

DESERT exposure

Arts & Leisure in Southern New Mexico



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February 2016

Volume 21 • Number 2



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PUBLISHER

Richard Coltharp
575-524-8061 • richard@lascrucesbulletin.com

EDITOR

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

ADVERTISING COORDINATOR

Pam Rossi 575-680-1974
pam@lascrucesbulletin.com

DISTRIBUTION COORDINATOR

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

ADVERTISING SALES

Silver City Ilene Wignall 575-313-0002 jiwignall@comcast.net	Otero County Pam Rossi 575-680-1974 pam@lascrucesbulletin.com
Deming Claire Frohs 575-680-1844 claire@lascrucesbulletin.com	Ruidoso Elaine Sasnow 575-635-1188 elaine@lascrucesbulletin.com

LAYOUT AND DESIGN

Cary J. Howard, Eddie Hodges, Stacey Neal, Ryan Galloway

WEB DESIGNER

Ryan Galloway

COLUMNISTS

Fr. Gabriel Rochelle, Sheila Sower, Steve Chiang, Scott Thomson, Bert Stevens, Jim Duchene, Lucy Whitmarsh, Jonathan Diener

840 N. Telshor Blvd., Suite E • Las Cruces, NM 88011
575-524-8061
www.desertexposure.com

Desert Exposure is published monthly and distributed free of charge at choice establishments throughout Southern New Mexico. Mail subscriptions are \$54 for 12 issues. Single copies by mail \$5. All contents © 2015 OPC News, LLC. All rights reserved. No portion of this publication may be reproduced without written permission.

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ABOUT THE COVER:

Abstract acrylic artist C.C. Cunningham's painting “Discussion After Dark” is the Desert Exposure cover art this month. Cunningham has lived and painted in Taos, Las Cruces and, most recently, Denver. The lure of the desert Southwest has drawn her back to Las Cruces and she is a member of the ArtForms Artists

Association which is celebrating February as “The Love of Art Month.” Artists across Doña Ana County are holding special events and studio tours as part of Love of Art Month as reflected in this issue's Arts Scene and 40 Days and 40 Nights sections. This painting is on display starting Feb. 5 as part of the ArtForms Members Exhibit held at the Branigan Cultural Center in Las Cruces.



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March DEADLINES

Feb. 11: Space reservation and ad copy due, including for the special “Southwest Weddings” section

Feb. 12: All stories and notices for the editorial section

Feb. 18: All ad proofs approved, camera-ready ads due

If you have any questions contact:

EDITOR
Elva K. Österreich
Office: 575-680-1978
Cell: 575-443-4408
editor@desertexposure.com

ADVERTISING MANAGER
Pam Rossi
Office: 575-680-1974
Cell: 575-635-6614
pam@lascrucesbulletin.com

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK • ELVA K. ÖSTERREICH

Never Skipping a Beat

He was wheeled into the operating room, and then had a change of heart

“Wake at dawn with a winged heart and give thanks for another day of loving” - Kahlil Gibran

Let's talk about love. In the February issue of Desert Exposure, you will find lots of hearts and pretty things but you will also find some more serious reflections on love, like the cover of this issue, a painting called “Discussions after Dark,” and on Page 30, our Talking Horses column which addresses how we care for our fellow creatures with love.

Las Cruces is celebrating “Love of Arts Month,” and galleries in Tularosa at the Merc; and Silver City at Copper Quail; are sharing their own takes on the heart-related holiday. I intend to visit every gallery I can in February because love is truly a celebration and the amazing artists we have here across Southwestern New Mexico come in all flavors of color and shape that flow from their minds.

Valentine's Day has been increasingly commercialized over the years. In fact, Valentine's Day spending is still going up. In the United States alone, the average valentine's spending has increased every year, from \$108 a person in 2010 to \$131 in 2013.

In the United States, about 190 million Valentine's Day cards are sent each year, not including the hundreds of millions of cards school children exchange. For myself as a small child, it was a sign that my fellow students actually knew who I was and liked me – one of my favorite times of year.

Forgive me please if I am a bit disjointed today, every reference, every mention brings me around to the same place – my father and his heart. My father, Norbert, following surgery after surgery, now tired and ailing, lies in a bed in an East coast city. So when we talk hearts, I think of his heart. And when we talk, as in our letter to the editor this month, of defining musical moments, again I come around to Norbert's heart.

My father is a musician, a composer, and so as I read the letter, which refers back to our publisher Richard Coletharp's January column about vinyl and music – well it is a flood in my mind. My father, after bringing this 4-year-old (and her mother) to New Mexico in pursuit of a doctorate in music from the University of New Mexico, sup-

ported his family selling, yes, vinyl. He traveled the state as a record salesman. He knew these towns and roadways long before I did and I often wonder as I drive if he once drove those same roads. But before we came to New Mexico, in a time where I can find but few memories, when I was maybe 3 and Norbert was a young man in his early 20s, that defining musical moment invaded me. As I was driving home from work last week, Beethoven's “Fifth Symphony” came on the radio. I turned it up and was gloriously conducting as I was driving, moving and nodding and verbalizing that “bom-bom-bom-bommm.”

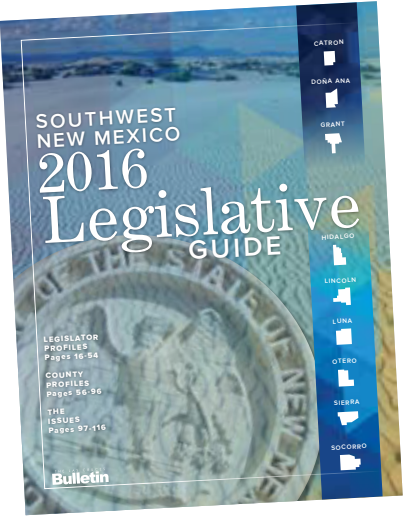
And I suddenly fell into that 3-year-old me, back to a rural Quebec farmhouse where Norbert and his friend, Charles, had just acquired state-of-the-art speakers and set them up around the room. With turntable spinning and those glass tubes doing whatever it was they did to make everything work, Beethoven made the house shake. Norbert, blue eyes blazing under the dark hair and sideburns, and Charles, pale mustache and curly locks sticking out everywhere, carry the music, become the symphony, conduct one another as the electricity of the moment takes over, all movement and noise. That is my father and his heart and my own celebration for the month of Valentine. And I am back in the moment driving down a Las Cruces road, music permeating my car, tears streaming, still conducting.

New Mexico Legislature

As part of the Las Cruces Bulletin staff, I wrote some stories for this year's Southwest New Mexico Legislative Guide. This is a beautiful, comprehensive guide not only to Legislative issues of concern to all of New Mexico but contains information and stories about all the counties and many of the issues in the area.

Counties covered in the guide are Catron, Doña Ana, Grant, Hidalgo, Lincoln, Luna, Otero, Sierra and Socorro. There are full-page profiles on all the legislators in those counties and of state leadership as well. If you want to know who represents you and what they stand for, it's right there in front of you.

Also in the Legislative Guide, we



explain the basic structure of New Mexico's government system and the way bills go through the steps to law here.

This is not only a guide through understanding the 2016 30-day budget session in Santa Fe, but also a useful tool on many other levels that can be utilized all year. The guide is available at your local library, visitor's center and Chamber of Commerce. If it is not convenient to pick it up there, let us know by email at legislativeguidereservation@lascrucesbulletin.com or by phone at 575-680-8061 and we can send it to you. The cost will be \$4 to cover postage.

Welcome new contributors

Every month someone new shows up at the Yankee Creek Coffee House, or just to say “hi” in my email. Sometimes those people end up in the pages of Desert Exposure. Quite a few of those folks who have taken the time to start up a conversation show up in the pages here.

In addition to several new writers, we have picked up a cartoonist in our pages. You will see his work in both sections of this month's issue. John Martin is living his lifelong dream of drawing a regular strip and we have decided to add his punny little stories, Beezwax, to our collection of humorous content.



“Who am I?” Martin asked. “I'm just a guy who has a passion for cartooning and a never give up attitude for comic success that would like to

put a smile on your face. See you in the funny papers.”

It just goes to show anybody with an idea and a flare, can speak out and push forward to make some dream come true. So just drop by and visit me at Yankee Creek, say hello. Or if you hate Beezwax, let me know. What is useful or entertaining and what is not? I know my tastes are quite odd at times from the crooked way some friends may look at me. But if you like it, I would like to know.

If you don't have time or means to drop by and say hello I am a click away at editor@desertexposure.com or a button push at 575-443-4408.

Elva K. Österreich is editor of Desert Exposure and delighted to be holding “office hours” in Silver City on the second Wednesday of the month (Jan. 13) from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Yankee Creek Coffee House. Please drop by and say hello.






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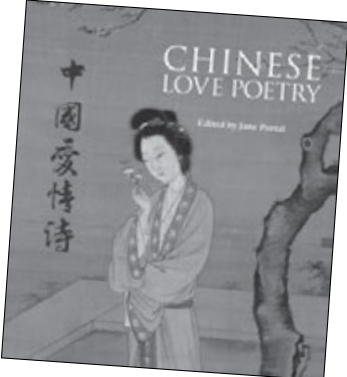


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DESERT DIARY

Every Day Concerns

A SLOW DAY

California Cutie hits the golf course.

A pastor, a doctor and an engineer wait for a particularly slow group of golfers. The engineer fumes, "What's with these guys? We've been waiting for 15 minutes!" The pastor says, "Hey, here comes the groundskeeper. Let's have a word with him." "Say, George, what's with that group ahead of us? They're rather slow, aren't they?" the doctor asks. The groundskeeper tells them that the other golfers are a group of blind firefighters who lost their sight saving the clubhouse from a fire and that they come and play for free whenever they want. The group is silent for a moment. The pastor says, "That's so sad. I will say a special prayer for them tonight." The doctor says, "Good idea. I'm going to contact my ophthalmologist buddy and see if there's anything he can do for them." The engineer says, "Why can't these guys play at night?"

THINGS ARE LOOKING UP

GeeRichard has some problems understanding a popular word.

One word in the English language can be a noun, verb, adjective, adverb and preposition

The word is "up."

This two-letter word in English has more meanings than any other two-letter word, and that word is 'up.' It is listed in the dictionary as an [adv], [prep], [adj], [n] or [v].

It's easy to understand up, meaning toward the sky or at the top of the list, but when we awaken in the morning, why do we wake up?

At a meeting, why does a topic come up?

Why do we speak up, and why are the officers up for election.

And why is it up to the secretary to write up a report? We call up our

friends, brighten up a room, polish up the silver, warm up the leftovers and clean up the kitchen.

We lock up the house and fix up the old car.

At other times, this little word has real special meaning.

People stir up trouble; line up for tickets; work up an appetite; and think up excuses.

To be dressed is one thing but to be dressed up is special.

And this up is confusing: A drain must be opened up because it is stopped up.

We open up a store in the morning but we close it up at night.

We seem to be pretty mixed up about up!

To be knowledgeable about the proper uses of up, look up the word up in the dictionary.

In a desk-sized dictionary, it takes up almost 1/4 of the page and can add up to about 30 definitions.

If you are up to it, you might try building up a list of the many ways up is used. It will take up a lot of your time, but if you don't give up, you may wind up with a hundred or more.

When it threatens to rain, we say it is clouding up.

When the sun comes out, we say it is clearing up.

When it rains, it soaks up the earth.

When it does not rain for a while, things dry up.

One could go on and on, but I'll wrap it up, for now . . . my time is up!

Oh – one more thing: What is the first thing you do in the morning and the last thing you do at night? "U" "P"

Doesn't that one crack you up?

FAILURE TO COMMUNICATE

Becky Hughes communicated this little story with us.

A judge was interviewing a woman regarding her pending divorce, and asked, "What are the grounds for your divorce?"

She replied, "About four acres and a nice little home in the middle of the property with a stream running by."

"No," he said, "I mean what is the foundation of this case?"

"It is made of concrete, brick and mortar," she responded.

"I mean," he continued, "What are your relations like?"

"I have an aunt and uncle living here in town, and so do my husband's parents."

The judge said, "Do you have a real grudge?"

"No," she replied, "We have a two-car carport and have never really needed one."

"Please," he tried again, "is there any infidelity in your marriage?"

"Yes, both my son and daughter have stereo sets. We don't necessarily like the music, but the answer to your questions is yes."

"Ma'am, does your husband ever beat you up?"

"Yes," she responded, "about twice a week he gets up earlier than I do."

Finally, in frustration, the judge asked, "Lady, why do you want a divorce?"

"Oh, I don't want a divorce," she replied. "I've never wanted a divorce. My husband does. He said he can't communicate with me."

CANDIDATE FOR A PULLET SURPRISE

By Mark Eckman and Jerrold H. Zar

I have a spelling checker,
It came with my PC.
It plane lee marks four my revue
Miss steaks aye can knot sea.

Eye ran this poem threw it,
Your sure reel glad two no.
Its vary polished in it's weigh.
My checker tolled me sew.

A checker is a bless sing,
It freeze yew lodes of thyme.
It helps me right awl stiles two reed,
And aides me when eye rime.

Each frays come posed up on my screen
Eye trussed too bee a joule.
The checker pours o'er every word
To cheque sum spelling rule.

Bee fore a veiling checker's
Hour spelling mite decline,
And if we're lacks oar have a laps,
We wood bee maid too wine.

Butt now bee cause my spelling
Is checked with such grate flare,
Their are know fault's with in my cite,
Of nun eye am a wear.

Now spelling does knot phase me,
It does knot bring a tier.
My pay purrs awl due glad den
With wrapped word's fare as hear.

To rite with care is quite a feet
Of witch won should bee proud,
And wee mussed dew the best wee can,
Sew flaw's are knot aloud.

Sow ewe can sea why aye dew prays
Such soft wear four pea seas,
And why eye brake in two averse
Buy righting want too pleas.

POSTCARDS FROM THE EDGE

Desert Exposure travels

Susan Arington and Ashley the wonder dog at the falls in Chimney Rock, North Carolina in July 2015. Whether you're going to Nebraska, New England or Nepal or visiting southern New Mexico from other places, snap a photo of yourself holding a copy of Desert Exposure and send it to diary@desertexposure.com or stick it in the mail to: Desert Exposure, 840 N. Telshor Blvd., Suite E. Las Cruces, NM 88011.





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LETTERS

RANDOM ACTS OF NONSENSE • JIM DUCHENE

My Date With Taylor Swift

Musical Moments

Editor,
Desert Exposure publisher Richard Coltharp asked his readers, “What was your musical moment?”
He answered his own question by confessing it was when he first heard the classic Beatles hit, “Day Tripper,” on vinyl. It happens to be one of my favorite Beatles tune too.
My “vibrantly vivid” vinyl moment came when I was 13, officially a teenager. As soon as I heard tht opening lyrics of the Beachboys’ “Barbara Ann,” I got good vinyl vibrations. I was blown away.
The year was 1965, the middle of the Cold War. My diplomat dad and family were stationed in the cold country of Sweden, courtesy of the U.S. State Department.
My intermediate school was made up mostly of American State Department “brats.” That year my class went on a ski trip to Sweden’s frozen winterland during Christmas break.
We were Americans living abroad and missing the good ol’ U.S.A. The Beachboys “Barbara Ann” had just been released that November. A s soon as we heard the magic of that music being played at our Christmas party, we were all California dreaming and thinking summer.
The boys in our group imagined being behind the wheel of a cool Corvette, Mustang or hot rod. We had warm thoughts of catching waves and babes in a surfing safari. Swedish girls look like their California counterparts, but without the sun tan.
Beachboys music is totally joyous, mindless and beautiful fun, fun, fun. I’ll never forget singing and dancing for hours as “Barbara Ann” was played on-stop on a record player.
The song is marked in my mind as indelibly as the deep scratch on that vinyl 45. I can hear it in my mind half a century later: BarBarBarBar, Barbara Ann
Paul Hoylen, Deming

I was listening to a news report about Taylor Swift’s latest boyfriend du jour, Mr. Insert Name Here. In it, the reporter named some of her former boyfriends. John Mayer. Harry Styles. Osama bin Laden. That last relationship, however, was tragically cut short by SEAL Team Six.
Why Taylor Swift’s love life qualifies as news is beyond me, but I did smile in recognition when they mentioned she once dated a Kennedy. Conor Kennedy, in fact. You see, in prep school, I was hired to tutor him. Sadly, he never did learn how to spell the name “Connor.”
Taylor was so smitten she paid \$4.9 million to buy the beachfront mansion in front of the Kennedy compound. I’m sorry, that doesn’t sound like love to me. That sounds like stalking.
The report reminded me of MY date with Taylor Swift. It was Valentine’s Day 2012. Between dysfunctional relationships, I was standing alone in the Walmart check-out line when I accidentally stepped back, bumping into her.
“Excuse me, miss,” I apologized.
“That’s OK,” she said, her voice light and playful. “I’m Taylor Swift.”
“That’s nice,” I said, and looked forward again.
By the time I got to the cashier, she had written a song for me.
“Do you want to hear it?” she asked.
“Not really,” I said.
“Great!”
“Oh, I met him at a Walmart,
“And my heart stood still.
“I told him that I loved him,
“And then I paid his bill.
“Yippie hi yi diddy, dilly-oh,
dilly-oh
“Yippie hi yi diddy, dilly-oh!”
“That’ll be \$173.73,” the cashier told me.
She wasn’t impressed, either.
Taylor threw a thousand dollar

bill on the conveyor belt.
“We’re together,” she told the cashier, “and you’d better stay away from my man, if you know what’s good for you.”
I got my cart and quickly high-tailed it toward the exit. I could hear the skinny little singer coming up fast behind me. When we got to the exit, the elderly greeter pretended he didn’t see us and began wiping an imaginary spot on the wall with the palm of his hand.
“Don’t mind him,” she told me. “That’s my old boyfriend. I don’t love him anymore. I even wrote a song about it. Do you want to hear it?”
“Not really.”
“Great!”
“Oh, I hate your heart!
“I hate your head!
“First chance I get!
“I’m gonna kill you dead!
“Yippie hi yi diddy, dilly-oh,
dilly-oh
“Yippie hi yi diddy, dilly-oh!”
I walked to my car as fast as I could, jumping in without even loading my bags. She slapped the trunk of my car as I tore out of there, tires squealing. She was waving at me like a crazy woman.
“Call me!”
Shaken, I drove around, constantly checking my rearview mirror. Hours later, I had to stop for gas. The fuel seemed to take forever to fill my tank. I looked around nervously. Every shadow seemed ready to sing me a song.
Something caught my eye. Son of a... She had attached an electronic tracer to my trunk when she slapped it. I pulled it off. So much trouble in such a little package. Just like Taylor. Walking over to a car with California plates, I attached the tracer to *their* trunk. Californians are used to that kind of nonsense.
Back on the road, I began to feel sheepish. Maybe it was all a misun-

derstanding. It had to be. My internal logic was trying to solve a puzzle with pieces that didn’t fit. I pulled into my apartment complex. Walking cautiously to my apartment, I unlocked the door.
“You’re late,” a voice said. Her voice. How had she found out where I lived? How had she gotten into my apartment?
“Nice apartment complex,” she said, twirling the landlord’s master key in the pointer finger of her tiny hand. “I just bought them.”
“You BOUGHT my apartment complex? How did you even know where I lived?”
“Let’s just say I have an old boyfriend who owed me a favor and leave it at that. Oh, we’re going to have so much fun. Unless we don’t, and you wouldn’t like it if we don’t.” She looked at her watch. “My, my,” she said. “You’ve made me late. But, don’t worry. I’ll be back.” Her eyes sparkled insanely. “You want to hear a song I just wrote?”
“Not really.”
“Great!”
“Oh, I broke up with my boyfriend
“On the night I met his mother
“My dogs will sure eat well tonight
“All because I met another
“Yippie hi yi diddy, dilly-oh,
dilly-oh
“Yippie hi yi diddy, dilly-oh!”
I stood there, numb. I couldn’t move. All I could do was watch her disappear into the darkness, playfully waving goodbye as she walked away. That’s when I got a crazy idea. I picked up the phone.
“Hello, Conon?” I said when he answered. “Have I got a girl for you!”
Born and raised in the southwest, Jim Duchene is proud to make it his home. You can visit him at jimduchene.blogspot.com, RaisingMyFather.blogspot.com, or @JimDuchene.

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schools stand in line;
more, more, more!
Instant replay,
ruined professional football,
huge sums of money for winners,
referees second-guessed on each play,
when the referee says, “The last play is under review,”
time for commercials and the cash register rings.
Instant replay,
nonsensical in college football,
it even extends to the divisions that have “real”
playoffs:
and the cost of a mistake?

Is winning that important?
Now comes the Man in the Red Hat,
headset and microphone,
innocuous, unless you know his job.
steps onto the field of play –
play stops, referees acquiesce –
Media time out;
television controls the game.
He determines when play resumes.

Games drag on from time out to time out.
“We interrupt these commercials to bring you
a few minutes of the game”;
coaches over-coach, fans and bands are not such fun.
The fun is gone.

Solution:
Shoot the Man in the Red Hat
OR
Send him to drink with the Red Hat Ladies.
Bring back the fun of college football.

GILA SYMPOSIUM

Event Presents Projects Focused on River



Kent Laudon of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project (US Fish & Wildlife Service) will discuss the current recovery plan in Arizona and New Mexico for North America’s most endangered subspecies of gray wolf at the Natural History of the Gila Symposium. (Photo courtesy Mexican Wolf Program Interagency Field Team)

The 6th annual Natural History of the Gila Symposium will feature presentations on the region’s scientific, conservation, management and educational projects. The free public event begins at 1 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 25 and continues at 8 a.m. Friday, Feb. 26 at the Global Resource Center, Western New Mexico University in Silver City.

The symposium opens with keynote speaker Phil Connors, author of “Fire Season,” about his

time as a fire lookout in the Gila National Forest, and a recently published memoir, “All the Wrong Places.”

Other presenters will include scientists from academia and government agencies.

Among the wildlife species that will be discussed are the Gila trout and longfin dace; band-tailed pigeons; the Mexican spotted owl and Mexican wolf, as well as an assessment of at-risk species occurring in the Gila region.

Presentations will cover topics as varied as rock art, the flora of New Mexico, the Gila National Forest Plan Revision, stream dynamics and forest insects and diseases. Aspects of the Gila River Diversion will also be addressed.

The symposium speaker’s schedule, as well as information on field trips planned for Saturday, Feb. 27, and a literary event, “Creative Voices” on Thursday evening is available online at www.gilasymposium.org.

A study grid of the rare Chihuahua scurf pea (*Pediomelum pentaphyllum*), commonly called Indian Breadroots. Dave Henson of Eastern Arizona College will discuss monitoring and collecting the species with the BLM at the Symposium. (Photos by Hailey Buell)



GILA CONSTRUCTION

Catwalk Reconstruction

Gila trail slated to open by June

On Thursday, Jan. 7, crews mobilized to the Catwalk on the Glenwood Ranger District to begin repair work. In the initial construction phase, rock slides will be cleared from the trails and large boulders will be removed from the creek.

Silt traps and other debris traps will be set up to minimize impacts to the stream and surrounding area during construction. The work will be monitored by U.S. Forest Service personnel to ensure there are no adverse effects to the surrounding area and historic artifacts are preserved.

Per the project schedule, work is planned to be completed by May 27. The design build team is comprised of Albuquerque Underground, Inc. (AUT) and Bohannon Huston, Inc. (BHI).

During the reconstruction project, the Catwalk National Recreation Area will remain closed for public safety. This will allow for the work to be accomplished as quickly and safely as possible.



Construction work on Catwalk National Scenic Trail is slated to be done by June this year. (Photo Courtesy New Mexico True)

For more information about this project, contact Harley Allsup, 575-539-2481 or Anne Casey, Glenwood District Ranger, 575-539-2481.

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ESSAY • GIVENDOLYN JOYCE MINTZ

Born Bigots

He was sitting in his truck, parked next to my car so I had no choice but to pass him. He looked up, saw me approaching and hit the lock button. With a heavy clunk, he was safe inside his Dodge Ram. Safe from me. A female. Not even five feet tall. But I was black and that made all the difference.

I couldn’t help but roll my eyes as I got into my car. This, I decided, was a race thing.

Now, before you go saying “Another black person playing the race card,” let me assure you that until recently issues of race were not on my agenda. Born and raised in New Mexico, I ate tortillas as well as chitlins. My friends called me an “Oreo” because I valued things not commonly associated with the black race (although what’s inside of me, what I value and enjoy, are not the exclusive property of any one race.)

There are things that people do — like stopping their cars in the middle of the street to talk — that bug me, but I try to remind myself that it’s the behavior I have a problem with, not the individual and certainly not the racial group to which he or she might belong.

What I do have a problem with is what appear to be this man’s assumptions. Like the white woman in the grocery store who moved her purse from one shoulder to the other as I approached, I think it’s a bit presumptuous for some people to think that 1) they have something I want and 2) that I would choose to just take what they have rather than use my education, my skills and my talent to get my own.

Are my dreams, my goals, and my existence less — just because of melanin?

I’m not perfect but in the ways that I fail, it’s usually due to irresponsibility and not the color of my skin. What we all lose when we stereotype is the opportunity to experience others as people. If the man in the truck took the time to consider me as someone, he’d find:

I’d take Conway Twitty over P. Diddy any day. I listen to Vivaldi when I want to relax. I’ve read Plato’s Republic and think Van Gogh’s the best. I’m fascinated by mythology and astrono-

my and wish there were an easier way to a great body than exercise.

I believe the Bible is direct from God and, although it contains parables, allegories and analogies, I’m sure it was meant to be taken — and lived — literally.

I think people should wait their turns at three- and four-way stops.

I wish Sylvester would eat Tweety and I’m smart enough to know that Goofy is the “real” star. After six viewings, Titanic still makes me cry.

I’d like more money, more time and a cherry-red Miata.

I worry about my children, what the world is coming to and the number of hairs on my head turning gray.

I speak grammatically-correct English, some Spanish, a little French and two lines in Russian. I don’t understand Black English and think “ebonics” may be a legitimate form of communication in a given community, but in the greater society, it won’t help anyone.

I don’t vote and have no interest in any political system. Still I believed Ronald Reagan was one of the better presidents the United States ever had (I was wrong). For a really long time, I honestly believed Richard Milhous Nixon was not a crook.

I believe O.J. did it and Jack Kevorkian is a quack.

I’m sure the best things in life are (in no particular order): chocolate, chocolate, and chocolate.

Just the other day, I made someone laugh.

Sometimes, I’m fascinating. Sometimes, irritating. I can choose to be mindful or mindless. I am, in short, everything that makes each of us what we are — human.

One of my favorite quotes states that what is most important is “invisible to the eye.”

Only with the heart can one see what matters. To have that kind of vision, the heart and mind have to be open.

Years back, a popular sweatshirt pictured two children — black and white — all hugs and smiles. “Children aren’t born bigots,” the caption read.

No. Hatred, prejudice and intolerance are all learned phenomenon.

But then, so is love.

A Ballerina’s Tale



Misty Copeland is the first African-American woman to be named principal dancer of the American Ballet Theater. “A Ballerina’s Tale” is the behind-the-scenes story of how she became one of the most revered dancers of her generation, and will be shown at the Fountain Theatre in Mesilla on Feb. 20 at 1:30 p.m. only. For more information, go to www.mesillavalleyfilm.org. (Photo courtesy of American Ballet Theater)

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ON REVIEW • BEATE SIGRIDDAUGHTER

In Celebration of Black History Month

The story of one black woman’s life (so far)

My first encounter with award-winning Las Cruces author Gwendolyn Joyce Mintz’s writing was in 2007 in connection with a short story contest, the Glass Woman Prize. Her brilliant entry, “The Story of My Life (So Far),” was the story of a young girl experiencing the erosion of all promise and hope and trust in life. And yet the girl speaks with a voice that is — while skeptical of justice — nevertheless still filled with the strength and resiliency of survival. The story gave me goose bumps. I immediately knew it would be the winner for that particular prize period. I can still remember the catch in my throat when I read it out loud to my husband that same day.

Storyteller, poet, mother of seven children, assistant professor at Doña Ana Community College, actress, comedienne, teddy bear maker, photographer (not necessarily in that order), Gwendolyn Joyce Mintz is a fountain of energy and creativity.

“My mission,” she writes, “is to document life’s beauty and its pain ... to give voice to those who have been quieted or ignored.”

And what a voice she gives — fierce and compassionate. Her words are at home in the mind of an abused girl as easily and as stunningly as in the mind of a drug addict struggling to survive; or a young father contemplating his daughter’s pink nightgown before heading out to risk his life registering fellow Negro voters in hostile



Gwendolyn Joyce Mintz

Mississippi; or a mother in grief as well as anger over her son’s coffin. There is enormous power and insight in her writing. It flows naturally and without gimmicks or intellectual pretensions.

Gwendolyn Joyce Mintz describes herself as a “wild and careless dreamer, a restless wonderer and frequent wanderer, a lover and writer of tales, both lived and imagined.” Her writing credentials range from a high school poem published in “Seventeen,” a degree in journalism and mass communications and a scholarship to the Sarah Lawrence Summer Seminar for Writers, to many publications, awards, recognitions and validations.

She has published dozens of stories and poems, winning prizes and invitations nationwide and internationally. 2016 will see the publication of a new prose chapbook “Where I’ll Be If I’m Not There,” which won an annual contest sponsored by Winged City Chap-

books, an imprint of Argus House Press. Many of her individual pieces are available online.

A writer’s life is not always a smooth road of glory. Gwendolyn Joyce Mintz’s family of origin did not particularly encourage or support her creative side. She did, however, get enormous support from teachers and professors, especially Joseph Somoza, former poetry professor at NMSU, and the

late Keith Wilson. And their wives. And other writers who keep relighting her creative candle when discouragement threatens to take its toll.

When she is not writing, you might find Mintz teaching or evaluating student work; you might find her making teddy bears and selling them at the Las Cruces Farmer’s Market — you might find her taking photographs of sunflowers or river

rocks or sunsets, or showing them at a local gallery. You might find her dancing. You might find her on a long run on the NMSU campus. And always her mind will be spinning around new way of showing and highlighting parts of the human experience until they touch other people’s hearts, for, in her words, “you can’t legislate people’s hearts and that’s where the problem and solution lies.”

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20th Annual Soup Kitchen Fundraiser for Portal Rescue



The store in Portal, Arizona is one of several places to get a ticket for the Soup Kitchen fundraiser which raises money to support the area fire and rescue organization which serves both Portal and Rodeo, New Mexico areas. (Photo by Elva K. Österreich)

This year marks the 20th year for the Soup Kitchen, Portal Rescue’s main fundraiser. This community event is scheduled for Feb. 15, 16 and 17. It will be held at the Portal Rescue classroom building in Portal, Arizona.

During each of these days, from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m., participants can get their choice of two savory soups, two delicious breads, a dessert and a beverage for just \$7.

There will also be a drawing for 13 prizes including stays at local bed and breakfast lodges, artwork, pottery, gift certificates and more. Tickets are \$1 each and are available at the Rodeo Tavern, the Rodeo Store,

and the Portal Post Office (between 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.), as well as by mail. Participants need not be present to win.

It takes approximately \$50,000 per year to run Portal Rescue, the community’s volunteer fire and medical emergency organization which serves both Portal, Arizona, Rodeo, New Mexico and surrounding areas. The Soup Kitchen helps raise the needed funds for this, along with additional donations. Last year, more than \$7,400 was raised, and they hope to exceed that amount this year.

Portal Rescue receives no money from county taxes. Web: www.portalrescue.com.

February's focus is Heart
Happy Art at the Copper Quail
Gallery in Silver City.



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Cow Trail Art Studio Closed 'till May
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vcartcat@hotmail.com

SILVER CITY

FeVa Fotos photographers, Sandy Feutz and Tom Vaughan, present a new photography show entitled “Bucks, Birds, Bugs and Blooms: A Silver City Backyard” at the Mimbres Region Art Council gallery located in the Wells Fargo Bank Building on Pope Street. The opening reception will be from 2 p.m. till 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 3. The exhibit will be available for viewing from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays, closing on Feb. 26.

In honor of Valentine's Day and in the spirit of love everywhere, Copper Quail Gallery is hosting “Heart Happy Art.” Many different artists working in various media have created pieces that inspire that warm, fuzzy feeling we get when our hearts are touched. The gallery has a wide variety of stained glass hearts, heart-warming paintings and photos, pieces fashioned of metal, unique jewelry, all sorts of art and fine crafts created from the heart. This show begins Feb. 6 for Chocolate Fantasia, and runs through March 4. The Copper Quail can be found at 211-A N. Texas St. in Silver City.

RODEO

The Chiricahua Gallery will sponsor a two-day weaving workshop, “Weaving on a Frame and Table Loom,” by hand weaver Joan McAvoy from 9 a.m. to noon on Feb. 10 and 17. Participants will be shown the basics of weaving on a table-top four harness loom and will learn frame weaving in two three-hour sessions over a two day period. In addition to the piece each student will frame-weave, students will also weave a 5” x 5” mug rug on a table loom to take with them. The cost for Gallery members is \$35 and \$60 for nonmembers. The nonrefundable fee includes all weaving materials. The class will be limited to 10 students, so pre-register as soon as possible to hold your place. To pre-register call JoAnn Julian at 520-558-1098 or email her at julian@vtc.net.



DEMING

The February 2016 show “The West as We Saw It,” at the Deming Art Center, will feature photography by Bob and Diane Hudgens and creations made from used lariats by Mike Shalett. Together for more than a decade and during that time wandering New Mexico, Luna County and Deming, the Hudgens have recorded a visual montage of interesting and historical sights. Shalett discovered lariats and has been fashioning them into bowls, platters and mirror frames ever since. The lariats are used from 10-15 times, then retired as riders are concerned that they lose strength. Cowgirls use lariats that are color coded to their riding outfits so they make a very colorful bowl or platter. Mike is a native of Washington, DC who now makes his home in Las Cruces. The show runs from Jan. 30 to Feb. 27. A reception for the artists will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 7 at the Deming Art Center, 100 S. Gold St. For information call 575-546-3663 or visit www.demingarts.org.

TULAROSA

The Merc is having a grand opening event on Feb. 6. “Para Ti Mi Amor” (For You My Love) is an “art of the heart”

event where members of Tularosa and surrounding communities are invited to participate by creating a piece of art inspired by the heart shape as an expression of love, support and/or admiration. The finished hearts are entered into a silent auction at The Merc. The silent auction will be held during the grand opening celebration of Feb. 6. Any items that do not sell will continue to be available in the shop for 30 days on commission. The Merc is at 316 Granado Street in Tularosa and can be reached at 575-629-0787.

LAS CRUCES

For the Love of Art Month is celebrated in Doña Ana County in February beginning from 5 to 7 p.m., Feb. 5 during the monthly Art Ramble. Love of Art Month opens with the reception for the 19th annual ArtForms Members Exhibit – Here & There – at the Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main Street. Throughout the month musical talent, poetry and visual arts are featured at special events and artist studio tours on the weekends of Feb. 13 and 14 and Feb. 20 and 21. Look for the blue flags at each studio. Locations and times can be found in the 40 Days and 40 Nights section of this Desert Exposure issue.



Mesquite Art Gallery is exhibiting the work of Deming sculptor, Claudia Dennee. Her work makes use of found bones, skulls, wood and so on in her work. Dennee received her art degree from the University of Washington and moved to southern New Mexico in 2000. Her extensive background includes jewelry making, leather work, painting and interior décor. She has found that sculpting provides the opportunity to combine many of her interests and abilities. The show opens Feb. 4 and has a reception 4 to 6 p.m. on Feb. 6. Mesquite Art Gallery can be found at 340 N Mesquite St. Las Cruces.

The Mesquite Art Gallery is exhibiting the work of Deming sculptor, Claudia Dennee.



“Graphicanos: Contemporary Latino Prints from the Serie Project” opens Friday, Feb. 5, at the Museum of Art in Las Cruces. This piece is by Quinton Gonzalez.

“Graphicanos: Contemporary Latino Prints from the Serie Project” opens Friday, Feb. 5, in the Museum of Art. The opening reception is 5 to 7 p.m., during the Downtown Ramble. The exhibit, featuring works from the archives of the Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Fort Wayne, Texas, brings a variety of socio-political topics to the forefront. The exhibition continues through Saturday, April 2. The Serie Project, a non profit organization founded by Sam Coronado in 1993 in Austin, Texas, promotes the fine art of serigraphy. The museum is located at 491 N. Main Street and is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For additional information, visit the website at: http://las-cruces.org/museums or call 575-541-2137.



The Merc in Tularosa is using heart art for fundraising and fun for the month.

Organ Poppies by Phil Yost is one of the pieces featured in the For Love of Spring show at MAS Art in Las Cruces.



New Mexico Watercolor Society - Southern Chapter presents “For Love of Spring” at MAS Art, 126 S. Main Street, in Las Cruces during February. A reception will be held during the Downtown Art Ramble, 5 to 7 p.m. Feb. 5.

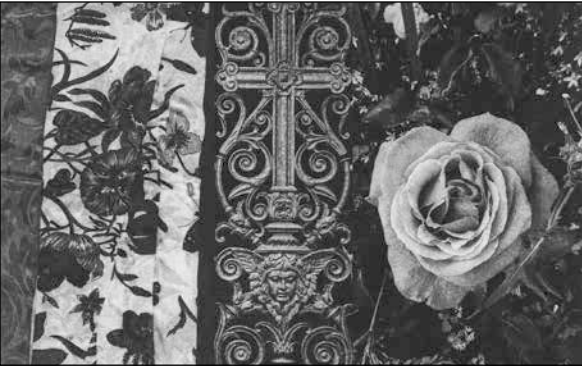
The Las Cruces Arts Association is participating in the county wide For Love of Art month starting with one of LCAA members favorite showcases, **Cafe de Mesilla**, located at 2190 Avenida De Mesilla. A members exhibit running through the end of February and featuring the “Art We Love.” In honor of ArtForms, the organizer of “For Love of Art” the LCAA members will be exhibiting at the **Bistro and Ale House** in Downtown Las Cruces from the Feb. 5 Downtown Art Ramble through the end of March. Throughout the month LCAA will be exhibiting the “Art We Love” and the work of February featured member artist, Kayla Blundell at all its exhibition venues. LCAA members also continue to exhibit their work at the Downtown First Friday Art Ramble and third Saturday Farmers & Craft Market of Las Cruces from 8:30 a.m. to noon on Feb. 20, at the LCAA office in the Community Enterprise Center next to the Bistro in downtown Las Cruces.



The work of Kayla Blundell is featured by the Las Cruces Artists Association for February.

Every month the **Doña Ana Arts Council** welcomes local artists to exhibit in the **El Paso Electric Gallery** in the lobby of the **Rio Grande Theatre**. The February 2016 exhibit of Steve McLellan’s work opens with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 5, during the monthly First Friday Downtown Art Ramble, and will remain on display through the end of the month. Regular exhibit hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information, or to book an exhibit, call the Arts Council offices during regular working hours. The Rio Grande Theatre is located at 211 N. Main St., in Las Cruces.

The February 2016 exhibit of Steve McLellan’s work opens with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 5, during the monthly First Friday Downtown Art Ramble, and will remain on display through the end of the month. Regular exhibit hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information, or to book an exhibit, call the Arts Council offices during regular working hours. The Rio Grande Theatre is located at 211 N. Main St., in Las Cruces.



Love and Death is a photo-intaglio print created by Mary Wolf and displayed at the Unsettled Gallery February show.



Musée d'Orsay Clock by Louis Ocepek is part of the Unsettled Gallery show of photo-intaglio prints.

Louis Ocepek and Mary Wolf’s collaboration of photo-intaglio prints, **Tableaux Parisiens**, opens at **Unsettled Gallery** on Saturday, Feb. 13 with an exhibit reception from 4 to 6 p.m. The work reflects each artist’s individual views and experiences gathered by walk-

ing the city of Paris over a 20-year period. During the exhibit, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 25, Mary Wolf and Louis Ocepek will each talk about their roles in creating work for the exhibit. Wolf’s talk will cover photographing Paris; Ocepek will talk about the Photo-Intaglio process. The exhibit concludes on Saturday, March 5 at 4 p.m.



The Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery is showing the art of Meredith Loring, above, and the art of Patricia Black in its February show.



A masterpiece show is also a feature for February at the Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery. This masterpiece revisited is by Van Wagner.

The Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery located at 2470-A Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla, across from the Fountain Theatre, features two artists in February, **Patricia Black and Meredith Loring**. Black’s artwork ranges from realistic to dynamic. Loring combines her life-long love of fabric and needle crafts with her artistic vision of developing objects and materials to be reborn into new forms. The gallery will host a reception for the Love of Art month, from 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6. In addition the gallery will hold its annual “My Masterpiece Contest” starting Feb. 2. The entry winner with the most correct matches will win a \$50 gift certificate to La Posta Restaurant in Mesilla. The First American Bank, Mesilla, is well represented by gallery members who continue to rotate their artwork on a monthly basis. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Sunday. For information, call 575-522-2933 or visit www.mesillavalleyfinearts.com.



The Las Cruces Artists Association hosts For the Love of Art Month in Doña Ana County.

be held Friday, Feb. 5 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Reflections tells a story of community and place through a selection of paintings, photographs, textile pieces and works on paper from the collection of renowned costume designer and arts patron, Myrna Colley-Lee. The museum is located at 501 North Main Street and is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For information, visit the website at: <http://las-cruces.org/museums> or call 575-541-2154.

Also at the Branigan is **Visionaries** by **Chris Carruth** continues through Feb. 27. In this series of photographs, taken in early 2014 and 2015, Carruth documents the Visionaria Network’s ongoing development efforts in Cusco and the nearby Sacred Valley of Peru. Carruth has worked in both the documentary and fine-art photography since 2010. His main themes focus on identity, place and empowerment.



The Branigan Cultural Center presents “Reflections: African American Life” from the Myrna Colley-Lee Collection. This image is of Eudora Welty window shopping.



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ARTS EXPOSURE

Gallery Guide

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Silver City

Ann Simonsen Studio-Gallery, 104 W. Yankie St., 654- 5727. [a]SP.“A”©E, 110 W. Seventh St., 538-3333, aspace. studiogallery@gmail.com.

Azurite Gallery, 110 W. Broadway, 538-9048, Wednesday to Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. www.azuritegallery.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., Sun. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. www.bluedomegallery.com.

The Cliffs Studio & Gallery, 205 N. Lyon St. and Yankie, (520) 622-0251.

Diane Kleiss' encaustic multimedia art. By appointment. doart2@yahoo.com, www.dianealdrichkleiss.com.

Common Ground, 102 W. Kelly, 534-2087. Open by chance or appointment.

Common Thread, 107 W. Broadway, 538-5733. Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Retail and gallery space for fiber arts. www.fiberartscollective.org.

Copper Quail Gallery, 211-A Texas St., corner of Yankie and Texas streets, 388-2646. Tuesday to Sunday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Fine arts and crafts.

Cow Trail Art Studio, 119 Cow Trail in Arenas Valley. Monday, 12-3 p.m. or by appointment, (706) 533-1897, www.victoriachick.com.

Creations & Adornments, 108 N. Bullard, 534-4269. Monday to Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Work by Diane Reid.

Dragonfly Studio, 508 W 6th St., 388-8646. By appointment.

Four Directions Weaving, 106 W. Yankie St. Monday, Wednesday, Saturday. 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday. noon-3 p.m. 263-3830.

Francis McCray Gallery, 1000 College Ave., WNMU, 538-6517. Monday to Friday, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

The Glasserie Studio and Store, 106 E. College, 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., Sun. 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Hutchings Fine Art, 406 B N. Bullard, Downtown Silver City. Open Wednesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 313-6939.

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. 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.

Mary's Fine Art, 414 E. 21st St., 956-7315. Mary A. Gravelle.

Mimbres Region Arts Council Gallery, Wells Fargo Bank Bldg., 1201 N. Pope St. www.mimbresarts.org.

Molly Ramolla Gallery & Framing, 203 N. Bullard, 538- 5538. www.ramollaart.com.

Ol' West Gallery & Mercantile, 104 W. Broadway, 388-1811/313-2595. Daily 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

The Place@108, 108 Yankie Street.

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.

The StudioSpace, 109 N. Bullard St., 534-9291. www.jessgorell.com.

Studio Upstairs, 109 N. Bullard St., 574-2493. By appointment.

21 Latigo Trail, 388-4557. Works by Barbara Harrison and others.

Tree Spirit Gallery, 206 N. Bullard St., 303-888-1358.

Vibrations Gallery, 106 W. Yankie St., 654-4384, starxr@ usa.net.

Wild West Weaving, 211-D N. Texas, 313-1032, www.wildwestweaving.com. Wednesday to Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Wind Canyon Studio, 11 Quail Run off Hwy. 180 mile marker 107, 574- 2308, 619-933-8034. Louise Sackett. Monday and Wednesday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and by appointment.

Wynnegate Gallery & Studio, 1105 W. Market St., (214) 957-3688. Monday and Thursday to Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday 11:45 a.m.-4 p.m., Tuesday and Wednesday by appointment.

Yankie St. Artist Studios, 103 W. Yankie St., 519-0615. By appointment.

Zoe's Gallery, 305 N. Cooper St., 654-4910.

Pinos Altos

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

Mimbres

Chamomile Connection, 3918 Highway 35N, 536-9845. Lynnae McConaha. By appointment.

Kate Brown Pottery and Tile, HC 15 Box 1335, San Lorenzo, 536-9935, katebrown@gilanet.com, www.katebrownpottery.com. By appointment.

Narrie Toole, Estudio de La Montura, 313-7390, www.narrietool.com. Contemporary western oils, giclées and art prints. By appointment.

Bayard

Kathryn Allen Clay Studio, 601 Erie St., 537-3332. By appointment.

Cliff

Gila River Artisans Gallery, 8409 Hwy. 180. Eclectic collection of local artists. Friday to Sunday 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

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Casitas de Gila, 50 Casita Flats Road, Gila, 535-4455.

Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. or by appointment. gallery@casitasdegila.com, www.galleryatthecasitas.com.

Mesilla

Adobe Patio Gallery, 1765 Avenida de Mercado (in the Mesilla Mercado), 532-9310. Tuesday to Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Galeri Azul, Old Mesilla Plaza, 523-8783. Monday to Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

Galeria on the Plaza, 2310 Calle de Principal, 526-9771. Daily 10 am.-6 p.m. Galería Tepín, 2220 Calle de Parian, 523-3988. Thursday to Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery, 2470 Calle de Guadalupe, 522-2933. Daily 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

The Potteries, 2260 Calle de Santiago, 524-0538. Rokoko, 1785 Avenida de Mercado, 405-8877.

Las Cruces

Alegre Gallery, 920 N Alameda Blvd., 523-0685. Azure Cherry Gallery & Boutique, 330 E. Lohman Ave., 291-3595. Wednesday to Thursday 12-5 p.m., Friday to Saturday, noon-8 p.m.

Blue Gate Gallery, 4901 Chagar (intersection of Valley and and Taylor roads), open by calling 523-2950.

Casa Blanka Home Décor & More, 1615 N. Solano, Ste. C, 575-526-5272.

Charles Inc., 1885 W Boutz Rd, 523-1888, Monday to Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Cottonwood Gallery, 275 N. Downtown Mall (Southwest Environmental Center), 522-5552. Monday to Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Cutter Gallery, 2640 El Paseo,541-0658. Tuesday to Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Galerie Accents, 344 S. San Pedro #3, 522-3567. Monday to Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Griggs & Reymond, 504 W. Griggs Ave., 524-8450, Tuesday to Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Justus Wright Galeria, 266 W. Court Ave., 526-6101, jud@delvalleprintinglc.com.

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, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Main Street Gallery, 311 N. Downtown Mall, 647-0508. Tuesday to Friday. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat. 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., Sat. 2-5 p.m.

M. Phillip's Fine Art Gallery, 221 N. Main St., 525-1367.

MVS Studios, 535 N. Main, Stull Bldg., 635-5015, www.mvsstudios.com.

New Dimension Art Works, 615 E. Piñon, 373-0043.

New Mexico Art, 121 Wyatt Dr., Suite 1, 525-8292/649-4876. Wednesday 1-6 p.m., Thursday to Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

NMSU Art Gallery, Williams Hall, University Ave. east of Solano, 646-2545. Tuesday to Sunday

Nopalito's Galeria, 326 S. Mesquite. Friday to Sunday, 8 a.m.-8:30 p.m.

Ouida Touchon Studio, 1200 N. Reymond St., 635-7899. By appointment. ouida@ouidatouchon.com, www.ouidatouchon.com.

Quillin Studio and Gallery, behind downtown Coas Books, 312-1064. Monday to Thursday and Saturday.

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.

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.

Rodeo

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

Hillsboro

Barbara Massengill Gallery, 894-9511/895-3377, open weekends and by appointment.

Chloride

Monte Cristo, Wall St., 734-0493, montecristogallery@windstream.net. Daily 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Ruidoso

Art Ruidoso Gallery, 575-808-1133, www.artruidoso.com, 2809 Sudderth Drive.

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

Red Door Gallery and Gifts, 575-491-5100, 1201 St. Francis Drive. Thursday to Sunday, noon to 4 p.m.

Submit gallery information to Desert Exposure, 840 N. Telshor Blvd., Ste. E, Las Cruces NM 88011, email editor@desertexposure.com.

ON SCREEN

Las Cruces Film Festival Thinks Big

Workshops, independent films highlight March event

The Las Cruces International Film Festival (LCIFF) is a full-fledged film festival scheduled for March 2-6, 2016, featuring Danny Trejo, star of the "Machete" trilogy as the "Outstanding Achievement in Entertainment," award winner.

LCIF Executive Director Ross Marks and Producer Marsha San Fillipo have been working on the funding and logistics of this event for more than a year. For this inaugural year the venue will be the state of the art Allen Theaters Cineport 10 and various venues on the campus of New Mexico State University. With four screens over five days at the Cineport 10, the festival's attendance capacity is 75,120.

The festival's focus will be on award-winning top independent films and workshops that will educate and train crew and businesses in the area to work in the film industry. An array of private VIP after-parties will be open to VIP pass holders and sponsors, offering an opportunity to hob-knob with the festival's various celebrities and filmmakers.

The festival is sponsoring a television pilot contest called "Shoot Las Cruces!" Contestants will submit trailers or teasers of TV series ideas to be shown at the festival.

The audience will vote on the best. The winner will receive \$35,000 in goods, services and funding and a first-look deal with Lionsgate Studios.

The various workshops to be held by the festival include an acting workshop with a well-known actor at the NMSU Center For The Arts, a sound workshop with two-time Academy Award winner and 14-time nominee, Randy Thom, a screenwriting workshop with the writer of "Machete," Álvaro Rodríguez and Academy-Award nominee Mark Medoff, and a series of comprehensive film training seminars called "Tune Up Las Cruces." These seminars will include camera, lights,



Danny Trejo

set readiness, drone flying and how to do business with the film business for local business owners and operators.

The goal is to create a new signature entertainment event, similar to the Sundance Film Festival, with the concept of creating a yearly event that will build momentum and grow over time.

The film festival will highlight the burgeoning film industry and attract visitors to Las Cruces from New Mexico, Texas and Arizona with reasonable ticket prices aimed at attracting a broad socio-economic audience and reaching all who love film.

Ticket prices are \$8 per ticket for individual screenings, \$5 per ticket for students, \$20 for a day-pass that gets you into all screenings that day, \$75 for an all-access pass which gets participants into all film festival screenings, workshops and events, except for the VIP parties, and \$150 for VIP passes which get them into all film festival screenings, events, workshops and VIP-only after parties.

For information about the festival, purchasing passes or sponsorship opportunities, call 575-528-9032 or visit www.LCIFFEST.com.

Silver City Art Association
Board of Directors



The Silver City Art Association has announced its 2016 Board of Directors: Diane Kleiss, secretary; Chris Saxman, co-chair; Ann Alexander, treasurer; and Rebecca Martin, co-chair. The Silver City Art Association is composed of local galleries, studios and individual artists, sponsoring the annual Red Dot Art Weekends, the annual Red Dot Art Guide and other art-related events. (Courtesy photo)

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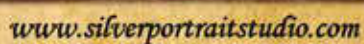
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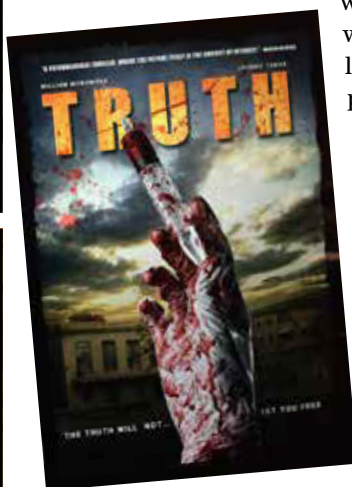
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'TRUTH' available on DVD

After a very successful year of screenings in theaters from Santa Fe to Buffalo, New York, southern New Mexico-made feature film “TRUTH” was released on DVD Feb. 2. Debuting with premieres at Rio Grande Theatre in Las Cruces and Light Hall Auditorium in Silver City, followed by screenings across the state and film festival runs, including the 8th Annual Plaza Classic Film Festival in El Paso, “TRUTH” was the film to catch in 2015. Now Borderlands Media will expand the reach of the film. The Alibi called it “Tense, timely and terrifying,” via national and international outlets, including Netflix and Redbox.

Winner of the Audience Award for Best Horror/Sci-Fi Feature at the 2015 Buffalo Niagara Film Festival, "TRUTH" is a speculative thriller that entertains while at the same time offering deeper themes that explore

who we really are when we lose the ability to live by deception. Shot primarily in Silver City, by Las Cruces-based PRC Productions from a script by actor/director Michael J. Cramer ("Weird Science," "Summer Camp Nightmare") and starring William McNamara ("Dream A Little Dream," "Copycat"), along with New Mex-



Jack Lutz is Marcus Coogan, a security operative tasked with protecting a secret government facility in the Gila Wilderness, in the suspense thriller TRUTH, by PRC Productions. (Movie still courtesy PRC Productions)

ico actors Johnny Tabor ("Eaters"), Sabrina Gomez, Kenneth McGlothlin, Marcelle Bowman, Jack Lutz and many more – "TRUTH" follows a diverse group of college students who fall victim to a life-threatening virus when they stumble into a top-secret facility deep in the mountains of the Gila wilderness.

The DVD of "TRUTH" includes such extras as specially created webisodes "Nirvana No More," "Dark Doom Actual," "Lepordai," a commercial for the film's antagonist Nano Track Technologies and a blooper reel. With a running time of 95 minutes for the feature and 30 minutes for the extras, "TRUTH" is unrated, but may contain some scenes that are disturbing for young children. For information on "TRUTH," visit www.WhatIsTheTruthMovie.com.

CALL FOR ARTISTS

- The Black Range Artists have an open call for membership. Members have the opportunity to learn from one another and participate in workshops, demonstrations and paint-outs. Membership is \$20 a year. For more information email blackrangeart@gmail.com or call Lyn Orona at 474-546-4650.

- The Merc, Tularosa's newest art & art gift co-op on Historic Granado St. is now accepting new artist memberships. Many details to share but many benefits, if interested, please reply to greatrepnm@gmail.com.

- The Tombaugh Gallery is calling for regional artists within a 300 -mile radius of Las Cruces to submit proposals for exhibitions for the 2017 calendar year. Non-traditional media or subject matter is welcome. All artwork must be for sale. Submissions should contain a letter of proposal with information about the artist, type of work to be shown and usb flash drive containing eight representative images as JPG files. For group shows, supply a list of all members and 1 or 2 images from each member. If a show theme is being considered, please explain the theme fully. The Tombaugh Gallery has 44 linear feet for wall display has several pedestals.

Submissions should be post-marked no later than April 1, 2016. Submissions will be reviewed, and applicants will be notified

by May 1, at which time possible show dates will be discussed. Artists/shows not selected will be notified at the same time.

Artists who prefer to send an electronic submission may contact Judy Licht at jelicht@gmail.com for instructions. Gallery Website: www.uuchurchlc.org/2011/10/tombaugh-art-gallery.

Address submissions to: Judy
Licht, Committee Chairperson
c/o Unitarian Universalist Church
of Las Cruces, 2000 S. Solano, Las
Cruces, NM 88001.

• Aa Studios, located at 2645 Doña Ana Road in Las Cruces, is calling for regional artists to exhibit in 2016. The 17' x 25' studio/gallery features fine contemporary art from emerging artists and artists with limited local gallery representation. Owner Roy van der Aa opened his working studio as a gallery in August 2012 and participates in the North Valley Art Loop openings every three months. Five two-month slots are currently available taking either two feature walls or the whole gallery. The gallery has posted hours three days per month and is open by appointment the rest of the month. There is no fee to apply or show, but the gallery takes a 20 percent commission on work sold. Interested artists can email a proposal, short artist bio, resumé, and 8 jpeg images (4" on the longest edge at 150 dpi) to wysiwyg@zianet.com. Proposals are due by Nov. 15. For details, call 1-575-520-8752.

- The Potters' Guild of Las Cruces invites artists who work in fabric/fiber to collaborate with

Potters' Guild clay artists to create works for the biennial show "Fire and Fiber 2016." For more information and to team up with a clay artist contact Mary Lou LaCasse, 649-0182 mlacassearts@gmail.com

• Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery is accepting applications for exhibitions, and encourages artists to stop by the gallery to learn more. Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery is located at 2470-A Calle de Guadalupe, across from the Fountain Theatre in Mesilla. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Sunday. For information, call 522-2933 or visit www.mesillavalleyfinearts.com.

- The New Mexico Handmade, Inc. Gallery in the Old Tortilla Factory in Mesilla has space for two more artists. All mediums are considered. Contact Carolyn Kuhn at ckuhn03@sprynet.com for additional information.

- The Rokoko Art Gallery, located at 1785 Avenida de Mercado, seeks artists for solo or group shows in a rental exhibit space on a monthly basis. Gallery hours are Saturday and Sunday, from noon to 5 p.m. For prospectus and details, contact Mitch or Ame at alarokokomag@aol.com or call 405-8877.

• West End Art Depot Gallery announces a call for regional artists interested in displaying original artwork. For information, email nmartco.op@gmail or call 575-312-9892. WEAD is a co-operative arts incubator with art studios and workshop space in a warehouse in the Alameda Historic Depot at 401 N Mesilla St, Las Cruces.



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COUNTRY MUSIC

Festival to be held in downtown Las Cruces in April

Las Cruces Country Music Festival headlines Lee Ann Womack and the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band

Country music lovers can strap on those boots and make plans to attend the fourth annual Las Cruces Country Music Festival.

This year's festival will feature country music legends Lee Ann Womack and the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, as well as rising stars David Nail and Cam. The line-up also includes Rick Trevino and Aaron Watson to round out the experience. New this year, the LCCMF includes two stages for a true festival feel. Tickets are now on sale for the April 29-May 1, 2016 event.

Phil San Filippo, executive director of Visit Las Cruces, said he is looking forward to listening to some of the best country music talent out there.

"We have two legends in Lee Ann Womack and the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, and a couple more in the making," San Filippo said. "It's going to be a great show, in a great venue and I am looking forward to it. The fans are going to love it."

The country music party begins at 5 p.m. Friday, April 29 with food, dancing, children's activities, live music and the New Mexico True area, which features vendors and artisans from all over the state. The north stage entertainment begins at 6:30 p.m. with Aaron Watson followed by Grammy and CMA (Country Music Association) Award-winning artist Lee Ann Womack. Womack



Bri Bagwell plays on the stage at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum for the Country Music Festival in 2014. She will be back for the 2016 event in April. (Courtesy photo)

will co-headline the event with the Grammy and CMA Award-winning Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2016.

The festivities continue downtown Saturday morning with the Las Cruces Farmers & Crafts Market which features more than 300 local vendors. Action continues midday at New Mexico State University where the Aggies host the annual rodeo with collegiate teams competing from around the Southwest. The festival grounds reopen at 4 p.m. with



The New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum hosts the Western Wear Fashion Show on Sunday during the Las Cruces Country Music Festival. (Courtesy photo)

live music on the south stage, dancing, and activities for the kids. The lights on the north stage go up at 6 p.m. with the Grammy award-winning Rick Trevino, who will be followed by latest country sensation, Cam. Closing out Saturday night will be country superstar David Nail. Also performing will be three-time Texas Female Vocalist of the year and Las Cruces' own Bri Bagwell.

Sunday's activities move to the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum for the Country Breakfast and Western Wear Fashion Show at 10 a.m. The event features a home-cooked country meal, acoustic performances by festival artists as well as a fashion show centered on western attire.

If you're itching for the festival

top of the web page and enjoy the selections.

Tickets are now on sale and can be purchased at Visit Las Cruces located at 211 N. Water St. or online at www.lccountryfest.com. The festival offers several ticket options, starting with a day pass for \$25 per person per day in advance or \$30 at the gate. A two-day festival pass is \$45 in advance or \$50 at the gate. A festival pass includes access to both Friday and Saturday night as well as the New Mexico State University Rodeo taking place on the NMSU campus that weekend. The VIP package available for \$150 includes access to all the concerts, the NMSU rodeo, special VIP seating at the festival, VIP parking, a commemorative t-shirt, and access to a Thursday night VIP party. Individual passes are available for the Sunday Brunch for \$25.

MAIN STREET

Silco Theater Operator Selected

Chris Aquino takes charge at historic location

Chris Aquino has been selected to operate the Silco Theater, 311 N. Bullard Street in Silver City.

"I first walked into a cinema when I was about five years old," Aquino said. "My mother, an avid film buff, took me to Disney's 'Peter Pan.' From that point on I have viewed the cinema with a child-like wonder."

With the operation of the Silco Theater, Aquino hopes to spark the appreciation for cinema that lies within all of us.

Aquino was a manager at the Real West Cinema in Silver City, where he ran the projection room, kept track of inventory ordered marketing materials and procured films for screenings. He worked at the Century Rio 24 in Albuquerque as a projectionist. In addition, he was active with the, Western New Mexico University Film Society and facilitated several film classes for the Western Institute of Lifelong Learning.

Aquino said there is not a bad seat in the house. He will need about two weeks after the construction contractor obtains an occupancy permit for the theater to train staff and order films before the first movie since 2013 can be shown at the Silco Theater.



Chris Aquino and Mary Dearhamer review plans for the Silco Theater Concession, the Silco Confectionary. (Photo by Lucy Whitmarsh)

Aquino plans to have a variety of programming with up to 23 film screenings a week. He will show a variety of Hollywood and independent films. He would also like to work with events such as the Blues Festival, Tour of the Gila and Clay Festival to show films while the events are going on that will be of interest to the event participants.

He intends to evaluate the interest in Spanish language films and classic silent movies. When the Silco Theater opened in 1923 only silent

movies were shown. Piano music was played to accompany the movies.

Ward Rudick, grandson of theater operator, Eddie Ward, facilitated the return of the original piano to the Silco Theater. Rudick was asked to take a look at the piano in a home slated for sale. When talking to the owner of the piano, Rudick realized that the piano had come from the Silco Theater.

The piano owner had been an usher at the Silco Theater in the 1950s and she confirmed that the piano had come from the Silco Theater and has been moved back to the theater. The piano needs some restoration work and hopefully in the future will once again be used to play the musical score that accompanies silent movies.

When the Silco Theater is operating there will be an interactive website for customers to preview the movies being shown and purchase tickets in advance. Tickets will also be sold prior to screenings at the newly added "box office." Soda, popcorn and other goodies will be available at the concession area, "The Silco Confectionary."

For information, call Silver City MainStreet at 575-534-1700

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Kevin Baker puts finishing touches on one of his pieces hanging on the wall at the Merc. (Photo by Jennifer Gruger)

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TOWN NEWS • JENNIFER GRUGER

Meet Me at the Merc

New gallery celebrates hearts in Tularosa

The pop Western artist Darryl Willison believes in cowboys. He believes in cowboys and their impact on history, and he believes in their whimsy. He is drawn to the cowboy culture because it is unique to the U.S. and a part of history that hasn't happened anywhere else. He worries, however, that it is a part of history that has the potential to be forgotten. As a personal tribute to them, he tries to incorporate the personalities of the historical figures he loves into his work. You won't find a caricature of Gene Autry or Roy Rogers in his repertoire, but if you ask him to point out his acknowledgment of Annie Oakley in his work, the subtlety of his appreciation of her will tickle your funny bone. This, in turn, will make him very happy. His inspiration as an artist is to engage you by invoking laughter and smiles. He describes his art as "contemporary Western pop where Roy Rogers meets the Beatles."

Willison has been an artist all his life. He has shown his work in 18 galleries around the United States and has done commissioned work for a variety of clients ranging from the balloon fiesta in Albuquerque to Senator Pete Domenici. He designed an ornament representing the Senator's congressional district and was invited to see it hung on the White House Christmas Tree. He is also a savvy businessman.

The idea for The Merc was born from two things: Willison's travels around the state as a "gift and trend" sales rep, and the challenges and tribulations of selling his work as an artist. While his travels have taken him to numerous destinations, he said he has always drawn to the Tularosa Basin because of the openness, the mountains and the "soul-inspiring environment." In particular, he was drawn to the history of the area. Even without knowing that history, he found he was drawn to discovering it. He also knew there had to be artists in this community and that some of them might be struggling to sell their work.

As Willison started to imagine the options, he knew he wanted to achieve several things: Incorporate local artists; create a place where history could be shared and discovered – a place that was just plain fun. He

thinks of it as "A place where the old five-and-dime meets the trading post but leaves you feeling like you just found your favorite reading corner." It is not only a shop with gift art and fine art for sale, but also a place to discover and share the history of Tularosa and the surrounding community.

The business model is also unique. It functions much like a co-op, with a mix of contributing artists who support the shop both with their time and a monthly fee, as well as those who are strictly commissioned artists giving a portion of their sales back to the shop. This model spreads the operational burden across both vested members as well as contributing artists. A high school work study program is also in the works to engage local youth with interest in art or business. New members and artists are welcome to express interest.

The Merc isn't just about being a gift shop. Darryl and the co-op members envision a future where Granado Street becomes a place people can gather. Tourists will be endeared to the village of Tularosa in a comfortable, relaxing, affordable, unpretentious way. It is about facilitating dreams, creating a vehicle for success, and a place for people to come and commune with like-minded people.

"I know this will be a success because we are starting off in a good place with good people," Willison said.

The Merc is having a grand opening event on Feb. 6. "Para Ti Mi Amor" (For You My Love) is an "art of the heart" event where members of Tularosa and surrounding communities are invited to participate by creating a piece of art inspired by the heart shape as an expression of love, support and/or admiration. A small wooden heart can be supplied to provide inspiration, but is not required to be used. The finished hearts go into a silent auction at The Merc. The silent auction will be held during the grand opening celebration on Feb. 6. Any items that do not sell will continue to be available in the shop for 30 days on commission. The artist will receive 60 percent of the sale. Participants range from local artists, to established artists from Albuquerque and other communities as well as community youth.

Para Ti Mi Amor Event Details

When: Feb. 6, 6-9 p.m.
Activities: Wine tasting provided by Heart of the Desert; Live music by Lost Dog; and silent auction of heart art.
Where: 316 Granado Street, Tularosa, NM 88352
Contact: 575-629-0787
Facebook: The MERC

If you are interested in placing your artwork in The MERC or becoming a coop member, contact Darryl Willison at 505-238-6469.

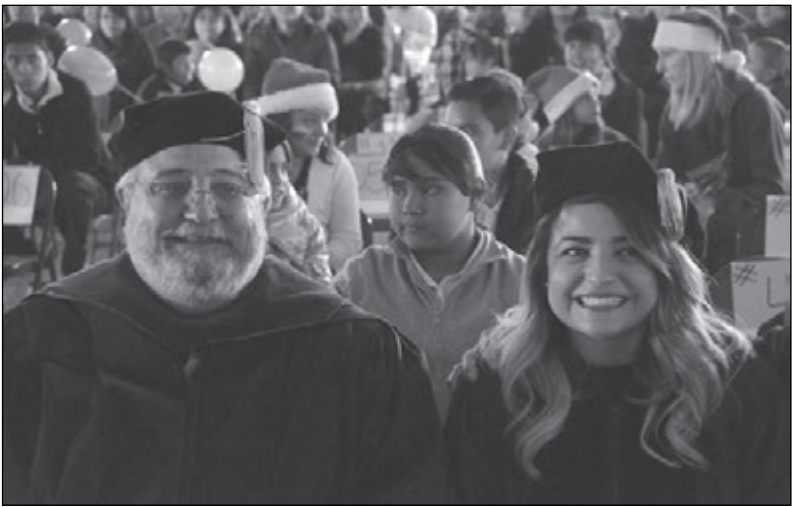
SOUTH OF THE BORDER • MORGAN SMITH

Eunice Herrera, Lawyer

Imagine having your law school graduation ceremony in the tiny border town of Palomas, Mexico instead of at your law school. That's exactly what a unique young woman named Eunice Herrera just did and it was a far more moving experience than my own law school graduation from the University of Colorado many years ago. It was another step in a life of persistence and dedication.

Eunice was born in El Paso but grew up in Ascención, Mexico, about an hour and a half south of Palomas. Her father was a pastor in a church there. When she was 12, Jim Noble, an immigration lawyer from Santa Fe, and his wife, Pat went to Ascención to complete the paperwork to open an orphanage in Palomas called La Casa de Amor Para Niños. They stayed with Eunice's family, all became friends and subsequently Eunice's father joined the board of directors of La Casa. Several years later, he suggested Eunice organize a vacation bible school for La Casa. She began doing this when she was 15. When she was 17, she also was asked to join the board of directors and has been a key leader ever since.

Eunice completed college at the University of Texas at El Paso in December 2007 and Jim Noble then offered her a job as a legal assistant in his law office, Noble and Vrapí, in Santa Fe. She quickly realized that "a law degree is a powerful tool; it is a voice for defenseless people," and decided to try to go to law school herself, a tough process because Spanish is her native language. In fact, she had to take the test three times. Eventually, however, she was admitted to the



Eunice Herrera celebrates her graduation in Palomas, Mexico with Professor Fernando Colón-Navarro who traveled from Houston and the law school in Houston to participate in the event. (Photo by Morgan Smith)

Thurgood Marshall School of Law in Houston, Texas, a school with a deep history in the civil rights movement.

In the 1940s when a black student named Heman Marion Sweatt applied to the University of Texas School of Law, he was denied admission because the Texas Constitution required that there be "separate but equal" schools for whites and blacks.

He sued and the trial judge ruled that Texas would have to build a law school for blacks within six months. The Texas Legislature then passed a law creating the "Texas State University for Negroes." Sweatt, however, contended that this new law school wasn't "equal." The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in his favor in the landmark case of Sweatt versus Painter and he was eventually admitted to the University of Texas School of Law.

As for Texas State University for Negroes, its name was changed to

Texas Southern University in 1951 and the law school was named the Thurgood Marshall School of Law because Thurgood Marshall, who would later be named the first black Justice on the U.S. Supreme Court, had been Sweatt's lawyer.

I first met Jim, Pat and Eunice at their community-wide Mother's Day celebration in May, 2010. This is one of two annual events (Christmas is the other) to which the whole town is invited and features a meal for everyone, clowns, music, face painting and games for the kids. In short, a break from the grinding poverty of this tiny town.

In addition, during those years, Palomas was one of the most dangerous border towns. I learned from Jim, Pat, Eunice and their many other volunteers that you just had to set your fear aside and move ahead with your mission. Eunice was the emcee at that first event and it was impossible not to notice her poise and leadership, as

well as the respect with which the community viewed her.

At that time, La Casa cared for about 30 children. Every second weekend of the month, Jim, Pat, Eunice and numerous other volunteers from Santa Fe, Deming, Silver City and Durango, Colorado would go down, bringing food and supplies not just for La Casa but for the community at large. In addition, they have always maintained an extensive scholarship program which helps more than 100 local kids go to school.

Several years ago at the request of the DIF (Sistema Nacional para el Desarrollo Integral de la Familia) office for the State of Chihuahua, La Casa developed a new mission – caring for young women between the ages of 13 and 17. This has been successful to the extent that two of these young women are now living in Santa Fe with the Nobles and going to school there.

As for Eunice, she not only had the difficult struggle of law school in Houston but also traveled to Palomas many weekends to help out. There were some light moments, however. During her first visit to the law school, she asked a man for directions to the financial aid office.

"I'm only the school's janitor," he answered.

In fact, he was Fernando Colón-Navarro, a distinguished professor with several Harvard degrees and also the co-director of the school's Institute for International and Immigration Law. He was the one who came to Palomas to confer her degree.

"He has a heart for his students," Eunice said. "He told me that he

was honored with the invitation and that he would be happy to go to Palomas with me."

Her graduation ceremony was part of La Casa's annual Christmas party and took place in a large meeting hall called La Terraza which is owned by Talaco Sanchez, the mayor or "Presidente Municipal" of Palomas who attended with his wife. The hall was packed with families who had come not only for the games and meal and clowns but to cheer for Eunice. Pat Noble said Eunice is a person who never gives up.

She still has the bar exam to deal with, but then she will probably practice immigration law in El Paso, perhaps in the branch office that Jim Noble is setting up there. She will also continue her work in Palomas with La Casa de Amor.

"I am really concerned about the students who dropped out last year," she told me. "I would like to prevent this from happening again and have been visiting an average of 10 students a month."

As a lawyer myself, I'm proud to have her become a member of this profession. More lawyers ought to be committed to the defenseless. For those who live in the El Paso/Palomas area, remember her name because she will continue to be a leader in the years to come.

Morgan Smith is a former member of the Colorado House of Representatives who now lives in Santa Fe and travels to the border at least once a month, both to document and to assist a variety of humanitarian programs. He can be reached at Morgan-smith@comcast.net.

LIP FRONT

Azaima Anderson CD Release

Performing songwriter introduces activist music

Azaima Anderson of Silver City is having a CD release party from 1 to 3 p.m., Feb. 7 at the Yankee Creek Coffeehouse, 112 W. Yankee Street in Silver City, to celebrate her fifth recording, "Untamed." She will be accompanied by four members of the Gypsy Feet band. There is no charge and the event is open to the public.

An award-winning performing songwriter in three different genres, Anderson writes hard-hit-

ting, lyric-driven pieces. This latest album highlights her activism for environmental and other causes. Other songs are about taking a stand, whether poignantly or with humor. Half the tracks were recorded in Nashville, the other half in Maine. Her musical style is whatever best serves the lyric and story line. Some songs are country. Others have overtones of folk, pop, rock, blues and jazz.

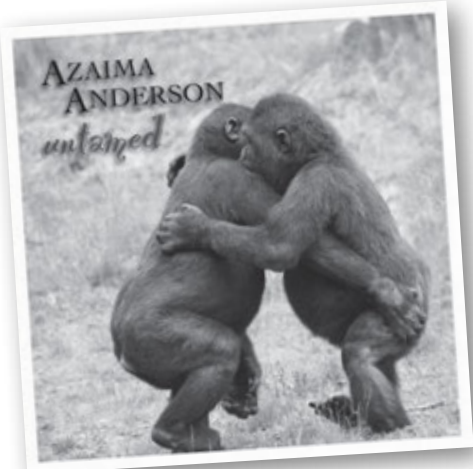
"This is a CD chock full of activism combined with well-arranged tunes to back what is essentially a vehicle to spread a lot of messages that are not only important to Azaima, but to the world in general," said Larry Toering, with Gashouse Radio. "And she makes this all work very well with everything from innuendos to flat out unrelenting cries for help, which is done in an effective manner with an often humorous vibe without



Azaima Anderson

losing the seriousness of it all. This isn't easy to do, but she made it sound effortless."

In addition to her music, Anderson owns and operates the Heart and Wings retreat center in Silver City. Guests may simply use it as a guest house, or take advantage of services that include yoga, meditation, astrology readings, shamanic healings, and a healing modality Anderson created called "Heart Lightning" designed to remove mental and emotional blocks.



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Pancho Villa on horseback with his men behind.



Columbus buildings here burned down during the raid by Pancho Villa.



The Santa Fe New Mexican reports events in Columbus in a March 1916 issue.

Pancho Villa
Raid Day
March 12
Centennial
events,
page 25.

PANCHO VILLA RAID • JULY MCCLURE

Columbus Recognizes 100 Years Since Attack

March 12 events mark anniversary

In the early dawn hours of March 9, 1916, the Mexican revolution poured north of the border as General Francisco “Pancho” Villa with his army of between 400 and 800 men led a raid on Columbus, then a dusty, sleepy village of some 400 residents. The battle began shortly after 4 a.m. and lasted for more than two hours. U.S. Army soldiers based at Camp Furlong (now part of Pancho Villa State Park) responded to Villa’s attack with gunfire.

When the smoke had cleared, 18 Americans (10 civilians and eight soldiers of the 13th Cavalry) lay dead. At daylight the Villistas retreated into Mexico, leaving behind 225 to 250 men who were wounded, captured or killed. The Commercial Hotel and other businesses in the center of town lay in smoking ruins.

Six days after the raid, President Wilson

responded by sending thousands of American troops to Columbus, using trucks and airplanes for the first time in combat. General John “Black Jack” Pershing, with the help of his aide, Lt. George Patton, and Col. H.J. Slocum, organized the First Aero Squadron and launched the “Punitive Expedition” chasing Villa into Mexico with some 11,000 U.S. soldiers. This pursuit involved the country’s first use of U.S. military aircraft in combat. Other cities across the country claim the honor, but Columbus is the true “cradle of U.S. military aviation.”

Pershing and his men weren’t able to capture Villa and they returned to the United States almost a year later in February 1917 only to sail off to Western Europe as the U.S. entered World War I.

In March it will have been 100 years since Villa’s infamous attack. Every year the

Columbus holds a Raid Day service commemorating those killed in the battle. The village of Columbus, Columbus Chamber of Commerce, Columbus Historical Society, Pancho Villa State Park, and the First Aero Squadron Foundation are joining forces to make this a very special Centennial Commemoration of those killed.

The 17th Annual Cabalgata and Centennial Raid Day will be held Saturday, March 12, in downtown Columbus Plaza. It is expected to attract the largest crowd ever for the annual commemoration.

The Cabalgata was started in 1999 when riders from both sides of the border joined together in peace, unity and friendship to honor the casualties of the 1916 Raid.

The participants also hope to shed light on the region and spur economic development on the Columbus – Palomas, Chihua-

hua border.

Many residents of Columbus will add to the historical uniqueness of this once in a lifetime event by dressing in 1916 period clothing.

A General Pershing and Pancho Villa look-alike contest will be held in the Tumbleweed Theater. Local artists will set up exhibits at the Columbus Public Library, where guests can check their email with free wifi service.

For more information (including food and lodging availability) call the Columbus Chamber of Commerce 575-343-0147 or email columbuschamberofcommerce@yahoo.com. For vendor and parade information, call 575-494-0009. Contact Pancho Villa State Park 575-531-2711; Columbus Historical Society 575-531-2620; or the First Aero Squadron 575-519-1100.

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PANCHO VILLA RAID • COLUMBUS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Historical Figure Family Members to Attend Memorial events March 9

March 9 will mark the 100th anniversary of the infamous Pancho Villa raid on the United States. Approximately 350 Villistas raided the United States at Columbus, New Mexico. Eight 13th Cavalry soldiers stationed at Camp Columbus and 10 civilians died that early morning. Historians over the years have attributed the reason for the raid in their own and many versions. We will never know Villa’s reason, so we keep speculating.

This year’s memorial service will be extra special with the 13th Cavalry attending this once in a lifetime event. The 13th was the unit stationed at the camp at Columbus at the time of the Villa raid. The Historical society’s theme for the day is “Columbus Family Reunion.”

“As many (family members) as we could locate were advised by mail and the response has been outstanding,” said Richard Dean, Columbus Historical Society president. “General Patton’s granddaughter from France notified us she will attend, as will General George A. Dodd’s great-grandson and

13th Cavalry Commanding Officer Colonel Slocum’s great-granddaughter. The governor and the New Mexico Legislators have been invited.”

The New Mexico National Guard will also be attending and are trying for an Air Guard fly-over.

The event will be an all-day affair, starting at 9 a.m. for registration and name tags in the CHS Caboose.

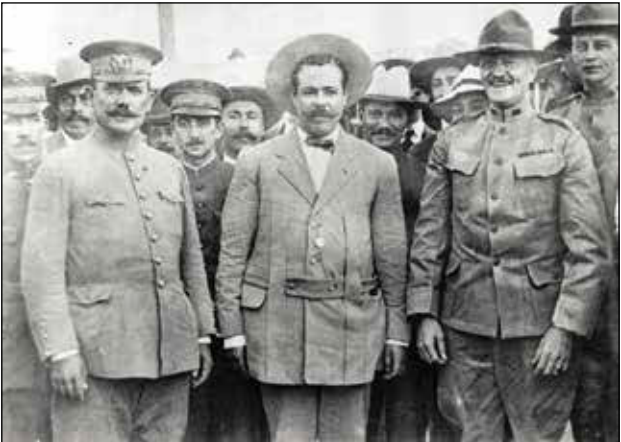
At 10 a.m. in the society’s Memorial Garden the memorial services will begin.

At approximately 11 a.m., a walking tour will be offered. After lunch at 1 p.m. the society will premiere a film produced by an Abilene Christian University professor on the Villa raid.

At 2 p.m. there will be a slide show about a pair of teenage brothers who were in Columbus the summer following the raid called “The Wilson Brothers.”

“This is very special as we see times through teenagers’ eyes,” Dean said.

“The society has made a Challenge Coin for this 100th year event which will be available. Come support us for this remarkable event.”



Constitutionalist Generals Obregón, Villa with U.S. Army General Pershing, posing after a 1913 meeting at Ft Bliss, Texas. Immediately behind Pershing is his aide, Jack George S. Patton Jr.

MAUD THE VALIENT • VALERIE MOORE

Woman Taken by Pancho Villa

Remembering harrowing times on 100th anniversary of Columbus raid

On Christmas Day, 1980, a ranching family in Mountain-air, New Mexico, said their goodbyes to Maud, the indomitable 92-year-old matriarch of the family. Maud had lived a good life, spending the last 60 years doing what she loved – operating the family ranch near Abo, where she raised her nine children.

Born Maud Hawk in Jackson County, Alabama, Maud would spend her early years in the hill country of Oklahoma. Working alongside her father and brothers in the logging camps, Maud learned to drive a team of mules, swing an axe and handle a cross cut saw.

An industrious and energetic girl, she caught the eye of a British immigrant by the name of Edward Wright. When Edward asked for Maud's hand in marriage, Father Hawk refused to give his permission. The loner cowboy had few prospects, was 15 years older than Maud and was deemed unsuitable as a husband for ambitious young Maud. The Hawk family moved on to New Mexico, settling in Piños Altos, a mountain village a few miles northeast of Silver City.

Maud had lost track of Edward, but the cowboy was still intent on marrying her. From his homestead, across the international border, in Mexico, he rode horseback through Columbus, Deming, Lordsburg and Silver City, inquiring about the Hawk family along the way. When he finally tracked the family down, Maud was overjoyed to see him riding into her family's compound. Her father, however, did not share her enthusiasm. Failing once again to receive permission to marry, Maud and Edward eloped, travelling from Piños Altos to El Paso, Texas, where they were married by a justice of peace on Jan. 10, 1910.

The newlyweds crossed the border at El Paso and travelled to Ed's ranch near Pearson, Mexico, to begin their new life together. The onset of the Mexican Revolution would disrupt their stay in Mexico, but in the end they returned to the ranch, building it up to a modest success. In 1914 their son was born, an apple-cheeked boy with a sunny disposition. They called him Johnny. When Johnny was two years old, Maud was put to the test in ways most of us can only imagine. Humble to the end of her days, Maud preferred not to make a fuss about her story.

It begins in the early spring of 1916, at suppertime, on a cool, cloudless evening. Maud was 27 years old – a tall, strong, hard working girl, content with her life as a wife, mother and a partner in a successful ranching operation, where she worked alongside her husband raising cattle and horses and tending a kitchen garden. It was the evening of March 1, and Maud was keeping supper warm while she waited for Ed to return from Pearson with a load of supplies for the ranch.

The column of Mexican soldiers that poured out of the hills and into her front yard caught her by surprise, but their sudden appearance was not entirely unexpected. The Mexican Revolution was far from

over and the government troops of Venustiano Carranza and the revolutionary armies of Pancho Villa were both on the move. Pancho Villa's forces were active in the northern border region where American homesteaders had carved out farms and ranches in Mexico. The Wrights, like most Americans operating ranches in Mexico, had taken great care to remain neutral. Taking sides in the ongoing conflict between Carranza's government troops and the revolutionary forces was dangerous, could even get a person killed.

The Mexican officer who knocked on the door to the ranch house carried himself well, in spite of a uniform that was covered in trail dust. Maud opened the door and stood on the threshold, her back ramrod straight and her chin held high. Speaking in Spanish, the officer asked if she had food. She replied, in Spanish, that she had a small meal prepared. After satisfying himself that she was alone in the house, the officer took a seat at the table. Having no choice in the matter, Maud served him a steaming plate of food, food that was meant for her family and their hired help.

Outside, at the front of the house, two more horsemen rode in. Ed and his friend, Frank Hayden, dismounted from their horses. Their two pack mules, loaded down with packs of supplies, were left standing in the yard while the two men went inside to check on Maud. The soldiers milling about in the yard immediately tore open the packs, scavenging for anything of use.

Inside the house, Maud stiffly introduced the three men. The Mexican officer wanted to know where he could find grain for his horse. Ed and Frank led him outside, toward the barn. As soon as the men were out of sight, Maud's cozy home filled with Mexican troopers. The men pushed her aside and raided her food stores, taking flour, salt, beans and canned vegetables. When they began to strip sheets from her bed and curtains from the windows, she couldn't bear to watch any longer. Gathering Johnnie close, she stepped out into the night.

Ed and Frank were sitting on one of the pack mules. Their hands were tied with pieces of rope. Maud knew then that her family was in serious trouble. She had been worrying about the loss of their food stores and their livestock. Now she had to wonder if any of them would survive the long, terrible night ahead. Her husband calmly asked her to take their baby back inside, but the Mexican officer rode up and commanded her to give the baby to their hired family and mount up behind him. In her first, but not her last, show of courage, Maud settled little Johnnie into the arms of the hired man's wife, then caught one of her own horses and climbed on. The column moved out, leaving the Wright ranch house sitting empty.

The soldiers and their captives rode all night, under the cover of darkness. Maud soon learned that they were not, after all, soldiers of the officially recognized Mexican

government. Once on the trail, they were proud to announce that their leader was the great revolutionary general, Pancho Villa, the Lion of the North.

By daybreak the column reached Cave Valley. The rest of Villa's forces were camped along the stream that ran through the canyon. Maud had one brief opportunity to ride alongside her husband, still bound and riding one of the pack mules. They agreed that if either of them escaped alive, they would ride hard, back to the ranch to rescue their son. The next time Maud caught sight of her husband, he and Frank Hayden were being escorted behind a hill by a group of soldiers. The soldiers returned shortly, without the two American hostages. Tormented by grief and rage, certain that Ed had been murdered, Maud clung to the hope that if she could somehow survive her ordeal, she might live long enough to be reunited with her son.

The column marched on, ever northward, toward the border with the United States. Filthy and exhausted, Maud slept fitfully at night after making a meal of jerked beef and a tortilla, or sometimes, fresh beef, rounded up and butchered on the trail, cooked on open fires, burnt on the outside and raw on the inside. She ate to stay alive, and to gain strength, strength she would need if an opportunity to escape presented itself. At the end of each day she wondered how it was that she was still drawing breath.

The trails they followed were tortuous routes, the nights were freezing, the days scorching. They were forced to travel for long stretches without water. On the worst days, she wished her captors would kill her and get it over with. When some of the Villistas took the time to show her some small kindnesses, she realized that many of them were young boys who had been forced into service. Hardened soldiers or village boys, the men were loyal, although it was evident that they feared their general. Pancho Villa's reputation as a fearsome and unpredictable leader was well earned.

Several days into the march, Villa and his officers could be seen huddled in animated conferences. Arguments broke out. Something big was afoot and Maud redoubled her efforts to pay attention to the Spanish conversations going on around her. She was shocked to discover that a major attack was being planned. The target of the attack was Columbus, New Mexico.

By March 7 the band of revolutionaries had reached the Boca Grande River on the Palomas Land and Cattle Company ranch. A roundup was being conducted on the ranch and two of the ranch hands, Henry Arthur McKinney and William Nye Corbett, rode into the Villista encampment, hoping to gather some information as to why Villa's army had mobilized on the Boca Grande. During the early years of the revolution, Villa had cultivated an ally in the United States in October 1915, the U.S. government recognized the Carranza government as the official gov-

ernment of Mexico. Villa viewed this act as a supreme betrayal. He was convinced President Wilson intended to make a puppet nation of his beloved Mexico. The black revenge in his heart against all Americans had become all consuming. McKinney and Corbett were unaware that Villa's wrath toward President Wilson was now directed at anyone who represented American interests in Mexico.

The fact that ranch foreman, McKinney, was personally acquainted with Villa was of no consequence to the general. The cowboys were detained, awaiting Villa's orders. When they came, the orders were clear. The cowboys were to be executed. The two men were immediately hanged from the branches of the cottonwood trees. Maud knew then the purpose of the raid on Columbus was not only to acquire guns, horses and supplies. She thought of nothing but escape, to save her own life and to warn the town of the impending attack, but she was constantly kept under guard.

The next day, on March 8, the column moved out, marching north toward Columbus, enduring the searing spring winds and a tremendous sandstorm. Maud rode with her head and shoulders wrapped in a dirty serape, trying to block out some of the choking dust and grit swirling around her. One of Villa's top officers, Colonel Fernandez, approached Maud and tried to convince her to accept a rifle and use it against her countrymen during the raid. She refused, saying if she were to take up arms, she would shoot Fernandez first, followed by every other officer she could hit before being shot herself. Laughing, the colonel rode off, leaving her alive for another day.

At 3 a.m. on March 9 the column was assembled about a mile away from Columbus, after having cut their way through the international fence. Maud was left behind with the Villistas who were charged with

WOMAN
continued on page 27

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Diane and Bob are displaying
photography from Luna County,
Mexico and Deming while Mike will be
displaying bowls, platters and mirror
frames from used lariats.

Reception for the artists: Sunday
February 7, 2016 from 1 to 3 PM at
the Deming Arts Center
The exhibit runs from January 30, 2016
through February 27, 2016

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

THE STARRY DOME • BERT STEVENS

Caelum, the Chisel

Small but significant, modern constellation

If you were a celestial sculptor, you would probably use this month's constellation, Caelum, The Chisel. Sitting low in our south-southeastern sky, Caelum is a small constellation (81st in size out of the 88 official constellations), with no bright stars. It is predominately a north-south constellation located between Columba and Eridanus.

Caelum is a modern constellation named during the heyday of constellation creation in the 1700s. This period was driven by new star catalogs created by astronomers who accompanied mariners into the southern hemisphere. In keeping with the custom of organizing the stars in the northern hemisphere of the sky into constellations, astronomers compiling these southern star charts created new constellations to fill them.

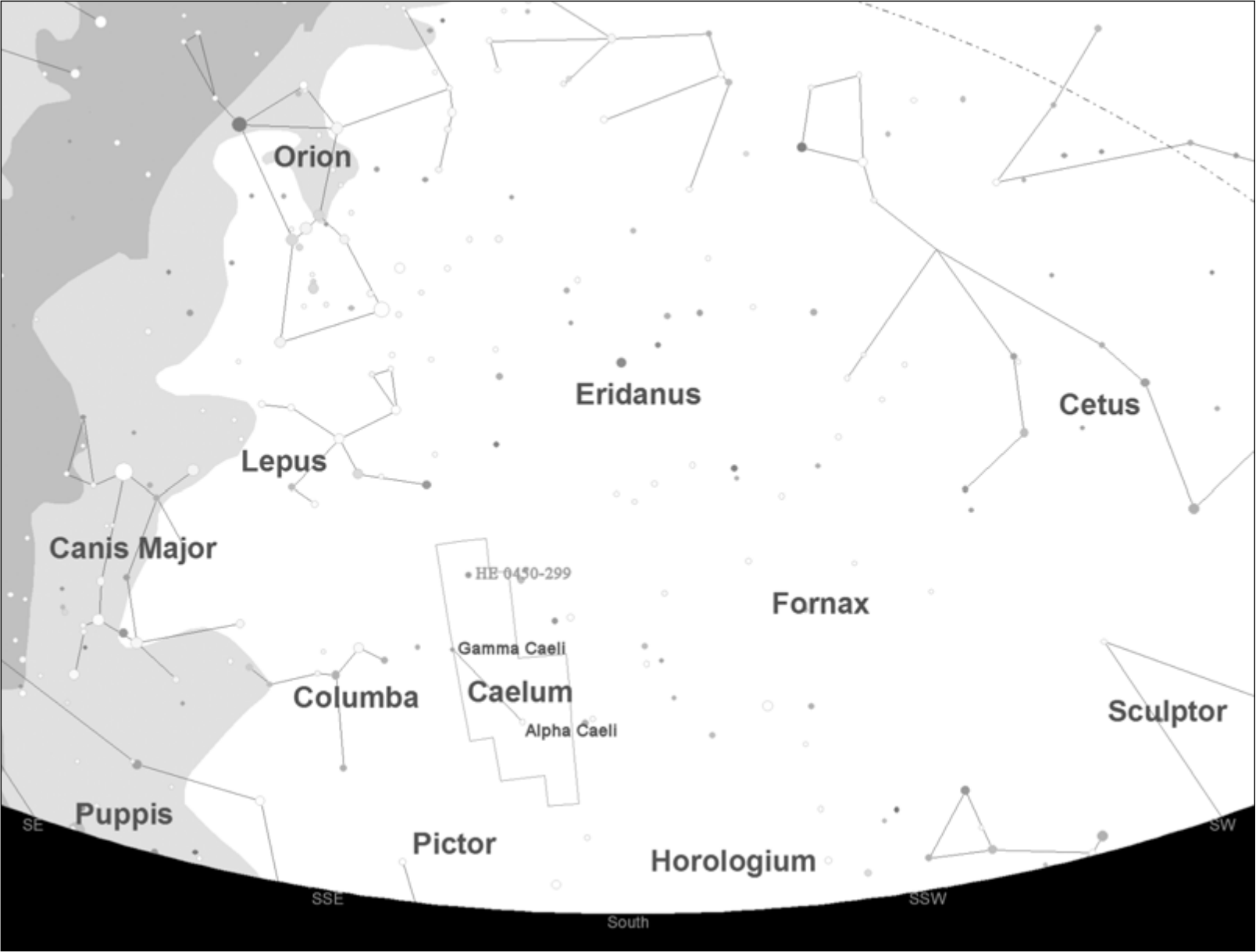
During that time, French astronomer Nicolas Louis de La Caille wanted to determine the distances to the planets. He planned to make measurements of the positions of the planets against the stars from the northern and southern hemisphere. By measuring the slight shift in the planet's position between the observations in the northern and southern hemispheres, La Caille could use trigonometry to compute the distances. He built a small observatory on the shore of Table Bay near Cape Town, South Africa where he was able to perform the measurements and determine new distances to the planets.

While he was in South Africa between 1752 and 1754, he measured more than 10,000 southern star positions in addition to the planetary positions. He compiled the star positions in a catalog he called "Coelum Australe Stelliferum" on his return to Paris. He included 14 new constellations he created, including Caelum.

Most of the stars in the constellation are fainter than fifth magnitude. Only Alpha Caeli at magnitude 4.5 and Gamma Caeli at magnitude 4.6 are brighter than that limit.

Alpha Caeli is a F2V star with 1.48 times the mass of our Sun. It has a red dwarf orbiting it that is magnitude 9.8. Gamma Caeli is also a double star with an orange K-type primary with an eighth magnitude secondary located 3.1 seconds-of-arc away. Gamma Caeli is 185 light-years away from the Earth.

Since Caelum is such a small constellation, there are very few deep-sky objects in it. One such object is about three billion light-years away, called HE 0450-299. It is a 16th magnitude quasar first reported in "A New Optical Catalog of Quasi Stellar Objects" published in 1989. Quasi-stellar object was the early name for these objects that was latter shortened to quasar. Detailed observations of HE 0450-299 showed the qua-



Caelum, the Chisel, is a small constellation in the southern sky. Most of the stars are faint and the deeps sky objects are faint as well. HE 0450-299 is a sixteenth magnitude quasar some three billion light-years away from us. While we can find the nebulosity of the surrounding galaxy around most quasars, we have not found it for this one. It is either very faint, or this quasar does not have a surrounding galaxy and is a naked quasar.

Calendar of Events – February 2016 (MST)		
06	6 p.m.	Mercury farthest west of Sun (26 degrees)
08	7:39 a.m.	New Moon
15	12:46 a.m.	First Quarter Moon
22	11:20 a.m.	Full Moon

sar and an adjacent disturbed galaxy. Astronomers were not able to find the faint fluff of the outskirts of a galaxy that should be around this quasar.

Quasars are the nucleus of a galaxy, usually one that has recently merged with another galaxy. Each galaxy in the merger had its own black hole at its heart. When two galaxies merge, their black holes often merge as well. This forms a supermassive black hole at the center of the combined galaxy. With the new galaxy being so chaotic after the merger, there is plenty of material in the core to feed the supermassive black hole.

As matter is drawn into the supermassive black hole, energy is released that is a hundred times brighter than our entire Milky Way galaxy. Even at its great distance, we can see that energy as a brilliant light from the supermassive black hole.

Since this is only the core of the galaxy, the black hole appears star-like (quasi-stellar) that we now call a quasar. The rest of the galaxy is so much fainter, that it

is often hard to see it against the bright light of the quasar. In the case of HE 0450-299, we have not been able to find it. So HE 0450-299 was dubbed a naked quasar, since it did not seem to be part of a galaxy.

While we have not found a galaxy around HE 0450-299, there is a very distorted galaxy near it. Possibly, the nearby galaxy was distorted by the collision with another galaxy. The two nuclei merged, but their combined velocity threw them out of the distorted galaxy, leaving the combined nuclei a naked quasar moving away from its parent galaxy. Another possibility is that as the colliding galaxy passed through the distorted galaxy; the collision tore away most of the rest of the galaxy, again leaving a naked quasar.

Astronomers are still studying HE 0450-299. There may still be some faint fluff of a surrounding galaxy. Studies indicate that the material should be there, but that this quasar is actually a low-mass black hole, so the corresponding galaxy would be much fainter

than we expected. However, without finding a surrounding galaxy, we do not know if HE 0450-299 is a naked quasar or not. Studies with newer telescopes such as the Atacama Large Millimeter Array (ALMA) radio telescope on the Atacama Desert in northern Chile may be able to solve this mystery in the near future.

The Planets for February 2016

February evenings are devoid of any visible planets until Jupiter rises in the east around 7:45 p.m.

It will be 22 degrees above the western horizon as morning twilight begins. At midmonth, Jupiter's disc will be 43.7 seconds-of-arc across. The King of the Gods shines at magnitude -2.5. Jupiter is moving slowly westward in far southeastern Leo.

Moving eastward in central Libra, Mars rises around 12:30 a.m. in the east-southeast. At midmonth, the God of War has a disc that is 7.6 seconds-of-arc across and it shines at magnitude +0.6. Mars will be 40 degrees up in the south as it starts to get light.

The Ringed Planet rises around 2:15 a.m. and will be 35 degrees up in the south-southeast as it gets light.

Saturn is moving eastward in southern Ophiuchus. It shines at magnitude +0.5 with a disc that is 16.1 seconds-of-arc across. At

midmonth, the rings are 36.5 seconds-of-arc across and are tilted down 26.3 degrees with the northern face showing.

Venus comes up just before Mercury all month. Both planets are ending their visit to the morning sky and both will soon be in the evening sky. They will be moving from central Sagittarius to east-central Capricornus during the month.

At midmonth, the Goddess of Love will have a disc that is 88 percent illuminated and 11.7 seconds-of-arc across and shrinking.

Shining at magnitude -4.0, Venus rises around 5:15 a.m. and it is only 11 degrees up in the east-southeast as dawn breaks.

Mercury rises 15 minutes after Venus and it is only eight degrees up in the east-southeast as it gets light. At midmonth, the Messenger of the Gods has a disc that is 6.0 seconds-of-arc across and it is 74 percent illuminated. Mercury will be farthest west of the Sun on Feb. 8. This is a good day to look at this speedy planet 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.



Pancho Villa Raid Day March 12 Centennial events

Columbus Chamber of Commerce Agenda

10 a.m. Remembrance Ride/Parade starts at Port of Entry US/Mexico border, Presentation of colors by Camp Furlong 2016, Deming High School marching band National Anthems USA & Mexico, at the Village Plaza
11 a.m. Welcome by Columbus Mayor Phillip Skinner at Village Plaza, Recognition of Dignitaries from the U.S.A./ Mexico, Emcee Roberto Gutierrez
11:15 a.m. Mexican Revolution & Pancho Villa, Dr. Gil Arturo Ferrer Vicario
11:20 a.m. Binational efforts to promote goodwill, build alliances & economic development, Winn Mott and Chamber President J. Salomon Gutierrez Maloof
11:30 a.m. Presentation of Certificates, Roberto Gutierrez
Noon – 3 p.m. Village Plaza Entertainment, Intro to entertainment by Deming High School Band, Ballet Folkloricos “Cielitos” Director Elena Hernandez, Mariachi Encanto, July McClure, Bud & Jeane Canfield, Deborah Olliver, Korimi, Grupo de Danza, Canciones del pasado, Luis Mario Montoya, Los Hermanos Flores: Alfredo y Andres
Noon – Lunch for participants, Glenda Sanchez in Youth Center
1 p.m. Camp Furlong 2016 – Pancho Villa Park
1:30 p.m. Pershing & Villa look-a-like contest in Tumbleweed Theater
All day Friends of the Library Art Exhibit featuring local artists – Columbus Library Pancho Villa Park Museum open 9 to 5 pm Depot Museum Columbus Historical Society open 9 am to 4

Centennial Camp Furlong Day at Pancho Villa State Park

13th Annual Camp Furlong Day, March 12, 2016 event schedule:
8:30 a.m. - Unveiling of the 16th Infantry Regiment plaque in the Exhibit Hall.
9 a.m. - 10 a.m. - U.S. Army tent encampment with re-enactors by the Exhibit Hall. They begin with reveille, followed by officer's call, formation with unit report, flag raising, and parade ground drill of infantry, mounted cavalry and retreat.

10 a.m. - Columbus historian Richard Dean presentation (topic to be announced). Rec Hall building.
11 a.m. - Cabalgata horse riders from Mexico ride into Columbus plaza (not Pancho Villa State Park). The 17th Cabalgata Binacional (aka Remembrance Ride) will cross from Palomas, Mexico into the U.S. at 10 a.m. on Saturday, March 12 and are expected to arrive around 11 a.m. in Columbus. All of the activities for the Raid Day Centennial Commemoration will be held in downtown Columbus in and around the Plaza Park. Enjoy Ballet Folkloricos, Mariachi Encanto and a wide variety of musicians!
12 pm. - 1 p.m. – Lunch. Food vendors in the Village Plaza.

Pancho Villa State Park Rec Hall Building Historical Presentations

1 p.m. speaker: Dr. Robert Bouilly
Title: The Truck Train System in Support of the Pershing Expedition. Dr. Bouilly will talk about logistic support for the Pershing Expedition, primarily about the truck train system.
2 p.m. speaker: Ron Bridgemon
Title: San Joaquin Canyon and the 1916 Punitive Expedition. The talk involves the activities of the 17th infantry who were conducting archaeological excavations in the Canyon while maintaining trucks for the Expedition.
3 p.m. speaker: Harry Von Feilitzsch
Title: The Columbus Raid: Theories and Fact 100 Years Later. The presentation will give known details of the raid and the results of government investigations including intelligence gained from the Pershing Expedition. The talk will also include a summation of the different theses, findings and explanations that historians have published over the years. The presentation will focus on Villa's motivation from revenge to political calculations to German government agitation.
4:30-5 p.m.: The day's final ceremony at the Army encampment at Pancho Villa State Park will include remarks about the 1916 Army and Cavalry, remarks from the 13th Cavalry C.O., reading of the names of the eight soldiers killed, remarks by the chaplain, 21 gun salute and taps.



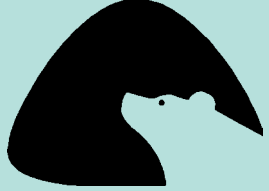
Reenactors fill the town of Columbus as they prepare for Camp Furlong, an event held by Pancho Villa State Park.

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IN THE GILA

Black Range District Ranger Retires

After 28 years with the U.S. Forest Service – nine and a half of those serving as the Black Range District Ranger – Larry Cosper said farewell to the agency and hello to more time with his family when he retired Dec. 31, 2015.

Cosper started with the Forest Service on the Black Range as a seasonal employee. His first permanent job was timber biologist on the Mt. Taylor Ranger District of the Cibola National Forest. Besides his stint as district ranger, Cosper held a regional position and other jobs such as district wildlife staff, forest



COSPER

biologist and resources staff during his career.

“I got to do and see a lot of things,” Cosper said. “I worked with some amazing people and had some great teachers along the way. Some taught me what to do and others taught me what not to do.

“I consider my time as the Black Range District Ranger as the best time of my career and hope that I left it just a bit better than I found it.”

Cosper received the National Fire Line Officer Team award for

“Excellence in Line Officer Commitment to Firefighter and Public Safety” in 2013. The award acknowledged Cosper’s work with state, county and local agencies; disaster relief personnel; volunteer fire departments; and the Hillsboro and Kingston communities during the 139,000-acre Silver Fire.

His academic background includes a bachelor’s degree and master’s degree in wildlife science from New Mexico State University. He was born in Hillsboro, and raised on a small family orchard. He is married with two sons and one granddaughter.



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PUBLISHER’S NOTEBOOK
RICHARD COLTHARP

Groceries of the Gods
The greatest thing since sliced bread

Sam: “I’m beginning to believe in God.”

Tilley: “So, what did you do? Have some kind of religious experience?”

Sam: “I tell ya ... I took my wife for lunch yesterday ... we went and had some smorgasbord, and it kind of happened.”

Tilley: “You found God at the smorgasbord.”

Sam: “Yeah.”

Tilley: “Sam, people have religious experiences like on a lake or when they go up into the mountains, that kind of thing.”

Sam: “Maybe ... but I had mine in a smorgasbord.”

—Scene from “Tin Men,” a 1987 movie featuring Jackie Gayle as Sam and Danny DeVito as Tilley

Nobody likes to go to the grocery store, it seems.

“Oh, God, I had to go grocery shopping,” I hear people say from time to time.

Not me.

I love the grocery store. Like the guy from “Tin Men,” one of my favorite 1980s movies, I see God at the grocery store. God is clearly evident in the produce aisles, as you see all the fruits and vegetables that came from the good earth. I also see God in less obvious places, like a box of Ding Dongs, or craft beers. Those items point to human creativity, another gift from God.

Yeah, I know, some of you would say Ding Dongs are more likely a gift from Satan.

I also see grocery stores as an almost endless sea of possibility. Aisle by aisle, items speak to me. Sometimes it’s loud, like, “Hey, I’m a spicy chile dark chocolate bar, you’ll love me!” Other times, it’s a sexy whisper, like, “I’m Ginger. You need to give me a try on your steak or your fish. A little goes a long way, baby.”

Two of my favorite things in the world are eating and cooking, and the grocery store has building blocks for both.

I talk a lot about the diversity of southern New Mexico. The diversity carries through to grocery shopping.

Two stores that feel like cousins are Bullock’s in Truth or Consequences and Thriftway in Ruidoso. Both are small stores, with narrow checkout stands. They’re throwbacks. Last time I checked, you could still rent videos at Bullock’s, which enhances the feeling you’re shopping in 1985. However, each store has dozens of great finds — such as Soy Vay teriyaki sauce — you would expect to find only in a gourmet store, not in a small-town New Mexico grocery.

Everybody gets goo-goo eyed when they talk about Trader Joe’s, the hipster grocery chain with its infamous Two Buck Chuck wine. You can have it.

I’ve been to Trader Joe’s, but I prefer Toucan Market in Las Cruces. Lots of natural and organic foods and a great meat market

with unexpected treats like bison and stuffed crab. Lots of good New Mexico specialty foods, and I can always find an interesting tequila among their wide liquor selection. But don’t think they’re too high-brow; I can still find my RC Cola there too.

In Grant County, the Silver City Food Co-op feels like a palette. So many unique items, and not just food items. I always find great food items as well as non-food items there.

Until recently, the most religious experience I ever had in a retail establishment came at a Hardee’s in Fort Smith, Arkansas, when the overhead speakers were playing a Muzak version of Stevie Wonder’s “Heaven is 10 Zillion Light Years Away.”

That was before I went to Alamogordo’s Lowe’s Signature Market last October.

During the 13 years I lived in Alamogordo, the building at 675 10th St. housed a Smith’s Grocery, then Van Winkle’s IGA, and then Lowe’s Grocery.

Now, Lowe’s has turned the store on its head, creating what it calls a Signature Market.

I’ve been going to grocery stores for half a century, and have been to grocery stores in 32 states and five foreign countries. Yet I’ve never had a grocery store experience like I had at the Lowe’s Signature Market in Alamogordo, New Mexico.

You walk in and the store exudes elegance, opulence and fun. There’s a wine-and-beer bar where on that October Saturday many were watching a college football game on the big screen. In another part of the store was the hot deli, with a wide variety of hot, fresh foods. There’s also sushi. Thankfully, the re-model retained the tortilleria. I still have fond memories of the ladies working the tortilleria would open the little window and hand a fresh tortilla to my daughter Avalon as she sat in the little grocery cart seat. They also retained the large historical photos installed during the Van Winkle’s era. The re-model vastly upgraded the liquor section, which features floor-to-ceiling mahogany shelves. The highlight for me, though, was the green chile-cheese bread. Not only did the bread look amazingly delicious (and it was), but they sliced it in an amazing computerized bread slicer.

“How thick would you like it, sir?” the clerk asked. And she dialed in the 0.38 inch width I requested, and closed the see-through lid. I stood mesmerized, watching the machine do its magic.

It was the greatest thing since sliced bread.

Richard Coltharp is publisher of Desert Exposure and the Las Cruces Bulletin. He can be reached at richard@lascrucesbulletin.com.



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WOMAN
continued from page 23

holding the spare horses while the attack was mounted. The attack on the town and the adjoining army base of Camp Furlong was swift and savage. Villa and his men had the advantage of surprise, but they were eventually repelled by the soldiers of Camp Furlong. Ten civilians and eight American soldiers were killed, along with a number of Villistas. Dead and wounded horses and men littered the trail of Villa's retreat. Still under guard, Maud was caught in the middle of the chaos.

Sweating and red-faced, furious that his troops were forced to retreat, General Villa rode his horse up next to hers. Would she be shot and left to die in the desert, or, even worse, be dragged along on another forced march? The unpredictable leader of the armies of the north asked her one question. Did she want to go home?

"Home to Mexico, or home to the U.S.?" she asked.

"To the U.S." he answered.
"Si, por favor," Maud responded. Her answer was yes.

When she was told to take her horse and saddle and turn back toward Columbus, Maud wasted no time complying with the order. The horse, spooked by the straggling, bloodied, retreating army, had to be led through the brush. Several of the Villistas she met on the trail stopped to tell her good-bye, apparently regretting the ordeal she had endured. About a mile from Columbus, Maud came upon a small ranch compound. She stopped there long enough to water her horse and her-

self. Walking toward the house she saw a man sprawled on the porch in a pool of blood. Faint noises coming from behind the house led her to discover a woman lying in the brush, seriously wounded but still alive. Maud had stumbled upon the Moores, John and Susan, owners of the ranch, and a general store in Columbus. They had been robbed and shot, with Susan miraculously escaping by running out the back door to hide in the thick mesquite. Maud and Susan were soon rescued by American soldiers and transported to Columbus by ambulance.

After giving her statement to the authorities and to the press, Maud

left Columbus and went to El Paso, Texas, where she waited for little Johnnie to be returned to her. By orders of President Carranza, the boy was being transported out of Mexico by train, to be safely reunited with his mother. The exchange took place in Juarez and Maud was required to sign documents proving that her son had been returned to her. When she was finally allowed to see Johnnie, tears coursed down her cheeks, the first tears she had shed since her ordeal had begun.

"Oh my baby, my baby," she breathed as she gathered the little boy close. She ignored the crowd of onlookers, armed guards and gaggle of reporters and walked out

into the sunshine.
Maud and Johnnie reunited with family in Safford, Arizona. Maud eventually remarried and moved to Mountainair in New Mexico. She worked alongside her husband, Will Medders, farming and ranching. She had eight more children, five daughters and three sons, one of whom died at birth. Maud never returned to Mexico. She and Will put the past and the raid on Columbus behind them. Those nine dark days reinforced Maud's unshakable belief that family is to be cherished above all else in life. She never lost her passion for horses and riding, doing ranch work on horseback well into her eighties. Maud

Hawk Wright Medders is buried in the center of New Mexico's wide open spaces, in the Mountainair Cemetery, a peaceful place on a hillside where the only sound is of the wind sighing through stands of scrub oak and juniper.

Sources:
"The General and the Jaguar" by Eileen Welsome, Lincoln, Nebraska. University of Nebraska Press; 2007 with Little, Brown and Co. NY. 2006.
"Pancho Villa, Hero or Villain" by W. Thetford Le Viness, Desert Magazine, January, 1964.
"Villa Kills American Cowboys on Way to Columbus Raid" in the Southwesterner, December 1961.
Albuquerque Historical Society, Contributor Dan Jones, with Public Domain Permission.
"Almost Escapes on Villa's Horse" (AP) Western Liberal Newspaper, Lordsburg, N.M., March 24, 1916.

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Food Shots

Submit a food photo from your favorite southern New Mexico restaurant.

With your submission include your name; contact information (will not be published); the name of the dish; name and location of the restaurant; and the cost of the food.

Restaurant owners, employees and their family members are not eligible to submit photos from their own establishments.

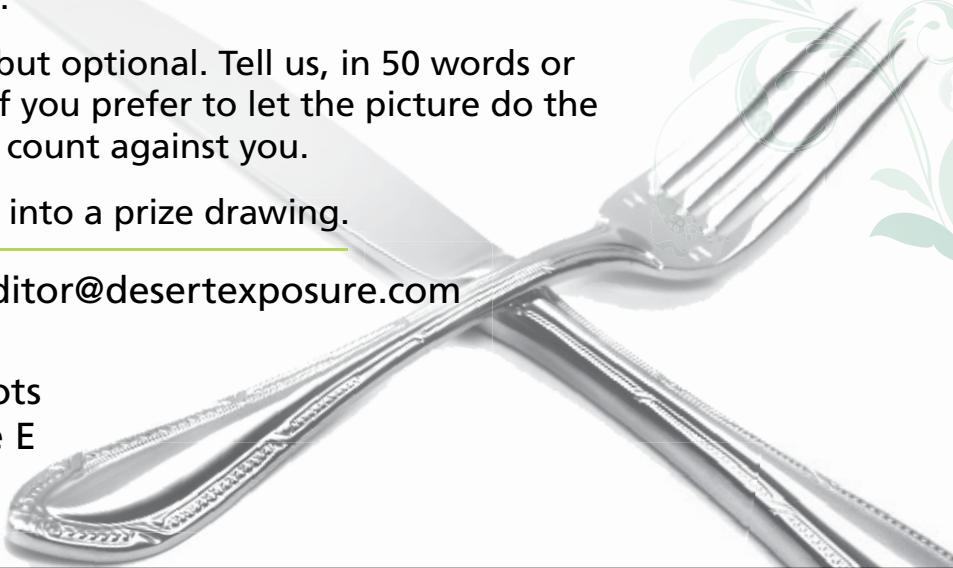
All submissions will be published if possible. Each restaurant will only be published once every six months even if there are multiple submissions of their food. Photos should be food only, if they include menus, logos or other promotional materials, they will not be considered for publication.

Descriptions are appreciated but optional. Tell us, in 50 words or less, why you love this food. If you prefer to let the picture do the talking, that's fine and won't count against you.

All eligible entries will be put into a prize drawing.

Submissions should go to editor@desertexposure.com or be mailed to:

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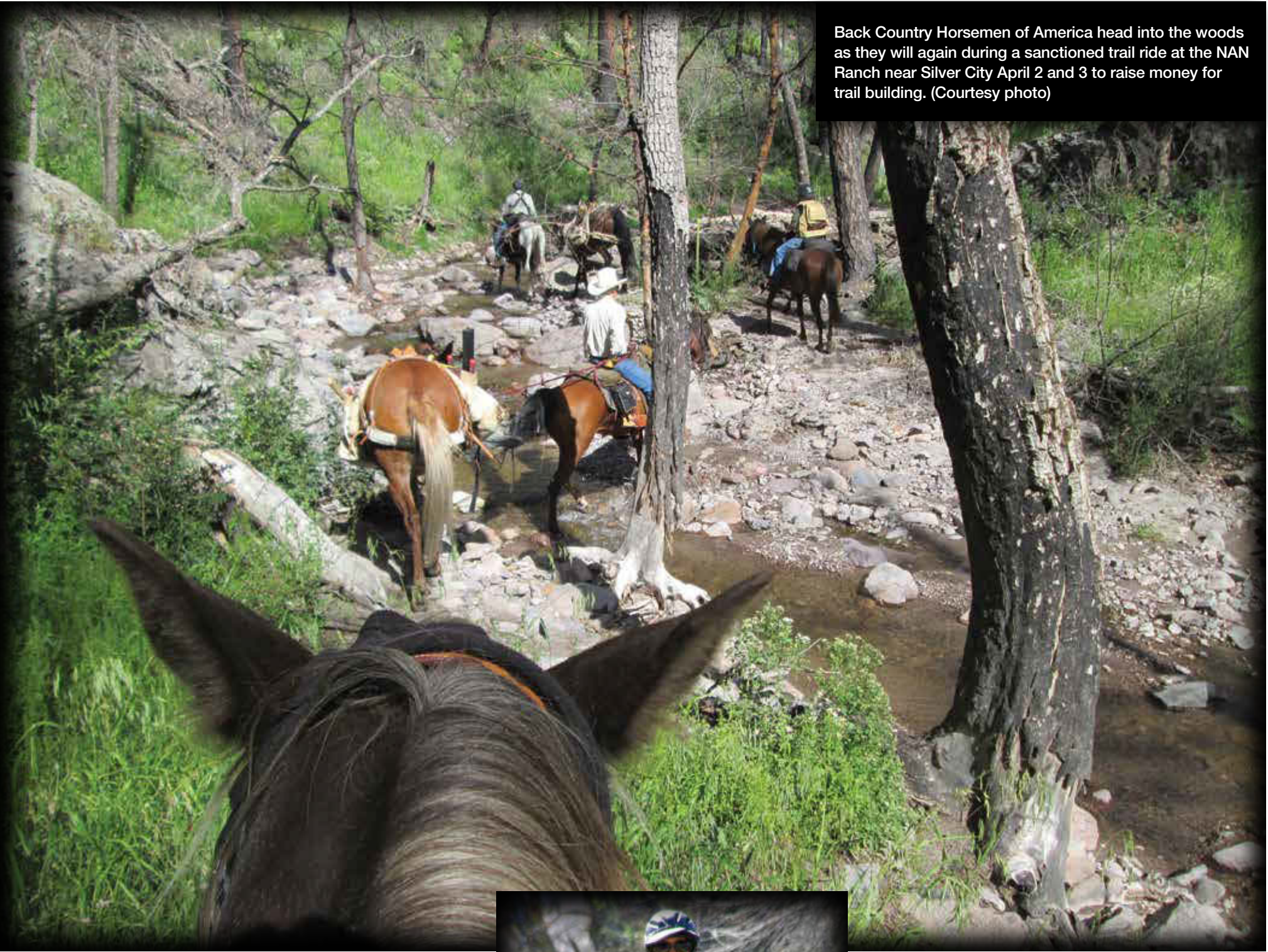
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ON THE TRAIL • SUSIE OLDERKIRK

Adventure in the Back Country

Horsemen hold competitive trail ride to raise funds for volunteer forest work



Back Country Horsemen of America head into the woods as they will again during a sanctioned trail ride at the NAN Ranch near Silver City April 2 and 3 to raise money for trail building. (Courtesy photo)

National Back Country Horsemen group donates volunteer hours annually

In 2014, Back Country Horsemen of America (BCHA) volunteers spent 417,000 hours working to maintain trails on public lands. That equates to a value of \$14.4 million dollars in trail work donated to local and federal land managing agencies. Since 1995, BCHA members contributed a value equal to \$115.27 million in volunteer hours.

The organization coordinates with conservation corps and youth groups, the United States Forest Service, the National Park Service and the Bureau of Land Management to ensure tomorrow's leaders have access to out-

door and wilderness experiences. For hikers, bikers or horseback riders who go out and enjoy wilderness areas and trails, the work BCHA does often goes unseen. Preserving the safety and continued enjoyment of the outdoors does involve "horsepower" as well as human power. The majority of pack trips involving horses and mules assist trail crews by packing in food, camping gear and trail maintenance equipment into areas where four-wheeled vehicles cannot go. Contact the national Back Country Horsemen at www.bcha.org or call 888-893-5161.



ABOVE: Rachel Larsen shows that a novice horse can take to the trail as well as an experienced one. (Photo by Jennifer LaBelle)

A competitive trail ride is almost an oxymoron: How can a leisurely trail ride on a reliable horse also be a contest? First and foremost, a competitive trail ride is not so much a race as it is a fitness and conditioning test for the horses, and, therefore a care and responsibility test for the owners.

The Gila chapter of the Back Country Horsemen (BCH), founded in 2001, is holding a sanctioned competitive trail ride in and around the NAN Ranch near Silver City on April 2 and 3. The ride is a fundraising event to continue the volunteer work in coordination with the Forest Service of building and maintaining trails, developing and maintaining horse facilities and participating in other activities that support equine use.

"Everyone who loves the Gila National Forest benefits from this work."
— Doug Dexter, Gila chapter of Back Country Horsemen president

"Everyone who loves the Gila National Forest benefits from this work," said Gila BCH president Doug Dexter. The ride is under the umbrella of the North American Trail Ride Conference (NATRC), which has six regions covering the country from Alaska to Florida. According to the NATRC website, "rides are NOT races. From the scorecards and from the experience of conditioning and competing, riders learn more about techniques of good trail equitation, pacing techniques, and methods of care that help their horses perform well. Our rides emphasize

RIGHT: Volunteers with BCHA work on a trail in the Gila Wilderness where they help the Forest Service build and maintain trails. (Courtesy photo)



TALKING HORSES • SCOTT THOMSON

Valentine’s Day: Give a Gift That Matters

What about your horse?

Last year I wrote a column for this paper that touched a lot of readers. It was the story of an old gray mare, Flicka, and an old gray guy, Buck, and how these two came together in a life changing relationship for both man and beast. (See “A Valentine’s Day Love Story” in the February 2015 edition of Desert Exposure, available on the website.) It was the kind of love story about horses you often hear.

Recently, I had an experience that made me think of our love for horses from a different direction, what we owe to them.

It was a pretty nice day, two days before Christmas, so I decided to take a trip over to End of the Road Ranch, the horse rescue and sanctuary in Silver City, to spend some time with my latest project, a rescued wild stallion that has literally never been touched. I didn’t bring any food or extra clothing because I only planned to be there for an hour or so.

I had just started working with the horse when a volunteer said she noticed one of the horses seemed pretty uncomfortable and was showing signs of colic. She had taken the initiative to bring the horse into the arena away from the other horses, but said she was having trouble keeping the horse walking and standing up, knowing you should try to prevent any violent rolling that could lead to a twisted

intestine.

This is a situation that calls for immediate action, but I realized there was no way we could safely load the horse for a trip to the vet. We called the ranch’s vet – Dr. Clay Allred, who services the ranch way above and beyond the call of duty – who, despite a full waiting room two days before Christmas, came out immediately to administer to the horse.

I agreed to stay with the horse for a while as she had to be kept on a line and managed with some strength and timing so she wouldn’t hurt herself.

Gradually things changed. Temperatures dropped, a driving rain came in and all the volunteers had left for the day. By early afternoon, there were just two people at the ranch, me and the dedicated and tireless founder, Carol Johnson. Carol was racing the weather trying to tend to the needs of the other 35 horses on the ranch, while I did the best I could to keep this horse comfortable. I was soaked, very cold and really hungry. I hadn’t prepared for an afternoon like this. Another visit from the vet mid-afternoon had not really helped the horse, but Carol and I were still hopeful – working with lots of rescues teaches you to be that way.

It became an eerie afternoon, dark and cold with no sounds other than the wind and rain and the

occasional sound of the gator as Carol tried to feed the herd. As miserable as it was, I took some enjoyment from watching the horses use their instincts to deal with the storm while having some time to just think whenever the sick horse would rest between bouts of pain.

What I thought about the most was just how quickly things can change in life. Here was a day that started out pretty sunny and warm for December but now was simply dreadful. Here was a horse, perfectly healthy and calm when I drove in, eating with all her buddies, that now was fighting for life. It made me wonder if most horse owners are ever really prepared for something like this.

Every horse owner I’ve ever met tells me how much they love their horses, and I honestly believe this is the case. Our expressions of love are the ones you’d expect. We give them good food, groom them, provide medical care, exercise them and sometimes just hang out and talk with them when we need a good listener. But, what occurred to me this particular day was maybe the greatest love we can show our horses is preparing and planning for the day when decisions we’d rather not think about have to be made.

For the horse that suddenly becomes ill or is injured, are we prepared to make the end-of-life

decision before suffering goes on too long? Have we planned for the results of that decision, both the practical (do you have the property to bury the horse properly in a way that is respectful to the horse and your neighbors, do you have someone to contact who has the equipment to help with that, how do you get the remains moved to another location if necessary) and the emotional (how will you memorialize this long and trusted friend, how will a companion horse or animal react to the loss, what does this mean to your riding life)?

I don’t believe any horse should ever be allowed to pass on its own, other than exceptional circumstances when something happens and there is simply nobody around. Our love and respect require we make this decision for them.

There is another side to this love that is even harder to face. What happens to your horse if something happens to you? A handshake or gentleman’s agreement with a friend to take care of your horse should you pass or become incapacitated doesn’t guarantee much for your horse. Horses can live a long time and they’re expensive to keep, and many times a person who agrees to take your horse and give it a good home for life is not really prepared for the cost and time commitment, and in many cases may not even have the

facilities or skills necessary.

A 20-year-old horse could live for another 10 years, and with good food and care could cost \$200 per month. That’s \$24,000, and that’s a big commitment for someone to assume on your behalf. Our rescue has a number of horses where someone tried to do good for a friend or spouse but had no idea what they were getting into, and now the burden falls on a nonprofit that needs financial support to even exist.

Here’s a truly loving thing to do for your horse for Valentine’s Day: Sit down with your lawyer and formulate a plan with the legal documentation for your horse should something happen to you. Have a willing person designated to take care of your horse and make sure you provide the money for the care, and do it in a way that the funds can only be used for the care of your horse (trust me when I say a lump payment can disappear for many things other than your horse). If you want the horse to go to a retirement home or rescue, make sure a plan is in place and money is there for transportation, people’s time and support of the entity that now will care for your horse. Don’t just assume any of this will happen – make it legal

HORSES
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TRAIL

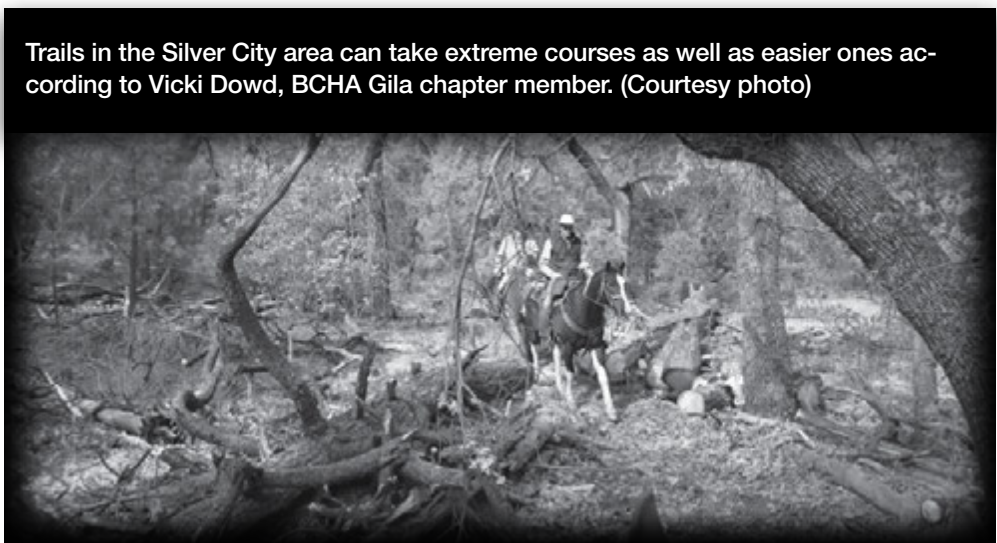
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the skill of pacing your horse to maximize his longevity as a distance horse.”

The Gila chapter of BCH was founded fifteen years ago by Gerry Thompson as part of the parent organization Back Country Horsemen of America, a 501(c) (3) nonprofit. According to the BCHA website, the group is made up of men and women serving 174 local and state chapters across the country. Grassroots members – responsible leaders who help to carry forward the organization’s mission and values – lead BCHA organizations throughout the U.S. BCHA chapters are active in 28 states and boast of roughly 13,000 members who are dedicated to keeping trails open for all on our public lands. The individual chapters work closely with trail partners and local land management agencies to clear and maintain those trails.

The Gila BCH mission is to assure continued reasonable use of pack and saddle stock on public lands. Each region puts on rides in their geographic area. It is not a requirement to be a member to enter a ride and all are welcome – all riders, all breeds and all types of tack and disciplines of riding. Entries for any ride are welcome from anywhere. Some rides are held on private property or public lands that are not otherwise available to the individual rider.

“Trails in the Silver City area can lead you through extreme mountains with breath taking vistas, into deep canyons with gurgling streams, and through wonderful forests,” said Vicki Dowd, BCHA Gila chapter member. “They can also lead you across open grasslands, mountains and hills covered with pinon and juniper trees and through sandy dry stream bottoms. It is an incredible op-



portunity to experience our wilderness and back country areas on these trails.”

Individual rides are local events with NATRC sanction given for using the national organization’s rules and approved judges. Each ride is unique, yet follows the same basic structure.

Dowd said, “Our competitive trail ride is called the NAN Ranch Ride. Entries check in April 1 and will be instructed where to camp. Their horses will be given a preliminary vet exam to make sure they are sound. A briefing Friday evening about the next day’s trail and handing out trail maps precedes an early-to-bed night because the action will begin about 5 a.m. when riders wake to feed their horses and, then, eat their own furnished breakfast at the NAN Ranch lodge.”

Riders begin timing out at the starting line at 7 a.m. but can ride at their own pace and finish the ride within an announced time frame. Being able to ride on the NAN Ranch is a thrilling experience. It has only recently

been available to the public by reservation. Riders will enjoy a variety of terrain on this working cattle ranch.

“There are many springs, open grazing land, secluded trails behind mountains, deep sandy washes and spectacular riparian canyons. Javalina, antelope, elk, deer and wild turkey are all on the NAN Ranch,” Dowd said.

Riders are encouraged not to travel in a big group as this restricts the horsemanship judge from clearly evaluating their horsemanship. The veterinarian judge will be at the Pulse and Respiration stops during the ride, and his scoring is based on physiological measurements, while the horsemanship judge evaluates riders more subjectively based on what has been proven to be best and safest for the horse.

Riders fix their own lunch in camp and put it on the “lunch wagon” to be transported for them to the lunch stop. They must pack anything for the horse and take it with them.

Most riders take a baggie of pelleted horse feed, but the horses also find grass to eat while at the lunch stop.

“I have been doing this type of riding since 1973 and I have learned something useful about horses, riding skill, or equipment each time I compete,” said Dowd.

There are no monetary prizes in Competitive Trail Riding. Recognition is given through scoring for a job well done and ribbons at the end of the ride. Scores are kept by the NATRC National office and accumulated scores during a year may be enough to achieve national recognition.

“The biggest reward for competitive trail riders and, I think, all trail riders is inner satisfaction from experiencing and exploring beautiful trails on a horse with which the rider has developed a mutual trust relationship, so that the horse enjoys the ride as much as the rider, and they are both ready to do it again,” Dowd said.

“New members are always welcome,” Dexter said. “At our monthly meetings, we often talk about which trails are clear and which ones need work. We also have interesting educational speakers and group discussions. Your name as a member adds to our strength, even if you don’t have time to participate right now. You are encouraged to come, add your experience to ours, benefit from our knowledgeable trail riders and find compatible trail buddies. Our meetings are generally on the second Wednesday of every month starting at 6 p.m. in the conference room at the Gila Regional Medical Center in Silver City, New Mexico.”

To contact the Gila Chapter of the Back Country Horsemen, visit their website at: <http://gilabchnm.com/>.

HORSES
continued from page 30

and fund it. Not everyone loves your horse as much as you do. It's up to you to make sure your horse doesn't end up alone starving in a field, at an auction or worse.

Maybe during this traditional month of love, you can show just

how much you care by planning for the most difficult times for you and your horse.

Don't let the final moments or years of your horse's life be the worst ones because no one prepared for them.

So, what became of our sweet mare at the rescue? She didn't make it. I don't think anyone ever

loved this horse. Her personality showed it.

She paid a dear price for her association with humans as she spent her youth as a barrel racer and after she was broken down to the point where she could no longer do her "job" she was simply discarded and abandoned. Let her become someone else's problem and expense.

At least I know that for the time she spent at the rescue, she was given great care and handled with love and kindness by all the volunteers.

I'd like to think in her final hours she saw two people doing everything possible to make her comfortable, and maybe she left life believing we do care.

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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Grant County Weekly Events

SUNDAYS

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

MONDAYS

AARP Chapter No. 1496 — Third Monday. 12:30 p.m. Senior Center, 205 W. Victoria.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Widowed and Single Persons of Grant County — Second Monday 10:30 a.m. at Glad Tidings Church, 11600, Highway 180 E. Info: 537-3643.

TUESDAYS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

WEDNESDAYS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

THURSDAYS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

FRIDAYS

Overeaters Anonymous — 4 p.m. at the Silver City Public Library. 575-654-2067.

Silver City Woman's Club — Second Friday, 10:30 a.m., lunch 12 p.m. 411 Silver Heights Blvd. 538-3452.

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

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

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

SATURDAYS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

GROWING TREE • ABE VILLARREAL

Educator Training Focus of Grant

Program serves infants, toddlers of Silver City teens

Grant County area children attending Growing Tree, a program of the Early Childhood Programs at Western New Mexico University, will soon benefit from a grant awarded by the Brindle Foundation.

The \$15,000 grant will support the Growing Tree program, a five-star, nationally accredited infant and toddler program, located at Silver Opportunity High School. Growing Tree serves children of teen parents who are pursuing continued educational opportunities at both Silver High School and WNMU.

Currently serving 14 students, Growing Tree's tuition fees do not cover the cost of the program. The grant will support the operations of the program, allowing Growing Tree to continue to provide high-quality care and education for the children of area

teen youth.

"The cost of providing quality infant and toddler care continues to go up," said Shannon Rivera, executive director of Early Childhood Programs. "This funding supports us in delivering consistent caregiving in the classroom by qualified educators."

The funds will also support registration and in-state travel for educators to receive professional development and training specific to working with infants, toddlers and teen parents.

"With highly qualified teachers, we will experience more positive outcomes for the at-risk population of children and families served," Rivera said.

Growing Tree is one of several programs administered through the Early Childhood Programs at WNMU. For information, visit ecp.wnmu.edu.



Students of the Growing Tree program hang out with Shannon Rivera, executive director of the Early Childhood Programs; Tiffany Rascon, teacher and lab site supervisor; and Melody Madrid, teacher's assistant.

BODY. MIND. SPIRIT • RON LEVY

What Is Alternative Medicine?

Know what's going inside you

When people talk about alternative medicine, they are most often speaking in terms of treatments involving herbs and food supplements as opposed to treatments involving pharmaceuticals and over-the-counter (OTC) drugs; seeing acupuncturists, homeopaths, naturopaths, herbalists and chiropractors in favor of consulting conventional western medical doctors.

The "alternative" part of alternative medicine is the individual's participation in, and responsibility for, their own health. We are the healer of ourselves, not the practitioner, not the plants, not the supplements, not the interwebs.

Those resources are our teachers, guides, consultants and helpers and are indispensable in this process, but only by educating ourselves and continually increasing awareness of the mind-body connection can we achieve and maintain the state of health we desire.

I have spoken with many people in my years in the herb biz who know little or nothing about what they are being treated for or what plants they are using, let alone what the plants taste, smell or look like. I've had someone come into the herb store I was working for at the time and actually say to me "I'm here to get the stuff that woman sold to my mother last month. You know, the one in the brown bottle that starts with a 'G'" Or the time a customer came in and said "My friend told me come in and get this herb to fix my ulcers. I forget the name of it, but I think she said it's a root or a leaf and it's green."

So here's the game: This is an ongoing mission. Look at it as sort of a personal research project to figure your own unique formula and equation. Take note of what treatments, plants, supplements and protocols work for you and which do not. Keep what works, discard the rest.

We're not necessarily looking to "cure" anything; we are looking for which direction things are going. So, for example, if one is dealing with arthritis and is treating it with say, extracts of chaparral, yellow dock and yucca, what we will be looking for is whether things improve or deteriorate.

This will be evident by evaluating three criteria based on the severity, frequency and duration of acute episodes.

If the pain decreases (by degree), if the frequency of acute outbreaks lessens and if the duration between acute episodes increases then we have improvement – obviously a trend we want to continue or at least maintain.

If the opposite is the case then we must respond accordingly. Sometimes that can mean increasing dosage or frequency of doses or both (increasing

frequency of doses is probably the first choice since the body tends to eliminate plant medicines rather quickly), or taking less, adjusting the formula, or scrapping the whole thing for a different approach.

Hearing comments like, "This doesn't work. I took it once and nothing happened," usually indicates an unwillingness to embrace this process.

The bad news is this takes time, energy and resources. The good news is you will eventually figure out what actually works for you and, if nothing else, what doesn't.

Another important thing to keep in mind is that the power of medicines (especially plant-derived medicines) increase the closer you get to the source. For instance, there may be some efficacy to consuming echinacea in capsule form, the root having been pulverized to a fine, unrecognizable powder, the cellular structures having been abused and compromised and reduced to the consistency of floor sweepings.

However, it is much more likely to yield results from tinctures made from whole, fresh roots and even likelier still when you have harvested and prepared the plant yourself.

Capsules of vitamins and minerals will never transmit the level of energy that whole, fresh food does, in spite of the regrettable state of the quality of food in this country.

When dealing with plant medicines, it is highly recommended that one form a personal relationship with those that one interacts with.

Some plants and people just have a natural affinity for each other. It is understandable not everyone has the time or resources to harvest their own medicine. But at the very least, one should know the names of the plants they consume and for what purpose. Through the miracle of modern technology, an image of almost any plant can be conjured up in a couple of clicks.

Plants appreciate recognition and respond accordingly. If you can manage to smell, touch and taste them, all the better. If you can go visit them where they live, even more so.

You don't have to go very far at all to find this medicine. With increased education and awareness you may even find it growing up through the cracks in the sidewalk, in alleys and ditches and parking lots. This is not just merely a happy coincidence.

Ron Levy has lived in New Mexico for over 40 years and continues to study its natural treasures. He can be contacted at levrat@earthlink.net.



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ORGANIC BYTES • STEVE CHIANG

Internet Cloud, Auto and CES

First of all, I hope everybody is having a wonderful start of 2016. Last month's column here on the subject of high speed internet and cloud has generated some reader interest and consequently comment and question emails. I want to thank all those who wrote. Correspondence is always appreciated. My email address is at the end of this column, keep writing.

CLOUD: Networking behemoth Cisco Systems just released a report on their "Shadow IT" finding. "Shadow IT," in short, is when employees in an organization use "unsanctioned" Information Technology services outside of the organization's IT department. These activities are most common with Internet Cloud services.

According to Cisco Systems' survey, company CIOs estimate their company uses 91 Cloud Computing Services and the real figure is more like 1,120 (I do not think most of you reading this, myself included, knew there are so many Cloud Services out there). Many industry analysts believe these numbers are overstated as Cisco Systems did not engage in this study and published the result just for fun. They want to use these results to push their own service to track and audit "Shadow IT" activities.

Regardless, even if the Cisco numbers are exaggerated, nobody disputes "Shadow IT" is big and fast growing. Again, citing from the Cisco study, most people who use unsanctioned Internet Cloud Services cited "difficult company IT services" and "cheap and easy outside Cloud Services" as their main reason for "staying in the shadows." In a naïve way, it is classic efficient market at work: if one can find cheaper and better services than internal IT, one will take it. When Jeff Bezos started Amazon

years ago, the founding principle was the Internet will be the most powerful consumer empowering tool the world has ever seen, one has to constantly innovate to stay in the game, and I tend to agree.

Taking "work" out of the office is certainly not new, I remember taking floppy disks, work in progress coding pads home (for those that do not know what these are, try Google ancient computer artifacts). As recently as three years ago, healthcare giant Kaiser Permanente lost a thumb drive that contained some 50,000 patients' confidential data. Personally, I think storing company data at a private cloud service and being able to access them outside of official IT control is a lot safer than carrying a thumb drive around. Official security policies notwithstanding.

AUTOMOTIVE: From a sales and profit standpoint, 2015 turned out to be the best year ever for the automobile industry, even with the fiasco at VW. With crude oil prices still falling, the industry is expecting 2016 to surpass 2015. No longer on life support, the industry can now afford to look forward. A noteworthy development: GM just invested \$500 million in Lyft, main competitor to the ride sharing company Uber. It looks like even with auto manufacturers, car sharing is a reality they will have to face in not-too-distant a future.

Not all of the GM's Lyft investment goes into ride sharing; some of it goes into development of driverless vehicles. Much of the testing and development of driverless vehicles so far has happened in urban/suburban areas (Google, et. al.), but I expect to see testing in sparsely populated open highway situations, such as New Mexico, soon. I also expect to see testing with driverless commercial semis, in some ways, kind of like remote

control drones.

Consumer Electronics Show: It is mid-January, it must be CES!! For those that are not familiar with the tech trade show business, CES is short for Consumer Electronics Show. It is without a doubt the most watched after and dominating technology show in at least the last 15-20 years. Prior to CES, there was NCC (National Computer Conferences) and Comdex (Computer Dealers Exhibition), but these are either gone or no longer the "Big Show." The big news at CES this year is the lack of big news. Unlike some of the earthshaking event of prior years, such as the introduction of VHS/Beta, CD/DVD, iPhone, LCD/LED TV, this year we have the IOT, or Internet of Things, and some Apps. For those that are not yet familiar with the Internet of Things hype, IOT is a network of objects that are embedded with software, sensors, and electronics. These special electronics allow devices, vehicles, buildings, etc. to collect and exchange data, and accomplish tasks that were previously impossible.

Almost all of the tech companies I know, including IBM, Dell and Google, are on the IOT bandwagon, but with the high price tags and recent hacking of Fiat's internet-enabled vehicles, I think we still have a ways to go before any of these catches on.

Steve Chiang and wife, Martha, both high technology veterans, live in Mimbres. They are owners of techserviceondemand, mimbresdesign.com and the free community forum <http://mimbres.freeforums.net>. They can be contacted at steve@techserviceondemand.com.



CYCLES OF LIFE • FR. GABRIEL ROCHELLE

Making Your Way Through Winter Cycling

Winter is here, and you keep riding because in the southern end of New Mexico, you can ride almost 365 days a year if you prepare with proper clothing. So the big word this month is "layering."

We might mention bags, too. You may want a bag on the rear of your bike to stash stuff when you layer down. The temperature can vary as much as 40 degrees on some days. You may experience temps from freezing to mellow in a few hours, which means you've got to strip off heavy gear in order to remain comfortable. Remember, too, that the more you layer up, the more you may perspire once you build body heat on a ride. So prepare for wicking within, but make sure you are warm without.

To state what may seem like

the opposite, make sure you don't overdress. This may be the big mistake people make. You want to ride in cold, even in a little bit of snow, but then you give up because you become too cold on the ride. The reason is probably overdressing. The rule of thumb is to start your day just a little bit cold. Why? Because your body heat will rise significantly the longer you ride and you will become comfortable within a short amount of time.

Start with a good foundation. You can find web sites for assistance, but I'll give you my personal drill and you take it from there. Begin with good wicking foundation garments. I wear the same type of cycling shorts year round, but on my upper body I wear a strong undershirt with long sleeves, or a shirt with separate sleeves for

winter riding. Over this a second shirt is helpful.

Your local bike shop can outfit you with good synthetic fiber or merino wool clothes. You may favor cotton garments, as I do, but don't wear them next to your skin when you are cycling in the winter. They don't wick off; in fact the cotton will hold sweat and you will end up colder than when you began to ride.

You can wear cotton once you've got your basic layer in place: underwear, long pants or leggings, shirts and sleeves. I wear a loose heavy sweatshirt over these basics (which allows space for wicking) and I top off the ensemble with a cycling windbreaker. Of course if you are going to ride in rain or snow you want

CYCLING
continued on page 35

IS IT LEGAL? • JONATHAN DIENER

Estate Planning Primer

Wills, trusts and more don't need to be pricey

“Estate planning” is the term lawyers use for arranging for the distribution of your property upon your death. When I first heard this term I thought of mansions and walled “estates.” However, an estate can be a mobile home or just some furniture. Before getting into the subject, I want to explain what happens to your estate when there has been no planning.

One misconception some people have is that if you don't have a will or a trust, the state takes your property. This is only true if you don't have a will or a trust and you have no heirs who come forward to probate your estate.

If you have a spouse, child, brother, sister, parent or even uncle or aunt or grandparent who survives you, even with no will or trust, anyone of those can inherit your property. The following are the rules for who gets what if you have no testamentary disposition, i.e. no will or trust:

If you are married your spouse gets all the property that was community property. With a will you can give your half of the community property to your kids or whomever you want.

If you are married you may also have separate property that is not community property of the marriage. If you make no will or trust for that property, your spouse will get one fourth of the separate property and the rest will go to children.

If you have no living children then it will go to your parents. If your parents are not living it will go to your brothers or sisters. If there are none living it will go to your aunts or uncles.

It's a little more complicated than that when it gets to grandparents and uncles, but for the purposes of this article that's as far we will go.

If you are unmarried and without a will, property will be inherited in the same manner as your separate property if you were married described in the last paragraph.

Assuming you would like to have some say in how your property is distributed when you die, you have three basic options, a will, a trust or a combination of other means

which I will explain later on. There are advantages and disadvantages to all three.

Before I go any further, I am assuming you are not a multimillionaire.

If you have more than \$5.43 million, you will have to pay inheritance taxes and estate planning becomes a different ballgame. For the 99.5 percent of us who do not have this kind of money, the following will be relevant.

Wills are simple and inexpensive and that is their biggest advantage. The only real downside of wills is that if they transfer real estate and, in many cases, vehicles, it has to go through a probate court.

If the executor or personal representative (that is, the person whom you choose in your will to deal with your property when you die) is willing to use it, there is a procedure for going through probate without a lawyer.

But, hiring a lawyer to handle the probate is what most people do. This expense is the reason some people opt for a trust or for the third method I have yet to explain.

However, some lawyers will tell you that a trust will cost about the same as paying a lawyer to do the probate which I think is true. Although, it all depends on the lawyer.

Trusts are more complicated than wills. With wills you own everything until you die. With trusts you generally give your property to the trust which becomes the legal owner.

Until you die you can make yourself the trustee, the person who controls the property and you can make yourself the beneficiary, the person who gets to use the property or spend the money of the trust. So you still in effect own it. But, some people don't like to deed their house, transfer their cars' title to a trust or put bank or other money accounts in a trust's name.

However, there are some advantages to doing so. In some types of trusts, it may protect the property from creditors or lawsuits.

Another advantage to a trust is that it may protect you from Medicaid in the situation where Medicaid has paid for nursing home care and

then seeks to be reimbursed from a home owned by the person who was cared for.

One more advantage to a trust I will mention is that you can better control how and when your assets go to the people you want them to go to.

For example, you can make provisions that a certain amount of money is released to a child or someone else every year or when they reach a certain age as opposed to all at once when you die.

The third way to pass your property is a kind of grab-bag of methods for different kinds of property. For example, you can do a transfer on death deed for your home and land. This will transfer real estate to someone once you die and avoid a probate. They are revocable, just like a will is.

With bank accounts and other money accounts, you can usually place a beneficiary on them so that if you die it will go to the person you choose. For vehicles, you can place a person on the title with you, although that does give them rights you might not want them to have.

Making a will is pretty simple and I don't believe lawyers are absolutely necessary if you have a good head for that kind of thing and can find a good form for a will or do some research on the Net or get a book on the subject.


There are also books and online materials that can be bought for creating a trust, but they are a little trickier than wills.

There are quite a few lawyers in Silver City who do this kind of work, but prices vary a lot so best to talk to more than one.

Jonathan Diener has lived in Pine Cienega (population 9) south of Mule Creek, New Mexico for 20 years. He has had a general practice law office in Silver City for most of that time, recently having come back from a four-year stay in Ecuador. He now enjoys practicing law more than he used to and also enjoys playing guitar and singing, farming, armchair travel and trying to answer life's big questions. He can be reached at jonmdiener@gmail.com.

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CYCLING

continued from page 34

more than a shell; you want a waterproof or water-resistant wind-breaker.

You lose most of your body heat through your head, so make sure you have adequate coverage. Wool stocking caps work well, and you can also buy synthetic caps with earmuffs. Some folks like facemasks and balaclavas; I tend to find the coverage more than I want because they can inhibit breathing and, worse, pick up drippings from a cold and wet nose.

Gloves are important. Your fingers are vulnerable and exposed

on the handlebars. I find that a combination of finger gloves and mittens works well in most weather. “Lobster claw” gloves are popular because they have the advantage of keeping some fingers together to allow for warmth, while the split fingers allow for ease in shifting. Make sure you wear gloves that allow for good grip on the handlebars when you ride in moist conditions.

Shoe covers are optional but helpful if you use clipless pedals, since most road-bike shoes have breathing panels that make for cold riding in winter. With Look or

Keo cleats, the toe covers may not fit easily, but suit yourself.

That's it. You're ready for winter riding. Be warm out there, and stay safe.

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://stanthonylc.org>.



Food Truck Fiesta

Mobile eateries in Las Cruces get together on the first and third Wednesdays of the month to offer customers food truck choice. This year's first events will take place from 5 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 3 at Allen Theatres Telshor 12, and Feb. 17 at Tractor Supply. Delicious options available include sandwiches, pizza, Mexican, Hawaiian, vegetarian, and more. For more information visit Facebook @FoodTruckFiestaLC & Twitter @FTFiestaLC or contact Ana Ordaz at TheGreenhaus-NM@gmail.com or 575-322-2774.

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Table Talk • Lucy Whitmarsh

Three ducks make fine food



Tre Rosat Café in Silver City is ready to open for dinner customers. (Courtesy photo)

King Crowder's first love is cooking. "I want to bring joy to people and I do that with the meals I prepare. Preparing food is an art and a way that I can express myself," the Tre Rosat Café chef said.

Crowder is self-taught and learned to cook by helping his father, who was French, and his grandmother, who was Italian, with the cooking. His father and his grandmother inspired him to become a professional chef. His first job was working at a Pizza Hut as a dishwasher and cook.

When he was ready for college Crowder was awarded a scholarship for the performing arts and he majored in voice. He is a trained tenor and actor. But after graduating from the University of Oregon, he realized he really wanted to cook professionally much more than he wanted to sing professionally.

When he is in the restaurant he feels like the "crazy ringleader" of his crew. He often bursts into song while cooking in the open kitchen, where restaurant patrons can watch the "production" in the kitchen unfold.

The restaurant is located at 304 North Bullard Street in the heart of downtown Silver City. Crowder and his two partners, also graduates of the University of Oregon ("The Ducks," thus the name, "Three Ducks" in Armenian) purchased the building and renovated it to meet their need for a cozy restaurant where patrons can enjoy a wide range of culinary experiences. In pleasant weather there is also patio service at the back of the restaurant overlooking the lush foliage in the riparian area created by San Vicente Creek.

Tre Rosat is open Thursday to Monday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. for lunch and from 5 to 9 p.m. for dinner, closed on Tuesday and Wednesday. Crowder likes to add seasonal variety to his menus. He prefers to cook dinners because there is more creativity involved. His favorite dishes are Italian with many of the recipes adapted from recipes that his grandmother used. For the winter, the emphasis is on classic pickled, roasted and smoked selections. The offerings are eclectic and there is something for everyone. Menus are available on the web site, www.trerosat.com and you can call 575-654-4919 for reservations.



Mushroom perogi is one of the many distinctive dishes to be found at Tre Rosat in Silver City. (Courtesy photo)



King Crowder is comfortable in his kitchen at Tre Rosat as he prepares to prepare the next meal. (Photo by Lucy Whitmarsh)

Operating a restaurant can be very stressful. The hours are long, often 14-hour days. Behind the scene there is menu planning, food ordering and staff scheduling that has to be done before the food preparation can begin. Watching the meticulous detail that goes into the preparation of each dish is fascinating. The production is well-orchestrated, possibly due to Crowder's theatrical training.

Crowder also likes to share his joy of cooking with others. He instructs at Western Institute of Life Long Learning, where the public can sign up for any class in which they are interested. Crowder has demonstrated making ragu and plans to instruct a class on making pizza. At the restaurant, he is planning on adding a three duck topping pizza, an appropriate offering for a restaurant named Tre Rosat.

Chef Crowder adapted the following recipe from a recipe that his Italian grandmother used.

King Crowder's Sunday Ragu

- 1 red onion, diced small
- 2 stalks of celery, diced small
- 2 peeled carrots, diced small
- 1 fennel bulb, diced small
- 1 tablespoon minced garlic
- A bottle red wine
- 3 lbs. diced or pureed tomatoes (San Marzano tomatoes or pear)
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- Dried or fresh oregano
- Dried or fresh basil
- Salt and pepper

In a large stock pot or sauce pot heat oil on medium, start by adding the carrots, then celery and fennel, sauté for two minutes. Now add the onion and sauté everything for three minutes or until soft but not brown. Add garlic and seasonings, deglaze with half the red wine and reduce the wine by half. Add the tomatoes and cook on low for one hour. Using a small ladle to remove any bubbles that build up. The longer it cooks the more flavor will develop. Taste and adjust seasonings and serve on your favorite pasta. Drink the remainder of wine with meal.

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

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

GRANT COUNTY
Silver City

1ZERO6, 106 N. Texas St., 575-313-4418. Pacific Rim, South East Asian, Oaxacan and Italian: Friday to Sunday D, by reservation only.
ADOBE SPRINGS CAFÉ, 1617 Silver Heights Blvd., 538-3665. Breakfast items, burgers, sandwiches: Sunday B L, all week B L D.*
CAFÉ OSO AZUL AT BEAR MOUNTAIN LODGE, 60 Bear Mountain Ranch Road, 538-2538. B L, special D by reservation only.*
CHINESE PALACE, 1010 Highway 180E, 538-9300. "All the food is cooked to order. This means that not only does every dish arrive at the table freshly cooked and steaming, but also that you can tailor any dish to suit your taste." (October 2012) Chinese: Monday to Friday L D.
COURTYARD CAFÉ, Gila Regional Medical Center, 538-4094. American: B L, with special brunch Sundays.*
CURIOUS KUMQUAT, 111 E. College Ave., 534-0337. Contemporary: Monday L, Tuesday to Saturday L D.*
DIANE'S RESTAURANT, 510 N. Bullard St., 538-8722. "Always evolving, always interesting, Diane's has it all." (Sept. 2013) Fine dining (D), steaks, seafood, pasta, sandwiches (L), salads: Tuesday to Saturday L D, Sunday D only (family-style), weekend brunch.
DIANE'S BAKERY & DELI, The Hub, Suite A, Bullard St., 534-9229. "Always evolving, always interesting, Diane's has it all." (Sept. 2013) Artisan breads, pastries, sandwiches, deli: Monday to Saturday B L early D, Sunday L.*
DON JUAN'S BURRITOS, 418 Silver Heights Blvd., 538-5440. Mexican: B L.
DRIFTER PANCAKE HOUSE, 711 Silver Heights Blvd., 538-2916. Breakfast, American: B L, breakfast served throughout.
EL GALLO PINTO, 901 N. Hudson St., 597-4559. "Breakfast dishes are served all day, along with all the other traditional Mexican favorites like burritos (with a long list of filling options)... plus a vertical grill cooks sizzling chicken and carne al pastor." (October 2013) Mexican: Tuesday, Wednesday and Sunday B L Thursday to Saturday B L D.
FORREST'S PIZZA, 601 N. Bullard St. Unit J. 388-1225. Tuesday to Friday L D, Slices only at lunch time.
FRY HOUSE, 601 N. Bullard St. Suite C. 388-1964.

GIL-A BEANS, 1304 N. Bennett St. Coffeeshop.*
GOLDEN STAR, 1602 Silver Heights Blvd., 388-2323. Chinese: L D.
GRANDMA'S CAFÉ, 900 Silver Heights Blvd., 388-2627. American, Mexican: B L.*
TOPAS TREE, 601 N. Bullard St. in The Hub, Wednesday to Sunday L, Fridays L D.
GRINDER MILL, 403 W. College Ave., 538-3366. Mexican: B L D.*
HEALTHY EATS, 303 E. 13th St., 534-9404. Sandwiches, burritos, salads, smoothies: L.
JALISCO CAFÉ, 100 S. Bullard St., 388-2060. "Four generations of the Mesa family who have been involved in a restaurant that remains family-friendly." (June 2014) Mexican: Monday to Saturday L D.
JAVALINA COFFEE HOUSE, 117 Market St., 388-1350. Coffeehouse.*
JUMPING CACTUS, 503 N. Bullard St. Coffeeshop, baked goods, sandwiches, wraps: B L.*
KOUNTRY KITCHEN, 1700 Mountain View Road, 388-4512. "Since 1978, Kountry Kitchen has been serving up Mexican food that is considered to be some of the best that can be found in the area. All the dishes are tasty, unpretentious, attractively presented and reasonably priced." (February 2013) Mexican: Tuesday to Saturday B L D.*
LA COCINA RESTAURANT, 201 W. College Ave., 388-8687. Mexican: L D.
LA FAMILIA, 503 N. Hudson St., 388-4600. Mexican: Tuesday to Sunday B L D.*
LA MEXICANA, Hwy. 180E and Memory Lane, 534-0142. "Carrying on the legacy of unpretentious but tasty and authentic Mexican food established many years ago at the family's restaurant in Chihuahua." (April 2013) Mexican and American: B L.
LION'S DEN, 208 W. Yankie, 654-0353. Coffee shop.
LITTLE TOAD CREEK BREWERY & DISTILLERY, 200 N. Bullard St., 956-6144. "The menu offers what they call 'pub food'—but always with a bit of a twist." (March 2014) Burgers, wings, salads, fish, pasta, craft beers and cocktails: Wednesday to Monday L D.*
MARKET CAFÉ, 614 Bullard St., 956-6487. Organic and vegetarian deli food. Wednesday to Monday (closed Tuesday) B L.
MEXICO VIEJO, Hwy. 90 and Broadway. "A remarkably extensive

menu for a small roadside food vending stand, and the dishes are not what one normally finds in other Mexican restaurants." (July 2013) Mexican food stand: Monday to Saturday B L early D.
MI CASITA, 2340 Bosworth Dr., 538-5533. New Mexican cuisine: Monday to Thursday L, Friday L D.
MILLIE'S BAKE HOUSE, 602 N. Bullard St., 597-2253. "The food is oven-fresh and innovative." (November 2012) Soup, salads, sandwiches, baked goods: Tuesday to Saturday.*
NANCY'S SILVER CAFÉ, 514 N. Bullard St., 388-3480. Mexican: Monday to Saturday B L D.
THE PARLOR AT DIANE'S, 510 N. Bullard St., 538-8722. "Always evolving, always interesting, Diane's has it all." (Sept. 2013) Burgers, sandwiches, homemade pizzas, paninis: Tuesday to Sunday L D.
PRETTY SWEET EMPORIUM, 312 N. Bullard St., 388-8600. Dessert, ice cream: Monday to Saturday.*
Q'S SOUTHERN BISTRO AND BREWERY, 101 E. College Ave., 534-4401. "Q's Southern Bistro has found its niche and honed its 'elevated pub' menu to excellence to serve its fun-loving, casual dining crowd." (October 2010) American, steaks, barbecue, brewpub: Monday to Saturday L D.
SILVER BOWLING CENTER CAFÉ, 2020 Memory Lane, 538-3612. American, Mexican, hamburgers: L D.*
SUNRISE ESPRESSO, 1530 N. Hudson, 388-2027. Coffee shop: Monday to Saturday B L, early D.
SUNRISE ESPRESSO, 1212 E. 32nd St., 534-9565. Coffee shop, bakery: Monday to Friday B L, early D, Saturday B L only.*
TERRY'S ORIGINAL BARBEQUE, Hwy. 180 and Ranch Club Road. Barbeque to go: L D.
TRE ROSAT CAFÉ, 304 N. Bullard St., 654-4919. "The menu ranges from humbler (but not humdrum) fare like burgers, pizzas (at lunch and happy hour) and pastas to seasonal specials like duck confit, rabbit blanquette and Elk osso buco." (August 2012) International eclectic: Monday to Saturday L, D.*
VICKI'S EATERY, 315 N. Texas, 388-5430. American: Monday to Friday L, Saturday B L, Sunday B L (to 2 p.m.).*
WRANGLER'S BAR & GRILL, 2005 Hwy. 180E, 538-4387. Steak, burgers, appetizers, salads: L D.*
YANKIE CREEK COFFEE HOUSE, 112 W. Yankie St. Coffee shop, coffee, home-made pastries and ice cream, fresh fruit smoothies.*

Red or Green?

Southwest New Mexico's best restaurant guide.

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

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

issue goes to press. That's why we urge you to help us make Red or Green? even better. Drop a note to Red or Green? c/o Desert Exposure, 840 N. Telshor Blvd., Ste. E, Las Cruces NM 88001, or email editor@desertexposure.com.

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



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Coffeehouse: B L D.*
MIX PACIFIC RIM CUISINE AND MIX EXPRESS, 1001 E. University Ave. #D4, 532-2042. Asian, Pacific: Monday to Saturday L D.
MOONGATE CAFÉ, 9395 Bataan Memorial, 382-5744. Can you say delicious fried egg sandwich? Coffee shop, Mexican, American: B L.
MOUNTAIN VIEW MARKET KITCHEN, 1300 El Paseo Road, 523-0436. Sandwiches, bagels, wraps, salads and other healthy fare: Monday to Saturday: B L early D. *
MY BROTHER’S PLACE, 334 S. Main St., 523-7681. Mexican: Monday to Saturday L D.
NELLIE’S CAFÉ, 1226 W. Hadley Ave., 524-9982. Mexican: Tuesday to Saturday B L.
NOPALITO RESTAURANT, 2605 Missouri Ave., 522-0440. Mexican: L D.
NOPALITO RESTAURANT, 310 S. Mesquite St., 524-0003. Mexican: Sunday to Tuesday, Thursday to Saturday. L D.*
OLD TOWN RESTAURANT, 1155 S. Valley Dr., 523-4586. Mexican, American: B L.*
ORIENTAL PALACE, 225 E. Idaho, 526-4864. Chinese: L D.
PAISANO CAFÉ, 1740 Calle de Mercado, 524-0211. Mexican: B L D.*
PANCAKE ALLEY DINER, 2146 W. Picacho Ave., 647-4836. American: B L, early D.
PEPE’S, 1405 W. Picacho, 541-0277. Mexican: B L D.
PEPPERS CAFÉ ON THE PLAZA (in the Double Eagle Restaurant), 2355 Calle De Guadalupe, 523-6700. Southwestern: L D. *
PHO SAIGON, 1160 El Paseo Road, 652-4326. Vietnamese: L D.
PICACHO PEAK BREWING CO., 3900 W. Picacho, 575-680-6394
PLAYER’S GRILL, 3000 Champions Dr. (NMSU golf course clubhouse), 646-2457. American: B L D.
PULLARO’S ITALIAN RESTAURANT, 901 W. Picacho Ave., 523-6801. Italian: L D.
RANCHWAY BARBECUE, 604 N. Valley Dr., 523-7361. Barbecue, Mexican: Monday to Friday B L D, Saturday D.
RASCO’S BBQ, 125 S. Campo St., 526-7926. Barbecued brisket, pulled pork, smoked sausage, ribs.
RED BRICK PIZZA, 2808 N. Telshor Blvd., 521-7300. Pizzas, sandwiches, salads: L D.
RENOO’S THAI RESTAURANT, 1445 W. Picacho Ave., 373-3000. Thai: Monday to Friday L D, Saturday D.
ROBERTO’S MEXICAN FOOD, 908 E. Amador Ave., 523-1851. Mexican: B L D.*
ROSIE’S CAFÉ DE MESILLA, 300 N. Main St., 526-1256. Breakfast, Mexican, burgers: Saturday to Thursday B L, Friday B L D.
SAENZ GORDITAS, 1700 N. Solano Dr., 527-4212. Excellent, gorditas, of course, but also amazing chicken tacos. Mexican: Monday to Saturday L D.
SANTORINI’S, 1001 E. University Ave., 521-9270. “An eclectic blend of Greek and Mediterranean dishes—gyros with different meats, such as lamb or chicken, hummus with pita, Greek salads—plus sampler plates and less-familiar items such as keftedes and pork shawarma. Vegetarian options are numerous.” (July 2010)
Greek, Mediterranean: Monday to Saturday L D.
SAVOY DE MESILLA, 1800-B



Avenida de Mesilla, 527-2869. “If you are adventurous with food and enjoy a fine-dining experience that is genuinely sophisticated, without pretension or snobbishness, you definitely need to check out Savoy de Mesilla. The added attraction is that you can do this without spending a week’s salary on any of the meals—all of which are entertainingly and delectably upscale.” (March 2013) American, Continental: B L D.
THE SHED, 810 S. Valley Dr., 525-2636. American, pizza, Mexican, desserts: Wednesday to Sunday B L.*
SI ITALIAN BISTRO, 523 E. Idaho, 523-1572. “The restaurant radiates homespun charm and the kind of quality that is neither snobbish nor flamboyant. The menu ranges from classic Italian entrées like Chicken Piccata, Chicken Marsala, Frutti de Mare alla Provençal, and Chicken or Melanzane Parmesan to burgers, salads, sandwiches, pizzas and pastas—all tweaked creatively in subtle and satisfying ways. Dessert offers an amazing variety of cakes, pies, cream puffs, brownies and cheesecakes.” (October 2014) Italian: Monday L, Tuesday to Saturday L D.
SIMPLY TOASTED CAFÉ, 1702 El Paseo Road, 526-1920. Sandwiches, soups, salads: B L.
SI SEÑOR, 1551 E. Amador Ave., 527-0817. Mexican: L D.
SPANISH KITCHEN, 2960 N. Main St., 526-4275. Mexican: Monday to Saturday B L D.
SPIRIT WINDS COFFEE BAR, 2260 S. Locust St., 521-1222. Sandwiches, coffee, bakery: B L D.*
ST. CLAIR WINERY & BISTRO, 1720 Avenida de Mesilla, 524-0390. “A showcase for St. Clair wines... rooted in the same attention to detail, insistence on quality and customer-friendly attitude as the winery.” (July 2012) Wine tasting, bistro: L D.
SUNSET GRILL, 1274 Golf Club Road (Sonoma Ranch Golf Course clubhouse), 521-1826. American, Southwest, steak, burgers, seafood, pasta: B L D.
TERIYAKI CHICKEN HOUSE, 805 El Paseo Rd., 541-1696. Japanese: Monday to Friday L D.
THAI DELIGHT DE MESILLA,

2184 Avenida de Mesilla, 525-1900. “For the adventurous, there are traditional Thai curries, soups and appetizers to choose from, all of which can be ordered in the degree of heat that suits you.... The restaurant is clean, comfortable, casual in a classy sort of way, and totally unpretentious.” (January 2011) Thai, salads, sandwiches, seafood, steaks, German: L D.*
TIFFANY’S PIZZA & GREEK AMERICAN CUISINE, 755 S. Telshor Blvd #G1, 532-5002. Pizza, Greek, deli: Tuesday to Saturday B L D.*
VINTAGE WINES, 2461 Calle de Principal, 523-WINE. Wine and cigar bar, tapas: L D.
WOK-N-WORLD, 5192 E. Boutz, 526-0010. Chinese: Monday to Saturday L D.
ZEFFIRO PIZZERIA NAPOLETANA, 136 N. Water St., 525-6757. Pizza, pasta, also sandwiches at adjoining Popular Artisan Bakery: Monday to Saturday L D.
ZEFFIRO NEW YORK PIZZERIA, 101 E. University Ave., 525-6770. Pizza: L D.

Anthony ERNESTO’S MEXICAN FOOD, 200 Anthony Dr., 882-3641. Mexican: B L.
LA COCINITA, 908 W. Main Dr., 589-1468. Mexican: L.

Chapparral EL BAYO STEAK HOUSE, 417 Chaparral Dr., 824-4749. Steakhouse: Tuesday to Sunday B L D.
TORTILLERIA SUSY, 661 Paloma Blanca Dr., 824-9377. Mexican: Monday to Saturday B L D, Sunday B L.

Doña Ana BIG MIKE’S CAFÉ, Thorpe Road. Mexican, breakfasts, burgers: B L D.
Santa Teresa
BILLY CREWS, 1200 Country Club Road, 589-2071. Steak, seafood: L D.

LUNA COUNTY Deming ADOBE DELI, 3970 Lewis Flats Road SE, 546-0361. “The lunch menu features traditional deli-style

sandwiches... The dinner menu is much grander, though some sandwiches are available then, too. Dinner options include filet mignon, flat iron steak, T-bone, ribeye, New York strip, Porterhouse, barbequed pork ribs, Duck L’Orange, Alaska King Crab legs, broiled salmon steak, shrimp scampi, pork chops, osso buco, beef kabobs.” (March 2010) Bar, deli, steaks: L D.*
BALBOA MOTEL & RESTAURANT, 708 W. Pine St., 546-6473. Mexican, American: Sunday to Friday L D.
BELSHORE RESTAURANT, 1030 E. Pine St., 546-6289. Mexican, American: Tuesday to Sunday B L.
CAMPOS RESTAURANT, 105 S. Silver, 546-0095. Mexican, American, Southwestern: L D.*
CHINA RESTAURANT, 110 E. Pine St., 546-4146. “Refreshingly different from most of the Chinese restaurants you find these days in this country. Chef William Chu, who owns the restaurant and does the cooking, is committed to offering what he calls the ‘fresh and authentic flavors of Chinese food.’” (August 2014) Chinese: Tuesday to Sunday L D.
EL CAMINO REAL, 900 W. Pine St., 546-7421. Mexican, American: B L D.
ELISA’S HOUSE OF PIES AND RESTAURANT, 208 1/2 S. Silver Alley, 494-4639. “The southern-style fare is a savory prelude to 35 flavors of pie.” (April 2012) American, barbecue, sandwiches, pies: Monday to Saturday L D. *
EL MIRADOR, 510 E. Pine St., 544-7340. Mexican: Monday to Saturday B L D.
“FORGHEDABOUTIT” pizza & wings, 115 N. Silver Ave., 275-3881. “Direct from New York City, Bob Yacone and his wife, Kim Duncan, have recreated an authentic-style New York pizza parlor.” (June 2013) Italian, pizza, wings: Monday to Saturday L D, Sunday D.
GRAND MOTOR INN & LOUNGE, 1721 E. Pine, 546-2632. Mexican, steak, seafood: B L D.
IRMA’S, 123 S. Silver Ave., 544-4580. Mexican, American, seafood: B L D.
LA FONDA, 601 E. Pine St., 546-0465. Mexican: B L D.*
LAS CAZUELAS, 108 N. Platinum Ave. (inside El Rey meat market), 544-8432. Steaks, seafood, Mexican: Tuesday to Saturday L D.*
MANGO MADDIE’S, 722 E. Florida St., 546-3345. Salads, sandwiches, juice bar, coffee drinks.
MANOLO’S CAFÉ, 120 N. Granite St., 546-0405. “The menu offers breakfast, lunch and dinner choices, and it’s difficult to convey the immense range of food options available. In every section of the menu, there’s a mixture of American-style ‘comfort’ food items and Southwest-style Mexican dishes which no doubt qualify as Hispanic ‘comfort’ food. There’s nothing particularly fancy about the food, but it’s fresh and tasty. And the prices are reasonable.” (February 2012) Mexican, American: Monday to Saturday B L D, Sunday B L.
PATIO CAFÉ, 1521 Columbus Road, 546-5990. Burgers, American: Monday to Saturday L D.*
PRIME RIB GRILL (inside Holiday Inn), I-10 exit 85, 546-2661. Steak, seafood, Mexican: B D.
RANCHER’S GRILL, 316 E. Cedar St., 546-8883. Steakhouse, burgers: L D.*
SI SEÑOR, 200 E. Pine St.,

546-3938. Mexican: Monday to Saturday B L D, Sunday B L.
SUNRISE KITCHEN, 1409 S. Columbus Road, 544-7795. “Good-quality comfort food. There’s nothing on the menu that is really exotic. But all the familiar dishes, both American and Mexican, are done well, and it’s that care in preparation that lifts the food above the ordinary. This is not a freezer-to-fryer type of restaurant.” (September 2012) American, Mexican, breakfasts: Monday to Thursday B L, Friday B L D.
TACOS MIRASOL, 323 E. Pine St., 544-0646. Mexican: Monday, Wednesday, Saturday B L D, Tuesday B L.
TOCAYO’S MEXICAN RESTAURANT, 1601 E. Pine St., 567-1963. Mexican, dine in or take out: Monday to Saturday B L D, Sunday B L.

Akela APACHE HOMELANDS RESTAURANT, I-10. Burgers, ribs, “casino-style” food: B L D.*

Columbus IRMA’S KITCHEN, B L D, Highway 11, 575-694-4026, Mexican food.
LA CASITA, 309 Taft, 575-531-2371. B L D, Mexican food.
PATIO CAFÉ, 23 Broadway, 531-2495. Burgers, American: B L.*

HIDALGO COUNTY Lordsburg EL CHARRO RESTAURANT, 209 S. P Blvd., 542-3400. Mexican: B L D.
FIDENCIO’S, 604 E. Motel Dr., 542-8989. Mexican: B L early D.
KRANBERRY’S FAMILY RESTAURANT, 1405 Main St., 542-9400. Mexican, American: B L D.
MAMA ROSA’S PIZZA, 1312 Main St., 542-8400. Pizza, subs, calzones, salads, chicken wings, cheeseburgers, shrimp baskets: L D.
RAMONA’S CAFÉ, 904 E. Motel Dr., 542-3030. “Lordsburg’s quit Mexican food treasure offers some unusual takes on traditional recipes.” (December 2012) Mexican, American: Tuesday to Friday B L D, Sunday B mid-day D.

Animas PANTHER TRACKS CAFÉ, Hwy. 338, 548-2444. Burgers, Mexican, American: Monday to Friday B L D

Rodeo RODEO STORE AND CAFÉ. 195 Hwy. 80, 557-2295. Coffee shop food: Monday to Saturday B L.
RODEO TAVERN, 557-2229. Shrimp, fried chicken, steaks, burgers, seafood: Wednesday to Saturday D.

CATRON COUNTY Reserve ADOBE CAFÉ, Hwy. 12 & Hwy. 180, 533-6146. Deli, American, Mon. pizza, Sunday BBQ ribs: Sun.-Mon. B L D, Wed.-Fri. B L.
BLACK GOLD, 98 Main St., 533-6538. Coffeehouse, pastries.
CARMEN’S, 101 Main St., 533-6990. Mexican, American: B L D.
ELLA’S CAFÉ, 533-6111. American: B L D.
UNCLE BILL’S BAR, 230 N. Main St., 533-6369. Pizza: Monday to Saturday L D.

Glenwood ALMA GRILL, Hwy. 180, 539-2233. Breakfast, sandwiches, burgers, Mexican: Sunday to Wednesday, Friday to Saturday B L.

GOLDEN GIRLS CAFÉ, Hwy. 180, 539-2457. Breakfast: B. 4672. Steakhouse: D

MARIO'S PIZZA, Hwy. 180, 539-2316. Italian: Monday to Saturday D.

Other Catron County
SNUFFY'S STEAKHOUSE AND SALOON, Quemado Lake, 773-

SIERRA COUNTY
Arrey

ARREY CAFÉ, Hwy 187 Arrey, 575-267-4436, Mexican, American, Vegetarian, B L D.

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February 9th

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Chloride
CHLORIDE BANK CAFÉ, 300, Wall Street, 575-743-0414, American, Thursday-Saturday L D, Sunday L.

Elephant Butte
BIG FOOD EXPRESS, 212 Warm Springs Blvd., 575-744-4896, American, Asian, Seafood, B L.
CASA TACO, 704, Hwy 195, 575-744-4859, American, Mexican, Vegetarian, L D.
HODGES CORNER, 915 NM 195, American, Mexican, B L.
IVORY TUSK TAVERN & RESTAURANT, 401 Hwy 195, 575-744-5431, American, Mexican, Vegetarian, Seafood, Daily L D, Sunday Buffet.
THE CLUB RESTAURANT, 101 Club House Drive, 575-744-7100, American, Seafood, L D.

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

Hillsboro
HILLSBORO GENERAL STORE, 10697 Hwy 152, American, Southwestern, Vegetarian, Friday-Wednesday B L.
BARBER SHOP CAFÉ, Main Street, 575-895-5283, American, Mediterranean, sandwiches, Monday-Saturday L.

Truth or Consequences
A & B DRIVE-IN, 211 Broadway, 575-894-9294, Mexican,

American, Vegetarian, B L D.
BAR-B-QUE ON BROADWAY, 308 Broadway, 575-894-7047, American, Mexican, B L.
BRAZEN FOX, 313 North Broadway, 575-297-0070, Mexican, Vegetarian, Wednesday-Sunday, L D.
CAFÉ BELLA LUCA, 301 S. Jones, 575-894-9866, Italian, American, Vegetarian, Seafood, D.
CARMEN'S KITCHEN, 1806 S. Broadway, 575-894-0006, American, Mexican, Vegetarian, Monday-Friday B L D, Saturday, B L.
EL FARO, 315 N. Broadway, 575-894-2886, American, Mexican, Vegetarian, Monday-Friday B L D, Saturday, B L.
GRAPEVINE BISTRO, 413 Broadway, 575-894-0404, American, Vegetarian, B L.
JOHNNY B'S, 2260 N. Date Street, (575-894-0147, American, Mexican, B L D.
LA COCINA/HOT STUFF, 1 Lakeway Drive, 575-894-6499, American, Mexican, Vegetarian, L D.
LATITUDE 33, 304 S. Pershing, 575-740-7804, American, Vegetarian, Asian, L D.
LOS ARCOS STEAK & LOBSTER, 1400 N. Date Street, 575-894-6200, American, Seafood, D.
LOS FIDENCIOS, 1615 S. Broadway, 575-894-3737, Mexican, Monday-Saturday B L D, Sunday, B L.
MARIAS, 1990 S. Broadway, 575-894-9047, American, Mexican, Vegetarian, Monday-Saturday B L D.
PACIFIC GRILL, 800 N. Date St.,

575-894-7687, Italian, American, Vegetarian, Asian, Seafood, Tuesday-Thursday-Friday L D, Saturday D, Sunday L.
PASSION PIE CAFÉ, 406 Main, 575-894-0008, American, Vegetarian, B L.
R & C SUMTHINS, 902 Date St. 575-894-1040, American, Tuesday-Sunday L .
STONE AGE CAFÉ & POINT BLANC WINERY, 165 E. Ninth St., (575)894-2582, American, L D.
SUNSET GRILL, 1301 N. Date, 575-894-8904, American, Mexican, Thursday-Monday B L D.
THE RESTAURANT AT SIERRA GRANDE LODGE, 501 McAdoo, 575-894-6976, American, Seafood, B L D.
TURTLEBACK OASIS MARKETPLACE, 520 Broadway, 575-894-0179, American, Vegetarian, Monday-Saturday B L.
YOUR PLACE, 400 Date St., 575-740-1544, American, Monday-Saturday L D, Sunday L.

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

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

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GET OUT OF TOWN • RICHARD ATKINS

Wintering In New York

Cool, calm season best time to go

Now that the hordes of holiday revelers have departed the Big Apple, a Cy Coleman tune made famous by Frank Sinatra comes to mind: “The Best Is Yet To Come!” Most people don’t usually think of New York City as a winter destination, yet, if you have an adventurous spirit and a will to see Manhattan without feeling like a sardine during Christmas on Times Square, now is the time to go.

For one, Southwest Airlines offers round trip flights from Albuquerque to New York City for an astounding \$240. They also do not charge to check your bags. If you’d rather fly out of El Paso, the fare is \$340, but still not a budget buster. These cheaper fares can be found on Wednesday departures and Fridays (second best) but if you need to return home after a few days, Saturdays have the best rates for return flights.

In addition to cheap fares and fewer crowds, New York City always had and still has so much to offer. Broadway shows are your best bet for a quality, once-in-a-lifetime experience and producers offer many incentives this time of year to get butts in seats. One avenue for day-of-show buyers is the TKTS discount booth in Times Square where discounts range from 20 percent to 50 percent. You can also peruse www.entertainment-link.com for a roundup of what’s playing. Mid-week are the wider and deeper discounts so take that into account. For \$30 you can also join TDF (Theatre Development Fund) which provides offers to dozens of shows through-



A tree keeps growing in Central Park.

out the year at prices from \$9 for Off-Broadway to \$47 for Broadway. I highly recommend the ultra-entertaining “Kinky Boots” starring “Whose Line Is It Anyway’s” Wayne Brady and the phenomenal straight play, “The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime.” TKTS also has two other locations; one at South Street Seaport and the other in Downtown Brooklyn.

Restaurant Row is a few minutes’ walk from most Broadway houses and features great food at reasonable prices such as Barbetta, Orso, La Pulperia and Chez Josephine. But please don’t forget to visit the famous, “Little Pie Company,” a dessert stalwart in the theatre district for the most incredible pies on the planet including the delicious sour cream apple wal-

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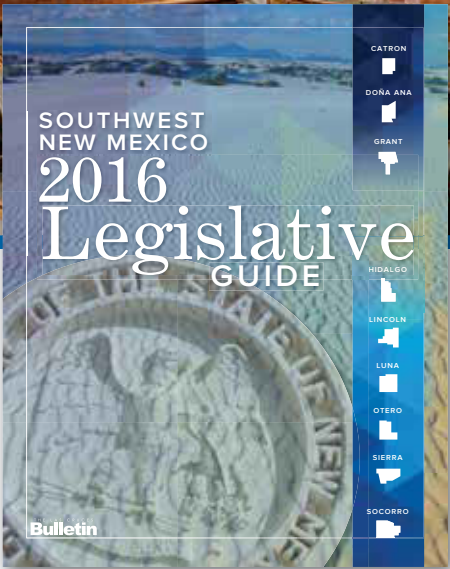
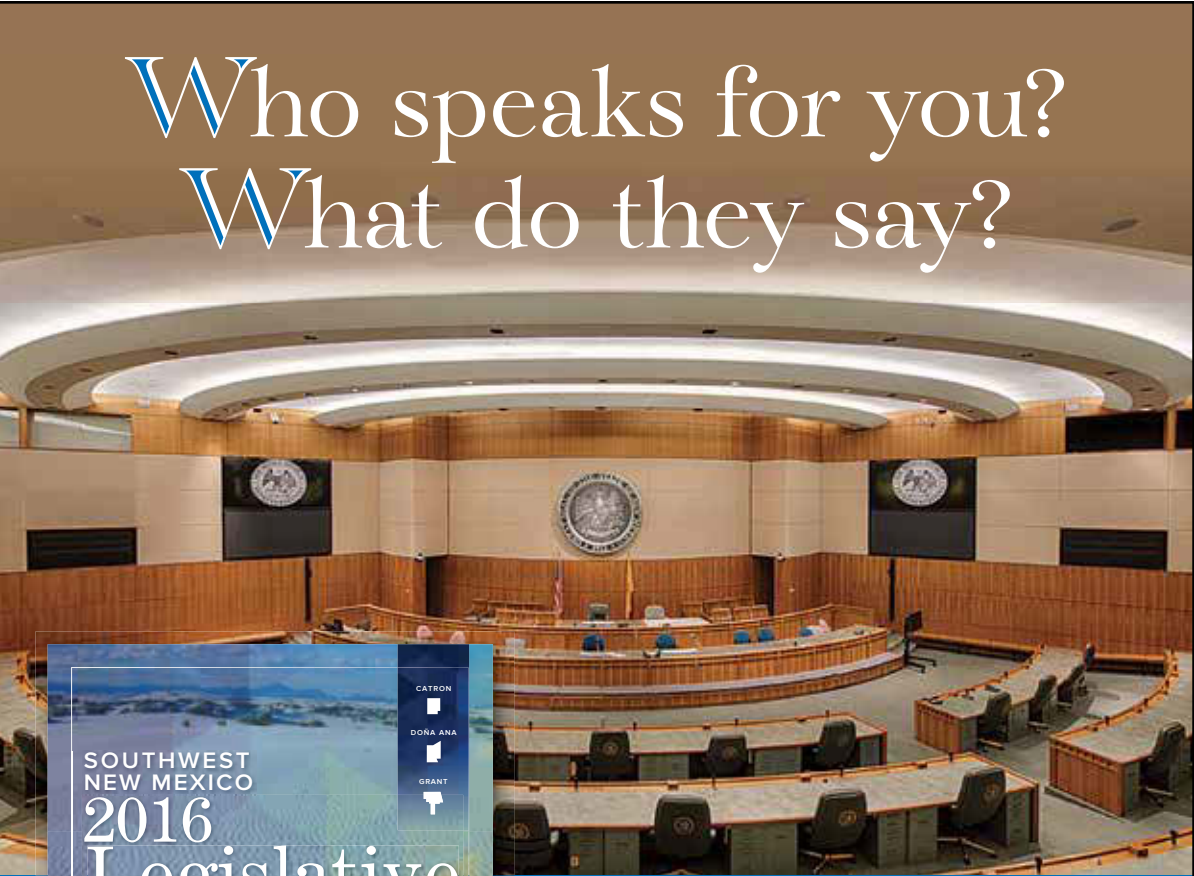
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Look for your comprehensive 2016 Southwest New Mexico Legislative Guide in your county at your local public library, Chamber of Commerce or visitor's center and pick it up for free.

If you wish to have one mailed to you, contact Teresa Tolonen at the Las Cruces Bulletin. The cost will be \$4 to cover postage. Teresa can be reached at legislativeguidereservation@lascrucesbulletin.com or by phone at 575-680-8061.



Handsome horse and carriages line up waiting for customers.



Bryant Park ice skating

NEW YORK

continued from page 41

nut! After tasting that pie, you will forever have them shipped to your home, no matter what the cost.

Since David Letterman vacated the Ed Sullivan Theatre, Stephen Colbert has taken residence in the famed space and let me say, you should definitely attend a taping of his show because, not only did the producers do a bang-up job of remodeling the theatre (a fantastic new set, high tech projections on the ceiling and walls), but the band (Jon Batiste and Stay Human) are fabulously entertaining and Colbert runs a great show.

Go to this site for your tickets: www.showclix.com/event/TheLateShowWithStephenColbert

For shopaholics, New York City is a veritable gold mine for people with unlimited credit limits on their MasterCards. From Bloomingdales to Macy's to Saks Fifth Avenue and the shops at Columbus Circle, you will be thoroughly entertained though you may leave a bit poorer than when you came in.

And, for the kids, FAO Schwarz is one of the most famous toy stores in the entire world, continuing to live up to its name for the past 150 years with an overabundance of toys, sweets and milkshake treats – what more could a kid ask for? But, when thinking FAO Schwarz is strictly for kids, it is truly an attraction as much as it is a top toy store, so you adults will have just as much fun as the kiddies.

Since it is winter, New York City has myriad ice skating rinks in some pretty exciting settings, so check them out if you're so inclined. Wolman rink in Central Park has a great backdrop of the NYC skyline. Also, the famed Rockefeller Center rink, however we all know how small that rink is, so it's less than ideal for skating aficionados but excellent for photo ops. Finally, there is a wonderfully large rink in Bryant Park in midtown, surrounded by new shops and trendy food stands that make this location my favorite.

Since El Niño brought record temperatures to New York City in late 2015, a bit of winter reality has finally hit the Northeast, but then



Sarabeth's eggs benedict



Katz's Deli's corned beef sandwich

again, a walk through Central Park in January with flowers blooming is hardly my idea of winter in New York. Consequently, when you go, hopefully, there will be some snow in Central Park as there's nothing so peaceful and romantic as snow or snowfall in the park.

The Five Boroughs sometimes offer just as much to do and see as Manhattan in regards to great restaurants, museums, performing arts venues and more. The Brooklyn Academy of Music, or BAM as it is known to many, offers world-class theatre, dance and music performances. If you're interested in microbrews the Brooklyn Brewery will accommodate, the Brooklyn Museum for you eclectic types and Junior's Restaurant for no frills New York Deli.

In the Bronx you have the Bronx Museum of Arts, the Bronx Culture Trolley, the Bronx Zoo and the Edgar Allan Poe Cottage to keep your interest piqued.

In Queens there's a walk in Fort Totten Park, MoMA PS1, the Socrates Sculpture Park and the Queens Theatre in the Park.

And last but not least, in Staten Island the best Italian food can be had at Enoteca Maria, historic sites in Richmond Town, the Staten Island Museum and St. George Theatre to round things out.

Where to stay?

During the first three months of the year, the average daily room rate is approximately \$235, which is about 22 percent lower than the average for the rest of the year,

giving visitors and New Yorkers a chance to save on their hotel stay. For the best available rates of the year, visit nycgo.com/hotels and reserve through NYC & Company's exclusive hotel booking engine, booking.com. Alternatively, you can try the Hotel Newton on the upper west side for clean, neat and cheap hotel rooms in a great location a block from the subway. For information call 800-916-4339.

Best places to eat on a budget

In a nutshell, Amarone is the best Italian in Hell's Kitchen and will get you out in time to catch your favor-

ite Broadway show. The pastrami at Katz's deli is second to none while a sushi favorite is Yakasa (but make a reservation). When doing Sunday brunch, go to Sarabeth's as their eggs benedict are to die for and when you're on the run, Zuckers is the best go to deli for casual lunches. The Whitefish Salad on a bagel of your choice will have you "oohing" and "aahing" the rest of the day.

A review of New York City is nothing without mentioning their best pizza joints. Below is a sampling of the best per borough.

West Village – Kesté Pizza & Vino
271 Bleecker St, New York, NY

10014, 212.243.1500

Brooklyn – Totonno's
1524 Neptune Ave, Brooklyn, NY
11224, 718.372.8606

Queens – New Park Pizza
15671 Cross Bay Blvd, Howard Beach, NY 11414, 718.641.3082

Bronx – Coal's Pizza
1888 Eastchester Road, The Bronx, NY 10461 718.823.7002

Staten Island – Lee's Tavern
60 Hancock St, Staten Island, NY 10305, 718.667.9749

Lastly, the New York Pass can save you time and money including free admission to more than 80 attractions, saving you up to 70 percent on gate prices. Go to this site to order yours today.

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Richard Atkins is a travel writer, playwright, actor and pianist and may be reached at seaofclouds@att.net.



New York City's 42nd Street (Photos by Richard Atkins)

40 DAYS & 40 NIGHTS

What's Going On in February

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1
Silver City/Grant County
Laughter Club at Market Café — 5:15-5:45 a.m. at 614 N. Bullard St. Use the physical act of laughter to enhance your health. No jokes are used but lots of breathing, laughing and clapping. There is no cost, this club is sponsored by the Active & Alive program. Info: 575-956-6487. Open Mic at Buckhorn Saloon & Opera House—7 p.m. on Main St., Pinos Altos. Info: 575-538-9911.

Deming/Luna County
“The West as We Saw It” Art Center February exhibition — 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Saturday at the Deming Art Center, 100 S. Gold St. The February exhibit features photography by Bob and Diane Hudgens and creations made from used lariats by Mike Shalett. The show runs through Feb. 27. An artist reception will be held Sunday, Feb. 7, from 1-3 p.m. Info: 575-546-3663,

Las Cruces/Mesilla
New Mexico Chile Conference — all day at Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces. Hosted by NMSU’s Chile

the Rio Grande Theatre. “Skip” LeCompte has been performing on the trumpet and as a jazz vocalist for more than 60 years. Info: www.RioGrandeTheatre.com or 575-523-6403.
Mesilla Valley Film Society presents Trumbo — 7:30 p.m. at the Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. In 1947, Dalton Trumbo was Hollywood’s top screenwriter, until he and other artists were jailed and blacklisted for their political beliefs. This film runs 124 minutes. \$7; Matinees \$6; MVFS Members \$5; seniors over 60, Military and Students with ID \$6; Wednesdays \$5. Info: 575-524-8287.

TUESDAY, FEB. 2
Silver City/Grant County
Roots & Branches radio show — 8-10 a.m. every Saturday on gmcr.org or KURU 89.1 FM. Info: 575-534-0298.
Open Technology Lab— 10 a.m.-noon at Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Avenue Learn, practice computer skills, and ask questions. Try out tablets and 2-in-1 devices provided by the library. Bring your

attendees do not have to register in order to attend. Info: http://careerservices.nmsu.edu.
Family Science Saturday: following in the footsteps — 10 a.m. at 411 North Main St. “Family Science Saturday” follows the lives of some famous scientists and attempt to recreate one of their experiment. Topic for Jan. 2 is Introduction of Geological Concepts. Classes are held every Saturday. All ages are welcome. No registration required and admission is free. Info: http://las-cruces.org/museums or call 575-522-3120.
SNAP!: The Science, Nature, and Art Program — 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Las Cruces Museum of Art and the Museum of Nature and Science, 411 N. Main St. Children and their families are invited to join us each Saturday in January. Jan. 2 topic is New Beginnings. Info: 575-541-3120.
Kitchen Creations cooking school for diabetics — 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Tierra Madre, 1955 N. Valley Dr. This Kitchen Creations cooking school is a series of 4 classes for adults with type 2 diabetes which meets every Tuesday in February. Learn how to



The first two days of February in Las Cruces bring chile growers from all over the world to the New Mexico Chile Conference at Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces. (Courtesy photo)

Pepper Institute, the conference will focus on the use of drones in agriculture, new regulations and research into food modernization safety, current chile marketing strategies and updates on mechanization as well as insect and weed control. Info: 575-646-3028.
The Branigan Cultural Center presents The Visionarias by Chris Carruth — 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The exhibit runs through Saturday, Feb. 27. In this series of photographs, taken in early 2014 and 2015, Carruth documents the Visionaria Network’s ongoing development efforts in Cusco and the nearby Sacred Valley of Peru. Info: visit the website at: http://las-cruces.org/museums or call 575-541-2154.
Fiction Writing: Workshopping Your Book — 6:15-7:15 p.m. at Dona Ana Community College Central DAHL, room 184 at 2800 Sonoma Ranch Blvd. Age 17 and up. This course meets Feb. 1-March 7. Students should purchase The Everything Guide to Writing Your First Novel prior to start of class. ISBN: 13-978-1-4405-0957-5. Students can bring a personal laptop to class meetings. Cost: \$47. Info: commed@dacc.nmsu.edu or call 575-527-7527.
Every Other Tuesday presents Jazzman Ross — 6:30 p.m. at

own laptop or mobile device for troubleshooting. Free. No registration necessary. Info: 575-538-3672 or silvercitypubliclibrary.wordpress.com.
Kiwanis Student of the Month recognition — noon-1 p.m. at the Masonic Lodge on Ridge Road. The Kiwanis special Student of the Month recognition, where nine schools bring one special student to recognize, is the first Tuesday of each month. All welcome. \$10. Info: 575-538-3787.
Mountain Bike ride — 5:15 p.m. at Little Walnut Picnic Grounds. Free. Carpool out and meet up for 1.5 hours of riding. Level of difficulty: intermediate. Info: 575-388-3222.
Las Cruces/Mesilla
New Mexico Chile Conference — all day at Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces. Hosted by NMSU’s Chile Pepper Institute, the conference will focus on the use of drones in agriculture, new regulations and research into food modernization safety, current chile marketing strategies and updates on mechanization as well as insect and weed control. Info: 575-646-3028.
NMSU 11th annual career fair — 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., in the third floor ballrooms of the Corbett Center Student Union on the NMSU campus. Students and community

plan and prepare meals that are tasty and balanced to manage diabetes. Participants will receive a manual, cookbooks, and other useful items to keep. The cooking school is free of charge. Info: 575-525-6649.
Wrap Any Stone jewelry workshop — 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Doña Ana Community College East Mesa DAEM rm 107, 2800 Sonoma Ranch Blvd. The 3 hour course costs \$26 with materials and supplies fee payable to instructor at class. Info: 575-527-7527.
Mesilla Valley Film Society presents Trumbo — 7:30 p.m. at the Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. In 1947, Dalton Trumbo was Hollywood’s top screenwriter, until he and other artists were jailed and blacklisted for their political beliefs. This film runs 124 minutes. \$7; Matinees \$6; MVFS Members \$5; Seniors over 60, Military and Students with ID \$6; Wednesdays \$5. Info: 575-524-8287.
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 3
Silver City/Grant County
Western Institute for Lifelong Learning’s noon lecture series — noon at the Western New Mexico University Global Resource Center ABC Room, 12th and Kentucky streets is free to members and non-members. This session features



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Cameron Creek public meeting — 6 p.m. 1400 Highway 180 E. Forest officials provide information about the 2,100-acre wildlife habitat improvement project. Info: 575-388-4812.

Trivia Night at the Toad — 7 p.m. every Wednesday night at Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 North Bullard St. Join quizmaster Josh White for bar food, beer and wine, with no cover charge, and prizes of gift certificates for \$25 and \$15. Bring yourself or a team. Info: silvercitytrivia@gmail.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla NMSU 11th annual career fair — 9 a.m.-3 p.m, in the third floor ballrooms of the Corbett Center Student Union on the NMSU campus. The event is co-sponsored

by Career Services and the College of Engineering. Students and community attendees do not have to register in order to attend. Info: careerservices.nmsu.edu.

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

Mesilla Valley Film Society presents Trumbo — 7:30 p.m. at the Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. In 1947, Dalton Trumbo was Hollywood’s top screenwriter, until he and other artists were jailed and blacklisted for their political beliefs. This film runs 124 minutes. \$7; Matinees \$6; MVFS Members \$5; seniors over 60, Military and Students with ID \$6; Wednesdays \$5. Info: 575-524-8287.

THURSDAY, FEB. 4 Silver City/Grant County Technology workshop — 4 – 5:45 p.m. at Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Avenue presented by WNMU Adult Education Services. This is a basic computer workshop on how to use Microsoft Excel for personal and business accounting. Job-seekers, entrepreneurs, and those seeking to boost their work skills are especially encouraged to attend. No registration necessary. There are 14 laptops available for participants to use. Free. No registration necessary. Info: 575-538-3672 or silvercitypubliclibrary.wordpress.com.

Stir and Simmer Road Ride — 5 p.m. at Gila Hike and Bike, 103 E. College Ave. Level of difficulty: Intermediate and up. This is a weekly ride. Info: 575-388-3222.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Grandma Mona’s Science Story Time — 9 a.m. at the Las Cruces Museum of Nature and Science at 411 N. Main Street. For children 3 to 5 on the first Thursday of each month, Grandma Mona comes to the museum to read a story relating to one of the many exhibits in our museum, followed by a topic-related activity. No registration required and the event is free. Info: http://las-cruces.org/museums or call 575-522-3120.

3D Graphics for Everyone with SketchUp — 6-7 p.m. at Doña Ana Community College Workforce Center, rm 104 at 2345 E. Nevada. Ages 14 and up. SketchUp is a free 3D design software that is used by architects, set designers, engineers, and builders. This 8-hour course costs \$61 and runs from Feb. 4-March 31, with no class on March 17. Info: email commmed@dacc.nmsu.edu or call 575-527-7527.

Calligraphy I Foundational course — 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Doña Ana Community College Central DAEM rm 184. 2800 Sonoma Ranch Blvd. Ages 12 and up. This course runs Feb. 4-Feb. 25. Fee for the 8-hour course is \$61. Info: email commmed@dacc.nmsu.edu or call 575-527-7527.

Mesilla Valley Film Society presents Trumbo — 7:30 p.m. at the Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. In 1947, Dalton Trumbo was Hollywood’s top screenwriter, until he and other artists were jailed and blacklisted for their political beliefs. This film runs 124 minutes. \$7; Matinees \$6; MVFS Members \$5; Seniors over 60, Military and Students with ID \$6; Wednesdays \$5. Info: 575-524-8287.

The Big Band Dance Club — 8 -10 p.m. at Alma de Artes School, 402 W. Court St. Music furnished by a DJ. Group dance lesson taught by John Guisto from 7-7:45 p.m \$8 admission for all on CD nights except \$5 for students with student ID. Information: 526-6504.

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

FRIDAY, FEB. 5 Silver City/Grant County Popcorn Fridays — all day at 614 N. Bullard St. Free popcorn and food samples. Info: 575-388-2343.

Maria Y Yavhi — 6 p.m. at the Silver City Public Library, 515 West College Ave. Maria y Yahví joyfully share music from various Mexican music traditions including music from the U.S./Mexico border, Son Jarocho (Veracruz), and Son Calentano (Michoacan/Guerrero). This event is free and open to the public. Doors open 30 minutes before performance time. Space is limited and will be a on a first come, first seated basis. The concert is sponsored by the Friends of the Library. For more information call: 575-538-3672.

NMSU Gospel Choir — 6 p.m. at the Global Resource Center Auditorium, 1000 W. College Ave., Western New Mexico University. Info: 575-635-7538.

Southwest New Mexico Audubon monthly meeting — 7 p.m. at Harlan Hall, at 12th & Alabama Streets on the WNMU campus. Guest speaker Mike Fugagli will present a summary of his recent work with Hawks Aloft on the Mexican Spotted Owl, raptors and songbirds. The meeting is free and open to the public. For information call 575-388-2386 or visit www.swnmaudubon.org.

Exhibit reception — 5-7 p.m. at Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main St. Info: <http://las-cruces.org/museums> or call 575-541-2154.

Here & There opening reception — 5-7 p.m. at Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main St. Various media from ArtForms members exhibit runs Feb. 5-March 19. Info: artformsnm.org.

For the Love of Spring opening reception — 5-7 p.m. at Mas Art Frame & Art Supplies, 126 S. Main St. New Mexico Watercolor Society-Southern Chapter watercolor exhibit runs Feb. 5-March 3. Info: artformsnm.org.

Progress Women and their Art opening reception — 5-6 p.m. at Thomas Branigan Memorial Library, 200 E. Picacho Ave. GFWC Progress Club of Las Cruces acrylic, watercolor, photography, crochet and weaving exhibit runs Feb. 5-29. Info: artformsnm.org.

Artistry of a Mesilla Valley Family opening reception — 5-7 p.m. at St Paul’s Methodist Church, 225 W. Griggs Ave. Ira Rodgers Hall, Hazel Hall McElyea, Josephina McElyea, Micheal & Eula Fern Thompson, Shannon & David Bradley exhibit of



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Maria y Yahví joyfully share music from various Mexican music traditions including music from the U.S./Mexico border, Son Jarocho (Veracruz), and Son Calentano (Michoacan/Guerrero) on Feb. 5 at the Silver City Public Library. (Courtesy photo)

Tiffany Christopher — 7:30 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard. Singer, songwriter and guitarist. Info: 575-956-6144.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Art with Heart/Ten O’Clock Club opening reception — 4:30 -6:45 p.m. at Cottonwood Gallery, Southwest Environmental Center, 275 N. Main St. Two-D and Three-D art. Info: artformsnm.org.

Love of Lettering opening reception — 3-5 p.m. at NMSU Alumni & Visitor Center, 775 College Dr. Southwest Calligraphy Guild exhibit runs Feb. 3-26. Info: artformsnm.org.

Art We Love opening reception — 4-7 p.m. at Main Street Bistro & Ale House, 139 N. Main St. Las Cruces Art Association exhibit runs Feb. 5-March 28. Info: artformsnm.org.

Las Cruces Museum of Art opening reception — 5 – 7 p.m. at 491 N. Main St. Graphicanos: Contemporary Latino Prints from the Serie Project reception is during the Downtown Ramble. The exhibit brings a variety of socio-political topics to the forefront. Serigraph prints by Latino artists explore cultural issues of the Latino community throughout the country. The exhibition runs through Saturday, April 2. Info: <http://las-cruces.org/museums> or call 575-541-2137.

For the Love of Art Month Member

oils, watercolors, pen/ink, crochet/ knitting and ceramic exhibit runs Feb. 5-11. Vocal performance during the reception. Info: artformsnm.org.

Branigan Cultural Center opening reception — 5-7 p.m. at 501 N. Main St. Reflections: African American Life from the Myrna Colley-Lee Collection. The exhibition runs Feb. 5 through April 2 and tells a story of community and place through a selection of paintings, photographs, textile pieces, and works on paper from the collection of renowned costume designer and arts patron, Myrna Colley-Lee. Info: <http://las-cruces.org/museums> or call 575-541-2154.

El Paso Electric Gallery reception for work by Steve McLellan — 5-7 p.m. at the Rio Grande Theatre. Info: www.RioGrandeTheatre.com or 575-523-6403.

Mesilla Valley Film Society presents Carol — 7:30 p.m. at 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. In 1950s New York, a department-store clerk who dreams of a better life falls for an older, married woman. Starring Cate Blanchett, Rooney Mara, Kyle Chandler & Sarah Paulson. Cost: \$7; MVFS Members \$5; seniors over 60, Military and Students with ID \$6. Info: 575-524-8287.

Picacho Peak Brewery live music — 7-9 p.m., 3900 W. Picacho Ave. Dan White performs. Info: 575-680-6394.



Cowboy Days at the New Mexico Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum is on March 5 and 6. (Courtesy photo)

SATURDAY, FEB. 6
Silver City/Grant County
Roots & Branches radio show — 8-10 a.m. every Saturday on gmcr.org or KURU 89.1 FM. Info: 575-534-0298.
Chocolate Fantasia — 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Market Café, 614 Bullard St. Support the Mimbres Region Arts Council and enjoy plenty of chocolate. Big Ditch Crickets and Fiddling Friends will play dance music at the Hub. Info: 575-388-2343, or www.silvercityfoodcoop.com.
Brown Bag Lunch at the Silver City Museum — noon-1 p.m. at the Silver City Museum Annex, 312 W. Broadway. The lunch topic is “The Making of a Monument: Chiricahua’s Secrets Unveiled” with Suzanne Moody, who will help us discover some of the many treasures in this unique place and why it is a national monument. Info: 575-538-5921 or info@silvercitymuseum.org.
Melanie Zipin and the Sugar Leafs — 7 p.m. at the Buckhorn Saloon in Pinos Altos. Groove oriented folk rock for the Chinese New Year. Info: 575-538-9911.
Papa Smurf and the Sailing Snails — 7 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard. Silver City’s newest jazz trio. Info: 575-956-6144.
Truth or Consequences/Sierra County
Old Time Fiddlers Saturday Night Dance — 7-9 p.m. every Saturday at

the New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm Street T or C. Info: 575-744-9137.
Las Cruces/Mesilla
Race for Care “Kick Off” — 9 a.m. at Mesilla Plaza. Celebrating “All Types of Cancer Awareness Month” on National Cancer Prevention Month with a 5K Run or 1K Fun Walk. Registration cost: \$30 per person; late registration: \$35 per person; team registration cost: \$25 (minimum 10.) Info: aceadventuresunlimited.com or carelascruces.org.
Museum of Nature and Science Family Science Saturday — 10 a.m. at 411 N. Main St. Join us in February for a special series about Forces. Feb. 6: Issac Newton & his laws. Classes are held every Saturday. All ages are welcome, no registration is required and admission is free. Info: http://las-cruces.org/museums or call 575-522-3120.
“SNAP!: The Science, Nature, and Art Program” — 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at 411- 491 N. Main St. Children and their families are invited to join the

Museum of Nature & Science and the Las Cruces Museum of Art. Feb. 6 topic is Evergreen Plants. Info: http://las-cruces.org/museums or call 541-3120.
My Masterpiece opening reception — 1-4 p.m. at Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery, 2470-A Calle de Guadalupe. Various media exhibit runs Feb. 1-29. Info: artformsnm.org.
Mesilla Valley Film Society presents Carol — 1:30 and 7:30 p.m. at 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. In 1950s New York, a department-store clerk who dreams of a better life falls for an older, married woman. Starring Cate Blanchett, Rooney Mara, Kyle Chandler & Sarah Paulson. Cost: \$7; MVFS Members \$5; Seniors over 60, Military and Students with ID \$6. Info: 575-524-8287.
Storydancer Terry Alvarez performance — 2-4 p.m. at Desert Roots Artist Gallery, 1001 S. Solano. Storytelling, music and dance. Info: artformsnm.org.
Mesquite Art Gallery exhibit



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reception — 4-6 p.m. at 340 N. Mesquite St. Exhibit features the work of Deming artist Claudia Dennee. Info: 575-640-3502.

Alamogordo/Otero County White Sands National Monument Tent Talks — 10-11 a.m. at the Interdune Boardwalk, at the Monument, located at 19955 Highway 70 West (between the cities of Alamogordo and Las Cruces.) Offered on weekends from Labor Day to Memorial Day. Info: 575-479-6124 or email whsa_interpretation@nps.gov.
White Sands National Monument Skins and Skulls program — 3-3:30 p.m. on the Visitor Center Patio at the Monument, located at 19955 Highway 70 West (between the cities of Alamogordo and Las Cruces Join rangers for a 20-minute talk about these amazing animals. Rangers will have pelts, skulls, and other props to provide you an up-close look and feel of the elusive wildlife of White Sands. Info: 575-479-6124 or email whsa_interpretation@nps.gov.
Art of the Heart Grand Opening event — 6-9 p.m. at 316 Granado St., Tularosa. All are welcome. Music provided by Lost Dog. Free. Info: dwillison@annemcgilvray.com.

February Night Sky Program — 6-7:30 p.m. at Oliver Lee State Park, 409 Dog Canyon Road (12 Miles south from Alamogordo on U.S. 54). Deep space viewing of Orion and Andromeda as well as other dark skies treats. Info: 575-437-8284.

SUNDAY, FEB. 7
Silver City/Grant County Missy & Heine Andersen — 1 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard. Vocal magic that lights up the night. Info: 575-956-6144.
Azaima Anderson CD Release — 1-3 p.m. at the Tankie Creek Coffeehouse, 112 W. Yankie St. Info: 575-956-9419.

Deming/Luna County “The West as We Saw It” Art Center artist reception — 1-3 p.m. at the Deming Art Center, 100 S. Gold St. The February exhibit features photography by Bob and Diane Hudgens and creations made from used lariats by Mike Shalett. The show runs through February 27. Info: 575-546-3663,

Las Cruces/Mesilla Here & There opening reception — 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Tombaugh Gallery at Unitarian Universalist Church, 2000 S. Solano. Various media exhibit runs Feb. 7-26. Info: artformsnm.org.
Mesilla Valley Film Society presents Carol — 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. at 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. In 1950s New York, a department-store clerk who dreams of a better life falls for an older, married woman. Starring Cate Blanchett, Rooney Mara, Kyle Chandler & Sarah

Paulson. Cost: \$7; MVFS Members \$5; Seniors over 60, Military and Students with ID \$6. Info: 575-524-8287.

White Sands National Monument holds a free Skins and Skulls educational event Feb. 20. (Courtesy photo)



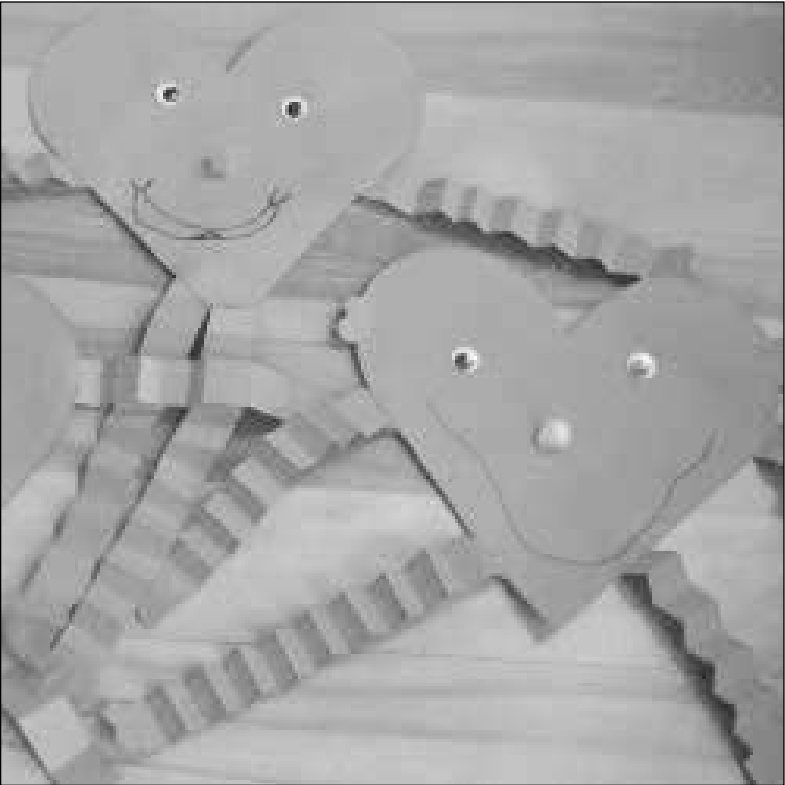
Alamogordo/Otero County White Sands National Monument Tent Talks — 10-11 a.m. at the Interdune Boardwalk, at the Monument, located at 19955 Highway 70 West (between the cities of Alamogordo and Las Cruces.) This free program features a ranger-led tent talk, with topics such as of America’s Best Idea in the Land of Enchantment to Current Research at White Sands National Monument. Info: 575-479-6124 or email whsa_interpretation@nps.gov.
White Sands National Monument Skins and Skulls program — 3-3:30 p.m. on the Visitor Center Patio at the Monument, located at 19955 Highway 70 West (between the cities of Alamogordo and Las Cruces.) This free program features 44 different species of mammals living at White Sands. Rangers will have pelts, skulls, and other props to provide you an up-close look and feel of the elusive wildlife of White Sands. Info: 575-479-6124 or email whsa_interpretation@nps.gov.

MONDAY, FEB. 8
Silver City/Grant County The Widowed and Single Persons of Grant County monthly meeting — 10:30 a.m. at Cross Point Assembly of God church, formerly Glad Tidings Church, 11600 Hwy 180 E. Speaker is County Manager Charlene Webb. Cost for lunch is \$12. All singles are welcome. For information call 575-537-3643.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Mesilla Valley Film Society presents Carol — 7:30 p.m. at 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. In 1950s New York, a department-store clerk who dreams of a better life falls for an older, married woman. Starring Cate Blanchett, Rooney Mara, Kyle Chandler & Sarah Paulson. Cost: \$7; MVFS Members \$5; seniors over 60, Military and Students with ID \$6. Info: 575-524-8287.

TUESDAY, FEB. 9
Silver City/Grant County Bayou Seco and Friends play Annual Mardi Gras Party — 6 p.m. at Diane’s Parlor, 510 N. Bullard St. Cajun/New Orleans food. Join in costume. Info: 575-534-0298.
Mardi Gras Cajun Feast and Dance Party with live music by Average Cadaver — Feast starts at 5 p.m. and dancing at 7 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard. Info: 575-956-6144.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Family Science Saturday: following in the footsteps — 10 a.m. at 411 North Main St. Join us for a special series of “Family Science Saturday” as we learn about the lives of some famous scientists and attempt to



Children are invited to take their parents to create valentine crafts at the Silver City Museum Feb. 13. (Courtesy photo)

recreate one of their experiment. Topic for Jan. 9 is Structure of the Earth. Classes are held every Saturday. All ages are welcome. No registration required and admission is free. Info: <http://las-cruces.org/museums> or call 575-522-3120.
SNAP!: The Science, Nature, and Art Program — 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Las Cruces Museum of Art and the Museum of Nature and Science, 411 N. Main St. Children and their families are invited to join us each Saturday in January. The program encourages visitors to embrace their artistic creativity while engaging in educational STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) activities. Jan. 9 topic Houseplants. Info: <http://las-cruces.org/museums> or call 575-541-3120.
Kitchen Creations cooking school for diabetics — 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Tierra Madre, 1955 N. Valley Dr. This Kitchen Creations cooking school is a series of 4 classes for adults with type 2 diabetes which meets every Tuesday in February. Learn how to plan and prepare meals that are tasty and balanced to manage diabetes. Participants will receive a manual, cookbooks, and other useful items to keep. The cooking school is free of charge. Info: 575-525-6649.
Mesilla Valley Film Society presents Carol — 7:30 p.m. at 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. In 1950s New York, a department-store clerk who dreams of a better life falls for an older, married woman. Starring Cate Blanchett, Rooney Mara, Kyle Chandler & Sarah Paulson. Cost: \$7; MVFS Members \$5; seniors over 60, Military and Students with ID \$6. Info: 575-524-8287.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 10
Rodeo Weaving on a Frame and Table Loom workshop — 9 a.m.-noon at The Chiricahua Gallery, 5 Pine St. This is a 2-day workshop in which participants will be shown the basics of weaving on a table-top four harness loom and will learn frame weaving in two three-hour sessions over a two day period. The class is limited to 10 students, so pre-register as soon as possible to hold your place. Info: JoAnn Julian at 520-558-1098 or email julian@vtc.net.

Silver City/Grant County Technology workshop — 1-3 p.m. at Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Avenue presented by WNMU Adult Education Services.

This is a basic computer workshop; topic to be announced. Job-seekers, entrepreneurs, and those seeking to boost their work skills are especially encouraged to attend. No registration necessary. There are 14 laptops available for participants to use. Free. No registration necessary. Info: 575-538-3672 or silvercitypubliclibrary.wordpress.com.

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

Alamogordo/Otero County Wine Down Wednesday — 5:30-8 p.m. at Heart of the Desert with live music with Ric O’Shay performing classic country and featuring Heart of the Desert Wines and Sierra Blanca Brews and light snacks. Located at 7288 U.S. Highway 54/70 between Alamogordo and Tularosa. Info: 575-434-0035.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County Savor the Flavor — 6 p.m. at the Ruidoso Jockey Club, Ruidoso Downs Racetrack. Indulge in an eight-course gourmet meal with wine parings prepared by local chefs during a dinner and silent auction event benefiting HEAL and the Nest Domestic Violence Shelter. Cost: \$100. Info: 575-378-6378.

THURSDAY, FEB. 11
Silver City/Grant County Nuevos Comienzos Community Kitchen — noon-1 p.m. at the Market Café, 614 Bullard St. Community forum presentation with Rita Herbst. Info: 575-388-2343, or www.silvercityfoodcoop.com.
WildWorks — 4 -6 p.m. at Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Avenue. Space for youth to hang out, experiment, create, and more. Including, but not limited to, robots, electronics, games, crafting, 3D drawing, photo editing. Ages 10 and over. Free. No registration necessary. Info: 575-538-3672 or silvercitypubliclibrary.wordpress.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Planeteers at the Museum of Nature and Science — 9 a.m. at 411 North Main Street. Explore the sun. We will be counting down some of the top 10 facts about the sun before creating a collage image to take home. Planeteers is free and open to the public. Registration is not required. Info: 575-522-3120 or visit the website <http://museums.las-cruces.org>.
Beginning knitting class at Branigan Library — 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Library, 200 E. Picacho Ave. The class meets every Thursday from Feb. 11 to April 14. Supplies for the class are \$5. Registration is required. Info: 575-528-4024 or callee@las-cruces.org.
Food and Agriculture in the Border Region — 7 p.m. at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum. Krysten Augular will talk about how food and agriculture programs and initiatives can help create healthy communities. Info: 575-522-4100.
Mesilla Valley Film Society presents Carol — 7:30 p.m. at 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. In 1950s New York, a department-store clerk who dreams of a better life falls for an older, married woman. Starring Cate Blanchett, Rooney Mara, Kyle Chandler & Sarah Paulson. Cost: \$7; MVFS Members \$5; seniors over 60, Military and Students with ID \$6. Info: 575-524-8287.
The Big Band Dance Club Valentine Ball with Ron Thielman’s Septet — 8-10 p.m. at Alma de Artes Charter School, 402 W. Court St. Decorations and finger food. Cost: \$7; Matinee \$6; MVFS Members \$5; seniors over 60, Military and Students with ID \$6. Info: 526-6504.

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

FRIDAY, FEB. 12
Silver City/Grant County Popcorn Fridays — all day at 614 N. Bullard St. Free popcorn and food samples. Info: 575-388-2343.
Loren Walker Madsen — 8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard. Classic outlay country music. Info: 575-956-6144.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Coloring Club for adults — 10 a.m.-noon on the second and fourth Fridays of each month at the Las Cruces Railroad Museum, 351 N. Mesilla Street. BYOB and C - Bring Your Own Book and Colored pencils, or use our materials. We will have a variety of pages ready to be colored, from simple pictures to intricate designs. Gentlemen are welcome, also, but no children, please. Info: <http://las-cruces.org/museums> or call 575-647-4480.
Dreams of the Desert opening reception — 5-8 p.m. at Aa Studios, 2645 Doña Ana Rd. Christina Campbell’s ceramics and wall hangings reception. Info: artformsnm.org.
Picacho Peak Brewery live music — 7-9 p.m., 3900 W. Picacho Ave. Vince Alten performs. Info: 575-680-6394.
Shooting Star/Ten O’Clock Club opening reception — 7-8 p.m. at the Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Main St. Exhibit runs Feb. 12, 13, 19, 20 &

21. Info: artformsnm.org.
No Strings Theatre Company presents An Iliad — 8 p.m. at Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall. Tickets range from \$10-\$12. Info: 575-523-1223.

SATURDAY, FEB. 13
Silver City/Grant County
Roots & Branches radio show — 8-10 a.m. every Saturday on gmc. org or KURU 89.1 FM. Info: 575-534-0298.
Artisan Market — 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Market Café, 614 Bullard St. Info: 575-388-2343, or www.silvercityfoodcoop.com.
Valentine Hearts! — 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Silver City Museum, 312 W. Broadway St. Make heart crafts to give to a special valentine. Children of all ages will enjoy these Valentine traditions from the Victorian era. This activity is free and open to the public. Info: 575-538-5921 or info@silvercitymuseum.org.
DJ Dancy Party — 9 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard. Info: 575-956-6144.

Deming/Luna County
Mesilla Valley Swing Band — 2-4 p.m. at Historic Morgan Hall, 109 E. Pine St. You asked for them back, we deliver!
A 20-piece Swing Band which will bring back the big band days of yesteryear. Bring a dance partner or find one here. General Admission: \$10; DPAT Members: \$8. Info: 575-545-8872.

Truth or Consequences/Sierra County
Old Time Fiddlers Saturday Night Dance — 7-9 p.m. every Saturday at the New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm Street T or C. Info: 575-744-9137.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
Crafts for Kids — 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum. Info: 575-522-4100.
Love of Art Studio Tour with David Jacquez — 10 a.m-4 p.m. at El Jardin de Las Cruces Art Gallery, 4010 N. Valley Dr. Info: 575-649-6556.
Museum of Nature and Science Family Science Saturday — 10 a.m. at 411 N. Main St. Join us in February for a special series about Forces. Feb. 13: Gravitational forces. Classes are held every Saturday. All ages are welcome, no registration is required and admission is free. Info: http://las-cruces.org/museums or call 575-522-3120.
Love of Art Studio Tour — 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at 1314 N. Raymond St. Artists include: Linda Reeder Sanchez, Rhoda Winters, Beth Landers Chiders, Margaret Giralte, Ernest Trujillo, Lana Patterson, Sharm McKim, Susy Rossman and Sandra Craddock. Beadwork, art jewelry, paintings and pottery. Info: artformsnm.org.
Love of Art Studio Tour with Rebecca Courtney and Kathy Morrow — 0 a.m.-4 p.m. at Linda Lundeen Gallery, 618 S. Alameda. Paintings and clayboards. Info: artformsnm.org.
Love of Art Studio Tour — 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at 3655 Canyon Ridge Arc. Featuring Jeri Desrochers, Mary Zawacki, Linda Hagen & C. C. Cunningham with oil and acrylic paintings and pastels. Info: artformsnm.org.
Love of Art Studio Tour with Lynn Unangst — 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Casa de Puertas, 4020 Red Yucca Ct.

Hand-woven art garments and “spirit minder” dolls. Info: artformsnm.org.
Love of Art Studio Tour — 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Funky Karma Incense & Tea, 3207 S. Main St. Tour features Teri Van Huss, Maria Kruse, Alice Ward, Marty Galster and Liz King with fractals, paintings, photography, cards and mixed media. Info: artformsnm.org.
Love of Art Studio Tour with Nancy Frost Begin — 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at 1982 Avenida de Mesilla. Watercolors, woodcuts and oils. Info: artformsnm.org.
Love of Art Studio Tour with



The Spencer Theater in Alto brings Zeparella to New Mexico Feb. 27. (Courtesy photo)

Rosemary McKeown — 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at 1300 Vista de Monte. Oil painting, copper art and jewelry. Info: artformsnm.org.
Love of Art Studio Tour with Marie Siegrist — 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Studio 1490, 1490 Via Norte. Watercolor, acrylic paintings and cards. Info: artformsnm.org.
Love of Art Studio Tour with Marilyn Hansen — 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Marilyn’s Weaving & Metal Creations, 6610 Vista del Reino. Sculptural weaving and metal creations. Info: artformsnm.org.
Love of Art Studio Tour with Greta Burger and Joanna Bradley — 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Cathouse Glass, 10050 Tuscany Dr. Glass, mixed media and gourds. Info: artformsnm.org.
Love of Art Studio Tour with Jan Severson — 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Fiber Art Studio, 8181 Constitution Rd. Fiber art. Info: artformsnm.org.
Love of Art Studio Tour with Steve Bailey & Richard Johnson — 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at 8160 Constitution Rd. Fiber arts, weaving and artisan jewelry. Info: artformsnm.org.
Love of Art Studio Tour with Jan Thune — 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at 1204 Verona Ct. Fiber art. Info: artformsnm.org.
The Magic of Fractals reception — 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Funky Karma Incense & Tea, 3207 S. Main St. Mesilla Valley Fractal Artists’ exhibit runs Feb. 1-29. Info: artformsnm.org.
SNAP!: The Science, Nature, and Art Program — 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at 411- 491 N. Main St. Children and their families are invited to join the Museum of Nature & Science and the Las Cruces Museum of Art. Feb. 13 topic is Hearts. Info: http://las-cruces.org/museums or call 541-3120.
Borderland Bones Trombone Quartet — 1 p.m. at Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main St. Info: artformsnm.org.
Mesilla Valley Film Society presents The Danish Girl — 1:30 and 7:30 p.m. at 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. A fictitious love story loosely inspired by the lives of Danish artists Lili Elbe and Gerda Wegener. Cost: \$7; MVFS Members

\$5; seniors over 60, Military and Students with ID \$6. Info: 575-524-8287.
Opening Reception for David Jacquez — 4-8 p.m. at El Jardin de Las Cruces Art Gallery, 4010 N. Valley Dr. Info: 575-649-6556.
Unsettled Gallery opening — 4-6 p.m. at 950 N. Mesquite St. Louis Ocepek and Mary Wolf’s collaboration of photo-intaglio prints, Tableaux Parisiens, During the exhibit (Thursday, February 25 – 5:30 to 6:30 PM) Mary Wolf and Louis Ocepek will each talk about their roles in creating work for the exhibit.

Wolf’s talk will cover photographing Paris; Ocepek will talk about the Photo-Intaglio process. The exhibit concludes on Saturday, March 5 at 4 p.m. Info: 575-635-2285 or u@unsettledgallery.com.
New Mexico Heritage Series, Josh Grinder — 7:30 p.m. at the Rio Grande Theatre. Country singer-songwriter Grider returns home to perform Info: www.RioGrandeTheatre.com or 575-523-6403.
No Strings Theatre Company presents Killing Buddha — 8 p.m. at Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Main. Tickets \$10 and \$12. Info: 575-523-1223.

Alamogordo/Otero County
White Sands National Monument Tent Talks — 10-11 a.m. at the Interdune Boardwalk, at the Monument, located at 19955 Highway 70 West (between Alamogordo and Las Cruces.) This free program features a ranger-led tent talk, with topics such as of America’s Best Idea in the Land of Enchantment to Current Research at White Sands National Monument. Offered on weekends from Labor Day to Memorial Day. Info: 575-479-6124 or email whsa_interpretation@nps.gov.
White Sands National Monument Skins and Skulls program — 3-3:30 p.m. on the Visitor Center Patio at the Monument, located at 19955 Highway 70 West (between Alamogordo and Las Cruces.) Join rangers for a 20-minute talk about these amazing animals. Rangers will have pelts, skulls, and other props to provide an up-close look and feel of the elusive wildlife of White Sands. Info: 575-479-6124 or email whsa_interpretation@nps.gov.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County
Peabo Bryson in Concert — Doors open at 6 p.m.; dinner is at 7 p.m. and show time is 8 p.m. at the Inn of the Mountain Gods. Cost: \$50. Info innoftthemountaingods.com/events/peabo-bryson-2-13/.
Flashdance: The Musical — 7-10 p.m. at the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts, 108 Spencer Road,

Alto, N.M. Info: 888-818-7872 or 575-336-4800.

SUNDAY, FEB. 14
Las Cruces/Mesilla
Love of Art Studio Tour with David Jacquez — noon-4 p.m. at El Jardin de Las Cruces Art Gallery, 4010 N. Valley Dr. Info: 575-649-6556.
Love of Art Studio Tour — noon-4 p.m. at 1314 N. Raymond St. Artists include: Linda Reeder Sanchez, Rhoda Winters, Beth Landers Chiders, Margaret Giralte, Ernest Trujillo, Lana Patterson, Sharm McKim, Susy Rossman and Sandra Craddock. Beadwork, art jewelry, paintings and pottery. Info: artformsnm.org.
Love of Art Studio Tour with Rebecca Courtney & Kathy Morrow — noon-4 p.m. at Linda Lundeen Gallery, 618 S. Alameda. Paintings and clayboards. Info: artformsnm.org.
Love of Art Studio Tour — noon-4 p.m. at 3655 Canyon Ridge Arc. Featuring Jeri Desrochers, Mary Zawacki, Linda Hagen & C. C. Cunningham with oil and acrylic paintings and pastels. Info: artformsnm.org.
Love of Art Studio Tour with Lynn Unangst — noon-4 p.m. at Casa de Puertas, 4020 Red Yucca Ct. Hand-woven art garments and “spirit minder” dolls. Info: artformsnm.org.
Love of Art Studio Tour with Nancy Frost Begin — noon-4 p.m. at 1982 Avenida de Mesilla. Watercolors, woodcuts and oils. Info: artformsnm.org.
Love of Art Studio Tour with Rosemary McKeown — noon-4 p.m. at 1300 Vista de Monte. Oil painting, copper art and jewelry. Info: artformsnm.org.
Love of Art Studio Tour with Marie Siegrist — noon-4 p.m. at Studio 1490, 1490 Via Norte. Watercolor, acrylic paintings and cards. Info: artformsnm.org.
Love of Art Studio Tour with Marilyn Hansen — noon-4 p.m. at Marilyn’s Weaving & Metal Creations, 6610 Vista del Reino. Sculptural weaving and metal creations. Info: artformsnm.org.
Love of Art Studio Tour with Greta Burger and Joanna Bradley — noon-4 p.m. at Cathouse Glass,


10050 Tuscany Dr. Glass, mixed media and gourds. Info: artformsnm.org.
Love of Art Studio Tour with Jan Severson — noon- 4 p.m. at Fiber Art Studio, 8181 Constitution Rd. Fiber art. Info: artformsnm.org.
Love of Art Studio Tour with Steve Bailey & Richard Johnson — noon-4 p.m. at 8160 Constitution Rd. Fiber arts, weaving and artisan jewelry. Info: artformsnm.org.
Love of Art Studio Tour with Jan Thune — noon-4 p.m. at 1204 Verona Ct. Fiber art. Info: artformsnm.org.
Harlem Globetrotters — 2 p.m. at New Mexico State University Pan American Center, 1810 E. University Ave. Tickets from \$27. Info: 575-646-4413; Tickets: 575-646-1420; E-mail: panam@nmsu.edu.
Mesilla Valley Film Society presents The Danish Girl — 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. at 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. A fictitious love story loosely inspired by the lives of Danish artists Lili Elbe and Gerda Wegener. Lili and Gerda’s marriage and work evolve as they navigate Lili’s groundbreaking journey as a transgender pioneer. Cost: \$7; MVFS Members \$5; seniors over 60, Military and Students with ID \$6. Info: 575-524-8287.
Picacho Peak Brewery Valentine’s Day dinner and show — 7-9 p.m., 3900 W. Picacho Ave. Neil Diamond tribute Play Me in the ballroom. Dinner at 7 p.m. includes a four-course meal, one alcoholic drink per person and a rose for the ladies. Show starts at 8 p.m. Tickets: \$99 per couple, \$50 stag. Info: 575-680-6394.

Alamogordo/Otero County
White Sands National Monument Tent Talks — 10-11 a.m. at the Interdune Boardwalk, at the Monument, located at 19955 Highway 70 West (between the cities of Alamogordo and Las Cruces.) This free program features a ranger-led tent talk, with topics such as of America’s Best Idea in the Land of Enchantment to Current Research at White Sands National Monument. Offered on weekends from Labor Day to Memorial Day. Info: 575-479-6124 or email whsa_interpretation@nps.gov.

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February 2016



Jan. 29-Feb. 4: **Trumbo** **January 30 - No matinee
February 5-11: **Carol**
February 13-18: **The Danish Girl** **Feb. 12 - Theatre closed
February 20: **A Ballerina's Tale** **1:30 Only
February 19-25: **2016 Oscar Shorts** **Feb.20-No matinee
** Feb. 25 - 1:30 matinee, no 7:30 screening
February 26-March 3: **Difret** **Feb.27-No matinee

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS February 2016



Brown Bag Lunch: The Making of a Monument: Chiricahua's Secrets Unveiled with Suzanne Moody
Saturday, February 6th, 12 pm to 1 pm in the Silver City Museum Annex. Suzanne Moody will help us discover some of the many treasures in this unique place and why it is a national monument.

Valentine Hearts!
Saturday, February 13th, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm at the Silver City Museum
Come make some heart crafts to give to your special valentine! Children of all ages will enjoy these Valentine traditions from the Victorian era. This activity is free and open to the public.

Current Exhibits at the Museum:
Built to Change: The Evolving History of the Historic Ailman House
Flood Season: How Silver City's Main Street Became the Big Ditch
The Ailman Family Parlor: An Interactive, Family Friendly Experience!

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



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White Sands National Monument Skins and Skulls program — 3-3:30 p.m. on the Visitor Center Patio at the Monument, located at 19955 Highway 70 West (between the cities of Alamogordo and Las Cruces.) This free program features 44 different species of mammals living at White Sands. Join rangers for a 20-minute talk about these amazing animals. Rangers will have pelts, skulls, and other props to provide you an up-close look and feel of the elusive wildlife of White Sands. Info: 575-479-6124 or email whsa_interpretation@nps.gov.

MONDAY, FEB. 15
Las Cruces/Mesilla
Family Science Saturday: following in the footsteps — 10 a.m. at 411 North Main St. Join us for a special series of “Family Science Saturday” as we learn about the lives of some famous scientists and attempt to recreate one of their experiment. Classes are held every Saturday. All ages are welcome. No registration required and admission is free. Info: <http://las-cruces.org/museums> or call 575-522-3120.

Southern New Mexico N Scalers Model Railroad Club monthly meeting — 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Quonset hut at Southern New Mexico Fair Grounds. Model railroad will be running. Enter from the far west gate. Info: 575-526-8834.
Mesilla Valley Film Society presents The Danish Girl — 7:30 p.m. at 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. A fictitious love story loosely inspired by the lives of Danish artists Lili Elbe and Gerda Wegener. Lili and Gerda’s marriage and work evolve as they navigate Lili’s groundbreaking journey as a transgender pioneer. Cost: \$7; MVFS Members \$5; seniors over 60, Military and Students with ID \$6. Info: 575-524-8287.

TUESDAY, FEB. 16
Las Cruces/Mesilla
Kitchen Creations cooking school for diabetics — 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Tierra Madre, 1955 N. Valley Dr. This Kitchen Creations cooking school is a series of 4 classes for adults with type 2 diabetes which meets every Tuesday in February. Learn how to plan and prepare meals that are tasty and balanced to manage diabetes. Participants will receive a manual, cookbooks, and other useful items to keep. The cooking school is free of charge. Info: 575-525-6649.
Every Other Tuesday presents Bruce Carlson — 6:30 p.m. at the Rio Grande Theatre. Bruce Carlson’s music is a laid-back blend of originals and cover songs with an Americana style. Info: www.RioGrandeTheatre.com or 575-523-6403.

Mesilla Valley Film Society presents The Danish Girl — 7:30 p.m. at 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. A fictitious love story loosely inspired by the lives of Danish artists Lili Elbe and Gerda Wegener. Lili and Gerda’s marriage and work evolve as they navigate Lili’s groundbreaking journey as a transgender pioneer. Cost: \$7; MVFS Members \$5; seniors over 60, Military and Students with ID \$6. Info: 575-524-8287.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 17
Las Cruces/Mesilla
“Connecting Resources to Students and Students to Resources” — 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in the DASR Commons at the Doña Ana Community College East Mesa campus, 2800 Sonoma Ranch. The Center for Career & Student Success

needs participants to connect with DACC students by sharing their services. A table, two chairs, and a light lunch will be provided. Limited registration. Info: 575-527-7538.
Children’s story time at Tutti Bambini — 10:45 a.m. at 300 El Molino St. Parents can shop for children’s clothes at half price while the kids enjoy a story. Tutti Bambini is a non-profit resale shop that raises funds for at-risk children in the area. The program, which occurs every Wednesday, is in collaboration with The Children’s Reading Foundation of Doña Ana County which provides free books for the children. Info: 526-9752.
Mesilla Valley Film Society presents The Danish Girl — 7:30 p.m. at 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. A fictitious love story loosely inspired by the lives of Danish artists



Adults gather Feb. 26 at the Las Cruces Railroad Museum for Adult Coloring Club. (Courtesy photo)

Lili Elbe and Gerda Wegener. Lili and Gerda’s marriage and work evolve as they navigate Lili’s groundbreaking journey as a transgender pioneer. Cost: \$7; MVFS Members \$5; seniors over 60, Military and Students with ID \$6. Info: 575-524-8287.

Rodeo
Weaving on a Frame and Table Loom workshop — 9 a.m.-noon at The Chiricahua Gallery, 5 Pine St. This is a 2-day workshop in which participants will be shown the basics of weaving on a table-top four harness loom and will learn frame weaving in two three-hour sessions over a two day period. In addition to the piece each student will frame-weave, students will also weave a 5” x 5” mug rug on a table loom to take with them. Cost for Gallery members is \$35 and \$60 for nonmembers (the nonrefundable fee includes all weaving materials). The class is limited to 10 students. Info: JoAnn Julian at 520-558-1098 or email julian@vtc.net.

THURSDAY, FEB. 18
Las Cruces/Mesilla
Introduction to finding grants workshop — 1-2 p.m. at Branigan Library, 200 E. Picacho Ave. Learn to find funders for your nonprofit with the Foundation Center’s comprehensive funding research tool. Info: 575-541-2393 or email at kpartin@las-cruces.org.
Beginning knitting class at Branigan Library — 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Library, 200 E. Picacho Ave. This is a beginning knitting class designed for those who have never knitted before. Students will develop a solid foundation in ten weeks. Men and women ages 18 and over are welcome to register. The class meets every Thursday through April 14. Supplies for the class are \$5. Registration is required. Info: 575-528-4024 or calee@las-cruces.org.
Friends of the German Language

meeting — 7 p.m. in room 173-A, Breland Hall, on the New Mexico State University campus. “Freunde der Deutschen Sprache” (Friends of the German Language) meet every third Thursday of the month during the school year. Info: 522-5393.
Mesilla Valley Film Society presents The Danish Girl — 7:30 p.m. at 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. A fictitious love story loosely inspired by the lives of Danish artists Lili Elbe and Gerda Wegener. Lili and Gerda’s marriage and work evolve as they navigate Lili’s groundbreaking journey as a transgender pioneer. Cost: \$7; MVFS Members \$5; seniors over 60, Military and Students with ID \$6. Info: 575-524-8287.
The Big Band Dance Club CDs — 8-10 p.m. at Alma de Artes School, 402 West Court St. The music will be furnished by a DJ. Group dance

lesson taught by John Guisto at 7:00-7:45 p.m. \$8 for all on CD nights except \$5 for students with student ID. Information: 526-6504.

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

FRIDAY, FEB. 19
Silver City/Grant County
Popcorn Fridays — all day at 614 N. Bullard St. Free popcorn and food samples. Info: 575-388-2343.
JB & the Jack Rabbits — 8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard. Old school rock and outlaw country music. Info: 575-956-6144.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
Social Media Marketing Seminar — 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Doña Ana Community College Auditorium, 2800 Sonoma Ranch Blvd. Join guest speaker Eric Spellman of Spellmann & Associates as he discusses The Art of Generating Quality Leads Using Social Media; Digital Marketing on a Shoestring; Drive New Business Through Display and Social Media; How to Build a New Online Business in 3 Days or Less and How to Promote and Grow Your Business Using 7 Powerful Offline Methods. Cost is \$30 general public; \$20 SBDC clients & Hispanic Chamber members. Info: 575-527-7676 or go to www.nmsbdc.org/lascruces.
Picacho Peak Brewery live music — 7-9 p.m., 3900 W. Picacho Ave. Dan White performs. Info: 575-680-6394.No
Bayou Seco and Friends Contradance — 7:30 p.m. at La

Mesilla Community Center, 2251 Calle de Santiago, Mesilla. Info: 575-522-1691.

Strings Theatre Company presents “Killing Buddha” — 8 p.m. at Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall. Tickets \$10 and \$12. Info: 575-523-1223.

Viva La Cultura — 7:30 p.m. at the Rio Grande Theatre. An evening of music with La Rondella de Albuquerque. Info: www.RioGrandeTheatre.com or 575-523-6403.

Mesilla Valley Film Society presents the 2016 Oscar Nominated Shorts — 7:30 p.m. at 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. Cost: \$7; MVFS Members \$5; seniors over 60, Military and Students with ID \$6. Info: 575-524-8287.

SATURDAY, FEB. 20
Silver City/Grant County

Alison Reynolds — 7:30 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard. Classical to folk and all points in beween on cello and guitar. Info: 575-956-6144.

Truth or Consequences/Sierra County

Old Time Fiddlers Saturday Night Dance — 7-9 p.m. every Saturday at the New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm Street T or C. Info: 575-744-9137.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum Fourth-Annual Museum Rocks! Gem & Mineral show — 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at 4100 Dripping Springs Road. Hosted and sponsored by the Friends of the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, the show features more than 60 vendors and brings together wholesale and resale dealers of both cut and uncut gemstones, rocks, minerals, fossils and meteorites. Educational displays and jewelry supplies are also part of the event. Admission is \$5 per person, age 5 and older. Info: 575- 522-1232 or visit www.lcmuseumrocks.com.

Museum of Nature and Science Family Science Saturday — 10 a.m. at 411 N. Main St. Join us in February for a special series about Forces. Feb. 20: Electromagnetic forces. Classes are held every Saturday. All ages are welcome, no registration is required and admission is free. Info: http://las-cruces.org/museums or call 575-522-3120.

Love of Art Studio Tour with David Jacquez — 10 a.m-4 p.m. at El Jardin de Las Cruces Art Gallery, 4010 N. Valley Dr. Info: 575-649-6556.

Love of Art Studio Tour with Tomi LaPierre — 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Tomi’s Studio, 3421 Doña Ana Road. Info: artformsnm.org.

Love of Art Studio Tour with Storm Sermay & Emmitt Booher — 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Storm Sermay Photography, 3382 Solarridge St. Info: artformsnm.org.

Love of Art Studio Tour with Jean Wilkey & Robin Weiner Labe — 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Jean Wilkey Studio, 3370 Solarridge St. Info: artformsnm.org.

Love of Art Studio Tour with John Northcutt & Kris Northcutt — 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at New Dimension Art Works & Daughter of the Prairie, 4652 Calle de Nubes. Info: artformsnm.org.

Love of Art Studio Tour with Rebecca Courtney and Kathy Morrow — 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Linda Lundeen Gallery, 618 S. Alameda. Paintings and clayboards. Info:

artformsnm.org.

Love of Art Studio Tour — 10 a.m-4 p.m. at 3655 Canyon Ridge Arc. Featuring Jeri Desrochers, Mary Zawacki, Linda Hagen & C. C. Cunningham with oil and acrylic paintings and pastels. Info: artformsnm.org.

Love of Art Studio Tour with Lynn Unangst — 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Casa de Puertas, 4020 Red Yucca Ct. Hand-woven art garments and “spirit minder” dolls. Info: artformsnm.org.

Love of Art Studio Tour with Nancy Frost Begin — 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at 1982 Avenida de Mesilla. Watercolors, woodcuts and oils. Info: artformsnm.org.

Love of Art Studio Tour with Audrey Worthen — 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Audrita Jewelry Designs, 3904 Willow Brook Ct. Silversmith and lapidary. Info: artformsnm.org.

Love of Art Studio Tour with Jan Severson — 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. at Fiber Art Studio, 8181 Constitution Rd. Fiber art. Info: artformsnm.org.

Love of Art Studio Tour with Steve Bailey & Richard Johnson — 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at 8160 Constitution Rd. Fiber arts, weaving and artisan jewelry. Info: artformsnm.org.

Love of Art Studio Tour with Jan Thune — 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at 1204 Verona Ct. Fiber art. Info: artformsnm.org.

“SNAP!: The Science, Nature, and Art Program” — 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at 411- 491 N. Main St. Children and their families are invited to join the Museum of Nature & Science and the Las Cruces Museum of Art. Feb. 20 topic is Clyde Tombaugh and the Dwarf Planet Pluto. Info: http://las-cruces.org/museums or call 541-3120.

Story Time at the Las Cruces Railroad Museum — 11-11:30 a.m. at 351 N. Mesilla St. On the 3rd Saturday of each month come to the museum and listen to the reading of a book and complete a related activity. Story Time is free and all ages are welcome. Info: http://las-cruces.org/museums or call 575-647-4480.

Alma d’Arte Charter High School Choir — 1 p.m. at Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main St. Info: artformsnm.org.

Mesilla Valley Film Society presents A Ballerina’s Tale — 1:30 p.m. at 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. Cost: \$7; MVFS Members \$5; seniors over 60, Military and Students with ID \$6. Info: 575-524-8287.

Mesilla Valley Film Society presents the 2016 Oscar Nominated Shorts — 1:30 p.m. at 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. Cost: \$7; MVFS Members \$5; seniors over 60, Military and Students with ID \$6. Info: 575-524-8287.

No Strings Theatre Company presents Killing Buddha — 8 p.m. at Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall. Tickets \$10 and \$12. Info: 575-523-1223.

Alamogordo/Otero County

White Sands National Monument Skins and Skulls program — 3-3:30 p.m. on the Visitor Center Patio at the Monument, located at 19955 Highway 70 West (Alamogordo and Las Cruces.) This free program features 44 different species of mammals living at White Sands. Info: 575-479-6124 or email whsa_interpretation@nps.gov.

Wine Down Wednesday — 5:30-8 p.m. at Heart of the Desert with live music with Delaney Davis performing folk and soul music and featuring Heart of the Desert Wines and Sierra

Blanca Brews and light snacks. Located at 7288 U.S. Highway 54/70 between Alamogordo and Tularosa. Info: 575-434-0035.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County

HELLYEAH in Concert — 8 p.m. at the Inn of the Mountain Gods. Info innoftthemountaingods.com/events/hellyeah-2-20/.

SUNDAY, FEB. 21
Las Cruces/Mesilla

Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum Fourth-Annual Museum Rocks! Gem & Mineral show — 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at 4100 Dripping Springs Road. Hosted and sponsored by the Friends of the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, the show features more than 60 vendors and brings together wholesale and resale dealers of both cut and uncut gemstones, rocks, minerals, fossils and meteorites. Educational displays and jewelry supplies are also part of the event. Admission is \$5 per person, age 5 and older. Info: 575- 522-1232 or visit www.lcmuseumrocks.com.

Love of Art Studio Tour with David Jacquez — noon-4 p.m. at El Jardin de Las Cruces Art Gallery, 4010 N.

Valley Dr. Folk/Santero art. Info: 575-649-6556.

Love of Art Studio Tour with Tomi LaPierre — noon-4 p.m. at Tomi’s Studio, 3421 Doña Ana Rd. Sculpture. Info: artformsnm.org.

Love of Art Studio Tour with Storm Sermay & Emmitt Booher — noon-4 p.m. at Storm Sermay Photography, 3382 Solarridge St. Photography. Info: artformsnm.org.

Love of Art Studio Tour with Jean Wilkey & Robin Weiner Labe — noon-4 p.m. at Jean Wilkey Studio, 3370 Solarridge St. Paintings and drawings. Info: artformsnm.org.

Love of Art Studio Tour with John Northcutt & Kris Northcutt — noon-4 p.m. at New Dimension Art Works & Daughter of the Prairie, 4652 Calle de Nubes. Ceramics, sculpture and fiber arts. Info: artformsnm.org.

Love of Art Studio Tour with Rebecca Courtney and Kathy Morrow — noon-4 p.m. at Linda Lundeen Gallery, 618 S. Alameda. Paintings and clayboards. Info: artformsnm.org.

Love of Art Studio Tour — noon-4 p.m. at 3655 Canyon Ridge Arc. Featuring Jeri Desrochers, Mary Zawacki, Linda Hagen & C. C. Cunningham with oil and acrylic paintings and pastels. Info:

artformsnm.org.

Love of Art Studio Tour with Lynn Unangst — noon-4 p.m. at Casa de Puertas, 4020 Red Yucca Ct. Hand-woven art garments and “spirit minder” dolls. Info: artformsnm.org.

Love of Art Studio Tour with Nancy Frost Begin — noon-4 p.m. at 1982 Avenida de Mesilla. Watercolors, woodcuts and oils. Info: artformsnm.org.

Love of Art Studio Tour with Audrey Worthen — noon-4 p.m. at Audrita Jewelry Designs, 3904 Willow Brook Ct. Silversmith and lapidary. Info: artformsnm.org.

Love of Art Studio Tour with Jan Severson — noon- 4 p.m. at Fiber Art Studio, 8181 Constitution Rd. Fiber art. Info: artformsnm.org.

Love of Art Studio Tour with Steve Bailey & Richard Johnson — noon-4 p.m. at 8160 Constitution Rd. Fiber arts, weaving and artisan jewelry. Info: artformsnm.org.

Love of Art Studio Tour with Jan Thune — noon-4 p.m. at 1204 Verona Ct. Fiber art. Info: artformsnm.org.

Mesilla Valley Film Society presents the 2016 Oscar Nominated Shorts — 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. at 2469 Calle de Guadalupe,

Mesilla. Cost: \$7; MVFS Members \$5; seniors over 60, Military and Students with ID \$6. Info: 575-524-8287.

No Strings Theatre Company presents Killing Buddha — 2:30 p.m. at Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall. Tickets \$10 and \$12. Info: 575-523-1223.

Judy Collins — 6 p.m. at the Rio Grande Theatre. Info: www.RioGrandeTheatre.com or 575-523-6403.

The Blues with the Derrick Harris Band — 7 p.m. at First Christian Church, 1809 El Paseo. The Derrick Harris Band will be performing blues for the Mesilla Valley Jazz & Blues Society monthly concert series. Cost is \$5 for members, \$8 for non-members and \$1 for students with ID. Dessert Social at 6:30 p.m. Info: http://mvjazzblues.net/ or 575-640-8752.

Picacho Peak Brewing Co. presents Alison Reynolds — 7-9 p.m. at 3900 W Picacho Ave. Info: 575- 680-6394.

MONDAY, FEB. 22
Las Cruces/Mesilla

Mesilla Valley Film Society presents the 2016 Oscar Nominated Shorts — 7:30 p.m. at

2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. Cost: \$7; MVFS Members \$5; seniors over 60, Military and Students with ID \$6. Info: 575-524-8287.

TUESDAY, FEB. 23
Las Cruces/Mesilla

Las Cruces for Bernie — 5 p.m. at the Branigan Library, Roadrunner Room, 200 E. Picacho presents a screening and discussion of the new documentary “Dream On.” Free. In an epic road trip, political comedian John Fugelsang retraces the journey of Alexis de Tocqueville, whose study of our young country in 1831 came to define America as a place where anyone could climb the ladder of economic opportunity. Info: LCforBernie@gmail.com.

Kitchen Creations cooking school for diabetics — 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Tierra Madre, 1955 N. Valley Dr. This Kitchen Creations cooking school is a series of 4 classes for adults with type 2 diabetes which meets every Tuesday in February. Learn how to plan and prepare meals that are tasty and balanced to manage diabetes. Participants will receive a manual, cookbooks, and other useful items to keep. The cooking school is free of charge. Info: 575-525-6649.

Mesilla Valley Film Society presents the 2016 Oscar Nominated Shorts — 7:30 p.m. at 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. Cost: \$7; MVFS Members \$5; seniors over 60, Military and Students with ID \$6. Info: 575-524-8287.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 24
Silver City/Grant County

Usui Reiki Holy Fire Master —9 a.m. – 4 p.m. at The Rock Center, 413 N. Bullard St. Cost is \$499 and requires pre-registration. Info: 575-956-5200.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

March for Babies Kickoff breakfast — 7:30 a.m. at the Las Cruces Convention Center. Info: www.marchforbabies.org.

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

Mesilla Valley Film Society presents the 2016 Oscar Nominated Shorts — 7:30 p.m. at 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. Cost: \$7; MVFS Members \$5; seniors over 60, Military and Students with ID \$6. Info: 575-524-8287.

THURSDAY, FEB. 25
Las Cruces/Mesilla

“Nature Kids” at the Museum of Nature and Science — 9 a.m. at 411 North Main Street. Learn about mushrooms and recyclers. Reading the book Mushroom in the Rain by Mirra Ginsburg and discuss the life cycle of mushrooms and how they help recycle waste in nature. Nature Kids is free and open to the public. Registration is not required. Info: 575-522-3120.

Beginning knitting class at Branigan Library — 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Library, 200 E. Picacho Ave. This is a beginning knitting class designed for those who have never knitted before. Students will develop a solid foundation in ten weeks. Men and women ages 18 and over are welcome to register. The class



Heart of the Desert celebrates Wine Down Wednesday Feb. 10 with music and wine, located on U.S. 54/70 in between Tularosa and Alamogordo. (Courtesy photo)

Watch for our special section on

Perfect Southwest Weddings & Quinceañeras

in the March issue of Desert Exposure!

INCLUDING TIPS ON:

- Time Management
- Choosing the perfect dress for your body type
- Keeping stress at bay
- Flower arranging on a budget
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For special advertising opportunities in the wedding guide contact:
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LAS CRUCES INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

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March 2nd–6th, 2016

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meets every Thursday through April 14. Supplies for the class are \$5. Registration is required. Info: 575-528-4024 or calee@las-cruces.org.

Mesilla Valley Film Society presents the 2016 Oscar Nominated Shorts — 1:30 p.m. at 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. Cost: \$7; MVFS Members \$5; seniors over 60, Military and Students with ID \$6. Info: 575-524-8287.

The Big Band Dance live music by Jim Helder's Septet — 8-10 p.m. at Alma de Artes School, 402 West Court St. Group dance lesson taught by John Guisto at 7:00-7:45 p.m. \$8 for all on CD nights except \$5 for students with student ID. Information: 526-6504.

Truth or Consequences/Sierra County

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

FRIDAY, FEB. 26
Silver City/Grant County

Popcorn Fridays — all day at 614 N. Bullard St. Free popcorn and food samples. Info: 575-388-2343.

Joseph General — 8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard. An eight-piece band rocks New Mexico with reggae, world beat and hip hop music. Info: 575-956-6144.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

Coloring Club for adults — 10 a.m.-noon on the second and fourth Fridays of each month at the Las Cruces Railroad Museum, 351 N. Mesilla Street. BYOB and C - Bring Your Own Book and Colored pencils, or use our materials. We will have a variety of pages ready to be colored, from simple pictures to intricate designs. Gentlemen are welcome, also, but no children, please. Info: <http://las-cruces.org/museums> or call 575-647-4480.

Las Cruces Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet — 6 p.m. at Hotel Encanto, 705 S. Telshor. Cocktail hour at 6 p.m., dinner and awards at 7 p.m.; after party at Azul Ultra Lounge. \$75 per person. Formal attire. RSVP at the Chamber office, call 575-524-8900 or visit www.LasCrucesHispanicChamber.com.

Picacho Peak Brewery live music — 7-9 p.m., 3900 W. Picacho Ave. Dan Branden performs. Info: 575-680-6394.

Arts & Culture Charette kickoff — 7 p.m. at Munson Senior Center, 975 S. Mesquite. Info: artformsnm.org.

Friends of Bob and Tom Show Comedy Tour — 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. at the Rio Grande Theatre. Info: www.RioGrandeTheatre.com or 575-523-6403.

Mesilla Valley Film Society presents Difret — 7:30 p.m. at 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. A young lawyer travels to an Ethiopian village to represent Hirut, a 14-year-old girl who shot her would-be husband as he and others were practicing one of the nation's oldest traditions: abduction into marriage. Cost: \$7; MVFS Members \$5; Seniors over 60, Military and Students with ID \$6. Info: 575-524-8287.

Truth or Consequences/Sierra County

A Gathering of Quilts — 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Albert J. Lyon Event Center,

2953 S Broadway. Info: 575-894-2959.

SATURDAY, FEB. 27
Silver City/Grant County

Community Flea Market — 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at 614 Bullard St. Info: 575-388-2343, or www.silvercityfoodcoop.com.

Tap Takeover by Tractor Brewery — 7:30 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard. Live music. Info: 575-956-6144.

Truth or Consequences/Sierra County

Old Time Fiddlers Saturday Night Dance — 7-9 p.m. every Saturday at the New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm Street T or C. Info: 575-744-9137.

A Gathering of Quilts — 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Albert J. Lyon Event Center, 2953 S Broadway. Info: 575-894-2959.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

Museum of Nature and Science Family Science Saturday — 10 a.m. at 411 N. Main St. Join us in February for a special series about Forces. Feb. 27: Contact forces. Classes are held every Saturday. All ages are welcome, no registration is required and admission is free. Info: <http://las-cruces.org/museums> or call 575-522-3120.

"SNAP!: The Science, Nature, and Art Program" — 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at 411-491 N. Main St. Children and their families are invited to join the Museum of Nature & Science and the Las Cruces Museum of Art. Feb. 27 topic is Glitter Goo. Info: <http://las-cruces.org/museums> or call 541-3120.

For the Love of Lit poetry reading — 1 p.m. at Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main St. Sin Fronteras/Writers without Borders presents a poetry reading. Info: artformsnm.org.

Mesilla Valley Film Society presents Difret — 7:30 p.m. at 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. A young lawyer travels to an Ethiopian village to represent Hirut, a 14-year-old girl who shot her would-be husband as he and others were practicing one of the nation's oldest traditions: abduction into marriage. Cost: \$7; MVFS Members \$5; Seniors over 60, Military and Students with ID \$6. Info: 575-524-8287.

Alamogordo/Otero County

White Sands National Monument Skins and Skulls program — 3-3:30 p.m. on the Visitor Center Patio at the Monument, located at 19955 Highway 70 West (between the cities of Alamogordo and Las Cruces.) This free program features 44 different species of mammals living at White Sands. Join rangers for a 20-minute talk about these amazing animals. Rangers will have pelts, skulls, and other props to provide you an up-close look and feel of the elusive wildlife of White Sands. Info: 575-479-6124 or email whsa_interpretation@nps.gov.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County

Zepparella — 7-10 p.m. at the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts, 108 Spencer Road, Alto, N.M. Info: 888-818-7872 or 575-336-4800.

Cole Swindell in Concert — 8 p.m. at the Inn of the Mountain Gods. Country music. Info innofthemountain gods.com/events/cole-swindell-2-27/.

SUNDAY, FEB. 28
Las Cruces/Mesilla

Mesilla Valley Film Society presents Difret — 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. at 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. A young lawyer travels to an Ethiopian village to represent Hirut, a 14-year-old girl who shot her would-be husband as he and others were practicing one of the nation's oldest traditions: abduction into

LIVING ON WHEELS • SHEILA SOWDER

How Small Should You Go?

The size of your RV is important to a successful full-timing adventure

“*Most of the luxuries and many of the so-called comforts of life are not only not indispensable, but positive hindrances to the elevation of mankind.*”

– **Henry David Thoreau**, 19th century philosopher, tax resister and radical downsizer

More than a hundred years later, American sage Peace Pilgrim simplified the sentiment, declaring, “Unnecessary possessions are unnecessary burdens. If you have them, you have to take care of them.”

Now that you have decided to pursue your dream of wandering full-time in an RV, one of the first steps toward that goal is deciding how large your RV needs to be to hold you and whatever possessions you consider absolutely necessary. Obviously, this varies from person to person, and sometimes even from day to day.

For example, Kathy drove into our RV park a couple of weeks ago in her little van-like RV, prepared to spend the winter here in New Mexico rather than at her home in southern Saskatchewan. She told me she’d spent a lot of time in that RV since retiring, generally heading out every April on bird watching expeditions, but had never spent the entire winter traveling.

“It’s so small,” I said somewhat tactlessly as I stared at the vehicle she called home for much of the year.

“It gets 25 miles per gallon,” she replied. “And I can park it anywhere.”

I thought about our clumsy old motor home that maybe got five on a good day, and tried to calculate the savings on a round trip to Canada.



Kathy Hedegard stands in front of her Dodge Sprinter Van RV. (Photo by Sheila Sowder)

“I like the idea of small space living. It’s very freeing, and it’s amazing how little you really need,” she explained.

Both Thoreau and Peace Pilgrim were surely nodding in their graves, but I was still working on my MPG calculation and trying to decide how much money I’d have to save to justify living in that tiny space with my 6-foot-3 husband Jimmy.

Kathy’s 21-foot Dodge Sprinter Van RV is top of the line because it’s built by Mercedes Benz.

“I could have paid extra and had

the Mercedes emblem put on the front,” she told me.

It has a small, very efficient diesel engine, and a high top so she can stand up in it comfortably. You can get just about any amenity you want. Kathy has a galley area with sink, fridge, stovetop, microwave and cabinets. There’s a rear toilet area with a small shower, and a large-screen TV and terrific sound system. A booth folds into a bed, although some models feature a raised double bed with storage underneath.

The downside? These RVs are

expensive, and the more amenities you choose, the pricier they are. Figure on spending at least \$50,000 base price for a new one, probably more. Even used ones are expensive. By comparison, a brand-new 41-foot fifth wheel can cost a little over \$50,000; large, used, late-model motor homes can be found for that price; good used fifth wheels and trailers are in the \$15,000-20,000 range. The trade-off is that van RVs will also function as your sightseeing and errand vehicle, and will have a terrific resale value.

Just as I’m thinking Kathy seemed to have found her perfect solution to living on wheels, she tells me, “Next year I’m going to sell my house in Canada and go fulltime year-round. So I’ll be looking for something larger.”

And I think about George.

George has lived here in our park for more than two years. He’s more than six feet tall, and until a couple of months ago, lived in a 17-foot Pleasureway Van RV. Granted he worked away from home most days, and also occasionally returned to his house in Arizona, but still! Was he a contortionist? A masochist? But George seemed reasonably content, and no one ever heard him express a desire for anything larger. Until the day he came back with a 28-foot Arctic Fox fifth wheel with a five-by-three foot slideout, one of those wall extensions that increase living space.

“What happened?” I asked him. “I thought you loved the Pleasureway.”

“I did,” he said. “I bought it because I loved VW buses. But it was supposed to be temporary, just until I retire. Now I’ve decided to sell my

house, work a few years longer, and then go traveling. So I need more space.”

It’s been said that “you have succeeded in life when all you really want is only what you really need,” but Plato told us “all is flux, nothing stays the same.” When it comes to your RV, expect your needs to change over time.

Unless you’re prepared to invest in a 45-foot luxury motor home as your first time, try-it-to-see-if-you-like-it home on wheels, you’ll probably start out with less space than you’ll ultimately crave. Conversely, I’ve known quite a few fulltimers that started with one of those behemoths and eventually downsized to smaller models for reasons of traveling convenience or economy.

Many factors need to be considered when choosing a size. Are you single or part of a couple? Which is more important to you – comfort of living or ease of travel? Do you mind towing a car?

So don’t worry about whether your first RV is everything you’ll ever need, just make sure it suits you right now so you’ll be able to give the full-timer way of life a fair chance.

Sheila and husband Jimmy Sowder have lived at Rose Valley RV Ranch in Silver City for four years following four years of wandering the United States from Maine to California. She can be contacted at skslowder@aol.com.

marriage. Cost: \$7; MVFS Members \$5; seniors over 60, Military and Students with ID \$6. Info: 575-524-8287.

MONDAY, FEB. 29
Las Cruces/Mesilla
Mesilla Valley Film Society presents Difret — 7:30 p.m. at 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. A young lawyer travels to an Ethiopian village to represent Hirut, a 14-year-old girl who shot her would-be husband as he and others were practicing one of the nation’s oldest traditions: abduction into marriage. Cost: \$7; MVFS Members \$5; seniors over 60, Military and Students with ID \$6. Info: 575-524-8287.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2
Las Cruces/Mesilla
Las Cruces International Film Festival — TBD in and around Las Cruces. LCIFF will feature independent films, workshops, after parties, and access to some of the most exciting venues in Las Cruces. The festival will also feature the Pilot Project, which gives film makers the opportunity to create either a 10 minute studio pitch or a 22 minute pilot episode and the chance to see their work become a full-blown television show. This year’s festival features special guest actor Danny Trejo. Info: <http://www.lciffest.com>.

THURSDAY, MARCH 3
Las Cruces/Mesilla
Las Cruces International Film

Festival — TBD in and around Las Cruces. LCIFF will feature independent films, workshops, exhilarating after parties, and unparalleled access to some of the most exciting venues in Las Cruces. The festival will also feature the Pilot Project, which gives film makers the opportunity to create either a 10 minute studio pitch or a 22 minute pilot episode and the chance to see their work become a full-blown television show. This year’s festival features special guest actor Danny Trejo. Info: <http://www.lciffest.com>.

The Big Band Dance CD dance — 8-10 p.m. at Alma de Artes School, 402 West Court St. Group dance lesson taught by John Guisto at 7-7:45 p.m. \$8 for all on CD nights except \$5 for students with student ID. Information: 526-6504.

FRIDAY, MARCH 4
Silver City/Grant County
Popcorn Fridays — all day at 614 N. Bullard St. Free popcorn and food samples. Info: 575-388-2343.

Usui Reiki I — 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. at The Rock Center, 413 N. Bullard St. Cost is \$99 and requires pre-registration. Info: 575-956-5200.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
Las Cruces International Film Festival — TBD in and around Las Cruces. LCIFF will feature independent films, workshops,

exhilarating after parties, and unparalleled access to some of the most exciting venues in Las Cruces. The festival will also feature the Pilot Project, which gives film makers the opportunity to create either a 10 minute studio pitch or a 22 minute pilot episode and the chance to see their work become a full-blown television show. This year’s festival features special guest actor Danny Trejo. Info: <http://www.lciffe>.

SATURDAY, MARCH 5
Silver City/Grant County
Roots & Branches radio show — 8-10 a.m. every Saturday on gmc.org or KURU 89.1 FM. Info: 575-534-0298.

Usui Reiki II — 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. at The Rock Center, 413 N. Bullard St. Cost is \$250 and requires pre-registration. \$50 discount if Reiki I and II are taken together. Info: 575-956-5200.

Truth or Consequences/Sierra County
Old Time Fiddlers Saturday Night Dance — 7-9 p.m. every Saturday at the New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm Street T or C. Info: 575-744-9137.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
17th-Annual Cowboy Days at New Mexico Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum — 9 a.m-5 p.m.

at 4100 Dripping Springs Road. The Museum’s largest event of the year pays tribute to the state’s ranching traditions. Enjoy two full days of cowboy demonstrations, chuck wagon cooking, children’s activities, cowboy music, gunfight re-enactments, stagecoach and pony rides, and much more. Info: 575-522-4100.

Las Cruces International Film Festival — TBD in and around Las Cruces. LCIFF will feature independent films, workshops, exhilarating after parties, and unparalleled access to some of the most exciting venues in Las Cruces. The festival will also feature the Pilot Project, which gives film makers the opportunity to create either a 10 minute studio pitch or a 22 minute pilot episode and the chance to see their work become a full-blown television show. This year’s festival features special guest actor Danny Trejo. Info: <http://www.lciffest.com>.

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TUESDAY, MARCH 8
Las Cruces/Mesilla
Luke Bryant in concert — 7:30 p.m. at NMSU’s Pan American Center. Joining Luke will be country-fan favorites Little Big Town and Dustin Lynch. Tickets to this one-night-only event are on sale to the public now at the Pan American Center Ticket Office, all Ticketmaster outlets, 800-745-3000, and Ticketmaster.com. Tickets are \$39.75 and \$74.75. Additional fees may apply. Please note that a six-ticket limit has been placed on purchases. Info: 646-7696.



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