

DESERT exposure

Arts & Leisure in Southern New Mexico



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MAY 2018

Volume 23 • Number 5



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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. MLS #34945 \$185,000.



DOWNTOWN INVESTMENT PROPERTY with lots of appeal. 5 apartments upstairs, 4 storefronts downstairs, great location, and steady income stream. Priced to sell at only \$395,000. MLS #35201



CHARMING PLAZA situated right between downtown and the university – currently office spaces, but convertible to residential, or mixed use. 18 units, with lots of parking. Good income stream, well-maintained. See it soon! MLS #35222



PRICE REDUCED! Big & Roomy home with splendid views overlooking Silver City. 2 full Master Suites + 3rd BR/BA. Oversize LR w/beamed ceilings & FP + large sunroom for solar gain. Over 3,000 sq. ft. and priced to sell at only \$215,000! MLS #35104



IN THE PINES – Your own spot in the forest will never be more affordable. ONLY \$5000 buys this 1/3 acre lot in Trout Valley. Community water system, tall pines, Peace and Quiet. Call today! MLS# 31569



10 ACRES IN THE PINES, BUT JUST MINUTES FROM DOWNTOWN. This Bear Mountain Rd. homestead has a little house and the beginnings of a large metal Quanset outbuilding. Electricity in place. A great hideaway! Only \$125,000. MLS #33849

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Office: (575) 538-0404
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Good bare land just outside of Lordsburg. Seems like would be great for a pecan farm. Level 77 acres with a well without power, although power is close. MLS# 35268 **\$50,000**



40 ACRES IN CITY LIMITS OFF HIGHWAY 90S, ZONED INDUSTRIAL & RURAL. A former gravel pit is on a portion of the property, but there are many possible uses for this large tract of land. The property includes part of the former Turner Airport runway. MLS# 35300 **\$75,000**



3BD/1.75BA IN TOWN ON CORNER LOT. TWO LIVING AREAS, FRONT COVERED PORCH, STORAGE SHED, CARPORT. This house needs updating but has a newer roof, good-sized rooms, & is priced to sell! MLS# 35285, **\$85,000**



TRIPLE-WIDE Manufactured home on two lots - 0.4 acres right in town with all city utilities and a view! Large open floor plan, standing seam metal roof, expansive front deck, & a fenced in yard for the pooch plus storage building. Front sun room could serve as a family room/den/office. Lots of space and the home is ready for financing with a de-activated title! MLS# 35294, **\$127,000**



Well-maintained home in the Manhattan Park subdivision features over 1900 s.f., three beds, two baths, two living areas, formal dining room, large country kitchen, metal roof, carport, two MasterCool cooling systems, totally landscaped front and back and even a carport. A lot of home for the price. MLS# 35223, **\$139,000**



A STAND-OUT TYRONE HOME, 4 BEDROOM/2BATH has had some major improvements: new roof, new rear deck, upgraded kitchen with custom cabinets, granite countertops, & kitchen is opened up to the living room with breakfast bar. Great master bath which creates a nice master suite + walk-in closet, and separated from the rest of the bedrooms. Fenced backyard plus a view too! MLS# 35234. **\$157,000**



1997 PALM HARBOR MANUFACTURED HOME ON 43 ACRES BORDERING NATIONAL FOREST. Beautiful land with views, just 15 minutes from Silver City. This property is the former St. Mary Theotokos Retreat Center, and includes historic chapel and rock ruins. No well/water - estimate to drill a new well approx. \$17K. MLS# 34686, **\$159,000**



4BD/1.5BA on 4.75 ACRES IN THE LITTLE WALNUT AREA NEAR THE NATIONAL FOREST! This home was part of an old homestead and was added on to over the years. Apple orchard in the front, and stream in the back. Newer septic, private well, come take a look! MLS# 35299, **\$195,000**



This beautiful 3 bedroom 2 bath, rural home is set up just off of Mangus Creek with garage and artist workshop for the hobby enthusiasts. This is one of the prettier locations west of Silver City and within 18 minutes of town limits. You'll love entering through the irrigated farm land and giant cottonwoods as you approach your getaway. This home is cared for and will show well. Set up your appointment to see today. Water rights include domestic, livestock and commercial use. MLS# 34833, **\$199,000**



2BD/2BA SOUTHWESTERN STYLE HOME IN TOWN WITH POTENTIAL FOR A 3RD BEDROOM. Corner lot, great views, fenced backyard and two storage sheds. Front courtyard patio and rear covered patio, attached two car garage. New rubber roof two years ago. Home has a second living area currently used as an office & playroom. Come take a look! MLS# 35257, **\$209,500**



Hard to find, 4 bedroom home just on the edge of the City Limits. Open, large rooms with lots of windows and light. Great room with French Doors out to the back patio brings the wonderful back yard and patio inside and makes for great entertainment space. Home has 2 Master Suites. New ADA shower in one master bathroom. This home offers rural privacy just minutes from town, schools and medical centers. Mature fruit trees and wonderful roses make the back yard a great place to entertain and enjoy the views. Take a look! The views are wonderful! MLS# 34317. **\$338,500**



CLASSIC, TRADITIONAL ADOBE HOME ON 4 ACRES NORTH OF TOWN. Great views, southern exposure, passive solar design. All brick floors, kiva fireplaces, vigas, patios, hornos, 2 car adobe garage, metal roof, workshop/storage building. Office or guest area is connected by a breezeway. Oversized master suite with living space & access to the outdoors. This home says "New Mexico!" MLS# 35252, **\$399,900**

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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,
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



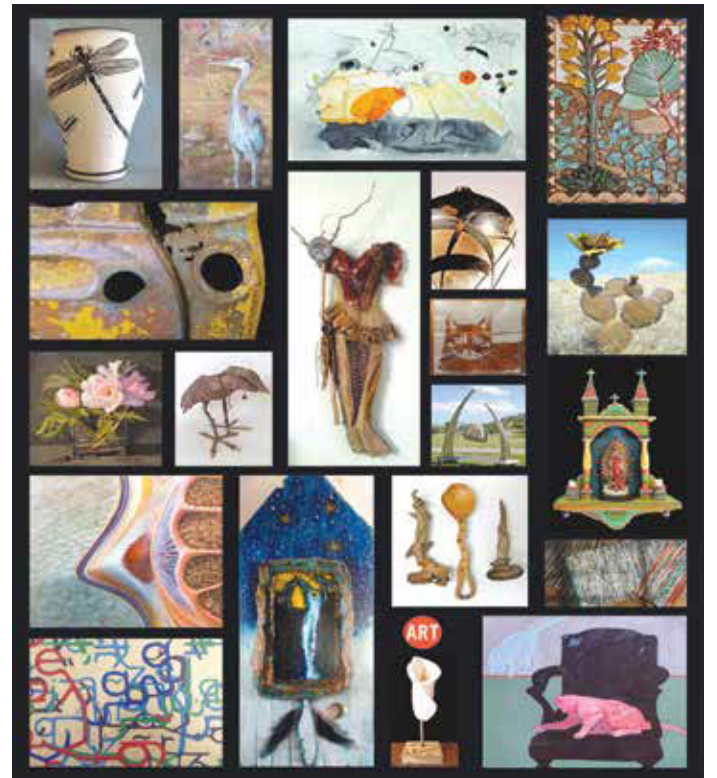
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ABOUT THE COVER:

This month's cover of the Desert Exposure is a composite of artwork done by Studio Artists of the Silver City area. These artists will have their studios open for the first time in the spring, on the weekend of May 5 and 6. The artists will be available to talk with you about their process and their work. There will be a kick-off party Friday, May 4. Visit www.silvercityart.com, for information, locations and a map.



Letters

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

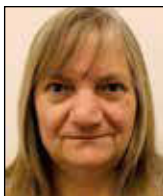
We welcome letters to the editor including your opinions and feedback regarding news, events and issues published here. Traditional letters to the editor offer an opportunity to start a new discussion, share your opinions or provide information you believe is of interest to other readers.

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, May 24 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.



BEEZWAX by John Martin



BEEZWAX by John Martin

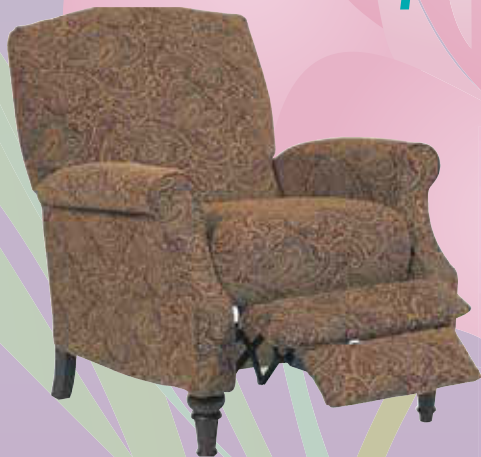


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RAISINGDAD • JIM AND HENRY DUCHENE

The Game is On

Dad is not watching baseball

My father's favorite sport is baseball.

I don't know why. Maybe it's because he comes from a time when there was nothing else to do. Back when he was growing up, it didn't matter that a baseball game could last all afternoon. What else were you going to do? Cut an apple in half and watch it turn brown?

My lovely wife tries to make it as enjoyable as she can for him. She fluffs his pillow. Makes him snacks. She even sits him down and turns the TV on for him. The only problem is, he won't stay sitting down. He gets up and goes to his room constantly.

When he does, after 10 or 15 minutes, we'll change the channel, but my father must have some kind of radar, because that's exactly the time he'll come back. He'll walk into the family room, stand on one side of the TV, look at it, at us, at it, at us, and ask no one in particular, "Is the game over?"

He knows the game isn't over. I have a sneaking suspicion that he's secretly been watching it in his room on his TV, laughing to himself, "Heh, heh, heh," and, when enough time has passed for us to have changed the channel to something we like, he comes back.

"No," I'll tell him, "but you went to your room, so we thought you were watching it there." I give him hints that are so big, they could be rolling down a cave at Indiana Jones.

So, we'll change the TV back for him. After a while, my wife will get up and fiddle around in the kitchen. She'll clean something or make us some popcorn. I'll pick up a magazine and go thumbing through it. You know I'm bored when reading what Martha Stewart has to say is the more entertaining alternative.

My father will then get up and go to his room. He doesn't say, "I'll be back." He doesn't say, "Good-night." He doesn't say, "Excuse me, but I've got to go see a man

about a horse." He just leaves, without a word.

My wife eventually makes her way back and sits beside me. I'll put the magazine down. We'll talk for a bit. After another 10-15 minutes have passed, we'll look at each other. I'll pick up the remote and change the channel. With any lucks there will be a rerun of "Wings," an old TV show we both like. That, or "Third Rock From The Sun."

"Hey," I'll say, "I haven't seen this episode," and, right on cue, my father will walk in. He'll look at the TV, at us, at the TV, and back at us.

"Is the game over?"
"When you left," I'll tell him, "I thought that meant you didn't want to watch the game."

"No, I want to watch the game."

So, we'll change the television back to baseball. My father will continue standing, watch the game for a few minutes, and then walk off again. Which brings me to the present...

Ten minutes later, no Pop.

Twenty minutes later, no Pop.

"What do you think?"

"I think he's not coming back," I tell my wife, but I'm lying.

"Are you sure?"

"Not really."

"Should we change it?"

"We'll only have to change it back."

"How does he know?"

"I don't know. He just does."

"Do you think he's wiretapping us?"

I know my wife is kidding. She has that wry smile when she's being facetious. My wife is funny, but she has a very dry sense of humor. If you miss the visual cues, you'll think she was serious. She lifts the table lamp and looks underneath it, pretending to search for a surveillance bug.

So, I change the TV. This time hoping for "Gilligan's Island."

Yeah, I'm old.

At the 30 minute mark my father comes back, right on schedule. He

has papers in his hands and tells me he needs help with his bank statements. My wife gives me that wry smile again. Then, without a word, she gets up and goes upstairs. She gives me a little salute on her way out. She knows better than to stay.

"What's the problem, Pop?" I ask, not really wanting to know.

My father sits himself down at the kitchen table, so I have to get up, go over, and see what's bothering him.

"I don't know about my bank," he tells me. "Those characters, they'll cheat you blind."

"What do you mean?"

He shows me his statement. I look it over. It looks fine to me.

"Those characters are after my money," he tells me.

He asks about this deposit. Then about that one. They are the same deposits that are made every month, and in the same amounts. He asks me about a few of the deductions.

I tell him, "Well, Pop, on this day you did this and on that day you did that."

Everything checks out. Thirty minutes after we began, we're done.

My father gets up. Takes a step toward his room. Stops. Looks at the TV. Picks up the remote. Changes the channel back to the baseball game he keeps not watching. Then leaves. Back to his room.

To finish not watching the game, I suppose.

I sit down. Turn off the TV. There's nothing I really want to watch, anyway. After a while, when she senses there's no longer a disturbance in The Force, my wife comes back down and sits beside me.


"Is the game over?" she asks.

The game is always on at RaisingMyFather.BlogSpot.com, JimDuchene.BlogSpot.com, and @JimDuchene. Come watch it with us.

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BEEZWAX by John Martin

Desert #23 Dumbfounder by Dave Thomas

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

"AQ EBUQ DEND "QRRN WNT - YRF YCQQ" AKRR EQRU BDEQCJ AEB ENXQ
PBOQ DECBIPE JILE N DCNPQVF ... ZQQUKOP QRRN'J JUKCKD NRKXQ
KO ABCVJ NOV JBOP KJ AEND AQ'XQ VBOQ." - WQONOKQ HLRQCKQ.

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 WAS STUNNED TO LEARN THAT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO IS CONSIDERING OUTSOURCING THE DISTRIBUTION OF BOOKS FROM UNM PRESS." - DENISE CHAVEZ, LAS CRUCES
Secret Words*: "UNIMPROVED FACTS"

Congrats to #22 solvers George Egert*, Will Adams*, Mike Arms*, Jake Varnhagen*, Ann Boulden*, Shorty Vaiza*, and Rob Fitch*!



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PUBLISHER'S NOTEBOOK • RICHARD COLTHARP

New Mexico To Do

Checking off your List of Enchantment

For a big state, New Mexico is awfully small.

Geographically, it feels like the Old West. We are a bunch of diverse outposts spread all around, with the watering holes of Albuquerque and Santa Fe in the middle.

We who live on the outside typically return to the watering holes once or twice a year either for business or pleasure, whether we need to or not. How many times have you stopped for gas somewhere in New Mexico 150 miles from where you live, and run into someone from your own town?

I've lived in southern New Mexico for 22 years now — 12 in Alamogordo and 10 in Las Cruces.

Sometimes I view Albuquerque and Santa Fe as necessary evils, but I can truly say I've never had a bad time in either of those cities. I can add that I've never had a bad time in any of the other many towns and cities in New Mexico I've been.

Many times I've enjoyed din-



Dawn in New Mexico. (Photo by FeVa Photos)

ing at the Frontier Restaurant in Albuquerque. The Frontier sits on Central Avenue (Route 66) right across from the University of New Mexico. It's a haunt for late-night study sessions for students, as well as late-night post-party sessions.

They also may have the best flour tortillas in the state. I always get a fresh bag to go when I visit. And I really like their cinnamon rolls drowned in butter. Plus, as do many places in New Mexico, it doubles as an art gallery, with wildly varied works on

the walls.

Once while dining there, I overheard someone at a nearby table declare to an out-of-state guest, "You haven't been to New Mexico until you've had a sweet roll at the Frontier."

Being a lover of lists, I quickly mentally compiled a roster of other things you need to do in order to file a legitimate "I've been to New Mexico" claim.

It's a fluid list always subject to modification, but here's a current glimpse.

If you've read this column before, you know I can hardly get through one without mentioning food, especially green chile. So to keep from spending the next 12 pages talking about food, I will limit to the list only one food item (other than the Frontier roll), and focus on things truly unique to our state.

TRINITY SITE: There can only ever be one first atomic bomb detonation. And it happened right here. When I saw photos of the little obelisk that marks the remote location on the Socorro County portion of White Sands Missile Range, I thought, "Meh." When I actually visited the site, however, I was overcome with emotion. What happened in July 1945 changed the course of human history. That's a powerful thing. The preparation for the bomb was also done in New Mexico, in Los Alamos.

GREEN CHILE CHEESEBURGER: Just a few miles from Trinity Site, in tiny San Antonio (the hometown of hotel mag-

nate Conrad Hilton), you'll find Ground Zero for New Mexico's culinary bombshell. Both the Owl Bar & Café (since 1945) and the Buckhorn Tavern (since 1944) pre-date the atomic blast, but just barely. You can find green chile cheeseburgers on every corner in New Mexico, but everyone needs to make a pilgrimage to the Mecca of this iconic meal. Sample them both to make your own determination which is best.

WHITE SANDS NATIONAL MONUMENT: So unique the BBC has called it the "beautiful white dunes that should not exist." The white gypsum dunes can only be found in a few other places on earth, but in tiny samples. The rambling 275 square miles of White Sands, visible from space, is a wonderland of endless fascination, beauty and mystery. Very few places in New Mexico can you comfortably go barefoot. This is the best. Kick your shoes off and explore the sands. Take a nap, take a hike, view the full moon, go with no moon and watch Venus cast your shadow. No joke. Amazing is the most overused word in America, but nowhere is it more applicable.

FOUR CORNERS MONUMENT: A little cheesy, yes, and not really much there, but to be able to stand in New Mexico, Arizona, Utah and Colorado all at one time, is still a cool thing. And while you've made it this far, go see the stunning Shiprock on the Navajo Reservation nearby.

INTERNATIONAL UFO MUSEUM AND RESEARCH CENTER: Even though the supposed alien landing didn't happen in Roswell (closer to Corona), this is the place where all the information came together.

Just as you have to come to your own conclusion regarding Buckhorn vs. Owl green chile cheeseburger, you have to review the information at the museum to decide for yourself what exactly did or did not happen in July 1947 in the New Mexico desert. There is sufficient information for multiple outcomes, and it's fun learning.

SANTA FE PLAZA: People can criticize the City Different all they want, often deservedly, and the parking and prices are a pain, but nowhere in the world can you find this diverse combination of history (back to 1598, for Zozobra's sake!), art, jewelry, cultures, dining, nightlife, anthropology, shopping, music, museums, characters, politics, people watching, unique lodging, dive bars, religion and more in such a small geographic footprint. It is a microcosm of what makes our state what it is.

Richard Coltharp is publisher of *Desert Exposure* and the *Las Cruces Bulletin*.

He has done all these and much more, but this Buddy Holly fan's NM Bucket List still includes the Norman & Vi Petty Rock & Roll Museum in Clovis, the El Rancho Hotel in Gallup, Meow Wolf in Santa Fe, Los Alamos, the Bibo Bar & Grille, the Cumbres & Toltec Railroad in Chama, Fort Sumner, attending mass at San Juan Church on the Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo, and whatever cool thing you can tell him about he hasn't already done (or wants to do again). He can be reached at richard@lascrucesbulletin.com.



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JOINT COMMISSION ACCREDITED

Letter to the Editor

No guarantees fly-over rules would be adhered to

Dear Editor,

The March issue of *Desert Exposure* had a letter stating there have only been "claims being made, but with no facts" regarding the F16 training flights over the Gila region. The writer then goes on to say what he considers the "major issues are." Regardless of what the Air Force says they plan to do (which is very scant info), what really happens when the pilots are out there could very likely be two different things. I have personally experienced a low flying jet at eye level when hunting on a hillside of a valley and I fell to the ground from the sudden sight, thunder and speed. Many others have experienced the same type of thing.

One undisputed fact is that tourists come to New Mexico and to the Gila Region for the open spaces (NM Tourism and Chamber data). If taxpaying citizens come

here on vacation to enjoy outdoor recreation experience the terror of F16s flying close overhead or at eye level like I had, it would be logical to assume that most would not return. If one were on horseback and had the experience, it could be a life-threatening event. All of this would be a detriment to our economy.

To repeat my earlier point, it is unfortunately a moot point to have on paper, regulations of how fast, what elevation etc. the jets are supposed to fly over our skies. There will be no realistic way to enforce illegal flying activity. Stories abound of citizens calling every base in the region only to be told "we have no jets flying in that area". The only way to ensure the skies remain as they are is to deny F16 training in our nation's first wilderness area and the surrounding region. Our economy will be for the better as well.

Michael Sauber
USAF Veteran
Silver City

DESERT DIARY • PRINNIE MCCOURT

Fear vs. Fear

Discovering counter-phobia

I just learned a new word: counter-phobic.

Google defines it as seeking out the source of fear, rather than fleeing from it, in the hope of overcoming it.

"Ah, ha!" I thought. "That's exactly what happened this morning on my front deck, where my feral cats rule."

Every morning, when I bring out their bowl of Friskies Fish, a young yellow tabby named Goldie stands on the railing and tries to hijack the bowl for herself by reaching out and hooking it with her claws.

Over the last few weeks I've noticed her changing from sleek to fluffy, a transition I would rather ignore, since I doubt it comes from over-feeding.

It's not that I don't periodically set out Havahart traps and take my catch in to be spayed or neutered by the vet.

But I don't always catch them all, as Goldie's shape was making more obvious every day.

This morning, as she lurked on the railing, in position to snag the bowl, I noticed the rear half of her body was as brown as if she'd been dipped in mud or chocolate.

No such luck. It was blood. My first thought was...SHARKS!

BLOOD LUST! FEEDING FRENZY!

Not that we have sharks in the Chihuahuan Desert, where I live.

But sharks are drawn to blood, as are chickens (I don't have any of those, either.) But there are other cats, dogs, coyotes, hawks, and owls in the area that are just as drawn to blood's tantalizing scent as any shark.

Goldie was a walking invitation to every carnivore in the neighborhood.

What had happened to her? No signs of trauma anywhere. Had she had kittens? Was she stained by the afterbirth?

At this moment the answers were nowhere near as important as the fact Goldie was covered in blood, stigmata sentencing her to a quick and brutal death. What to do?

Give her a bath.

Oh, yeah! Give a large, adult cat a bath. A large feral cat, whose only personal interaction with me is when I dodge her food-seeking claws, or attempt a quick, furtive pat down her back.

Give her a bath!

And this is where the word counter-phobic comes in.

The only result I really expected from bathing a cat were long, bloody gouges down both my arms, and deep, infected bites on my hands, and maybe even my face, followed by the onset of Cat-Scratch Fever.

I didn't even think I'd end up with a clean cat.

So why would I try it? Sharks!

Blood Lust!

I know I'm usually a coward, a real scaredy cat, but I still started plotting how I'd wash that cat.

Really thick work gloves. Long pants and long-sleeved jacket. A pan of warm water, and a couple old facecloths and towels I won't mind throwing away. Band-aids and a bottle of Peroxide. Cell phone pre-set to 911.

With my mind totally set in failure mode, but my counter-phobic urges set on "shark," I tip-toed out on the deck with bath implements in one hand and an open can of Friskies Tuna Medley in the other.

Before Goldie could swipe at the can, I put it down by her nose and headed for her tail.

With a still-warm, wet facecloth I reached out and started dabbing at her bloodiest areas. She never stopped eating, but gradually her back and tail went up and she started purring. Purring and purring until I had washed off all the blood.

But by this time she was quite wet, and a cool breeze was blowing. I put down the face cloth and picked up the towel, and Goldie walked away.

When she turned around to stare at me, I waved the towel at her — and she returned to get dried off.

Later I found Goldie hiding in a tall garden pot or olla, nursing her four kittens.

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The first mayordomos from 1921, from left to right, Mr and Mrs Frank Dorame and Mr. and Mrs. Elias Aguilar. Juanita and Elias were parents of Fabia who married Esau Castillo. Years later, Fabia's daughter Gloria and her husband Henry Herrera were mayordomos for the first Centennial Fiesta. (Photo from Mrs. Gloria Herrera's scrapbooks.)

TRADITION • JEN GRUGER

'La Promesa Solemne'

Tularosa Fiesta marks 150 years

In May, always on Mother's Day, the now 150-year old St. Francis de Paula Fiesta celebrates the rich history surrounding the 1868 battle of Round Mountain and "La Promesa Solemne."

Folklorico and Danzante dancers from Tularosa, along with Mescalero Apache and other Native American dancers all gather to commemorate the peace following the battle. Food, music and the crowning of the Fiesta Queen are all part of this rich cultural experience.

When asked, if there anything different was arranged for this year's event, in light of the 150th milestone, organizer Rosa Baca said, "We didn't! We can't! This event is about tradition and tradition can't be changed."

Rosa and her husband, Ricky Baca, are one of four "mayordomo" couples who serve as the organizers of the event. Diolanda and Wallace Moore, Rodney and Dana Wood and Dianna and Steven Chavez are all responsible for organizing entertainment, food, volunteers, marketing and all things in between. The word, "mayordomo" in Spanish, refers to those who have the honor, prestige and responsibility of being in charge of something, whether it be an event or a homestead or anything else.

Since "back in the day," as Baca puts it, the honor of serving as mayordomo is sought after and received graciously and normally represents a two-year commitment. The Bacas and the other couples have all served numerous times, for more than just two years in some cases. It is growing increasingly difficult to find couples who can take on the commitment.

To this day, the gentlemen of the mayordomo have a dress code and the ladies still wear the classic lace fiesta dresses, which are difficult to find. Baca's was handed down to her from her mother-in-law.

The queen of the Fiesta is another long standing tradition and, in fact, is one of the most important components. The money she raises in the months leading up to fiesta weekend represent the largest sum of money the church raises each year to meet its financial obligations.

Alexandria Leyva, a 17-year-old junior at Tularosa High School, has the honor and the responsibility of running as Queen this year. This is a tremendous commitment and it is not for the faint of heart.

"The biggest responsibility is getting up in the morning and doing something every day for the church," she said.

Leyva's family, friends and fellow parishioners provide the ingredients, effort and time to make food for fundraising lunches and dinners every weekend starting in January and going right up until the May event. Hand-made enchilada dinners, taco plates, Indian tacos, posole, smothered burritos, gorditos and green chile stew are among the offerings that change daily. Add to that effort, a bake sale every Saturday and Sunday, during each mass. The help for this effort comes from family, friends and the volunteers who work at the parish hall.

When asked if she knew how much money had been raised so far, Leyva said, "My mom keeps track but doesn't tell me. I kind of want to know, but it's not about the money, it's about the church."

As part of her obligation, Leyva needs to choose a court. These young couples will aid in fiesta duties and (hopefully!) assist in the fundraising efforts leading up to the big weekend. In Leyva's case, most of them are friends from the Tularosa High School softball team. She selects both the guys and the gals

TRADITION
continued on page 9

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TOWN OF SILVER CITY
1878

TRADITION

continued from page 8

and explains that she could have as many as she wants. She has selected seven couples for this year's court.

Leyva knew what she was getting into as she had helped in prior years. Her sister and her cousin have both been Queen in the past and she was in the court last year for Queen Drianna Chavez. Running as Queen was Leyva's idea. She explains that while she wanted to, her mom was dubious. Leyva recalls that her mom's first reaction in fact, was "You're crazy!" However, as Leyva explained, "The soup kitchen ladies said, 'We'll help, just let her run!'"

Leyva's advice for next year's queen is to pick good people to be in your court and make sure they know their help is going to be needed!

A slight shift in tradition over the years is the fact that the Queen used to be chosen by the mayordomo but now, tends to be a volunteer with a family willing to commit to the time, effort and energy required, such as Leyva's.

Additionally, every year it is getting harder to get volunteers.

"You can only do so much and it seems to be the same volunteers year after year," Baca said. The community is realizing the passing of tradition from one generation to the next can be a

difficult thing to do.

One challenge is that the most able generation comprised of those who need work and want to raise families, are moving out. Baca's husband, born and raised in Tularosa can remember teachers telling him, "You don't want to be stuck here!" As he explains, "we were taught to move away."

This year, one thing for sure, in honor of the 150th year, the mayordomo want to honor the previous mayordomo, managers and parishioners that have kept "La Promesa" alive all these years.

Baca reflected she realizes the elders are trying to explain something to her and her team about the decline of the fiesta, but since they have memories she cannot share with them, she isn't sure exactly what it is they feel is missing.

Thoughtfully reflecting on the challenge of creating a sense of pride and tradition in her own children, she explains that the way she inspires volunteerism to them is by saying, "We can't be stagnant water, we have to flow, like the acequias," Baca said she tells the volunteers. "That's what God wants from us."

The times are changing, but La Promesa Solemne lives on.

For more information about the St. Francis de Paula Fiesta you can call the church office at 575-585-2793.



Danzante dancers from the first 'Fiesta' in its current traditional format in 1909.



Five Fiesta mayordomo doñas in their traditional dresses. This style persists today and is difficult to find unless it is custom-made or handed down from generation to generation. (Photos from Mrs. Gloria Herrera's scrapbooks.)

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ARTS EXPOSURE Gallery Guide

9511/895-3377, open weekends and by appointment.

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.makersvc.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.

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@delvalleprintinglc.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-

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.
The Merc, 316 Granado St. 505-238-6469. Art gifts by regional artists, books.

Carrizozo

Heart of the Raven, 415 Twelfth St., 937-7459, www.JudyPekelsmacom. Functional and decorative pottery, classes.

Lincoln

Old Lincoln Gallery, across from Visitor's Center in Lincoln, 653-4045. Coffee bar featuring 45 New Mexico artists. Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

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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• **a)Sp... "A"©e Contemporary Studio•Art•Gallery**, 110 West 7th St., will host "Abstrac-



tions" by artist Chris Lemme with a new sampling of recent resin paintings and "Dream Logic" by artist Ben Rico with new acrylic works on large canvases. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Also available by appointment. Info: 575-538-3333.

• **Creative Hands Roadside Attraction Art Gallery**, 106 W. Yankie St., will host a grand opening celebration in the historic art district of Silver City, 4-7 p.m. Saturday, May 19. The new gallery features large pastel abstract paintings, mystic Southwest paintings on recovered metal, whimsical ceramics, re-purposed chairs for functional wall art, Smokin' Hot Cigar Box Guitars, and more. Hours: 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday; noon to 4 p.m. Sunday; Monday and Tuesday by appointment. Info: 303-916-5045 or Roadside Attraction and Creative Hands on Facebook.

• **Wild West Weaving**, 211D W. Texas St., will host two workshops with renowned Diné master weaver Marie Sheppard and local weaver Hosana Eilert. Sheppard is an award-winning Navajo weaver from Blue Gap, Arizona. Eilert owns Wild West Weaving. A **natural dye workshop**, blending Navajo and Spanish techniques, will be held May 28-29. A **weaving workshop** will be May 31 through June 2. Info and prices: 575-313-1032.

• **The Place at the Palace** opens a new exhibit May 26, 201 N. Bullard St., featuring **Mark Bowen's** vibrant, petroglyph-style sculptures, **Jo Thomas** with glass mosaic totems and wall art, **Denise Friedrich's** rustic iron sculptures, and **Susan Rice's** stained glass works. A reception will be held 4-6 p.m. Saturday, May 26. Open to the public. Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Info: 575-388-1368.

• **Finn's Gallery**, 406 N. Bullard St., will host an open house for "Mother's Day Tea," in the garden Saturday, May 12. Watercolor artist **Deborah Hutchings** will give a Plein Air watercolor



demonstration from 1-3 p.m. Also displayed will be jewelry by **Laurie Finnicum Wilson** and **Glenn Claire**, ceramics by **Malika Crozier**, oil paintings by **Bassel Wolfe** and **Charlie Meckel**, pastel drawings by **Dorothea Diver**, gourd pots by **Myron Weckwerth**, pencil drawings by **Rebecka "Bex" Sasich**, photography by **Bruce Bloy**, and ceramics by **Peter Kaiser** and **Stuart Goldberg**. Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. Info: 844-645-4213.

• **Mariah's Copper Quail Gallery**, in Silver City's historic art district at 211A N. Texas St., hosts local mixed media artist **Ann Alexander** from May 2 to June 2. "Inspirations of the Southwest" includes unique pieces with a Southwest and Native flair. A reception will be held 5-7 p.m. Friday, May 11.

• **ALAMOGORDO/ CLOUDCROFT/ TULAROSA**



• **ALAMOGORDO/ CLOUDCROFT/ TULAROSA**

• **ALAMOGORDO/ CLOUDCROFT/ TULAROSA**

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• **ALAMOGORDO/ CLOUDCROFT/ TULAROSA**

• **ALAMOGORDO/ CLOUDCROFT/ TULAROSA**



Las Cruces Arts Association has moved to a new location, 326 S. Mesquite St. Pictured, "Mesilla Folklorico" by member Robie Troestler.



My Mom



Come see me & my studio at the **SCAA RED DOT STUDIO TOUR May 5th & 6th**. Pottery can also be seen at "The Place at the Palace Gallery," corner of Bullard & Broadway.

Letha Cress Woolf Artist-Potter
907-783-2780
 Call for directions to my gallery
 371 Camino de Viento, Wind Canyon, Silver City, New Mexico

Finn's Gallery
 300 N. Arizona on the corner of Yankie & Arizona in Downtown Silver City



WILL BE HOSTING A **MOTHER'S DAY TEA**
 SAT., MAY 12 2 TO 4 PM
 Featuring a **PLEINAIR DEMONSTRATION IN THE GARDEN** WITH **DEBORAH HUTCHINGS**

POP UP EVENTS
 May 9 - 12
MOTHER'S DAY SHOPPING SALE!!

SUNDAY MAY 27
BLUESFEST ART WALK

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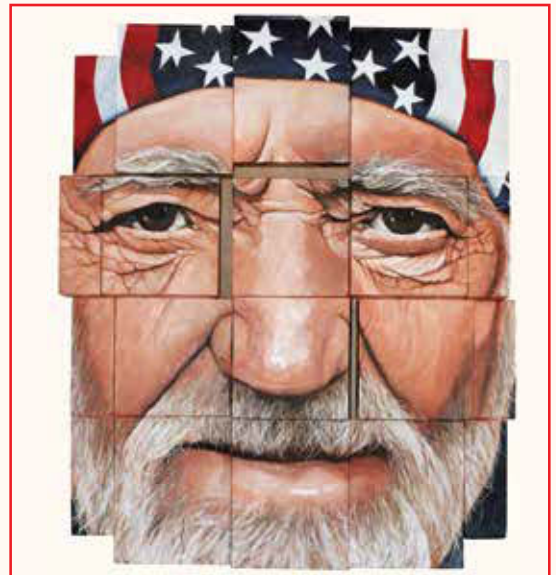
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 With **SHARLEEN DAUGHERTY, Author & MARIE SHEPPARD, DINE' MASTER WEAVER**
 SAT. MAY 2 • 4-7PM

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 wildwestweaving@gmail.com

211 D Texas
 Silver City, NM 88061
 wildwestweaving.com

"On the Road Again" to Silver City



Blues Fest - May 26-27, 2018
Sunday Moning ArtWALK
 10am-2pm, May 27th



211-C N. Texas St., Silver City
575-313-9631 www.loisduffy.com
 Studio open to the public Saturdays from 10 to 4pm



The Place at the Palace, 201 N. Bullard St., features the work of sculptor Mark Bowen. An artist's reception will be held Saturday, May 26.

• **Finn's Gallery**, 406 N. Bullard St., will host an open house for "Mother's Day Tea," in the garden Saturday, May 12. Watercolor artist **Deborah Hutchings** will give a Plein Air watercolor

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ARTS SCENE

continued from page 11

laude with a master's degree from California State University Dominguez Hills. Info: 575-434-4420.

• **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 filled with the work of 300-plus local artists. Info: 575-682-5676.

• **The Cloudcroft Art Society** first show of 2018 will be the Memorial Day art show in Cloudcroft at the Lodge Pavilion, located on the southwest corner of Chipmunk Avenue and Curlew Place. The show will begin on Friday afternoon, May 25 and run through Monday May 28. Info: sznana@totacc.com.

CARRIZOZO

• **Malkerson Gallery 408 on 12th Street, 408 12th St.**, continues "A Rose is a Rose is a Rose." The exhibit includes Carrizozo artists' interpretation of "The Rose" by Gertude Stein. Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Friday and Saturday; noon-5 p.m. Sunday; closed Tuesday and Wednesday. Info: 575-648-2598.

DEMING

• The May exhibit at the **Deming Arts Council**, 100 S. Gold Ave., will be the annual **Luna County Fine Arts & Crafts Show**, featuring local artists and crafters in a variety of media, including painting, sculpture, fiber arts and jewelry. An artists' reception will be held 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday, May 6. During the reception, local authors Randy McCowan and Isabelle Lavon Blau will do signings of their latest books. The exhibit runs through May 30. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday, closed Sundays. Info: 575-546-3663, www.deming-arts.org.

LAS CRUCES

• **Flo Hosa Dougherty and Amy Hosa** present a feast for the eyes painted by the mother-daughter team. "From Garden to Table" features the bounty of garden and baked goods, opening 5-8 p.m. Friday, May 4, in Downtown Las Cruces during the First Friday Art Ramble. The paintings will exhibit in **The Gallery Room at Dragonfly Restaurant**, 139 N. Main St., which is open daily, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. For art info, call 575-523-2950.

• "How Does Your Garden Grow?" is an exhibit at the Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road, featuring artists of the **New Mexico Region of Studio Art Quilt Associates (SAQA)**, who have applied their effort to the creation of an enormous rack of fiber art seed packets. Each artist chose a flower or vegetable, real or imagined, and created its image in a 16" x 16"

quilt, which was then mounted to resemble a traditional seed packet. The show will be in the Museum's Arts Corridor through Aug. 5. Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. Info: 575-522-4100, www.nmfarmandranchmuseum.org.

• **The Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery**, 2470-A Calle de Guadalupe across from the historic Fountain Theater, will feature two artists in May. **Bonnie MacQuarrie** has been a tile artist for 15 years, a skill she picked up during her time in Arizona. Custom tile applications are her specialty. **Naida Zucker** is a mixed media artist who combines gelatin monoprinting with digital photography to create unique pieces. She is a retired NMSU zoology professor. Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Info: 575-522-2933, www.mesilla-valleyfinearts.com.

• **The Southwest Environmental Center Cottonwood Gallery**, 275 N. Main St. Las Cruces, is hosting a "No Walls in the Wild" mixed-media show from May 1 to June 30. The exhibit features many local artists and is centered around the message that the border wall is expensive, ineffective, and part of the greater militarization of our border. This wall in the borderlands is a direct threat to our values, our communities, and our wildlife. The opening reception will be during this month's Downtown Art Ramble from 5-7 p.m. on May 4. Info: sonya@wildmesquite.org.

• **Las Cruces Arts Association** has moved to a new location, 326 S. Mesquite St., next to Nopalito Restaurant. Two gallery rooms allow exhibits for members' artwork, as well as use of the patio. Exhibits will be held monthly. New displays will open during the First Friday Art Ramble events each month. Gallery hours: 5 to 8 p.m. during the art ramble and noon to 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Info: 575-524-0003 (Nopalito Restaurant) or 575-532-1046 (LCAA).

• Spend a day perusing galleries, meeting artists and participating in art activities during the new "10-10 Arts Hop, 12 Hours of Art in Las Cruces Every Second Saturday." The following are events for the May 12 10-10 ArtsHop: **NMSU University Art Gallery**, OutsmArt kids' programming from 1-2 p.m. and a reception for exhibit "MFA 2018: NOT ONLY, BUT ALSO; **Cutter Gallery**, "Mother's Day Collection of Floral Paintings" with a reception from 1-4 p.m.; **Doña Ana Arts Council**, Tiffany Figueroa abstract work with a reception from 4-7 p.m.; **Four Points Perspective Art Gallery**, digital artists Robert Maestas, Olivia Lemmons and Jimmy Kellogg with a reception from 7-10 p.m.; **Art Obscura**, "Death and Taxes," exhibit by Denis Lujan and Deb Vance from 7-10 p.m. Info: www.daarts.org.

• **Rokoko Art Gallery**, 1785 Avenida de Mercado, will exhibit "Mud Masters," a showcase of mud work by **Elaine Allen, Janice Cook, Amanda Jaffe, Jeanne Rundell, Susan Weir-Ancker and Suzanne Kane**. An opening reception will be held 5-7 p.m. Saturday, May 12, at the gallery.



Rokoko Art Gallery, 1785 Avenida de Mesilla, will showcase mud work in "Mud Masters," such as this piece, "Thirst," by artist Suzanne Kane.

The exhibit runs through June 23. Gallery hours: 12-5 p.m. Saturday. Info: 575-405-8877.

• **The Gallery at Big Picture**, 2001 E. Lohman Ave. Suite 109A, presents "Nuestra Gente," an exhibit of work by **Francisco Lascurain Labadie**, a Mexican architect and cubist-modern art painter (1926-2013). The exhibit will continue through May 31. The Gallery at Big Picture is next to the UPS store in Arroyo Plaza. Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday. Info: 575-647-0508.



A reception will be held 5-7 p.m. during the Las Cruces First Friday Art Ramble, May 4, at Mesquite Art Gallery, 340 N. Mesquite St.

• A reception will be held 5-7 p.m. during the Las Cruces First Friday Art Ramble, May 4, at **Mesquite Art Gallery**, 340 N. Mesquite St. Hours: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday. Info: 575-640-3502.



Picacho Hills Artists open their personal gardens to host artists and master gardeners in its annuals "Art in the Garden" from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, May 20.

• **Picacho Hills Artists** hosts its annual **Art in the Garden** show from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, May 20, in Las Cruces. Six homes in the Picacho Hills neighborhood will open their landscaped garden and host artists and master gardeners for an afternoon of walking paths, natural and specimen plants, mountain and golf course views, swimming pool settings, waterfalls, fountains and ponds. Master gardeners will answer questions for guests. Maps and water available at the drive through behind Great American Steak and Burger, 1338 Picacho Hills Drive. Look for red flags. Directions: Take Picacho Avenue west to the light at Picacho Hills Drive. Info: Rosemary, 575-522-2137 or Judy, 575-521-2051

• "Dressed for the Occasion," a new exhibit at the **New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum**, 4100 Dripping Springs Road, runs through March 3, 2019 in the museum's Legacy Gallery. You will learn about women's clothing from the pioneer days of the 1870s to the Depression Era of the 1930s. Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. Info: 575-522-4100, www.nmfarmandranchmuseum.org.

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SUNDAY MORNING BLUES FEST ART WALK
MAY 27 • 10AM - 2PM

Downtown ART Walk

Enjoy breakfast at one of our fabulous Downtown restaurants and afterward stroll through our galleries. Just for you we have a Plein Air Painting Contest throughout Downtown!
Join us Downtown Sunday May 27 from 10 am to 2pm!

1. a)sp. "A" ©e I Studio • Art • Gallery
2. Barker Manning Gallery
3. Blue Dome Gallery
4. Creative Hands Gallery
5. Finn's Gallery
6. Leyba & Ingalls Arts
7. Lois Duffy Art
8. Mariah's Copper Quail Gallery
9. Molly Ramolla Gallery & Studio
10. Murray Ryan Visitor Center
11. Seedboat Gallery
12. Soul River Gallery
13. Syzygy Tile
14. Tatiana Maria Gallery
15. The Glasserie
16. The Makery
17. The Place
18. Zoe's Gallery

Silver City ART Association
silvercityart.com

Calling Artists, Filmmakers, Vendors

• **The Southern New Mexico Festival of Quilts** held in Alamogordo is accepting vendor applications for an event to be held June 21, 22 and 23. The event includes classes and workshops with Ricky Tims, Sue Rasmussen and Pam Holland as well as quilt show and vender booths. Contact Rainee Mackewich at 575-437-4880 for information.

• **The MERC**, a fine art and gift shop co-operative, 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 greatrepnm@gmail.com.

• **Borderlands Film Festival**, a multi-city celebration bringing the best in independent films from around the world, is calling for submissions are currently being taken through Film Freeway for the six-day event in southern New Mexico, Oct. 2-7. Festival organizers also looking for sponsors and volunteers to help bring the dream to life. For more information visit www.BorderlandsFilmFestival.org. To discover more, call 575-408-9026 or send an email to info@BorderlandsFilmFestival.org.

• **The Calavera Coalition** is looking for artists to submit original artwork for the 2018 Dia de los Muertos on the Mesilla Plaza official t-shirt and poster design. Artists of all ages and regions are eligible. All work submitted for consideration must reflect the spirit and celebration of El Dia del los Muertos. Artwork must be in a black and white

format and in pen and ink line art with the understanding that their work must be easily converted for screen printing. The winner will receive one free booth space for Mesilla's Dia de los Muertos on the Plaza 2017, valued at \$175. Entries should be submitted on a CD or through e-mail as JPEG or PDF files. Files must be accompanied by a list detailing artwork title, size, a brief description and artist's name, e-mail address, mailing address and phone number. Deadline to receive submissions is Aug. 1. Digital files can be e-mailed to calaveracoalition@gmail.com. CDs can be mailed to P.O. Box 1308, Mesilla, NM 88046. The Calavera Coalition is a not-for-profit organization and all proceeds from t-shirt and poster sales will be donated to charity.

• **The Grant County Art Guild's** 33rd Annual Purchase Prize Show dates are in September and October. This show is legendary, and the \$1,500 Best of Show purchase prize and other generous cash awards draws in artists from across the state of New Mexico. The show opens with a gala reception on Sept. 25 and will also be available for viewing and for purchases on Sept. 28 to 30 and again Oct. 5 to 8. Entry forms are due with a postmark date of no later than Aug. 2. The entry forms as well as complete information are available online at www.gcag.org. This year's show is titled "The Enduring West."

• **Rokoko Art Gallery** in Las Cruces, is now accepting proposals for monthly solo or group exhibits for the months of September

through December 2018. For consideration, send information and or images to rokoko@rokokoart.com.

• **Tularosa Art and Music Festival Call for Artists**

The annual Tularosa Art and Music Festival is 10 a.m.-9 p.m. June 2, in Tularosa. Organizers are looking for artists, artisans and crafters to fill booths during the 'summer kick-off and ice cream social' theme. This event is well-attended, one day only and 12 x 12 booth fees are only \$50 (includes electricity). For more information or to request a vendor application, call Jen Gruger at 505-710-2924 or email tularosaartsandhistory@gmail.com.

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www.silvercitybluesfestival.org

ON STAGE • MIKE COOK

Musical in Las Cruces

Blockbuster "Rent" opens at NMSU

The Tony-winning musical "Rent" has opened for May at the Associated Students New Mexico State University Center for the Arts. The musical was written by the late Jonathan Larson and won the Tony for best musical as well as a Pulitzer Prize in 1996.

Based loosely on Puccini's "La Boheme," "Rent" follows a year in the life of a group of impoverished young artists and musicians struggling to survive and create in New York's Lower East Side, under the shadow of HIV/AIDS," according to a news release.

"The physical and emotional complications of the disease pervade the lives of Roger, Mimi, Tom and Angel. Maureen deals with her chronic infidelity through performance art; her partner, Joanne, wonders if their relationship is worth the trouble. Benny has sold out his Bohemian ideals in exchange for a hefty income and is on the outs with his former friends. Mark, an aspiring filmmaker, feels like an outsider to life in general.

"This is theatre at its best - exuberant, passionate and joyous," said NMSU Theatre Arts Department Head Wil Kilroy, who is directing the play. "We have been looking forward to producing 'Rent' for years, but this is the first time we have been able to get the rights. Las Cruces, here we come!"

The Center for the Arts is locat-



Cast members of the NMSU Theatre Arts Department's production of the Tony-winning musical "Rent" take a break from a rehearsal for their April 27 opening. Left to right Torrie Hughes as Maureen, Ashiah Thomas-Mandlman as Joanne, Calvin Chervinko as Mark, Juan Apodaca as Roger, Esmae Leon as Mimi, Joseph Johnson as Angel, Maximilian Contreras as Collins and Ryan Thorpe as Benny. (Photo courtesy of Claudia Billings, NMSU Theatre Arts Department)

ed at 1000 E. University Ave. and performances are at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, May 4-5; and at 2 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, May 5-6.

There will be talkbacks with the cast and crew following Saturday, May 5 matinee performance.

Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$15 for seniors (ages 65 and over) and NMSU faculty and staff, \$11 for students and \$5 for high school students. For tickets and more information, call 575-646-1420. Visit http://www.nmsutheatre.com/201718_rent.php.





Silver City Art Association member Kathryn Allen works on clay architectural embellishment. (Courtesy Photo)

ARTS EXPOSURE

'Spring into Art'

RED DOT spring studio tour

Studio artists of the Silver City Art Association plan to share with a weekend of open studios and evening entertainment. The "Spring into Art" kick-off party will be held from 5-8 p.m. Friday, May 4, at 209 Broadway in downtown Silver City. La Esperanza Winery will provide the wine bar, and partygoers will enjoy creative food by the Duck Stop and desserts by Honeybee Good Bakery.

The evening will offer a chance to view an example of art by each of the 24 artists whose studios will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on May 5 and 6. Continuously changing, projected art images will provide additional visual stimulation and more examples of the SCAA Studio Artists' range of vision and skill.

A special event during the evening will be the \$49.99 Art Auction. Each artist will have an artwork displayed that will offered at auction. Each piece will have a basket beneath it. Those interested in bidding can purchase tickets for a dollar and place their tickets in the basket under the art they would like to have. As the evening progresses, one ticket will be drawn from those in the basket and the ticket holder must purchase the item for \$49.99. There will be an exhibit displaying one piece from each artist representative of the work to be seen in each



Barbara Nance stands at her studio with a sculpture in progress. (Courtesy Photo)

studio.

Action and industry will be happening during the Tour of the Art Studios. The artists will be working on projects and can explain how and why they use the methods and materials they do. In some studios, visitors can participate in trying the materials and in other studios can watch professional equipment such as pottery wheels, kilns, lathes and welding tools being used to create art that is often functional and always enjoyable.

Silver City artists that use watercolor, acrylic, oils, or pastels to paint express themselves in a

variety of styles. Their studios may have walls of hanging art, canvases leaning stacked against the walls, or even specialized storage systems. Most artists will be happy to have you look through their work and enjoy some refreshment while visiting. The "Spring into Art" theme of the RED DOT Studio Tour offers an enjoyable weekend looking at art, viewing the blossoming landscape surrounding the studios, and the scenic drives between studios.

This event is free but donations are gratefully accepted at the door.

VICTORIA CHICK COWTRAIL ART STUDIO

"Gathering Courage, She Was Almost Ready" 40" x 44"

#16 on the RED DOT STUDIO TOUR

vcartcat@hotmail.com
victoriachick.com

Grant County Community Concert Association

Grant County Community Concert Association 2018-19 Concert Season

Early bird season subscription prices \$45 Good to June 30, 2018.
Regular season prices \$55



The Malpass Brothers – Sunday, Oct 7, 3:00
Retro traditional country artists

Derik Nelson & Family – Friday, Nov 2, 7:00
An innovative technical concert with aural and futuristic visual journey through time and space performing unique arrangements of popular music



Vocal Trash – Thursday, Jan 24, 7:00
Perform on custom instruments made from recycled materials, leave the audience not only entertained, but inspired to spread peace, love and recycling. Glee Meets Stomp!

Five Sax- Friday, Feb 15, 7:00
A modern-style international saxophone quintet performing a repertoire rooted in classical music, with a theatrical element.



**LCSSO
Friday, Mar 8, 2018**



Sergei Teleshev – Tues, Mar 26, 7:00
Accordianist Sergei Teleshev and violinist Veronika Shabashov; works by Bach, Piazzolla, Tchaikovsky and more

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For more information or to purchase Season Subscriptions on line go to www.gconcerts.org or call (575) 538-5862



Blues artist C.W. Ayon of Las Cruces visits with Silver City students as part of 2018 Silver City Blues Festival outreach activities. (Courtesy Photo)

An artist at work on the streets of Silver City during the 2017 plein aire Blues Festival "Paint Out." (Photo courtesy FeVa Photos)



IN THE PARK

Silver City Blues

Annual festival returns for 23rd time

The 23rd Annual Silver City Blues Festival will feature new approaches to providing a positive experience for the attendees according to Mimbres Region Arts Council director Kevin Lenkner.

The festival will feature more local artists and artisans with an expanded number of hands-on activities for attendees. A mix of established blues performers along with up and coming stars will cater to both new and hardcore blues fans. This year's festival takes place at Gough Park, Pope Street and surrounding areas in Silver City.

Expanded Friday night activities including a "Flame Off," live glass making contest conducted by Silver City's own Glasserie. Sunday Hours will be noon to 5 p.m. Artist demonstration tents including clay and printmaking are featured.

Information can be found on the re-designed festival website at www.silvercitybluesfestival.org.

Admission to this event is free to the public.

May 26 and 27 is the time for the annual Silver City "Paint Out." Area and out-of-town art-

If You Go:

Friday, May 25:
6 – 9 p.m.: Kick Off Event
Saturday, May 26:
11 a.m. – 9 p.m.: Blues Festival
Sunday May 27:
Noon – 5 p.m.: Blues Festival

ists bring their easels out to the streets of Silver City painting the scenes that capture what their artistic eye sees. The competing plein aire painters are also invited to paint in Gough Park during the Blues Fest. Finished artwork will be displayed at the Silver City Art Association booth during the Blues Festival. For more information about the galleries and paint out visit www.silvercityart.com and www.mimbresarts.org.

The Silver City Art Association also takes part in Blues Festival weekend. On Sunday, May 27, while folks are waiting for another day of great blues music to start in Gough Park, the downtown art galleries will have their newest and best art on display. From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., galleries will be open and welcoming Blues Fest folks into their domains.

ON STAGE

'Passages'

Tamburitizans dance folk traditions

For more than 80 years, The Tamburitizans have traveled the country performing a stage show featuring exciting music, songs, dances and costumes of international cultures. On Wednesday, May 16, the world-renowned group will bring its new stage live show, "Passages: The Journey of Our Ancestors," to the Medoff Theatre at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces.

Through music, song and dance, "Passages – The Journey of Our Ancestors" transports audiences to the heart of over a dozen countries and cultures, including Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cuba, Eastern European Roma, Greece, Hungary, Mexico, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia and Spain.

To purchase tickets, visit www.talentshadows.events or call 412-224-2071.



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The Village at Northrise
2880 N. Roadrunner Parkway
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Phone: 575-522-1110

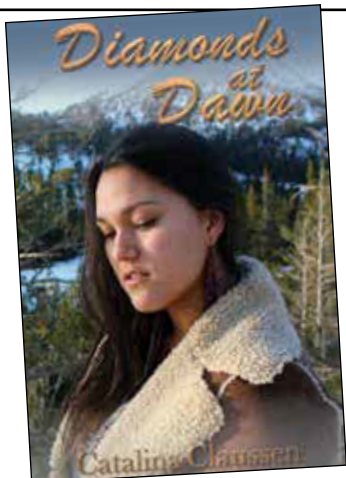


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ON THE SHELF

'Diamonds at Dawn'

A book by Catalina Claussen



“Diamonds at Dawn,” the sequel to Catalina Claussen’s award-winning debut young adult novel, “Diamonds at Dusk,” was released on March 9 with Progressive Rising Phoenix

Press. Claussen said this novel series originated from her obsession with young adult literature and the nagging feeling that much of this genre portrays the lives of urban teens.

“There are so many rural teens who search for literature that reflects their experiences, living down dusty dirt roads, surrounded by wild things,” she said.

The result of her efforts are these page-turning romantic adventure novels set in the Mimbres Valley.

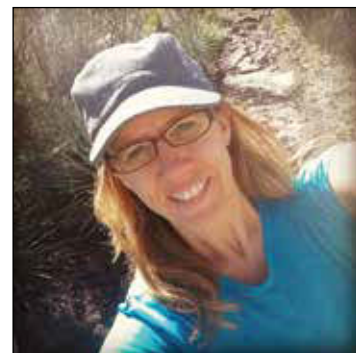
Claussen attributes both works to the nurturing writing community in Silver City. She counts herself lucky to have been a graduate student in 2012 at WNMU, benefitting from coursework with Sharman Russell and Dr. Mary Leen in the writing program.

As a co-founding language arts teacher at Aldo Leopold Charter School, she has organized several writing workshops for her students and, in the process, learned a great deal from area authors including Philip Connors, Dr. Emma Bailey, Derek Markham, Denise Chavez, Mary Sojourner and Damien Davies. She enjoys a close-knit writers’ group with Chris Lemme, Mary McLaughlin, Linda Ferrara and Jane Janson. Claussen works with Lemme to encourage her students to write and contribute to the “Silver City Quarterly Review.”

Claussen is planning a novel release party with her daughter, Ajalaa Claussen, 5-7 p.m. on June 2 at Javalina Coffee House. In addition to a reading and book signing, the party will include Ajalaa’s new photographic exhibit, music by Mimbres singer/songwriter, Travis Callison, door prizes and greeting cards available for purchase.

Copies of both novels are available in the Mimbres Valley at La Tienda de Sol and the Mimbres Heritage Site Museum and in Silver City at the Tranquilbuzz Coffee House.

You can follow her Instagram @catalinaclaussen or on Face-



Catalina Claussen

book.

In “Diamonds at Dawn,” 17-year old Ahzi Toadlena is adrift, and has been since she was 9. One winter morning she awakes shivering. At dawn, the fire had gone out in the hogan along with the warmth in her mother’s arms.

Page after torn notebook page chronicle Ahzi’s grief, but on the eve of her 18th birthday something new is stirring in her. Not one, but two crushes. Chadwick Dean Holbrook, a prep school boy and “fairweather” friend from Albuquerque, and Maverick Britton, a charming misfit, have worked their way into her heart.

And to make things worse her best friend, Cascade Rose Jennings, is sweet on them too. Ahzi knows what she needs to do. She must leave her grief behind. She climbs to the highest mesa on the ranch and casts her poems to the wind.

In the weeks that follow, amidst concerns over fur trappers on the southwestern New Mexico ranch, a possible murder charge, and Ahzi’s journey through grief, Cassie, Chad, and Maverick unwittingly piece the poems back together in a kind of secret map of the heart. The map shows Ahzi that falling in love doesn’t mean abandoning the memory of her Ama or her best friend. And, the map is a key to all their healing.

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ON STAGE • MARC MOFFETT

'The Persistence of Air'

Steampunk Ballet in Las Cruces, Alamogordo

The Persistence of Air" is a newly commissioned one act ballet professionally choreographed by Jennifer Boren, who has recently choreographed material for companies in both Dallas and Albuquerque.

Performances will be at 7 p.m., May 12 at the Flickinger Center in Alamogordo and at 6 p.m., May 27 at the New Mexico State University Center for the Arts in Las Cruces. Tickets are available at tututix.com.

"(Original dance productions) are so rewarding for the dancer because they get to sink their teeth into something new and different," Boran said.

"It's what makes them hungry. And it's great for the audience to get a feel for the fingerprint of a dance company. In the same way as having your favorite vocal artist or author, it is this company's goal for you to appreciate what they bring to the table. Well-known ballets are important, of course, but these are hundreds of years old and both dancer and audience are eager for new ideas."

"The Persistence of Air" tells the story of a post-apocalyptic culture in which the mystic inventor Ada has harnessed the power of the elemental being Air to bring her automata to the brink of a human-like existence.

She is opposed in her quest to perfect these beings by her nemesis, Eremus. The mortal struggle between these two ultimately leads to a new beginning for the automata, symbolically captured in a beautiful closing pas de deux.

The story places special demands on the dancers' skills because they must transition from entirely mechanical to partially mechanical to fully



"The Persistence of Air" is a new ballet being performed in both Alamogordo and Las Cruces in May by the Borderlands Ballet Company. (Courtesy Photo)

classical movements during the course of the ballet.

"While the steampunk theme is something younger audiences can 'get into,' the dancer's movement and characterization will appeal to all ages," Boran said.

"It is so important to support the local performing arts companies such as Borderlands Ballet. It is a community's cul-

tural footprint and a source of pride.

"Las Cruces is fortunate to have the spacious dance training center, Las Cruces School for Music and Dance (director Monique Foster), which is the home of Borderlands Ballet. Consider a donation today to guarantee more great productions from this innovative new company."

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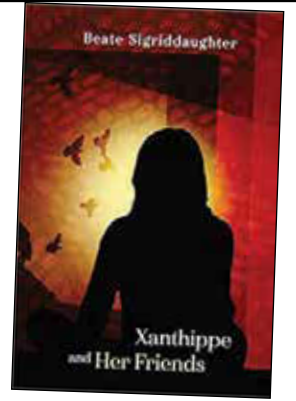
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ON REVIEW • MATT PALUST

'Xanthippe and Her Friends'

A book by Beate Sigriddaughter



As a man raised in a “get me a Grant’s” culture ordinarily I would shy away from a book titled after a woman portrayed in history as having poured the contents of a chamber pot over the head of her husband. That the husband was Socrates, the father of Western philosophy, and wondering what he might have done to deserve it, helped me overcome this inherent reluctance. But what made the difference was that Beate Sigriddaughter wrote the poems in “Xanthippe and Her Friends.”



Beate Sigriddaughter

Were I ever so unfortunate to have someone empty a chamber pot on my head, for whatever reason, I cannot imagine a person more appropriate to administer the retribution than a gentle, sensitive, good-humored, sublime soul who writes like an angel. I

don't know from personal experience if Beate Sigriddaughter meets those qualifications, but from her writing I've no doubt she'd measure up. I've been reading her for years, and each of those qualities shines with a celestial magic through her carefully chosen words, such as these:

“Sun glints on muscle and desire to go deeper into words and

destiny like Michelangelo cutting at marble to meet his angels in the stone.”

One concern with reporting on “Xanthippe and Her Friends” is that its contents are poems, about which my learning is mostly auto-didactic and recent. I know precious little about the traditions of formal structure or its practitioners, or the language and criteria of formal criticism. I enjoy a poem mainly for the beauty of its associations, the ideas and feelings and visual impressions it conjures. An effective poem for me works like an exotic drug, relaxing certain tensions of thought and stimulating my imagination to unfold in the safety of a wondrous playground of sensual ideas. Often the effect is contained within a fragment, like this:

“With you I dreamed of wander-

ing side by side, confirming our exquisite place in this maelstrom of molecules in the whirling of stars.”

Without question Sigriddaughter is a feminist, but the common injuries and inequities she addresses are delivered in a contemplative voice, the sharpness of its pain and rage clothed in a sense of nuanced irony. In “The Wedding: Snow White,” these selected lines bring into focus the inhumanity of a culture that encourages lethal competition and its consequences:

“At my wedding celebration my unsuccessful stepmom is condemned to dance to her death on heated iron slippers. They are bringing them in now with smoking tongs.

“How am I to enjoy my wedding night with this orgy of ven-

geance still fresh on my mind?

Here are my choices. Gloat and rejoice, dilute myself with drink or Disney bliss, or stand up to my true self at last,

“This wedding is canceled until we find a better way. Any woman's dishonor diminishes me.”

The poet bravely addresses a personal frailty beyond her struggle to free herself from the conditioning of male-dominant tradition. A simple need of one woman.

“Deep within me,” she tells us, “is an ancient fear that loving myself simply won't count. And God, invoked for all-purpose love, turns out to be too distant for comfort. Would you please dance with me, if only just a little?”



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ACROSS THE BORDER • MORGAN SMITH

Bringing Hope to Juárez

It all began in 1998 with Jane Peacock from Las Cruces. Her mother lived in El Paso at the time and asked Peacock and her siblings to join her in building a house for a needy family in Juárez — it would be her way of celebrating her 75th birthday. Peacock and some 12 other family members joined in for what was a memorable experience. Jane is a registered dietitian and was immediately attuned to the needs in that border area. She lived in Santa Fe then and worked in public health for 26 years as WIC director, Family Health Bureau chief, deputy director and finally director of Public Health for New Mexico.

Upon returning from that 1998 trip, Peacock spoke with a close friend from her health department work, Lydia Pendley and suggested that their church, St. Bede's Episcopal Church, consider doing a "build."

"I think that we are meant to help our neighbors when they need our help," Peacock said. "These people are in dire need of help and live in deplorable conditions."

Pendley agreed and after that first St. Bede's build, simply decided to do more. Thus, the home they built on the west edge of Juárez in early March of this year was St. Bede's 25th. They were joined in this mission by volunteers from Trinity on the Hill in Los Alamos who built a second home.

This work is essential to those Mexican families who are living in deplorable conditions but equally important to the volunteers who participate. This year Peacock brought Pete and Terry Frank with her from Las Cruces. It was their first build and they have indicated that they would like to go again. Why was this important to them and what were they able to learn? It was a way to "illustrate the humanity of the Mexican people to those Americans who don't see or feel it," Pete said.

"It is to be our brother's keeper," answered Terry.

Dennis and Trudy O'Toole from Santa Fe were also on their first build and both indicated they would want to go again.

"It's important to counter the negative stereotypes many of us have of Mexicans with positive accounts we personally have of them," Dennis said. "It is widening my understanding of Mexican society and of poverty, human kindness, and the impact of reaching out to our neighbors south of the border."

Mike "Pecos Baldy" Wirtz was on his 13th build. A retired forester and forestry consultant, he was a leader in building the Dale Ball trails in Santa Fe.

"Each one is more rewarding and heart-wrenching," he said. "You see the joy and the love on their faces when the keys (to the new home) are given to them."

He brought his son in 2007, his granddaughter in 2014 and his 11-year-old grandson, Dashiell,



Pete, on the ground, and Terry Frank from Las Cruces work on the house in Juárez.

on this build.

"I think that everyone deserves a place to live and I want to do everything I can do to help," Dashiell said. "I think it will help me to be more open-minded and I might help people more."

Susan Odiseos, the former president of Feeding Santa Fe, was on her second build. When I asked if she had any special construction skills, she said, "No. Just high energy. It's a great way for each of us to make a difference, giving hope to those in need."

Toby Rosenblatt was on his 12th build. How did he get started?

"Jane made me do it," he said.

A lawyer from Los Alamos and part of the Trinity on the Hill team, Lynn Finnegan first participated in 2005 and has helped build 17 houses. Each of her daughters, starting at age 13, has done four builds.

"I continue to come because I believe 'hands on' ministry is essential to build relationships among cultures," she said. "We need to stop de-humanizing immigrants, Mexicans and the 'other' in general. We need to stop shouting at each other and talk to those who are fearful."

Another Los Alamos volunteer, Derek Selvage, is only 19 years old but has been on seven builds. Bear and Kathy Albrecht were volunteers from Socorro. They had been once before and plan to go again.

The program may now be changing thanks to Jane, Lydia and Gerry Fairbrother from Santa Fe who was on her third build.

"This is a food desert," Jane said.

When you combine the starchy diets, the lack of access to supermarkets where you might find fruits and vegetables at reasonable prices and the lack of water for vegetable gardens, it is obvious what she means. The idea is to try to provide nutritional education, particularly in regard to the raging problem of diabetes, perhaps in conjunction with Missions Ministries, the Colorado-based nonprofit with which they have teamed up for these house-building projects. Making dietary changes won't be easy; Fairbrother's research has indicated that the average family in that area only has \$40 to \$45 per week to spend for a family of five. The goal, however, is to focus more on the full range of the human needs there and not just the construction of a home.

What these very special volunteers all characterize is persistence and continuity, caring and humanity. These are true ambassadors to our neighboring country of Mexico.

Morgan Smith writes frequently for Desert Exposure and has been traveling to the Mexican border at least monthly for the last seven years in order to document conditions there and help with a variety of humanitarian programs. He can be reached at Morgan-smith@comcast.net.



The volunteers built a house for Yvette and her three children, César, Edwin and Mia. (Photos by Morgan Smith)

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A portion of the Jicarilla wild horse herd. (Photo by Laurie Ford)

WILD HORSES • LAURIE FORD

Defining Freedom

What makes a wild horse wild in New Mexico

New Mexico has the unique opportunity to become a leader in this country in the preservation and management of its wild horses by adhering to the law and considering the eco-tourism value of these animals. But current policies seem to be leading down a different path.

The only place a wild horse can be legally wild in New Mexico, without a fight, is on the 180,000 acres of federal land that affords them protection under the “1971 Free-Roaming Wild Horses and Burros Act.” The moment they wander from these designated areas their wildness is up for debate, especially if they find themselves on private land. Only horses that have been captured are marked with the freeze brand that identifies them as being federally protected.

The intent of the 1971 Act was to protect all “unbranded and unclaimed wild horses and burros on public lands” from capture and death. After the act was signed, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) assessed public lands to inventory herd areas where the horses and burros to be protected under the new law “were presently found.”

Herd areas were eventually established on 53.8 million acres of public land but were later reduced to 26.9 million acres of smaller subsets (HMAs) that the BLM determined could sustain the animals over the long term. Despite the law stating that the HMAs are to be “devoted principally” to the welfare of the horses and burros, and that the BLM can close the same areas to livestock grazing to provide habitat for the horses and burros (GAO -09-77), the majority of HMAs still include grazing allotments for livestock.

New Mexico argued against the new law, asserting that all wild animals belonged to the state, not the federal government, and this included the wild horses and burros. In the same breath, they also laid claim to those very same wild horses and burros under New Mexico stray (stray domestic animal of unknown ownership) laws that only apply to domesticated animals.

CONTACT

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

The state persisted in its defiance by not acknowledging the federal protection of the horses and burros and treating them as estrays. In 1974, 19 protected wild burros were removed from BLM land by the New Mexico Livestock Board, and disposed of, after a grazing permittee complained that they were interfering with his cattle. Today, despite the notable presence of the burro in New Mexico history, folklore and art, there is not a single protected burro in the entire state.

In 1971, an estimated 6,000 wild horses and burros “were presently found” on federal lands in New Mexico. Today, an estimated 600 horses remain and are being further reduced to the desired appropriate management level of between 110 and 235. Out of the 22 million acres of BLM and United States Forest Service land in the state, these horses are restricted to four protected areas, totaling 180,000 acres, that they share with livestock.

The only area solely managed by the BLM, Bordo Atravesado (19,605 acres) is located 41 miles from the Bosque Del Apache Wildlife Refuge. In 1980 the appropriate management level of 32 horses was achieved, but the dangerously low number affected the genetic variation of the herd making it necessary to introduce 13 new horses in 1992 and 2 stallions in 1997 and



Wild Horse Mesa dwellers Maddie and Midnight are lucky they have a sanctuary, Spirit of the Wild Horse, to protect them. (Photo Courtesy Judy Barnes Photography)

1998.

According to Gus Cothran, a leader in the field of equine population genetics, a population of 50 to 150 is needed to maintain a viable breeding herd, and that herds like the Bordo Atravesado, with a population of 63, are at critical levels endangering future genetic viability. And, while BLM continues to study the potential impact the use of the PZP fertility control might have on herd genetics, another aspect of history seems to be overlooked – that herd genetics have already been affected by low herd numbers and the reintroduction of outside horses diluting the unique characteristics and bloodlines of the original herd.

North of where the Placitas horses once roamed, is the Jarita Mesa Wild Horse Territory (55,000 acres), managed by the USFS, where both the estimated 100 horses and local grazing permittees lay claim to the land; the horses through their Spanish heritage and the 1971 Act, and the permittees on the grounds of historical grazing rights. Like the Bordo Atravesado herd, this herd has also experienced low populations that resulted in inbreeding and genetic problems such as blindness.

Two remaining designated areas, the Jicarilla Wild Horse Territory located in the Carson National Forest, and the adjoining Carracas Mesa Herd Management area (total 107,000 acres) are jointly managed by the BLM and Forest Service. The current combined population of 500 horses share the land with oil and gas developers and

livestock. If the appropriate management level of 73 to 128 horses is achieved, it would not only mean the demise of the one viable breeding herd in the state, but there would be more active oil wells than horses on the land.

Once gathered, the horses are transported to the Bloomfield holding facility where the USFS handles their own adoptions. The horses are offered for adoption, at a cost of \$125, through three rounds of consecutive advertising, each lasting three to four weeks. Because the adoptee will not receive title to the horse for one year, many people wait for them to become a sale authority horse, or “three-striker;” a horse that has not been adopted after three attempts and is then sold for \$25 with an immediate bill of sale.

This can be a one-way ticket to slaughter and was for thousands of horses and burros throughout the country, bought by the truckload for \$10 each, before sales restrictions were enforced in 2013. On the other hand, many sale authority horses find good homes with the border patrol, rescues, trainers and other decent people where an immediate bill of sale is desired. All the horses processed at the Bloomfield facility are placed – approximately 50 percent through adoption, and 50 percent sold as sale authority horses.

The key to wild horses finding good homes, with owners who are not overwhelmed by their wildness, is some initial gentling – currently a possibility at the

Bloomfield of horses B coordinat spends tim es so that and handle es may go tage Allian of ground offered fo are taken agement le herds, the possible d es ending In Marc released t continuing tion of ou the FY201 ner and c restriction of excess tionwide a 27,000 is m tical to the in 1971, co the passin Our gov tinue wor to implem ment solu politically Wild Hors designated principally and to pr death.”

Laurie Fo New Mexi ago. Photo horses ha been her p the past fu has been around th areas to o animals i



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right now on private land whose use is donated by the Schreiber, the facility has reached its limit. To be able to expand and help more horses, a vision of land and a new facility beside the current location is now developing with the help of donors and the Dharmahorse family.

The vision for Dharmahorse includes a "paddock paradise" continuing loop path in which the horses live a more natural style of life in near constant motion through varied terrain. There will be an indoor arena for the equine-assisted programs, a classroom and office building with a memorial garden built with engraved bricks to honor horses who have passed.

Horses that are able to be ridden participate in programs with families, assisted therapies for various disabilities, riding lessons and confidence building. Horses who are compromised physically or are suffering from abuse are kept safe and cared for by Mark and Katharine Schreiber. A husband and wife team, they combine decades of experience in organization, equine healing, equine assisted programs and riding instruction from beginning to advanced levels.

Anyone interested in taking riding lessons or learning about horses, helping the Sanctuary by donations for feed, volunteering or supporting through donating or services can learn more by visiting www.dharmahorse.org or calling 575-541-0137.

The Sanctuary is able to care for the horses thanks to donations and the hard work of volunteers. As a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, Dharmahorse is licensed by the New Mexico Livestock Board and inspected yearly to be certain the horses are properly cared for. The sanctuary is at capacity and rarely adopts out any horses because of their extensive special needs. Existing

The facility is open by appointment only and lessons are scheduled as private, hourly sessions or a one time, family experience with horses lasting two and a half hours. There are half hour lessons for very young riders and many workshops on horse care throughout the year.



A Wild Horse Mesa animal displays his battle scars. (Photo Courtesy Judy Barns Photography)

...exico?

...d facility due to the low number ... held there. Sean Kelly, wild horse ... or in the Carson National Forest, ... the "taking the edge off" the hors- ... they can be more readily placed ... ed by the new owner. Other hors- ... o to the Jicarilla Mustang Heri- ... nce where they receive months ... work and training before being ... r adoption. If extreme measures ... to obtain the appropriate man- ... evel of the Jicarilla and Caraccas ... ese efforts may no longer be a ... ue to the larger numbers of hors- ... up in holding.

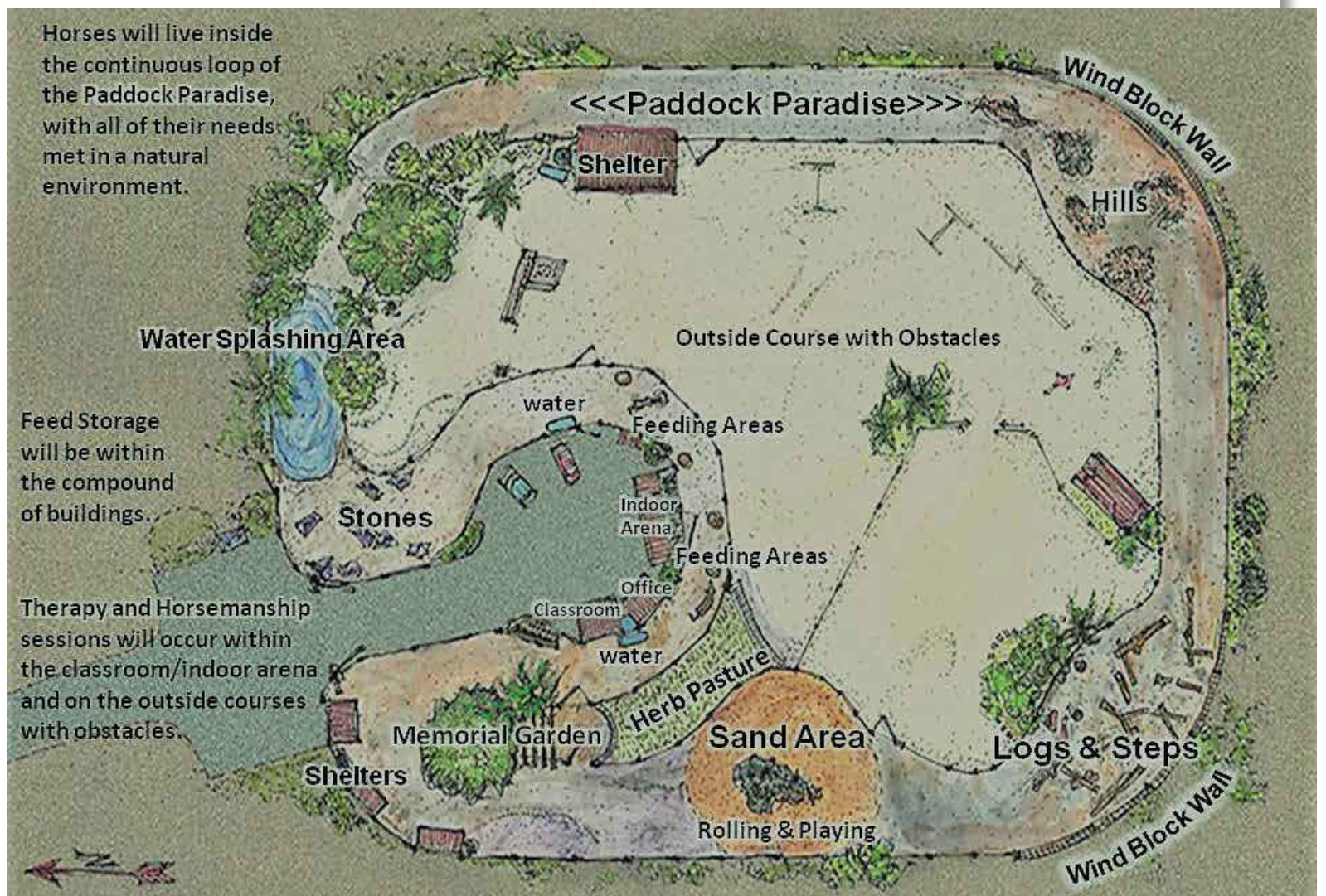
...h the House of Representatives ... the Omnibus that included the ... g prohibition on the destruc- ... r wild horses and burros. But ... 9 budget is just around the cor- ... continues to propose removing ... s on the sale and disposition ... horses and burros until the na- ... appropriate management level of ... met. This number is almost iden- ... e population level that Congress, ... considered too low and provoked ... g of the act.

...rment agencies need to con- ... king with the non-profit sector ... ent humane, scientific manage- ... tions that are both publicly and ... acceptable. Current law (1971 ... e and Burros Act) requires the ... l federal lands to be "devoted ... " to the wild horses and burros, ... otect them from "capture and

...rd moved to ... co 14 years ... ography and ... ve always ... passion. For ... ve years she ... travelling



...e west, camping in wild horse ... bserve and photograph the ... n their natural environment.



Dharmahorse Equine Sanctuary in Las Cruces is planning a future for rescued horses with a "Paddock Paradise," as money is raised for the facility.

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ON STAGE • CAROL BUSCHLICK

Singing Out Las Cruces

Pride, music at show 'I Write the Songs'

Singing Out Las Cruces spring concert, "I Write the Songs," will be June 2 - 3, at Peace Lutheran Church 1701 E. Missouri Ave. in Las Cruces. Songs composed and sung by Joan Baez, Carole King, Elton John, The Beatles, Stevie Wonder, Pink and many others are sure to provide some lively, memorable entertainment. The show will be at 7 p.m., Saturday, June 2 and 3 p.m., Sunday, June 3.

Intermission includes refreshments and a silent auction fundraiser with original arts, crafts and gifts. All donations are tax deductible as SOLC is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and help augment the choir's activities. Tickets are available at Spirit Winds Coffee Bar, 2260 Locust St. in Las Cruces and at the door prior to performances at \$10 for



The community of LGBTQ and Allied singers sing at Las Cruces City Hall during Mayor Ken Miyagishima's state of the city address, March 28. (Courtesy Photo)

adults, children 12 and under, admitted free.

Last fall, the board of directors and Artistic Director Irene Gehre voted to make a slight change to the choir's name, from Singing Out to Singing Out Las Cruces in recognition and appreciation for the community which has shown them such acceptance and support, Ghere said in a press release.

Singing Out Las Cruces is dedi-

cated to reaching out to the community, state and beyond through music and song that unite us in the spirit of acceptance, respect, social justice and human kindness. This year events include the Lavender Graduation Celebration at New Mexico State University, Las Cruces Pride, Southwestern PFLAG and Silver City's Pride festivals, fundraisers and more. Learn more at www.singingoutlascruces.org

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ON STAGE

'With Love, Marilyn'

A one-woman tribute comes to Rio Grande Theatre

The Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St. once again welcomes actress Erin Sullivan as she presents her one-woman tribute to screen goddess Marilyn Monroe, "With Love, Marilyn," at 6:30 p.m. Friday, June 1, and 5 p.m. Saturday, June 2.



Erin Sullivan as Marilyn Monroe

Reprising the part she originated on that same stage in Mark Medoff's "Marilee And Baby Lamb: The Assassination Of An American Goddess," Sullivan was inspired to continue her exploration of the glamorous icon by penning this musical journey along with co-writer Stephanie Rosenberg, weaving together stories of Monroe's life, her loves and her legacy.



Monroe entertained the desire to perform live on stage again as performing for the troops in Korea was one of the happiest times in her life, according to Monroe historian, Samantha McLaughlin ("All About Marilyn" organization).

In this intimate behind-the-scenes evening, the audience is transported back in time to that "what if" dress rehearsal. Musical performances include "I Wanna Be Loved By You," "My Heart Be-

longs To Daddy" and "Diamonds Are A Girl's Best Friend," accompanied by a three-piece band with new orchestrated arrangements by Broadway musical director Henry Aronson.

"Sullivan channels Monroe to deliver a performance of cheeky humor, sexy seduction and scintillating song," said Jacquelyn Claire of the New York Theater Guide in a press release. "She looks, speaks and moves like Marilyn and it's like going back in time."

Doors open at 6 p.m. on June 1 and 4:30 p.m. June 2. Tickets are \$27.50 including fees and can be purchased online at www.borderlandsfilmfestival.org or by calling the Borderlands Film Festival office at 575-408-9026.


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GIVE GRANDLY

Celebrate the Helpers

Nonprofit giving day/party in Silver City

For the fifth year in a row, the Grant County Community Foundation and the Southwest New Mexico Nonprofit Coalition are sponsoring a 24-hour community giving marathon May 5. “Give Grandly! Give Local!” to support 50-plus nonprofit organizations serving Grant, Luna, Catron and Hidalgo counties.

These diverse nonprofits cover important gaps in governmental or private sector programs, including health and human services, literacy and work skills, arts and cultural activities, environmental advocacy and animal welfare.

The Give Grandly Celebration will be held 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 5, at the corner of Seventh and Bullard streets, next to the Silver City Farmers’ Market.

Participating nonprofits will have tables with staff and volun-



At “Give Grandly, Give Local!” 2017 people manning the nonprofit booths enjoy sharing information with attendees. (Courtesy Photo)

teers to highlight their work on behalf of southwest New Mexico, answer your questions, and accept donations by cash, check or credit cards.

There will be musical entertainment, and refreshments will be available.

And anyone anywhere will be

able to donate online at www.givegrandly.org anytime between 12:01 a.m. and 11:59 p.m. on May 5.

Since 2014, community participation has exceeded the foundation’s greatest expectations. Donations have totaled more than \$350,000 over the past four

years.

The goal this year is to reach \$500,000 for five years. Participants and patrons are encouraged to use the hashtag #5in5 to share the spirit of the Fifth Annual Give Grandly.

“Everyone can be a philanthropist, no matter how big or

small the contribution,” said Barrett Brewer, chair of the Grant County Community Foundation in a press release. “We all benefit from the many important services that our area nonprofits provide. So, we hope you’ll join us on May 5 for Give Grandly, Give Local!”

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TALKING HORSES • SCOTT THOMSON

It Takes More Than Love

Dreams meet reality when considering a young horse

I recently had a thoughtful email from a loyal reader of this paper, asking a question that showed she was thinking with her head and heart. The reader had an opportunity to buy a young horse, actually more like a foal. The horse had been weaned, but some health issues with the mare had left this youngster an orphan. The reader had experience with horses and always dreamed of bringing along a “blank slate” to make a horse truly her own.

The reader was asking what I thought of a situation like this — would it be a wonderful and rewarding journey or was it absolute insanity for your average horse owner?

Obviously, you don't even consider this without having solid basic horsemanship skills and knowledge. You may have been around horses your whole life, but do you really have what it takes to teach a horse? Do you understand how they learn and how they grow, emotionally and physically? Do you know how to use pressure and release and how and when to reward? Can you be calm but firm without anger? Teaching a young one is very different from riding and handling mature horses.

There are a million logistical questions you'd need to ask yourself as well. Is your property set-up for this, is the fencing safe, do you have a good training area, do you have other horses that may or may not accept an energetic young horse looking for playmates? This list could go on forever. Bringing a young animal of any species into your life always presents certain challenges to the way you live your life, your home and property.

Perhaps there are a few not-so-obvious questions that can help make this a more informed decision.

My first question is always, “how old are you?” This is not about your level of fitness (although your physical fitness is certainly important when developing a young horse!). This is about the reality of how long it takes to bring a young horse along to the point of being a safe, reliable and trusted riding partner. Given their rate of physical development and the time it takes for emotional maturity — I always say eight years for all this — you need to think about yourself in that time frame as well. Where do you think you'll be physically, emotionally, or financially in that same time period?

The second thing I'd ask is, “Do you honestly have the time and patience to develop a young horse?” Forgetting the basic every day care of any horse, do you have the time to work with the horse virtually every day? Young horses need to be taught in small doses at first, sometimes two to three sessions per day, with each session lasting no more than 20-30 minutes because that's the limit of their attention span.

This is not like having someone take your dog for a walk because you're too busy. This is the foundation teaching that determines what your horse becomes, and it must be done.

The patience part of this question is equally important. For example, science says a horse isn't mature enough physically for any serious riding until they're five. You could certainly be teaching for all the years before, mostly on the ground, but could you accept that the really fun stuff might not be possible for four or five years from now? Would you be sensitive and disciplined enough to end a lesson in 5-10 minutes because the horse did so well, or stay as long as needed just to get a good try? Would you be able to let the horse determine the pace of training, only moving ahead when the horse was clearly ready physically and mentally?

The last thing I'd want to know is whether you could resist falling into the most basic trap for young animals and humans. Young animals are adorable. A foal or young horse is so cute you just want to hug them. We instinctively see them the same way we see a human baby and want to treat them accordingly. But here's the thing with most prey animals, and especially with horses. They are literally ready to start learning the minute they're born. Instinctively, their survival depends on their ability in the first few hours of life to get moving, to figure out how and where to feed and to start learning about their position in the herd and their environment.

This biological fact puts tremendous pressure on the human for building the right foundation from the start, something, frankly, I see messed up far too often. The horse starts learning from day one, so if the human starts off treating the horse one way without understanding that every interaction is a lesson that will become a learned behavior in a 1,000 lb. horse, then everything gets more difficult down the road.

In this particular case, I asked the reader to do two things. First, be honest about their ability to be a firm, fair and consistent teacher, handling the horse the way you want and need it to be as a mature horse. Second, carefully look for signs of how this young



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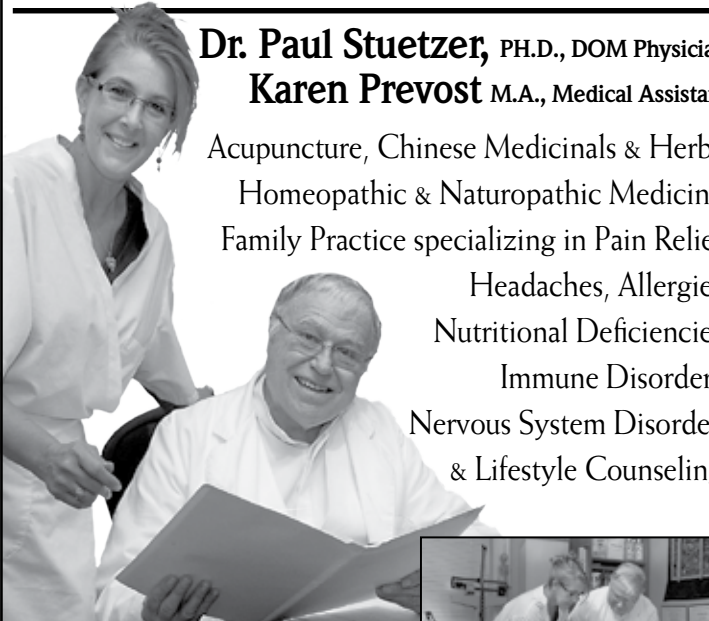
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CYCLES OF LIFE • FR. GABRIEL ROCHELLE

Joys and Gifts

Electric bicycle can be great choice

Readers may recall that I reviewed a number of electric bikes a few months ago in this column. Since that time a strange thing has happened: the bike I bought for my wife, which we affectionately call Big Blue, has been used a great deal, but by me primarily. Let me explain: I have not robbed Susan of the use of this bike, much less ridden it when she should or could be doing so. Shortly after we bought the bike, she suffered a broken arm at work and had to quit riding. The break was unusual, painful, and the arm required quite a bit of physical rehab work to bring it back to full usage again.

Rather soon after the unfortunate accident, I became a volunteer at the state prison facility in our area. It is located fourteen and a half miles from our home, and most of that fourteen and a half miles is uphill. Since it would not do to show up in lycra and bright colored shoes and all the rest of the road bike trappings, I began to ride Big Blue for my volunteer days.

I have now logged 1,300 miles on this electric bike and I've got a lot more to share than when I wrote the initial column months ago. So now that the stories are over, here's the scoop on electric cycling:

First, this is a true game changer. I've mentioned to other cyclists with and without electric bikes that the minute the companies figure out how to achieve two hundred fifty miles on a single battery charge, people will be jumping on these bikes and riding them cross-country.

Electric bikes are game-changers on several levels. They enable older riders to keep riding when they might otherwise hang the bike up in the garage and call it a day. This is not cheating, as some might claim. What you get is a boost, not a free ride. In order for these machines to remain free of state vehicle licensing, they must be under constant pedal power even with the electric assist. That's the law. But this enables older folks to keep those legs pumping and, with them, that heart muscle that can keep you going into genuine old age – and to do it all without excess strain.

The electric bike is, furthermore, a leveler: for people confronted with rather formidable hills, as many of us are in New Mexico, the gearing and the levels of electric assist enable smooth, confident riding regardless of terrain. Many of these bikes come equipped with Bosch motors mounted in the crank for smoother transfer of energy than in hub

mounts. They also come with three to eight speed internal gear systems. This allows a wide range of options in hill climbing as well as flat riding. As I mentioned to a friend the first day I rode a lot of hills on that bike and sustained 17 miles an hour uphill, I felt like Chris Vroome!

The electric bike will allow you to cruise close to 20 miles an hour on the flat. This makes you more competitive with the auto and truck traffic you experience in a city like Las Cruces. I definitely feel safer with the electric assist pushing me beyond what I might normally ride in the city.

If it is not obvious from my previous notes, the electric bike allows you to have fun again, especially if you have been feeling down and out because of age. Check them out at your local dealer, who can give you more information on specs, price, and fit.

Fr. Gabriel Rochelle is pastor of St Anthony of the Desert Orthodox Mission, Las Cruces, an avid cyclist and secretary for Velo Cruces, our local advocacy committee. The church web site is <http://stanthomylc.org>.



HORSES

continued from page 24

horse had been handled up to this point. If he/she is a real cutie and clearly had been cuddled and fawned over by every human, and thinks invading space, treats, playful nips, leaning into pressure or walking away are acceptable behaviors, then understand these behaviors are now learned and imbedded, and are dangerous in a mature horse.

There are few things you do with horses that are more fun and rewarding than bringing along a young horse and seeing what it can become. Very few people get a chance to do it. I'm happy in this case someone asked for advice before they took on the challenge – and decided they were not prepared to give a young horse what it would need to become a great horse.

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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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
ACA Meeting (Adult Children of Alcoholics and Dysfunctional Families) — 7-8:15 p.m. meets every Wednesday at the New Church of the Southwest Desert (behind The Food Basket). Contact: Athena, 575-590-8300.

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 Tranquilbuzz, 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.

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

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.

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, 2045 Memory Lane, Silver City. Anita, 907-830-0631.

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.

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EVENTS

continued from page 26

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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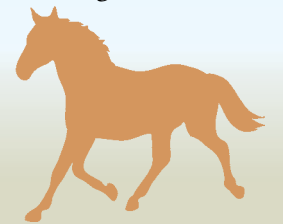
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835 Comanche
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200 Arenas Valley
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WINGING IT • YVONNE LANELLI

A rockin' good birding trip in Quebradas!

Can a bird club enjoy a field trip without birds?

Anita Powell of Lincoln County Bird Club, is nearly dwarfed by the impressive "tombstone topography" at Stop #4, Meseta Blanca Member of the Yeso Formation.



Sure, say the up-for-anything members of Lincoln County Bird Club. We recently trekked Quebradas Backcountry Scenic Byway near Socorro intending to observe raptors and other high-desert avians about two hours north of Las Cruces. Turns out the only birds we saw were either perching on power poles on the highways or swimming in the Escondida Lake and Park. But that's OK with the members.

"We learned so much anyway," said club member Anita Powell.

The "so much" to which Powell alludes is the fascinating geology that forms the major feature of the Byway's 24 miles. "Quebradas" means "breaks" and refers to the many arroyos that have sliced the area's layers of ancient sedimentary rock, says the official website, www.newmexico.org/things-to-do/scenic-byways/quebradas-backcountry.

At each of the byway's 10 designated stops, members scanned the skies but found themselves focused on exposed rainbow-like layers of rock. At each stop we consulted the "Geologic Guide to the Quebradas Back Country Byway" published by New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources, available at the Socorro Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management or online (www.blm.gov/nmst/en/fo/Socorro_Field_Office).

This full-color pamphlet contains not only a map of the byway, but also pertinent geologic info about eras such as Cambrian, periods such as Triassic and Cretaceous, formations such as Yeso and Abo as well as fossils such as crinoids. One can traverse the byway from Stop #1 in the north to Stop #10 in the south or reverse. We started at the south end which begins at County Road A 129 going north from U.S. Highway 380 at Stop #10 and ends at Stop #1 at Escondida, just north of Socorro.



Red sandstone hills, white clouds and blue sky are a typical Quebradas panorama. (Photos by Yvonne Lanelli)

Even though we're not geologists, the guide's easy-to-understand text and photographs enable readers to better appreciate the area's topography.

Geologic periods represented at Quebradas include Pennsylvanian, Permian, Triassic, Cretaceous, Tertiary and Quaternary. Prominent stratigraphic units include Bursum Formation, Abo Formation, Yeso Formation, Glorieta Sandstone, San Andres Formation, Artesia Group and Chinle Group. If this is too much geology jargon, no worries. Just admire the pretty rocks. We did.

Since we couldn't photograph birds or other wildlife, our cameras captured the fascinating layering of yellow, gray, pink and red sandstones, limestones and siltstones and faults. My favorite images are of "tombstone topography" of the Meseta Blanca Member of the Yeso Formation at Stop #4. Fossils appeared at several stops including oncolites in the Torres Member of the Yeso formation of the Permian Period at Stop #7 and Crinoid fragments in limestone of the Madera Group of the Pennsylvanian Period at Stop #3.

In addition to exposed strata, we took in panoramic views of surrounding mountains and peaks: the Chupaderas, Socorro Peak, Strawberry Peak, San Mateo Mountains, Magdalena Mountains, Polvadera Peak, Sierra Ladrones and Cerro

de la Campana.

As for birds, only American kestrels perching on power poles, common ravens swooping overhead and the occasional junco flitting past made the list. We agreed that to better see birds and other wildlife, we needed to arrive at dusk instead of 10 a.m. However, at the end of the trek, at Escondida Lake and Park, we observed waterfowl: ruddy duck, mallard, redhead, American wigeon and hybrids of mallard and domestic duck.

If you or your club wishes to bird at Quebradas, come at dawn or dusk. Figure a minimum of four hours if you stop at all 10 stops. The road is unpaved, maintained gravel. High-clearance vehicles are not required but suggested. Our two vehicles were Subaru Outbacks and handled the road just fine because the road was dry and there had been no recent rains to create ruts. Traveling after recent rains is not advised since water can collect in low spots. The closest fuel and food is in San Antonio and Socorro. Assume you start the drive with a full tank. Bring plenty of drinking water and snacks as well as sunscreen, hat and sunglasses, field guides or birding apps and camera.

Novice birder Yvonne Lanelli (evlanelli@yahoo.com) prefers to image rocks on birding trips. "Rocks don't fly away!"

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Making Life a Little Sweeter

New bakery opens doors in Silver City

HoneeBeeGoods is a bakery that has recently opened in Silver City on the corner of Broadway and Bullard streets in the historic downtown district.

Even without a sign, customers have been able to find the sweet treats offered at 116 N. Bullard St. HoneeBeeGoods opened in February and many of the customers find out about the bakery when they see someone on the street with a clear container filled with delicious pastries and ask, "Where did you get that?"

Special orders can be placed by calling 714-515-0832. The business is open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday and from 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday and 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday. On Wednesday afternoons, about 4 p.m., April Sturdevant stops by to sing and play her original music on the guitar.

Sarah Pagana and Alex Daylac, HoneeBeeGoods owners, moved to Silver City from Ranch Cucamonga, California. Pagana had previously operated a bakery and Daylac is an experienced chef. When they moved to Silver City they had not planned on opening a business but when they saw the location on a busy corner was available, they investigated renting the space. They learned the space had once been a restaurant, Jessie's, and that much of the in-



Alex Daylac and Sarah Pagana serve "giant cookies." (Photos by Lucy Whitmarsh)

frastructure to install a commercial kitchen was still in place. They got to work and have created an inviting space where customers not only purchase delectable treats to take out but where one can also get a cup of coffee or tea and enjoy the relaxing atmosphere in a cozy seating area.

Pagana said she greatly enjoys the interaction with the customers and, as time allows, likes to sit down and listen to their stories. She especially enjoys hearing about previous businesses that operated from the corner location.

The new business has already

established a loyal following of those who enjoy the pastries, cakes, cream puffs, éclairs, cookies and candies currently available at HoneeBeeGoods. Plans are in the works to introduce additional items. Daylac has experience with preparing Lebanese food and shawarma, kafta, kebeh, taboleh, fattoush and hummus will soon be appearing on the already extensive menu. A line of organic dog treats will be added for the four-legged customers. A soft serve machine and an Icee machine have been purchased and will be in operation soon.



Cookies and turnovers at HoneeBeeGoods bakery in Silver City.

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Or
- Roasted veggies**
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- Fresh Baked Banana Bread**
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PET ACTION

SNAP celebrates 20 years

Tickets available for SNAP gala

Spay-Neuter Action Program (SNAP) of Las Cruces is hosting a major fundraising gala in May to celebrate the organization's 20th anniversary.

Tickets, at \$50 each, and sponsorships are available for the event, which will be held 6-9 p.m. Thursday, May 17 at the Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave.

The event will include entertainment by Las Cruces magician Jamie O'Hara, a buffet dinner (including a vegan choice), silent auction and music.

"Well-behaved, leashed dogs are welcome and will be treated to a doggie buffet provided by Better Life Pet Foods," according to SNAP.

Tickets are available at the SNAP office, 2405 W. Picacho Ave., Suite 103; both Las Cruces locations of Better Life Pet Foods: 315 Telshor Blvd. and 365 Avenida de Mesilla; Dog Cruces, 151 S. Solano Drive, Suite E; and American Classifieds, 151 S. Solano Drive, Suite E.

SNAP is a nonprofit that "facilitates low-cost spay/neuters for dogs and cats in Doña Ana



Dymond gets some love from volunteer Susan Krueger as SNAP Director Janice English looks on from behind. (Courtesy Photo)

County," according to a news release about the gala.

In its work to reduce the animal over-population in the county, SNAP has fixed more than 18,000 pets during the past two decades, and that translates to preventing the births of more than 100,000 unwanted kittens and puppies, according to a SNAP letter.

For tickets, sponsorships and more information, call the SNAP office at 575-524-9265. Or, call Janice English at 575-635-1816, Julie Miller at 575-405-2195 or Rachel Snow at 915-929-5592.

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Rattlesnakes can be well camouflaged because of their non-distinctive color patterns. Wearing proper foot gear, long pants and watchful eyes are some of the best ways to stay safe around venomous snakes. (Courtesy Photo)



USE CAUTION

Rattlesnake Compassion Tips for a safe snake season

Be aware of your surroundings, and there's no need to beware of snakes. That's the message from Advocates for Snake Preservation (ASP), a nonprofit organization dedicated to changing the way people view and treat snakes.

"Migratory birds are returning, wildflowers are blooming and snakes are starting to emerge from their winter dens," said Melissa Amarello, biologist and cofounder of ASP in a press release. "This isn't a reason to avoid the outdoors; it is possible to enjoy all the signs of spring, and that includes the return of rattlesnakes."

Months of cold weather can make it easy to forget this is snake country, so the first spring sighting may be shocking. With temperatures on the rise, it's im-

portant to increase awareness of our surroundings, so ASP is offering their Top Tips for a Safe Snake Season:

- Do not approach, handle, move, or kill snakes – most bites happen in these situations!
- Use lights when walking at night.
- Watch where you put your hands and feet.
- Create clear, wide paths throughout your yard for safe walking.
- Don't feed or water your pets or wildlife on the ground.
- Don't create shelter for snakes or their prey with debris piles.
- Do not use glue traps or bird netting – they trap rattlesnakes too.
- Learn your rattlesnake neighbors' habits and avoid their

areas.

- Welcome non-venomous snakes, such as bull snakes and whipsnakes to your yard – they may make it less inviting to rattlesnakes.
- Observe and enjoy snakes from a safe distance!

Snakes are important predators and prey, and their presence indicates a healthy and productive ecosystem. Learn to live with them and appreciate your encounters.

"It is not only possible to live with venomous snakes, but can be very rewarding," Amarello said. "My first encounter of the year with a sleepy snake, just waking up from his long winter's nap, is something I look forward to all winter."

For more information visit www.LivingWithSnakes.org.



An exhibit reflecting "Life Along the Rio Grande" hangs at the Branigan Cultural Center through the beginning of June. (Courtesy Photo)

ON THE WALL

Life Along the Rio Grande State by state quilted reflections on display

An exhibit entitled "Life Along the Rio Grande" is on display at the Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main St. in Las Cruces, through June 9.

The exhibit features the works of members of the Studio Art Quilt Association (SAQA), a nonprofit organization founded in 1989. The association promotes art quilts, and the artists who create them, in exhibits throughout the world that document the art quilt movement.

Artists living in western U.S. states were asked to create work representing a vast variety of things that are important to the Rio Grande. The river flows through the states of New Mexico, Texas, and Colorado and is a critical water source for the desert

region. There are a variety of living things along the Rio Grande. The work created by SAQA artists explores historical, cultural, scientific, geological, and environmental topics relating to the flora, fauna, and people living near the Rio Grande.

For information about the Studio Art Quilt Association visit its website at: www.SAQA.com.

Admission is free to the Branigan Cultural Center. The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and from 9 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Saturday. For information, call 575-541-2154, or visit the museums' website at: las-cruces.org/en/departments/quality-of-life/museum-system/branigan-cultural-center.

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ers are directed by Nada Dates and accompanied by Rhonda Gorog on piano. Info: 575-388-8771.

Carrizozo/Lincoln County
Lara Downs in Concert — 6-8 p.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church, 1000 D Ave. in Carrizozo. Downs, pianist, performs a tribute to Leonard Bernstein and other American composers. Info: 575-648-2757.
Kutless in Concert — 8 p.m. at the Inn of the Mountain Gods, 287 Carrizo Canyon Road, Mescalero. Info: innofthemountaingods.com/event/kutless/.

Alamogordo/Otero County
Tularosa St. Francis de Paula Fiesta — 7-10 p.m. dancing at the Fiesta Grounds in Tularosa with Animmio. Info: 575-629-0787.

Truth or Consequences/Sierra County
Hot Springs Festival — 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. at multiple locations in Truth or Consequences. Includes a variety of healthy and sustainable living activities and fun including food, dancing and vendors of hand-crafted and natural items. Info: torcmainstreet.org.
Surf band XKE play the classics — 7-10 p.m. at the Truth or Consequences Brewing Company, 410 N. Broadway. Info 575-297-0289.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
Water Circus — 7:30 p.m. at the Mesilla Valley Mall, 700 S. Telshor Blvd. Las Cruces, in the parking lot near Cineport 10. Aquatic Spectacular with Cirque Italia features a non-animal show with water fountains, jet-skis, pirates and aerial performances. The box office opens on-site on Tuesday. Info: cirqueitalia.com/tickets.

SATURDAY, MAY 12

Silver City/Grant County
Silver City Farmers' Market — 8:30 a.m.-noon, 700 Bullard St. Silver City. Info: 575-538-5555.
Fort Bayard Walking Tours — begin at 9:30 a.m. at Fort Bayard National Historic Landmark. Info: 575-388-4477.

Truth or Consequences/Sierra County
Spaceport tour — Departs at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. from Spaceport America Visitor Center, 301 S. Foch, Silver City. Reservations required. Info: 575-267-8888.
Second Saturday Art Hop — 6-9 p.m., Downtown Truth or Consequences. Info: MainStreet, promotions@torcmainstreet.org.
Community dance — Old Time Fiddlers Dance, 7-9 p.m., New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St., Truth or Consequences. \$4 Info: 575-744-9137

Alamogordo/Otero County
Science Saturday — 9 a.m.-noon at the New Mexico Museum of Space History in Alamogordo. Kids get to be the scientists. Info: 575-629-0787.
Red, White, Blue and You! Armed Forces Appreciation Day — 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Alameda Park Zoo in Alamogordo. Food, games, entertainment and active duty military eat for free. Info: 575-439-4279.
Atomic City Cosplay — 1-10 p.m. in historic downtown Alamogordo on New York Avenue. Info: Melissa.wilde@gmail.com.
Tularosa St. Francis de Paula Fiesta — 5:30 p.m. mass at St. Francis de Paula Mission in Tularosa. Followed by dance and music by Xpllosion. Info: 575-629-0787.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County
Cirque Zuma Zuma — 8 p.m. at the Inn of the Mountain Gods, 287 Carrizo Canyon Road, Mescalero. Info: innofthemountaingods.com/event/cirque-zuma-zuma/.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
Water Circus — 1:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at the Mesilla Valley Mall, 700 S. Telshor Blvd. Las Cruces, in the parking lot near Cineport 10. Aquatic Spectacular with Cirque Italia features a non-animal show with water fountains, jet-skis, pirates and aerial performances. The box office opens on-site on Tuesday. Info: cirqueitalia.com/tickets.

Mother's Day Event at Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery — 1-4 p.m., 2470-A Calle de Guadalupe, across from the Fountain Theater in Mesilla. Mothers receive a free gift, gallery members on hand, demonstrations, music and refreshments. Info: 575-522-2933.

Amazing Women of the Wild West — 2-4 p.m. at the Fort Selden Historic Site. Meet famous and infamous women who lived on the New Mexico frontier as portrayed by VanAnn Moore in a Chautauqua performance. Info: 575-202-1638.

SUNDAY, MAY 13

Silver City/Grant County
Hi Lo Silvers spring concert — 3 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 1915 N. Swan St. in Silver City. Singers are directed by Nada Dates and accompanied by Rhonda Gorog on piano. Info: 575-388-8771.

Alamogordo/Otero County
Tularosa St. Francis de Paula Fiesta — noon-6 p.m. a procession from the mission, following services takes the celebration to the Fiesta Grounds where traditional dances, food and games take place. Info:

575-629-0787.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
Water Circus — 1:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at the Mesilla Valley Mall, 700 S. Telshor Blvd. Las Cruces, in the parking lot near Cineport 10. Aquatic Spectacular with Cirque Italia features a non-animal show with water fountains, jet-skis, pirates and aerial performances. The box office opens on-site on Tuesday. Info: cirqueitalia.com/tickets.
"Music from the Heart" — 3 p.m. at the Rio Grande Theatre in Las Cruces. A Mother's Day choral program with the Mesilla Valley Chorale includes pieces like "You Make Me Feel so Young," "Long Ago and Far Away," and "Sing, Sing, Sing." Info: 575-647-2560.

MONDAY, MAY 14
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. The speakers are Cecilia and John Bell with the Ft. Bayard Museum. Info: 575-537-3643.

Carrizozo/Lincoln County
"Kids at the Opera" — 10 a.m. at the Carrizozo School Old Gym. Tara Khozein and Seth Zamora perform a program of songs, arias and piano solos. Open to kids of all ages. Info: 575-648-2757.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
Tango dance instruction — 7-8 p.m. Monday nights Mesilla Community Center 2251 Calle de Santiago. Instructor Tommy Nations. Dance 5-9 p.m. Cost: \$10. Info: 575-635-6903.

TUESDAY, MAY 15
Alamogordo/Otero County
Sky & Ed — 8:30 p.m., musical performance, Patron's Hall, 1106 New York Ave., Alamogordo. Info: 575-488-2185.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
Blessing of the Fields — 10-11 a.m. at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road in Las Cruces. Info: 575-522-4100.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16
Silver City/Grant County
Silver City Farmers' Market — 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., at the Grant County Veterans Memorial Business and Conference Center, 3031 U.S. Highway 180, Silver City. Info: 575-538-5555.
Gin Rummy — 1 p.m., Tranquilbuzz Coffeehouse, 112 W. Yankee St., Silver City. Beginners welcome. Experts challenged. Info: 575-535-9355.

Deming/Luna County
Workshop — Art of the Ask, 1-4 p.m., Luna County Courthouse, 700 S. Silver Ave. Discusses how to effectively raise money for charitable organizations. \$25. Info: Nonprofit Rescue Group, 575-597-0035.

THURSDAY, MAY 17
Silver City/Grant County
In Service to Others: Nurses in Film: "A Farewell to Arms" — 7 p.m. at the Santa Clara National Armory, 50 Pinon St. Silver City. Fort Bayard Historic Preservation Society Movie Series. Info: 575-388-4862.

Truth or Consequences/Sierra County
Square dancing — 6-8 p.m., New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St., Truth or Consequences, hosted by the Sierra Twirlers Square

HERE & NOW

Regional Juried Exhibition 2018



Bred in the Bone, Nolan Winkler

University Art Gallery, NMSU
May 24 - July 14

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575.646-2545 • uag.nmsu.edu
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Las Cruces Museum of Art
May 11 - July 21

491 N Main St • Las Cruces, NM
575.541.2137 • las-cruces.org/museums
Tue-Fri 10am-4:30pm, Sat 9am-4:30pm



Dance Club. \$3 per dancer. Info: 505-804-3842, 575-313-9971.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County Hondo Iris Festival — 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Hondo Iris Farm and Gallery, U.S. Highway 70, Mile Marker 284. The festival lasts all month. Info: www.hondoirisfarm.com.

21st Annual AspenCash Motorcycle Rally — 2-7 p.m. starting at the Ruidoso Convention Center, 111 Sierra Blanca Drive, in Ruidoso. Food, music, riding and fun in the cool pines. Info: 575-973-4977.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Brown Bag Lunch & History Talk celebrating museum's 20th anniversary — noon-1 p.m. at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road in Las Cruces. Info: 575-522-4100.
Thursday Night Jam — 7:30-9:30 p.m. Thursdays, Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St. Friends of Visit Las Cruces present local and up-and-coming musicians. Concessions, including beer and wine, will be available for purchase. Cost: \$5.

"A Weasel in the Hen House" or "Ladies A' Peril" — 8 p.m. at El Sol Theater, 406 N. Bullard St. Silver City. RSVP Preview Party. Info www.virustheater.com.

Alamogordo/Otero County Open mic — 5:30 p.m., Patron's Hall, 1106 New York Ave. Info: 575-488-2185.

Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County Michael Batdorf, chameleon of song — 7-10 p.m. at the Truth or Consequences Brewing Company, 410 N. Broadway. Info 575-297-0289.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County Hondo Iris Festival — 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Hondo Iris Farm and Gallery, U.S. Highway 70, Mile Marker 284. The festival lasts all month. Info: www.hondoirisfarm.com.
21st Annual AspenCash Motorcycle Rally — 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. starting at the Ruidoso Convention Center, 111 Sierra Blanca Drive, in Ruidoso. Food, music, riding and fun in the cool pines. Info: 575-973-4977.

"Sodbuster, San Isidro" sculpture reception and lecture — 5-8 p.m. at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road in Las Cruces. Celebration the museum's 20 anniversary, reception is followed by talk by Christian Waguespack, curator of 20th Century Art at the New Mexico Museum of Art in Santa Fe. Info: 575-522-4100.
"Blues Brothers" the movie — 7 p.m. at the Rio Grande Theatre in downtown Las Cruces. Info: www.riograndetheatre.org.
Las Cruces UkeFest 2018 Concert — 7 p.m. at NMSU Atkinson Performing Arts Center. First night concert. Info: lascrucesukefest.com.
Contra Dance — 7:30-10:30 p.m. at the Mesilla Community Center, 2251 Calle de Santiago in Mesilla. The Little Table Contraband will be playing with Lonnie Ludeman calling. No partner is needed. Beginners

welcome. Info: 575-522-1691.

a.m.-noon, 700 Bullard St. Silver City. Info: 575-538-5555.

Permaculture Silver City — 1-3 p.m. at the Commons (aka The Volunteer Center), 501 E. 13th St., Silver

SATURDAY, MAY 19 Silver City/Grant County Silver City Farmers' Market — 8:30

Picacho Hills Art in the Garden Tour

Sunday, May 20, 2018 • 11am - 4pm
Las Cruces, NM

Self Guided and Free to the Public
Art available at every Garden
Highway 70 West to Picacho Hills Drive
Maps available at Picacho Commercial Plaza

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www.artistofpicachohills.com

FRIDAY, MAY 18
Silver City/Grant County

Las Cruces/Mesilla

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a fun two-week workshop for Young Artists ages 6-10
June 18 -29
Monday through Friday
9 am to 12 noon
Instructor: Carmen Ruiz
visual artist - bilingual art educator
Registration and information
email: carmenruiz@gilanet.com

Take your ukulele playing to new heights

Las Cruces UkeFest 2018
May 18 - 20 • New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum

Craig Chee & Sarah Maisel
Rachel Manke
Lil' Rev
Mark Baker

www.lascrucesukefest.com

SECOND ANNUAL 5-DAY SUMMER DANCE CAMP in Silver City FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGES 7-15

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Energizing the body, imagination, and spirit with strength, confidence, and fun!

NO DANCE EXPERIENCE NECESSARY
Ages 7-11: June 18-22 / Ages 12-15: June 25-29
2:30-5:30 pm
\$100 plus tax
Taught by Sallyann Mulcahy
Dance educator, career professional ballerina
Registration/Information:
thelifedancer@gmail.com

City. Features a plant of the month and skill sharing. Info: permaculture-silver-city@googlegroups.com.

Just Words — 2-4 p.m. at the Tranquilbuzz Coffee House, 112 Yankee St. in Silver City. Silver City author Julia Robinson reads from her new memoir and Virginia poet Mary Wescott reads from her work, followed by an open mic for words and music. Info: sigriddaughter@gmail.com.

"A Weasel in the Hen House" or "Ladies A' Peril" — 7:30 p.m. at El Sol Theater, 406 N. Bullard St. Silver City. A bawdy melodrama of good, evil and meteorological events written by Douglas Shelton and the Virus Theater. Info: www.virus theater.com.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County Lincoln County Bird Club at Ft. Stanton — 8 a.m. carpools leave from the gravel lot on Ski Run Road

west of Brewer's Shell. Info: 575-937-5416.

21st Annual AspenCash Motorcycle Rally — 10 a.m.-9 p.m. starting at the Ruidoso Convention Center, 111 Sierra Blanca Drive, in Ruidoso. Food, music, riding and fun in the cool pines. Info: 575-973-4977.

**Truth or Consequences/
Sierra County**

Spaceport tour — Departs at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. from Spaceport America Visitor Center, 301 S. Foch, Silver City. Reservations required. Info: 575-267-8888

Old Time Fiddlers Dance — 7-9 p.m., New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St., Truth or Consequences. \$4 Info: 575-744-9137.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla
20th Anniversary Celebration Day**

— 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road in Las Cruces. A special admission price of \$5 a carload for a day of events, demonstrations and fun. Info: 575-522-4100.

Las Cruces UkeFest 2018 Conference — 9 a.m. at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum. Registration, welcome and workshops. Info: lascrucesukefest.com.

Blues Spectacular — 7 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces. Features Ruben V, The Bel Airs and Tracy Nelson. Info: 575-541-2550.

Las Cruces UkeFest 2018 Jam Session — 7:30 p.m. at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum. Registration, welcome and workshops. Info: lascrucesukefest.com.

SUNDAY, MAY 20

Ruidoso/Lincoln County Hondo Iris Festival — 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Hondo Iris Farm and Gallery, U.S. Highway 70, Mile Marker 284. The festival lasts all month. Info: www.hondoirisfarm.com.

21st Annual AspenCash Motorcycle Rally — 11 a.m.-2 p.m. starting at the Ruidoso Convention Center, 111 Sierra Blanca Drive, in Ruidoso. Food, music, riding and fun in the cool pines. Info: 575-973-4977.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

Las Cruces UkeFest 2018 conference — 9 a.m. at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum. Ukulele Swap Meet and workshops. Info: lascrucesukefest.com.

Art in the Garden — 11 a.m.-4 p.m. tour of six Las Cruces landscaped gardens paired with local artists and Master Gardeners. Info: 575-527-0020.

The Mesilla Valley Swing Band — 7 p.m. at First Christian Church, 1809 El Paseo in Las Cruces. A dessert social begins at 6:30 p.m. Info: www.mvjazzbues.net.

MONDAY, MAY 21

**Truth or Consequences/
Sierra County**

Community song circle — 6-8 p.m., Koala Tea CBD, 318 N. Broadway Ave., Truth or Consequences. Donations welcomed. Info: Johanna O'Tea, 608-335-8295, johannabotani-ca@gmail.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

New Mexico Watercolor Society — 2-4 p.m. the second Sunday of each month, except May which meets the third Sunday, at Good Samaritan Society's Arts & Crafts room, 3011 Buena Vida Circle. Info: nmwatercolor society.org.

TUESDAY, MAY 22

Silver City/Grant County

Mountain Bike Ride — 5:15 p.m., bicycles, Little Walnut Picnic Grounds. Carpool and meet up for 1.5 hours of riding. Level of difficulty: Intermediate.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 23

Silver City/Grant County

Silver City Farmers' Market — 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., at the Grant County Veterans Memorial Business and Conference Center, 3031 U.S. Highway 180, Silver City. Info: 575-538-5555.

Gin Rummy — 1 p.m., Tranquilbuzz Coffeehouse, 112 W. Yankee St., Silver City. Beginners welcome. Experts challenged. Info: 575-535-9355.

THURSDAY, MAY 24

Silver City/Grant County

In Service to Others: Nurses in Film: "So Proudly We Hail" — 7 p.m. at the Santa Clara National Armory, 50 Pinon St. Silver City. Fort Bayard Historic Preservation Society Movie Series. Info: 575-388-4862.

**Truth or Consequences/
Sierra County**

Flow Yoga led by Sonia Dalessi — 9-10:30 a.m., Studio de la Luz, 308 S. Pershing Drive, Truth or Consequences. \$10. Info: 760-574-8644, yogasonia@outlook.com.

Square dancing — 6-8 p.m., New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St., Truth or Consequences, hosted by the Sierra Twirlers Square Dance Club. \$3 per dancer. Info: 505-804-3842, 575-313-9971.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

Thursday Night Jam — 7:30-9:30 p.m. Thursdays, Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St. Friends of Visit Las Cruces present local and up-and-

coming musicians. Concessions, including beer and wine, will be available for purchase. Cost: \$5.

Las Cruces Ukes — 5:15-6:15 p.m. Thursdays beginner group; 6:30-8 p.m. Thursdays performance group at Good Samaritan Society, Las Cruces Village, 3011 Buena Vida Circle. Free. Info: lascrucesukes.blogspot.com, 575-405-7133.

FRIDAY, MAY 25

Silver City/Grant County

Paint Out Silver! — Begins at 7:30 a.m. all across Silver City. A Plein Air artists event held during the Blues Festival. Info: 575-538-2505.

Gila Glass Classic Flame Off — All day at Gough Park, 1201 N. Pope St. Silver City. Part of Blues Festival activities. Info: 575-538-5555.

Kneeling Nun Bike Run registration event — 5-8 p.m. at Q's Southern Bistro, 101 W. College Ave. in Silver City. Pre-registration, includes a meal and a live band from 7-10 p.m. Info: 575-680-5494.

23rd Annual Silver City Blues Festival — 6-9 p.m. at Gough Park in Silver City. Info: 575-538-2505 or www.silvercitybluesfestival.org.

"A Weasel in the Hen House" or "Ladies A' Peril" — 9 p.m. at El Sol Theater, 406 N. Bullard St. Silver City. A bawdy melodrama of good, evil and meteorological events written by Douglas Shelton and the Virus Theater. Info: www.virus theater.com.

**Truth or Consequences/
Sierra County**

Chocolate George's Birthday Bash — 8-11 p.m. at the Truth or Consequences Brewing Company, 410 N. Broadway. Blues, country and hillbilly funk. Info 575-297-0289.

**Alamogordo/Otero County
Cloudcroft Art Society Memorial**

Day Show — 2-6 p.m. at the Lodge Pavilion at the southwest corner of Chipmunk Ave. and Curlew Place. Info: sznana@totacc.com.

Fourth Friday at Alameda Park Zoo — 6-10 p.m. at Alameda Park Zoo in Alamogordo. Live music, movie, food, alcohol service. Info: 575-439-4203.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County

Hondo Iris Festival — 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Hondo Iris Farm and Gallery, U.S. Highway 70, Mile Marker 284. The festival lasts all month. Info: www.hondoirisfarm.com.

Ruidoso Downs Racetrack opening weekend — 1 p.m. post time at Ruidoso Downs Racetrack and Billy the Kid Casino. Info: 575-378-4431.

SATURDAY, MAY 26

Silver City/Grant County

Paint Out Silver! — 3 p.m. and after submit finished and framed art at the Silver City Art Association tent at Gough Park. A Plein Air artists event held during the Blues Festival. Info: 575-538-2505.

Kneeling Nun Bike Run — 8-10 a.m. registration begins at Q's Southern Bistro, 101 W. College Ave. in Silver City. Bike and car show starts at 4:30 p.m. Info: 575-680-5494.

Silver City Farmers' Market — 8:30 a.m.-noon, 700 Bullard St. Silver City. Info: 575-538-5555.

Gila Glass Classic Flame Off — 11 a.m. at Gough Park, 1201 N. Pope St. Silver City. Part of Blues Festival activities. Info: 575-538-5555.

23rd Annual Silver City Blues Festival — 11 a.m.-9 p.m. at Gough Park, 1201 N. Pope St. in Silver City. Info: 575-538-2505 or www.silvercity-bluesfestival.org.

"A Weasel in the Hen House" or

40 DAYS

continued on page 39

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Crux, the Cross

Wobbly pole causes view to vary

The smallest constellation in the sky only manages to get its northern quarter above our southern horizon. While we cannot see most of it, Crux, the (southern) Cross, is easily found from the Southern Hemisphere. All four of its primary stars are brighter than magnitude +2.8, with Alpha Crucis glowing at magnitude +0.8.

Ancient Greeks like Ptolemy considered the stars of Crux to be part of Centaurus and not as a separate constellation. As the Earth's pole wobbles in a state circle around the sky due to precession, the North Pole will move further from some stars as it moves closer to others. Crux was on the losing end with the North Pole moving away from it. The stars of Crux, got slightly lower each year until they disappeared permanently below the southern horizon. Europeans eventually forgot them.

When Christian explorers started sailing southward, they encountered many new stars, including these stars that appeared to form a cross in the sky. Petrus Plancius was first to depict this as a separate constellation on his celestial globe in 1598. From that point on, they were catalogued separately. This status was formalized when the International Astronomical Union divided the entire sky into eighty-eight constellations in 1928. Crux appears on the flags of several southern countries, including Australia, New Zealand and Brazil.

Of the four bright stars in Crux, only the northernmost star, Gacrux (a contraction of Gamma Crucis), manages to peek above our horizon. Gacrux is the third brightest star in this constellation at magnitude +2.0. It is an aging star, a red giant nearing the end of its life. While it is just thirty percent more massive than our Sun, it is so big that it would engulf Mercury if it were our Sun. Gacrux is eighty-eight light-years away from us, making it one of the closest red giants to the Earth.

There is an assemblage of stars in this constellation that forms an open cluster. Visually, it appears as a hazy magnitude +4.2 star that was discovered by French astronomer Nicolas Louis de Lacaille on March 25, 1752. It was given the stellar designation of Kappa Crucis. English astronomer John Herschel, viewing it telescopically in 1834, described it as a "casket of variously coloured precious stones." This led to naming this cluster the Jewel Box cluster.

Calendar of Events – MAY 2018 (MST)

02	6 a.m.	Mars 1.3 degrees south of Saturn
07	8:09 p.m.	Last Quarter Moon
08	7 p.m.	Jupiter opposite side of the Earth from the Sun
15	5:48 a.m.	New Moon
21	9:49 p.m.	First Quarter Moon
29	8:20 a.m.	Full Moon

With the dense part of the Milky Way passing through Crux, it is not surprising to find an open cluster here. The Jewel Box stands out against the starry background of the Milky Way. Quite a number of the stars in this cluster are bright blue stars, while others are small red stars giving a beautiful color contrast to this cluster. This is what Herschel was describing when he looked at this object.

Massive blue stars generate large amounts of energy from the fusion at their core. They have a very short lifetime, burning through their hydrogen fuel very quickly (in astronomical terms). The unusual number of blue stars in this cluster indicates that it is a young cluster in which the massive stars have not had enough time to age into a supernova. Even so, one of these stars has reached the red supergiant phase, providing a color counterpoint to the surrounding blue stars. The Jewel Box appears to be very young, just 14 million years old, though it may be as young as 7.1 million years old.

The just over 100 stars in this cluster occupy an area about 20 light-years across. At a distance of 6,440 light-years, this appears to be about 10 minutes-of-arc across, about a third of a full moon. So many stars in such a small area all moving through space at the same speed are the result of their formation from a common cloud of gas and dust that collapsed to form these stars. Eventually, the gravity of the galaxy will cause these stars to drift away from the cluster and get lost among the other stars of the Milky Way.

The Planets for May 2018

The Goddess of Love shines at magnitude -4.0 as it climbs higher in our evening sky this month. Moving from central Taurus to central Gemini, Venus has a disc that is 12.2 seconds-of-arc across and it is eighty-five percent illuminated at midmonth. It sets around 10:30 p.m.

Jupiter reaches opposition on May 8, when it will be on the opposite side of the Earth from the Sun. Around this time, Earth is

closest to Jupiter for this year, causing Jupiter to appear the largest it will be, 44.0 seconds-of-arc across. It also means that Jupiter is visible all night, but will be highest in the sky around 1:00 a.m., forty-two degrees above the southern horizon. Jupiter is traveling slowly westward in west-central Libra.

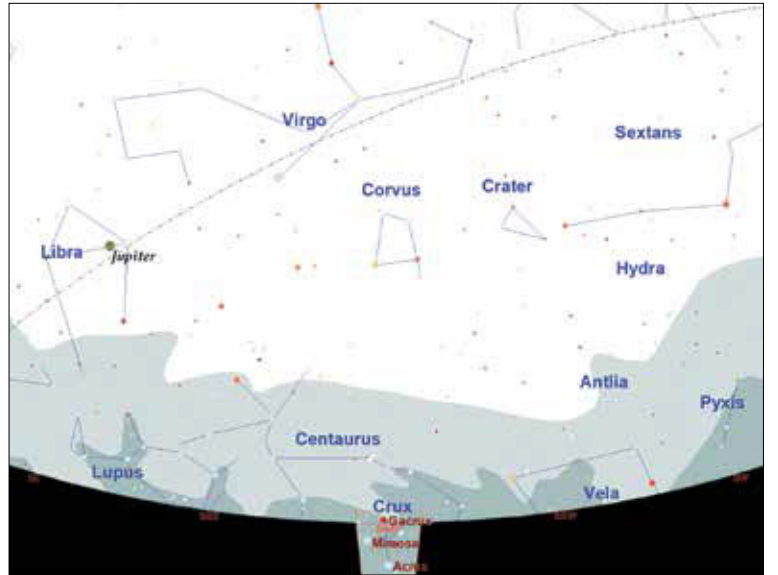
Saturn will reach opposition next month, so it does not rise until 10:00 p.m. in the east-southeast, moving very slowly westward in north-central Sagittarius. It will be thirty-four degrees above the southern horizon around 4:00 a.m., shining at magnitude +0.3. The Rings are 40.4 seconds-of-arc across and they are tilted down 25.6 degrees, while the disc is 17.8 seconds-of-arc across.

The God of War moves from eastern Sagittarius into western Capricornus during the month. Rising shortly before 1 a.m. in the east-southeast, Mars shines at magnitude -0.8. At midmonth, its disc is 13.0 seconds-of-arc across. Mars is thirty-six degrees above the southern horizon as it gets light.

Mercury is still in the morning sky this month. Unfortunately, the ecliptic that all planets travel along is at a very low angle to the horizon, keeping Mercury near the horizon during this appearance. Since it reached its highest point last month, it will get slowly lower each day. By the third week of the month, Mercury will disappear into the morning twilight. At midmonth, the Messenger of the God's disc is 6.2 seconds-of-arc across and it is sixty-nine percent illuminated. Mercury rises at 5:15 a.m. and it is just five degrees above the eastern horizon as it starts to get light.

Take a look at the brilliant Jupiter in the east and the even brighter Venus in the west as it gets dark this month 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.



Crux, the (southern) Cross just barely gets one of its four bright stars over our horizon. The smallest constellation in the sky was once a part of Centaurus before it stopped being visible from Europe due to precession. Crux is a well-known navigational marker in the southern hemisphere.

Open Your Mind

Join with us for
our Sunday morning service
10:00 AM
Enjoy Fellowship & Stimulating Topics
Children Welcome
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3845 North Swan Questions: (575) 538-0101

Gila Friends Meeting

The Religious Society of Friends

Quaker Meeting for Worship

Sundays 10-11 a.m.

Temporarily meeting at 1507 Combs Circle, Silver City, NM For more info: 575 590-1588 fevafotos@gmail.com

non-denominational

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19-A Racetrack Road, Arenas Valley, NM
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Website: www.vccsilvercity.com

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<p>SPONSORED BY Silver Smiles Family Dental</p>  <p>Kumo Female Border Collie X 4 Months</p>	<p>SPONSORED BY High Desert Humane Society</p>  <p>Merle Male Heeler 3 Months</p>	<p>SPONSORED BY Board of Directors High Desert Humane Society</p>  <p>Misha DMHM Adult Orange Tabby</p>	<p>SPONSORED BY Gila Animal Clinic</p>  <p>Shmirnoff DSHM Russian Blue 1 Year</p>
	<p>SPONSORED BY Bert Steinzig</p>  <p>Alice DMHF Gray Tabby 1 Year</p>	<p>SPONSORED BY Arenas Valley</p>  <p>Tortie DSHF Calico 3 Years</p>	



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LIVING ON WHEELS • SHEILA SOWDER

Silver City Millie

Bordello madam spoke her mind

Most fulltime RVers have been around long enough to have plenty of stories. Some of the most interesting I've been privileged to hear come from Dick Cowles, who has lived at Rose Valley RV Ranch in Silver City with his wife Eileen for almost five years.

Dick and Eileen moved to Silver City in 1974. In the mid-70s he met Silver City Millie Cusey when he represented Ford Motor Company and she needed special adjustments on her Lincoln. Millie had been the well-known proprietress of some of the last brothels in town, and was either feared, loathed, or revered by the townspeople and administration, depending on who you were speaking with. Although she was retired from the business when Dick met her, Millie hadn't lost her bawdy sense of humor. On that first meeting, she reached up and pinched Dick's cheek. "Goddamn," she said, "I wish I was 50 years younger."

Thus, began a business relationship that turned into a friendship between Dick and Eileen and the notorious madam. Millie's husband Wendel, who Millie always called "Daddy," was the contractor that Dick hired to do the excavation for a new home he was building. Each room in Millie's brothels had a color theme, accented by bricks of the same color, and when the houses were demolished, Dick bought

most of the colored bricks and used them to build two fireplaces in his new house.

"She was such a paradox, tough-talking, but would go out of her way for someone in need. During a miners' strike, she supplied all the milk for the schoolchildren and bought food for the families," Dick said. "And Millie did more for the homeless men of Silver City than all the churches in Grant County, giving them food and clothes and shelter. But it was the women from those churches that eventually shut her down."

Dick tells the story of how Millie had bought new cars every year for her best girls, spreading the business among the local dealerships. During a particularly bad year for car sales, she ran into Ray Birchfield, owner of the local Chrysler dealership.

"Millie," Ray said, "if you don't buy a couple of my cars, I could lose my ass." Millie didn't hesitate for a moment. "Ray, if I don't sell some ass, I can't buy your cars."

That was Millie. Raunchy and tough, compassionate and generous, a good businesswoman, and from all reports, a caring employer.

"She had extreme disgust for any man who lied to his wife, and she had dirt on many of the leaders of the community back in the day, including quite a few lawmen," Dick

said. Which may have explained the astonishing fact that her brothels were allowed to exist until the late 60s.

"She was one of the Harvey Girls back in the 20's," said Dick, referring to the waitresses at a string of railroad depot restaurants located along the route of the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railway. After moonlighting as a prostitute and realizing it was more lucrative than waitressing, Millie switched to it fulltime, but she dreamed of owning her own brothel. Eventually, she owned three establishments in Silver City, one each in Central and Lordsburg, and one in Wyoming. The present site of Silver City's post office was the location of her most prominent brothel.

In 1980, Dick, a firearms expert and broker, was commissioned by Millie to sell her whole collection of guns, most of which she had "acquired from her various gents." And each one had a story. One shotgun had been given to her by a Grant County lawman after she'd had a threat against her life. Another came to her from a cowboy who had lost all his money gambling before a visit to her "girls." A 10-gauge J.N. Scott was occasionally carried by her devoted husband Wendel "so no one would bother Millie." She called it "two ten-gauge tunnels to hell." "Daddy" also always carried a



Dick Cowles holds local newspaper with photo of Millie at the gun show sale in in 1980. (Photo by Sheila Sowder)

pearl handled Colt .38 special snub-nose revolver on his belt whenever Millie was with him.

The guns were sold at a local gun show. Millie and Eileen sat together at a table right near the entrance during the entire show, with Millie playfully shaking her finger at certain older guys that she knew through her former trade. All her guns were sold before the conclusion of the show — owning a Silver City Millie gun was considered a major bragging point.

Representatives of Republic Pictures had come to town in the late 40s to talk to Millie about a proposed motion picture, and although it was never made, if any of our readers needs a subject for a movie they're planning, Millie's life would be an inspired choice. Several books on her life are still available

today (check Amazon), and she remains a big part of the legends of historic Silver City, one of the more colorful and complex contributors to the local folklore. To be able to hear her stories firsthand from someone that knew her personally was a rare treat. Thanks, Dick, for giving us this fascinating glimpse of a woman who helped create the unique character of our town.

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 skowsowder@aol.com.



40 DAYS

continued from page 36

"Ladies A' Peril" — 9 p.m. at El Sol Theater, 406 N. Bullard St. Silver City. A bawdy melodrama of good, evil and meteorological events written by Douglas Shelton and the Virus Theater. Info: www.virustheater.com.

Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County

Spaceport tour — Departs at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. from Spaceport America Visitor Center, 301 S. Foch, Silver City. Reservations required. Info: 575-267-8888.

Old Time Fiddlers Dance — 7-9 p.m., New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St., Truth or Consequences. \$4 Info: 575-744-9137.

Rockabilly Strangers — 7-10 p.m. at the Truth or Consequences Brewing Company, 410 N. Broadway. Info: 575-297-0289.

Alamogordo/Otero County Cloudcroft Art Society Memorial Day Show — 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at the Lodge Pavilion at the southwest corner of Chipmunk Ave. and Curlew Place. Info: sznana@totacc.com.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County Hondo Iris Festival — 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Hondo Iris Farm and Gallery, U.S. Highway 70, Mile Marker 284. The festival lasts all month. Info: www.hondoirisfarm.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Las Cruces Wine Festival — noon-6 p.m. at the Southern New Mexico State Fair Grounds. Info: www.nmwine.com.

SUNDAY, MAY 27
Silver City/Grant County
Gila Glass Classic Flame Off —

Noon at Gough Park, 1201 N. Pope St. Silver City. Part of Blues Festival activities. Info: 575-538-5555.

23rd Annual Silver City Blues Festival — noon-5 p.m. at Gough Park, 1201 N. Pope St. in Silver City. Info: 575-538-2505 or www.silvercity-bluesfestival.org.

Paint Out Silver! — 2 p.m. judging, 3 p.m. awards presented at the Silver City Art Association tent at Gough Park. A Plein Air artists event held during the Blues Festival. Info: 575-538-2505.

"A Weasel in the Hen House" or "Ladies A' Peril" — 7 p.m. at El Sol Theater, 406 N. Bullard St. Silver City. A bawdy melodrama of good, evil and meteorological events written by Douglas Shelton and the Virus Theater. Info: www.virustheater.com.

Alamogordo/Otero County Cloudcroft Art Society Memorial Day Show — 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at the Lodge Pavilion at the southwest corner of Chipmunk Ave. and Curlew Place. Info: sznana@totacc.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Las Cruces Wine Festival — noon-6 p.m. at the Southern New Mexico State Fair Grounds. Info: www.nmwine.com.

Music in the Park: Mayor's Jazz Fest — 7 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces. Features the music of Grace Kelly, the Oñate High School Jazz Workshop and the Side Effects Organ Trio. Info: 575-541-2550.

MONDAY, MAY 28
Alamogordo/Otero County Cloudcroft Art Society Memorial Day Show — 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Lodge Pavilion at the southwest corner of Chipmunk Ave. and Curlew Place. Info: sznana@totacc.com.

Memorial Day in Tularosa — 11 a.m. at the Tularosa Veterans Park, 901 N. Bookout Road in Tularosa.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

Las Cruces Wine Festival — noon-6 p.m. at the Southern New Mexico State Fair Grounds. Info: www.nmwine.com.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30

Silver City/Grant County Silver City Farmers' Market — 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., at the Grant County Veterans Memorial Business and Conference Center, 3031 U.S. Highway 180, Silver City. Info: 575-538-5555.

Gin Rummy — 1 p.m., Tranquilbuzz Coffeehouse, 112 W. Yankee St., Silver City. Beginners welcome. Experts challenged. Info: 575-535-9355.

THURSDAY, MAY 31

Silver City/Grant County In Service to Others: Nurses in Film: "Miss Evers' Boys" — 7 p.m. at the Santa Clara National Armory, 50 Pinon St. Silver City. Fort Bayard Historic Preservation Society Movie Series. Info: 575-388-4862.

Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County

Flow Yoga led by Sonia Dalessi — 9-10:30 a.m., Studio de la Luz, 308 S. Pershing Drive, Truth or Consequences. \$10. Info: 760-574-8644, yogasonia@outlook.com.

Square dancing — 6-8 p.m., New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St., Truth or Consequences, hosted by the Sierra Twirlers Square Dance Club. \$3 per dancer. Info: 505-804-3842, 575-313-9971.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Thursday Night Jam — 7:30-9:30

p.m. at the Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St. Friends of Visit Las Cruces present local and up-and-coming musicians. Concessions, including beer and wine, will be available for purchase. Cost: \$5.

FRIDAY, JUNE 1

Silver City/Grant County Music in the Park — 6:30-9 p.m. in Viola Stone Park, Santa Clara. Info: 575-912-3263.

"A Weasel in the Hen House" or "Ladies A' Peril" — 7:30 p.m. at El Sol Theater, 406 N. Bullard St.

Silver City. A bawdy melodrama of good, evil and meteorological events written by Douglas Shelton and the Virus Theater. Info: www.virustheater.com.

Alamogordo/Otero County "America's First Woman in Space: Sally and Her E-Ticket Ride" — 9-10 a.m. at the New Mexico Museum of Space History in Alamogordo. Launch pad lecture presented by museum curator Sue Taylor. Coffee and donuts provided. Info: www.nmspacemuseum.org.

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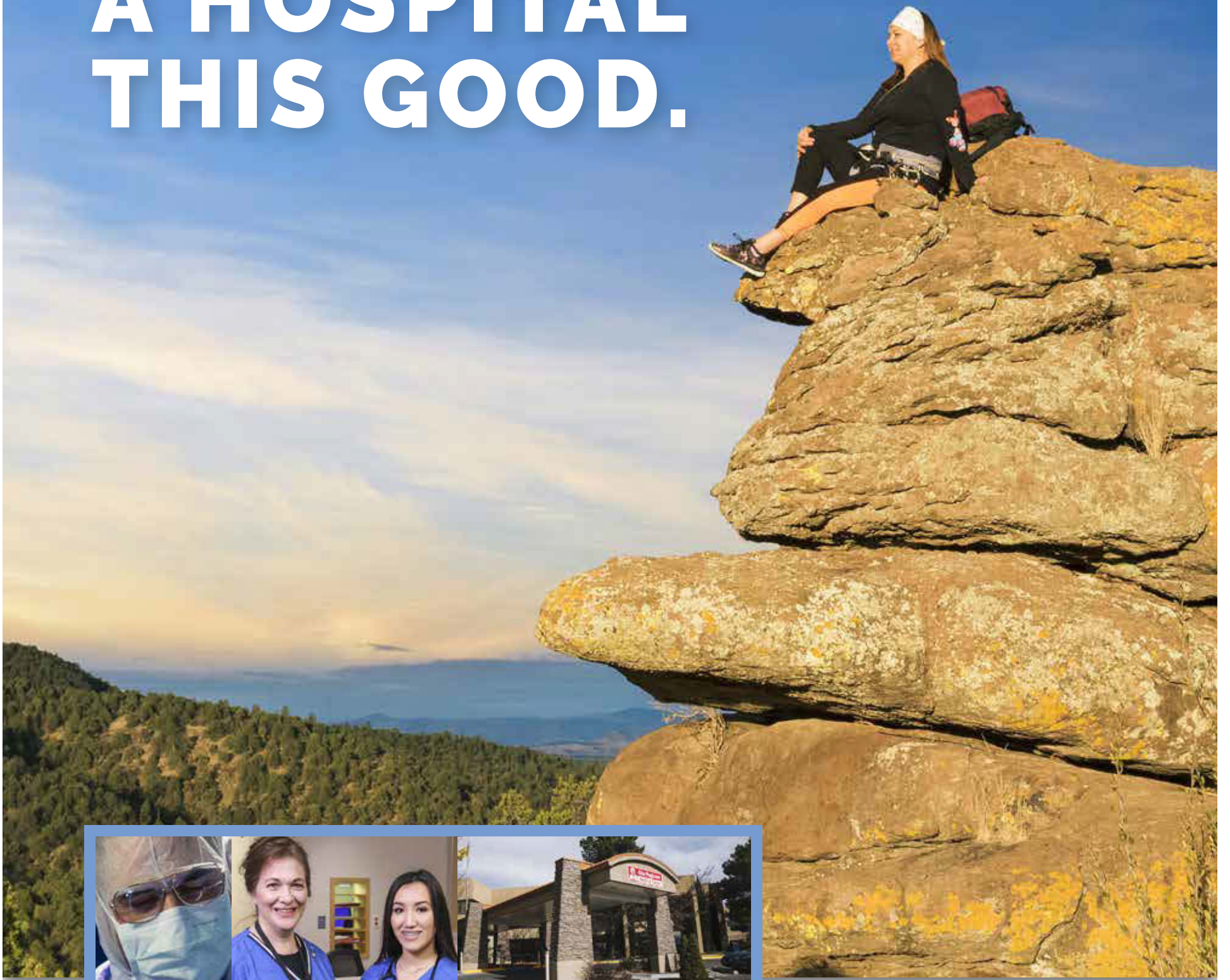
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