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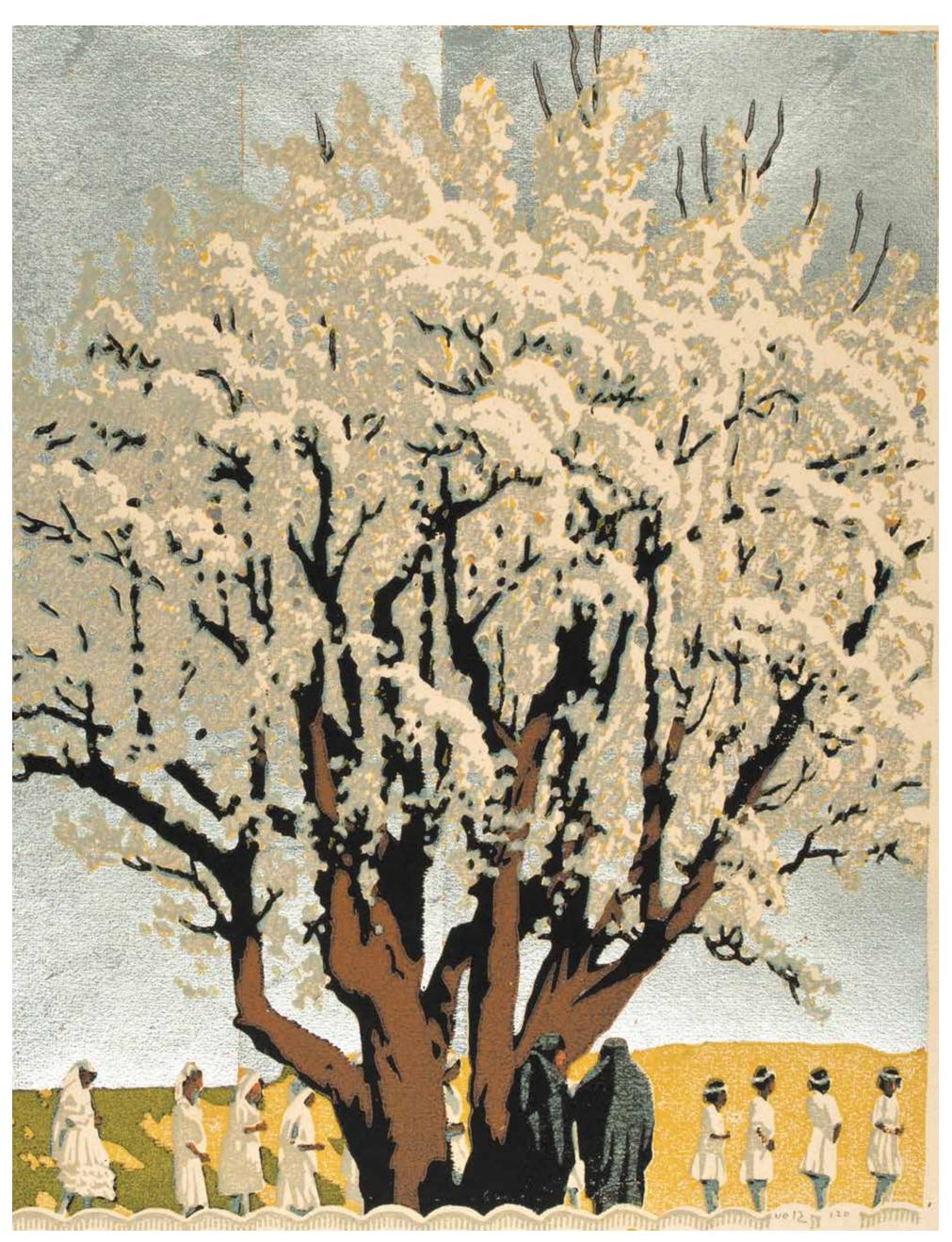


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About the cover: Gustave Baumann (1881-1971), "Procession" (detail), 1930, color woodcut with aluminum leaf, 13 x 12 3/4 in. Collection of the New Mexico Museum



of Art. Museum purchase with funds raised by the School of American Research, 1952 (964.23G) © New Mexico Museum of Art. For more about the cover artist, see this issue's Arts Exposure section.

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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK . DAVID A. FRYXELL

Stubborn Things

Welcome to the post-factual political landscape.

When the US Senate last month failed to end a filibuster on a measure to extend emergency unemployment insurance—a bill that would have helped 6,000 New Mexicans—Sen. Tom Udall pointed out, "The job market is still soft in New Mexico; unemployment is still at 6.6%—and it's over 12% in Mora County. Nationwide, there are still three people applying for every one job opening. Unemployment insurance is vital if you're looking for a job. It puts food on the table, helps pay the rent, the phone bill and to make car payments. Especially in a small town, that modest extra help to get by can make a big difference for an entire community."

Poor Sen. Udall seems to be laboring under the delusion that facts still matter in politics and governance. (Or perhaps he was just being polite, as when he called for "the Senate to start working together on solutions"—when only four Senate Republicans crossed party lines to break the filibuster.)

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ct us! x 191 NM 88062 75) 538-4374 iil: xposure.com posure.com to extending unemployment benefits, most prominently by Kentucky senator and presidential hopeful Rand Paul, are notions that such assistance reduces the incentive to look for work. While that might be true for a few folks in flush times, as Udall noted, there are currently three job seekers for every opening. How are the long-term unemployed supposed to find jobs when they've been "incentivized" by cut-

ting off their financial lifeline?

As prizewinning economist Paul Krugman explained in the *New York Times*, "Employment in today's American economy is limited by demand, not supply. Businesses aren't failing to hire because they can't find willing workers; they're failing to hire because they can't find enough customers. And slashing unemployment benefits— which would have the side effect of reducing incomes and hence consumer spending—would just make the situation worse."

In blocking another measure important to New Mexico, immigration reform, House Speaker John Boehner blamed President Obama, saying the president couldn't be "trusted" to carry out US laws, such as those intended to secure the border. That must have come as a surprise to immigrantrights groups who have relentlessly criticized the president for deporting a record number of people here illegally. This spring, the Obama administration will surpass 2 million deportations—more than the George W. Bush administration removed from the country in eight years.

According to the nonpartisan Politifact website, Obama has the most border patrols and border security deployed at the border of any previous president. It's also true that this buildup began under Bush, but to say Obama can't be "trusted" on border security simply ignores the facts. Whether these measures truly make the border more "secure" is another matter, but one that has nothing to do with enforcing what's on the books.

Regular readers will recall that we have a weakness for facts. As John Adams said in his defense of the British soldiers charged in the Boston Massacre, "Facts are stubborn things; and whatever may be our wishes, our inclinations, or the dictates of our passion, they cannot alter the state of facts and evidence."

What Adams did not anticipate was a political climate that operates in blithe disregard of the facts. When House Majority Leader Eric Cantor recently seized on a Congressional Budget Office report to claim that because of the Affordable Care Act, "millions of hardworking Americans will lose their jobs and those who keep them will see their hours and wages reduced," surely he or his staff knew that wasn't what the report said at all. The report stated explicitly that its predicted fall in hours worked will come "almost entirely because workers will choose to supply less labor." Obamacare gives workers more flexibility and more choice to spend time with their families. Because the labor supply will shrink, wages will increase, not be reduced. And the report forecast that Obamacare will cause unemployment to decline in coming years.

But who cares about the facts if there's a chance to score political points?

One can't help wondering how our political institutions can continue to function (if they do now) in such a through-the-looking-glass world. If our leaders can't even agree on basic facts, how can they come to consensus on the issues that divide them? Whether you're a liberal or a conservative—and I'm sure conservatives can come up with examples of the president or his backers ignoring facts—this should be cause for concern.

T f you are a conservative, though, you might take some comfort in a recent *Esquire* piece describing "Barack Obama's conservative utopia." It's relevant here for its reliance on *facts* to rebut Sen. Paul (again) and his talk-radio claim that the president is trying to "transform America into a socialist nightmare." The piece makes the point that "as President Obama enters the final half of his last term, he has left us with an America that conservatives should love."

Say what? In support of this startling claim, the article trots out a collection of facts that "reveal an America that is running away from a 'socialist' any-thing." Among them:

• The top marginal tax rate is 39.5% on earned income over \$450,000—higher than under George W. Bush but less than the Clinton years, when the top bracket began at an inflation-adjusted \$60,000. So really high earners are at least \$23,700 better off, taxwise, than in the go-go 1990s.

• Corporate profits have nearly quadrupled during the Obama years.

• The FY2014 deficit is projected to be \$514 billion, sharply down from its peak of \$1.4 trillion in FY2009, the last Bush budget year.

• The abortion rate per 1,000 women ages 15 to 44 is down 13% since 2008, albeit largely due to the increased availability of contraception.

• Pentagon spending is \$552 billion a year, slightly higher than 2005—when the US was embroiled in two wars overseas.

The article also mentions increased domestic energy production and those nearly 2 million deportations that Speaker Boehner keeps forgetting about. We can debate how much credit (or blame) the president deserves for any of these numbers, but the facts about what has happened on his watch are straightforward. To maintain that we are on the road to a "socialist nightmare" simply flies in the face of those "stubborn things."

But in this Internet age where bloggers and tweeters and posters can make up their own reality and zip it across the globe in an eyeblink, maybe that no longer matters.

Not long ago, I received one of those emails proclaiming in all-caps, "THIS NEEDS TO GO AROUND THE USA MANY TIMES SO KEEP IT GOING!" It showed a photo of US Marines with their heads bowed, and claimed that this was "a recent ceremony honoring the birthday of the corps." Apparently the Marines' praying got the ACLU "up in arms." Lucius Traveler, a spokesman for the ACLU, was quoted saying that for Marines to pray "on federal property and on federal time... is clearly an establishment of religion, and we must nip this in the bud immediately." The outraged emailer closed by suggesting, "Lets [sic] put the ALCU in combat for a few weeks and then see what their beliefs would be."

It took me all of three minutes to find three different sources exposing this as a hoax and urban legend. Rather than depicting a "recent ceremony," this hoax has been circulating since at least 2003. An actual ACLU spokesperson says, "We have no knowledge of this event nor have we ever had a spokesperson by the name of Lucius Traveler." The Marine Corps spokesperson also quoted in the email ("Screw the ACLU!") is equally fictitious. As one urban-legends site concluded, there is zero evidence "that the ACLU has ever taken a position against US military personnel—or, indeed, federal employees in any branch of government—engaging in prayer. This 'incident' is a complete fabrication and was evidently written with satirical intent."

I passed along the fruits of my research to the stranger who had forwarded the hoax email to me, expecting a red-faced followup soon after that would enlighten other recipients. None was forthcoming, and presumably others who saw this email remain outraged and are furiously forwarding it themselves.

Don't confuse me with the facts. Perhaps that should replace "E Pluribus Unum" on the national seal. \mathfrak{K}

David A. Fryxell is editor of Desert Exposure.



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LETTER5

Dissenting Views

ust read your editorial on Americans for Prosperity ("Right-Wing Retreat," Editor's Notebook, February). Loved it as its another positive proof of why New Mexico is so poor. Two communist senators keep pushing any money that might be spent growing the country on lavish vacations for the king and queen. OR giving \$ to people who hate us or to people who don't have any right to be here and steal via food stamps, housing, free education, illegal tax refunds and send \$45 billion ya billion a year back home. Elected representatives who don't support the men and women who sacrifice to serve in the military but support those who don't belong here. Seems you celebrate the disgrace that the country is headed deeper into. Unemployment is low because there are less people looking-they have given up. More people on food stamps than ever before and growing weekly. Border Patrol assisting illegals to stay here and steal more \$.

Ya way to go. KEEP NM poor. Works for me 'cause I don't depend on NM for my good living. 99% of NM couldn't afford me. I love the cheap housing, utilities and sunsets.

You don't like the twists on the AFP data, how about the blatant lies from the left? How about that wonderful Affordable Care Act that has raised NM premiums by 30%-40%. And how many doctors are not going to take the new plans? How about the LIES about Benghazi? And if you like it you can keep it? Guess that was just a mis-reading, like having been in all 57 states. How about the local police department told to disband because the police chief supports the Second Amendment. Or you want to become a slave of the gov't and the coming sharia laws supported by the new king?

So you support people who have more interest in a bridge closure than why hundreds of neighborhoods affected by Hurricane Sandy are still in ruins? Or why it's racist to state FACTS. Why black on white knock out game is not a hate crime but white on black is? You're in full support of using a gov't agency to penalize your political enemies.

Yep way to KEEP NM POOR-love it.

Susan Cooper via email

E ey David, your left-wing rants are becoming tiresome. Can't you find something interesting to talk about? Maybe a story about George Soros, the billion-dollar leftie.

Mike Berger via email

Car Talk and More

Wave a little late in picking up the February issue of *Desert Exposure* and got a copy yesterday. As always there are interesting, educational articles. We especially enjoyed Jeff Berg's story on pioneer African-Americans in New Mexico. Jerry Eagan's story, "A Peloncillos Encounter," allows us to enjoy the beauty of our region from our living room.

The editor's article, "Fifty Shades of Grey" (Continental Divide), was timely. We had just "endured" purchasing a new car. There are hundreds of cars on the lot, but you have limited choice of colors and prices are either "expensive" or "more expensive." I must admit that the salesman and finance manager were so friendly and easy-going that this purchase was almost enjoyable. Charles Dickens' Uriah Heep, a character in *David Copperfield*, who constantly claims and over-exaggerates that he is so humble. Heep says to Copperfield: "I am well aware that I am the 'umblest person going... My mother is likewise a very 'umble person. We live in a 'umble abode."

Interestingly, Pearce's great-great-grandfather, Marcus "Mark" Alonzo Pearce, was a part of a Georgia group of land speculators who caught "Alabama Fever" and seized the lands of the local Native American populations when they were removed to Indian Territory in the 1830s. Mark Pearce and his brother, with their sons and slaves, would build an empire known as Pearce's Mill in Alabama and had plantations with slaves. He and his brothers fought for the Confederacy in the Civil War. In 1865 Rep. Pearce's ancestors moved to Mississippi and then Texas. His father, Melvin Pearce, does not appear to have been a sharecropper but he had a good job with the Humble Oil & Refining Company/Exxon as a technician, where he worked from 1951 until his retirement in 1984. I hope Rep. Pearce clarifies this past. His family's past might explain his hostility to the federal government and his support of state's rights.

It seems Rep. Pearce is inspired by the values of the Old South and the Confederacy. In addition, he has been fueled by corporate money, scorns compromise and leaves us once again a "house divided."

> Greg Lennes Las Cruces

Picking on Pearce?

Yee lived in New Mexico and the Silver City area for about seven years now. I read your newspaper and others and find yours to be very informative on community events, history and communicating to most groups of people. I compliment you on that.

Now, after all this time of month by month reading, I wonder why you always bash and/or expose Rep. Steve Pearce (Editor's Notebook)? I'm not defending him. You very rarely afford the other politicians the same benefits.

It has been my experience that we all do good and bad things intentionally, or by accident, or because of lack of information.

I can surely tell you are a very educated editor and that you run a basically useful newspaper. May I suggest that you also look up opinions and facts on other politicians from all parties?

I could be wrong, I'm sure, but since New Mexico's vehicles and laws for running the state over the years, to get us where we are, were made (as in all states) by the majority political party, couldn't some Democrats also blow it once in a while? Just wondered.

> David Sylvester Silver City

Editor's note: Thanks for the thoughtful letter. We do try to

years behind schedule. As for the Democrat-controlled legislature, our "Pirates of the Roundhouse" report on the state's "culture of corruption" (March 2009) won a Society of Professional Journalists' "Top of the Rockies" first place award for political reporting.

From Hanoi to Hunting?

Time to acid rain on "Ramblin' Larry" again and his "Just the Facts" column (Ramblin' Outdoors, January). Ted Turner and Jane Fonda didn't do traditional hunting. It was all or almost all "captive bird release" and wildlife-reserve-type maining and killing. You'll never hear Fonda bragging about it in Hollywood!

> Bob Young Las Cruces

Editor's note: Whatever the details of Turner and Fonda's hunting experiences, columnist Larry Lightner's basic point is accurate. According to author Todd Wilkinson, who spent eight years researching his book, Last Stand: Ted Turner's Quest to Save a Troubled Planet, "Turner the sportsman taught Fonda how to hunt, fish and respect the Second Amendment."

Picture This

This age of the "selfie" (Continental Divide, January) is the time that tries men's and women's souls. Who can forget the penetrating look Michelle shot Barack when he took a selfie with a sexy Danish dignitary at Nelson Mandela's funeral?

Good thing selfies weren't around at the time of our Founding Fathers. What would George Washington, who, according to myth, could never tell a lie, say if caught by Martha taking a selfie next to Betsy Ross or Molly Pitcher while sitting in a cherry tree?

All in all, I'd rather see a picture of George Washington with a mouthful of cherries and wooden teeth than one of Barack Obama and a fistful of wooden nickels.

> Paul Hoylen Deming 🕷



Ronald Cauthon via email

believe the automobile in the photograph ("Touching the Past," February) is a 1948 Chevrolet Fleetline Aerosedan. I think the Cadillac division of General Motors introduced the Fleetwood models a few years earlier, perhaps 1946.

> Anciano Hidalgo via email

Dickens of a Memoir

ur Tea Party Congressman Steve Pearce has just published his memoirs entitled *Just Fly the Plane, Stupid!* ("Representative Author," Tumbleweeds, January). Pearce says his family descends from poor sharecroppers. He is just like praise Rep. Pearce when we feel it's warranted, as when he recently backed legislation to rein in NSA spying ("Spy vs. You and I," December). If we seem to give him more attention than other politicians, it's because he represents the district that encompasses Desert Exposure's readership. Long-time readers will recall that we also gave his Democratic successor/predecessor, Rep. Harry Teague, a lot of ink—much of it negative. And of course a search of our website, www.desertexposure.com, will turn up a pretty steady drumbeat of skeptical coverage of Democratic former Gov. Bill Richardson; in particular, we remain virtually the only New Mexico publication to raise questions about his multi-milliondollar Spaceport, now several

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Cuckoo Clocks and Snow Plows

Plus heavenly signs, anniversary revelations and elevator thoughts.

eather or not... Let us start by welcoming March, the month in which spring begins, with a reminder that not everywhere in our great land has enjoyed the mostly balmy winter weather we have. Thanks to **Ned Ludd** for sharing:

"With all of the severe weather we have been having this winter, the Department of Transportation issued a travel warning. They suggest that anyone traveling in the current icy conditions should have the following:

Shovel

- Blankets or sleeping bag
- Extra clothing including coats, hats and gloves
- 24 hours' worth of food
- De-icer
- Rock salt
- Flashlight and spare batteries
- Road flares or reflective triangles
- Empty gas can
- Booster cables
- "I looked like an idiot on the bus this morning!"

h heavenly daze!... Next we have two reports from church, the first just in time for the start of spring training, courtesy of Aletteration: "Baseball is talked about in the Bible a great deal-

"In the big inning God created the Heavens and the Earth.

- "Eve stole first.
- "Adam stole second
- "Gideon rattled the pitchers.
- "Goliath was put out by David."

Then there's this, from the Santa Claran:

"The elderly priest, speaking to the younger priest, said, 'You had a good idea to replace the first four pews with plush bucket theater seats. It worked like a charm. The front of the church always fills first now.'

"The young priest nodded, and the old priest continued, 'And you told me adding a little more beat to the music would bring young people back to church, so I supported you when you brought in that rock-nroll gospel choir. Now our services are consistently packed to the balcony.'

"Thank you, Father,' answered the young priest. 'I am pleased that you are open to the new ideas of youth.'

"All of these ideas have been well and good,' said the elderly priest. 'But I'm afraid you've gone too far with the drive-thru confessional.'

"But, Father,' protested the young priest, 'my confessions and the donations have nearly doubled since I began that!

"Yes,' replied the elderly priest, 'and I appreciate that. But the flashing neon sign, Toot 'n Tell or Go to Hell, cannot stay on the church roof."

Blessed are those who share their jokes! Send your

tales from the pew, favorite jokes, anecdotes and puns to Desert Diary at diary@desertexposure.com.

Tumpin' yiminy!... We're suckers for Scandihoovian jokes, like this from GeraldH: "Ole and Lena were out walking when suddenly Lena clutched her heart and fell to the sidewalk. Ole got out his cell phone and called 9-1-1.

"The operator said, 'Where are you?"

"Ole said, 'We were walking and Lena is on the sidewalk on Eucalyptus Street.'

"The operator said, 'How do you spell that?' and the phone seemed to go dead. The operator kept shouting for Ole. She could hear him panting.

"When he came back on at last, he said, 'I dragged her over to Oak Street. That's O-A-K."

iss Manners... This tale from CharlesC cites Wyoming, but this sounds an awful lot like some ladies from the South we've known:

"Two informally dressed ladies started up a conversation during an endless wait in the LAX airport. The first lady was a California woman, married to a wealthy man. The second was a elderly woman from northwest Wyoming.

"When the conversation centered on whether they had any children, the California woman started by saying, 'When my first child was born, my husband built a beautiful mansion for me.' The lady from Wyoming commented, 'Well, bless your heart.'

"The first woman continued, 'When my second child was born, my husband bought me a beautiful Mercedes-Benz.' Again, the lady from Wyoming commented, 'Well, bless your heart.'

"The first woman continued boasting, 'Then, when my third child was born, my husband bought me this exquisite diamond bracelet.' Yet again, the Wyoming lady commented, 'Well, bless your heart.'

"The first woman then asked her companion, 'What did your husband buy for you when you had your first child?

"My husband sent me to charm school,' declared the Wyoming lady.

"Charm school?' the first woman cried. 'Oh, my God! What on earth for?"

"The Wyoming lady responded, 'Well, for example, instead of saying, 'Who gives a crap?,' I learned to say, 'Well, bless your heart!'"

n a family way... New correspondent Pop passed along this tale of parenthood:

"A couple were celebrating 50 years together. Their three kids, all very successful, agreed to a Sunday dinner in their honor.

"Happy anniversary, Mom and Dad,' gushed son number one. 'Sorry I'm running late. I had an emergency at the hospital with a patient, you know how it is, and I didn't have time to get you a gift.'



Postcards from the edge... Going somewhere? Take along a copy of Desert Exposure and snap a photo of yourself holding it "on location" like Joan and Elroy Limmer here. (You may recognize his name from the eye-popping insect photos in our Tumbleweeds section—turns out bugs aren't the only things he photographs!) They write, "We spent a month 'down under' in Australia. We got to see and photograph both platypus and echidna, the world's only egg-laying mammals, plus wombats and Tasmanian devils, all in the wild. Here we are with Desert Exposure standing next to one of many termite nests in the country. This big one was southwest of Darwin."

"Not to worry,' said Dad. 'The important thing is that we're all together today.'

"Son number two arrived and announced, 'You and Mom look great, Dad. I just flew in from Los Angeles between depositions and didn't have time to shop for you.'

"'It's nothing,' said Dad. 'We're glad you were able to come.

"Just then the daughter arrived. 'Hello and happy anniversary! I'm sorry, but my boss is sending me out of town and I was really busy packing so I didn't have time to get you anything.'

"After they had finished dessert, the dad said, 'There's something your mother and I have wanted to tell you for a long time. You see, we were very poor. Despite this, we were able to send each of you to college. Throughout the years your mother and I knew that we loved each other very much, but we just never found the time to get married.'

"The three children gasped and all said in unison, 'You mean we're bastards?'

"Yep,' said the dad. 'And cheap ones, too."

7ids say the darnedest things... These accounts of the adventures of "Little Larry" came our way courtesy of GeeRichard:

"A new teacher was trying to make use of her psychology courses. She started her class by saying, 'Everyone who thinks they're stupid, stand up!' After a

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few seconds, Little Larry stood up. The teacher said, 'Do you think you're stupid, Larry?'

"No, ma'am, but I hate to see you standing there all by yourself!""

"Larry watched, fascinated, as his mother smoothed cold cream on her face. 'Why do you do that, mommy?' he asked.

"To make myself beautiful,' said his mother, who then began removing the cream with a tissue.

"What's the matter?' asked Larry. 'You giving up?'"

"The math teacher saw that Larry wasn't paying attention in class. She called on him and asked, 'Larry! What are 2 and 4 and 28 and 44?'

"Larry quickly replied, 'NBC, FOX, ESPN and the Cartoon Network!"

"Larry's kindergarten class was on a field trip to their local police station, where they saw pictures tacked to a bulletin board of the 10 most wanted criminals. One of the youngsters pointed to a picture and asked if it really was the photo of a wanted person.

"Yes,' said the policeman.

"Larry asked, 'Why didn't you keep him when you took his picture?""

osing the battle of the sexes... This tipsy report from the front lines of the gender wars was sent in by **JB**:

"The other night I was invited out for a night with the 'girls.' I told my husband that I would be home by midnight, 'I promise!' Well, the hours passed and the margaritas went down way too easily. Around 3 a.m.,

business failed, you were there. When I got shot, you were by my side. When we lost the house, you stayed right here. When my health started failing, you were still by my side. You know what, Martha?'

"What, dear?' she gently asked, smiling as her heart began to fill with warmth.

"I'm beginning to think you're a jinx!"

ersons of the blonde persuasion... Another wintry blast from places that suffer that kind of thing. You are of course free to substitute the hair hue of your choice in this yarn from Herb:

"On a bitterly cold winter morning a husband and wife in Connecticut were listening to the radio during breakfast. They heard the announcer say, 'We are going to have 8 to 10 inches of snow today. You must park your car on the even-numbered side of the street, so the snow plows can get through.' So the good wife went out and moved her car.

"A week later while they were eating breakfast again, when the radio announcer said, 'We are expecting 10 to 12 inches of snow today. You must park your car on the odd-numbered side of the street so the snow plows can get through.' The good wife went out and moved her car again.

"The next week they were again having breakfast, when the radio announcer said, 'We are expecting 12 to 14 inches of snow today. You must park....' Then the power went out. The good wife was very upset, and with a worried look on her face she said, 'I don't know what to do. Which side of the street do I need to park on so the snow plows can get through?"

"Then with the love and understanding in his voice

that all men who are married to blondes exhibit, the husband replied, 'Why don't you just leave the car in the garage this time?"

7ou're only as old as you feel... Finally, these deep thoughts on aging from the Silver City Greek:

"As I was lying around, pondering the problems of the world, I realized that at my age I don't really give a rat's ass anymore.

"If walking is good for your health, the postman would be immortal.

"A whale swims all day, eats only fish, drinks water, but is still fat.

"A rabbit runs and hops and lives only 15 years, while a tortoise doesn't run and does mostly nothing, yet it lives for 150 years. And you tell me to exercise? I don't think so.

"Just grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked, the good fortune to remember the ones I do, and the eyesight to tell the difference."

And this, from **Old Grumps** again:

"The guys at the barber shop asked me what actress I would like to be stuck in an elevator with.

"I told them the one who knows how to fix elevators. I'm old, tired and need to pee a lot!" 💥

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Postcards from the edge... Our second reader photo comes from Barb Rodriguez, who writes: "Attached is a photo of me and my two birding buddies at the Hawkwatch site at Hazel Bazemore Park north of Corpus Christi. From left to right are Eleanor Wootten from Gila and Barb Rodriguez and Lorraine Schulte, both from Las Cruces. We are all avid birdwatchers and love reading the Desert Exposure!"

Whether you're going to Tasmania or Texas, snap a picture of yourself holding a copy of your favorite publication (ahem, that would be Desert Exposure) and send it to PO Box 191, Silver City, NM 88062, or diary@desertexposure.com.

a bit loaded, I headed for home.

"Just as I got in the door, the cuckoo clock in the hallway started up and cuckooed three times. Quickly, realizing my husband would probably wake up, I cuckooed another nine times. I was really proud of myself for coming up with such a quick-witted solution, in order to escape a possible conflict with him. (Even when totally smashed, 3 cuckoos plus 9 cuckoos totals 12 cuckoos, equals MIDNIGHT!)

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"Then he said, 'We need a new cuckoo clock.'

"When I asked him why, he said, 'Well, last night our clock cuckooed three times, then said, "Oh crap."

Cuckooed four more times, cleared its throat, cuckooed another three times, giggled, cuckooed twice more, and then tripped over the coffee table and farted."

More soberly, there's this from **Old Grumps**:

"As she sat by him, he whispered, eyes full of tears, 'You know what? You have been with me all through the bad times. When I got fired, you were there to support me. When my Send your favorite anecdotes, jokes, puns and tall tales to Desert Diary, PO Box 191, Silver City, NM 88062, or email diary@ desertexposure.com. The best submission each month gets a Desert Exposure mouse pad, scientifically proven to take the strain out of emailing jokes to Desert Diary.





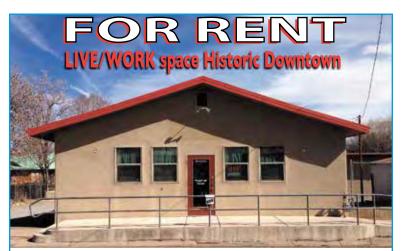
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TUMBLEWEEDS . MORGAN SMITH

Next Steps

La Casa de Amor Para Niños in Palomas welcomes the young women who are its new mission.

t has been an intense time for La Casa de Amor Para Niños, the orphanage in Palomas, Mexico, L that I wrote about in June 2013 ("House of Love"). Managed by a dedicated corps of volunteers from a coalition of churches in Silver City, Deming, Santa Fe, Los Alamos and Durango, Colo., as well as Palomas, it is now in the midst of a new initiative that can change the lives of young women throughout the state of Chihuahua.

When I first visited in May 2010, the orphanage was caring for 32 children ranging in age from the newly born to 12 years old but mostly very young. Many were not actually orphans. Instead they had been abandoned, sometimes only temporarily, by local families who were going through some sort of crisis. For example, the father might have crossed the border to find work, hadn't returned and the mother, struggling to survive, had become involved with drugs.

During that first visit, a volunteer named Martina Ontiveros showed me around. She was a Mexican national who had lived in Santa Fe for many years but was then living in the orphanage and working as a volunteer. I remember asking her if she was afraid, because Palomas was very dangerous at that time. "I'm a soldier of salvation," she answered in Spanish. "I walk with faith." She had a mission to accomplish and being afraid was simply not an issue.

On that same visit, I met other volunteers and realized that this was largely a New Mexico project that they had been dedicated to for more than a decade. This was also my introduction to a world of courageous volunteers, both American and Mexican, who operate orphanages, distribute food, run rehab centers and mental asylums, build houses and perform other kinds of social services that we Americans



Perla with Pat Noble at the guinceañera.

expect our government to provide for the needy but that aren't available in Mexico. It was a pivotal moment for me personally because I've spent the subsequent four years making repeated trips to the border to document and write about this important work, an aspect of border life that gets too little recognition. On the second weekend of every month, a group of volunteers drives down to La Casa to bring food and supplies, which are shared with the whole town. The leaders are Jim Noble, an immigration attorney in Santa Fe, his wife, Pat, and a young woman named Eunice Herrera who was an intern in Noble's office and is now getting her law degree at the Thurgood Marshall School of Law in Houston. The persistence of all these volunteers is extraordinary. For example, Margie Acuña from Santa Fe told me that she had missed only six weekends in the last 12 years.



Jim Noble doing a waltz with Victoria on his right and Perla on his left at the guinceañera in November. (Photos by Morgan Smith)

plies is about \$150 a year for an elementary student, \$250 for junior high and \$500 for high school. They've now secured sponsorships for 134 children. (I'm sponsoring two and met one of them at the Christmas party in December.) In addition, they're helping one girl who is in a community college in El Paso and a boy who is going to college in Juárez.

In February 2013, there was a major breakthrough. Jim Noble met with the director of the DIF for the state of Chihuahua, who said she needed a shelter for children ages 11 and older who aren't easily adoptable because of their age. Noble and other volunteers decided they could provide a "family atmosphere" for these children, help them in school and prepare them for trade schools or college. They then began a major renovation project of their facility to create a more home-like atmosphere.

I was there on June 22 and saw a beehive of activity-painting, moving furniture, electrical and plumbing work, tile work, a sewer line, upgrading bathrooms to provide better privacy, setting up a computer wi-fi secured area and obtaining computers with software in Spanish, rebuilding the entry gate to provide better security. Some of the volunteers were newcomers like Rosalee and Dick Gillette from Deming. They had been frequent travelers to Palomas for dental care and learned of La Casa through their church, First Methodist Church of Deming. It was Dick who installed the security system on the gate. Others, like Hoss and Kitty McDonald of Silver City, who got their church to donate eight computers, had been there many times.

inally in mid-October, the young women arrived. Their first big project was on Saturday, Nov. 9—a "quinceañera" or 15th birthday celebration for two of the young women, Perla from the small town of San Juanito and Victoria from Chihuahua City. This was a huge community event. Margie Acuña not only made both dresses but did extensive work on the dresses worn by the 12 "damas" or escorts who accompanied Perla and Victoria. Other volunteers brought shoes and "dispensas" and decorated a huge meeting hall off Palomas' main street that had been loaned to them by Talaco Sanchez, who is now the mayor. There was a band, small gifts or "recuerdos"

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One ongoing issue has been the support of the Palomas city government. Former Mayor Estanislao "Tanys" Garcia had been on the board of this coalition until his murder in 2009. His successor, Maria López, was also a strong supporter, but after she left office, relationships with the local DIF (Desarrollo Integral de la Familia) soured. Fewer and fewer children were referred and in 2012 the orphanage closed down.

Instead of throwing in the towel, however, La Casa's supporters shifted gears and began sponsoring kids to go to school. The combined cost for instructional fees, new shoes, a backpack and school sup-



Santa Claus, Randy Murray, with three of the girls.

DESERT EXPOSURE

for everyone, songs by Eunice Herrera with her guitar, a prayer in which the local pastor referred to Perla and Victoria as "*dos florecitas*" ("two flowers"). Jim Noble, as the "*padrino*," did a waltz with the two of them. More than 200 people attended, creating a family atmosphere unlike anything that Perla, Victoria and their *damas* had ever experienced.

The next event was a Christmas party on Dec. 14 in the same auditorium. It was open to the public and between 850 and 1,000 people attended. Eunice was the master of ceremonies. A band from Chihuahua City, Pedro Ochoa & Lazo Doble, played. Some 15 booths had games for the kids. A donor from Deming gave tablets to the two best students and Victoria, who was the most improved. Led by Margie Acuña and her friend, Orlando, a huge meal was served.

One surprise. I had tried to interview the two *quinceañera* girls, Perla and Victoria, but they are shy and it was very difficult. Then a man from Santa Fe, Randy Murray, who has been the Santa Claus at these fiestas for the past 10 years, said that he had seen Perla taking pictures with her cell phone. She showed them to us and it was obvious that this shy young woman had a very good eye and was fascinated by photography.

On Jan. 5, I took her an old digital point-and-shoot camera and soon everyone was posing for photos the young women in the program, Lucy the program director, and Betty Jurado, her sister who is in charge of the scholarship program. It was a moment of happiness and togetherness that most of these young women had probably never experienced before coming to La Casa. It told me that the gamble Jim Noble and the others took in agreeing to this challenge was



Perla with camera in January.

paying off. Their hard work, persistence and unwillingness to be deterred is changing lives. *****

To send donations or for more information, write: Casa de Amor Para Niños (House of Love for Children), The Light at Mission Viejo, c/o Jim Noble, 4601 Mission Bend, Santa Fe, NM 87507, or contact (505) 466-0237, info@casadeamorparaninos.org, www.casadeamorparaninos.org.

Morgan Smith is a freelance writer living in Santa Fe who travels to the border at least monthly to write about border issues. He can be reached at Morgan-smith@comcast.net.

The Tumbleweeds Top 10

Who and what's been making news from New Mexico this past month, as measured by mentions in Google News (news.google.com). Trends noted are vs. last month's total hits; * indicates new to the list. Number in parenthesis indicates last month's Top 10 rank. Virgin Galactic continues to make news, with three top execs jumping ship and a new bio of Richard Branson claiming, "It's clear that he launched Virgin Galactic without remotely understanding the complexity of the technical challenges involved and, probably, still doesn't." Steve Pearce makes news writing about "submissive" wives in his memoir. Plus here comes the drought again...

- 1. (2) Virgin Galactic—323 hits (A)
- 2. (5) New Mexico drought—289 hits (▲)
- 3. (1) New Mexico + immigration—285 hits (▲)
- 4. (3) Gov. Susana Martinez—272 hits (▲)
- 5. (7) Sen. Tom Udall—135 hits (▲)
- 6. (8) Sen. Martin Heinrich—123 hits (▲)
- 7. (6) New Mexico gay marriage—116 hits (▲)
- 8. (-) New Mexico spaceport—89 hits (▲)
- 9. (4) Ex-Gov. Bill Richardson—74 hits (▼)
- **10**. (-) **Rep. Steve Pearce**—69 hits (▲)



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TUMBLEWEEDS

Life in a State of Nature

More reader photos of creatures big and small.

Readers near and far continue to share their photos of wildlife in our corner of the world. With spring bringing the critters out, we hope even more of you will have your lenses trained on our Southwest "zoo."

This Texas horned lizard, photographed in Luna County, is the first of a batch of pictures sent by **Andy Dimler** of Denver, who writes, "I am a frequent visitor to Southwest New Mexico. I always enjoy reading your newspaper when I am in the area. I have a small piece of property in Luna County near the Tres Hermanas mountains that I stay on for a couple of weeks each year. I am an amateur wildlife photographer and I wanted to submit some of the photos I have shot in this area."



Vicki Decker of Glenwood shared this photo of a grumpy-looking javelina.



We're still catching up with the wonderful submissions from **Joel Chinkes** of Hidden River Ranch near Columbus. Here's a Gambel's Quail "attacking a serpent which was hoping to dine on bird chicks."





This feasting cardinal is another backyard visitor photographed by **Debbie Morris** of Las Cruces.





Michael Schulte sent this long-distance view, with a

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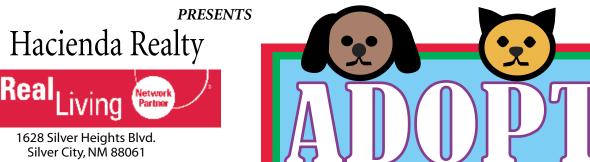




note: "It seems that those Florida Mountains ibex might represent the theme of *Desert Exposure* pretty well, especially when understood in the climber's sense of the word (exposure=how far the fall would be)." His Flickr page for more is www.flickr.com/ photos/eyeforbeauty.

> **Erin Evans** snapped this handsome deer near her Grant County ranch.

Share your own photos of local creatures great and small. Send to editor@desertexposure.com or mail to PO Box 191, Silver City, NM 88062, and include your postal address for a little thank-you. **#**



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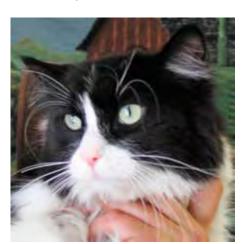




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Mella 2 yrs., Female, Torti





Patrick 1 yr., Male, DLH



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Apr 5: 9 a.m. - noon. <u>Basics of Drip Irrigation</u> (workshop)—George Farmer. Members: \$20 series, \$7/session•Non-members: \$30 series, \$10/session

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Southwest Gardener • Vivian Savitt

Two Gardens, One Challenge

Good omens loom on the grounds of Grant County's Volunteer Center and its year-old Commons Center for Food Security and Sustainability ("Uncommon Dreams," November 2013). High above the building in the tree line sits a bulky, basket-shaped raven's nest. Interspersed among the canopy are clumps of mistletoe, lime-colored in the morning sunshine.

Aspects of the Commons' mission seem to coalesce around the bird and plant. Ravens, for instance, are known to stockpile food. In Hopi Indian folklore they are touted as rescuers. Mistletoe, an epiphyte, derives physical support from the tree that it inhabits. And mistletoe berries provide an essential food source to the jauntily crested phainopepla bird, among other species found in our area.

Parked below the trees near an entry stands Alicia Edwards' lavender bicycle. Anti-hunger slogans overlay the bike's frame, bespeaking her decade-long commitment to the fight as the Volunteer Center's executive director.

The color lavender seems frivolous in contrast to Edwards' focused, no-nonsense demeanor—the way, for example, she pauses before speaking to consider her words.

"The Commons," Edwards says, "gives our community the opportunity to participate in finding solutions to food security. This includes food pantry distributions, gardening projects, workshops, work days, education and special events."

With the onslaught of spring, Edwards reports



The Edwards-Bailey home garden exemplifies the potential bounty and security of raising one's own food. (Photo: Alicia Edwards)



Alicia Edwards sits on the grounds of the Commons Center for Food Security and Sustainability in Silver City. The park bench memorializes the volunteer work of the late Janeane Morrissey. (Photo: Vivian Savitt)

that a grounds plan for the three-quarter-acre site is underway. The effort includes building a pump house (a well has already been drilled) and demonstrating the value of using hoop houses ("a \$50 investment," Edwards says) for home crop cultivation.

On a typical work day at least 30 volunteers show up for tasks ranging from digging beds to laying wood chips. Edwards hopes to have garlic and tomatoes available for distribution through the in-house food pantry by early fall.

"We have a responsibility to ourselves," Edwards says, "to grow as much food as possible. This allows for both good health and self-sufficiency. Home gardens are hard work, but not that hard. Activities at the Commons show that there's no need to be garden phobic."

Hard work and gardening are second nature to Edwards, yet overall her lifestyle appears to be as balanced as the Commons' exactingly symmetrical facade.

Her strength and physical health are obvious. An enduring relationship with partner Emma Bailey, a sociology professor at WNMU, includes many shared interests—from hiking and biking to producing a recent book, *We Are Hope*. A compilation of poems by woman residents of Juarez, Mexico, the book also features Bailey's essays and Edwards' photography.

"That's my major creative outlet," Edwards says, "photography."

The two surprisingly, the Edwards-Bailey home garden stands as a significant shared pursuit and ample proof that Edwards lives her vision. Lavender exuberance is everywhere.

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Opening Day—Tuesday, March 18

- We have brought in lots of new items.
- We carry Black Gold all purpose & organic potting soil.
- We have compost this year.
- 400 rose bushes.
- New green house (come out and take a look).
- Remember at Country Girl's, our flowers, herb and vegetable plants are started on site here in Silver City.

Look For Us At The Home And Garden Show March 21 & 22

Find us on

575-313-1507 2906 Mountain View Rd. 9-5 Tues-Fri | 9-1 Sat

2 ½ miles south of HWY 180E on Mountain View Road Now 10 years old—the mark of a "mature" landscape—the garden saw its best harvest last year.

"Emma," Edwards says, "is a fruitaterian!" Fruit in the garden is bountiful from grapes, figs and peaches to cherries, pears and plums. "We fresh-freeze them for use all winter. For vegetables, we grow tomatoes, onion, garlic and asparagus."

Their garden, like the grounds of the Commons, was envisioned as "a pollinator habitat to grow food on." Lawn grass was removed. Trees were arranged to keep the wind directed above the property. Spaces for a beehive and worm bin are noted. So too is Edwards' fondness for building things.

Projects include a small greenhouse and a hen house for two British-bred Gingernut Rangers. Edwards calls the hens "amazing layers." They are also "extremely sweet, love to eat tomatoes and don't mind being held."

Her conversation lapses for a minute before adding, "People don't realize that the Commons is such a big part of what I do in my own time."

D dwards will have a busy March, even for her. She will be participating in several special events:

• Friday, March 7: "Sustaining Viable Food Supplies Through 2050 with Neighborhood Gardens." Facilitated by George Farmer, with panelists including Edwards, Monica Rude of Desert Woman Botanicals,

Daffodil

The remarkable story of the world's most popular spring

flower Noel Kingsbury with

photographs by Jo Whitworth



Enchanted Gardens in Las Cruces will be closing in July as owner Jackye Meinecke retires.

Doug Smith of Townside Farm and Carolyn Smith, outreach coordinator for the Silver City Food Co-op, co-chair of the Grant County Food Policy Council and board member of the Silver City Farmers' Market. 1:30 p.m., WNMU Global Resource Center.

• Thursday, March 20: Seed-Saving Workshop with Edwards and Farmer at the Commons. This will kick off:

• Friday, March 21, and Saturday, March 22: The Silver City Farmers' Market Fourth Annual Home and Garden Expo, featuring free gardening miniworkshops, the Co-op Seed Share, a Kid's Gardening Expo and Food Fair, home and garden supplies and

> local service vendors. 12-8 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday at the Grant County Business and Conference Center, Hwy. 180E.

Feeling Daffy

Tfirst fell in love with daffodils when I saw multitudes of them growing on Rock Creek Parkway in Washington, DC. These long-lived perennials with their bright yellow blooms are harbingers of spring; their trumpetshaped coronas herald the season.

Everything one needs to know about the species (genus Narcis-

sus) is covered in *Daffodil: The Remarkable Story of the World's Most Popular Spring Flower* by Noel Kingsbury (2013, Timber Press, 220 pp., hardcover \$27.50).

Immersing one's self in a single species can be satisfying if it becomes a positive presence in your garden. In the case of daffodils, Kingsbury writes, "They are not only immensely long-lived, but continually clone themselves to form ever-expanding clumps."

With color photography by Jo Whitworth on every page, the book explains the daffodil's earliest history in Egypt, where they were found buried in the tomb of Pharaoh Ramses II. Later, the species "rode the coattails of the British Empire" and spread around the world.

Daffodils are big commercial crops. In season, bouquets are found readily at the grocer. Because they grow wherever there's a discernible winter, innumerable varieties are available in catalogs featuring fall planted-spring flowering bulbs.

The Heaths—bulb breeders—of Brent and Becky's Bulbs (store.brentandbeckysbulbs.com) offer one of the most comprehensive ranges of daffodil bulbs for sale in the US. My copy of their catalog describes about 200 cultivars.

News

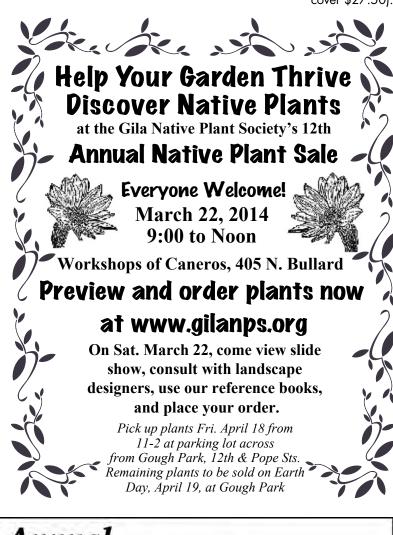
B nchanted Gardens, 270 Avenida de Mesilla, Las Cruces, will close in July. Jackye Meinecke, owner of the nursery that specializes in native plants, is retiring and has placed the one-acre site for sale. Meinecke plans special sales throughout the spring.



Jean Eisenhower's half-hour, interview format program, "Back to the Garden," now airs on KURU radio (89.1 FM) at 4:30 pm, Thursdays, and repeats at 10:30 am Saturdays.

The Gila Native Plant Society's 12th annual Native Plant Pre-Sale and Educational Fair will be Saturday, March 22, 9 a.m.-noon, in downtown Silver City at 405 N. Bullard St. (the former Workshops of Carneros). Photo by Jo Whitworth from Daffodil: The Remarkable Story of the World's Most Popular Spring Flower by Noel Kingsbury (2013, Timber Press, 220 pp., hardcover \$27.50).

Vivian Savitt gardens at Ditch Cottage in Silver City.



Join us for the Fourth Annual HOME and GARDEN EXPO Friday—March 21st, noon–8pm Saturday—March 22nd, 9-4pm GRANT COUNTY BUSINESS & CONFERENCE CENTER

Free Gardening Mini-Workshops: •composting • permaculture • pollinators •rain water harvesting • growing peanuts •flowers for bouquets • growing chia • preserving garden produce • year-round gardening • water conservation • seed saving, why & how-to bring saved seeds for cleaning Youth Garden Expo:

•gardening•composting•nutrition•food history activities for the next generation! Friday 4-6PM — Saturday 10AM-2PM



\$3 admission at the door kids under 12 free Vendor Booths: Local artists • gardeners service contractors home improvement suppliers •wood flooring • tile • adobe • stucco •fencing • handiperson • rock walls •landscaping • well drilling •general contractors •food • raffle and much more Contact: Carolyn Smith 575-388-2343

Proceeds help cover the operating costs of the Silver City Farmers' Market

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Beauty Sleeping a novel about an artist's journey by Silver City author **Beate Sigriddaughter**

is now available at www.lulu.com (print) and www.amazon.com (Kindle ebook)

Please visit the author's website www.sigriddaughter.com





RAMBLIN' OUTDOORS . LARRY LIGHTNER Adventure Vehicles

A man and his cars... and trucks.

ver the past 46 years, I've managed to buy one vehicle or the other that I could adapt to my outdoor adventures. I'm not sure why, but I suspect that owning such a vehicle has to do with my Celtic penchant to see what's around the next corner, across the next stream, or over the next hill. I get a thrill from driving over dirt roads and twotracks that any sensible person would avoid.

I discovered early in adulthood that not any old car would do for such nonsense. It needed to be a dual-purpose arrangement that would fulfill my domestic needs as well as my adventure side.

Back then, in the late 1960s, I didn't know much about pickups, but I did know about that German gem called the VW Bug, having owned a 1962 after my college days. All my driving was in urban Orange County at the time, however, and the car never saw a rough road let alone "the dirt."

My next VW was a '64, and it too never saw the dirt, but I was in the Army for four years and it saw plenty of snow; I learned the value of having the engine over the drive wheels for traction. I owned that VW for three years and the danged thing broke down on me every month like clockwork.

I traded it on my third VW, a brand new 1968 Karmann Ghia, the poor man's sports car. By then I was up in rank and seniority and actually had spare cash, so I bought it, and it became my first "huntin' car." Snow was not a problem nor was mud or Jersey sand, and we went some pretty gnarly places in the Pine Barrens of southern New Jersey.

In 1969 I got married (still am after 45 years) and we got a second Ghia-a rough 1960 model with a little 36-horsepower engine and a three-speed transmission that was non-synchromesh. The heater worked only in summer. But I fell absolutely in love with that car. I wish I still had it.

It was one tough son-of-a-gun, almost unstoppable, and got 42 mpg. I mounted aggressive snow tires on the rear wheels and together we went everywhere. Nothing stopped us.

One time Jeri and I were headed to see her folks in eastern Pennsylvania, and we took the old Ghia, which I'd named "Gordon." It was snowing heavily and we couldn't see the road, because the defrosters didn't work and there was eight inches of snow on the ground. I noticed the road had gotten awfully bumpy and after 50 yards or so, I stopped and opened the door and looked down: We were sitting in a cut corn field and were driving across the rows! We'd missed a sharp left turn in the road.

I put it into first gear and let out the clutch and made a "u-eee" and drove back with nary a miss. That was some car indeed.

fter the Army, we moved back to Southern California, without either Ghia. In 1971, I Dought my first pickup, a 1970 Datsun compact with four-speed tranny, two-wheel drive and pitiful city tread tires. I grew to love that truck too, and I've never been without a truck since then.

people and smog, and in 1972 we and the Datsun moved to eastern Pennsylvania. That's when I was re-introduced to snow-deep, deep snow.

But I recalled the lesson of weight in the back for better traction. So I devised a scheme where I put a layer of cement blocks in the bed and covered them with plywood. I now had traction and room to still use the bed for hauling. That arrangement worked fabulously and I can't recall a time that snow or mud ever stopped or stuck me in the five years I had the Datsun.

In 1976 kid number-two was about to come along, and the Datsun was too small for our needs. So I regrettably traded "him" (the car, not the kid) for a 1975 Dodge van, with three speeds on the column and twowheel drive. It was a half-ton short bed, and served me well for nine years; I never got stuck in it, either.

Of course I put aggressive tires, now radial, on the back, and replaced all the springs with one-ton varieties because I would be hauling cut firewood with it. In the winter, I again loaded a layer of cement blocks and the usual plywood.

If the snow was less than 12 inches or the drifts less than two feet, we managed fine. If it was worse, well, I stayed home!

Even here in New Mexico, if you go off-highway for any reason, such as to get to a favorite hiking spot, make sure you put at least 200 pounds of weight over the drive wheels; you'll thank me later. Also be sure to carry a shovel and a spare scissor jack to get into low places, plus a 12-by-12-inch piece of plywood to set the jack on for stability. Buy a good tire gauge and, if you have to, air your tires down to 10-15 psi. If winter snow is a problem, buy a bag or bucket of cheap kitty litter for traction in front of the drive wheels. Lay a path about six to eight feet long.

't wasn't as if the van ever let me down, but one day in 1985 I was passing a Ford dealership and L there was a row of Ford pickups in 4WD. I turned around just to look-see and fell in love again. They were all identical except for color; all had six-cylinder engines and four-speed-overdrive trannies and were shortbeds.

I left for home to talk (beg) the missus to let me get one, and after a week she agreed. Back I went and found all but two were sold-one bright red, the other all white. After bargaining, I took Ol' White home with me. My first four-wheel drive!

It wore all-season radial tires, which weren't too bad-at least until I got stuck in a four-foot snow drift. The old saying is, "Four-wheel drive just gets you stuck deeper." How true! Learn this lesson well, my friends.

I soon added a camper cap on the bed so I could haul my kids in the back. Pennsylvania was now demanding seat belts for all passengers, so I installed a custom roll cage under the cap and bolted a bench seat, facing backwards with seat belts, to the cage. The kids were safer than we were in the front!

The cap had a boot instead of a window and with ne sliding rear cab window open, we could talk to



I soon took it off-highway on a deserted high-desert two-track. I drove down into a gulch, then started climbing out the far side only to spin out on hardpack with a skim of sand on top. I slowly backed down to the bottom and turned around and went the way I came, only to be stopped dead by the same conditions!

I had read that if you got stuck in sand, lowering the air pressure in the tires to about 10 psi would get you unstuck. I did so, and soon was moving, but the way was steep and almost to the top, I was stuck again.

I had also read to put weight in the bed to further facilitate traction, so I threw in about 300 pounds of rock and boulder and happily it did the trick. I was on my way, never to be stuck again with that Datsun. That adventure was a valuable lesson learned.

That also reminded me of the over-sized snow tires on Gordon Ghia. Once back to civilization, I promptly bought over-sized, aggressive snow tires for the Datsun's rear wheels with much wider rims. Make note, please.

I quickly grew tired of California with all of its

the kids and they got heat, too.

One time I went hunting in New York in the winter. I decided to pull up a remote two-track to sleep, went around to the back and crawled in. An hour later I heard a car engine. I sat up and there was an old Corvair driving slowly by. It disappeared and I went to sleep. But suddenly "a Voice" said to me in my mind, "Get up and get out of here now!"

I crawled through the window in my underwear and just as I started the engine I spied the Corvair coming back real slow like. I was gone! Over the years, I've learned to never ignore "The Voice."

Next month I'll continue my tale as we move to New Mexico and Ol' White comes, too.

As always, keep the sun forever at your back, the wind forever in your face, and may

The Forever God bless you too! 🕷

When not ramblin' outdoors, Larry Lightner lives in Silver City.



ARTS EXPOSURE

Arts Scene The latest area art happenings.

Silver City & Grant County

March and April gallery show at **JW** Art Gallery in Hurley will honor gallery co-owner Karin M. Wade, who passed away on Feb. 5 at the age of 78. 99 Cortez Ave., 537-0300.

Copper Quail Gallery will be featuring new photography, ceramics, paintings and jewelry for spring, beginning March 11. 211-A Texas St., corner of Yankie and Texas, 388-2646.

Leyba & Ingalls Arts will be hosting after-school art classes on Mondays and Wednesdays, 3:30-5 p.m., beginning March 3, for ages 6-12. \$90 for nine classes. 315 N. Bullard, 388-5725, www.LeybaIngallsARTS.com.

The **Silver City Museum** will open a new exhibit, "Faces and Places of the Chihuahuan Desert," March 22, on view through June 8. The exhibit features photographs by University of Texas at El Paso professor emeritus Dr. Robert H. Schmidt. His background is in natural resources and physical geography, and for the last three decades he has tracked changes in the Chihuahuan Desert. This exhibition, organized by Humanities Texas, presents in visual form an interpretation of scientific information about the Chihuahuan Desert region. 312 W. Broadway, 538-5921, www.silvercitymuseum.org.

The annual **WNMU Pottery Sale** will be coming to downtown Silver City (location TBA) on March 22, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. 388-5202, 313-7278.

Seedboat Gallery is featuring spiral cast bronze, wood and steel works by sculptor Michael Metcalf. 214 W. Yankie, seedboatgallery.com.

The **Mimbres Region Arts Council** will host a spring Guatemalan Mercado on Saturday, March 29, from 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at the MRAC/Wells Fargo Bank Gallery. The sale will feature an extensive selec-



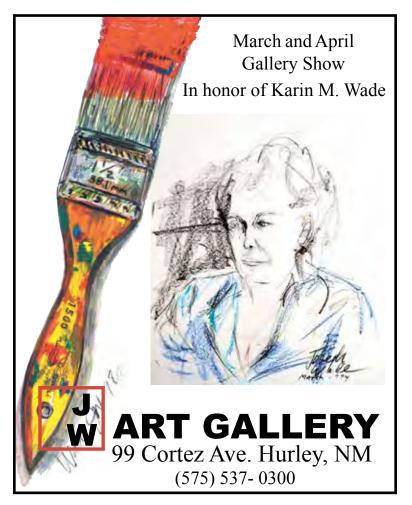
"Tracks in the Canyon" by Donna Foley, featured in the fourth annual Las Cruces Arts Fair, March 14-16.

tion of handmade weavings created by Guatemalan artisans and offered for sale by Sonia and Curt Porter, longtime vendors of Guatemalan textiles. Items for sale will include woven scarves and shawls, coats and vests, jewelry, backpacks and purses, place settings and tablecloths, pants, skirts, blouses and belts, Santos and more. Proceeds benefit both the Guatemalan artisans and MRAC events and programming. 1201 N. Pope St., 538-2505, www.mimbresarts.org.

Kate Brown's next one-day intensive tile-making class will be held April 19, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., at her studio in the Mimbres. 536–9935, katebrown@gilanet.com, www.katebrownpottery.com.

ARTS EXPOSURE continued on next page







GUSTAVE BAUMANN: A LIFE'S JOURNEY



Picturet: Gustave Baumen (1881–1971), Higs Core, 1938, uske woodsat, 8 58 a 8 154 in Collection of the New Monico Maxium of Art, Naneum plantnase with funds raised by the School of American Henerarch, 1952 (544-235) G New Monico Maxium of Art

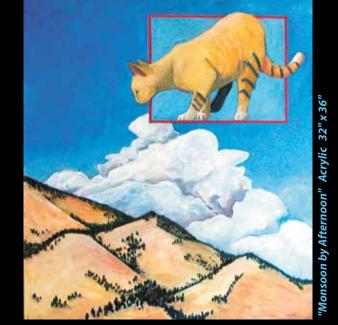
LAS CRUCES MUSEUM OF ART



491 North Main Street Las Cruces, NM, USA las-cruces.org/museums 575-541-2137

FEBRUARY 7 -MARCH 29

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CURRENT EXIBITION

Gallery is Located in Beautiful Fierro Canyon Just past the Hanover Post Office

WHERE ART HANGS AROUND



Our Cover Artist

he Las Cruces Museum of Art continues its

exhibition, "Gustave Baumann: A Life's Journey," through March 29. Gustave Baumann's family emigrated from Germany to Chicago in 1891 when he was 10 years old. At 16, he apprenticed at an engraving house while studying at the Chicago Art Institute. In 1905, he furthered his studies at the Kunstgewerbe Shule (Kunstgewerbe School) in Munich. There he began developing his signature woodblock printmaking style, which led to an accomplished career in the United States.

Baumann visited New Mexico in 1918 and was mesmerized by the vast grandeur of the Southwest. He soon moved to Santa Fe and lived there until his death in 1971. His observations of the New Mexico landscape and Pueblo life became sources for his colorful woodblock prints.

Over the course of his career, Baumann exhibited in museums and galleries throughout the United States and was represented by galleries in Santa Fe, Chicago and New York. In 1952, he was named as an honorary fellow of the School of American Research in Santa Fe. A comprehensive body of his works was donated to the New Mexico Museum of Fine Art in Santa Fe by his wife, Jane, and daughter, Ann. "Gustave Baumann: A Life's Journey" presents a selection of the works, on loan from the New

Mexico Museum of Fine Art.

The Las Cruces Museum of Art is located at 491 N. Main St. For more information, call 541-2137 or visit www.las-cruces.org/museums. 🕷



Gustave Baumann (1881-1971), "Hopi Corn," 1938, color woodcut, 8 1/8 x 8 1/4 in. Collection of the New Mexico Museum of Art. Museum purchase with funds raised by the School of American Research, 1952 (944.23G) © New Mexico Museum of Art.

ARTS EXPOSURE continued

The Silver City Clay Festival, July 30-August 3, is inviting artists to participate in three international juried exhibitions: "A Tile & A Vessel," focusing on two clay pieces-one, the artist's interpretation of a vessel, and one, the artist's interpretation of a tile (deadline April 30); Neo-Mimbreño 2014, contemporary works influenced or inspired by designs of

the ancient Mimbres potters of the Southwest (deadline June 16); and Private Pro-JECT, large-scale clay and mosaic private installations (deadline June 14). For details, see www.clayfestival. com/exhibitions.html.

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Las Cruces & Mesilla

he fourth annual Las Cruces Arts Fair opens its doors on Friday, March 14, at 5 p.m. at the Las Cruces Convention Center. Opening night festivities include live music provided by Rosa y Ray Renato Dueto Krystal and Remember Then... A Class Act. The fair continues on Saturday, March 15, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday, March 16, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Many of this year's artists

are past favorites, while others are new to the south- standing artists from all over the country, the Las Cruern New Mexico arts scene. Participating artists from ces Arts Fair has become a signature fine arts event in the Silver City area include Donna Foley, Pierre Nich- the Southwest. We are so excited to showcase artists ols, Romaine Begay and Jeff and Debbie Kuhns. At the Four Directions Weaving Studio, Donna Foley creates intricate hand-woven tapestries and wearable art. She uses wool from her own Lincoln sheep (a heritage breed with wool known for its luster and strength) and natural dyes from madder root, cochineal and in-

digo and from local plants collected near her home in the Gila Wilderness of southern New Mexico.

With over 20 years of experience in gourd work, Pierre Nichols uses a pyro-engraving technique to incorporate ancient Mimbres designs into his artwork. He is recognized as a Master Gourd Artist and his work has received numerous awards in New Mexico, Arizona, Texas and Idaho.

Romaine Begay has been making art since he

was very young. He began a full-time pottery career in 2005. Since then, he has become a big name at juried art shows and fairs, both local and throughout the Southwest. According to Begay, his work is a marriage of traditional Navajo designs and storytelling through contemporary clay techniques.

In their Silver City studio, Jeff and Debbie Kuhns make functional and decorative stoneware pottery. With careful attention to detail and using wheel thrown and sculptural techniques, the Kuhns produce an extensive line of dinnerware, casseroles and serving pieces featuring unique southwestern designs.

According to this year's fair co-chairs, "With such out-



"Dance of the Spotted Deer Mask" by Pierre Nichols, featured in the Las Cruces Arts Fair.



Classes will be held Mondays & Wednesdays from 3:30pm to 5pm beginning March 3!

L

Located above LEYBA & INGALLS CALL 388-5725 for more info.

After school art exploration opportunity for young artists, ages 6 to 12, now available! Emphasis will be placed on drawing and painting, to foster creative and critical thinking skills. Alison Phillips is a certified art educator and professional artist with many years of classroom experience. The class fee is \$90.00 for 9 classes. A class material list will be provided upon registration at Leyba & Ingalls. Class size is limited to 16 students, so please register as soon as possible! Let's start making ART!

We carry the finest in art supplies as well as art for the discriminating collector







Mesquite Art Gallery features watercolorist Lu Bleveans in a show March 1-29.

from southern New Mexico." Proceeds from the Las Cruces Arts Fair benefit the Doña Ana Arts Council, the Rio Grande Theatre and numerous community programs. Admission is \$6 per person. Children under age 12 are admitted free of charge. An all-inclusive weekend pass may be purchased for \$10. 680 E. University Ave. 523-6403, www.las-cruces-arts.org.

he Branigan Cultural Center will presents

"The Building of Hoover Dam: Photographs by Winthrop A. Davis, 1930 to 1934," opening March 7 with a reception 5-7 p.m. and concluding March 29. This exhibit includes 24 photographs with commentary by the photographer. 501 N. Main St., 541-2154, lascruces.org/museums.

The Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery will feature local artists Hetty Smith and Ray Baird this month. Smith is a transplant from Amsterdam who works in stained glass. Baird offers "impressionistic expressionism" in depicting rural structures and international landmarks. 2470-A Calle de Guadalupe, 522-2933, www.mesillavalleyfinearts.com.

On March 7, 5-8 p.m., Creative Harmony Gallery



Carey Crane opens his exhibit, "Certain Signs," at Unsettled Gallery with an artist's reception on March 8.

and Gifts will host a reception for Wendy Weir and her show "Loose Edges." 220 N. Campo St., 312-3040.

Carey Crane opens his exhibit, "Certain Signs," at **Unsettled Gallery** with an artist's reception on March 8 from 4-6 p.m. Crane's new work continues to explore color and gesture but the narrative thread develops from familiar gestures (the drag, the smear, the splash, the flow), palette and collage to mutated neutrals to a more primal palette reminiscent of the tropical paradise Gauguin sought. An artist's talk takes place on March 22 from 1:30-2:30 p.m. The exhibit continues through March 29. 905 N. Mesquite St., 635-2285, www.unsettledgallery.com.

Mesquite Art Gallery welcomes watercolorist Lu Bleveans with a show March 1-29 and a reception March 8, 4-6 p.m. Says Bleveans, "I'm drawn to natural landscapes where shapes and atmosphere give rise to an emotional response. My subjects and shapes are drawn from nature but interpreted into paintings that move away from reality toward the dreamlike and ambiguous. I want the beholder to respond to my painting with the emotion I felt on seeing the site." 340 N. Mesquite St., 640-3502.

Bonnie Mandoe, our February cover artist, will be offering a class this month, "Learn to Paint with Water-Soluble Oils." For more information, call (575) 523-9760 or (575) 642-9760 and see her blog on the topic at her website, www.bonniemandoe.com.

The **13th Annual Hafla** at Grapevine Plaza Gardens, April 27, 2-8 p.m., is seeking artists as well as performers. 644-4156, reederlinda@hotmail.com.

Rodeo/Portal

The Chiricahua Art Guild Gallery will sponsor a spring series of art and craft workshops featuring introductory charcoal drawing,

beginning quilting, family scrapbooking and three introductory calligraphy classes. Classes are scheduled between March 4 and April 9. The Art of Calligraphy will be taught by Doug Julian, March 26, April 2 and 9 from 9-11 a.m. at the Portal Rescue classroom. Cost for all three classes is \$10 for members/associates, \$15 for non-members. The Art of Quilting classes will feature Trudy Kimble, a quilter since 1975, March 6 and 13, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Chiricahua Art Gallery in Rodeo. Cost is \$10 for two classes (nonmember) and \$5 for members. The Art of Scrapbooking, taught by Joy Mendez, will be offered March 11, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Chiricahua Art Guild Gallery. \$5 members, \$10 non-members. An Intro to Charcoal Life, taught by Dawn Aerts, will be at the Chiricahua Art Guild Gallery on March 4 from 10

a.m. to noon. \$5 members, \$10 non-members. To preregister for any of the classes and for details on what materials to bring to each, contact Aerts at 557-0417, dawnaerts@hotmail.com. *****

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



The Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery will feature local artists Ray Baird this month.

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Vibrations Gallery 108 W. Yankie 654-4384



Vicki's Eatery 315 N. Texas 388-5430 Breakfast M-Sat 7-10:30 • Sun 8-2 • Lunch M-Sat 11-3



Lois Duffy Art 211C N. Texas 313-9631

Artesanos Gallery

211B N. Texas

519-0804



Copper Quail Gallery 211A N. Texas 388-2646



Molly Ramolla Gallery & Framing 303 & 307 N. Texas 538-5538 or 654-0334 www.ramollaart.com

Seedboat Gallery 214 W. Yankie 534-1136 Wed–Sat 11am-5pm or by appt



Yankie Street Artists 103 W. Yankie 519-0615

©DE



The Common Thread is a non-profit, volunteer run gallery, supporting women in southern New Mexico 107 W. Broadway, Silver City <u>575–538–5733</u> www.fiberartscollective.org

ARTS EXPOSURE

Gallery Guide

Silver City ANN MCMAHON PHOTOGRAPHY, 125 Country Road. By appointment. www. AnnMcMahon.com.

ANN SIMONSEN STUDIO-GALLERY, 104 W. Yankie St., 654-5727. ARTESANOS, 211-B N. Texas St.,

519-0804. Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 12-6 p.m. [**a]SP."A"©E**, 110 W. 7th St., 538-

3333, aspace.studiogallery@gmail.com. Azurite Gallery, 110 W. Broadway,

538-9048, Wed.-Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

www.azuritegallery.com. BARBARA NANCE GALLERY & STONE-WALKER STUDIO, 105 Country Road,

534-0530. By appointment. Stone, steel, wood and paint. Sculpture path. www. barbaraNanceArt.com.

BLUE DOME GALLERY, 60 Bear Mountain Ranch Road (Bear Mountain Lodge, 2251 Cottage San Road), 534-8671. Mon.-Sat. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. www.bluedomegallery.com.

CLAYFUL HANDS, 622 N. California, 534-0180. By appointment. Phoebe Lawrence.

CLAYMOON STUDIO, 13 Jade Dr., 313-6959. Marcia Smith. By appointment.

Common Ground, 103 W. Kelly, 534-2087. Tues.-Sun. 1-7 p.m. Common Thread, 107 W. Broad-

way, 538-5733. Mon., Thurs, Fri. and Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Retail and gallery space for fiber arts. www.fiberartscollective.org.

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LeybalngallsART@zianet.com. LOIS DELONG STUDIO, 2309 Paul Place, 388-4759. By appointment.

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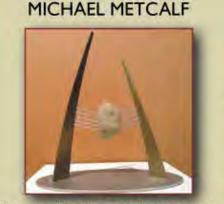
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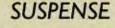
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TALKING HORSES . SCOTT THOMSON

Seat Smarts Your saddle is not a chair.

he quality of the seat determines whether we can even speak of 'riding,' or whether the horse simply has to 'deal with' the load on his back."

"As a rider, your first priority is to develop an independent seat, and this requires you to be mentally, emotionally and physically fit. Without this it is impossible for you and your horse to work in harmony."

Two interesting and similar quotes, one a translation from one of the great European masters of classical riding (Kurt Albrecht) and the other from a wellknown Western rider and cowboy (Pat Parelli)-I'll let you guess which is which. Two different worlds with a common core; that is, the better your riding seat, the better the riding experience for both horse and rider.

I've heard it said the fundamental problem for horse and rider is that the horse was not designed to be ridden and the rider was not designed for riding. This conflict intersects at the seat, where the rider should blend with the horse and the horse is free to move. Without the seat, your aids become interference or an annoyance to the horse because they're confusing and applied with poor timing and accuracy. Reins and legs can never make up for poor balance and a seat out of rhythm with the horse.

The idea that the seat is where all riding starts seems to be lost on many riders these days. It's as if riders see a focus on the seat as being something that is important if you're in the show ring being judged, but pretty meaningless if you're just a recreational rider. I see it a different way. For me, the seat is of critical importance for both rider and horse, no matter what you do with your horse. Sitting on a horse is not a seat. A seat is a balanced position where the horse's hips become your hips, almost as if you're sitting "in" the horse.

deal with a lot of adult riders, some getting back into riding after many years away, others L starting riding for the first time. Not coincidently, many of these riders start off with an accident. Maybe not a big one with broken bones or a medivac flight, but certainly bad enough to give a pretty good scare and some nasty bruises. More often than not, when this happens the horse is blamed for misbehaving or having some bad training or experiences in his past. While all this could be true, what I usually see is the rider has no riding seat or has never had any high-quality riding lessons. Without this, a rider is ill-equipped to handle any unexpected movements from the horse. With no seat, a rider has little to go to in a riding "hiccup" beyond grabbing the reins, clamping with the legs or hitting the ejector button. A good seat and riding safety are one and the same.

It also bothers me that so many riders "hurt" when they get off their horses. The more I've seen this, the more I believe the pain the rider feels after a ride relates directly to the quality of their riding seat. It is the seat that allows the rider to go with the horse, decreasing much of the physical and emotional tension that leads to pain after riding. Now, there are certainly horses that are less comfortable to ride than others, and we all experience the joys of joints that stiffen as we age. But a good riding seat can actually make riding more of a therapeutic exercise, almost like a good massage. There's an important side to this for the horse as well. I see a lot of independent horse movement within a herd through my volunteer work at End of the Road Ranch horse rescue and sanctuary. Combining these observations with what I see with horses under saddle, it is clear to me that the quality of a rider's seat has a direct impact on the health and fitness of horses-not just their physical health but their emotional health as well. I think you can tie a large percentage of the lameness, sore backs, resistance and dangerous-behavior issues people face with their horses directly to the quality of a rider's seat. If you don't see this as a possible root cause of your horse's discomfort or performance, then you'll spend, even waste, way too much money soothing the symptoms-with

vets, chiropractors and pain medications-and never really solve the problem.

aybe thinking of it like this will help. Say your recreational passion is hiking, and you start off with boots that are a bad fit and you do a poor job loading your pack. You'll probably be a bit stiff or sore after your first few hikes like this, but eventually the pain goes away as your body adjusts to the ill-fitting boots and the unbalanced pack. Then you notice other parts of your body that seem unrelated to the hiking start to hurt. When you look in the mirror you notice you kind of tilt to one side, you have a funny gait when you walk, and your feet look a little weird. Your body has adjusted beautifully to your hiking, but now you have several other issues that make other activities in your life painful or uncomfortable.

This is exactly what happens to a horse when the rider's seat is poor. The rider sits in a way that is comfortable for him, but doesn't consider the biomechanics of the horse. The seat interferes with the movement of the horse rather than complementing it. The horse has to compensate for a rider who is out of balance and using hands or legs to maintain balance and stability. The horse may shorten its stride from the blocked movement, or he may have to adjust his spine or tilt his head to keep his own balance. He may even change his footfalls. Just like the analogy above, the horse will adjust to this, but over time the adjustments will take their toll. More than likely he will develop pain as he is no longer able to carry himself in the ways his body is meant to work. This is often when behavioral issues show up as well.

There is plenty of evidence out there that supports the theory that the long-term health and performance of a horse depend a great deal on the quality of the rider's seat. It is the seat that allows the horse to move in more comfortable and relaxed ways, and to carry the weight of a rider more efficiently. Alignment or compression of the spine, back pain, arthritis, one-sided and gait issues, length of stride, TMJ tension and even the shape and integrity of the hoof are all issues that may have riding style as a contributing factor.

Is it possible to improve your riding seat at any stage in life, especially for the adult rider? Absolutely. But it does take commitment and some study. You may have to start your development in the gym rather than on a horse, so you can focus on your particular body and what it needs to develop the suppleness and strength for a good riding seat. You'll have to spend some arena riding time on a longe line, working specifically on your seat and your balance. You'll need to dedicate a portion of every trail ride to practicing techniques to keep your seat in different terrain. A trusted teacher or partner with a good eye is a must. A great seat position may feel odd at first, but your horse will let you know immediately when you've got it right—so you have to be able to read your horse as well.

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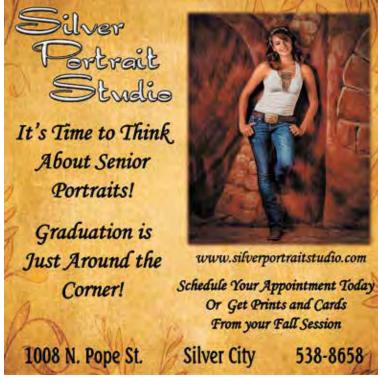


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No matter what you think about riding, it is a challenging mental and physical exercise. For you and your horse, comfort, performance, enjoyment and safety all pretty much start with the seat. I've read one top horsewoman (Gabrielle Dareau) describe it as working to develop "seat adhesion, where there is a seamless connection between the rider's pelvis and the horse's back that is maintained throughout the entire range of motion in every gait." That is a great image for every rider at every level. It's a lofty goal, for sure, but one that, if pursued with passion, will have you riding with confidence and your horse thanking you after every ride. 🕷

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





ANNALS OF AGRICULTURE . DOUG FINE

Hemp Returns to Humanity

A Grant County writer's journey from Canada to Hawaii to Belgium, chronicling the rediscovery of hemp.



Doug Fine with first legal American hemp farmer this century, Ryan Loflin of Colorado. **Editor's note**: The reviewers are glowing about Hemp Bound, the new book from southern New Mexico's own Doug Fine, with none other than Willie Nelson declaring the follow-up to Fine's Too High to Fail ("Going to Pot," August 2012) "a blueprint for the future of America." Joel Salatin calls Hemp Bound "one of the most fun books you'll ever read about the future of farming." With each book, Fine solidifies his position as one of the Land

of Enchantment's favorite writers. It was while milking the goats at the Funky Butte Ranch made famous in his Farewell, My Subaru ("Green Acres," March 2008) that Fine learned that even the US Congress seems to be on the bus with Hemp Bound, which is available everywhere this month. Here Fine gives Desert Exposure readers the inside story on his new book.

"m writing these words 10 minutes after Presi-

▲ dent Obama has legalized hemp. (If you're not yet among the throngs pausing for collective pinching of self and recitation of "God Bless America," you will be pretty soon.) He did this by signing the 2014 Farm Bill, which included a tucked-in bipartisan amendment that allows university research of the crop.

I'm happy for real-world reasons that go far beyond the fact that the president of the United States, together with the Congress, is now, albeit inadvertently, part of the marketing team for my new book. They in fact made the dream expressed in its first paragraph one big step closer to reality.

It goes, "my plan the day hemp becomes legal is to begin cultivating 10 acres of the plant so that my Sweetheart no longer has to import from China the material she already uses to make the shirts I wear in media interviews to discuss the fairly massive economic value of hemp. In a cynical age, we can use one less irony."

Imagine the government doing something that af-

This I found when I saw the Canadian farmer and processor profit margin on its hemp harvest. It's 10 times that of wheat. We'll have federal Hemp Appreciation long weekends in February or October some day. But when you take the long-term view, today qualifies as a mark-the-calendar day in human history, not just American history.

It is also long overdue. Just for the record, here's the timeline: Hemp legal, 12,000 years; hemp illegal, 77 years. Just last week, as I write this, a Stanford-led team discovered well-preserved hemp clothes at a 9,000-year-old village site in Turkey. A nice ensemble, in fact, ranging from infant size to big-and-tall.

In the big scheme of things, it was a short, headscratching separation between humans and their longest-utilized plant. But hemp's reemergence comes at a time when we (I mean as a species) have some catching up to do.

M y day job of the past several years (investigating the role of the cannabis plant in humanity's economic and climate mitigation arsenal) has, due to irrefutable evidence, convinced



Doug Fine's goat Taylor Swift wondering when she can have some omega-balanced hemp seed feed.

me that it's essential to bring one of our most useful plants back into the economy. I don't think of hemp as having been "legalized" so much as "returning to its normal status."

And yet two years ago a hemp legalization bill would have been (actually was) laughed out of Congress. In *Hemp Bound*'s fourth sentence, I call the plant's abrupt jolt back into society's toolbox an "astonishing nobrainer." I mean, what crop is a Cheech joke one year and

a major agricultural industry sector the next? Hemp agronomy is being taught today at Oregon State. In *Hemp Bound* I set out to explain why the plant has returned in such a big way and why it matters.

The short answer, according to one of the hemp researchers I interviewed for the book, is that we can't afford not to re-learn the ways to maximize this plant's harvest, and quickly. Here's one real-world example that, for an environmental journalist who has become convinced that petroleum is on its way out, was perhaps the most mind-blowing of the dozens of in-the-market hemp apps I've encountered in my research.

On a bright, subzero morning in Manitoba last year, I found myself sliding into a Canadian research facility and being shown a tractor body made entirely from hemp hemp that was grown and cultivated just a few miles away. This



In a Dutch hemp factory, Doug Fine holds the hemp fiber that goes into BMW door panels.

This, and a lot of other very cool stuff, is what I researched for *Hemp Bound*. At times in encountering hemp popping out like a jackin-the-box in surprising industries during my fourcontinent exploration, I felt like James Bond (hemp insulation, hemp body armor) and at times like the first human figuring out clothes (that hemp wardrobe I now wear to most of my interviews and a good deal of my goat milking—it outperforms wool, cotton and even linen as road warrior and as rancher material).

In short, after several years of in-the-field and in-the-lab research (and even though I realize that in declaring this I open myself to Pollyanna or even Chong jokes), I discovered that your roommate with the lava lamp was right about hemp. The thing about non-fiction is that I can only report what I found in the real world.

Hemp, or industrial cannabis, is going to be bigger than psychoactive cannabis (already one of the planet's top-earning crops), both to the worldwide economy and for the advancement of humanity. It can replace at once plastics and fossil fuels, while



Doug Fine literally hanging out on the Funky Butte Ranch. fects your life at all, let alone positively. It's not an exaggeration to say that in humanity's 8,000-year relationship with the hemp plant, this past year has been the most impactful one since the first Paleolithic hunter with blistered feet noticed that hemp's fibers made a stronger sandal than the leading brand.

The American re-embracing of its once most lucrative and important crop was indeed a move for the good of American farming, industry and tax base.



is about as closed a loop as it gets: powered by hemp, built from hemp (including the sealant that holds the pleasantly contemporary curved hood design together), and doing the work to harvest the hemp and start the cycle all over again. I rapped my knuckles on said hood. I kicked it. Solid.

"Why hemp?" I asked research team leader Simon Potter of Manitoba's Composites Innovation Centre. In Canada, hemp is a billion-dollar industry and is seeing growth of 20% per year.

"Because it's stronger, cheaper and much less energy-demanding than petroleum-based plastics," he said. "These are the industrial components of the future. We have no choice. Petroleum is done."

But a digital-age machine made out of a plant? "We're past the experimental and into implementation with this," Potter said. "You'll be able to buy this product." I suggested a model name of The Hemp Reaper, or my own online handle, OrganicCowboy.



The author on tour in Europe. (Photo by Derrick Bergman)

putting small farmers worldwide back in business on a profitable and soil-enhancing bridge crop and its locally produced applications. Thus *Hemp Bound* is in many ways a follow-up to my earlier account of my efforts at petroleum-free living and ineffective goatoutsmarting, *Farewell*, *My Subaru*.

E emp's number-one existing application in the New World today (the one enriching Canadians) is its seed oil, which is a genuine omegabalanced superfood. (I visited university nutrition studies on eggs of hemp-fed chickens to seek out and then eat the facts.)

In investigations that didn't feel very much like work, from Hawaii to Belgium, I saw that hemp's stronger-than-steel fibers are already in BMW and Mercedes door panels, I visited Colorado's first legal farmers and fields, and I even got to ride in a hemppowered limo. You can see short films about all of



Doug Fine with a Belgian hemp farmer.

these on my website.

Hemp Bound also proposes a new, communitybased sustainable energy grid paradigm based on carbon-friendly farm-waste combustion. That, to me, is the most important piece of the puzzle. Ya know, just a harvest that can allow us to wean from petroleum. It's already happening in parts of Europe with other crops.

You'll notice I use the verb "can" in the previous

sentence. It's a different word than "will." Will it happen? In Hemp Bound I suggest that it kind of must. Here's how I put it in the book's introduction:

"It isn't so much that hemp, useful as we're about to see it is, will automatically save humanity. It's that the worldwide industrial cannabis industry can play a major role in our species' long-shot sustainable resource search and climate stabilization project. For that to happen, the plant must be exploited domestically in ways upon which the marketplace smiles. No pressure: We fail? We

just go extinct. The Earth'll be fine." 💥

Follow Doug Fine on Twitter @Organiccowboy, check out his short films, "Dispatches from the Funky Butte Ranch," and live events schedule at dougfine.com, and pre-order Hemp Bound from any online or atomic bookstore.



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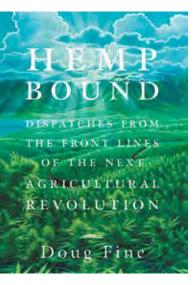
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The author atF Funky Butte Ranch. (Photo by Amanda Gorski)









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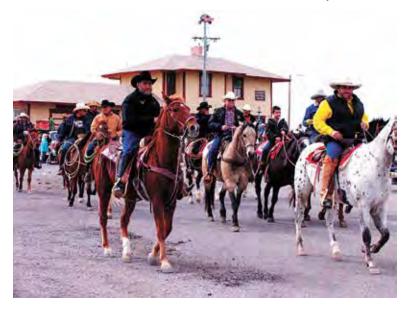


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COMMEMORATIONS . MARJORIE LILLY

Hooves Across the Border

This month's annual Cabalgata Binacional in Columbus turns a battle anniversary into a ride of friendship.



The annual Cabalgata Binacional commemorates Pancho Villa's 1916 raid on Columbus. (Cabalgata photos courtesy Pancho Villa State Park)

Those who cross

have to be at the

border at 6 a.m. After

partying in Palomas

the night before until

3 a.m., a lot of people

t was 4 a.m. on March 9, 1916, that members of Pancho Villa's famous elite fighting force, Los Lorados, slipped across the border into Columbus, NM, and began their pre-dawn attack. Eight US military men of Camp Furlong and 10 townspeople were killed in the massacre. Over a hundred Mexicans were killed by Camp Furlong soldiers in their subsequent rout of the attackers.

Villa's raid has been studied microscopically by historians because it was the first battle by foreign soldiers on US soil since the War of 1812. One thing that is clear is that Villa was angry because US allegiance had just shifted from him to General Venustiano Carranza.

Since 1999, Mexican riders have commemorated Villa's attack by riding up from the border over the same route to appear in the annual parade in Columbus. This year is the 16th anniversary of the crossborder ride, sometimes known as the Cabalgata Binacional

The horsemen participate in the ride up from the border by a miscellaneous collection of wagons and old cars and trucks driven by people wearing uniforms of both Mexican and US soldiers, which pa-

rade around the village plaza.

date of Villa's raid, March 9.

find that schedule too olumbus resident Allen hard to meet. one of the only remaining witnesses of the process. "Cabalgatas in Mexico had existed for years and years," Rosenberg recalls. "There were different his-

The four men talked about the idea of restoring the hacienda and starting a cabalgata from there to Columbus. Orozco invited them to visit with the brother of then-Governor Patricio Martinez in Chihuahua City. So they got in a few cars and drove there.

The Americans were surprised to find themselves the focus of a flurry of media attention. They were the subject of two newspaper interviews and a radio interview. The governor's brother was surrounded by Secret Service men "who talked up their sleeve" and "cleared the whole street" before they went to dinner at a restaurant, which turned out to be empty because they had called ahead.

The governor left a large audience he had been addressing to speak to the Americans. (He burst through a couple of double doors that led to his office, according to Rosenberg.) That year they had a couple more meetings, and then in 1999 they launched the cabalgata from the Hacienda at San Jeronimo.

Te thought maybe there would be 15 or 20 people at San Jeronimo," says Rosenberg. "But there were 3,000 people at the party the night before."

The next day before the ride, a band played the Mexican national anthem, and everybody sang it. The Americans were startled again when "all these people that were there sang 'The Star-Spangled Banner' in English. I couldn't believe it," says Rosenberg.

Long-time Columbus resident R.L. Curtin was the only man from the US who both started and finished that first ride on horseback. Rosenberg says that Curtin was "kind of a visionary" for the cabalgata.

A bedridden Curtin was interviewed for this article. "I rode up from San Jeronimo-we had so much fun," he recalls.

The original ride from San Jeronimo took nine days, according to Rosenberg, and the number of riders who arrived in Palomas was about 200. The trip has taken different routes almost every year. At least 300 riders have arrived in Palomas some years.

There were problems at the beginning. "The agent in charge of the station for US Customs was totally against it," says Rosenberg. But fortunately this had no effect on the event, and was only temporary.

Klux Klan, which meant that the Border Patrol, the trailers or with fires," says Sanchez. FBI, the sheriff and the State Police were all on alert. "They closed down the elementary school," Rosenberg says. "But a teacher opened a window and the class went over the fence." They had been given an opportunity to make statements at the festivities about what the border meant to them.



Allen Rosenberg helped initiate the cross-border ride in 1999. (Photo by Marjorie Lilly)

"The USDA grants permits for 100 people," says Sanchez. "But they've never met that quota." She says the riders themselves have to get their papers together.

The coordinator on the Palomas side of the border, Ignacio Montoya of the Union Ganadera (stockyards), says, "It's not just money for a visa they need but they also need to make out the application with proof of work and so forth. It's a lot of work."

No Mexican has ever tried to jump the border during the event. "I believe, and this is just my opinion," says Sanchez, "that it's the embarrassment that would be brought upon them. Plus they [the authorities] have all the documents. They're going to track them down. They won't ever let them cross again."

Those who cross have to be at the border at 6 a.m. After partying in Palomas the night before until 3 a.m., a lot of people find that schedule too hard to meet. "They're hard working, and hard drinking," says Sanchez.

US Customs checks the papers of both horses and riders, and the US Department of Agriculture checks all the horses before they cross.

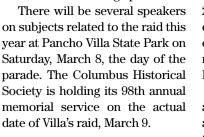
There are several historical cabalgatas in Mexico listed online. Some involve thousands of riders, but

have been just temporary. Nobody I talked to knows of any all-inclusive list. The Columbus ride may be the only one that crosses the US border.

anchez coordinates the efforts in Columbus to feed the border crossers. "The community gives me all the side dishes," she says. "We ask friends [businesses or individuals] for the meat. Thank God we've never run out of food."

Mayors along the

route in Mexico provide food and sometimes shelter There was also a phoned-in threat from the Ku for riders. "The riders usually sleep outside, in horse



Rosenberg was one of a handful of people who initiated the cross-border ride, and

torical routes." But no one had ever brought the Chihuahua riders across the border.

In 1998, Rosenberg was the president of the Columbus Historical Society, when a Mexican official named Alex Orozco stopped by the museum on a vacation and struck up a conversation with him. Rosenberg says he was a "liaison from the Mexican government who was working out of Chicago."

Orozco invited him and two Columbus friends, the late Bob Clarke and R.L. Curtin, to the town of Bachiniva, west of Chihuahua City. They went to see the Hacienda San Jeronimo, the place where Pancho Villa allegedly launched his attack on Columbus.



"A public-spirited citizen from the Gomez family slaughtered a cow that fed all the people that came across," Rosenberg goes on. "A Mexican state band never stopped playing. It went all day long. The first year there were 600 visitors, the second 1,200, and the third 3.000."

He adds, "Our whole idea was to increase trade. It would help Columbus-first off, you need a warehouse, then you need more trucks, and a gas station, a repair shop, and so forth. Well, we're still waiting."

C taff at Pancho Villa State Park coordinated the crossing of Mexican riders into the US for $oldsymbol{
u}$ a few years. But for seven years this task has been passed to the town of Columbus in the person of Glenda Sanchez, an elementary schoolteacher there.

Columbus schoolteacher Glenda Sanchez coordi-

nates the crosssing. (Photo by Marjorie Lilly)

"They form friendships with different farmers and ranchers," she adds. "There would be no other time that would bring them together. Every year they meet up for cabalgata time." Riders are often owners of ranches or businesses who have a few days free.

Ignacio Montoya says among the Mexican organizers there's a rule that there must be 10 riders from each municipio who have to ride the whole route.

"Last year it snowed a lot of the days that they traveled," says Sanchez. "For two years it has snowed. Or they rode their horses to 'no mas.' [until they can't go any farther]."

It's impossible to count how many total riders there are because the picture is always shifting. Lots of riders just ride for short stretches.

During the worst drug violence there wasn't a great decline in riders, for some unaccountable reason. But the riders sometimes avoided violent places, like Namiquipa, for example.

Sanchez says that 2013 was the first year there were more women than men riders in the cabalgata. Whv?

"I don't know!" she exclaims.

lthough during the ride there are shouts of "Viva Villa!," both Sanchez and Montoya insist that the cabalgata is "a friendship thing."

Sanchez tells of being with some visitors from California or maybe Canada who came dressed as US doughboys. They wondered if maybe they should change into other clothes before going to a party with cabalgata riders in Palomas.

"They were a hit!" says Sanchez. "All of a sudden three waiters came, mostly with shots of tequila. There were guys asking if they could take their picture with them, and then there was a line of people waiting."

She says the riders love to get the certificates the Columbus group provides. "It's so beautiful-it has the US and Mexican flags. They think it's the coolest thing." They also give out kerchiefs and pins. "We have US pins to give out, and everybody's wanting one."

Montoya says that for years their logo has varied, but they've decided to maintain the motto, "Uniendo fronteras/De la sierra al desierto" (Uniting borders/ From the mountains to the desert).





his year's event will bring its own unknown factors. There is an Argentinian woman who will be riding in the *cabalgata* in order to make a documentary of the event. There will be a Mexican historian with her, but no one at this writing knows much about the people involved.

Weather remains to be seen.

But it's known that the *cabalgata* will ride again and again. 🕷

The annual Cabalgata Binacional is scheduled to reach the Columbus plaza at 10 a.m. on March 8. For information, call (575) 494-1535. The 11th Annual Camp Furlong Day, commemorating Pancho Villa's 1916 raid on Columbus with historical talks and slide-shows, will be held March 8 from 1-4 p.m. at Pancho Villa State Park, South Columbus Road. For information, call (575) 531-2711. The 98th Annual Memorial Service held by the Columbus Historical Society inremembrance of those whose lives were lost during the 1916 raid, will be March 9 at 10 a.m. at the Depot Museum in Columbus. Call (575) 531-2620 for information.

Marjorie Lilly writes the Borderlines column.

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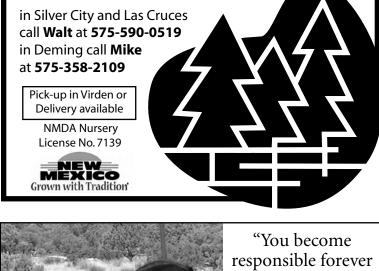




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-Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

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OUT AND ABOUT . DAWN M. NEWMAN-AERTS

The Faith of a Falconer When not ministering to his Silver City congregation, the Rev. Paul Moore

For Moore,

become

than a

finds heavenly inspiration on the wings of a hawk.



t is not unamong the Tsachi people. As a young man, he develusual to find oped an enduring love of the land, and in high school Reverend turned his attention to birds. "I actually learned to Moore hunt with the people of this region," he says. "The hiking along a birds of prey seemed amazing to me."

> **T** is long-time quest to work with birds of prey began during his first trip to the United States, L where he purchased in-depth literature on the topic and all the necessary equipment he would need to become a practiced and qualified falconer.

> It wasn't until Moore was on a missionary assignment himself that he obtained his first young Harris hawk. That taught him a difficult lesson about falconry.

> "I lost my first hawk," says Moore. "In the world of falconry, we have a saying: If you come home with your hawk in one piece it's been a good day. Unfortunately, I had the awful experience of coming home with an injured bird. Then another of my very best hawks left me one spring day for a younger hawk! Today when I go out for a spin about the hills, if my hawk (Sir Rodley) comes back to me, I am thankful. If he is in good health, I am thankful. If the dogs come back in one piece, I am thankful."

That is the experience of seasoned falconers.

Moore, who describes himself as an "easy to please" person, says these are the sorts of lessons that falconers learn over time: both gratitude and appreciation. According to Moore, the hawks continue to teach him lessons. "For instance, red-tailed hawks are incredibly strong for their size, and like us, some of us are stronger than others. But there is more than one way to show strength in life: Some of us are intellectually strong; others are emotionally. In other words, they can teach us a great deal about personal strength, perseverance and the will to live."

C itting atop a hillside, Moore vividly recounts a multitude of life and death moments he has experienced through the flight of his hawk. "These



birds can skydive at 200-plus miles per hour. On an even playing field they can pick out and pursue a rabbit at full speed or a smaller bird in flight with the enviable sharpness of a tracking system." They have eight times the resolution of human eyesight.

"They are amazing to behold," says Moore. "I think I've always been fascinated with the idea that man and birds (or beast) can work together in partnership."

He says that maintaining the right equipment is essential in honing your skills. Falconers progress through three levels of experience: Apprentice (for two years), to General and finally, Mastery certification.

"We have had two major innovations over the past few decades," Moore adds. "The telemetry transmitter, which allows you to follow, track and pinpoint your bird, and the alymeri anklet and jesses tie, which allows the bird to free himself from a tree or bush that might otherwise entrap and kill him."

The advent of radio telemetry transmitters attached to free-flying birds, he says, has increased the

> lifespan of these birds. It also allows falconers to observe styles of flight that in past decades resulted in the loss of their hawk or falcon.

> oore has also studied the origins, history and biology of birds of prey for decades. He notes that the art of falconry most likely began in the Far East, with further techniques and methods developed in the Middle East, spreading out through Europe and into the Indian subcontinent.

"This really is an ancient sport, which you will find in many cul-

Reverend Paul Moore, a Master Falconer, is an Episcopal Priest serving the Church of the Good Shepherd in Silver City. He's shown with "Sir Rodley." (Photos above and top right, this page, by Dawn M. Newman-Aerts; other photos courtesy Rev. Paul Moore)

weekend passion. He embraces this sport as he does his spiritual duties as pastor of the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd in Silver City. A master falconer, Moore has developed a life-long zeal for these birds of prey and considers "this hawk" an awesome portal into the mystery of life itself.

As an active member of the New Mexico and the North American Falconers Association, Moore currently works with a red-tailed hawk he named Sir Rodley.

Falconry is a fine art that requires long hours, constant devotion, gaming finesse, subtlety and skill. The human "hawker" must train a bird of prey to fly free, hunting with his human companion, and then to fully accept its return to captivity. Dating back before the dawn of Christianity, says Moore, falconry was considered a status symbol of sport in medieval Europe. It didn't become popular in North America, however, until the early 1900s.

Today, Moore talks about the deeper biology of birds of prey, the practice and history of falconry with ease. "Hawks have fantastic eyesight-like humans. My own mother had the best (eyesight) of anyone I know," he says with a broad smile. "But we (humans) have something even greater; we have incredible insight. We can seize the deeper truths about others or ourselves."

Moore, whose own parents were missionaries, was born and raised in Ecuador, on the western edge,

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tures and time frames. In early periods, a falconer might use a simple bell on the bird's legs that could hopefully find them if they were lost or injured."

He explains that both the red-tailed (*Buteo jamaicensis*) and Harris hawks (*Parabuteo unicinctus*) are very near the top of the predatory food chain. Only the great horned owl and the eagle command greater strength of flight and power. "Tve actually lost birds to other predators twice in the past, and then, you have

birds that just never return," says Moore. "But it is real gift to watch these birds in flight, to see them do-





ing amazing things right before your eyes."

oore believes that falconry is also a portal to greater truth and understanding of the human condition. "In some ways, the whole world is geared to steering us to greater insight, and calling us to a higher truth," he says. "There is something profoundly special about this particular sport. Along the way, you learn more and more about the bird, what makes them so special. You learn how to

work with them and how to get the bird to realize that he needs you as well."

From a good perch, he allows the bird of prey to artfully use wind, angle or height to its advantage. If provided the right setting, a hawk can clearly demonstrate its prowess, strength and physical agility at a moment's notice. "You can see them hover and gain altitude; they can turn and soar to the ground," says Moore. "But what they demonstrate is the power of their eyesight, their strength and how they often use adversity (like wind speed) to their best advantage."

When Moore is not preparing a sermon for his Sunday service at the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, you can often find him guiding and serving the members of his congregation. He likes to describe his fascination with falconry as yet another way to understand the Paschal Mystery of faith and life.

"So why is it that you have the experiences you have in life?" he asks with the logic of a falconer. "What can you do to take the world along with you?" 💥

Dawn M. Newman-Aerts is a former Minnesota newspaper journalist who lives in Rodeo.



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The Most Feared Passage Now merely a rough but scenic drive, Cooke's Canyon was

an often deadly journey during the Apache conflicts.



Cooke's Range, as seen from the southeast, with Cooke's Peak the highest point. Cooke's Canyon, which generally runs east/west, lies south of the peak. (Photos by Jay W. Sharp except as noted)

s W. Thornton Parker, MD, wrote in his Annals of Old Fort Cummings, New Mexico, 1867-8, Cooke's Canyon, which slices across southwestern New Mexico's Cooke's Range, was a "journey of death." It ran generally east to west, "six miles or more in length, and with a gloomy gorge of four miles to add to its terrors.... In this Canyon many an emigrant train, and travelers, and hunters, as well as soldiers of the regular army, have gone to their deaths at the hands of the cruel Apaches."

In fact, the Chiricahua Apaches, under the leadership of legendary chiefs Mangas Coloradas and his son-in-law Cochise, made Cooke's Canyon probably the most fearsome single passage on any of the trails across the desert Southwest. They invested it with a danger that likely exceeded that of Doubtful Canyon, beside the Arizona/New Mexico border; Apache Pass, in southeastern Arizona; or the El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro's Jornada del Muerto, in southcentral New Mexico. Over the years, the Apaches left dozens to hundreds of dead and wounded lying along the Cooke's Canyon trailway or battlefields, while

sometimes themselves suffering numerous dead and wounded.

The Apaches struck in Cooke's Canvon. as well as in other locations, of course, with the intention of preserving wildertheir ness home from intruders. Those invaders had come conquer to Apa lands

artifacts behind. In historic times, civilian expeditions and military units followed the trail past the spring. Two stage lines-the Butterfield and the San Antonio-San Diego mail and passenger servicesmaintained a way station near the spring.

Cooke's Canyon also offered the Apaches perfect ambush sites, with hills and cliffs overlooking the trail and boulders and brush providing concealment and protection. Even after the US Army built and manned Fort Cummings near Cooke's Spring in 1863, with the intention of protecting those who ventured through the canyon, the Apaches continued their relentless campaign.

Probably many of the Apache attacks in Cooke's Canyon went unnoted except for the bodies that travelers sometimes encountered and covered with stones along the trail. Some conflicts, however, became storied battles and do appear in the written record.

Freeman Thomas Mail Party, July 1861

f all the battles in Cooke's Canyon, none is more famous than the Apache ambush of conductor Freeman Thomas' westbound San Antonio & San Diego Mail Line

coach in July 1861, about two years before the Army established Fort Cummings. Although many details of the battle have been lost to history, Mangas and Cochisewatchful for travelers through the canyon-had evidently merged their forces, probably some 100 to 200 warriors at the time. They set a trap at a point overlooking the trail about a mile beyond Cooke's Spring, according to Berndt Kühn in The Journal of Arizona History.

Freeman Thomas, with mail and passengers, set his coach on the westward journey from Mesilla to the Pacific Coast on the morning of July 20. Always aware of a potential Apache threat, he

had equipped his coach with a good supply of arms, probably including the highly effective breech-loading Sharps rifles, and ammunition.

His party was made up of an experienced and diverse group of men of the western frontier. Thomas himself, a 29-year-old native of Ohio, had seen the results of Apache fury first hand, on the trail. His driver, Joseph Roescher, a 26-year-old from Germany, left few clues to his past, but he apparently had worked on the stage line for some period. Thomas' passengers-including 19-year-old Emmett Mills, Robert S. Avaline, Matthew Champion, John Wilson and John Portell—came to the frontier from various locations to the east. They had worked as stagecoach hands, miners, ranchers and gamblers. Some had been inoff any hope of escape, Thomas decided to turn off the trail, heading southward toward higher ground to take up a defensive position.

Under heavy fire from the Apaches, Thomas and his men, now desperate, unhitched the draft animals and drove them down the hill, hoping that the Apaches might abandon the fight and pursue the team, according to Edwin R. Sweeney in Mangas Coloradas, Chief of the Chiricahua Apaches. That clearly failed. Swiftly, Thomas and his men stripped the coach, taking the Sharps rifles, ammunition, water and provisions. They threw up stone barricades, preparing for a siege-seven men, one wounded, against many dozens.

The Apaches continued their withering attack, but at a price. By one account, wrote Sweeney, they lost 25 warriors and suffered many wounded-an example of the effectiveness of the Sharps rifle in the hands of brave and experienced frontiersmen. Cochise himself and his eldest son Taza may have been among the injured. Even with their overwhelming numerical advantage, the Apaches-themselves daring fighters by any measure-evidently could not finish off Thomas and his men until sometime the following day, July 22, or maybe even July 23. In revenge for their losses, the Apaches stripped and mutilated the bodies, which were not found until two freighters passed the site several days after the fight.

The ferocity of the battle, the freighters said, could be measured by the numerous shell casings littering the ground and the bullet marks covering rocks and trees around the stone barricades. According to Kühn, Cochise-who knew something about



Western entrance to the canyon. (Photo by George Hackler)

courage in battle-said that if he had 25 fighters like Thomas and his men, he would "undertake to whip the whole United States."

Not long after the Freeman Thomas massacre, and near the same location, eight or nine Mexican herdsman, driving 40 head of cattle to the mining town of Pinos Altos, paused to have lunch. The Apaches surrounded and massacred them all, according to Sweeney. They were found in a pile, "horribly mutilated."

Ake Party, Summer 1861

T n the summer of 1861, Mangas and Cochise discovered that an irresistible target was approach-Ling Cooke's Canyon from the west. Known as the volved in shootouts. Some had seen the aftermath of Ake Party (after member Felix Grundy Ake), it included, according to Sweeney, several ranchers and their families fleeing the Apache threat in southern Arizona and several people heading east from Tucson. The Ake caravan consisted of seven wagons and two buggies, several men on horses, and-most





Massacre

the western

end of the

canyon.

Peak, an iconic

landmark near

build unwelcome settle ments, trap out

the fur-bearing animals, decimate mineral-laden hillsides and streambeds, graze out the grasslands, and exterminate or drive out the Indian peoples.

In the early 1860s, the Apaches must have believed that the timing was ideal to thwart this invasion. They watched as their foes, preoccupied with the Civil War, withdrew fighting men from the West and dispatched them to eastern battlefields. The Apaches knew their enemy had grown weaker. They could see that civilian populations had become more vulnerable. They believed that the time had come.

Intimately familiar with their land, the Apaches knew that Cooke's Canyon offered perfect opportunities to waylay an adversary. Although a rugged passage, it had long drawn travelers because, at its eastern end, it had Cooke's Spring-the only water on the 70-to-80-mile stretch across the desert between the Rio Grande to the east and the Mimbres River to the west. Prehistoric peoples had passed and camped by the spring over centuries, leaving ceramic and other

Apache attacks. They all knew the risk they faced, and they brought their own side arms and rifles.

> Leaving from Mesilla, Thomas took his coach northward along the west side of the Rio Grande along the Mesilla Valley to the Picacho station, where he turned westward, past Picacho Peak, then across some 50 miles of desert to Cooke's Spring and the eastern entrance to the canyon. There, at the spring, the party apparently rested through the night, letting the draft animals recuperate from the long and arduous haul across the desert. Come early morning, Thomas and his party renewed their journey, beginning the passage through Cooke's Canyon. "The stage was set," wrote Kühn, "for one of the most desperate fights ever recorded in the annals of frontier warfare."

> Probably, just as the coach entered the eastern end of the gorge, the Apaches opened fire, pouring a hailstorm of musket balls and arrows down onto the coach and the travelers, wounding one. Thomas swiftly put his coach in flight, westward, over the trail, with the Apaches in pursuit. Apparently fearing that more Apaches lay in wait ahead, ready to cut



Old Picacho Road entrance, where the Picacho way station once stood. The street overlays the old trail. It passes through the little community of Picacho, just west of the Mesilla Valley. Picacho Peak is visible in the distance.



Picacho Peak, a landmark west of the Mesilla Valley, as seen from the east. The trail that led across the desert to Cooke's Spring and the canyon runs north of the peak.

tempting to the Apaches—well over a thousand head of livestock.

The Apaches, probably with some 200 warriors, set an ambush near the western end of the canyon's narrow gorge. They watched the Ake Party approach about the middle of the morning. Drovers herded the livestock into the gorge first. The wagons and buggies, with mounted escorts, followed. The Ake Party's anxieties rose as one escort discovered the bodies of two men killed in an earlier Apache ambush. Still the party, evidently confident that its numbers and arms would discourage an attack, pushed on.

Once the entire party had entered the gorge, the Apaches sprang their trap, unleashing, as Sweeney said, "a tremendous volley of arrows and bullets." In the ensuring chaos, drovers took cover and returned fire. Lead wagons formed a makeshift triangularshaped fortification, securing some refuge. Trailing wagons swiftly reversed course and fled back west, away from the ambush and toward the Mimbres River and safety. While some of the Apaches prosecuted the battle, others gathered up the Ake Party's livestock. As the fighting wound to a close late in the afternoon, the Apaches had killed four of their enemies and wounded a number more, and they had apparently suffered several dead and wounded of their own. They had made off, according to Sweeney, with some 400 cattle and 900 sheep, planning to market many of them in the Mexican state of Chihuahua.

Oak Grove, Jan. 17, 1866

The Apaches also turned their wrath on Fort Cummings' troops. In the winter of 1865-66, they discovered a woodcutting detail of seven soldiers at Oak Grove, about five miles northwest of the fort. According to an account in the *New Mexico Genealogist*, Corporal Webber, in charge of the detail, commanded

six privates: Ronan, Hunter, Devin, Daly, Matthews and Goldsberry. They all belonged to Company G, 1st Veteran Infantry, California Volunteers.

At Oak Grove, as the Apaches found, the detail had established its camp and gone to work cutting and gathering badly needed winter firewood for the post. On Jan. 16, Corporal Webber returned to Fort Cummings to replenish provisions for his men. The next morning, several dozen Apaches attacked the Oak Grove campsite at breakfast time, overwhelming the six privates, who rushed to pick up their arms to return fire. With bows and firearms, the Apaches shot Ronan, Hunter, Devin and Daly, whose bodies, after the battle, they would mutilate with lances.

Somehow, the Apaches let Matthews and Goldsberry escape, although one of the warriors drove an arrow into Goldsberry's hip. The two privates straggled back toward Fort Cummings, finally encountering Webber returning to Oak Grove with the provisions. Notified of the attack, Webber promptly

COOKE'S CANYON continued on next page



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That left Slocum with the sad duty of returning the four bodies to Fort Cummings, where the troops conducted formal last rites and buried the men in a single grave with a lone headstone on the western side of the post cemetery. After abandoning Fort Cummings, the army would transfer the bodies of Ronan, Hunter, Devin and Daly to the National Cemetery at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, leaving their headstone as a permanent monument to the men.

Memories of Cooke's Canyon

he violence in Cooke's Canyon would continue for more than a decade, until the Chiricahuas' tenacious defense of their wilderness home finally faded before superior US military forces. Moreover, they had lost their legendary leaders. Mangas Coloradas, captured and imprisoned at Fort McLane, west of Cooke's Range, was murdered on Jan. 18, 1863, by soldiers obeying treacherous orders of Brigadier General Joseph Rodman West. Cochise, suffering from a long illness, possibly stomach cancer, died at Fort Bowie in southeastern Arizona on June 8, 1874.

With the Apache threat having abated in Cooke's Canyon, the Army abandoned Fort Cummings in 1873. But when a new Apache leader, Victorio, resumed attacks against the invaders in the area a few years later, the Army re-opened the post in 1880. It would remain open until the Apache wars ended with the surrender of Geronimo at Skeleton Canyon in 1886, in southwestern New Mexico.

While much of the violent history of Cooke's Canyon has been lost, fragmentary tales of conflict con-

tinued to surface over the years. "I listened with anxiety to the stories told me by frontiers men about the dreadful massacres perpetrated by the Indians in that dread gorge," wrote Dr. Parker. "It was said that even soldiers dared not stir a mile from the post, and that it was just a toss up whether any traveler got through alive."

Soon after Fort Cummings was reopened, in 1880, Victorio and his Mimbres Apache warriors massacred a man named Samuel Lyons and three companions in Cooke's Canyon, according to the Rootsweb genealogy website.

COOKE'S CANYON continued

alerted the post. Lieutenant John D. Slocum marshaled every available man and rushed his force to the Oak Grove encampment. He discovered that the Apaches had departed, leaving the four privates' bodies, as well as one of their own, lying on the battlefield. They had looted and destroyed the campsite.





Rock mound grave site, with a wooden cross, which was probably added in more recent times. The site is near the west end of Cooke's Canyon. (Photo by George Hackler)

bodies where they found them, often covering the remains with rocks to discourage scavenging by wild animals. Some of those graves remain visible along the canyon trail today.

Other travelers, passing through the canyon after the military established Fort Cummings, reported that many exposed human skeletons lay near the trail, according to Rootsweb. Commanding officers dispatched soldiers to collect the remains, which they returned to the fort. They buried them, probably in a common grave, in a newly established port cemetery on a nearby ridge.

Exploring Cooke's Canyon

s I suggested in an earlier Desert Exposure article on Cooke's Range (January), you can still follow the old trail through Cooke's Can-

> yon, perhaps even finding an occasional grave. On my last trip, the road was often very rough, especially near the western end of the canyon. You will certainly need a four-wheel-drive vehicle. As always in desert ventures, you should come amply supplied with water and prepared for emergencies. You should advise someone of your destination and plans.

I haven't found a really good detailed map of the Fort Cummings and Cooke's Canyon area, but the US Geological Survey map titled "Deming, New Mexico" will serve as a basic guide. You can acquire that map, and perhaps others, at the Bureau of Land Management office in Las Cruces, 1800 Marquess St., Las Cruces, NM 88005, (575) 525-4300



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On occasion, US troops managed to turn the tables on the Apaches. In early June 1880, wrote Dan L. Thrapp in The Conquest of Apach-"Major Morrow eria. with four troops struck

the hostiles in Cook's [sic] Canyon, not far from Fort Cummings, killed 10 and wounded three, capturing much livestock. One of the dead was said to have been the raider Washington, Victorio's son."

In the summer of 1885, said Louie Taren in an account provided to the WPA Writers' Project in 1938, Apaches attacked a caravan of farmers hauling produce through Cooke's Canyon: "The Indians attacked the ox-drawn carts. The way of traveling at the time was in two-wheeled carts with a fairly large bed to carry merchandise. The caravan was soon massacred and the complete load of merchandise was destroyed. Among those murdered was my father."

Some travelers through Cooke's Canyon buried

Top: Rock mound grave site, just south of the trail. Above: Cruciform-shaped rock mound grave site, located near Cooke's Spring, at the east end of the canyon. (Photos by George Hackler)

My thanks to George

Hackler, who (as noted in the captions) provided several of the photographs for this article. George is the author of The Butterfield Trail in New Mexico. 🕷

Jay W. Sharp is a Las Cruces author who has been a contributor for various print and Internet publications over the past several years and who is the author of Texas Unexplained, now available as an e-book from Amazon or iTunes. To read his guides to plants and animals of the Southwest, see www.desertexposure.com/wildlife

BORDERLINES . MARJORIE LILLY

Steps Forward & Backwards How strong is the fabric of Mexican society?

How shong is the tablie of Mexican soc

n this section of the US-Mexico border, there's some very good news. In 2013 the number of murders in Ciudad Juarez dipped to just 37th in the world, after reaching number-one in 2008, 2009 and 2010, and number-two in 2011. The dark years when Juarez engendered just one horror after another are now way in the past.

Unfortunately, the narco-murderers are still busy in central and southern Chihuahua. Chihuahua City was 21st on the Security, Peace and Justice list in 2013, a much higher figure than that of Juarez. Parral, near the border with Durango, received 300 new policemen, or a 100% increase, in late January after a crime wave there.

Palomas is tame by comparison. Former mayor Maria Lopez, a little naïve about politics, told me how a colonel, Jose Alfredo (she didn't know his last name), visited her kitchen over the winter holidays. She glowed with admiration as she told how he seemed hurt over the way people seemed to be afraid of him because he was in the army.

I thought I had a goldmine of information within my grasp, but Maria said that when she called him, he told her he was afraid of having things reported "that never happened"—that classic complaint of oppressors. He was getting back from Juarez at 6 p.m. and then had to go back to work. He seemed as afraid of me as if I had a sub-machine gun.

I understand that the Mexican army is one of the most respected institutions in the country, according to polls. I spent quite a bit of time looking up wellknown human rights cases, like that of the massacre of Aguas Blancas in Oaxaca in 1995, when 17 farmers were killed and 21 injured; of land activist Ruben Jaramillo in Morelos, who was killed with his family in 1962; or of ecologist Digna Ochoa, who was killed in Mexico City in 2001. It's true that the federal police are much more likely to be responsible for the abuses than soldiers are.

But I had a list of questions for Jose Alfredo. Did he know the two army officials who came from Chihuahua to threaten reporter Emilio Gutierrez Soto in Ascension for writing a handful of articles about soldiers' abuses? They disgorged such choice phrases as, "You should fear us for we f*** the f***ing drug traffickers." "So you are the son of a whore who is lowering our prestige." The officials' names were Colonel Filadelfo Martinez Piedra and General Alfonso Garcia Vega. If he pushed for their arrest, could he be killed? I think so.

But even more important, I'd want to ask him what he knew of the massacre at Tlaltelolco, the landmark army massacre of the 20th century. I talked to an eyewitness of the massacre a decade ago at Border Foods. He told me, passionately, that there were *at least* 20 bodies piled up in the trucks

that carried them away. *At least!* I asked him how many trucks there were, and he guessed 14.

five "criminal suspects" were killed. No tourists were endangered, but there were an intense few hours for them.

In the first few days of February, a lawyer named Noe Garcia Enrique was kidnapped in Nuevo Casas Grandes, as well as four other people. He was the lawyer for an *ejido* (farming commune) and for Mormons. A street protest was held for him. This isn't the kind of thing that affects tourists, but it shows the human-rights pot is still boiling, even in northern Chihuahua.

Besides the state of Michoacan, which is getting lots of coverage of its vigilante defense groups, Guerrero is also very hot, and there is even one self-defense group started up in Puebla, which has been a very peaceful place in recent years.

In my November article on travel in Mexico, I think I was a little too frivolous in my judgments. I think the moral of this human rights round-up is that you should always check the US State Department report, and be careful. Always travel during the day. Or don't travel. There can be little spurts of violence just about anywhere.

Yet another journalist, Gregorio Jimenez de la Cruz, was killed in Veracruz recently, making 10 journalists who were killed in the state since 2005.

What is even worse than that ghastly toll is the sex trafficking of little girls in the same state, as reported in the *Guardian*. Families for a while were digging holes in the ground for their daughters to hide in when the traffickers came through, until they found out these tricks. There are girls as young as nine or eleven, picked up and carried away with their dolls in the arms, never to be seen again.

There is a convent in Veracruz that is sheltering women and girlfriends of abusive, armed men. The elderly nuns there, all over 75 years old, planned to form a human wall around them if the men came, even if it costs them their lives.

Market exists and the set of the

I know this because it's happened to me. But what I've learned over and over is that if you react this way, you end up landing on your nose. It's an unavoidable fact. The fiber of society is a lot healthier and stronger than what it might appear to be.

Borderlines columnist Marjorie Lilly lives in Deming.

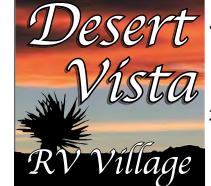


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That would make about 300 people killed. Some people say there were many more, including a long list of disappeared people.

I'd want to ask the colonel if soldiers get human rights training, but I didn't get the chance.

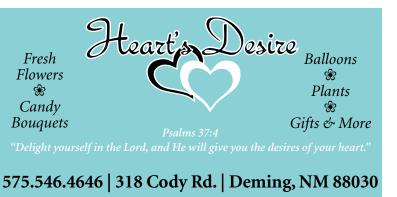
was thinking recently about making a trip to Agua Prieta, across the border from Douglas in Arizona. In all the period of the drug war, I've hardly heard a thing about violence there. But just after I started planning, in mid-January, I read some articles about an outburst of killing there—not at all clear whether there were 5, 10 to 15, or 28 people killed. That quashed my plans.

On Dec. 18 there was a surprise gun battle in tourist spot Puerto Peñasco (Rocky Point), where



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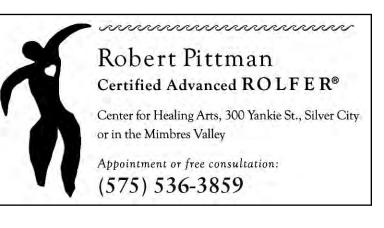




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Over Protective

Not so fast on the Organ Mountains national monument.

ike all certified desert rats, I have my dermatologist on speed dial. Every solar-powered nodule he has dug out of my sun-weathered skin has come with an admonition to stay out of the sun. I think I'd rather stay out of doctors' offices. I have earned my squinty eyes, my cracked skin and melanomas by virtue of my communion with the creosote and rocks, and any sand in my craw is courtesy of a backcountry arroyo. I won't be separated from my desert, even though some well-intentioned urbanites have decided to make that a priority. I am all for protecting our wide-open spaces, but the so-called Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument is like removing a melanoma with a chainsaw.

Even if you don't live in the Mesilla Valley, you'd have to be a total Magoo not to have seen the beauty of the Organ Mountains. I have hiked, crawled, camped and four-wheeled in the Organ Mountains, and their beauty is unparalleled. Frankly, I am surprised that the mountains haven't been declared a national monument already. I don't think anybody opposes protecting these iconic mountains, from proponents of the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument proposal to the supporters of alternate, less-draconian wilderness legislation.

But no subject is so simple that it can't have a thick layer of crazy smeared all over it. With the support of New Mexico Senators Tom Udall and Martin Heinrich, a flotilla of well-intentioned nature-lovers unencumbered by any distrust of government can't get enough of a good thing. Senate Bill S.1805 would create the Organ Mountains-Desert Peak National Monument, putting over 500,000 acres of Doña Ana County under permanent protection. The only drawback? The Organ Mountains comprise only about 50,000 acres of that total.

"Big deal, Lightcap," you scoff. "Why not protect more? Let's protect all the natures." A noble idea, and one I tend to support, but not when it restricts my access to the other 450,000 acres of land that would fall under monument protection. Along with protecting the Organ Mountains, which most people seem to agree is a good thing, it'll lock up way more than that—over 21% of the total land area in the county.

I have been told by wild-eyed mesquite-huggers that nothing will change; I will still enjoy relatively unfettered access to these lands, and that the government is our friend. I'm far too cynical to subscribe to such naïve optimism, and can't believe that once all this land is declared a monument, some pin-headed bureaucrat won't start making decisions that are contrary to the promises I am hearing now.

lacing all this wonderful dirt under the control of a faceless government agency removes the voices of the local people from the equation entirely. As it exists now, most of the land in question is managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), which is supposed to adopt a "multiple-use" philos-

Organic Ayurvedic Remedies

ophy of land management. This has worked pretty well for decades, and it's a process that takes into account the wishes of many local groups: horsemen, mining operations, cattle growers, recreationalists, wilderness advocates, archeologists and many other factions. The BLM listens to local citizens to make informed decisions. Not always perfect, but at least we the people have some representation in the process.

Once the land is designated a national monument, however, the voice of the public is no longer a concern for the federal government. Administrators in Washington, DC, get to decide what to do within the boundaries of the monument. They can close roads, put up gates, restrict access, require permits-even arrest trespassers-at will. If President Obama signs the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument bill into law, we local desert rats won't gain much, but we will lose any future say in how these lands are used. Sounds like a raw deal to me. I don't expect a bureaucrat to appreciate my communion with the rocks and snakes when they decide to "protect everything for the future-people" by administrative fiat.

We won't be able to voice our opinions on decisions that impact our local economy. We won't be able to develop solar power arrays, or tap into any sources of new energy or natural resources. No roads or highways can be planned within the monument to relieve any future traffic problems. Law-enforcement access will be hindered, and effective flood-control projects will be compromised. Promises of increased economic activity from a monument seem hard to pin down, but I can't envision throngs of snazzy ecotourists in their Eddie Bauer-approved hiking togs clogging up the trails, dropping trails of money behind them to find their way back.

few weeks ago, when I was traversing Upper Broad Canyon, a wondrous place that would **L L**fall under the monument's jurisdiction, I stopped the Jeep and walked around a bit. My son and his friend were with me, and we popped a squat on a boulder in a convenient shady alcove. I couldn't help but wonder how many of the people who are blindly supporting this monument as their feel-good, I-lovenature homage to slacktivism have even experienced the lands that they yearn to protect "for future generations." What about the present generation?

I am concerned that the well-intentioned and selfappointed preservationists are happily handing over the keys to the kingdom without thinking about all that could be lost. If it happens, I will reluctantly become a desperado, and I will carry my own key to the desert in the back of the Jeep. Wire cutters and bolt cutters can give you access that the government won't, and a few spare padlocks and baling wire can patch things up after I've passed. Land snatching has long been held in low regard in the wide-open West, and I can't in good conscience be a party to such despicable behavior.

There are alternatives. Congressional H.B. 995, sponsored by Rep. Steve Pearce, provides much-needed monument status for the Organ Mountains, and leaves intact most of the current Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs). Sure, it's not perfect, either-why give up ANY of the WSAs?-but it Athena Wolf gives local desert rats, ranchers, Housecalls \$70 greenies, law enforcement and everybody else the opportunity to have a say in how this incredible land is used and enjoyed. More people enjoying the land is a good thing, and it keeps my dermatolo-

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It boiled down to his

subliminal assumption

that whatever

someone else needed

defined what he

had to give.

Then Jess broke up with Vicki a month before their scheduled marriage, he was scared enough to seek counseling. For two years, he'd given her several thousand dollars a month, yet she always needed more. He'd just learned that her start-up company, in which he'd invested a lot of money, was defrauding its suppliers on her orders. And she continued to be "too busy" to spend much time with him. Altogether, he said, he'd awakened from a nightmare.

He'd almost married her! What had he been thinking? Or rather, why had he been not-thinking? He knew she was gorgeous and he was crazy about her physically. He knew he felt sorry for her childhood suffering and abandonment. He recognized his wish to "fix" her, because it resembled the 30 years of trying to fix his ex-wife, Karin. Both had been abused, both had addictions (Karin to alcohol, Vicki to spending money), and he'd hoped to make the difference.

The marriage had been a mix. His children had turned out well, and Karin continued to be a good mother, but he had hated his own role during the marriage. So why was he here again? He'd volunteered for the same role with Vicki, with equally disappointing (and much more expensive) results. He knew it was his pattern, and he wanted to make whatever changes would keep it from showing up again.

We talked about his family, his mother's early

death (in her forties, when Jess was a teen), the former marriage, his relationship with his dad, his children, his friends, etc. As with any family, there was a lot to know.

A few weeks later, Vicki asked if she could have one more month to clear out the storage locker he'd rented. He blew his stack and responded like a scolding parent: "Typical of you," "You'll have to pay for any extra time," and so

forth. So we started wondering what triggered him.

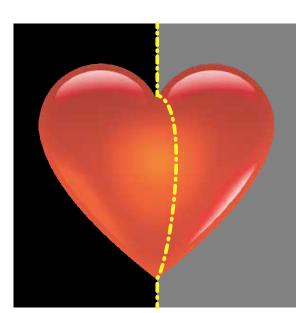
It boiled down to his subliminal assumption that whatever someone else needed defined what he had to give. And that went back to his mother, as well as Karin.

During his mother's prolonged illness, his father had avoided his wife's distress. So Mom had turned to Jess. One moment during a hospital stay after a mastectomy, she said to him, "I feel I've lost my womanhood."

How was a 15-year-old supposed to handle that? He was overwhelmed, and he froze. His mother was suffering in a deep, important way, which he could barely understand, and he couldn't fix it.

Of course his mother never expected him to fix

it. She felt it profoundly; he was there; she said it. As a caring, responsible mother (which she tried to be), she probably never imag-



been horrendous-didn't that trump his needs?

Then Vicki, who had already disappointed him, asked for another month of storage fees, and he was enraged. Her need, again!

T e realized all his efforts to fix other people's problems had failed. In hindsight, he felt like L Sisyphus rolling the boulder up the hill but never making it to the top; every time the boulder fell to the bottom, he had to start over.

> He did not want to do this anymore. What could he do instead with any future partner?

> "Look for someone who doesn't need fixing!" he offered. I said that didn't exist. There's no one who doesn't need some kind of fixing. Better to learn how to manage it.

> Start by acknowledging what needs fixing. Don't pretend it isn't there or that it isn't important. Don't pretend love will cure it.

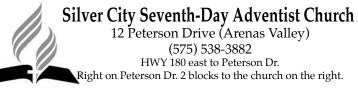
Sympathize with it, and validate it. That's basic emotional respect for the felt reality of the other person. "But tell them I can't fix it!" Jess chimed in.

"Well, what about saying 'and' I can't fix it?" I asked. "If I say to you, 'I'm sorry you're depressed, but I can't fix it,' I'm defending myself, answering an implied request (from me or from you) by refusing it. I'm also making the conversation more about me, and what I can or can't try to do, than about you and your depression.

"It's different if I say, 'I'm sorry you're depressed, and unfortunately I can't fix it. I wish I could.' With that, I'm saying there are two separate realities: your

BODY, MIND & SPIRIT continued on next page

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March presenters & topics

Mar. 1: Norma Gonzalez: "Our Roots in Scripture" Mar. 8: Joe Gonzalez: "A Biblical Look at the 7th Day Sabbath"

Mar. 15: Pastor Quinones: Communion Service Mar. 22: Dwight Simpson: "Conspiracy Defeated" Mar. 29: Pastor Chris Clapp: "Daily"







ined he'd take it upon himselfthe idea was absurd. But he didn't know that. He heard the gravity of her distress, he loved her, and it felt like his to manage.

So he "learned" that what someone else needed defined what he had to give. At least he had to try. Her struggle was primitive and deep; his father wasn't there; Jess loved her and wanted to fill the vacuum.

Over time, this distorted sense of responsibility (which looked like generosity) made him untrusting. He kept giving to others, but what about him? Oh, well, that's the way it was. He was a healthy guy; he was loving; he could try. And the lesson had been obvious. Ask anyone whose mother has cancer-doesn't that trump his needs? And Karin's childhood had



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March 5th, Ash Wednesday

5:00pm Imposition of Ashes & Holy Communion March 9th, First Sunday In Lent

3:00pm Holy Communion followed by Soup & Study March 16th Second Sunday in Lent

3:00pm Holy Communion followed by Soup & Study March 23nd Third Sunday in Lent

3:00pm Holy Communion followed by Soup & Study March 30th Fourth Sunday in Lent

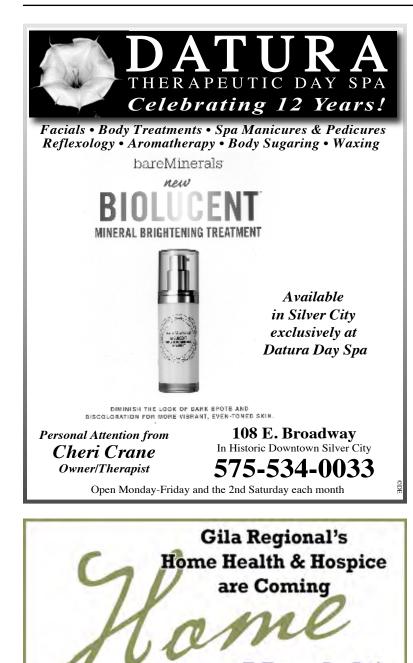
3:00pm Holy Communion followed by Soup & Study



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BODY, MIND & SPIRIT continued

depression is one of them; my abilities, or lack thereof, is another. Both are valid."

That's a bigger difference than seems apparent. "But I can't fix it" says, "Don't

look at me! Not my problem! I'm sorry you're suffering, but, hey, all yours." I've been pushed (perhaps only by my own sense of responsibility), and I'm pushing back.

Sympathy followed by "and I can't fix it" is a statement of fact that includes both of us. I see your cancer, the after-effects of your terrible childhood, your anxiety.... And I'm clear about my limits. I honor your feelings, and I'll help you find what you need, but what you need does not define what I have to give.

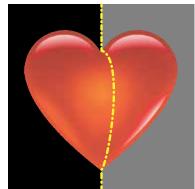
his way I'm not mad at you, because I'm not under any pressure to perform miracles, and I don't have to try-and fail. Furthermore, since I'm not mad at you, I'm avail-

able to strategize with you so you can get what you really need (which is beyond my capacities).

Jess's mother needed her husband and/or a support group to help her accept her tragedy. Karin needed a good therapist (which she did eventually find). Vicki needed a therapist and a financial advisor. Jess wasn't any of those. But he'd been trying to be all of those, and more, for decades.

He could see the source of the misunderstanding. His mother was "losing her womanhood" just as his adolescent sexuality was developing its full strength. Was he bad, was he disloyal, if he moved into manhood, if he didn't stay with her emotionally?

Ideally, he never would have had to hear his mother's despair. But once he did, someone should have been there to say to him, "This is not your job.



Sympathy followed by "and I can't fix it" is a statement of fact that includes both of us.

The person she should have spoken to is your father, her husband. You are not her life partner, you're her son, and you're in a different life phase—you don't have cancer and your body can't stay back with her. Your job is to keep growing, keep developing, be-

> come the best man you can be. I'm sure that is what she would want for you."

When I said that out loud, Jess started sobbing. He'd been torn about moving forward in his own life for four decades, because it felt like a betrayal of her. But it wasn't. He could sympathize. He could grieve for her and with her, and for himself (losing his mother was immense). And-had he known how-he could say to her, "I'm so sorry this is happening to you, and I'm unable to change any of it. I wish I could "

Then it's clean. Still wrenching, but grounded. The cancer and everything with it belong to her. He and the other family members will live with their own consequences

of her illness and death. He is not responsible for anything that's happening. He is heartbroken, and horrified by what cancer does to a body, and helpless, and bereft, but he is not responsible for what's happening or for fixing anything.

Taking on others' existential tragedies hasn't healed anyone. It's only made him feel excessively responsible, a failure, and distrustful of real intimacy. How much wiser to sympathize with others-and with his own limits.

Bina Breitner, MA, is a licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFT) in private practice in Tucson. She can be reached at (575) 538-4380, or $(520)\ 820\text{-}7930, \, on\ Skype\ at\ bina. breitner, \, or\ at$ binasun@yahoo.com.

BODY, MIND & SPIRIT . MEGAN E. PHELPS

All About Obesogens Introducing the hidden culprit of weight gain.

ntil recently, if you were trying to keep off excess pounds the conventional wisdom was relatively simple. Sure, you could name a number of diet and exercise philosophies, but the basic advice was the same: Eat less, exercise more! In the last few years, however, new research has shown that the issues involved in weight gain and loss are more complex than we once believed. While diet and exercise are essential to maintaining a healthy weight, other factors also seem to influ-

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ence how likely our bodies are to put on and store excess pounds-one of which is exposure to a group of chemicals known as obesogens.

The term "obesogen" was coined in 2006 by Bruce Blumberg, professor of developmental and cell biology at the University of California, Irvine. It's now being used everywhere from "The Dr. Oz Show" to the White House Task Force on Childhood Obesity Report, which recently recommended prioritizing new research on these chemicals.

While we still have a lot to learn, research is uncovering many interesting things about obesogens. About 20 chemicals

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are currently believed to be obesogens, and many of them are substances to which we're all widely exposed, including several common pesticides and bisphenol-A (BPA), a chemical found in some plastics.

The definition of an obesogen is simple: "An obesogen is a chemical that makes an animal or a human fat," Blumberg says. As he points out, that's a functional definition-it's not limited to any one class of chemicals-and any substance that causes weight gain could be considered an obesogen. (You could make a case for donuts, he jokes. They certainly can cause weight gain.)

Different obesogens can work on our bodies in different ways, Blumberg says. "One way is that it works on the fat cells directly—it makes more or larger fat cells. Or it can do that indirectly by altering appetite and satiety, making an animal hungry, or reducing the sensation of satiety. Or it can change metabolism, perhaps slow metabolism. There's evidence for all those methods for one or another obesogen."

Most obesogens are also endocrine disruptors. Our endocrine systems produce hormones that regulate growth, metabolism and sexual function, and endocrinedisrupting chemicals interfere with this system. Along with an increased likelihood of acting as obesogens, endocrine disruptors are associated with a range of issues for humans and wildlife, including reproductive and developmental issues, and

an increased risk of some types of cancer.

Some of Blumberg's most interesting work on obesogens has centered on mice exposed to the chemical tributyltin. A highly persistent organic pollutant, tributyltin has been used as an antifouling agent in marine paints, where it has caused damage to marine life. Also used in a range



Could contestants on NBC's "The Biggest Loser" benefit from knowing more about obesogens?

of household products such as building materials and textiles (including carpet), tributyltin is widespread in the environment—the chemical is often found in samples of household dust. Blumberg first decided to study the effects of tributyltin on hormone receptors after attending a conference in Japan and learning that it had been shown to cause sex reversal in some fish.

Studies show that tributyltin not only causes mice to gain weight, but that the effects are long-lasting. One recent study published in the journal *Environmental Health Perspectives* in March 2013 found that exposure to this chemical had an effect on multiple generations of mice. "We found that when we expose pregnant mice to low levels of tributyltin in the drinking water

throughout pregnancy that the babies—the F1—

that were exposed in utero got fatter. Our mice that were exposed to tributyltin live in the same environment, eat the same food, have the same access to exercise that the unexposed mice do, yet they get fatter," Blumberg says.

But it wasn't just the next generation of mice that were affected; it was also the F2 and F3—the

next two generations of mice. Blumberg is clear about what this means: "We need to reconsider how we think about such chemicals. These data, and data from other researchers with different chemicals and different exposure paradigms, say that there can be such a thing as transgenerational effects—permanent effects that will affect our descendants." *****

Excerpted from Mother Earth Living, a national magazine devoted to living wisely and living well. To read more articles from Mother Earth Living, please visit www.MotherEarthLiving. com or call (800) 340-5846 to subscribe. Copyright 2014 by Ogden Publications Inc.

BODY, MIND & SPIRIT continued on next page



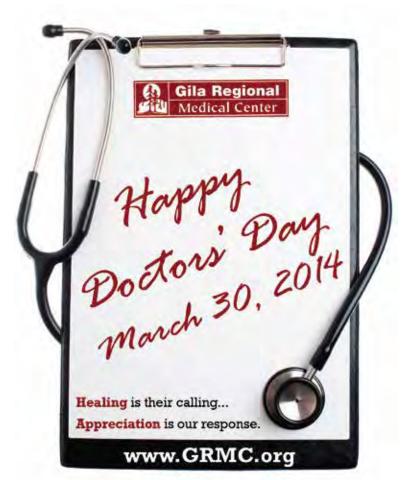
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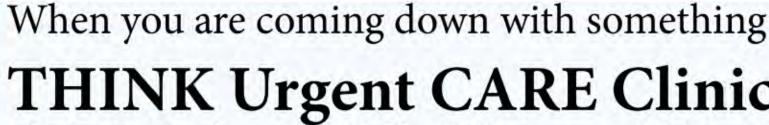


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BODY, MIND & SPIRIT . KIVA ROSE

Rosemary Time Discover the therapeutic properties of this Southwest favorite.

osemary is one of our partner Loba's very favorite plants at our Anima Sanctuary wilderness retreat and herbal school in Catron County; I think she could live, breathe and swim in it and be very happy. We have rosemary butter, rosemaryinfused olive oil, rosemary salve, rosemary tea, rosemary tincture, rosemary lotion, rosemary smudge, rosemary-rubbed meat and all manner of other rosemaryflavored dishes and body products.

Thankfully, rosemary is a common ornamental and culinary garden plant in New Mexico and can be gathered in most villages and cities. This is good, because it's cold enough in the canyon that our rosemaries tend to struggle and grow very slowly. We do have one little plant gifted to us by a woman from Taos that is thriving in the shelter of our kitchen door. It's growing round and tall, and each summer presents us with gorgeous purple flowers for months at a time. Every time I walk from the den to the kitchen, I stop to rub my fingers against a resinous, leathery

leaf and breathe in the magic of this warm, spicy herb. Even on the coldest days of winter, its gentle presence fills me with an inner glow of contentment and joy.

Rosemary has been a favorite ally of mine for quite some time, both for its beautiful and giving nature and because it's just so damn useful. It's a common ingredient in my digestive formulas, especially for those with a sluggish, overtired liver and a cold

gut typified by lack of appetite, gas, constipation and bloating. I especially like it combined with Oregon grape root for liver issues, and it is additionally helpful in a pattern that often includes excessive, dilute urination from kidney deficiency and low blood pressure as well as inability to digest protein and fat efficiently.

Other specific indications include foggy thinking, general feeling of coldness, tiredness and intermittent depression with or

without thyroid involvement, usually with nervousness or anxiety underneath. There are also some-



times signs of heart weakness accompanying the poor circulation.

osemary tincture made from fresh plants in high proof alcohol is very powerful, so my pro-L portions tend to be something like five parts Oregon grape to one part rosemary. If it still seems a bit too stimulating or heating for the individual but is otherwise a good match, I'll adjust it to two parts Or-

Common name: Rosemary Botanical name: Rosmarinus officinalis

Energetics: Warm, dry Taste/impression: Aromatic, spicy, diffusive, slightly astringent and bitter

Action: Aromatic, circulatory stimulant, stimulant/ relaxant nervine, stimulating diaphoretic

egon grape, three parts burdock root and one-half part rosemary. The taste is lovely and really harmonizes with the other herbs very nicely. Some amount of lavender can also be added if there are significant signs of anxiety or insomnia, especially when accompanied by headache or confusion.

Rosemary is a very efficient and effective circulatory stimulant, and thus useful in a great many heart and circulatory formulas. Fresh whole rose hips, rosemary,

ginger and yarrow is the basic makeup of one of my favorite winter heart remedies for those who tend to

Deborah G. Berry, LMHC

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get cold, quiet and lethargic in the winter. This is also great for headaches of a vascular nature, along with virgin's bower or pulsatilla.

As a nervine, rosemary has both relaxing and stimulating qualities, making it ideal for cold-bodied people with a tendency to both depression and ner-

vousness. It promotes clarity of thinking, calm awareness and a sense of groundedness and can be very useful for flighty people constantly floating out or sinking down out of their bodies. Cold, sad people with digestive weakness who have a hard time being in the present and tend to drift into dreamy or spacey thinking will often benefit a great deal from the ongoing use of this herb.

The tea of dried leaves tends to be milder and more easily handled by a variety of constitutional types. It works very well in many tea blends, or as a pinch added to a nourishing infusion to warm things up a bit. A foment, oil or vinegar of the leaves is very

nice for old muscle or joint injuries with a tendency to flare up in cold or damp weather. The oil or fresh leaf-infused lard makes an excellent salve for old wounds that don't want to heal, chronic pain of various sorts and cracked dry feet or hands. (Comfrey or plantain is a nice addition to this.) The salve and tea are also highly antimicrobial and helpful for any wound or infection that could use a boost in circulation and warmth.

artially due to its intense volatile oil content, rosemary works very well infused in a warm

foot bath. Great at the end of the day for sore, tired feet, it is quickly absorbed through the feet into the bloodstream, allowing the body to take advantage of its many healing qualities. Headaches, coldness, exhaustion and sadness (among other things) can all be addressed quite well through this simple method.

To make a foot bath, just throw a handful or two of dried leaves into a big pot (big enough for both your feet to comfortably fit in) half-filled with water (depending on depth) and heat to just below

simmering; turn heat off and let steep for 10 minutes. You can then either let the water cool down to an enjoyable temperature or add some cold water before soaking your feet for as long as you like. You can also make a quart of strong infusion of the herb and pour the strained liquid into your regular bath.

You can also create temptingly aromatic blends to

ing.

Illustration from Köhler's Medicinal Plants, published in 1887.

PLANT HEALTR'S PATH

reparations and dosages: Fresh plant tincture (1:2 95%) is strong and a great ingredient in many digestive, headache, and heart formulas, as well as in liniments. It's strong enough that it doesn't usually need to be used in large dosages. Taken by itself, I start with two drops at a time and move up from there. This makes a great infused vinegar, especially from the fresh plant, yummy for food or excellent as a medicine, especially for external issues. With its high volatile oil content, this is a prime herb for infusing into oil or lard for salves or food. Fresh plant is definitely superior for this purpose. Freshly

or as a pinch added to a nourishing infusion.

revive your feet at the end of the day, something like

one part rosemary, one part lavender flowers and one

part rose petals. This also makes a wonderful face or

body wash; it's stimulating, calming and very cheer-

Cautions and contradictions: While almost everyone loves rosemary as a spice or condiment, some don't do so well with it as a medicine, often those of excess type constitution who are hot-natured, prone to high blood pressure and ruddy colored. Possible signs of incompatibility include roaring in the ears, feeling like your pulse is going to bust out of your head when you stand up (high blood pressure), rapid heartbeat, sharp headaches and excessive and uncomfortable flushing. If these symptoms occur, either greatly reduce the dosage or cease completely.

> If the symptoms are unclear, withdraw it and then retest if possible. Rosemary should not be used where there are indications of heat, whether from excess or deficiency. 🕷

Excerpted from The Plant Healer's Path: A Grassroots Guide For The HerbFolk Tribe, the first of two volumes by Jesse Wolf Hardin, cofounder of Plant Healer Magazine, with enchanting tales, medicinal plant profiles and favorite herbal recipes by Kiva Rose, and contributions by herbalist authors David Hoff-

man, Paul Bergner, Phyllis Light, Rebecca Altman and Roger Wicke (304 pages, over 100 photos and art illustrations). Limited-edition cloth-covered hardback, \$39; ebook, \$25. Order from the bookstore and gallery page at www.PlantHealer.org.

BODY, MIND & SPIRIT continued on next page





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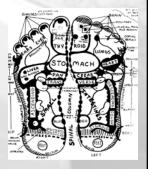
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Tuesday. 6:30 p.m. Support for those who've lost a child. Episcopal Church, Parish Hall, 7th and Texas St. Charlene Mitchell, 534-1134.

FIGURE/MODEL DRAWING-4-6 p.m. Contact Sam, 388-5583.

KIWANIS CLUB-Noon. Red Barn, 708 Silver Heights Blvd., 590-0540.

LOS COMADRES CANCER SUPPORT **GROUP**—1st Tues. 6 p.m. Business and Conference Center, 3031 Hwy. 180 E. (next to Ace). 388-1198 ext. 10.

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Weds. 6 p.m. Gila Regional Medical Center Conference Room. Subject to

BAYARD AL-ANON—6 p.m. Santa Clara Senior Center, 107 East St., Santa

A COURSE IN MIRACLES-6:30 p.m., 600 N. Hudson. Information, 534-9172

Coalition, 409 N. Bullard, Lisa Jimenez, 534-0665, ext. 232, lisa@wellnesscoali-

WOMEN'S GROUP-6:30 p.m. 1000 N

GRANT COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY-2nd Weds. Potluck at 5:30 p.m., meet-

LADIES GOLF Association-8 a.m.

tee time. Silver City Golf Course.

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PROSTATE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP-3rd Weds. 6:30 p.m. Gila Regional Medical Center Conference Room. 388-

STORYTIME—All ages. 10 a.m. Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College

TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY SUPPORT GROUP-3:30-5 p.m. All-Purpose Room, Billy Casper Wellness Center, Hudson St. & Hwy. 180. James, 537-2429, or

ARTS ANONYMOUS—5:30 p.m. Art-ists Recovering through the Twelve Steps. Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 3845

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP-1st Thurs. 6 p.m. Gila Regional Medical Center

CARDIAC SUPPORT GROUP-3rd Thurs. 4 p.m. Grant County Business and Conference Center, 3031 Hwy180E, 590-2578.

DE-STRESSING MEDITA-

тюмs—12-12:45 р.т. New Church of the SW Desert, 1302 Bennett St. 313-4087

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

GRANT COUNTY ROLLING STONES GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY-2nd Thurs. 6 p.m. Senior Center, 204 W. Victoria

St. Kyle, 538-5706.

HATHA YOGA-5:30 p.m. First

Lori Zitzmann

HISTORIC MINING DISTRICT & TOUR-ISM MEETING—Second Thurs. 10 a.m. Bayard Community Center, 290 Hurley Ave., Bayard. 537-3327.

NEWCOMERS CLUB-Third Thurs. 11 a.m., luncheon noon. Women's Club, Yucca and Silver Heights Blvd. Linda Sylvester, (480) 518-5839, lindasylvester@msn.com

PROGRESSIVE PILATES—5:30-6:30 p.m., 315 N. Bullard, 2d fl. 519-8948. TOPS-5 p.m. 1st Presbyterian

Church, 1915 Swan, 538-9447. WOMEN'S CANCER SUPPORT **Group**—1st Thurs. 6-7 p.m. GRMC Conference Room, 1313 E. 32nd St.

388-1198, ext. 10. VINYASA FLOW YOGA-11:30 a.m

First Church of Harmony, 609 Arizona Becky Glenn, (404) 234-5331. Yoga class—Free class taught

by Colleen Stinar. 1-2 p.m. Episcopal Church fellowship hall, 7th and Texas.

Fridays

Overeaters Anonymous-6 p.m. Gila Regional Medical Center conference room. 313-9400.

SILVER CITY WOMAN'S CLUB-2d Fri., 10:30 a.m., lunch 12 p.m. 411 Silver Heights Blvd. 538-3452.

TAIZÉ—2d Friday. Service of prayer, songs, scripture readings and quiet contemplation. 6:30 p.m. Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 538-2015

WOODCARVING CLUB-2d and 4th 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 BEGIN-NERS-6 p.m. Lions Club, 8th & 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 MEDITATIONp.m. Details: 313-7417, blooming-lotus-. sangha@googlegroups.com.

DOUBLE FEATURE BLOCKBUSTER MEGA HIT MOVIE NIGHT-5:30-11 pm. Satellite/Wellness Coalition.

EVENING PRAYER IN THE EASTERN OR-**THODOX 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—1st Sat., 1-3

m. Yada Yada Yarn, 614 N. Bullard, 388-3350. STORYTIME-All ages. 10:30 a.m. Sil-

ver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave., 538-3672.

VINYASA FLOW YOGA-10 a.m. All levels. First Church of Harmony, 609 Arizona St., Becky Glenn, (404) 234-5331. 🕷

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



1st time clients -

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SLOW FLOW YOGA—11:30 a.m. 5:30-7 p.m. First Church of Harmony, Church of Harmony, 609 Arizona St



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THE STARRY DOME • BERT STEVENS

Auriga, the Charioteer Plus the planets for March.

ust north of the zenith you will find a group of bright stars that form the constellation of Auriga, the Charioteer. While constellation diagrams often show this as a diamondshaped constellation, you can pull a fifth star from the adjacent constellation Taurus to form a squat triangle on the side of a rectangle. These stars are easy to find, with Alpha Aurigae (Capella) being the sixth-brightest star in the sky.

Auriga, the Charioteer, is actually identified with at least three Greek heroes. It is most often identified with Erichthonius of Athens. Erichthonius is credited with the invention of the quadriga, a four-horse chariot, made in the image of the Sun's chariot. He used this chariot in a battle against Amphictyon, a usurper trying to take the Athenian throne.

Erichthonius' defense of the throne with his chariots placed him next in line of succession, and he eventually became king of Athens. Upon Erichthonius' death, Zeus placed him in the sky because of his ingenious chariot design and his heroic deeds.

Auriga's brightest star, Capella, is actually a multistar system. The two main components are both Gtype stars. They are not dwarf stars like our Sun, but yellow giants. The larger is almost 12 times the diameter of our Sun while the smaller is almost 9 times the Sun's diameter. These two stars are only 67 million miles apart and swing around each other every 104 days. There is also pair of red dwarf stars 0.17 light-

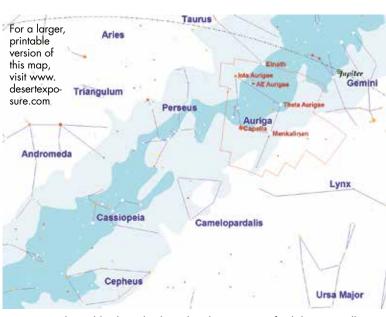
years away from the two main stars that completes this star system.

Another interesting star in the southern part of Auriga is AE Aurigae. It is labeled as a variable star, based on observations in 1926. More recent observations show little or no variation in brightness, however. Shining around magnitude 6.0, this is a spectral class O9.5 dwarf star about 1,460 light-years away. It is currently in a cloud of dust and gas that it illuminates, giving us the Flaming Star Nebula. The name comes from the nebula's wispy red color, which makes it look as if the star is on fire.

AE Aurigae has just entered this cloud. It is a fast-moving star, what astronomers call a runaway star; every hundred years it moves

tance, this is a very fast mover.

Tracing the star's motion backward, astronomers believe it originated in the area that would eventually become the Trapezium in Orion's Sword. There is a multiple star there called Iota Orionis. Iota's primary is 15-solar-mass O-type star. Orbiting far from it are an A-type star some 1.9 trillion miles away and a Btype star some 409 billion miles distant. Close to the primary is a hot B1-type star in an eccentric orbit, from as close as 10 million miles from the primary all the way out to 74 million miles and back again. What gave this companion such an eccentric orbit? About 2.5 million years ago, there were two double stars in the area where the Trapezium, the center of the Orion Nebula, would form. These two double stars had a very close encounter. Each lost its companion stars, which went shooting off in opposite directions, leaving the remaining two now-single stars to form a new double star, Iota Orionis. Of the two stars that were flung off, one headed south and we now know it as Mu Columbae (in Columba, the Dove), a fourth-magnitude star some 26 degrees south of Iota Orionis. The other star headed north and is now 40 degrees from Iota Orionis-the light of the Flaming Star Nebula, AE Aurigae.



Facing north and looking high in the sky, you can find the constellation Auriga. Marked by the sixth-brightest star in the heavens, Capella, Auriga is right in the middle of the Milky Way.

The Planets for March

Watch the Skies

(times MST/MDT)

March 8, 6:27 a.m.—First Quarter

March 9, 2 a.m.—Daylight Savings

greatest distance west of Sun (28

March 16, 11:08 a.m.—Full Moon

March 20, 10:57 a.m.—Vernal

greatest distance west of Sun (47

March 23, 7:46 p.m.—Last Quarter

March 30, 12:45 p.m.—New Moon

10 p.m.—Mars five degrees north

March 22, 2 p.m.-Venus at

Equinox, spring begins

March 1, 1 a.m.—New Moon

March 14, 1 a.m.-Mercury

Moon

Time begins

degrees)

degrees)

Moon

of Spica

s night falls you can find **Jupiter** 77 degrees up in the northeast. Its disc is 40.4 secondsof-arc across and is a brilliant magnitude -2.4. The King of the Gods is moving slowly eastward in western Gemini and sets by 3:30 a.m. MDT.

Mars is the next planet up, rising at 9:30 p.m. MDT. It is moving slowly westward in eastern Virgo, picking up speed as the month progresses. The God of War is magnitude -0.9 and its disc is 13.3 secondsof-arc across at midmonth.

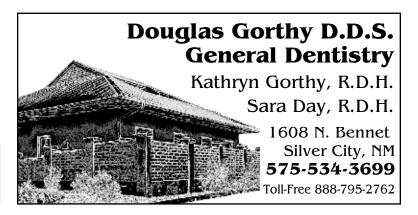
Saturn is moving slowly westward in central Libra. Its rings are tilted down 22.6 degrees with the northern face showing, 40.2 seconds-of-arc across.

> Saturn's disc is 17.7 seconds-ofarc across. Saturn rises at 11:30 p.m. MDT in the east-southeast and shines at magnitude +0.4.

The brilliant Venus rises around 5 MDT in east-southeast, shining at magnitude -4.5. During March, it moves eastward from eastern Sagittarius into Capricornus, across a corner of Aquarius and back into eastern Capricornus. The Goddess of Love has a disc 26.9 seconds-of-arc across and is a 46% illuminated crescent. By the end of the month, it will be just past the "half-Venus" phase.

Mercury starts the month in Aquarius, crosses into a panhandle of Capricornus, and back into Aquarius, where it ends the month in the eastern end of that

4.3 seconds-of-arc in our sky. At such a great dis- constellation. This is a great apparition for southern hemisphere observers, but for us, Mercury will be only six degrees up as it starts to get light. As the month progresses, Mercury will not get higher, but will slide from the east-southeast to the east. At midmonth, Mercury rises around 6 a.m. MDT with a disc 57% illuminated and 7.1 seconds-of-arc across, becoming fuller as the month progresses. Spring begins in the northern hemisphere as the Sun crosses the celestial equator heading northward at 10:57 a.m. MDT on March 20. The location where the Sun is at that instant is the zero-point for the celestial coordinate system. It is zero hours in right ascension and zero degrees in declination. Daylight Savings Time begins on March 9. After that, we will have an extra hour of daylight in the evening and lose an hour in the morning. So remember to set your clocks ahead one hour and "keep watching the sky"! 🕷





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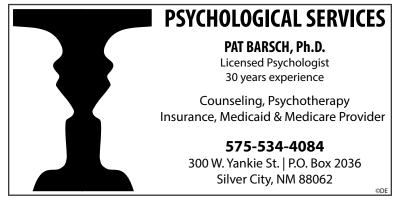


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An amateur astronomer for more than 40 years, Bert Stevens is co-director of Desert Moon Observatory in Las Cruces.





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100 HIKES • LINDA FERRARA

Setting the Table

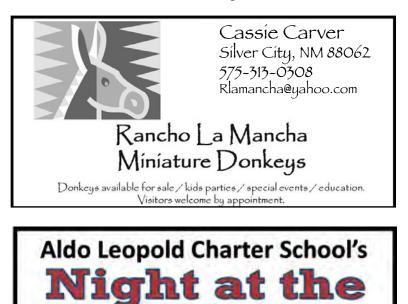
Hiking Table Mountain Trail with Marc Levesque of Grant County Search and Rescue.

Now don't be jealous, fellow trekkers, but this lucky hiker got to spend a sunny winter day with Marc Levesque hiking a stellar trail, hearing stories about adventures in Maine, New Hampshire and Antarctica, and listening to firsthand accounts of local area search and rescue missions.

Marc and his wife, Susan Porter, have been exploring the trails in this area since they moved here in 2005, and have been avid hikers for over 40 years, mostly in the mountains of northern New England. Marc was a member of the Appalachian Mountain

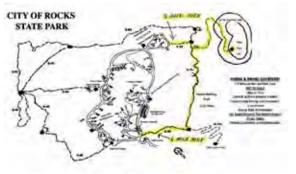
Club, where he was involved in winter ascents, rock climbing, leading hikes and directing the AMC Mountain Leadership School in 1979-1980. Here in Silver City, he is a battalion chief with the Pinos Altos Volunteer Fire Rescue, teach-

es "Fundamentals of Search and Rescue" at WNMU's Outdoor Program, and is president of Grant County Search and Rescue. Was I a little intimidated hiking with the president of Search and Rescue? Sure was. Did I have a ball hiking with him? You bet I did!





was a resounding success! We would like to thank all the community members who donated items: Buckhorn Saloon - Gila Hike and Bike - Encor Ravens Nest – Faywood Hot Springs – Harolene Pitts Molly Ramolla Gallery - La Clinica - The Mahl Family Lloyd's Studios - Leyba & Ingalls - Twin Sisters Bike Bear Creek Herbs - Derek Markham - Hester House Susie Gonzales - Jean Bohlender - Nizhoni Pottery - Bikeworks The McDaniels - Zoe Wolfe - Sundial Hot Springs Tim Hasenstein - Diane's - Power and Light - Kuhns Pottery Everything Under the Skye - Blackwell Antiques Pots Pans & More - Bear Mountain Lodge - Curious Kumquat Manzanita Ridge - Las Casas de Oro - Dandelion Wish Sally Hobensack - Marcia Smith - Wild West Weaving Syzygy - Little Toad Creek Inn - Dayna Griego - The Blakes 10,000 Waves - Anthony Howell - Cindy Lindhorn Bear Creek Cabins - Gleemaiden - Il Piatto - Fire Cloud It takes a village. Thank you all.



He suggested we hike a newly created trail that he described as "a gem."

Name: Table Mountain Trail, City of Rocks State Park

Distance: 2.0-6.0 miles

Difficulty: 70% easy, 20% medium, 10% difficult

Directions: Starting from the intersection of 32nd Street By-Pass and Hwy. 180 in Silver City, drive 24.8 miles southeast on Hwy. 180 until you reach Hwy. 61. Turn left onto Hwy. 61 and drive 3.0 miles to the entrance of City of Rocks State Park.

Hike description: I suggest you stop into the Visitors' Center and check out the history and geology of this wonderful park. Be sure to chat with park volunteers, who are extremely knowledgeable, helpful and pleasant. They have a map of the park that will assist you. Here is more info about the park for those of you who want to do some homework before you go: www. emnrd.state.nm.us/SPD/ cityofrocksstatepark.html.

For a shorter hike, park in the northeast corner of the park near the Pegasus Campground. Walk 0.22 miles on the trail that heads east. Turn right (south) onto Hydra Trail and then turn left (east) onto the trail that takes you up to Table Top Mountain.

For a longer hike, park at the Visitors' Center Parking lot and take the Hydra Walking Trail for 1.0 mile. Turn right (east) onto the trail that heads up to Table Top Mountain.

When you go through the gate, the trail starts the ascent uphill toward the first bench of the mountain. It gets steeper still until you finally reach the top.



Look down and see the 557 feet you just climbed. Now walk around the mesa top, have fun boulder jumping, and enjoy the scenery. Re-

turn the way you came.

Notes: This is a newer trail that volunteer Tim Davis has been working on for the past few years. We met Tim on the trail; perhaps you will, too! City of Rocks State Park requires an entrance fee of \$5 per car. Gates are open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Why not bring a lunch and spend the day? Enjoy this trail in the morning, check out the rocks in the early afternoon, and then head over to Faywood Hot Springs for a soak to end the day just right! Or bring camping gear and explore for several days.

Tell us about a **particularly memorable hiking experience**:

"I was 34 years old and had just returned from a contract job at South Pole Station in Antarctica, where we had set a temperature record during the year I was there of minus-117 degrees," says Levesque. "I had lost 22 pounds during that time and had virtually no body fat. Upon returning, I decided to get out and enjoy the White Mountains of New Hampshire on a solo day hike in 20-degree February weather. My body had not adjusted to the loss of body fat, and when I reached a spot just below the summit, I realized I was deeply shivering. I knew this was the first stage of hypothermia and probably should have turned back. But sometimes one's tes-

tosterone level exceeds one's

intelligence quotient, so I just stopped, ate something, put

on all the clothes I had with

me, and continued on towards

between the clouds, the wind,

the deep snow and the temper-

ature, I could have easily found

myself in serious trouble." The

rescuer in him comes out as he adds, "It's really not a great

idea to hike alone in such win-

In closing, Levesque has

a final comment: "Always let

someone know where you're

going on a hike. It will make

it much easier for us to find

you if you get lost or injured."

about Grant County Search

For more information

"It all turned out okay, but

the summit.

ter conditions."

and Res-





🐑 cue, go to: gcsar-nm.org. 🕷

To read more about Linda Ferrara's 100-hike challenge, check out her blog at 100hikesinayear: wordpress.com.



Wherever you go, *Desert Exposure* is only a click away!



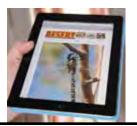
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Southivest New Mexico's best restaurant guide.

and carne al pastor." (October 2013)

GIL-A BEANS, 1304 N. Bennett St.

Blvd., 388-2627. American, Mexican:

JALISCO CAFÉ, 100 S. Bullard St.,

388-2060. Mexican: Mon.-Sat. L D.

534-4103. Espresso and coffeeshop:

JAVALINA COFFEE HOUSE, 201 N. Bul-lard St., 388-1350. Coffeehouse.*

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, unpreten-

tious, attractively presented and reason-ably priced." (February 2013) Mexican: Tues.-Sat. B L D, Mon.-Sun. B L.*

LA COCINA RESTAURANT, 201 W. College Ave., 388-8687. Mexican: L D.

LA FAMILIA, 503 N. Hudson St., 388-

4600. Mexican: Tues.-Sun. B L D.

LA MEXICANA, Hwy. 180E and

Memory Lane, 534-0142. "Carrying on the legacy of unpretentious but tasty

and authentic Mexican food estab-

lished many years ago at the family's

restaurant in Chihuahua." (April 2013) Mexican and American: B L, closed Tues.

LITTLE TOAD CREEK BREWERY & DIS-

Lion's Den, 208 W. Yankie, 654-0353.

TILLERY, 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:

538-3366. Mexican: B L D.*

GRANDMA'S CAFÉ, 900 Silver Heights

GRINDER MILL, 403 W. College Ave.,

JAVA THE HUT, 611-A N. Bullard St.,

Mexican: Mon.-Sat. B L D, Sun. B L.

Coffeeshop.¹

Mon.-Sat.*

Coffeeshop.

Weds.-Mon. L D. *

B L.*

ed 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.

If we've recently reviewed a restaurant, you'll find

GRANT COUNTY

Silver City ADOBE SPRINGS CAFE, 1617 Silver Heights Blvd., 538-3665. "Under new ownership and refocusing on what has made it a longtime Silver City favor-ite: excellent breakfasts and lunches." (April 2011) Breakfast items, burgers, sandwiches: Mon.-Thur. B L, Sat. & Sun. BLD.

ALOTTA GELATO, 619 N. Bullard St., 534-4995. Gelato, desserts and hot drinks: All day.

BILLY'S BBQ AND WOOD-FIRED Pizza, Hwy 180E, 388-1367. "A freewheeling mixture of barbequed ribs and brisket, freshly made pasta and pizzas baked in a wood-fired oven and featuring a wide range of innovative toppings." (November 2010) Karaoke Fri., live entertainment Sat. Barbecue, steak, pasta, pizza: Tues.-Fri. D. Sat. L D. Italian nights Weds., Sat.* Bryan's Pit Barbecue, Mimbres Val-

ley Self Storage and RV Park, (660) 247-3151 or (660) 247-3160. "Authentic Southern-style barbecue..... Brisket, pork ribs, chicken and sausage dinners, pulled pork and chopped brisket sandwiches. (August 2010). Now also BBQ tenderloin and smoked turkey. Barbecue: L D.

CAFÉ OSO AZUL AT BEAR MOUNTAIN LODGE, 60 Bear Mountain Ranch Road, 538-2538. "Bear Mountain Lodge blends food, art and natural beauty into a memorable experience that pleases all the senses.... The menu changes daily, with entrées that are always imaginative and tasty-comfort food in a form that most of our mothers would never have thought of producing." (March 2011) 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: Mon.-Fri. L D.

COURTYARD CAFÉ, Gila Regional

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 Web site.

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, PO Box 191, Silver City, NM 88062, fax 534-4134, or email updates@red-or-green.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!

> MASA Y MAS TORTILLERIA, Suite C-The Hub Plaza, (505) 670-8775. Tortillas, tacos, chimichangas, burritos, enchiladas, menudo, tamales and more. Mexican: Mon.-Sat. 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: Mon.-Sat. B L early D.

MILLIE'S BAKE HOUSE, 215 W. Yankie, 597-2253. "The food is oven fresh and innovative." (November 2012) Soup, salads, sandwiches, baked goods: Tues.-Sat.

NANCY'S SILVER CAFÉ, 514 N. Bullard St., 388-3480. Mexican: Mon.-Sat. BLD.

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: Tues.-Sun. L D.

RED BARN, 708 Silver Heights Blvd., 538-5666. Steakhouse: L D.

RIVER RANCH MARKET, 300 S. Bullard, 597-6328. Grass-fed meats, pastured poultry, gluten-free baked goods, to-go soups and stews, cast-iron cooking. Weds.-Sat. *

SHEVEK & Co., 602 N. Bullard St., 534-9168. "If sampling new types of food is part of the adventure of traveling for you, you only have to go as far as Shevek & Co. Restaurant in Silver City to take a culinary tour around the world." (May 2013) Mediterranean: Fri.-Tues. D.* SILVER BOWLING CENTER CAFÉ, 2020 Memory Lane, 538-3612. American,

> **DINING GUIDE** continued after next page

Alotta Words about ALOTTA GELATO



Spring is on its way! And that can only mean one thing: the return of Girl Scout® Mint Cookie Crunch! Delicious mint gelato is taken up a notch by the addition of real Girl Scout Thin Mint cookie pieces. It earns a merit badge in yummyosity, for sure! Stop in and have a taste, while supplies last! (Note: no Girl Scouts were harmed in the making of this gelato.)

In case you didn't know: we have space available in our store at no charge for your next event/party/meeting/spring fling-just call us for details and to add yourself to the schedule.

By the way: we sell tickets for a variety of concerts and performances here in Silver City, and we do not charge any fees or commissions for this service. Call us to see if we are selling tickets for the event of your choice or check the Facebook page: "Silver City Tickets.

We'd like to point out that our gift certificates are perfect for all occasions, can be purchased in any amount, and can be used a little at a time— a gift that keeps on giving!

ALOTTA GELATO is open 7 nights a week until at least 9:00 PM (10:00 PM on Friday and Saturday nights). We have all kinds of hot drinks (such as coffee, 20-plus kinds of tea, hot cocoa, hot cider and even ramen noodles) to take away the last, lingering chill of the March winds, and we also carry delicious dessert items such as Key Lime Bars, Chocolate Chip Brownies, Triple Lemon Cheesecake, slices of flourless Chocolate Raspberry Torte, Chocolate Chip cookies, and big honkin' wedges of triple-layer Carrot Cake!

Wake up those taste buds from their long winter nap! Buy a pint or a quart of Girl Scout Mint Cookie Crunch, Cherries Jubilee, Gila Conglomerate, or any of our incredible flavors, take it home to share with your friends and family, and enjoy the best gelato in the state, made right here in Silver City!

Thanks for reading; as a token of our appreciation for you, our valued customer, bring this ad for 25¢ off any size gelato for each member of your party.

Fracebook Visit us online at: www.alottagelato.com Alotta Gelato - 619 N. Bullard St., 🖁 ín Downtown Sílver Cíty ~575~534~4995

A Fund Raiser to Benefit Bridge Community **Annual Meeting/Dinner** Come hearabout our feasibility study and where we go from here. Sunday, March 16, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. First United Methodist Church 314 W. College Ave., Silver City, NM Keyboard music by Gerri Kalish Corned Beef & Cabbage, Bread, Dessert and Beverage Donations appreciated For more information, please call 575-538-5754 Bridge Community is a project to bring a continuum of care senior living facility to Silver City.

Check out our Bar Menu!

Medical Center, 538-4094. American: B L, with special brunch Sundays.*

CURIOUS KUMQUAT, 111 É. College Ave., 534-0337. "A hotspot of modern culinary innovation. Lunch features soups, salads and sandwiches. Dinners are elaborate, imaginative, exotic fivecourse culinary creations. Entrées always include vegetarian and vegan options... plus others determined by what local ranchers have available." (July 2010) Contemporary: Mon. L, Tues, Sat. L D.*

DIANE'S RESTAURANT, 510 N. Bul-lard St., 538-8722. "Always evolving, always interesting, Diane's has it all. (Sept. 2013) Fine dining (D), steaks, seafood, pasta, sandwiches (L), salads: Tues.-Sat. L D, Sun. 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, sandwiches, deli, baked goods: Mon.-

Sat. B L early D, Sun. B L.* 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

Now featuring seasonal Burgers, Pizza & Sandwiches



Jooking will begin on Saturday, April 5 with Easter Breads & Desserts. Classes begin at 11am and run for approximately 31/2 hours. See our website for details on this and upcoming classes.

Greek Wine Tasting Dinner Join us on Friday, March 21 at 6:30pm

for a six-course dinner featuring the foods of Greece with optional matched wines. See our website for details-or scan the QR code at right. Reservations highly recommended.

In Historic Downtown Silver City 602 N Bullard St (at 6th St) 575.534.9168 silver-eats.com



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Messianic Passover Seder

Community Wide— Sponsored by Silver City Believers

Saturday, April 19 6:30-8:30 p.m. Silver City Woman's Club

411 Silver Heights Boulevard

Beef brisket dinner catered by Brewer Hill Baptist (Vegetarian option available)

Tickets: \$23.00 per person For tickets and information, call Julie Cason at (575) 654-9109

wלום 🗢 שלום 🗢 שלום 🗢 שלום 🗢 שלום 🗢 שלום Seating is limited, Reserve tickets by April 1. \Rightarrow acia \Rightarrow acia \Rightarrow acia \Rightarrow acia \Rightarrow acia \Rightarrow acia



SUNRISE **ESPRESSO** 1513 N. Hudson

Sunrise Espresso II 1212 East 32nd St. **Now offering Smoothies**

Now with two convenient locations to serve you! Our premier drive-thru location at 1530 N. Hudson, between Billy Casper Medical Center and Harvest Fellowship Church, and our second location at 1212 E. 32nd, at the corner of Lesley and 32nd which features at comfortable walk-in and an express drive-thru window. In addition to our great espresso drinks, we are now offering real fruit smoothies, savory pasteries, homemade biscotti, fresh baked muffins and scones to our menu.

Silver City's PREMIER Drive-Thru Espresso Bar! 1530 N. Hudson • Silver City, NM • 575-388-2027 Mon.-Fri. 6am to 4pm • Sat. 7am to 2pm **New Second Location:** 1212 E. 32nd St. • Silver City, NM Mon.-Fri. 6:30 am to 2pm • FREE WiFi



RED OR GREEN? • PEGGY PLATONOS

"The Toad" Comes to Town

New Silver City tavern offers its own craft-made beers and spirits.

new tavern has appeared in downtown Silver City at the corner of Bullard and Broadway in the building that for many years housed Isaac's Bar. It's the latest in the series of creative ventures launched by the young husband-and-wife team, Teresa Dahl-Bredine and David Crosley.

The two began their carefully researched and planned multibusiness enterprise by purchasing the old Grey Feathers Inn property in the upper Mimbres Valley and opening the Little Toad Creek Inn there in the spring of 2012. In addition to artistically renovating the rural guest facilities and revitalizing the fine dining restaurant portion of the establishment, Teresa and David immediately set about creating a small brewery and a craft distillery on the site. Their beer and spirits were introduced at the inn last summer, and are now available at the Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery tavern in Silver City.

The four types of beer produced on a regular basis by the Little Toad Creek Brewery are Helles Lager (the lightest of the beers), Amber (the most popular brew), India Pale Ale aka IPA (loaded with hops and a bit more bitter), and Porter (a dark beer).

Keeping up with demand for the beers in the new establishment has proved to be a challenge. "We aim to always have all four of these beers on hand, and we're working round-the-clock to produce enough," Teresa reports. "We expected to sell more volume in town than we did in the country, but not THAT much more. We were busy here instantly, and got hit very hard from the moment we opened our doors. A couple of weeks ago we completely ran out of beer. We were upgrading our facility to double the production capacity and had to shut down briefly. The beer's back now, though."

In addition to their regular four brews, beers from seven other small New Mexico breweries are also sold in the tavern, and Little Toad Creek stout is sometimes available. "We use a lot of the stout for cooking, however, and we run out of it fast," Teresa says.

Spirits produced at the Little Toad Creek Distillery and available (straight or in cocktail form) at the tavern include vodka, a Kahlua-like coffee liqueur, rum and whiskey.

The whiskey comes in two forms-raw and aged. "In order to qualify as whiskey, the product has to touch oak," Teresa explains. "So the raw whiskey we produce is filtered through oak directly into the bottles, and is sold without aging."

Aged whisky is stored in oak barrels. In its first year of operation, the distillery has produced aged whiskey in limited batches, with the aging process



Teresa Dahl-Bredine, who owns and operates Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery with her husband David Crosley, relaxes with a tall glass of their Amber Beer at the bar in the tavern they recently opened in downtown Silver City. At the right end of the shelf behind her are some of the decorative one-liter oak barrels in which people can purchase the distillery's raw whiskey and age it at home. Displayed on the bar is a Little Toad Creek t-shirt, also available for purchase. (Photo by Peggy Platonos)

but the sauces offered as options with the wings are unusual and intriguing: Spicy Chipotle Peanut (my favorite), Mango Habanero (as one would expect, QUITE hot), Garlic Parmesan, Red Chili BBQ, Teriyaki, and Toad Sauce (a mellower version of basic Buffalo wing sauce). The price is \$8 for six wings, with \$1 per extra wing. Other appetizers range in price from \$5 to \$12.96.

"We still want to be creative with the food. And we use good quality ingredients, including locally produced grass-fed beef," Teresa says.

The beef appears on the menu in several forms: ground in the Cowboy Irish Nachos (made with potato chips), chunks in Stout Stew, and as the Little Toad Creek Burger.

Sandwiches range from \$8.96 to \$12.50. Fish and pasta specialties run from \$12.96 to \$18. And there are the kind of interesting meal-size salads that have been staple items on the "Country Toad" menu, including Orchard Salad with Shrimp (\$14.95), Chinese Chicken Salad (\$13), and Asian Salad (\$5 small to \$9 large-with chicken or shrimp extra).

Popular almost instantly, the Little Toad Creek Inn was soon affectionately dubbed "the Toad" by its patrons. And no doubt the Silver City business will wind up with a similar nickname. The new tavern has been open for only two months and already there are proposals floating around, including "Toad Tavern" or "Town Toad" or "Toad Corner."

Whatever you choose to call it, the tavern is worth a visit. And March would be a good month to go, because they'll be holding several big events, starting with a Mardi Gras celebration on Tuesday, March 4, with Cajun food and the Rhythm Mystic band providing music for what Teresa describes as "a wild dance party." Cos-

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accelerated by storing the whiskey in small barrels.

"It's the contact with oak that ages the whiskey, so by using smaller barrels, we increase the surface area in ratio to the volume of whiskey and can age the whiskey in six months instead of the three years it takes in bigger barrels," Teresa explains. "Our aged whiskey is definitely our distillery's pride and joy. But so far, we have been producing the aged whiskey in relatively small batches, and it goes fast. The next batch is expected to be released sometime in April."

The opening of the tavern in town was accomplished with amazing speed. "We closed Little Toad Creek Inn for the winter on Dec. 2, and opened the place in town less than three weeks later," Teresa says. "People had told us they weren't really interested in having another fine dining establishment in town, so we set out to create a casual place where folks can come and hang out, have a drink and a bite to eat."

They came up with a menu that offers what they call "pub food"-but always with a bit of a twist. Yes, you'll find chicken wings on the menu, for instance, tumes would be welcome, but are not required.

St. Patrick's Day on Monday, March 17, will feature "all kinds of fun green drinks, as well as corned beef and cabbage," Teresa promises. "We're trying to organize a Pub Crawl for the occasion."

And on Saturday, March 29, starting at 4 p.m., the tavern will host a Brew Fest sponsored by the New Mexico Brewers Guild. Beer from all members of the guild will be available for purchase, and several musicians will be on hand to provide live music.

Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery's Silver City tavern is open Wednesday through Monday from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.-though the hours are often extended on Friday and Saturday nights as late as 2 a.m. It's closed on Tuesdays.

For more information, call (575) 956-6144 or visit www.littletoadcreekbrewerydistillery.com. 🕷

Send Mimbres freelance writer Peggy Platonos tips for restaurant reviews at platonos@gilanet. com or call (575) 536-2997.

DINING GUIDE continued

Mexican, hamburgers: L D.*

SUNRISE ESPRESSO, 1530 N. Hudson, 388-2027. Coffeeshop: Mon.-Sat. B L, early D.

SUNRISE ESPRESSO, 1212 E. 32nd St., 534-9565. Coffeeshop, bakery: Mon.-Fri. B L, early D, Sat. B L only.

THREE DOGS COFFEEHOUSE, 503 N. Bullard St. Coffeeshop, baked goods, sandwiches, wraps: Mon.-Sun. B L.*

TRE ROSAT CAFÉ, 304 N. Bullard St., 654-4919. "The dinner menu ranges from humbler (but not humdrum) fare like burgers, pizzas and pastas to daily specials that include more upscale items like grilled salmon and petite sirloin steak. Appetizers include homemade chile relleno poppers, egg rolls (with specialty fillings changing from day to day) and the ever-popular, ever delicious bacon-wrapped dates." (August 2012) International eclectic: Mon.-Sat. L, D.*

VICKI'S EATERY, 315 N. Texas, 388-5430. "Sandwiches both cold and grilled, wraps and salads that satisfy in a homey yet sophisticated way. Don't miss the German potato salad." (Dec. 2009) American: Mon.-Fri. L. *

WRANGLER'S BAR & GRILL, 2005 Hwy. 180E, 538-4387. Steak, burgers, appetizers, salads: L D.*

YANKIE CREEK COFFEE HOUSE, 112 W. Yankie St. Coffeeshop, coffee, homemade pastries and ice cream, fresh fruit smoothies.*

Bayard

FIDENCIO'S TACO SHOP, 1108 Tom Foy Blvd. Mexican: B L D.

LITTLE NISHA'S, 1101 Tom Foy Blvd., 537-3526. Mexican: Wed.-Sun. B L D. **M & A Bayard Café**, 1101 N.

Central Ave., 537-2251. Mexican and American: Mon.-Fri. B L D.

SPANISH CAFÉ, 106 Central Ave., 537-2640. Mexican, tamales and menudo (takeout only): B.

Cliff

PARKEY'S, 8414 Hwy. 180W, 535-4000. Coffeeshop: Mon.-Sat.

Hurley Gateway Grill, 2705 Hwy. 180E, 537-5001. American and Mexican: Sun.-Thur. B L, Fri.-Sat. B L D.*

Lake Roberts Spirit Canyon Lodge & Café, 684

Hwy. 35, 536-9459. German special-

Bear

Lodge

Mountain

ties, American lunch and dinner entrées: Saturday midday D.

Mimbres

MIMBRES VALLEY CAFÉ, 2964 Hwy. 35, 536-2857. Mexican, American, burgers: Mon.-Tues. B L, Wed.-Sun. B L D, with Japanese tempura Wed. D.

RESTAURANT DEL SOL, 2676 Hwy. 35, San Lorenzo. Breakfasts, burgers, sandwiches, Mexican: Daily B L early D.

3 QUESTIONS COFFEE HOUSE, Hwy 35, 536-3267. "Consistently good food based on the success of the family's Living Harvest Bakery." (December 2013) Buffet: Tues.-Sat. B L.

Pinos Altos

BUCKHORN SALOON AND OPERA House, Main Street, 538-9911. Steakhouse, pasta, burgers: Mon.-Sat. D.

DOÑA ANA COUNTY Las Cruces & Mesilla

ABRAHAM'S BANK TOWER RESTAU-RANT, 500 S. Main St. #434, 523-5911. American: Mon.-Fri. B L

ANDELE RESTAURANTE, 1950 Calle del Norte, 526-9631. Mexican: Mon. B L,

Tues.-Sun. B L D. AQUA REEF, 900-B S. Telshor, 522-

7333. Asian, sushi: D. ARABELLA'S, 1750 Calle de Mercado, 526-1313. Cuban, Italian: D.

BLUE AGAVE CAFÉ, 1765 S. Main St. (inside Best Western Mission Inn), 524-8591. Southwestern: B.

BLUE MOON, 13060 N. Valley Dr.,

647-9524. Bar, burgers: Sat.-Sun. L D. BOBA CAFÉ, 1900 S. Espina, Ste. 8 647-5900. Sandwiches, salads, casual fare, espresso: Mon.-Sat. L D.*

BRADLEY D AND WILLIAM B, 2540 El Paseo Road, 652-3871, American comfort food: L, D.

526-8604. Mexican: Tues.-Sun. B L. CAFÉ AGOGO, 1120 Commerce Dr.,

Suite A, 636-4580. Asian, American, sandwich, salad, rice bowl: Mon.-Sat. L D.

1099. Pecan-smoked meats, sandwich-

DOUBLE EAGLE, 2355 Calle De Guadalupe, 523-6700. Southwestern, steaks, seafood: L D, Sun. champagne brunch buffet.

Emilia's, 2290 Calle de Parian, 652-3007. Burgers, Mexican, soup, sandwiches, pastry, juices, smoothies: L D. HIGH DESERT BREWING COMPANY, 1201 W. Hadley Ave., 525-6752. Brew pub: L D.*

JOSEPHINA'S OLD GATE CAFÉ, 2261 Calle de Guadalupe, 525-2620. Pastries, soups, salads, sandwiches: Mon.-Thur. L, Fri.-Sun. B L.

LA POSTA RESTAURANT DE MESILLA, 2410 Calle De San Albino, 524-3524. Mexican, steakhouse: LD, Sat.-Sun. and holidays also B.

Los Compas, 1120 Commerce Dr., 521-6228. Mexican: B L D.*

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

MESON DE MESILLA, 1803 Avenida de Mesilla, 652-4953. Steaks, barbecue, seafood, sandwiches, salads, pasta: I D

MILAGRO COFFEE Y ESPRESSO, 1733 E. University Ave., 532-1042. Coffeehouse: BID *

MIX PACIFIC RIM CUISINE AND MIX EXPRESS, 1001 E. University Ave. #D4,

532-2042. Asian, Pacific: Mon.-Sat. LD. MOONGATE CAFÉ, 9395 Bataan

Memorial, 382-5744. Coffeeshop, Mexican, American: B L

MOUNTAIN VIEW MARKET KITCHEN, 120 S. Water St., 556-9856. Sand-

wiches, bagels, wraps, salads and other healthy fare: Mon.-Sat.: B L early D.

NOPALITO RESTAURANT, 310 S. Mesquite St., 524-0003. Mexican: Sun. Tues., Thurs.-Sat. L D.*

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

PAISANO CAFÉ, 1740 Calle de Mercado, 524-0211. Mexican: B L D. PEPPERS CAFE ON THE PLAZA (IN THE

DOUBLE EAGLE RESTAURANT), 2355 Calle De Guadalupe, 523-6700. Southwestern: L D.

ROBERTO'S MEXICAN FOOD, 908 E. Amador Ave., 523-1851. Mexican: B LD.

SAVOY DE MESILLA, 1800-B Avenida de Mesilla, 527-2869. American, Continental: B L D.

THE SHED, 810 S. Valley Dr., 525-2636. American, pizza, Mexican, desserts: Wed.-Sun. B L.*

SPIRIT WINDS COFFEE BAR, 2260 S. Locust St., 521-1222. Sandwiches, cof-

> **DINING GUIDE** continued on next page

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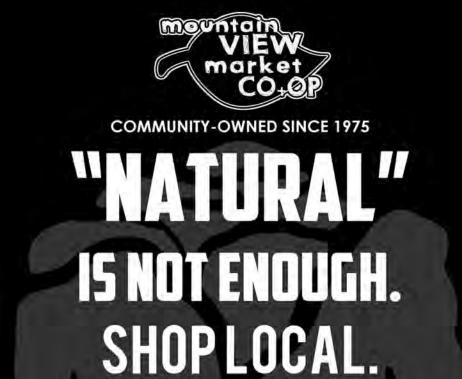
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Cafe Azul Oso at The Lodge

March

Events

will be open to the public for breakfast 8-10 daily Reservations are a must.

New Orleans menu

Monday, March 3 5-7 pm Reservations are a must. and

BRAVO'S CAFÉ, 3205 S. Main St.,

DE LA VEGA'S PECAN GRILL & BREWERY, 500 S. Telshor Blvd., 521

es, steaks, seafood, craft beers: L D. DG's University Deli, 1305 E. Uni-

versity Ave., 522-8409. Deli: B L D.*

St Patrick's Day menu Monday, March 17 5-7pm Reservations are a must. Menus are on the Bear Mountain Lodge website for viewing. Hope to see everyone.



and blue dome gallery are happy to represent Janey Katz critters now.

Hours: Thurs., Fri., Sat. and Mon.11-5 305 N. Texas St. 🛍 575 534 8671

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DINING GUIDE

continued

fee, bakery: B L D.*

ST. CLAIR WINERY & BISTRO, 1720 Avenida de Mesilla, 524-0390. Wine tasting, bistro: L D.

THAI DELIGHT DE MESILLA, 2184 Avenida de Mesilla, 525-1900. Thai, salads, sandwiches, seafood, steaks, German: L D.*

TIFFANY'S PIZZA & GREEK AMERI-CAN CUISINE, 755 S. Telshor Blvd #G1 532-5002. Pizza, Greek, deli: Tues.-Sat. BLD.*

VINTAGE WINES, 2461 Calle de Principal, 523-WINE. Wine and cigar bar, tapas: L D.

ZEFFIRO PIZZERIA NAPOLETANA, 136 N. Water St., 525-6757. Pizza, pasta, also sandwiches at adjoining Popular

Artisan Bakery: Mon.-Sat. L D. ZEFFIRO NEW YORK PIZZERIA, 101 E.

University Ave., 525-6770. Pizza: 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.*

CAMPOS RESTAURANT, 105 S. Silver, 546-0095. Mexican, American, Southwestern: L D.*

CANO'S RESTAURANT, 1200 W. Pine St., 546-3181. Mexican: Mon.-Sat. L D. CHINA RESTAURANT, 110 E. Pine St., 546-4146. Chinese: L D.

DEMING TRUCK TERMINAL, 1310 W. Spruce St., 544-2228. "Indian food is offered on a separate menu and you have to ask for that menu. The list of dishes is not very long, but the spices and flavor of the dishes that are offered are authentically Indian." (November 2013) American, Mexican, Indian: B L D, Sun. L buffet.

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: Mon.-Sat. L D. '

EL MIRADOR, 510 E. Pine St., 544-7340. Mexican: Mon.-Sat. B L D.

"FORGHEDABOUDIT" PIZZA & WINGS, 2020 Hatch Hwy. 26, 275-3881. "Direct from New York City, Bob Yacone and his wife, Kim Duncan, have recreated an authentic-style New York pizza parlor on the outskirts of Deming." (June 2013) Italian, pizza, wings: Mon.-Sat. L D, Sun. D.

GOLDEN SUN STAR, 500 E. Cedar St., 544-0689. Chinese: L D.

IRMA'S, 123 S. Silver Ave., 544-4580. Mexican, American, seafood: B LD

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. This gem of a restaurant turns out perfectly cooked steaks and seafood, as well as a full line of Mexican fare." (June 2011) Steaks, seafood, Mexican: Tues.-Sat. L D.*

MANGO MADDIE'S, 722 E. Florida St., 546-3345. Salads, sandwiches, juice bar, coffee drinks.

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-frver

SUNRISE

type of restaurant." (September 2012) American, Mexican, breakfasts: Mon.-Thur. BL, Fri. BLD. Tocayo's MEXICAN RES-

TAURANT, 1601 E. Pine St., 567-1963. Mexican. dine in or take out: Mon.-Sat. B L D, Sun. B L.

Akela HOMELANDS Restaurant, I-10. Burgers, ribs, "casino-style"

food: B L D.* Columbus PATIO CAFÉ. 23 Broadway, 531-2495. Burg ers, American:

B L.*

HIDALGO COUNTY Lordsburg

EL CHARRO Restaurant, 209 S. P Blvd., 542-3400. Mexican: BLD.

FIDENCIO'S, 604 E. Motel Dr., 542-8989 Mexican: B L early D. KRANBERRY'S

FAMILY RESTAU-RANT, 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: Tues.-Fri. B L D, Sun. B mid-day

Table Talk

he Curious Kumquat chef Rob Connoley has been named a 2014 James Beards Awards Semi-Finalist for best Southwest chef-essentially the Academy Awards of the restaurant industry. Says Connoley, "This is huge news for our restaurant and Silver City. This nomination nudges New Mexico's culinary epicenter a little further south. It's pretty much unheard of for a restaurant as remote as ours to ever be noticed by the nominating committee-but we were!" Finalist nominees will be announced March 18, with the awards presented May 2 and 5. 111 E. College Ave., 534-0337.

Café Azul Oso at Bear Mountain Lodge is now open to the public for breakfast, daily 8-10 a.m.; reservations are a must. For dinner, 5-7 p.m., there will be a special New Orleans menu for Mardi Gras, March 3, and a St. Patrick's Day menu on March 17; reservations required for both. 60 Bear Mountain Ranch Road, 538-2538, www.bearmountainlodge.com.

Go Greek at Shevek & Co. in downtown Silver City on March 21 at 6:30 p.m. A six-course wine-tasting dinner will match Greek food with appropriate international wines. Reservations highly recommended; \$80 per person (\$45 food without wines). Cooking classes will begin on April 5 with "Easter Breads & Desserts." 602 N. Bullard St., 534-9168, silver-eats.com.

As promised in last issue's review, Kountry Kitchen has relocated to 1700 Mountain View Road, just up the hill from the Comfort Inn and Econolodge. While still open Tuesday through Saturday from 8 a.m.-7 p.m., the popular Mexican eatery is now also open Sunday and Monday from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. 388-4512.

Vicki's Eatery is no longer serving breakfast. New hours are Monday through Friday, 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. 315 N. Texas, 388-5430.

If you haven't ventured out to the Mimbres Valley this winter, you might have missed the opening of **Restaurant Del Sol**, in the former corner store at 2676 Hwy. 35 in San Lorenzo. It's serving traditional breakfast fare, burgers, sandwiches and Mexican food. Hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m. 536-3140.

as Cruces continues to attract restaurant chains, with Wing Daddy's Sauce House announcing plans to build and open a location at 775 Telshor Blvd., next to the Bank of the West. The regional sports bar and restaurant chain is based in El Paso, where it has five locations, and also has eateries in San Antonio, Texas, and two Mexico cities. It features "wings, baby back ribs and over-the-top burgers along with fried food you have only dreamed of."

Last month, Five Guys Burgers and Fries officially opened at 2750 Mall Drive. Hours are 11 a.m.-10 p.m. daily.

On the other hand, the Furr's buffet restaurant at 2340 E. Griggs Ave. in Las Cruces has closed. 🕷

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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: Mon.-Sat. B L D, Sun. B L.

MIMBRES VALLEY BREWING CO., 200 S. Gold, 544-BREW. Craft beer, burgers, wings, paninis: Mon.-Sat. L D.

PALMA'S ITALIAN GRILL, 110 S. Silver, 544-3100. Italian: L D. Sat. prime rib, Sun. buffet.*

PATIO CAFÉ, 1521 Columbus Road, 546-5990. Burgers, American: Mon. Sat. L D.*

PRIME RIB GRILL (INSIDE HOLIDAY им), 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: Mon.-Sat. B L D, Sun. ΒL

PANTHER TRACKS CAFÉ, Hwy. 338, 548-2444. Burgers, Mexican, Åmerican: Mon.-Fri. BID

Animas

D

Rodeo

RODEO STORE AND CAFÉ. 195 HWY. 80, 557-2295. Coffeeshop food: Mon. Sat. B L.

RODEO TAVERN, 557-2229. Shrimp, fried chicken, steaks, burgers, seafood: Weds.-Sat. 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 BL

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: BID

UNCLE BILL'S BAR, 230 N. Main St., 533-6369. Pizza: Mon.-Sat. L D.

Send restaurant news to: updates@red-orgreen.com.

Glenwood

ALMA GRILL, Hwy. 180, 539-2233. Breakfast, sandwiches, burgers, Mexican: Sun.-Weds., Fri.-Sat. B L.

Golden Girls Café, Hwy. 180, 539-2457. Breakfast: B.

MARIO'S PIZZA, Hwy. 180, 539-2316. Italian: Mon.-Tues., Fri.-Sat. D.

SIERRA COUNTY

Hillsboro

BARBER SHOP CAFÉ, Main St., 895-5283. American, Mediterranean,

sandwiches: Thurs.-Sat. L.

HILLSBORD GENERAL STORE & CAFÉ. 100 Main St., 895-5306. American and Southwestern: Sun.-Wed., Fri.-Sat. 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: updates@ red-or-green.com. 🕷

What's Going on in March

Plus a look ahead into early April.

MARCH SATURDAY Silver City/Grant County

BIG DITCH CRICKETS COMMUNITY DANCE—Benefit for the Round Up Lodge. All dances are taught. No partner needed. Circle, contra, square dances, as well as waltzes, Spanish Colonial dances, and a chotis called La Vaquera. 7-10 p.m. Suggested donation \$5, under 12 free. Round Up Lodge, San Lorenzo.535- 4018, cfugagli@gmail.com.

BOOK SIGNING-New Mexico Territorial Era Caricatures with author Ron Hamm. 2 p.m. Free. Silver City Museum, 312 W. Broadway, 538-5921, www. silvercitymuseum.org.

LOVE YOUR LIBRARY DAY: DR. SEUSS AND MORE!—Annual extravaganza sponsored and organized by Literacy Link-Leamos. Music, bingo, door prizes, storytelling, Lego Mindstorms robot demonstrations, and cookies and punch 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. Public Library, 515 W. College Ave., 538-3672.

WNMU MEN'S TENNIS VS. NM MILITARY INSTITUTE-2 p.m. wnmumustangs.com

WNMU WOMEN'S TENNIS VS. NM MILITARY INSTITUTE-2 p.m. wnmumustangs.com

Las Cruces/Mesilla CRAFTS FOR KIDS—Children of all to her should be judged as significant historical artwork or reminders of her aunt's horrific past. By Tom Smith. 2 and 7:30 p.m. NMSU Center for the Arts, 1000 E. University Ave. 646-4515, ww.nmsutheatre.com/events.

NMSU BASEBALL VS. OAK-LAND-1:05 p.m. nmstatesports.com.

MONDAY Silver City/Grant County

WOMEN'S LECTURE SERIES—"Rising to the Top: Women in Corporate Leader ship." 5:30-7 p.m. WNMU Global Resource Center. www.wnmu.edu/ lectuereseries.

TUESDAY MARDI GRAS Silver City/Grant County 4BAYOU SECO ANNUAL MARDI GRAS

PARTY-Wear costumes and have some fun. Joined by Doug Smith on bass and the Fiddle Club. 6-9 p.m. Diane's Parlor, 510 N. Bullard.

WEDNESDAY ASH WEDNESDAY

Silver City/Grant County 540 Days of KINDNESS—Through April 19. Silver City United Church of Christ is inviting everyone to join them in a Lenten experiment, doing something kind every day for 40 days. The church



The Big Ditch Crickets perform at the Round-Up Lodge on March 1.

ages are invited to come by the museum and create their own St. Patrick's Day crafts to take home. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. \$5 adults, \$3 seniors, \$2 children 5 to 17, free children 4 and under. Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road, 522-4100, www.

nmfarmandranchmuseum.org. Everett Howl & the Wolves—High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525 -6752

NMSU BASEBALL VS. OAK-

LAND-1:05 p.m. nmstatesports.com. NMSU WOMEN'S BASKETBALL VS. CSU BAKERSFIELD-6 p.m. nmstatesports.com

SPRING PLANTING WORKSHOP—This workshop will demonstrate the who, what, where and when of your organic Spring Garden. Pre-registration reis hoping that people of all religious faiths will join them, because "kindness is universal." Kindness journals will be available at downtown locations. Yada Yada Yarn, Curl Up and Dye, other downtown locations. 956-3316, www. facebook.com/40DaysofKindness.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

HERBAL MEDICINE—Wednesdays through March 26. Deborah Brandt: "Herbs for Brain and Emotions." 6-7:30 p.m. \$15 members, \$20 non-members. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436. 644-5504, debjbrandt@ mac.com

THURSDAY Silver City/Grant County OBROWN BAG PROGRAM-"Military 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Free. Deming Convention Center. www.jobs.state.nm.us.

FRIDAY Silver City/Grant County

Silver City/Grant County RED MOLLY—Three-part harmonies, crisp musicianship, and engaging stage presence. Part of the MRAC Indie/Folk Series. 7:30 p.m. \$20, \$15 members. Buckhorn Opera House, 32 Main St., Pinos Altos, www.mimbresarts.org. SWNM AUDUBON MEETING

"Survival of Desert Bighorn Sheep in the Peloncillo Mountains, New Mexico," presented by Rebekah Karsch. 7 p.m. Free. WNMU Harlan Hall, 12th St. and Alabama. 388-2386.

SYMPOSIUM ON PREPAREDNESS-Through March 8. In addition to wildfire preparedness, topics will include crime, evacuations, food sustainability, and dealing with trauma and loss. See story in February issue. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. WNMU Global Resource Center. scneighborsalliance.com/Symposium2014.html.

Las Cruces/Mesilla AUNT RAINI-Through March 9. See March 2. 7:30 p.m. NMSU Center for the Arts, 1000 E. University Ave. 646-4515, www.nmsutheatre.com/events.

THE BUILDING OF HOOVER DAM-Through March 29. Photographs by Winthrop A. Davi, 1930 to 1934. Opening reception. 5-7 p.m. Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main St., 541-2154, www.las-cruces.org/museums.

THE PAST—Through March 13. At the request of his wife Marie, from whom he's been separated for four years, Ahmad returns from Iran to finalize their divorce. Ahmad is the calm, balanced observer who sees everything that's going on with Marie, her new boyfriend amir and the three kids they live with. Directed by Iranian filmmaker Asghar Farhadi. Persian with English subtitles. Nightly 7:30 p.m., Sat. 1:30 and 7:30 p.m., Sun. 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. \$7 regu lar, \$6 seniors and students, \$5 MVFS members, children and Weds. Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, 524-8287, mesillavalleyfilm.org.

Deming

49TH ANNUAL ROCKHOUND Roundup—Through March 9. Gem and mineral show. Over 100 vendors. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. SWNM State Fairgrounds. thedgms.com.

S A T U R D A Y O Silver City/Grant County O Astronomical Observations—Ob-

servations begin at sunset; please use only red flashlights, approach the Orion Group Campsite with only your auto's parking lights, and dress warmly in layers. 6 p.m. City of Rocks State Park, 327 Hwy. 61, Faywood.

CRAFT CLASS—Soap making for crafters age 8 and older; pre-registration encouraged. Parent or guardian attendance required. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. \$5, limit 10 crafters. Silver City Museum, 312 W. Broadway, 538-5921, www. silvercitymuseum.org.

Fort Bayard Tour-Fort Bayard National Historic Landmark Tours begin at the Museum next to the Historic Parade Ground. Walking is moderate. Two



OPEN HOUSE—MARCH 8 FROM 1-3PM

621 Broken Arrow Open floor plan, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 car garage, garden, pond and fenced 1.69 acres just minutes to town and the golf course. MLS#30729 \$189,000



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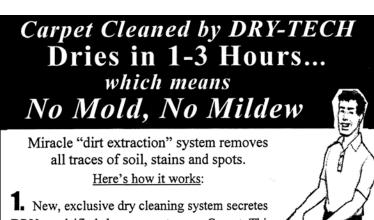
Carpet Stays

CLEANER

LONGER

"No one

ever got our carpets "No one this clean... no one! My husband was shocked when he came home. He thought I had new carpets installed!



quired. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. \$15 members, \$20 non-members. MVM Farm, 2653 Snow Road, 523-0436, www. mountainviewmarket.coop, mvmoutreach@ gmail.com.

STARS-N-PARKS-Orion, Sirius and Canopus transit the meridian before the program's end. Jupiter is nearly overhead. Presenter: John Gilkison. 7:10 p.m. \$5 day-use fee or park pass. Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park. www. astro-npo.org.

STORYTELLERS OF LAS CRUCES—Judith Ames. 10:30 a.m. Coas Books Downtown, 317 N. Water St.

STORYTELLERS OF LAS CRUCES-Nancy Banks. 10:30 a.m. Coas Books Solano, 1101 S. Solano.

SUNDAY Silver City/Grant County **ZPATHWAYS TO HEALTH, AN INTEGRAL** GUIDEBOOK-Book signing and free lecture series (Sundays in March). Dr. Victor Acquista. 1 p.m. Silver City Museum Annex, 302 W. Broadway, 538-5921, www.silvercitymuseum.org.

Las Cruces/Mesilla AUNT RAINI-Through March 9. Katherine, a successful gallery owner, must confront whether documentaries left

Josephine Clifford with Cecilia Bell. 12 p.m. Free. Silver City Museum Annex, 302 W. Broadway, 538-5921, www.silvercitymuseum.org.

SEED-SHARING-Workshop. Commons Center. See Southwest Gardener.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

AUNT RAINI-Through March 9. See March 2. 7:30 p.m. NMSU Center for the Arts, 1000 E. University Ave. 646-4515, www.nmsutheatre.com/events.

BIG BAND DANCE CLUB-DJ, Gary Koverman. No dance partner necessary. Beginners, singles and couples welcome. Beginner's group dance lesson at 7 p.m. Lesson free with dance admission. 8-10 p.m. \$7. Court Youth Center, 402 W. Court St. 526-6504.

MARBIN-High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

NMSU MEN'S BASKETBALL VS. GRAND CANYON-7 p.m. nmstatesports. com

SPIRITUAL PSYCHIC TAROT READINGS-Linda Marlena Carr. 2-5 p.m. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436.

TRADITIONAL AND SPECIALTY CHEESE TASTING-10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436.

Deming WORKFORCE CONNECTION JOB FAIR- hours. 9:30 a.m.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY QUARTERLY BOOK SALE—Large selection of mysteries. Western histories, astrology, craft, garden and cookbooks. 500-plus VCR tapes donated by a Friend who followed Roger Ebert's recommendations. 9 a.m.-10 a.m. members; public 10 a.m.-3 p.m. 1510 Market St. folsilvercitynm@gmail.com.

GILA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY LAND-SCAPE CLASS—Regional Native Plants (class and tour, optional picnic lunch and Q&A session) with Richard Felger 9 a.m.-noon. Members: \$20 series, \$7/ session; non-members: \$30 series, \$10/ session. WNMU Harlan Hall, room 222. (602) 810-8059, boyd189@gmail.com, gilanps.org.

GREG & CHARLIE-2-4 p.m. Yankie Creek Coffee House.

Mardi Gras Extravangza-Bayou Seco and the Silver City String Beans. 7:30 -11 p.m. Little Toad Creek Brewery, 200 N. Bullard.

SYMPOSIUM ON PREPAREDNESS-Through March 8. "The Ember Zone: A Guide to Home Wildfire Assessments in New Mexico" See story in February issue. Aimed at emergency managers,

EVENTS continued after next page

DRY emulsified shampoo onto your Carpet. This immediately starts to break down the dirt. Then ...

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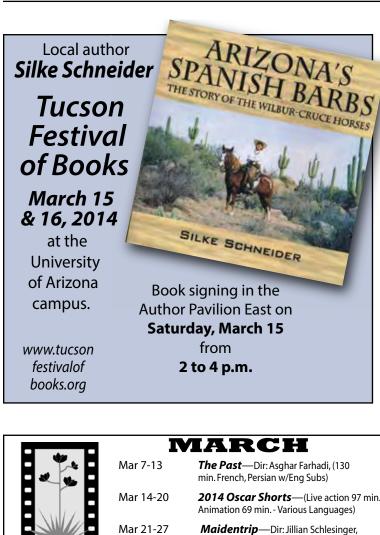
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Mesilla Valley Mar 28-Apr 3 Film Society Gloria—Dir: Sebastian Lelio, (110 min. Spanish w/Eng Subs) Free to Members.

2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla • www.mesillavalleyfilm.org • (575) 524-8287 Shows nightly at 7:30- Sunday Matinee at 2:30

The Foundation Theatree Teaturing the best independent, foreign and alternative films in the Southwest. Home of the Mesilla Valley Film Society since 1989!







all it "spring fever," but March is busting out all over with events in our corner of the Southwest. In Deming, March 6-9 is the 49th Annual Rockhound Roundup gem and mineral show, bringing more than 100 vendors and

countless rockhounds to the Southwest New Mexico State Fairgrounds.

On March 7 at the Buckhorn Opera House in Pinos Altos, the Mimbres Region Arts Council's Folk Series features Americana trio Red Molly. That's Laurie MacAllister (bass, banjo), Abbie Gardner (dobro, banjo) and Molly Venter (guitar), who have recently opened for Willie Nelson and performed at the Rocky-Grass festival. Their CD "Light in the Sky" spent 20 weeks on the Americana Music

Association's Top 40 radio chart.

MRAC's Folk Series wraps up for the season later this month, March 21, also at the Buckhorn Opera House, with Terry Hendrix and Lloyd Maines. Hendrix is an award-winning Texas songwriter, classically trained vocalist and multi-instrumentalist (guitar, mandolin and harmonica). Maines is a Grammy Award-winning country music record producer, musi-

cian and songwriter who started out as a member of the Joe Ely Band in the early 1970s. They've been touring together since 1996.

March 7-8 is also the free Symposium on Preparedness at the WNMU Global Resource Center, which we told you about in-depth last month ("Being Prepared," Tumbleweeds, February). Day one is for the general public, with topics including wildfires, crime, evacuations, food sustainability, and dealing with trauma and loss. Saturday's program, "The Ember Zone: A Guide to Home Wildfire Assessments in New Mexico," is aimed at professionals such as emergency managers, first responders, insurance agents, and landscapers, as well as homeowner organization leaders.

And in this issue we tell you all about the annual Cabalgata Binacional in Columbus on March 8 ("Hooves Across the Border"). Along with the 11th Annual Camp Furlong Day, also March 8 at Pancho Villa State Park, and the 98th Annual Memorial Service, March 9 at the Depot Museum in Columbus, the events commemorate Pancho Villa's 1916 raid. Over in Las Cruces, March 8-9 is the 15th annual Cowboy Days at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum. New this year is the Borderland Pistoleros Mounted Shooting Club, in which riders on horseback demonstrate the fast-growing sport of mounted shooting, using rifles, shotguns and

pistols. Black-powder blanks are used as the riders weave quickly through a course, firing at balloons. The demonstrations will be from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. each day. Flying Cloud Productions will also stage gunfight re-enactments twice each day, and will have an Old West Medicine Show and a 19th Century Fashion Show. You can help decide the fate of a cattle rustler in a livinghistory "trial," and kids can attend a new "Sheriff School." Musical performers on the schedule are Tom Foster Morris, Chris Baker, Randy Granger,

> Bruce Carlson, Washtub Jerry, Kenny Arroyos, James Michael, the Stagecoach Troubadours and Skunk Valley.

he next weekend, on March 15, Grant County marks the 60th anniversary of the locally made film Salt of the Earth. The film was based on the 1951 strike against the Empire Zinc Mine in which Mexican-American workers were barred from picketing and their wives, mothers,

> sisters and daughters took their place on the picket line. The film was made by members of the original "Hollywood Ten," who were blacklisted for refusing to answer Congressional inquiries in the Mc-Carthy era. The commemoration begins with a reception at 10 a.m. at the Union Hall in Bayard, followed by a history tour of Bayard and Hurley, lunch at 1:30 p.m. at the hall, and a reception and film screening from 4-7 p.m. at the WNMU Fine

Arts Center Theatre. The luncheon will feature a performance by the great-niece of Juan Chacón, local union leader featured in the film, Loretta Chacón-Hellerman.

't's all about plants in Silver City the following weekend, with the 4th Annual Home & Gar-**L** den Expo on March 21-22, sponsored by the



Silver City Farmers Market, at the Hwy. 180 conference center. Also on March 21, the Gila Native Plant Society will present Tucson naturalist and artist Mar-



Top: Red Molly. Above: Terry Hendrix.

SAVE the DATE th http://sote60.weebly.com/

Saturday, March 15<u>, 2014</u>

You're invited. Tour the historic Empire Zinc site, film locations and more Grant County landmarks. Listen to elders who were there, and family stories. View the film.



The Gila Native Plant Society's annual sale is on March 22. (Photo by Elroy Limmer)

tha Ames Burgess, speaking WNMU's at

Harlan Hall. That's followed on March 22 by the society's 12th annual Native Plant Pre-Sale and Educational Fair, downtown at 405 N. Bullard St. (the former Workshops of Carneros).

In Deming, western music is in the spotlight, as historic Morgan Hall hosts Miss "V," The Gypsy Cowbelle, on March 22. Then on March 29 it's singer, songwriter, guitar player and storyteller Bill Barwick—you might recognize him as the voice of Encore's Western Movie Channel.

If you're more into astronauts than cowboys, circle March 28, when WILL presents "New Mexico's Century of Leadership in Space Exploration," a talk by Loretta Hall, author and ambassador for the National Space Society, at WNMU's Parotti Hall. Her book, Out of this World: New Mexico's Contribution to Space Travel, will be available for sale and signing. 🕷

EVENTS continued

first responders, Firewise Communities representatives, insurance agents, homeowner organization leaders and landscapers. Led by Ellen Brown of the US Forest Service, Dan Ware of New Mexico Forestry, and veteran firefighter Eliot Pickett. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. WNMU Global Resource Center. scneighborsalliance.com/Symposium2014.html.

VACCINATION CLINIC-9 a.m. noon. High Desert Humane Society, Cougar

Way. WNMU SoftBall vs. CSU -wnmumustanas.com PUEBLO-

Las Cruces/Mesilla

15тн Annual Cowboy Days— Through March 9. The museum's largest event of the year features two days of family fun that include children's activities, cowboy food and music, cowboy mounted shooting, horseback and stagecoach rides, living history, gunfight re-enactments, arts and crafts vendors, roping, horseshoeing and many other demonstrations. 9 a.m. 5 p.m. \$5 over age 5. Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road, 522-4100, www.nmfarmandranchmuseum.

Aunt Raini—Through March 9. See March 2. 7:30 p.m. NMSU Center for the Arts, 1000 E. University Ave. 646-4515, www.nmsutheatre.com/events.

BOURBON LEGEND-High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

CAREY CRANE—Artist reception. 4-6 p.m. Unsettled Gallery, 905 N. Mesquite St., 635-2285, www.unsettledgallery. com.

LU BLEVEANS—Artist reception for show March 1-29. 4-6 p.m. Mesquite Art Gallery, 340 N. Mesquite St., 640-3502

ONE-ACT PLAY WEEKEND-Through March 9. Plays include "Mrs. Sorkin" by Christopher Durang, directed by Ceil Herman; "Phyllis and Xenobia" by Christopher Durang, directed by Marissa Bond; "Freud: A Consuming Passion" by Liz Turner, directed by the playwright; and David Mamet's "The Duck Varia-tions" starring Joe Denk and Jack Ullrich. 8 p.m. \$12, \$10 students/seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall,

523-1223, www.no-strings.org. Psychic Readings—Dawn Cheney. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436.

STORYTELLERS OF LAS CRUCES-Louise O'Donnell. 10:30 a.m. Coas Books Downtown, 317 N. Water St.

STORYTELLERS OF LAS CRUCES-Judith Ames. 10:30 a.m. Coas Books Solano, 1101 S. Solano.

Deming

49TH ANNUAL ROCKHOUND ROUNDUP-Through March 9. Gem and mineral show. Over 100 vendors. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. SWNM State Fairgrounds. thedgms.com

Columbus

11TH ANNUAL CAMP FURLONG Day—Commemorates Pancho Villa's 1916 raid on Columbus with historical talks and slide shows. 1-4 p.m. Pancho Villa State Park, S. Columbus Road, 531 -2711

15th Annual Cabalgata Binacio-NAL—Horseback parade. The annual event promotes friendship between the US and Mexico. See story in this issue. 10 a.m. Columbus plaza, 494-1535 .

SUNDAY DAYLIGHT SAVINGS DAYLIGHI SAVINGS TIME BEGINS Silver City/Grant County MINDFULLY MAKING TRADITIONAL adobes at the retreat to help them add to their building stock pile of adobes. Lunch will be provided; bring your gloves, sun protection, water bottles and prepare to get dirty. Call for directions and to reserve your spot. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. Southwest Sanga, San Lorenzo. 536-9847 WNMU SOFTBALL VS. CSU PUEBLO—Doubleheader. 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. wnmumustangs.com.

up—Gem and mineral show. Over 100 vendors. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. SWNM State Fairgrounds. thedgms.com.

Columbus 98th ANNUAL MEMORIAL SER-

vice—Columbus Historical Society. Remembrance of the Americans whose lives were lost during the 1916 raid on Columbus. 10 a.m. Depot Museum, 531-2620.

MONDAY 1 OSilver City/Grant County Widowed Persons Service

MEETING—Terry Humble will talk about a book by Helen Lundwall, *History of Min-ing in Grant County: 1800-1838.* 11 a. m. \$10 for lunch. Glad Tidings Church 537-3643.

TUESDAY 1 Silver City/Grant County Community Forum—Also March

13. Presentation by members of the community who attended the 2014 New Mexico Organic Farming Conference. Noon-1 p. m. Free. Community Room, behind the Co-op. 388-2343.

try your hand at math trivia, learn how the Egyptians calculated fractions, and marvel at the mathematical patterns embedded in the natural world. 3-7 p.m. Free. Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main St., 541-2154, www.las-cruces. org/museums.

LAS CRUCES ARTS FAIR—Through March 16. Presented by the Doña Ana Arts Council. Opening night festivities include live music provided by Rosa y Ray Renato Dueto Krystal and Remember Then... A Class Act. 5 p.m.-8 p.m. \$6, children under 12 free. \$10 weekend pass. Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave. 523-6403, www.lascruces-arts.org.

ORPHEUS IN THE UNDERWORLD-Through March 16. Doña Ana Lyric Opera. 7:30 p.m. NMSU Atkinson Hall, 1075 N. Horseshoe, 646-2421. www. ticketmaster.com.

Oscar Shorts—Through March 20. Every year, all the short films nominated for Academy Awards are screened, a program designed for completists and the curious alike. Various languages. Nightly 7:30 p.m., Sat. 1:30 and 7:30 p.m., Sun. 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. \$7 regu-lar, \$6 seniors and

students, \$5 MVFS members, children and Weds. Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, 524-8287, mesillavalleyfilm. org. **The Women**

OF LOCKER-BIE—Through March 30. On Dec. 21, 1988, Pan Am Flight 103 exploded in midair as it traveled from London to New York City. Deborah Brevoort based her 2003 poetic drama on

the terrorist attack. The play is written with the structure of a Greek tragedy. In it, a woman whose son died in the bombing discovers a group of women who are trying to collect the victims' clothing, which had been scattered across Lockerbie. They plan to wash 11,000 items as a symbolic gesture, but find resistance from a US official. Brevoort won the Kennedy Center's Fund for New American Plays Award for her script. 8 p.m. \$12, \$10 students/seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523 -1223, www. no-strings.org.

S A T U R D A Y 5 Silver City/Grant County 5 GILA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

LANDSCAPE CLASS—Basic Principles of Landscape Design (class and tour), with James Fitzgerald. 9 a.m.-noon. Members: \$20 series, \$7/session; non-members: \$30 series, \$10/session. WNMU Harlan Hall, room 222. boyd189@ gmail. com.

ROLLING STONES GEM & MINERAL **Society Field Trip**—Contact for details. 8 a.m. 534-1393, rollingstonesgms. blogspot.com.

Salt of the Earth 60th Anniversa-RY CELEBRATION-10 a.m. Union Hall in Bayard, light refreshments. The mining/ strike history tour will include both Bayard and Hurley. 1:30-3 p.m. Lunch at

EVENTS continued on next page







"Mindfully Making Traditional Adobes," March 9 at Southwest Sanga in San Lorenzo.

WEDNESDAY Las Cruces / Mesilla

2 Las Cruces / Miesing HERBAL MEDICINE—Wednesdays through March 26. Deborah Brandt: "Herbs for Skin and Muscle plus Salve Making." 6-7:30 p.m. \$15 members, \$20 non-members, plus \$5. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436. 644-5504, debjbrandt@mac.com.

THURSDAY 3 Silver City/Grant County Rolling Stones Gem & Mineral

Society-Dawn Bell will lead a handson discussion of how to get started in basic wire wrapping for jewelry making. She will bring projects in various stages of completion to demonstrate the techniques. Her discussion will focus on the tools, wire and reference books for wire wrapping. Potluck dinner, bring your own service ware and a dish to share. 6-8 p.m. Senior Center, 204 W. Vic-toria St., 534-1393, rollingstonesgms. blogspot.com.

COMMUNITY FORUM—Presentation by members of the community who attended the 2014 New Mexico Organic Farming Conference. Noon-1 p. m. Free. Community Room, behind the Co-op. 388-2343

SOUTHWEST NEW MEXICO GREEN CHAMBER—Monthly meeting. Guest speaker: Jon Saari, Grant County manager. Little Toad Tavern, 200 N. Bullard St. (back room).

Las Cruces/Mesilla

BIG BAND DANCE CLUB-Jim Helder's St. Patrick Dance, Wear some

Las Cruces/Mesilla 15th Annual Cowboy Days—See March 8. Pat Howard's working/herding dogs Sunday only. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. \$5 over age 5. Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road, 522-4100, www. nmfarmandranchmuseum.org

AUNT RAINI-See March 2. 2 p.m. NMSU Center for the Arts, 1000 É. University Ave. 646-4515, www.nmsutheatre.com/events.

ONE-ACT PLAY WEEKEND-See March 8. 3 p.m. \$12, \$10 students/ seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, www.nostrings.org

Deming **49TH ANNUAL ROCKHOUND ROUND-** green. 8-10 p.m. \$9 non-members, \$7 members. Court Youth Center, 402 W. Court St. 526-6504.

DISORDERLY CONDUCT—Comedian Jeff Dunham and his cast of characters kick off of the winter leg of their worldwide tour. 7:30 p.m. Pan Am Center, 646-1420, (800) 745-3000, panam. nmsu.edu, ticketmaster.com.

TROUBLE IN THE WEST-High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

FRIDAY Silver City/Grant County 4GREG AND CHARLIE-6-9 p. m Free. Diane's Parlor, 501 N. Bullard. SOUTHWEST REGIONAL NON-PROFIT **RESOURCE CONFERENCE**—Workshops, networking and consultations. Lunch

available. Pre-register by March 7. 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Business and Conference Center, 3031 Hwy. 180 E. 388-1198, healthcouncil@grmc.org. VOLUNTEER SOCIAL—Come and meet

volunteers and learn about how you can be involved. 1 p.m. Free. Silver City Museum Annex, 302 W. Broadway, 538-5921, www.silvercitymuseum.org.

Las Cruces/Mesilla CELEBRATE MATH ON PI DAY-Come Deming Gem & Miner 1 **Public Invited** Deming Gem & Mineral Society, Inc. **Free Parking 49th Annual Rockhound Roundup Free Admission** Gem & Mineral Show Displays **Jewelry Sales Over 100 Vendors** amo **Guided Field Trips Educational Demonstrations Rocks & Rock Related Items For Sale** Friday Nite Silent Auction - Saturday Nite Live Auction March 6-9, 2014 9 a.m. - 5 pm. (Thurs.- Sun.) Location: S.W.NewMexico State Fairgrounds in Deming, New Mexico "LARGEST CLUB SHOW IN THE SOUTHWEST"

Visit our website at: www.thedgms.com NEW MEXICO True Contact: Marilyn Page - 575-544-9019 or Fran Chavez-931-205-0909

EVENTS continued

Union Hall in Bayard. 4 p.m. Welcoming music, panel discussion moderated by Erica Willis. Includes "Women of Steel," on some of today's issues. Screening of Grant County promo film and Salt of the Earth at the WNMU Fine Arts Center Theatre. 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Juan Chacon Union Hall, Hwy. 180E, Bayard. WNMU Fine Arts Center Theatre.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

ARCHAEOLOGY DAY—Archaeologists from the Bureau of Land Management, the Forest Service, NMSU and regional archaeological firms will bring their profession to the public. Learn how to flint-knap, weave, make yucca string, coil a pot, or map an archaeological site. 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Free. Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main St., 541-2154, www.las-cruces.org/museums.

DESERT BABY-WEARERS-Monthly meeting. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436.

LAS CRUCES ARTS FAIR—Through March 16. Presented by the Doña Ana Arts Council. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. \$6, children under 12 free, \$10 weekend pass. Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave. 523-6403, www.las-cruces-arts.org.

ORPHEUS IN THE UNDERWORLD-Through March 16. Doña Ana Lyric Opera. 7:30 p.m. NMSU Atkinson Hall, 1075 N. Horseshoe, 646-2421. www. ticketmaster.com.

SAVING DAMSELS-High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752. Storytellers of Las Cruces—Terry

Alvarez. 10:30 a.m. Coas Books Downtown, 317 N. Water St.

STORYTELLERS OF LAS CRUCES-Gloria Hacker. 10:30 a.m. Coas Books Solano, 1101 S. Solano.

THE WOMEN OF LOCKERBIE-Through March 30. See March 14. 8 p.m. \$12, \$10 students/seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, www.no-strings.org

Deming

COMMUNITY YARD SALE-Have your organization, business or private individual bring their items they wish to sell. All proceeds are kept by the seller. Co-hosted by Keep Luna County Beautiful and Deming-Luna County Chamber of Commerce. 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Courthouse Park. 46-2674, 536-6643.

SUNDAY Silver City/Grant County

Southwest genre. 2 p.m. Free. Silver City Museum, 312 W. Broadway, 538-5921, www.silvercitymuseum.org.

ANNUAL MEETING/DINNER-Bridge Community. Music by Gerri Kalish, presentation on feasibility study. Corned beef and cabbage dinner. 5 p.m. Donation. First United Methodist Church, 314 W. College. 538-5754.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

COMPASSION & CHOICES-W. Terrence Meyer, MD, will present "Quality of Function as a Guide to Advance Health Care Decisions." 1:30-3 p.m. Branigan Library, Roadrunner Room. 527-8432, jnaomiscott@comcast.net.

LAS CRUCES ARTS FAIR—Presented

by the Doña Ana Arts Council. 10 a.m. -5 p.m. \$6, children under 12 free, \$10 weekend pass. Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave. 523-6403, www.lascruces-arts.org.

ORPHEUS IN THE UNDERWORLD-Doña Ana Lyric Opera. 3 p.m. NMSU Atkinson Hall, 1075 N. Horseshoe, 646-2421. www.ticketmaster.com.

MONDAY St. Patrick's Day 17

TUESDAY 1 OSilver City/Grant County OGREG RENFRO AND KEVIN COMP-

том—6-9 р.т. Free. Diane's Parlor, 501 N. Bullard.

W E D N E S D A Y **Das Cruces / Mesilla** HERBAL MEDICINE—Wednesdays

through March 26. Deborah Brandt: "Herbs for Cardiovascular Health." 6-7:30 p.m. \$15 members, \$20 nonmembers. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436. 644-5504,

debjbrandt@mac.com. NMSU SoftBALL—Vs. UNM. 5:30 p.m. NMSU Softball Complex, nmstatesports.com.

THURSDAY SPRING BEGINS Silver City/Grant County 20 NEWCOMERS CLUB-Hi-Lo Silvers musical program. 11 a.m. meeting, 12

p.m. luncheon \$10. Woman's Club, 411 Silver Heights Blvd. (480) 518-5839, lindasylvester@msn.com. SEED-SAVING WORKSHOP-With

Alicia Edwards and George Farmer. The Commons, 13th and Corbin.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

Big BAND DANCE CLUB—DJ, Dave Kibler. 8-10 p.m. \$7. Court Youth Cen-ter, 402 W. Court St. 526-6504.

EAT SMART LIVE WELL-Allergies Wellness Class. 5-6 p.m. Members free, \$3. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436.

MISTY BOYCE & TIFFANY CHRISTO-**PHER**—High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

SPIRITUAL PSYCHIC TAROT READINGS-Linda Marlena Carr. 2-5 p.m. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436. VEGAN SUPPORT GROUP-7-8 p.m.

Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436.

FRIDAY

Silver City/Grant County 21 SILVER CITY, C. L. GARDEN

Expo—Through March 22. Sponsored by the Silver City Farmers Market. Local suppliers and services: home improvement, gardening, art and more. Gardening and seed saving free workshops. Gardening activities for kids. Noon-8 p.m. \$3, under 12 free. Business and Conference Center, 3031 Hwy. 180 E

GILA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY-Martha Ames Burgess will present "Incredible Edibles from the Sonoran and Neighboring Deserts." 7 p.m. Free. WNMU Har-lan Hall, room 110. (240) 463-0107, www.gnps.org.



TERRI HENDRIX AND LLOYD MAINES-

Songwriter, performer and recording artist, with more than a dozen albums including blues, folk, story songs, ballads, folk-rock, country and New Orleans-style jazz and jazz swing. MRAC Indie/Folk Series. 7:30 p.m. \$20, \$15 members. Buckhorn Opera House, Pinos Altos. mimbresarts.org

Las Cruces/Mesilla

MAIDENTRIP—Through March 27. The film downplays the go-for-glory aspect of the tale (a 14-year-old adolescent mariner's aim is to become the youngest person ever to sail around the world) to focus on more earthly matters like the isolation and loneliness of the voyage or the lingering effects of the divorce that irrevocably shaped Laura Dekker's life. Nightly 7:30 p.m., Sat. 1:30 and 7:30 p.m., Sun. 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. \$7 regular, \$6 seniors and students, free to MVFS members, children and Weds Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, 524-8287, mesillavalleyfilm. org. NMSU WOMEN'S TENNIS-Vs.

UNM. 2 p.m. NMSU courts. THE WOMEN OF LOCKERBIE—Through March 30. See March 14. 8 p.m. \$12, \$10 students/seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, www.no-strings.org.

S A T U R D A Y 22Silver City/Grant County 12TH ANNUAL NATIVE PLANT SALE—The Pre-Sale and Educational Fair provides a great opportunity to learn about native plants in this area. View slide show, consult with landscape designers, use reference books, and place your order. 9 a.m.-noon. 405 N. Bullard (formerly Workshops of Caneros). www. gilanps.org.

4th ANNUAL HOME & GARDEN **Expo**—See March 21. 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. \$3, under 12 free. Business and Conference Center, 3031 Hwy. 180 E

COMMUNITY DANCE—Big Ditch Crickets. 7-10 p.m. \$5, under 12 free. Round-Up Lodge, San Lorenzo. 388-1727

FORT BAYARD TOUR—Fort Bayard National Historic Landmark Tours begin at the Museum next to the Historic Parade Ground. Walking is moderate. Two hours. 9:30 a.m.

PFLAG SILVER CITY BENEFIT **DANCE**—Featuring The Roadrunners. Costumes welcome. 9 p.m.-midnight. \$10 donation. Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery, Broadway and Bullard. 590-8797

PUSHING THE LIMITS DISCUSSION SE-**RIES 2: KNOWLEDGE**—Interactive discussion on Jean Auel's The Land of Painted Caves and themes of knowledge and science. "Pushing the Limits" is a reading, viewing and discussion program for adults in communities served by rural libraries, made possible by a grant from the National Science Foundation. Call or email to sign up. 10-11 a.m. Free. Public Library, 515 W. College Ave., 538-3672, ref@silvercitymail.com

SAN PATRICIO TRAIL 10K-Celebrate the Good Saint by racing up Table Mountain for hypoxic views of old Mexico. Wash down your post-race corned beef and cabbage with a pint of Guinness. 9 a.m. \$18.47 race entry. City of Rocks State Park. 574-2902, mrgreendreams@msn.com.

STARS-N-PARKS—Jupiter, Orion and Sirius past the meridian. Mars rises at 8:43 p.m. just northeast of Spica, Ursa Major high in the east. Presenter: Matt Wilson. 8:30 p.m. \$5 day-use fee or park pass. City of Rocks State Park, Hwy. 61. www.astro-npo.org.

THE LOOSE BLUES BAND-6-9 p.m.

THE WOMEN OF LOCKERBIE—Through March 30. See March 14. 8 p.m. \$12, \$10 students/seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, www.no-strings.org.

TRAVELLING BROKE & OUT OF GAS-High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-67.52

WINE AND CHEESE PAIRINGS-With local wine from Amaro Winery. 12 -4 p.m. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436.

Deming

MISS "V" THE GYPSY COWBELLE-The Gypsy Cowbelle is the quintessential singer/songwriter who has a fascinating personal story that is reflected in her music and presentation. 2 p.m. \$10, \$8 members. Historic Morgan Hall, 109 E. Pine St. 545-8872.

S U N D A Y 23 Silver City/Grant County OLD FASHIONED AFTERNOON

TEA—Sponsored by Blackwell's and Silver City Mainstreet. Fundraiser. Tickets available at Blackwell's. 3:30-5:30 p.m. \$50. Sunset Room, 2nd floor, WNMU Student Memorial

Building, 1000 W. College. 388-1737.

WNMU

SOFTBALL-Vs. University of Colorado-Colorado Springs (DH). 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. wnmumustangs. com.

Las Cruces/ Mesilla REMEMBER

THEN... A CLASS Act—The band has returning members Rudy Apodaca, Royce Bandel, Lynn

Boettiecher, Ron Leone, Barb Edmonds, Phil Holmes and Ruben Smith. They will perform such classics as "At the Hop," "Pretty Woman" and "Why Do Fools Fall in Love." 2 p. m. \$15 at door, \$12 advance. Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Downtown Mall, 523-6403, www. riograndetheatre.com.

THE WOMEN OF LOCKERBIE—Through March 30. See March 14. 2:30 p.m. \$12, \$10 students/seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, www.no-strings.org.

White Sands

25th Annual Bataan Death MARCH—The Bataan Memorial Death March is a challenging march through the high desert terrain of White Sands Missile Range, conducted in honor of the heroic service members who defended the Philippine Islands during World War II, sacrificing their freedom, health and, in many cases, their lives. 678-1134. www.bataanmarch.com.

TUESDAY 25 Silver City/Grant County Town and Country Garden CLUB—The program will be "Geology

Under our Feet in Grant County." 1 p.m. Free. Good Shepherd Episcopal Church. 388-1705.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

GLUTEN-FREE FLATBREADS—Recipes will include pizza crust, focaccia, naan, pita bread. 5-6:30 p.m. Free. Mountain iew Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436.

NMSU BASEBALL-Vs. UNM. 3:05 p.m. NMSU Presley Askew Field, 646 1420, 532-2060, nmstatesports.com.

NMSU SOFTBALL-Vs. UTEP. 6 p.m.

features the likenesses of ordinary and influential New Mexicans as drawn by Harry Samuel Palmer. 5 p.m. Free. Public Library, 515 W. College Ave., 538-3672.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

BIG BAND DANCE CLUB-High Society Orchestra. Anniversary dance, finger food, formal. 8-10 p.m. \$9 non-members, \$7 members. Court Youth Center, 402 W. Court St., 526-6504.

CALLOW—High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

EAT SMART LIVE WELL-Allergies Cooking Class. 5-6 p.m. Members free, \$3. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436.

IN-DEPTH LOOK AT BUTTONS-This workshop, aimed at adults, will focus on the kinds of historical, economic and social information that can be revealed through the careful study of buttons. 1 p.m. Free. Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main St., 541-2154, www.las-cruces. org/museums.

THE WOMEN OF LOCKERBIE—Through March 30. See March 14. 7 p.m. \$12, \$10 students/seniors. Black Box Theatre,



Albuquerque jazz group Le Chat Lunatique performs March 30 in Hillsboro.

430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, www.no-strings.org.

F R I D A Y 28 Silver City/Grant County New Mexico's Century of Lead-**ERSHIP IN SPACE EXPLORATION**—Loretta Hall, author and space ambassador for the National Space Society, will share New Mexico's crucial contributions to manned space flight since Robert Goddard arrived in Roswell in 1930. Western Institute for Lifelong Learning (WILL). 6 p.m. Free. WNMŬ Parotti Hall, 538-6835, info@will-learning.com, www. will-learning.com.

SILVER CITY ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY-'The Aurora: What? How? Where? And What's that Got to Do with Solar Maximum?" by Randy Carr. Northern Lights (aurora borealis as seen at the North Pole) and Southern Lights (aurora australis at the South Pole) have mystified and intrigued human beings for thousands of years. What causes them? How are they created? Where do they occur? This presentation will answer these questions and update the audience with stunning new images of aurora as our Sun approached and reached Solar Maximum. 6:30 p.m. Free. WNMU Student Memorial Building, 3rd floor across from coffee shop. silvercityofstars@gmail.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

GLORIA-Through April 3. A divorced woman in her late 50s recaptures her life in Sebastian Lelio's film. Lelio refuses to adopt the industry's ageist slant, presenting a woman (Paulina Garcia) of undisguised sexuality seeking to be the center of life for the man she loves. In Spanish with English subtitles. Nightly 7:30 p.m., Sat. 1:30 and 7:30 p.m., Śun. 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. \$7 regular, \$6 seniors and students, \$5 MVFS members, children and Weds. Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, 524-8287, mesillavalleyfilm.org. NMSU BaseBall—Vs. Sacramento State. 6:05 p.m. NMSU Presley Askew Field, 646-1420, 532-2060, nmstatesports.com.





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p.m. Downtown location TBA. 388-5202 313-7278

WNMU SOFTBALL—Vs. University of Colorado-Colorado Springs (DH). 12 and 2 p.m. wnmumustangs.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla ANNUAL WHEELS OF DREAMS CAR **SHOW**—Street rods, classic and custom cars, classic, custom trucks, newer muscle cars. Free for spectators. Field of Dreams parking lot, 2501 W. Tashiro Road. 993-9471, 523-1237, 649-1646, rodrunnerscarclub.com.

CAREY CRANE—Artist talk. 1:30-2:30 p.m. Unsettled Gallery, 905 N. Mesquite St., 635-2285, www.unsettledgallery. com

NMSU EQUESTRIAN—Vs. West Texas A&M. Time TBA. NMSU Equestrian Campus, Stewart and Union, 646-1211, nmstatesports.com.

NMSU MEN'S TENNIS-Vs. UNM. 1 p.m. NMSU courts.

STORYTELLERS OF LAS CRUCES-Douglas Jackson. 10:30 a.m. Coas Books Downtown, 317 N. Water St. STORYTELLERS OF LAS CRUCES—Sonya

Weiner. 10:30 a.m. Coas Books Solano, 1101 S. Solano.

NMSU Sottball Complex, nmstatesports. com.

WEDNESDAY 26 Silver City/Grant County Love Is Respect—A community

response to domestic violence. Western Institute for Lifelong Learning (WILL) special panel discussion that explores how our local community responds to and addresses domestic violence. Featured panelists include District Attorney Francesca Martinez-Estevez plus representatives from the Grant County Sheriff's Office, El Refugio and the spiritual community. 6 p.m. Free. WNMU Miller Library, 538-6835, info@will-learning. com, www.will-learning.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

HERBAL MEDICINE—Deborah Brandt: "Endocrine/Hormone Health." 6 -7:30 p.m. \$15 members, \$20 non-members. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436. 644 -5504, debjbrandt@ mac.com.

THURSDAY 7Silver City/Grant County 27Silver City/ Gram Comment Hamm will discuss his latest book, New Mexico Territorial Era Caricatures, which

NMSU SOFTBALL-Vs. Seattle U. 6 p.m. NMSU Softball Complex, nmstatesports.com.

THE LION IN WINTER-Through April 13. By James Goldman. King Henry II of England has three sons by Eleanor of Aquitaine: Richard, Geoffrey and John. He wants the kingdom to stay united after his death, but all three sons want to rule and it is likely to be torn apart by revolution. Henry favors the youngest, John, while Eleanor favors the eldest, Richard. Middle son Geoffrey hopes to play both ends against each other and come out on top. Henry would like to have another heir by his mistress, Alais, but that would only add to the confusion. Often revived, this play was the basis of the Oscar-winning film that starred Peter O'Toole and Katharine Hepburn. 8 p.m.

\$10, \$9 student/senior/military, \$6 under 6. Las Cruces Community Theater, 313 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1200, www.lcctnm.org.

THE WOMEN OF LOCKERBIE-Through March 30. See March 14. 8 p.m. \$12, \$10 students/seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, www.no-strings.org.

S A T U R D A Y 20 Silver City/Grant County Astronomical Observations-Observations begin at Sunset, and

please use only red flashlights, approach the Orion Group Campsite with only your auto's parking lights, and dress warmly in layers. 6 p.m. City of Rocks State Park, 327 Hwy. 61, Faywood.

GILA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY LAND-SCAPE CLASS—"Planting, Pruning and Plant Maintenance" (workshop), with Elroy Limmer. 10 a.m.-noon. Members: \$20 series, \$7/session; non-members: \$30 series, \$10/session. WNMU Harlan Hall, room 222. boyd189@gmail. com.

GUATEMALAN MARKET SPRING SALE-Colorful, handcrafted items will fill the gallery space. Extensive selection of handmade weavings created by Guate malan artisans and offered for sale by Curt and Sonia Porter, longtime vendors of Guatemalan textiles. Items for sale will include woven scarves and shawls, coats and vests, jewelry, more. 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mimbres Region Arts Council, 1201 Pope St., 538-2505, info@mimbresarts.org, www.mimbresarts.org.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Basic Dowsing Class-Learn the basics of dowsing (questing, divining, water witching), how to use the four basic dowsing tools, and the benefits associated with dowsing. 1-3:30 p.m. \$15, members \$12. Pre-register. Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road, 522-4100, www.

nmfarmandranchmuseum.org. DIY Sprouting—How to sprout your favorite seeds to eat on salads or in sandwiches and wraps. 12-1 p.m. Members \$10, non-members \$13. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436.

MESILLA VALLEY POSTAGE STAMP Sноw—Through March 30. Stamp collectors and the general public of all ages are invited. Stamp dealers from five states, door prizes, free stamps for junior stamp collectors, competitive one-frame exhibitions, ribbons for winning exhibits. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave. 202-1937. **NMSU BASEBALL**—Vs. Sacramento

State. 6:05 p.m. NMSU Presley Askew Field, 646-1420, 532-2060, nmstatesports.com

NMSU SOFTBALL—Vs. Seattle U. 4 and 6 p.m. NMSU Softball Complex, nmstatesports.com.

STEFAN GEORGE-High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752. STORYTELLERS OF LAS CRUCES-Douglas Jackson. 10:30 a.m. Coas Books

Downtown, 317 N. Water St. STORYTELLERS OF LAS CRUCES—Jean

Gilbert. 10:30 a.m. Coas Books Solano, 1101 S. Solano.

THE LION IN WINTER-Through April 13. See March 28. 8 p.m. \$10, \$9 student/senior/military, \$6 under
6. Las Cruces Community Theater, 313
N. Downtown Mall, 523-1200, www. lcctnm.or

THE WOMEN OF LOCKERBIE-Through March 30. See March 14. 8 p.m. \$12, \$10 students/seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223,

Deming

BILL BARWICK-Singing, songwriting, storytelling and guitar. Voice of Encore's Western Movie Channel. 2 p.m. \$10, \$8 members. Historic Morgan Hall, 109 E. Pine St. 545-8872.

S U N D A Y 30 Las Cruces / Mesilla Mesilla Valley Postage Stamp

Sноw—See March 29. 10 а.т.-4 p.m. Free. Convention Center, 680 East University Ave. 202-1937.

NMSU BASEBALL—Vs. Sacramento State. 12:05 p.m. NMSU Presley Askew Field, 646-1420, 532-2060, nmstatesports.com.

THE LION IN WINTER-Through April 13. See March 28. 2 p.m. \$10, \$9 student/senior/military, \$6 under
6. Las Cruces Community Theater, 313
N. Downtown Mall, 523-1200, www.

Icctnm.org. THE WOMEN OF LOCKERBIE—See March 14. 2:30 p.m. \$12, \$10 stu-dents/seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, www. no-strings.org.

Hillsboro

LE CHAT LUNATIQUE-Virtuoso jazz group Le Chat Lunatique (The Crazy Cat) blends a repertoire of classic Django Reinhardt and Stéphane Grappelli compositions with western swing, classical, reggae, doo-wop and original songs. Voted Albuquerque's Best Jazz Band 2007 through 2013. 3 p.m. \$5. Hillsboro Community Center, Eleanora Street. www.blackrange.org.

APRIL WEDNESDAY **∩Las Cruces / Mesilla**

ZNMSU WOMEN'S TENNIS-Vs. WNMU. 2 p.m. NMSU courts.

FRIDAY

Silver City/Grant County One-Day University—This annual free program features a university experience with three WNMU faculty offering lectures in their fields of study, accompanied by a cookout lunch and a post-lecture tour of Mustang Village with Matthew Lara. Western Institute for Lifelong Learning (WILL). Advance registration required by contacting Linda McArthur at 538-6342 or Linda. McArthur@wnmu.edu. 8 a.m. check-in. Free. WNMU Global Resource Center, 538-6835, info@will- learning.com, www.will-learning.com.

WNMU TENNIS—Vs. Colorado-Mesa. 1 p.m. wnmumustangs.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla NMSU WOMEN'S TENNIS-Vs.

Tarleton State. 2 p.m. NMSU courts. THE LION IN WINTER-Through April 13. See March 28. 8 p.m. \$10, \$9 student/senior/military, \$6 under 6. Las Cruces Community Theater, 313 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1200, www.lcctnm.org.

SATURDAY 5 Silver City/Grant County 5 Gila Native Plant Society Land-

SCAPE CLASS—Basics of Drip Irrigation (workshop), with George Farmer. 9 a.m.-noon. Members: \$20 series, \$7/ session; non-members: \$30 series, \$10/ session. WNMU Harlan Hall, room 222.

boyd189@gmail.com. Cooking CLass—"Easter Breads & Desserts." 11 a.m. Shevek & Co., 602 N. Bullard St., 534-9168, silver-eats.com.

WNMU SOFTBALL-Vs. Colorado Mines (DH) 12 and 2 p.m. wnmumus-

WNMU TENNIS—Vs. Colorado Christian. 9 a.m. wnmumustangs.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

AQUAPONICS WORKSHOP—Aquapon-ics is an innovative, sustainable growing system where fish and plants are grown together, mutually benefiting each other. Pre- registration required. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. \$15 members, \$20 non-members. MVM Farm, 2653 Snow Road, 523-0436, www.mountainviewmarket.coop, mvmoutreach@gmail.com.

CLASSICS FIVE-Also April 6. NMSU Symphony. Ottorino Respighi, Ancient Airs and Dances; Franz Joseph Haydn, Concerto for Trumpet; Aaron Copland, Quiet City; Felix Mendelssohn, Symphony No. 3 (Scottish). 7:30 p.m. NMSU Átkinson Hall, 1075 N. Horseshoe, 646-2421. 646-3709, lascrucessymphony.org.

THE LION IN WINTER-Through April 13. See March 28. 8 p.m. \$10, \$9 student/senior/military, \$6 under 6. Las Cruces Community Theater, 313 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1200, www. lcctnm.org

White Sands

TRINITY SITE TOUR—The Trinity Site is the location of the first atomic bomb explosion. The site is open to the public twice a year. White Sands Missile Range, 678-1134, www. wsmr.army.mil. 6 a.m.-12:42 p.m.

S U N D A Y Silver City/Grant County

OSTEVE SMITH AND TIM MAY-Library Concert Series. An afternoon of original, traditional and swing music with mandolinist/vocalist Steve Smith and Nashville guitarist Tim May. Smith is known as one of this country's top mandolin players and for his work with roots/bluegrass group The Hard Road Trio. Flat picker May has been working in the Nashville area for over 20 years as a sideman, session player, band member and performer. He has toured with Patty Loveless and John Cowan, and worked as a regular on the Grand Ole Opry with Mike Snider. 2 p.m. Free. Public Library,

515 W. College Ave. WNMU SoftBall—Vs. Colorado Mines (DH). 11 а.т. and 1 p.т. wnmumustangs.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

CLASSICS FIVE—See April 5. 3 p.m. NMSU Atkinson Hall, 1075 N. Horseshoe, 646-2421. 646-3709, lascru-

cessymphony.org. **THE LION IN WINTER**—Through April 13. See March 28. 2 p.m. \$10, \$9 student/senior/military, \$6 under6. Las Cruces Community Theater, 313 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1200, www. lcctnm.org. 🕷



BEFORE YOU GO:

Note that events listings are subject to change and to human error! Please confirm all dates, times and locations.

New Mexico Workforce Connection

Deming Career Fair Thursday, March 6, 2014 10:00am - 2:00pm **Deming Convention Center**

Special Thanks to Co-Sponsors:

 Arizona Workforce Connection-Cochise/Graham/Greenlee SEAGO-Southeastern Arizona Governments Organization SWNMCOG-Southwest New Mexico Council of Governments Western New Mexico University
 Deming Headlight
 Hidalgo Herald

Benefits of Attending

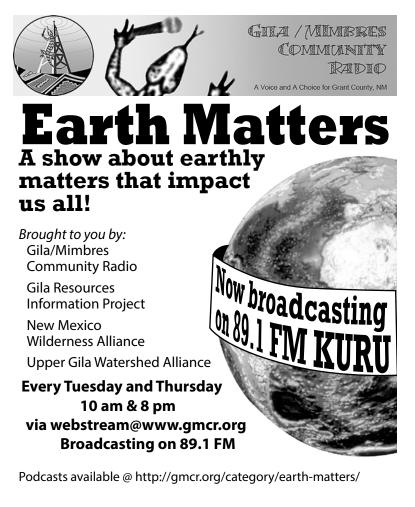
Meet Hiring Employers

 Locate Community Resources for Job Search

Research Educational Training **Opportunities**

Visit New Mexico Workforce Connection's website for more information: https://www.jobs.state.nm.us/

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities



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CONTINENTAL DIVIDE . DAVID A. FRYXELL

Feeling Fuelish

The making of a Bad Samaritan.

Journalists love to report heart-warming stories of people "making a difference" (as "NBC Nightly News" dubs its series about regular folks doing good). Despite what you might think of the media's penchant for negative news, give us a human-interest feel-good story to contrast with the latest shooting or factory closing or overseas conflict and we're all over it. People helping their neighbors, rescuing stray pets, overcoming obstacles, exceeding expectations—we love that stuff. Nothing beats a story that affirms the basic goodness of human nature.

This is not one of those stories.

Sad to say, this is a tale without a happy ending, wherein one's most cynical assumptions about humanity's basic flawed-ness are proven all too true. Trust no one, assume everyone is out to rip you off, and you won't be disappointed. At best, this is a brief tale of disappointment, of a fella too lazy or uncaring to keep his word. At worst, it's a deliberate scam (albeit a ridiculously minuscule one) or even what an old-school crook might call "casing the joint."

But I'm getting ahead of myself. Here's what happened—you tell me what was really going on. One Friday morning, with *Desert Exposure* mostly put to bed, we were indulging in one of the pleasures afforded the self-employed and lounging around still in our pajamas, reading the papers on our iPads. (Before you get too envious, keep in mind that the self-employed also get

to work plenty of nights and weekends.) It was a little before nine, quiet in the house, and we certainly weren't expecting visitors. So when the doorbell rang, we jumped. Who the heck?

I managed to outwait my wife for the chore of going to the door. There, she was greeted by a man in his 30s (she guessed) who explained in a rush that he'd run

out of gas. (She couldn't actually see his car, but our house is downhill from the road, so it could have been just out of sight. Or—he seemed a bit out of breath—he could have walked, as ours would have been the first house he'd come to for a long block or so.) He asked if her husband was available and if we had a can with any gas in it.

I was of course available, if not exactly dressed for scrounging in the garage. But as regular readers know, machinery and its accouterments fall solidly under my wife's jurisdiction. The power tools are hers, and she's the one who knows how to operate the trimmer with which we occasionally whack down the weeds to reduce the fire danger to our house. That trimmer did indeed have a red plastic can of slightly aged gasoline sitting beside it in the garage.

So it was my wife, not I, who went through the house and came out the garage, gas can in hand, to play Good Samaritan. She told him to use the gas and then just leave the can outside the house when he was done.

No, no, the stranded motorist insisted. He would take our can to the gas station—there's one about a mile and a half from our house—and refill it, then drop it back at our house. My wife told him that wasn't necessary, but he was quite insistent. Finally, promises still flowing from his lips, he walked off with the gas can.

When the line between trusting and gullible is a thin one, easily crossed by strangers lacking a moral compass. We had been taken advantage of in another Good Samaritan situation, more blatantly and obviously expensively, some years back when we lived in Cincinnati. As the morning of the stranded motorist wore on with no sign of his return, my thoughts went back to that Cincinnati incident I'd almost forgotten.

As I recall, it was also a morning—in this case, before we both left for work (having not yet joined the pajama-clad ranks of the self-employed). We lived in a big, creaky turn-of-the-century (the previous century, that is) Victorian house in a nice neighborhood that was nonetheless uncomfortably close to a not-so-nice neighborhood. The doorbell rang unexpectedly, sending our dog of the time into a paroxysm of barking.

While one of us restrained our corgi, the other (I've forgotten by now who did what) answered the door. (Let me note here the challenge of thinking clearheadedly in the morning, not fully caffeinated, while a dog barks insanely, lest you think us hopelessly naïve as this story unfolds.) The desperate-sounding man on our front porch explained that his daughter was ill and needed immediate medical attention, but his car wouldn't start. Would we lend him \$20 (I think it was) for cab fare so he could take her to the doctor?

Our initial, foggy-headed hesitation was overcome by the man's apparent sincerity and his promise to return and pay us back. "Here's the key to my house," he went on, thrusting forward a silver key. "You keep it until I get back."

Now, it's true that he did not volunteer the address of the house to which this key supposedly belonged. But it seemed such an incontrovertible sign of honesty—not to mention desperation—that we exchanged the requested \$20 for the key. Surely, we thought, he would return with our money to retrieve his key that very afternoon or early evening, when we came home from work and he'd gotten treatment for his daughter.

Of course, we never saw the "cab fare" or the man again. The bogus key hung on a nail on the inside of our front door from then on, a shiny silver reminder not to be taken in.

espite this memory, we kept eyeing the front of our house for the reappearance of our gas can—refilled, as promised. When I walked out to the road to check the mailbox, I looked for the gas can; maybe he'd left it by the street, so not to disturb us again. As Friday wore on, we reasoned that he'd been on his way to work, so he likely couldn't return until day's end. Or, we told ourselves as night fell, the next day, Saturday. Or perhaps Monday morning, on his way to work again....

It's been a week now, and we've given up glancing out the front windows in hopes of spotting a cheery red gas can, filled with fuel and reassurance about the essential goodness of our fellow man. Most likely, we tell ourselves, the stranded motorist forgot where we lived or was simply too lazy and unappreciative to fulfill his fervent promise. Perhaps once he'd filled up his car he could no longer afford extra gas for the can. (But then couldn't he at least have dropped off the empty can?)

If this was a scam and the man hadn't run out of gas at all, it's a peculiar and not very profitable one. He netted a \$10 plastic gas can and maybe another \$10 worth of fuel—hardly the work of a master criminal. Nor could his ill-gotten gains be readily turned into cash.

Could it be that the whole gasoline thing was merely a ruse, and that the "stranded motorist" rang our doorbell to test whether anyone was home? Was this some new technique for "casing" a house prior to burglarizing it?

I even called the sheriff's department to inquire whether they'd had any similar reports, but the deputy whose answering machine I was directed to never got back to me.

I felt a little better after a Google search for "gas can scam" and "out of gas casing house" came up dry. Those who prey on the good-hearted and naïve tend to ask for cash, purportedly to spend on refilling an empty tank, not for the slushier currency of actual gasoline (which is indeed highly "liquid," but not in the way drug lords and other miscreants mean). The cab-fare scam we fell for in Cincinnati, however, is still quite popular—complete with "house key" surety.

So we're left to think... what? We were again naive? We were victimized, albeit in a weirdly minor way? Our morning visitor was simply an ingrate? We have no "house key" to remind us next time to be more hard-headed and hard-hearted. But I am posting the Grant County Dispatch phone number by the door, just in case. The next time, if there is one, some stranger rings our bell with a plea for help, we'll volunteer to call the sheriff to come assist. We'll see how that plays out.

In the meantime, who knows? Maybe a red gas can, sloshing with the goodness of humankind, will still show up on our doorstep.

Then, however belatedly, this could be one of those feel-good stories instead. 3

David A. Fryxell tries not to be too cynical as editor of Desert Exposure.



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& flagstone patio. 3 car detached

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