looking at the scenery, talking to friends, doing what you've always done, trusting your horse to take care of you and not do anything stupid - but you're not really paying attention to your horse.

Next thing you know, your horse becomes a horse, you're not ready for it and you're on the ground.

Many older owners face the issue of retiring the horse they love and finding a new one to finish out their riding career. Often this is an "out of touch with reality moment" when someone believes all the years in the saddle also means you still have the physical skills, balance, strength and timing you had when you were younger. You buy a young, sometimes even green horse, because you believe - or friends tell you - with all your "experience" you should be able to handle any horse.

In reality, your skills, reaction time and movement aren't what they used to be and you

end up in a situation with your new horse you haven't seen in years, if ever.

The truth sets in as you're flying through the air or getting kicked in the stall.

The worst of all these situations is the new adult rider or the rider beginning again — situations you see a lot in areas like this — buying a completely inappropriate horse from a seller who doesn't even consider the possible outcome from such a bad match. The buyers should have their heads examined for not getting objective help. The seller should be put in jail.

These were common themes in many of these accidents. Add in one more broad observation and you probably cover the primary causes of virtually every one of these events.

When I started with horses, all my mentors hammered home the same point — no matter how well trained, no matter how many hours you're in the saddle or how much you practice, don't think for one second your horse, or any horse, can't become a horse and exhibit its basic nature in the blink of an eye.

They all preached one other thing — to minimize the risk, start on the ground and never stop doing the work.

I bet if I asked all the people who have been hurt here recently if ground work, defensive riding practice and sensory training were part of their regular weekly routine with their horses, I'd hear a lot of "we did that stuff years ago; my horse is bombproof or dead broke; my trainer took care of that; my horse is already trained; my horse takes care of me; etc etc." I know I wouldn't hear "I spend as much time teaching and challenging myself and my horse on the ground as I do riding him to make sure I'm a capable leader under pressure and that he respects and trusts my leadership."

Good trainers will tell you you're never done with groundwork. Groundwork is the foundation for a safer relationship because it allows the horse to see you on his level, to watch your movements and read your body language, just as he would with another horse. By nature, the horse wants to see, and then react or respond to what he sees. This is how he develops his respect for human leadership and how he overcomes his fears - or not. If you've established a working relationship on the ground, based on the horse's language and instincts, and you keep it up, you'll be riding and handling a safer horse.

Recently a former student brought her horse over because she was having some dangerous "near misses." After see-

ing some of the behavior she described, I started to pull out some of the equipment and toys we'd used years before to help her develop a better relationship with her horse. She quickly objected, saying "we've done all that stuff before so it'll be a waste of time."

When presented with these "familiar" objects and basic tasks, the horse pretty much became unglued. The owner was surprised and had no memory of what to do. She admitted she'd never done the work again after our initial lessons years before, feeling once it was done, it was done for life as the horse was now "trained." All her current issues were actually based on these simple tasks that had never been revisited or refreshed. Her position as leader for her horse had eroded, her skills had become rusty - the horse had lost confidence in her and was easily confused about and frustrated by what she wanted or expected. This had become an accident waiting to happen.

So, if ground work is the key to developing a great horse, better habits and a safer partnership, for many professionals the proverbial "magic bullet," why do so many riders resist or ignore it?

Let's be honest, for many riders, ground work is just plain hard. Most riders I see are terrible at it. If you're not particularly athletic or don't like to move yourself, if you can't use your off hand very well, if you have some aches and pains, then trying to dance with a horse can be tiring, frustrating, painful and even dangerous. It doesn't feel like "fun." It takes effort, practice and time. Given how little time most horse owners have to actually ride their horses, it's the easiest thing to skip in your relationship with your horse.

Unfortunately, this is an attitude that can put you in the hospital. This disconnect between the value of regular groundwork and the quality and safety of your riding experiences is what can lead to the kinds of unfortunate situations being seen on a regular basis around town. It's still hard for me to understand.

Using the nature and language of the horse to teach — and working on the ground where the horse can judge you and your leadership as he would another horse, and making this part of your regular interaction with your horse — is the best way to build the safest and most rewarding relationship you can have with a horse. If you take the time to establish mutual respect and trust with your horse based on how he sees the world, and continue to

reinforce it, you will be much better prepared to anticipate and safely deal with issues and surprises that will certainly appear given the nature of horses. As an early teacher told me, "avoid this sound approach to good horsemanship and safety at your own risk."

I feel badly for all these people who have been hurt. I hope they all recover and can ride again. And I hope they think about this — it doesn't have to

be like this. If you want it, there is a better, smarter, safer way to be with horses.

Scott Thomson lives in Silver City and teaches natural horsemanship and

foundation training. You can contact him at hsthomson@msn.com of 575-388-1830.



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CYCLES OF LIFE • FR. GABRIEL ROCHELLE

The Raleigh Gift

The spectacular Christmas of 1953

Unlike Ralphie in the now-classic “Christmas Story,” I never got the Red Ryder BB gun with the compass in the stock and the thing that tells time, even though like lots of small boys

in the 1940s, I wanted one. I got the Flexible Flyer sled for the Christmas of 1945, and I still have it in my garage. Later I got the 45 rpm record player for my 12th Christmas, with the Perry Como Christmas al-

bum on blue plastic records which I still have to this day even though the record player is long gone.

The major gift of my youth, however, was a Raleigh bicycle with three-speed Sturmey-Archer internal gears, made in Nottingham England, for Christmas 1953. It was in British green and white with a Brooks saddle. These bicycles came with chain guard, fenders, and a saddle bag, but in Philadelphia we called them “English racers.”

They were actually a gentleman’s bike for commuting to work, but what did we know? We had never seen skinny tires and gears before! Before Schwinn introduced the derailleur system to America, they were English racers.

This Raleigh was the most important gift that I received throughout all my life. Nothing else can compare. This was also the year of my one and only birthday party.

My birthday is December 28 and because of the holidays, there was never much energy left over to do anything special for that occasion. I didn’t care about that, but the Sprite and the birthday party went together to make for an overwhelm-

ingly memorable end of the year 1953.

As I look back on those singular Christmas presents in my past, the Raleigh stands out as the most important for a number of reasons. After all, the sled was good only for a limited time in the winter and the record player was only useful at home when I was doing nothing much else. I got books over the years, too, but they were not portable and although they offered an escape they did not offer the freedom the bike gave.

I had learned to drive on Uncle Billy Lee’s 1934 Dodge panel truck in the summer but that was on the acreage he had and not on a real honest-to-goodness road traversed by cars and trucks. The bicycle represented a new kind of freedom; it was, in significant ways, a rite of passage.

I was freed to travel the roads outside and inside the city of Philadelphia. I did not have to resort to PTC, our city transportation company, to find my way around various places any more.

I could ride in the city or within minutes get outside the city on rural roads. I could ride to my cousin’s house, or to my brother’s place seven miles

away. Whee! The Raleigh was a whole new lease on life.

To this day I have Brooks saddles on all my bicycles; it is an absolute requirement. If the bike doesn’t come with one, it will be fitted with one within a week or two of purchase. It all goes back to that first Raleigh, of course, and by the way that was not the only Raleigh in my life. I rode a Grand Prix (one of several) until 10 years ago, and not a day goes by without thinking of getting another one. After all, like guitars, you simply can’t have enough bikes ... until your garage runs out of space.

May this holiday season offer you a new lease on life as you contemplate those benchmarks that set you on new paths, new freedom, and new ways to explore your world.

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 group; see Velocruces.org. The church is at <http://stanthonylc.org>.



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ARTS EXPOSURE

Promoting Arts Speaker Series

New Mexico arts subject of Cutter talk

The Doña Ana Arts Council’s (DAAC) monthly Promoting Art Speaker Series January speaker will be Glenn Cutter, New Mexico Arts Commissioner and owner (with his wife, Sally) of Cutter Gallery.

The talk at noon, Friday, Jan. 26, at the DAAC Arts & Cultural Center, 1740 Avenida de Mercado, Suite D, in the Bulletin Plaza in Mesilla.

Cutter’s topics will be New Mexico Arts, the New Mexico

Arts Commission, and the Art in Public Places program (One Percent for Arts program), which since its inception nearly 25 years ago has placed more than 2,500 works of art in New Mexico’s 33 counties.

The talk is open to all interested parties at no cost. Brown bag lunches are welcome.

A Promoting Art Speaker Series presentation is given on the last Friday of each month at noon on a topic of interest to the arts community. The

Doña Ana Arts Council is a non-profit organization created to enhance the quality of life in Las Cruces and southern New Mexico by ensuring that the performing, visual, and literary arts are an integral part of education, economic growth, and community development.

For more information, contact DAAC at 575-523-6403 or by e-mail at admin@daarts.org. Information is also on the website at www.daarts.org.

MINER

continued from page 8

ly distress familiar to many who must balance love for children with respect for tradition.

Feb. 22 — “North Country”, released in 2005, stars Charleze Theron, Woody Harrelson, and Sissy Spacek. It deals with the true story of a group of female workers in the iron mines of northern Minnesota who had to fight for their personal dignity against threats, insults, fondling, ogling and hatred directed at them by male workers and supervisors. They broke legal ground with the nation’s first

class-action sexual harassment lawsuit.

March 1 — “Los Mineros” is a PBS documentary chronicling the lives and struggles of Hispanic miners in the Southwest, in the copper mines of Arizona and New Mexico during the first half of the 20th century.

March 8 — “The Salt of the Earth” is the final film of the series. The movie has become a “cult classic” since its controversial release in 1954, during the height of the McCarthy period. Starring local union leader

Juan Chacon and Mexican actress Rosaura Revueltas, as well as Will Geer (Grandpa Walton), the movie took on the prejudice prevalent against Hispanic workers in the American mining industry. Today, it can also be viewed as one of the first films to confront the discrimination against women in all aspects of American society.

All movie showings are free of charge, donations are welcome. For more information, contact Dr. Doug Dinwiddie at 575-388-4862.

BODY • MIND • SPIRIT

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 — 10:30 a.m., second Monday, 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, 20th and Swan St., Silver City. Open meeting. Contact: 534-4866 or 574-2311.

Meditation for Beginners — 5:30 p.m., Lotus Center, 211 W. Broadway. Jeff, 956-6647. www.lotuscentersc.org.
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 — 1:30 p.m., First Tuesday, Senior Center. Margaret, 388-4539.
Bayard Historic Mine Tour — 9:30 a.m., Second Tuesday, meet at Bayard City Hall, 800 Central Ave. \$5 fee covers two-hour bus tour of historic mines plus literature and map. Call 537-3327 for reservation.

Figure/Model Drawing — 4-6 p.m. Contact Sam, 388-5583. First Tuesday, 6 p.m. at the headquarters, next to the Chevron/Snappy Mart in Arenas Valley. Dan Larson, 654-4884.

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

PFLAG Silver City — First Tuesday, 7 p.m., at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 3845 N. Swan. Confidential support for LGBTQ persons and their families. 575-590-8797.

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

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

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

WEDNESDAYS

Al-Anon family group — 6 p.m., Arenas Valley Church of Christ, 5 Race Track Road, Arenas Valley (the old radio station). Open meeting. Contact: Karen 313-7094

Archaeology Society — 6 p.m., third Wednesday every month, October-March at the Woman's Club, 313 Hwy. 180; April-September meeting begins with a

pot-luck dinner at 6 p.m., convening for business at 7 p.m. Locations vary. 536-3092, whudson43@yahoo.com.

Babytime Sing & Play — 1 p.m., Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Avenue. Stories, songs, rhymes and movement for infants 0-12 months and their caregivers. Free, no registration necessary. 538-3672 or ref@silvercitymail.com.

Back Country Horsemen — 6 p.m., second Wednesday, WNMU Watts Hall, opposite CVS Pharmacy, Hwy. 180. Subject to change. 574-2888.

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

Future Engineers — 4-5 p.m. Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Avenue. Free creative construction fun with Lego, K'NEX, and Strawbees! For children ages 6-12, no registration necessary. 538-3672 or ref@silvercitymail.com.

Gilawriters — 1:00-3 p.m., Silver City Food Co-op's Market Café Community Room, 615 N. Bullard St. Contact Trish Heck, trish.heck@gmail.com or call 534-0207.

Gin Rummy — 1 p.m. at Tranquil Buzz, corner of Yankie and Texas Streets in Silver City.

Grant County Democratic Party — 5:30 p.m., potluck; 6:20 p.m., meeting, second Wednesday, Sen. Howie Morales' building, 3060 E. Hwy. 180. 654-6060.

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

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

Storytime — 10:30 a.m., Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Avenue. For children ages 0-5, no registration necessary. 538-3672 or ref@silvercitymail.com.

Grant County Federated Republican Women — 11:30 a.m., Third Wednesday, WNMU Cafeteria, Sunset Room. 313-7997.

THURSDAYS

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

Blooming Lotus Meditation — 5:30 p.m., Lotus Center, 211 W. Broadway. 313-7417, geofarm@pobox.com.

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

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

Historic Mining District & Tourism Meeting — 10 a.m., second Thursday, Bayard Community Center, 290

Hurley Ave., Bayard. 537-3327.

Little Artist Club — 10:30-11:30 a.m., Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Avenue. Free creative fun for children ages 0-5. No registration necessary. 538-3672 or ref@silvercitymail.com.

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

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

WildWorks Youth Space — 4 p.m. For children ages 10+ Space for youth to hang out, experiment, create and more. Free, no registration necessary. Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Avenue, 538-3672 or ref@silvercitymail.com.

Yoga class — Free class taught by Colleen Stinar. 1-2 p.m. Episcopal Church fellowship hall, Seventh and Texas. 574-5451.

FRIDAYS

Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group — 10:20 a.m.-12:30 p.m., First Friday, Hidalgo Medical Center. Ask at the front desk for the room number. 388-4539. Free senior care service available from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Silver City Senior Center. Call Gigi at 388-1319 for more information.

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

Silver City Woman's Club — 10:30 a.m., second Friday, 411 Silver Heights Blvd. Monthly meeting, lunch is at noon. Lucinda, 313-4591.

Women's Al-Anon Meeting: Women Embracing Recovery — 5:30 p.m., La Clinica Health and Birth Center, 3201 Ridge Loop, Silver City. Contact: 313-7094 or 313-1032

SATURDAYS

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

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.

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

Vinyasa Flow Yoga — 10-11:30 a.m., Lotus Center, 211 W. Broadway. All levels. Becky Glenn, 404-234-5331.

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

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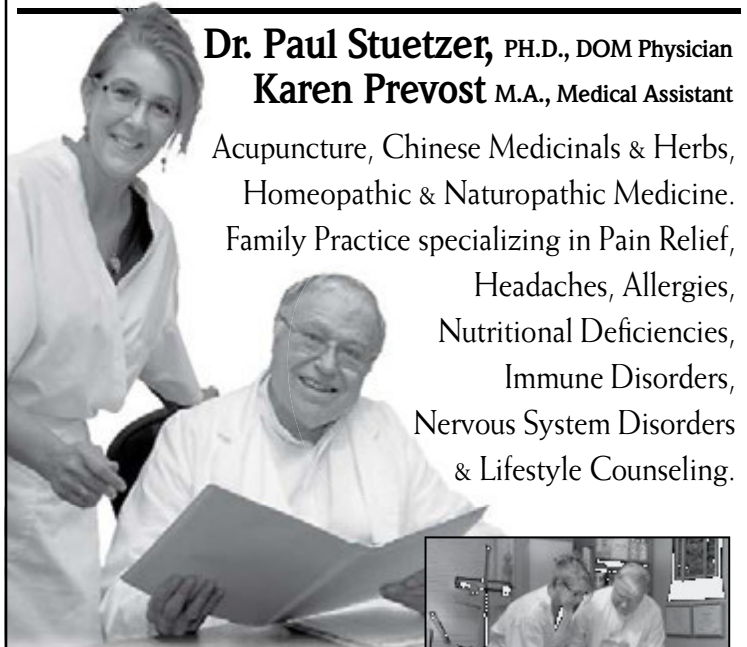
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WINGING IT • YVONNE LANELLI

Bosque Adventures

From heron to swan, the birds are here

A day that begins with a great blue heron and ends with a tundra swan must be good.

Where in southern New Mexico will your day begin like that? At Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), of course. Only two hours north of Las Cruces on I-25, “the Bosque” provides food and water for winter resident species plus terrific viewing opportunities for winter birders.

Every mid-winter, Lincoln County Bird Club treks there. Bosque never disappoints.

“We saw 34 species in all,” said Jim Edwards, LCBC president, after the club’s recent field trip.

Bird sightings began long before arriving at the Bosque entrance south of San Antonio. Numerous American kestrels, ferruginous and red-tailed hawks perched atop power poles lining the highway. A roadrunner ran across the road.

At a cultivated field on NM 1, we marveled at a large flock of greater sandhill cranes, their melodious “purring” filling the blue sky.

Ross’s geese mixed with the cranes. A large flock of red-winged blackbirds erupted just before two Northern harriers cruised over dry reeds. At a nearby pond, Canada geese joined Northern pintail ducks and Northern shovelers.

At the Visitor Center, the feeding area was empty; a minute later it was filled with birds — a spotted towhee, six Gambel quail, house finches and three species of sparrow: white-throated, white-crowned and house.

The preferred way to appreciate the Bosque’s wetlands is to drive its gravel Loop Trail, stopping at any of the flooded fields and observation decks.

BOSQUE BASICS

Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge is two hours north of Las Cruces off Interstate 25. Take Exit 124 (San Marcial), go east on the dirt road 1.5 miles, then north on Old Highway 1 to the Visitor Center. Or, take the San Antonio - US Highway 380 exit to San Antonio. At the flashing red light, turn south on NM 1 to the Visitor Center.

Bosque is open year-round; however, the Visitor Center closes Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year’s Day and July 4. There is a \$5 vehicle fee for the self-guided auto tour, but all federal passes are honored.

Nearest amenities are in San Antonio, about 10 minutes north on NM 1: gas, three eateries including one New Mexican cuisine and two green chile cheeseburger emporiums, and Casa Blanca B & B.

We took the southern loop first, pausing for pintails and shovelers as they dipped into cold water. A Northern harrier flew low, its white rump visible when it turned. “They’re not here in the summer,” murmured Pat Kelly as she followed its flight with her binoculars.

At Dabber & Diver Deck Kathy Newton set up her spotting scope to observe a bald eagle across the water where flocks of Northern coots paddled and dabbled.

A flash of white in the water caught Jim’s eye.

“A bufflehead duck,” he verified in his field guide. “Note the unusu-



Shoulders hunched against the cold, a lone great blue heron stands in a ditch, head, chest, and wing plumes ruffling in the breeze. (Photos by Yvonne Lanelli)



These life-size sculptures of sandhill cranes at the Visitor Center give you a close-up idea of their size, not readily appreciated at far distance.

al white head.”

Along the road, a flash of gray caught our attention. A lone great blue heron stood in a ditch, shoulders hunched against the cold, head, chest, and wing plumes ruffling in the breeze. At first, we couldn’t identify it because its posture hid pertinent markings. For several minutes we admired in silent awe this majestic bird, largest of the North American herons.

A Say’s phoebe leaped from a stalk in search of insects, breaking the spell. We drove on.

At the southernmost edge of the loop, large flocks of snow geese, Gadwall ducks and Canada geese ignored a red-tailed hawk perched in a tree.

As we headed north, movement in the brush stopped us. Three javelinas trotted out. “That’s a first for me and I’ve been here a lot,” Pat said.

“Me, too,” chimed Kathy, Jim and I at the same time.

At another observation deck, Kathy spotted a ruddy duck among more flocks of shovelers and pintails. “It’s nondescript in the winter, but you should see it in mating season—brilliant colors and a bright blue bill.”

I spotted a pair of mallards, the male’s iridescent emerald-green head glistening in afternoon sunshine.



Kathy Newton sets up her tripod to better observe and image waterfowl as Jim Edwards, Lincoln County Bird Club president, keeps all in sight.



Pat Kelly’s powerful binoculars bring details of plumage at the Observation Deck overlooking a large pond.

In the shallows, Jim and Kathy ID’d dowitchers and greater yellowlegs. A pleasant surprise, since we don’t see shorebirds that often.

But at Coyote Deck, a final surprise capped our visit.

Amidst ducks and cranes, a large white lump sat in muddy water like a rock. Then a long neck emerged and shook itself.

“Tundra swan!”

“Omigosh, another first!”

We erupted in excited shouts, unable to contain our excitement.

What a perfect field day of firsts—great blue heron, javelinas, bald eagle, shorebirds, tundra swan.

What will the next field trip reveal? Join LCBC or your local Bird Club (jw_e@beyondbb.com) and find out!

NEXT TIME: A sweet adventure at Bitter Lakes Wildlife Refuge!

Novice birder Yvonne Lanelli (www.evlanelli.com) has discovered a new world in southern New Mexico skies.

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HIGH PLACES • GABRIELE TEICH

Caves and Falls in Southeast New Mexico

Considering the headline of this column I hesitated writing about our recent trip to the Carlsbad Caverns. After all, you go down 800 feet in the ground.

But every New Mexican should of course visit the Caverns at least once in their lifetime. We took the natural entrance and meandered our way down, down, down and then took the one-mile loop in the Big Room. It's a hike in its own right, your calves will let you know they have been exercised the next day. Equipped with the audio guide we learned a lot of new facts about the cave, its discovery and history. Available at the bookstore in the visitor center it is well worth the extra \$5.

The Caverns do get crowded quickly, so it's smart to start your day early. We were done by lunch time – although you could easily spend all day in and around the park.

One more item was on our



Sitting Bull Falls

bucket list of Southeast New Mexico and that's where we headed to after a good lunch in the city of Carlsbad. It's called Sitting Bull Falls Recreation Area and if you are more on the gentle walk side of the aisle, this one is for you: A smooth paved trail (wheelchair accessible) of a quarter mile leads you to this gorgeous waterfall in the Guadalupe Mountains. The more daring amongst you might take the staircase down to the flat



Carlsbad Caverns (Photos by Gabrielle Teich)

rocks and get up close or even across the flowing stream – and get wet from the spray. And the even more adventurous can actually take the steep trail to the top of the waterfall and peek down – or check out where the flow is coming from. We did both and it made the long drive out well worth it.

I can only imagine what this oasis in the desert looks like during summer weekends:

The six large shaded picnic ar-

eas speak for themselves. We also discovered a tucked-away-in-the-rocks picnic table, alas without shade. Surely the youngsters have a blast here on a hot summer day, splashing into the water below the fall or hike up and sit in one of the several 'tubs' of cool stream water. Unfortunately camping is not an option here. The nearest campground is an hour away at Brantley Lake State Park. As is everything else. An hour away – that's how re-

mote this Recreation Area is. The road (137) veers off between Artesia and Carlsbad and it dead ends here. 32 miles of good paved road with a handful of ranches along the way will get you to Sitting Bull Falls. The name is a bit of a mystery, there is no evidence of the famous chief ever visiting here. You can read it all up on the displays at the parking lot. But the oasis has been used by Native Americans and early settlers alike. Water will always attract people – in the desert as well as anywhere else. Some things never change.

Of German origin, Gabriele Teich has called Las Cruces her home for almost 20 years



and loved every minute of it, hiking the mountains in the immediate surrounding area and all over this beautiful state.

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Snakes can be found almost everywhere, but one type of snake is usually found around water, the water snake. However, there is one water snake that for us is always below ground and it is never near water, Hydrus, the Water Snake. This southern constellation never rises above our southern horizon and has no other water-related constellations bordering it.

Hydrus is one of two water snakes in the sky; the other is Hydra, a mythological constellation in the northern sky that Hercules fought as part of his labours. Our southern Hydrus is a newer constellation, created by Petrus Plancius, which appeared on a 14-inch diameter celestial globe published in late 1597. It is named after a type of snake encountered by Dutch explorers Pieter Dirkszoon Keyser and Frederick de Houtman.

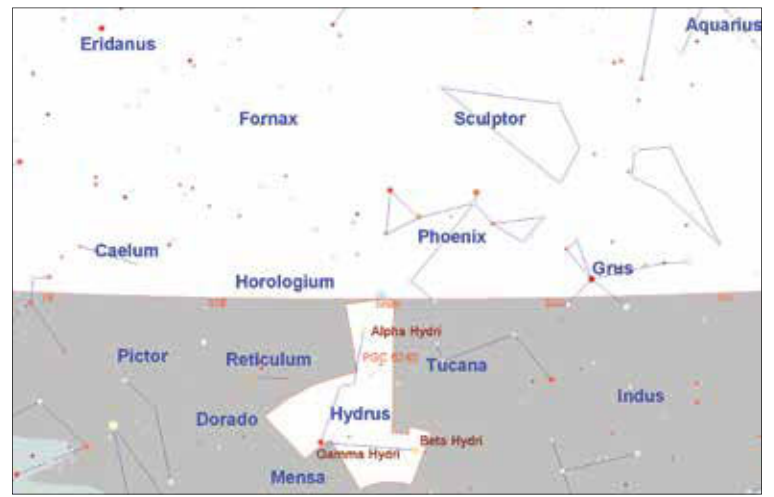
These two provided the positions of 135 stars near the south celestial pole, filling in this portion of the sky. They had been trained by Plancius to measure the positions of stars in preparation for a Dutch East India exploratory mission around the southern tip of Africa to Sumatra. Keyser died in Sumatra, but de Houtman got the observations back to Plancius. He created twelve new constellations from the stars Keyser and de Houtman cataloged, including Hydrus.

Hydrus has the brightest star near the south celestial pole. Even so, the 2.8-magnitude star Beta Hydri is still over 12 degrees away from the pole. Beta Hydri is the brightest star in this constellation, even though it has the beta designation. It is just slightly larger than our Sun and it is 24.3 light-years away from us. It has reached old age and it is starting to expand as it runs out of hydrogen to fuse in its core.

Hydrus harbors an interesting galaxy dubbed the White Rose Galaxy. As images by the Hubble Space Telescope show, this galaxy appears white with a bright core surrounded by shells of stars giving the overall impression of being a white rose. The White Rose Galaxy, also known as PGC 6240, is an elliptical galaxy that is 347 million light-years away from us. Elliptical galaxies are older galaxies, generally the result of mergers of smaller galaxies.

Young galaxies are usually spiral galaxies, similar to our own Milky Way Galaxy. When spiral galaxies merge, the interlocking galaxy's gravity disrupts the arms of the spirals. The stars that marked the spiral arms now orbit the galaxy in a more random way, changing the spiral arms into a cloud of stars orbiting the now elliptical galaxy.

In the White Rose, the shells that form the petals of the rose are composed of newly formed stars. While they appear as rings around the center of the galaxy, they are actually parts of a



Hydrus, the Water Snake, never rises above our southern horizon. This modern constellation has the brightest star near the south celestial pole (Beta Hydri), but this southern "pole star" is still 12 degrees away from the pole. In contrast, Polaris, the northern Pole Star is just two-thirds of a degree from the North Pole.

Calendar of Events – January 2018 (MST)

1	1 p.m.	Mercury greatest distance from the Sun (23 degrees)
1	7:24 p.m.	Full Moon
6	9 p.m.	Mars passes 0.2 degrees south of Jupiter
8	3:25 p.m.	Last Quarter Moon
10	Midnight	Venus passes the far side of the Sun
14	Midnight	Mercury passes 0.6 degrees south of Saturn
16	7:17 p.m.	New Moon
24	3:20 p.m.	First Quarter Moon
31	6:27 a.m.	Full Moon-Total Lunar Eclipse

sphere. When we look through the sphere nearer to the sphere's center, we look through the thin front and back layers of the sphere. When we look near the outer edge of the sphere, we are looking through the layer at many more stars, giving the illusion of being a ring. Some of the shells are moving away from the White Rose and they are no longer held in place by its gravity.

While most of the Rose is composed of older stars, indicating an old galaxy, the shells are composed of younger stars that formed during a recent merger of this galaxy with another galaxy. The disruption of a merger frequently triggers star formation as formerly stable gas clouds are distorted by the other galaxy's gravity and the clouds begin to collapse to form new stars. Some of the new stars will be massive and short-lived. They will explode as supernova very quickly, triggering more clouds to collapse and forming even more stars.

Not only are there young shells, but there are similarly young globular clusters orbiting this galaxy. Globular clusters form at the same time as the galaxy forms, so they should have the same age as the galaxy. The new globulars probably formed during the galaxy merger in the same star formation burst that formed the shells.

The Planets for January 2018.

Venus is not visible this month, being too near the Sun. It passes on the far side of the Sun on Jan. 9. During the month, it travels from central Sagittarius to eastern Capricornus.

There are no planets in the evening sky this month, but Jupiter rises around 2:15 a.m. in the east-southeast. It shines at magnitude -1.9 and it is thirty-seven degrees above the south-south-

eastern horizon as it gets light. The King of the Gods' disc is 33.5 seconds-of-arc across at mid-month. It is moving slowly eastward in central Libra. On Jan. 6, the faster moving Mars will pass a third of a degree south of Jupiter.

The God of War starts the month just east of Jupiter in central Libra. During the month, it moves eastward past Jupiter, slipping just over the border into Scorpius at month end. At mid-month, the God of War's disc is 5.1 seconds-of-arc across and it shines at magnitude +1.4. It rises around 2:15 a.m. all month and it is thirty degrees up in the east-southeast as it gets light.

The Ringed Planet rises around 5:30 a.m., shortly before the Sun, shining at magnitude +0.5. It is just ten degrees up in the southeast as it starts to get light. The Ringed Planet is moving slowly eastward in western Sagittarius. At midmonth, Saturn's disc is 15.1 seconds-of-arc across and its Rings are 34.2 seconds-of-arc across. They are tilted down 26.4 degrees with the northern face showing

Mercury continues in the morning sky, reaching greatest distance from the Sun during this appearance on Jan. 1. At that time, its disc will be 6.7 seconds-of-arc across and 63 percent illuminated. The Messenger of the Gods shines at magnitude -0.3 as it rises around 5:30 a.m. Starting around ten degrees above the east-southeastern horizon it drops lower every day, until by the end of the month it is just a few degrees up. Mercury passes three-quarters of a degree south of Saturn on Jan. 13.

The Moon will pass through the Earth's shadow on the morning of January 31 in a total lunar eclipse. The eclipse be-

Red or Green? is Desert Exposure's guide to dining in southwest New Mexico.

We are in the process of updating and modifying these listings. We are asking restaurants to pay a small fee for listing their information. Restaurant advertisers already on contract with Desert Exposure receive a free listing. For other establishments, listings with essential information will be \$36 a year and expanded listings, up to 10 lines, will be \$48 a year. To get

an updated listing in Red or Green?, contact Anita Goins at anita@lascrucesbulletin.com or at 575-680-1980.

The listings here are a sampling of our complete and recently completely updated guide online at www.desertexposure.com. 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.

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



Southwest New Mexico's Best Restaurant Guide

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 Satur-

day L D Sunday B.

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: Monday to Sunday 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: Monday to Sunday L D.

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 and now serving barbecue on Saturdays: 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.

REVEL, 304 N. Bullard, 388-4920. Elevated comfort food. Weekdays LD, weekends BD, closed Wednesdays.

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.

VICKI'S EATERY, 315 N. Texas, 388-5430. www.vickiseatery.com Fresh...made just for you!. **Saturday-Sunday breakfast; Monday-Saturday lunch; and Friday-Saturday dinner.**

WRANGLER'S BAR & GRILL, 2005 Hwy. 180E, 538-4387. Steak, burgers, appetizers, salads: L D.
TRANQUIL BUZZ CAFÉ, 112 W. Yankee St. Coffee shop, coffee, home-made pastries and ice cream, fresh fruit smoothies.

DOÑA ANA COUNTY

Las Cruces & Mesilla

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

ANDELE'S DOG HOUSE, 1983 Calle del Norte, 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.

AQUA REEF, 141 N. Roadrunner Parkway, 522-7333.

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A BITE OF BELGIUM, 741 N. Alameda St. No. 16, 527-2483, www.abiteofbelgium.com.

com. Belgium and American food: Daily 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 green-chile cheeseburgers. Tuesday to Saturday L D.
BURRITOS VICTORIA, 1295 El Paseo Road, 541-5534. Burritos: B L D. Now serving beer.

CAFÉ A GO GO, 1120 Commerce Drive, Suite A, 522-0383, www.cafeagogonm.com. Bistro with an eclectic menu. "We have a passion for delicious food and it reflects in our dishes." Monday to Saturday L D.

CARILLO'S CAFÉ, 330 S. Church, 523-9913. Mexican, American: Monday to Saturday L D.

CHACHI'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.

DAY'S HAMBURGERS, Water and Las Cruces streets, 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: Tuesday to Sunday L D.

ENRIQUE'S MEXICAN FOOD, 800 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.
THE GAME BAR & GRILL, 2605 S. Espina, 524-GAME. Sports bar and grill: L D.
GARDUÑO'S, 705 S. Telshor (Hotel Encanto), 532-4277. Mexican: B L D.
GIROS MEXICAN RESTAURANT, 160 W. Picacho Ave., 541-0341. Mexican: B L D.

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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.

HACIENDA DE MESILLA, 1803 Avenida de Mesilla, 652-4953. Steaks, barbecue, seafood, sandwiches, salads, pasta: 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), 526-8855. 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.

KEVA JUICE, 1001 E. University, 522-4133. Smoothies, frozen yogurt: B L D.

LA MEXICANA TORTILLERIA, 1300 N. Solano Dr, 541-9617. Mexican: L D.

LA NUEVA CASITA CAFÉ, 195 N.

Mesquite, 523-5434. Mexican and American: B L.
LA POSTA RESTAURANT DE MESILLA, 2410 Calle De San Albino, 524-3524 Mexican, steakhouse: L D, Saturday, Sunday and holidays also B.

LAS TRANCAS, 1008 S. Solano Dr., 524-1430. Mexican, steaks, burgers, fried chicken: L D, Saturday and Sunday also B.

LE RENDEZ-VOUS CAFÉ, 2701 W. Picacho Ave. #1, 527-0098. French pastry, deli, sandwiches: Tuesday to Sunday B L.

LET THEM EAT CAKE, 1001 E. University Ave. Suite D4, 680-5998. Cupcakes: Tuesday to Saturday.

LORENZO'S PAN AM, 1753 E. University Ave., 521-3505. Italian, pizza: L D.

LOS COMPAS CAFÉ, 6335 Bataan Memorial W., 382-2025. Mexican: B L D.

LOS COMPAS CAFÉ, 603 S. Nevez St., 523-1778. Mexican: B L D.

LOS COMPAS, 1120 Commerce Dr., 521-6228. Mexican: B L D.

LOS MARIACHIS, 754 N. Motel Blvd., 523-7058. Mexican: B L D.

MESILLA VALLEY KITCHEN, 2001 E. Lohman Ave. #103, 523-9311. American, Mexican: B L.

METROPOLITAN DELI, 1001 University Ave., 522-3354, www.metropolitandeli.com. Sandwiches and catering: L D.

MIGUEL'S, 1140 E. Amador Ave., 647-4262. Mexican: B L D.

MI PUEBLITO, 1355 E. Idaho Ave., 524-3009. Mexican: Monday to Friday B L D, Saturday and Sunday B L.

MILAGRO COFFEE Y ESPRESSO, 1733 E. University Ave., 532-1042. Coffeehouse: B L D.

MIX PACIFIC RIM CUISINE AND MIX EXPRESS, 1001 E. University Ave. D3, 532-2042. Asian, Pacific: Monday to Saturday L D.

MOONGATE CAFÉ, 9345 Bataan Memorial, 382-5744. Coffee shop, Mexican, American: B L.

MOUNTAIN VIEW MARKET KITCHEN, 1300 El Paseo Road, 523-0436. Sandwiches, bagels, wraps, salads and other healthy fare: Monday to Saturday: B L early D.

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We will be closed from Jan. 7th thru the 24th for a winter break. Hope to see you on the 25th or beyond during regular business hours. Happy New Year!
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dinner 5-9

Weekends
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dinner 5-9

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January 31
 "Tales of a Wilderness Inventory Volunteer."
 Presenter: Sonnie Sussillo

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 WNMU Campus
 Silver City, New Mexico

WILL Office Hours:
 Tues. - Thurs. 9am-3pm
 info@will-learning.com
 575-538-6835

WILL!
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TABLE TALK

Salsa Awarded

The Bossy Gourmet earns kudos for hot tastes

Las Cruces' The Bossy Gourmet garnered four awards in the annual Scoville Awards Competition judged by chefs, restaurant managers and food journalists this fall in a blind-tasting test. The awards officially cover the year 2018.

The culinary experts honored The Bossy Gourmet Salsas with two awards in the Processed Salsa category for its Green Chile Salsa, one award in the Prepared Sauce category for their Red Enchilada Sauce and one award in the Hot Processed Salsa category for their Jalapeño Salsa. They were judged on eye appeal, aroma, flavor and heat scale.

Judges deemed that The Bossy Gourmet products had superior flavors with a unique home-style quality that emanates from authentic family recipes.

"We are totally amazed and excited to have our products recognized as superior to others in the market," said COO Lori Alvarez, who formulated the products based upon her mother's long-held recipes. "We know we had a lot of good competition and that is why we are ecstatic to be recognized."

"We worked very hard for this," said Lenny Pelifian, company president and CEO.

According to company lore, The Bossy Gourmet got its name "when an extremely talented chef was teaching a non-cook how to prepare food. The chef instructed and then watched as the helper attempted to dice onions, stir sauce, and prepare vegetables for

cooking. The chef barked out instructions to the helper until the helper was so scared that he could no longer perform the easiest of kitchen duties. After several seconds went by, the chef could no longer use restraint and bumped the helper out of the way and proceeded to prepare the food alone.

"The helper named the chef The Bossy Gourmet because it described the chef in the most appropriate manner. Since that fateful day, the chef and the helper combined culinary expertise and business acumen to form the company."

Bossy Gourmet products are available in Las Cruces at Toucan Market, SaveMart, Pic Quik locations and the Mesilla Valley Store in Mesilla. The firm is located at 2211 North Main Street, Suite #7. Contact them at 575-323-0979, ceo@thebossygourmet.com.

Sponsored by Fiery-Foods & Barbecue Magazine, The Scoville Awards evolved from the National Fiery Foods & Barbecue Show after 1996 when the contest was called "The Fiery Foods Challenge." Originally, it was part of the show and had a People's Choice Award that was voted on by the general public.

Later, the decision was made to separate the show and the awards, which were renamed "The Scoville Awards" to honor the memory of Wilbur Scoville,



Green chile salsa and red enchilada sauce are among The Bossy Gourmet's product line. (Photos courtesy The Bossy Gourmet website)

the scientist who invented the Scoville Organoleptic Test in 1912 to determine the heat scale of chile peppers.

The Scoville Awards Competition accepts entries for two months during the summer and the judging is held in Albuquerque between the New Mexico State Fair and the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta. This year there were 588 entries from 121 companies in 31 states, plus The United Kingdom, New Zealand, Austria, Switzerland and Australia.

Missouri Ave., 522-0440. Mexican: L D.

NOPALITO RESTAURANT, 310 S. Mesquite St., 524-0003. Mexican: Sunday to Tuesday, Thursday to Saturday. L D.

OLD TOWN RESTAURANT, 1155 S. Valley Dr., 523-4586. Mexican, American: B L.

ORIENTAL PALACE, 225 E. Idaho, 526-4864. Chinese: L D.

PAISANO CAFÉ, 1740 Calle de Mercado, 524-0211. Mexican: B L D.

PEPE'S, 1405 W. Picacho, 541-0277. Mexican: B L D.

PHO A DONG, 504 E. Amador Ave., 527-9248. Vietnamese: L D.

PHO SAIGON, 1160 El Paseo Road, 652-4326. Vietnamese: L D.

PICACHO PEAK BREWING CO., 3900 W. Picacho, 575-680-6394. www.picachopeakbrewery.com

PLAYER'S GRILL, 3000 Herb Wimberly Drive. (NMSU golf course clubhouse), 646-2457. American: B L D.

RANCHWAY BARBECUE, 604 N. Valley Dr., 523-7361. Barbecue, Mexican: Monday to Friday B L D, Saturday D.

RASCO'S BBQ, 125 S. Campo St., 526-7926. Barbecued brisket, pulled pork, smoked sausage, ribs.

RED BRICK PIZZA, 2808 N. Telshor Blvd., 521-7300. Pizzas, sandwiches, salads: L D.

ROBERTO'S MEXICAN FOOD,

908 E. Amador Ave., 523-1851. Mexican: B L D.

ROSIE'S CAFÉ DE MESILLA, 300 N. Main St., 526-1256. Breakfast, Mexican, burgers: Saturday to Thursday B L, Friday B L D.

SAENZ GORDITAS, 1700 N. Solano Dr., 527-4212. Excellent, gorditas, of course, but also amazing chicken tacos. Mexican: Monday to Saturday L D.

SANTORINI'S, 1001 E. University Ave., 521-9270. Greek, Mediterranean: Monday to Saturday L D.

SALUD DE MESILLA, 1800 Avenida de Mesilla B, 323-3548. American, Continental: B L D.

THE SHED, 810 S. Valley Dr., 525-2636. American, pizza, Mexican, desserts: Wednesday to Sunday B L.

SI SEÑOR, 1551 E. Amador Ave., 527-0817. Mexican: L D.

SPANISH KITCHEN, 2960 N. Main St., 526-4275. Mexican: Monday to Saturday B L D.

SPIRIT WINDS COFFEE BAR, 2260 S. Locust St., 521-1222. Sandwiches, coffee, bakery: B L D.

ST. CLAIR WINERY & BISTRO, 1720 Avenida de Mesilla, 524-2408. Wine tasting, bistro: L D.

SUNSET GRILL, 1274 Golf Club Road (Sonoma Ranch Golf Course clubhouse), 521-1826. American, Southwest, steak, burgers, seafood, pasta: B L D.

THAINDIA, 1445 W. Picacho Ave., 373-3000. Thai: Monday to Friday L D, Friday-Saturday LD.

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ON STAGE • MIKE COOK

Bringing Back a Classic

Mark Medoff's "Children of a Lesser God" returns to Broadway in March

Mark Medoff is going back to Broadway.

The Las Cruces playwright's "Children of a Lesser God," which won the 1980 Tony for best play, returns to Broadway next spring. Tickets are now on sale.

"It's humbling," said Medoff, 77.

"You can never predict the future of any artistic enterprise," he said. "You just do the best you can at the time. The real joy of theatre is the work."

In addition to best play, "Children of a Lesser God" (CLG) won Tonys for best actor (John Rubenstein) and best actress (the late Phyllis Frelich). Opening March 30, 1980, it ran for 887 performances on Broadway, and has been produced in theatres across the country and around the world.

Marlee Matlin won a best actress Oscar for the 1986 film version of the play, and Medoff was nominated for best adapted screenplay.

Discussions about reviving the play began in 2014 with Producer Hal Luftig, whom Medoff credits with believing so fiercely in the project that "he was going to make it happen no matter how rigorous the journey."

Medoff started talking to Tony-winning director Kenny Leon about 18 months ago, during Leon's five-day visit to Medoff's Las Cruces home.

Medoff said his impulse was to rewrite the 40-year-old play to update it for the revival. But, after lengthy conversations with Leon, he decided to make only "two additions for clarification."

"It has lasted this long because of what it is," Leon said. "So let's



Children of a Lesser God (Photo by Guzman)

reimagine what it is."

Medoff wrote CLG in 1978-79 in his first year as head of the Theatre Arts at New Mexico State University.

After a workshop production at NMSU, it moved to the Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles that fall.

While casting the West Coast production, Medoff worked in a "little room at the back of the rehearsal space ... cut five characters out and rewrote the whole play," he said, "under the guidance and prodding of the late director and benefactor of the living American writer, Gordon Davidson."

The result was a better developed and ground-breaking female character who would help to define Medoff as a playwright.

"From that point on, I've written a great deal for women," Medoff said, including four more plays for Frelich, who died in April 2014, just a few hours before the birth of Medoff's granddaughter, Hope ELIZABETH HARRI-

SON. Hope suffers with Trisomy 18 (T18), a rare chromosomal abnormality; and, like Frelich, she was born deaf.

Both Hope and Frelich – and the character of Sarah Norman that Frelich portrayed in CLG – feature prominently in the play's sequel, which Medoff is now writing.

Tentatively titled "Quality of Mercy," it tells what happened to Norman and the male lead character in CLG, James Leeds, with Hope as the catalyst for what transpires. Medoff has had preliminary chats with Marlee Matlin about her possible involvement.

"This little girl, Hope, this little miracle – it didn't surprise me that she and Sarah Norman Leeds started beating on the door of my imagination hand in hand, demanding I let them in and pay attention to what they had to say," Medoff said.

When then presidential candidate Donald Trump ridiculed a disabled reporter in 2015, "it changed my life," Medoff said. "I foresaw what could happen to my granddaughter as she gets older and a revival of the imbecilic bigotry that drew me to the defense of the deaf 38 years ago."

Part of his mission with the play, he said, is to tell the story of severely developmentally delayed children and the stress they and their families will face "when the leader of the free world mocks people like them and gives permission to similarly severely disabled 'normal' people to do the same."

Medoff began his playwrighting career while teaching at NMSU in the late 1960s. One day, as he and then NMSU English and theatre student – and future professional actor – William Frankfather (his best-known role was as Whitey Jackson in "Foul Play"), passed in the hall, Frankfather said to Medoff, "Why don't you write a play and we'll put it on?"

The result was "The Wager," which was first produced at Las Cruces Community Theatre in 1966 AND became Medoff's second play to be produced off-Broadway when it opened in New York in 1974.

"When You Comin' Back, Red Ryder?" had opened the previous November and would earn Medoff 1974's Drama Desk and Obie awards for outstanding new playwright. It was made into a 1979 movie, with Medoff writing the adapted screenplay.

While working on his play "The Majestic Kid" at the University of Rhode Island under a grant from Rockefeller Foundation in 1977, Medoff was first introduced to Frelich.

"Within 20 minutes of meeting her, I told her, 'I'm going to write a play for you.'"

"She and her husband, Bob Steinberg, were my closest of friends in the world," he said.

Medoff said he didn't expect CLG to win any awards at the 1980 Tony awards ceremony, remembering that the word on the street was that "Talley's Folly" and playwright Lanford Wilson would be the year's big winners.

At the awards, Rubenstein won first, then Frelich. Medoff thought neither he nor Gordon Davidson, nominated for the directing Tony for CLG, would win because "we were made good by two brilliant performances."

Davidson did not win, but then it was time to announce the Tony for best play. Actor James Earl Jones, announcing the award, "changes our lives with a few words," Medoff said.

Using notes he had gotten out of bed the night before to write – "just in case" – Medoff had to set his award down to give his acceptance speech in American Sign Language.

Medoff thanked his cast and crew, NMSU and his wife, Stephanie, and took his place in the history of American theatre.

"It was a trip," Medoff said.

The magnitude of their wins hit Medoff, Frelich and Rubenstein at a dinner party after the awards WITH THE REST OF THE CLG TEAM."

"That was insane," Medoff remembers. "WE WERE like little kids jumping up and down and screaming BECAUSE WE'D JUST WON THE SIXTH GRADE TALENT SHOW."

The next morning, he was inundated by telegrams from friends, family and students in the lobby of his hotel, Medoff said.

One of the nicest parts of the win was what it meant to his parents, whose support, Medoff said, "was always extraordinary."

"I was supposed to be a doctor, like my father," Medoff said. Instead – with his parents' backing and the encouragement of several professors at the University of Miami, Medoff chose a major in English literature and set out to be a writer.

He was paid so little as an as-

sistant professor at NMSU that his parents had to help pay for his early trips to New York when "Red Ryder" and "The Wager" were first being mounted.

During the CLG revival's first production at the Berkshire Theatre Group in Stockbridge, Massachusetts last summer, Medoff was reminded once again that his favorite place in a theatre is behind the audience.

"I like to stand in the back of the theatre and watch the backs of heads," Medoff said. "I can tell the level of involvement of individual audience members in the minuscule movement or stillness of heads."

Berkshire Theatre audiences were "intensely focused," Medoff said. "Major relief. Production working. Kenny has done a brilliant job of reimagining the play. Live theatre has its own mysterious and miraculous heartbeat."

Lauren Ridloff will play Sarah Norman in the revival. She is a former Miss Deaf America with acting credits that include the movie "Wonderstruck" and the music video for John Legend's "Love Me Now."

Well-known television and movie actor Joshua Jackson will play James Leeds, which Medoff said is a very challenging role because the actor is "talking for two people" – speaking, using sign language and interpreting for Ridloff's character.

"Joshua's been amazing," Medoff said, adding that Ridloff is "going to knock people out."

Actor Anthony Edwards signed on in October to play the role of Mr. Franklin, superintendent of the deaf school where much of the play takes place.

It will be the Broadway debut for all three actors.

CLG previews will begin March 22 at Studio 54, 254 W. 54th St. The revival opens April 11.

"It amazes me that so many people from Las Cruces and former students are coming to the opening week or plan to see the play during its run into July," Medoff said. "The NMSU and Las Cruces community – rightfully – feels a possessiveness about my work, for which I am infinitely grateful."

For more information and to get tickets to the revival of "Children of a Lesser God," visit childrenofalessergodbroadway.com.

Mike Cook may be reached at mike@lascrucesbulletin.com.

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STARRY DOME

continued from page 28

gins around 3:51 a.m. when the Moon enters the Earth's partial shadow. The eclipse will not be obvious for over an hour as the upper left of the Moon's disc begins to darken. It begins to enter the total shadow at 4:48 a.m. The entire Moon will be in the total shadow at 5:52 a.m. It drifts across the southern half of

the Earth's shadow, reaching the middle of the eclipse at 6:31 a.m. The Moon will be setting as it starts to leave the total shadow at 7:07 a.m. While we will not get to see the end of this fascinating spectacle, it will be exciting to find out if the Moon will be grey or a shade of red during totality. Enjoy this phenomenon 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.



40 DAYS & 40 NIGHTS

What's Going On in January

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

Silver City/Grant County

Fort Bayard Museum and walking tour — Opens at 9:15 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Fort Bayard Historic Site. Tours start at 9:30 a.m. from the 1012 Commanding Officer's Quarters, House 26 located on the West side of the Parade Ground. Info: 575-537-2443 or 575-956-3294.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County

Christmas Bird Count — This is an annual census held under the direction of the National Audubon Society. The Lincoln County Bird Club has participated since 1995. Members and guests who wish to participate should call Anita. Info: 575-857-5352. Free Movie Night at Sacred Grounds: "Toni Erdman" — 7-9 p.m. at Sacred Grounds Coffee and Tea House, 2704 Sudderth Drive. Info: 575-257-2273.

Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County

DJ Jah Karma at T or C Brewing Company — 7 p.m. at Truth or Consequences Brewing Company, 410 N. Broadway, T or C. Info: 575-297-0289.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

Discovering the Camino Real at Leasburg Dam State Park — 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Leasburg Dam State Park. Ranger-led 2.5-mile hike to learn why Juan de Oñate and his party left a lush and abundant river valley. Learn about efforts to restore the area's natural environment to conditions similar to what was seen by the Spanish and Indian expedition. Admission: \$5 per car, event is free with paid camping permit. Info: 575-524-4068.

"Native Voices: Native Peoples' Concept of Health and Illness" — Daily at the Branigan Cultural Center through Jan. 13. A traveling exhibit about how wellness and

illness interconnect with cultural life. Info: 575-541-2154.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

Ruidoso/Lincoln County

New Year's Eve Bash: Decades of Fun — 7 p.m. - 2018 at the Inn of the Mountain Gods, 287 Carrizo Canyon Road, Mescalero. Live bands with music from the past. Dinner menu (tickets \$150). Info: innothemountaingods.com. Cree Meadows New Year's Eve Party — 8-11:55 p.m. at Cree Meadows Country Club, 301 Country Club Road. Tickets \$30. Info: 575-257-2733. New Year's Celebration at the Hidden Tap — 9 p.m.-12:30 a.m. at the Hidden Tap, 2408 Sudderth Drive, No. B in Ruidoso. (tickets \$15) Info: 575-257-0497.

Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County

Joyfest 2018 New Year's Eve Party — 7 p.m. at Truth or Consequences Brewing Company, 410 N. Broadway, T or C. Info: 575-297-0289.

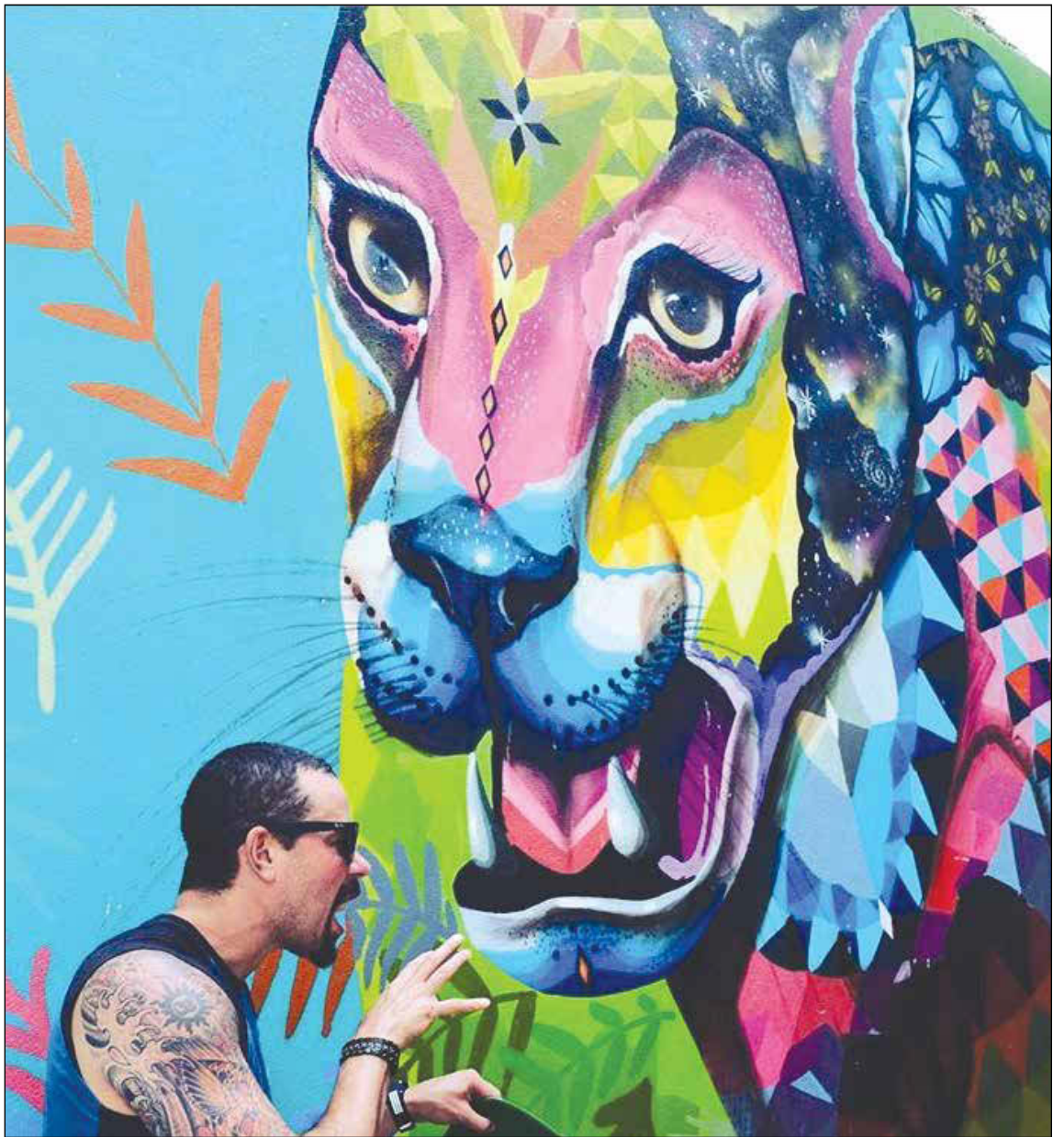
Las Cruces/Mesilla

2018 New Year's Eve Party — 8 p.m.-1 a.m. at the Beverly Hills Hall & Cantina, 150 N. Hermosa St. Info: 575-621-6194. Las Cruces Chile Drop — 9 p.m.-midnight at Downtown Plaza de Las Cruces, 100 N. Main Street. Info: 575-571-5399.

MONDAY, JANUARY 1

Las Cruces/Mesilla

First Day Hike — 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Leasburg Dam State Park. Ranger-led hike of the Buffalo Soldier, Upper and Lower Mogollon Trails. See and feel the rare and unique geothermal springs and aquatic plants and animals that are sustained by these waters. Admission: \$5 per car, event is free with paid camping permit. Info:



On Dec. 30 DJ Jah Karma brings his smooth talent to the Truth or Consequences Brewing Company. (Courtesy Photo)



The Las Cruces Convention Center hosts the Bridal & Special Events Showcase Jan. 28. (Photo by Taylor'd Photography)

Western New Mexico University | Silver City, NM



Thursday, Jan. 11, 2018

Edwina and Charles Milner Women in the Arts Lecture Series:

Jerri Bartholomew

6:30p | WNMU Light Hall Theater
FREE Admission and Open to the Public

Jerri is a research scientist and glass artist, and sometimes these worlds collide.



Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2018

Willy Sucre & Friends

The History of Tango QTANGO

7:00p | WNMU Light Hall Theater
TICKETS — \$15 each; Free with Mustang Card

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2018 Cultural Events Coming to WNMU

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2/13 Sonatas en Duo (France)

3/27 Oboe Quartet

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Ruidoso/Lincoln County
Full Moon Ceremony — 6:30-8p.m. at High Mesa Healing Center. Drumming and labyrinth walk. Info: 575-336-7777.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2
Las Cruces/Mesilla
“Learning to See by Feeling” — 7 p.m. at the Southwest Environmental Center, 275 N. Main St., Las Cruces. Photography program presented by new Doña Ana Photography Club president Dale Taylor. Info: www.daphotoclub.org.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3
Silver City/Grant County
Silver City Photo Club: Bruce Bloy speaker — 7 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Meeting House, 3845 N. Swan in Silver City. Info: 860-670-4543.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
Peregrinas Poetry Reading — 7 p.m. at Mesilla Community Center, 2251 Calle de Santiago, in Mesilla. Three women poets from California who feel it is important for border poets to be in communication with each other read from their work. Info: 575-523-3988.



On Jan. 6 a community dance at the Old Elks Club features the Big Ditch Crickets and the Fiddling Friends. (Courtesy Photo)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4
Alamogordo/Otero County
Live Music at Patron’s Hall: Marie Manning and Khai French — 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Patron’s Hall, 1106 New York Ave. Info: films@flickingercenter.com.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5
Alamogordo/Otero County
Launch Pad Lecture: Explorer 1 and Earth’s Invisible Shield — 9 a.m. at the New Mexico Museum of Space History. A talk with Museum Education Director Dave Dooling. Info: 877-333-6589.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6
Silver City/Grant County
Community Dance: Breaking up Christmas with the Big Ditch Crickets and the Fiddling Friends— 6-9 p.m. at the Old Elks Club, 315 Texas St. behind Vicki’s Eatery. Benefit dance for KURU/GMCR Radio. Info: 575-388-1727.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County
Ski Apache Terrain Park Competition — At Ski Apache. Show off the best trick in front of a crowd. Info: 575-464-3600.

Deming/Luna County
“Braceros: Melding History and Art: — 1 p.m. starting at the Transportation Room of the Deming Luna Mimbres Museum and moving by walking tour to the Deming Art Center. The event begins with a historical talk by Raymond Cobos, followed by a walking tour encountering actors portraying Braceros who are sharing their names, stories and dreams. Info: 575-544-7708.

Alamogordo/Otero County
Beginner’s Hike — 9 a.m., meet at the entry to Christ Community

Church on Scenic Road. Alamogordo Trails hike. Info: 575-404-3891.

MONDAY, JANUARY 8
Silver City/Grant County
Widowed and Single Persons of Grant County — 10:30 a.m. at Cross Point Assembly of God Church, 11600 U.S. Highway 180 E. May Ken Ladner is the speaker. All singles are welcome. Info: 575-537-3643.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 9
Alamogordo/Otero County
Live Music at Patron’s Hall: Dale Young — 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Patron’s Hall, 1106 New York Ave. Info: films@flickingercenter.com.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10
Silver City/Grant County
Learning Circle: The top 10 Things That Make a Great Nonprofit — 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at College Street Plaza Suite 5, 1007 N. Pope St. in Silver City. A resource for Nonprofits. Info: 575-597-0035.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11
Silver City/Grant County
Edwina and Charles Milner Women in the Arts Lecture: Jerri Bartholomew Project — 6:30 P.m. at Light Hall Theater. Research scientist and glass artist, Bartholomew, a microbiology professor at Oregon State University, has been experimenting with collages in glass. Info: 575-538-6469.

Alamogordo/Otero County
Live Music at Patron’s Hall — 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Patron’s Hall, 1106 New York Ave. Info: films@flickingercenter.com.

SATURDAY, January 13
Silver City/Grant County
Fort Bayard Walking Tours — 9:30 a.m. starting at the Fort Bayard Museum, Building 26 on the west side of the Parade Ground. Info: 575-388-4477.

Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County
Second Saturday Art Hop — 6-9 p.m. in Downtown Truth or Consequences. Info: promotions@torcmainstreet.org.

Deming/ Luna County
Stars in the Parks at Rockhound — Sunset 5:23 p.m., program start 6:30 p.m. at Rockhound State Park. Presenter Mike Nuss looks at Sirius rising, Orion, Andromeda Galaxy and more. Info: www.astro-npo.org.



The Gila Native Plant Society meets Jan. 19 to hear about the “intriguing and wonderful natural history of the uncommon Southwestern mustards.” (Courtesy Photo)

Ruidoso/Lincoln County
Ski Apache Terrain Park Competition — At Ski Apache. Show off the best trick in front of a crowd. Info: 575-464-3600.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
Mesilla Valley Outdoor Expo 2018 — 9 a.m.-6 p.m. at the Las Cruces Convention Center. Largest outdoor, hunting, fishing and sporting event in Southern New Mexico. Info: 575-526-0112.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13
Las Cruces/Mesilla
“Learning About Your Camera” — 7 p.m. at the Southwest Environmental Center, 275 N. Main St., Las Cruces. First in a five-part series, a Doña Ana Photography Club boot camp. Info: www.daphotoclub.org.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14
Silver City/Grant County
Mesilla Valley Outdoor Expo 2018 — 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Las Cruces Convention Center. Largest outdoor, hunting, fishing and sporting event in Southern New Mexico. Info: 575-526-0112.

Alamogordo/Otero County
January Zoo Presentation, snakes — 1-4 p.m. at the Alameda Park Zoo, 1021 N. White Sands Blvd. in Alamogordo. Info: 575-495-8499.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16
Las Cruces/Mesilla
“20 Minutes with Ansel Adams” — 7 p.m. at the Southwest Environmental Center, 275 N. Main St., Las Cruces. With the Doña Ana Photography Club. Info: www.daphotoclub.org.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18
Silver City/Grant County
Winter Film Series: “The Mine Wars” — 7 p.m. at the Santa Clara National Guard Armory. Part of the Fort Bayard Historic Preservation Society series “By the Sweat of Their Brows: The Life of the Miner.” Info: 575-388-4862.

Alamogordo/Otero County
Brass Transit — 7 p.m. at the Flickinger Center 1110 New York Ave. Info: films@flickingercenter.com.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19
Silver City/Grant County
Neave Trio, Amazing Chamber Ensemble — 7 p.m. at the Fine Arts Center Theater on the Western New Mexico University campus. Info: www.gconcerts.org.

Gila Native Plant Society meeting — 7 p.m. at Western New Mexico’s Harlan Hall at the corner of 12th and Alabama streets. Sara Fuentes-Sorino, director and curator of the NMSU herbaria presents “The intriguing and wonderful natural history of the uncommon Southwestern mustards.” Info: gilanative@gmail.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
Contra dance with music by the Mulettones — 7:30 p.m. at the Mesilla Community Center, 2251 Calle de Santiago, Mesilla. Lonnie Ludeman still be calling. Info: 575-522-1691.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20
Silver City/Grant County
Stars in the Parks at City of Rocks — Sunset 5:30 p.m., program start 6:40 p.m. at City of Rocks State Park. Presenter Bill Nigg looks at Sirius rising, Orion, Andromeda Galaxy and more. Info: www.astro-npo.org. Words and Music — 2-4 p.m. at the Tranquil Buzz Coffee House at 112 Yankie St. in Silver City. Features



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readers and musicians are followed by open mic. Info: sigriddaughter@gmail.com.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County

Ski Apache Terrain Park Competition — At Ski Apache. Show off the best trick in front of a crowd. Info: 575-464-3600.
Warrant and Winger in concert — 8-11 p.m. at the Inn of the Mountain Gods, 287 Carrizo Canyon Road, Mescalero. Info: innothemountain-gods.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

Singing Out Winter Concert — 7 p.m. at Peace Lutheran Church, 1701 Missouri. The choir will sing songs of peace and hope from around the world. Info: 575-556-9893.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21

Ruidoso/Lincoln County

Ski Apache Terrain Park Competition — At Ski Apache. Show off the best trick in front of a crowd. Info: 575-464-3600.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

Singing Out Winter Concert — 3 p.m. at Peace Lutheran Church, 1701 Missouri. The choir will sing songs of peace and hope from around the world. Info: 575-556-9893.

MONDAY, JANUARY 22

Las Cruces/Mesilla

The Price is Right Live Stage Show — 7:30 p.m. at the NMSU Pan American Center, 1810 E. University Ave., Las Cruces. Info: Ticketmaster.com.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23

Cloudcroft/Otero County

Business Taxes Lunch & Learn — 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Mi-

chael Nivison Library Meeting Room, 90 Swallow Place in Cloudcroft. Info: 575-439-3660.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24

Silver City/Grant County

An Evening in Spain dinner — 5:30 p.m. at the Silver City Museum. Private tour of the museum, entertainment and dinner at Café 1zero6. Introduces new exhibition “Flamenco: From Spain to New Mexico.” Tickets for this fundraiser are for sale at the Silver City Museum Society store for \$150. Info: 575-538-5921.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25

Silver City/Grant County

Winter Film Series: “How Green Was My Valley” — 7 p.m. at the Santa Clara National Guard Armory. Part of the Fort Bayard Historic Preservation Society series “By the Sweat of Their Brows: The Life of the Miner.” Info: 575-388-4862.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26

Las Cruces/Mesilla

Art Speaker Series Glenn Cutter —

noon at the Doña Ana Arts Council Arts & Cultural center, 1740 Avenida de Mercado, Suite D, in the Bulletin Plaza in Mesilla. Cutter’s topics include New Mexico Arts, the New Mexico Arts Commission and the Art in Public Places program. Info: 575-523-6403.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27

Silver City/Grant County

Fort Bayard Walking Tours — 9:30 a.m. starting at the Fort Bayard Museum, Building 26 on the west side of the Parade Ground. Info: 575-388-4477.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

Las Cruces/Mesilla

Bridal & Special Events Showcase — 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Las Cruces Convention Center. A wide array of local businesses and service providers will be onsite to present options and ideas for event planning. Info: 575-522-1232.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30

Silver City/Grant County

President’s Chamber Music



Fort Bayard walking tours are featured at historic Fort Bayard in Grant County on two Saturdays in January, the 13th and 27th. (Photo by Elva K. Österreich)



Warrant and Winger show up in concert on Jan. 20 at the Inn of the Mountain Gods in Mescalero. (Courtesy Photo)

Series: Featuring Willy Sucre and Friends — 7 p.m. at Light Hall Theater at WNMU. The history of tango from Bizet to Piazzola with guest artist QTANGO. Info: 575-538-6469.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Ruidoso/Lincoln County

Stomp — 7 p.m. at the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts, 108 Spencer Road, Alto. Info: 575-336-4800.



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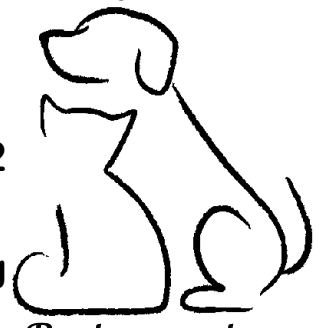
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STAYING HEALTHY

Clean, Safe, Water
Water Well Trust expands to
10 New Mexico counties

The Water Well Trust, the only national nonprofit helping low-income Americans get access to a clean, safe water supply, has announced that it is expanding from nine to ten the number of New Mexico counties eligible to receive assistance for drilling a new water well or rehabilitate an existing well.

In 2017, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) awarded a \$200,000 matching grant to the Water Well Trust (WWT) for a project to increase potable water availability to households in nine rural New Mexico counties, including Catron, Chaves, Dona Ana, Grant, Hidalgo, Luna, Otero, Sierra, and Socorro counties. The WWT has now expanded eligibility to another county: Curry.

The USDA grant monies will provide long-term, low-interest loans to applicants seeking new or improved water wells in the 10-county area.

To be eligible to receive a WWT loan, applicants must be the owner and occupant of

the home as their primary residence. In addition, the applicant’s household income must not exceed 100% of the median non-metropolitan household income for the state in which the applicant resides. The 2017 median non-metropolitan household income for New Mexico is \$52,300. The income criteria apply to both the applicant and all other occupants of the home.

Prospective applicants can download the application form and instruction letter from the Water Well Trust website at waterwelltrust.org under “Apply” at the top of the home page.

The Water Systems Council established the Water Well Trust in 2010 to provide clean, sanitary drinking water to Americans who lack access to a reliable water supply, and to construct and document small community water systems using water wells to demonstrate that these systems are more economical.

For more information, visit waterwelltrust.org.

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Rugged Kauai beach.



Napali Coast (Photos by Richard Atkins)

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Kauai

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If you haven't visited Oahu, you've probably seen those aerial views on the new "Hawaii 5-0" television series. Looking more like LA with just as much traffic, it's a "meh." If you haven't traveled to Maui, I can tell you it's become overdeveloped and highly commercialized where Walmart and Home Depot abound. The Big Island is formidably rugged with an active volcano but doesn't necessarily scream, "bucket list."

However Kauai, aptly named "The Garden Isle" is a veritable feast for the senses. For starters, the place is awash with luscious green featuring a rainbow of botanical colors to make your head spin! The reason? Parts of the island are considered some of the rainiest on the planet. And when it does rain, it's torrential, but not for long, for when the sun comes out, it's time to experience the colossal joys Kauai has to offer!



Wailua Falls in Lihue.

Bucket List Starting with dinner on a sunset cruise

Starting at 2 p.m., you embark onto a 65' Star Class luxury catamaran while Captain Roy lays the ground rules for a safe and enjoyable cruise. As Roy steers the boat out to sea, he gives a thorough commentary with comic flair on the history of Kauai and its oceanfront inhabitants from old sugar cane factories to longtime residents with colorful histories. If you're lucky, you might see whales breaching

or dolphins keeping up with the catamaran just for fun.

The centerpiece of this adventure comes when the color streaked mountains of the Na Pali Coast come into view. At this point, you've seriously stepped into other-worldly territory as you honestly won't believe your eyes. Captain Roy points out some major flicks that have filmed here like "Jurassic Park" and "Pirates of the Caribbean" and television shows like "Fantasy Island."

Kauai's Only Underground Tubing Adventure

You and your group can hop in a van with Kauai Backcountry Adventures as you travel through historic and hallowed Lihue Plantation land deep within the Kauai countryside. Chelsea, our fearless leader talks generously about all things Kauai, and prepares us for an invigorating tubing adventure through underground irrigation tunnels

KAUAI

continued on page 37

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The Lodge: Daily 9-5 at 60 Bear Mt. Ranch Rd.



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Grand Hyatt Kauai Resort and Spa, 1571 Poipu Road, Koloa, HI, 808.742.1234, kauai.grand.hyatt.com, res@hyatt.com, starting at \$373 non-refundable advance purchase
Kauai Banyan Inn, 3528B Mana Hema Place, Lawai, HI, 808-645-6527, kauaibanyan.com, lorna@kauaibanyan.com, from \$155
Captain Andy's Cruises, 4353 Waialo Rd., #1a, Eleele, HI, 808-335-6833, napali.com, fun@napali.com \$149 per person
Kauai Backcountry Adventures, 3-4131 Kuhio Highway, Lihue, HI, 808.245.2506, kauaibackcountry.com, adventure@kauaibackcountry.com, \$106 per person
Aloha Massage Kauai, 808-635-2789, alohamassagekauai.com, Kapaa, HI, alohamassagekauai@gmail.com Starting at \$110 for 60 minutes
Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge, https://www.fws.gov/refuge/kilauea_point/, 808-828-1413.
McBryde and Allerton Gardens, 4425 Lawai Rd., Koloa, HI, 808-742-2623.



Sunset at Poipu.

KAUAI

continued from page 36

that were miraculously hand dug in 1870.

Donning a miner's helmet sans light as the tunnels are dark, you gently glide through the canal spinning unfettered every which way by the changing current. But don't fret because the caves are high enough not to elicit claustrophobia. At the end of the journey, a tasty picnic lunch awaits at a nearby swimming hole where the rest of the crew serenades you with their smooth Hawaiian vocals and ukulele! After the tour, photos of your experience can be purchased back at their home-base. The outfitter also has zip-line excursions as well! "Book it, Danno!"

Waimea Canyon

A trip to Kauai would not be complete without a visit to Waimea Canyon. It's the Grand Canyon of Hawaii and a spectacular site to see. You can make the scenic drive to the site or take one of many helicopter tours that take you deep within the bowels of the canyon for a bird's eye view. In any event, SEE IT!

An intimate spot

Listening to Siri, we turned down a street that looked like a dead end, though a vehicle surprised us by appearing where we thought the road had ended! Consequently, we realized the road continued on as we meandered around another curve, up and down a steep hill, a sharp turn to the right and up around



African Albizia Tree.

another corner where we finally arrived at the ultra-private lodgings we were looking for, Kauai Banyan Inn and B & B.

We had our breakfast (fresh fruit and baked goods) to the cacophony of nature at our doorstep. We'd hear birds, goats, roosters, horses, cats and dogs at various rhythmic intervals. The inn is conveniently situated on the South Shore, so it's only minutes to pristine beaches, the botanical gardens and the shops at Kukui'ula featuring Lappert's ice cream, art galleries and great restaurants.

The rest of the island

Koloa Town is great for shopping, coffee shops, ice cream, great food trucks in the park with the roosters and the wonderful La Spezia for elegant, Italian fine dining. Another quaint little town for great window shopping is Hanapepe which has a weekly, Friday night festival and art night. On the North

Shore, Hanalei is a lively hub for dining, galleries, beach combing and the historic Waioli Huiia Mission house and church built in 1837. Turtle Cove in Princeville is spectacular, but not for the faint of heart as it is a trek for serious hikers only.

Photo-ops around the island include Wailua and Opaekaa Falls, Spouting Horn, the Allerton and McBryde gardens, the Kilauea Lighthouse and Wildlife Refuge and last but not least, those abundant, noisy but protected roosters!

Mahalo!!

Richard Atkins is a travel writer, photographer, playwright, actor, composer/ pianist and can be reached at: seaofclouds@att.net



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LIVING ON WHEELS • SHEILA SOWDER

RVing in the 'Land of Fire and Ice'

The man standing in front of the registration desk at Rose Valley had a slight accent.

"Where are you from?" I asked since I'm allowed to be nosy.

"Switzerland," was the surprise answer. I hadn't thought of the Swiss as being big RVers.

I looked out at his large camper van that didn't look like any I'd seen before.

"We had it shipped over from home," he told me.

"Why not just rent one here?"

"Because we're here for a year and a half." A year and a half! Yeah, I can see how it was cheaper to ship the darn thing across the Atlantic than rent one, which could have been as expensive as buying a decent used one.

His name is Erwin Widner, and he went on to tell me how they'd already driven across Canada from east to west, then south through the western US until they reached Silver City, which they enjoyed so much they ended up staying for almost a week. After flying back to Switzerland for the holidays, they plan to follow Route 66 for a while, head north to Chicago, drive on to New England, and then meander down the east coast.

"After that we'd like to drive down through Central and South America to the tip of Argentina."

I started to tell him about all the licensing and regulations involved because, you know, now I'm an expert on Pan-American travel based on my extensive hour-long research into crossing the Mexican border.

He stopped me, saying, "I would like to just go, head south, forget all that stuff."

He laughed at my expression of horror. "But my wife likes paperwork and reading about the regulations." Ah, those Swiss, what a sense of humor.

Such an intriguing idea though — RVing around a foreign country. Surely it must tickle the imagination of my readers, I thought, even those without that extra spirit of adventure it would take to do it. I've already written about Mexico and En-

gland. But how about Iceland? And before you decide I'm nuts, think about it. Iceland is a little smaller than Kentucky but only has about 340,000 people. Airlines go into the capital Reykjavik, and there are regular ferries from Denmark. The island nation is gorgeous (see photos on the Guide to Iceland website) and no, it's not totally covered in ice. Its weather is surprisingly moderate due to that nifty Gulf Stream, and this "Land of Fire and Ice" is home to some of the largest glaciers in Europe and some of the world's most active volcanoes. Daylight lasts almost 24 hours in the summer. It's also one of the safest countries in the world, with an extremely low crime rate. As a bonus, everyone speaks English.

Icelanders are generally hearty, openminded, friendly, and healthy. With an average life span of around 82 years compared to around 80 here in the US. Last year only 78 of them moved to another country, maybe because the unemployment rate hovers just under 3 percent. Their modern and democratic society ranks high for quality of life and gender equality, and its health care, internet availability and education are among the best in the world.

RVTravel.com editor Chuck Woodbury enthused after spending a week RVing in Iceland: "Best kept secret for RV travel in the world. One minute it looks like the Scottish Highlands, then you turn a corner and you swear you're on the Oregon coast. Turn a few more corners and you ask yourself 'How did I get on Mars?' And you've never seen so many waterfalls."

Have I piqued your interest yet? How about if I tell you there are over 170 campgrounds in the country, most with electricity, running water and restrooms. Camping is a national passion there, and you'll find parks throughout most of the country. For a listing of all the campgrounds, check out <https://en.camping.info/iceland/campsites>. Also, a huge benefit—cars drive on the right side of the



Icelandic camping cars have all the comforts of a very tiny home.

road and pass on the left, just as in the U.S.

So, what's the scoop on renting an RV? you ask. Do I have to jump through regulatory hoops, pay a fortune? No to the first, depends on when you travel to the second. Your U.S. driver's license will suffice, but be sure to check out Icelandic road signs online before you go. And even though there's little traffic outside of Reykjavik, drive attentively because there are lots of roundabouts, speed bumps, and cows, which roam freely throughout much of the country. And watch out for reindeer.

RVs available for rent range from a cute SUV with a tent on top (see photo from rental agent www.campingcars.is) to a Class C motorhome that sleeps six. They come equipped with amenities and supplies, but rentals are not cheap. Figure anywhere from 1,200 euros/week for a tent-top SUV up to 3,500 euros for the motorhome during summer months. And that's euros, not dollars. On the other hand, off-season rentals are about half as much, so if you're hankering to see the spectacular Northern Lights, you'll get a bargain.

So, what do you think? Has

your appetite been whetted? There's lots more information on the internet, so check it out, explore the possibilities, even if it's only for an adventure of the vicarious, armchair variety.

Sheila and husband, Jimmy Sowder, have lived at Rose Valley RV Ranch in Silver City for four years following five years of wandering the US from Maine to California. She can be contacted at skssowder@aol.com.



Swiss RVers Erwin and Lina Widner enjoy their visit to Silver City.



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