

# DESERT exposure

BIGGEST LITTLE PAPER IN THE SOUTHWEST



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Palomas orphanage's new mission, page 26



Bee wrangling, page 28

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**Jean Chandanais Bohlender**. Read more about the artist in this  
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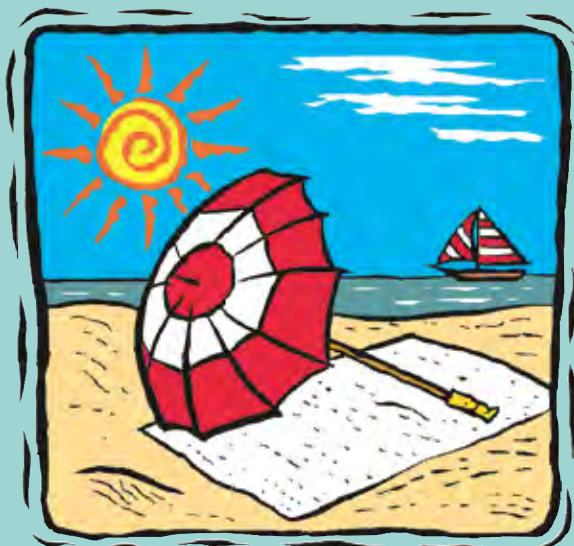
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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK • DAVID A. FRYXELL

## Regressive "Progress"

Should Grant County really tax the poor to build a multiplex?

Given the dismal track record of "economic development" in Grant County (see: Stream call center), it's perhaps not surprising that the latest such brainstorm should take the form of a tax increase. Those of you who passed Econ 101 and are already shaking your heads may be dismissed now, but others may want to read on—because it gets worse.

The tax in question is the regressive and business-stifling gross receipts tax, which local governments mysteriously seem to view as magical free money (see: Spaceport tax). And the beneficiaries of this tax largesse would not be relocating manufacturers, other job creators or even another call center, but rather swimmers, baseball fans, moviegoers, conference attendees and golfers.

Moreover, a significant chunk of the money poached from minimum-wage workers when they purchase toilet paper, laundry soap or pet food would be funneled to Western New Mexico University. The funds would fix the WNMU pool and enable the university to bring back baseball as a team sport. When WNMU President Joseph Shepherd talked about engaging with the community when he arrived two years ago, we didn't realize there was a pricetag.

This \$10 million proposal was devised by Shepherd, Grant County Commissioner Brett Kasten, Town Manager Alex Brown and the Gila Economic Development Alliance. On May 9, the County Commission passed a "Notice of Intent" to bring an ordinance for the tax increase at a June meeting. No specific projects will be attached to the planned September vote on the tax hike. That of course lets voters imagine the best, in terms of funding for pet projects not included in the Gila EDA proposal—and gives no clear targets for opposition. Given the likely low turnout for a special election in an off-election year, the tax represents a \$10 million blank check.

Each of the proposed uses of the funds no doubt has its merits. It would be nice to improve the paths at the golf course and spiff up the conference center (former home to Stream), and it's a shame the WNMU pool needs expensive repairs. It's true that the general community enjoyed the pool when it was open, and would benefit from a new community pool included in the \$4.3 million pricetag. And the university would pick up the operating cost for both pools. But calling this "economic development" is baffling, unless somehow the plan is to convince Michael Phelps to move here and spend his millions in Grant County.

It's worth noting that the legislature turned down WNMU's request to fix the pool, when the pricetag was a mere \$1 million. The latest plan adds eight inches to make the pool suitable for competition, as well as building a smaller community pool. But if the legislature doesn't think this is a good investment of tax dollars, why should local residents pick up the tab?

The \$325,000 to \$600,000 projected to add lighting and synthetic turf to the baseball field at Bataan Park would of course have benefits beyond helping WNMU restore men's baseball. The catch, however, is that Title IX would then require the university to add two women's sports: soccer and—you guessed it—swimming. So the repair bill for the pool really also helps the baseball team. And isn't there already money for the ballpark improvements—a legislative appropriation plus a loan to be paid back by the town from general operating funds?

Shepherd maintains that these improvements will help boost enrollment from 3,800 to 5,000. Besides the question of whether we really want more students attracted by having a pool rather than improved academics, shouldn't the state be paying for this growth? Or shouldn't WNMU students foot the bill through higher fees? (Shepherd, however, says only a single student has asked him about the closed pool—so much for fixing it as a driver of student recruitment.)

More puzzling still, however, is the plan to spend \$4 million to build a movie "multiplex." As reported in last month's Borderlines column, Deming's experience in the multiplex business should prove cautionary on this notion. Besides, isn't the town of Silver City committed to putting a movie theater downtown in the renovated Silco Theater? Why should Grant County residents invest in competition for that project?

Labeling any of this "economic development" seems like a smokescreen for pushing various pet projects—any of which might have their own merits, but little of which include job creation.

The worst part about the plan is paying for these wish-list projects by boosting the gross-receipts tax, which is inherently regressive. Despite New Mexico's repeal of the tax on groceries, this tax still falls on everything from hardware to household supplies to shampoo—without regard for ability to pay. However small the quarter-percent increase, this proposal literally means a person below the poverty line will pay more for Kleenex or aspirin so that you or I can go swimming or watch the new

*Star Wars* movies without leaving town.

Because of "pyramiding" and because it includes services, the gross-receipts tax also hurts businesses—especially small businesses. For example, a big company can afford to employ an accountant; when a small firm pays for accounting services, however, it must pay gross-receipts tax as well. This tax acts like a tiny but

persistent vise, squeezing every purchase and investment a business makes.

Town Manager Brown claims that 40% of gross-receipts taxes are paid by visitors, not residents—a variation on the "free money" thinking. We find that statistic incredible, but even if it's true this presumes that visitors are somehow insensitive to cost. Keep making them pay more, whether through lodgers taxes or gross-receipts taxes, and eventually they'll go elsewhere.

Economic development? By its very nature, the gross-receipts tax is antithetical to economic development.

But it's only \$1 on every \$400 purchase, advocates will respond. True, but a quarter-percent here and a quarter-percent there and pretty soon you're paying 7.375%, the current rate in Silver City. That's already too high for a regressive, business-stifling tax. Officials should be looking for ways to lower that burden, not schemes to inch it even higher.

If these projects, which frankly mostly benefit the middle class, are worthy, the county should pay for them by raising property taxes. Homeowners are more likely to be able to afford to golf or go to the movies, so at least there would be some connection between cost and benefit. (Obviously, raising user fees should be the first resort, where appropriate.) At 17.538 mills (as of February 2012), Grant County's residential property tax rate is the lowest in our part of the state except for Catron County. It's only about two-thirds of Doña Ana County.

Not that we're advocating higher property taxes, especially given the fragile real estate recovery and the challenges of residents on fixed income. But officials pushing this smorgasbord of projects should at least propose a somewhat less-regressive way of paying for them. Then let's see if homeowners really think it's worth paying more to see *Transformers 4* here instead of in Deming or Las Cruces.

We used to think it would be great if county, town and university officials could put their heads together and cooperate. Now we're not so sure. ❧

David A. Fryxell is editor of Desert Exposure.



LETTERS

# Our Readers Write

## Guns and Butter

Thanks for spanking our Congressional whore ("The Debt Dud," Editor's Notebook, May). Your point about the deficits is well said. One doesn't "invest" in wars against countries that haven't attacked us any more than invest in a barroom brawl. One invests in production of goods and service that benefit everyone. One of the most thorough and well thought-out suggestions is at: [www.jillstein.org/green\\_new\\_deal](http://www.jillstein.org/green_new_deal).

I came across it last spring. After a couple of months of sifting through it, I'm convinced we could do it and balance the budget by simply bringing our defense budget and operations into line with the other major powers and using some of the savings on this proposal. We spend more than the next dozen countries combined and that is utterly stupid. Take care and keep up the good work!

Charles Clements  
Las Cruces

## Start Packing!

Thank you for your superb newspaper. It is a breath of fresh air to us who are starved for information in depth, and for your humor. Based on what we read in *Desert Exposure*, we may even have to move to the Silver City area.

Joe Ficklin  
Caballo

*Let us hear from you! Write Desert Exposure Letters, PO Box 191, Silver City, NM 88062, or email [letters@desertexposure.com](mailto:letters@desertexposure.com). Letters are subject to editing for style and length (maximum 500 words, please), and must be in response to content that has appeared in our pages. Deadline for the next issue is the 18th of the month.*

## News from Desert Exposure

**You're Reading a Winner:** Once again, the "biggest little paper in the Southwest" scored in the regional Top of the Rockies competition sponsored by the Society of Professional Journalists. Editor David A. Fryxell placed first in the Personal or Humor Column category (for his "Continental Divide" column) and third in Editorials, both judged by circulation group.

This year's Top of the Rockies contest had more than 700 entries from the four states that compose SPJ's Region 9: Wyoming, Utah, New Mexico and Colorado. The contest was judged by journalists from Oklahoma. *Desert Exposure* was the only southwest New Mexico publication to win.

Other New Mexico finalists and winners included journalists at *Albuquerque Business First*,

*Albuquerque Journal*, KNME/New Mexico PBS, KOB-TV, KUNM, *Santa Fe New Mexican* and *Santa Fe Reporter*.

**Writing Contest Update:** Procrastinators, rejoice! We've extended the deadline for our annual writing contest in order to give entrants more time and give us more space to publish the winners. The new deadline is AUGUST 15, and winners will be featured in our October issue.

As usual, the rules are simple: Submit your best article, short story, essay, poem or other piece(s) of writing. Entries will be judged on literary quality and how well they express some aspect of life in Southwest New Mexico. You can enter as many works as you like. Maximum length per prose entry is 6,000 words.

First prize is \$100, plus publication in the October issue. Plus we will award up to four second prizes of \$25 each plus publication in *Desert Exposure*. All entries will be considered for future publication in *Desert Exposure* at our usual rates.

Mail entries to: *Desert Exposure* Writing Contest, PO Box 191, Silver City, NM 88062, or email to [contest@desertexposure.com](mailto:contest@desertexposure.com). Include name and postal address, plus email address if you have one. Entries cannot be returned.

Go ahead, send us your best! It's your chance to be part of a decade-long tradition of publishing the best writing about our corner of the Southwest.

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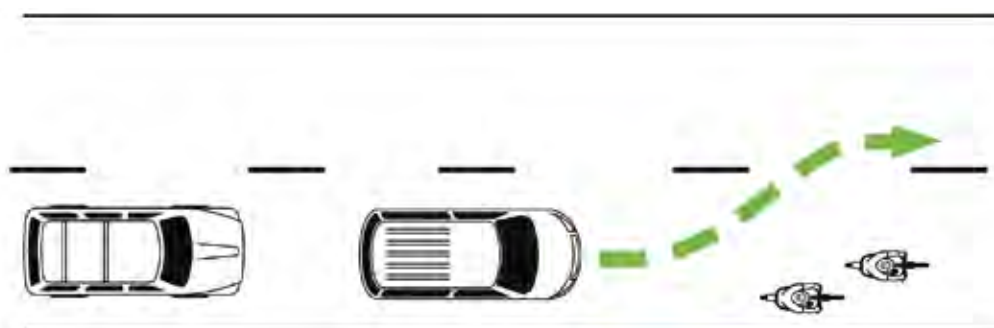
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## DESERT DIARY

# Shifting Gears & Snoring Solutions

Plus kids saying the darnedest things, definitions that oughta be and more reader tales.

**Persons of the blonde persuasion...** We start this month's Diary with a traditional favorite category, thanks to **The Santa Claran**. And as is traditionally the case, you are invited to substitute the hair hue of your choice:

"Carolyn, a rich blonde, buys a new automatic Jaguar XKR Sport. She drives the car perfectly well during the day, but at night, the car just won't move at all. After trying to drive the car at night for a week (but without any luck), she furiously calls the Jaguar dealer and they send out a technician to her.

"The technician examines the car and finds nothing wrong with it. So he turns to the blonde and asks, 'Ma'am, are you sure you are using the right gears?'

"Full of anger, the blonde replies, 'You fool, you idiot, how on earth you could ask such a question? I'm not stupid, you know! Of course I am using the right gears! I use D during the day and N at night.'"

**Paging Major Disaster...** Then there's this tale of woe passed along by **GeeRichard**:

"The family was crouched on their roof as swirling flood waters lapped at the attic eaves of their two-story home. In the distance they saw a motorboat approach and as the open craft approached them they could see a man standing in the bow, yelling their way. 'We can't hear what you're saying!' the father yelled back.

"This scenario was repeated several times until the boat-man's voice finally came through. 'We're from the Red Cross,' he yelled. 'We're from the Red Cross!'

"The father hollered back, 'I gave at the office.'"

*Have you given to Desert Diary lately? Dig deep and send us your*

*favorite jokes, anecdotes and life lessons. Email diary@desertexposure.com.*

**Kids say the darnedest things...** This youthful biology lesson was sent our way by **Farmor the Swedish Grandma**. Here are some of

those darnedest things kids say about living things:

"When you breathe you inspire. When you do not breathe, you expire.

"The body consists of three parts—the branium, the borax and the abominable cavity. The branium contains the brain, the borax contains the heart and lungs, and the abominable cavity contains the bowels, of which there are five: a, e, i, o and u.

"Artificial insemination is when the farmer does it to the cow instead of the bull.

"Before giving a blood transfusion, find out if the blood is affirmative or negative.

"There are 26 vitamins in all, but some of the letters are yet to be discovered. Finding them all means living forever.

"The spinal column is a long bunch of bones. The head sits on top and you sit on the bottom."

Along the same lines, there's this yarn from the **Silver City Greek**:

"An eight-year-old girl went to her grandfather, who was working in the yard, and asked him, 'Grandpa, what is couple sex?'

"The grandfather was surprised that she would ask such a question, but decided that if she was old enough to know to ask the question, then she was old enough to get a straight answer. Steeling himself to leave nothing out, he proceeded to tell her all about human reproduction and the joys and responsibilities of adults making love.

"When he finished explaining, the little girl was looking at him with her mouth hanging open, eyes wide in amazement. Seeing the look on her face, the grandfather asked her, 'Why did you ask this question, honey?'

"The little girl replied, 'Grandma says that dinner will be ready in just a couple secs.'"

**Where men are men...** This tale of hunting, manly men and the agony of snoring was shared by **Shanty Shaker**:

"All the guys were at a deer camp. No one wanted to room with Denny, because he snored so badly. They decided it wasn't fair to make one of them stay with him the whole time, so they voted to take turns.

"The first guy slept with Denny and came to breakfast the next morning with his hair a mess and his eyes all bloodshot. They said, 'Man, what happened to you?'

"He said, 'Denny snored so loudly, I just sat up and watched him all night.'

"The next night it was a different guy's turn. In the morning, same thing, hair all standing up, eyes all bloodshot. They said, 'Man, what happened to you?'

You look awful!

"He said, 'Man, that Denny shakes the roof with his snoring. I watched him all night.'

"The third night was Fred's turn. Fred was a tanned, older cowboy. The next morning he came to breakfast bright-eyed and bushy-tailed. 'Good morning!' he said.

"They couldn't believe it. They said, 'Man, what happened?'

"He said, 'Well, we got ready for bed. I went and tucked Denny into bed, patted him on the butt, and kissed him good night. Denny sat up and watched me all night.'"

**Losing the battle of the sexes...** Although **Pop Hayes** submitted this dispatch from the front lines of the gender wars, the first-person here is obviously female, as you'll see:

"He said to me, 'I don't know why you wear a bra—you've got nothing to put in it.' I said to him, 'You wear pants, don't you?'

"He said to me, 'Shall we try swapping positions tonight?' I said to him, 'That's a good idea. You stand by the stove and sink while I sit on the sofa.'

"He said to me, 'What have you been doing with all the grocery money I gave you?' I said to him, 'Turn sideways and look in the mirror!'

"He said to me, 'How many men does it take to change a roll of toilet paper?' I said to him, 'I don't know; it's never happened.'

"He said to me, 'Why is it difficult to find men who are sensitive, caring and good-looking?' I said to him, 'They already have boyfriends.'

"He said to me, 'What do you call a woman who knows where her husband is every night?' I said to him, 'A widow.'

"He said to me, 'Why are married women heavier than single women?' I said to him, 'Single women come home, see what's in the fridge and go to bed. Married women come home, see what's in bed and go to the fridge.'"

While we're on the subject of men and women, here's one from **CharlesC** that we swear we've run before but can't find in the vast Diary archives. In any case, it's good enough to chuckle at more than once:

"Celibacy can be a choice in life, or a condition imposed by circumstances. While attending a Marriage Weekend, my wife and I listened to the instructor declare, 'It is essential that husbands and wives know the things that are important to each other.' He then addressed the men, 'Can you name and describe your wife's favorite flower?'

"I leaned over, touched my wife's hand gently and whispered, 'Gold Medal All-Purpose, isn't it?'

"And thus began my life of celibacy."

**You're only as old as you feel...** Aging is of course another favorite topic in these pages, so we couldn't resist this one from **Aletterarion**: "Fella was working in his yard when he was



**Postcards from the edge...** Keep those photos coming, folks. Dipping again into the pile of photos submitted by readers on the road, near and far, showing themselves holding a copy of *Desert Exposure*, here are **Susie Byersdorfer** and **Lisa Marcato**, who write, "We got jobs cooking aboard this yacht for bear and whale-watching cruises along the Katmai coast in Alaska."



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## Silver Health CARE Welcomes Michael Harris Certified Family Nurse Practitioner

Michael is well known in our community and we are very pleased that he has joined us at Silver Health CARE. Mike has an impressive resume, and he has worked in healthcare in many capacities: Mr. Harris served as a nurse at Fort Bayard medical center, he was CEO of Southwest Bone and Joint, and was Director of Infusion and Palliative Services at Gila Regional Medical Center. He has also served in numerous volunteer roles in our community, including the Community Partnership for Children. At GRMC, Michael has served on the Board of Trustees, Ethics Committee, and the Foundation Board. Mr. Harris holds a Masters of Nursing from the University of Texas at El Paso, as well as an MBA from Western New Mexico University. He and his wife, Sandra, enjoy many interests together, including gardening, aviation, and jet skiing.

Michael will be seeing patients at our main clinic in Silver City, and he welcomes new patients. If you are looking for a friendly, experienced practitioner to follow your health, call 538-2981 to make an appointment with him.

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startled by a late-model car that came crashing through his hedge and ended up in his front lawn. He rushed to the auto to help an elderly lady driver out then sat her down on a lawn chair. He said with excitement, 'You appear quite elderly to be driving.'

"Well, yes, I am," she replied proudly. 'I'll be 97 next month, and I am now old enough that I don't even need a driver's license anymore.'

"Fella said, 'Really?'"

"The lady replied, 'The last time I went to my doctor, he examined me and asked if I had a driver's license. I told him yes and handed it to him. He took scissors out of the drawer, cut the license into pieces, and threw them in the waste basket, saying, 'You won't need this anymore.' So I thanked him and left!'"



**Postcards from the edge...** Our next reader photo comes from **Shelby Hallmark** and **Lindee Lenox**. Shelby writes, "This is me and my lovely bride and of course the then-current DE, at the Acropolis in Athens, Greece, in front of the Erechtheion (complete with Caryatids), on the Acropolis." Obviously a fellow of excellent taste, he goes on, "We've been reading and enjoying *Desert Exposure* since about 2002 when we started checking out Silver as a retirement option, and of course we've been avid customers since we moved

out here in early 2011. Thanks for what you do in keeping the paper lively, attractive, entertaining and—most important—published. And thanks especially for your editorials. Naturally we like the positions you espouse, but we also admire the wit of the writing, the clarity of the argument, and the impeccable timing in the topics you choose for each issue. Hope you'll keep on doing it for a long, long time."

Whether you're going to Alaska or Athens, snap a picture of yourself holding "the biggest little paper in the Southwest" and send it to PO Box 191, Silver City, NM 88062, or [diary@desertexposure.com](mailto:diary@desertexposure.com).

**A good walk spoiled...** We weren't sure whether to classify this one from **Biffy** under "golf" or "romance." You'll see why:

"Ed and Nancy met while on a singles cruise and Ed fell head over heels for her. When they discovered they lived in the same city only a few miles apart, Ed was ecstatic. He immediately started asking her out when they got home.

"Within a couple of weeks, Ed had taken Nancy to dance clubs, restaurants, concerts, movies and museums. Ed became convinced that Nancy was indeed his soul mate and true love. Every date seemed better than the last.

"On the one-month anniversary of their first dinner on the cruise ship, Ed took Nancy to a fine restaurant. While having cocktails and waiting for their salad, Ed said, 'I guess you can tell I'm very much in love with you. I'd like a little serious talk before our relationship continues to the next stage. So, before I get a box out of my jacket and ask you a life-changing question, it's only fair to warn you, I'm a total golf nut. I play golf, I read about golf, I watch golf on TV. In short, I eat, sleep and breathe golf. If that's going to be a problem for us, you'd better say so now!'"

"Nancy took a deep breath and responded, 'Ed, that certainly won't be a problem. I love you as you are and I love golf, too. But, since we're being totally honest with each other, you need to know that for the last five years I've been a hooker.'

'Oh, wow! I see,' Ed replied. He looked down at the table, was quiet for a moment. Deep in serious thought then, he added, 'You know, it's probably because you're not keeping your wrists straight when you hit the ball.'"

**Pondering the imponderables...** These oh-so-true definitions came our way courtesy of **GeraldH**:

**ADULT:** A person who has stopped growing at both ends and is now growing in the middle.

**BEAUTY PARLOR:** A place where women curl up and dye.

**CHICKENS:** The only animals you eat before they are born and after they are dead.

**COMMITTEE:** A body that keeps minutes and wastes hours.

**DUST:** Mud with the juice squeezed out.

**EGOTIST:** Someone who is usually me-deep in conversation.

**HANDKERCHIEF:** Cold storage.

**INFLATION:** Cutting money in half without damaging the paper.

**MOSQUITO:** An insect that makes you like flies better.

**RAISIN:** A grape with a sunburn.

**SECRET:** Something you tell to one person at a time.

**SKELETON:** A bunch of bones with the person scraped off.

**TOOTHACHE:** The pain that drives you to extraction.

**TOMORROW:** One of the greatest labor-saving devices of today.

"YAWN: An honest opinion openly expressed.

"WRINKLES: Something other people have, similar to my character lines."

Still pondering the imponderables, **Bert in the Burros** chimes in, responding to the March and April submissions sent in by Yerby:

"To the great laws listed by Yerby, I must add the Law of the Elder Male:

"The pressure on the bladder is inversely proportional to the square of the distance from the commode."

**Annals of marketing...** Finally, we're blessed to be able to share this yarn from **Old Grumps**:

"Nescafé manages to arrange a meeting with the Pope at the Vatican. After receiving the papal blessing, the Nescafé official whispers, 'Your Eminence, we have an offer for you. Nescafé is prepared to donate \$100 million to the church if you change the Lord's Prayer from *Give us this day our daily bread* to *Give us this day our daily coffee*.'

"The Pope responds, 'That is impossible. The prayer is the word of the Lord. It must not be changed.'

"Well,' says the Nescafé man, 'we anticipated your reluctance. For this reason we will increase our offer to \$300 million.'

"The Pope replies, 'My son, it is impossible. For the prayer is the word of the Lord, and it must not be changed.'

"The Nescafé guy says, 'Your Holiness, we at Nescafé respect your adherence to the faith, but we do have one final offer. We will donate \$500 million—that's half a billion dollars—to the great Catholic Church if you would only change the Lord's Prayer from *Give us this day our daily bread* to *Give us this day our daily coffee*. Please consider it.' And he leaves.

"The next day the Pope convenes the College of Cardinals. 'There is some good news,' he announces, 'and some bad news. The good news is that the Church will come into \$500 million.'

"And the bad news, your Holiness?" asks a cardinal.

"The Pope replied, 'We're losing the Wonder Bread account.'"

Send your favorite anecdotes, jokes, puns and tall tales to *Desert Diary*, PO Box 191, Silver City, NM 88062, or email [diary@desertexposure.com](mailto:diary@desertexposure.com). The best submission each month gets a brand-new *Desert Exposure* mouse pad, scientifically proven to take the strain out of emailing jokes to *Desert Diary*.



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# Unlocking a Garden

Martha Blacklock and her marvelous keyhole garden.

Martha Blacklock relocated from a place where nearly any seed dropped on the ground grows into something lush in short order. It's even known as the Garden State. She eventually landed in the southeast quadrant of Silver City, known as Brewer Hill, named after its most notable resident, the medium Rebecca Brewer (1868-1969). Brewer made potions for love, cast spells and curses, and told the future for thousands in her colorful life, but that is a whole other story.

Brewer Hill is a pile of gravel on top of rocks on top of bedrock. It looks to be mostly Early Proterozoic coarse-grained (really fragile) granite. San Vicente Creek is a large fault, so the rock on the eastern Brewer Hill is completely different from the western Boston Hill. It is said that this phenomenon is due to the Mogollon-Datil volcanic field meeting the Burro Mountain uplift during Jurassic rifting and subsequent Laramide compressional deformation. But, as one might guess, that is another story, too.

So despite being near the relatively fertile Big Ditch, most soil on Brewer Hill is too sandy, alkaline and shallow to grow much of anything except native cacti and grass. It is a challenge for a wannabe gardener.

Blacklock's research into raised-bed gardens gleaned an interesting concept first popularized in southern Africa. Their weather is dry and soil poor, too.

In Lesotho, the design of the "keyhole garden" was found to allow those too weakened (usually by AIDS, which afflicts 25% of the population), those confined to wheelchairs, or even schoolchildren to grow their food and contribute to their communities' needs and produce income. By entering a slot in the circular shape, or moving around the perimeter, the grower has access to all the growing surface. About six feet in diameter and three feet deep, the keyhole allows the gardener to reach all the produce even from a chair or without bending much. In the middle is a



Martha Blacklock places a hardware-cloth wire cage for compost in the center of her newest keyhole garden.

conical wire cage where one places composted or compostable material.

According to the BBC, a humanitarian organization in Lesotho, in southern Africa, developed the first keyhole gardens. Each originally had a hole in the middle from which to work, and no compost cage. A bird's eye view looked like a keyhole, hence the name. In America, buzzwords such as sustainability, non-GMO, organic techniques and permaculture are intriguing. In practice, in Lesotho, the household expenditures for food and use of chemical fertilizers and chronic hunger/starvation have been greatly tempered where keyholes have flourished.

Blacklock sought online advice from Dr. Deb Tolman, who started the trend in central Texas and basically has a PhD in dirt as related to



Above: Beets begin to sprout under a protective net. Above right: Carrots from 2012 keyhole experiment. Right: Stone masons and masters of adobe, Luis Faustino and Javier Escarcega work on a keyhole garden for spring planting.



The Sunday New York Times put to good use in the soil-making mechanism.

survival. Blacklock filled her papercrete structure with logs at the bottom, then cardboard, phone books, aged (not hot) goat and horse manure, compost, homegrown worms, and finally about a foot of soil at the top. The results were very satisfactory, with copious fresh greens available for six months.

"Dr. Deb" claims three keyhole gardens can feed a family of 10 all year round.

At a gallon or two a day, it requires much less water than a conventional garden. An umbrella or shade can be added during the hottest times of the year to reduce water loss and plant drying. In Africa, fresh water is used on the plants, but gray water is used in the compost cage. This higher-nitrogen-content water keeps the plant roots headed toward the center instead of deeper or outward. Thankfully, now drought and food crises have little affect on the keyhole gardeners.

Blacklock set about building an experimental keyhole garden in mid-2012 using papercrete blocks left over from a house she

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built on LS Mesa when she first arrived in 2006. They are very lightweight and fairly permanent, becoming harder as years pass. Her prior 10-by-30-foot dwelling was off the grid, solar powered, and had composted toilets and garden, but that is yet another story.

Keyhole gardens can be built of many things. The external framework may be posts wrapped in heavy plastic or woven grass. For the two new structures of her expanded keyhole garden, Blacklock had access to a great deal of discarded fractured concrete and upcycled it into permanent walls, with the help of talented local rock workers. In an emergency, the

structures could also become hot tubs or gun towers.

Both of the current raised-bed gardens have at their ground level recycled cardboard, and a year's supply of Sunday *New York Times* newspapers. Surely that publication has rarely gone to a more noble use, but that is really, really another story. ❁

*Twana Sparks, a Grant County native, was conceived by two former Arkansas farmers. She is a surgeon, humorist, storyteller, writer and, she says, "mediocre photographer."*



**Life in a state of nature...** Inspired by the reader response to our long-running "Postcards from the edge" in Desert Diary, we're kicking off another reader-photo feature. Here in Tumbleweeds, we're inviting readers to submit their best pictures of wildlife snapped in southwest New Mexico. Show us what you've seen out there, large or small, from hummingbirds and scorpions to eagles and elk. 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.

We kick off this feature with this eye-catching photo by **Mike Moutoux** of Pinos Altos, taken in his backyard. He writes, "Lots of folk around here don't like javelinas, but we really do. Someone said they have a purposeful look about them—even when tiny." ❁

### 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. To make up for a slow news month, except for the heating-up immigration-legislation debate, Top 10 is adopting Disney's ill-fated

effort to trademark "Dia de los Muertos." According to the *LA Times*: "The company filed 10 applications with the US Patent and Trademark Office for 'Dia de los Muertos,' including applications pertaining to toys, cereals and jewelry. The May 1 filings came in anticipation of an untitled movie about the Mexican holiday, known in English as Day of the Dead."

1. (-) **Disney + Dia de los Muertos**—16,900 hits \*
2. (2) **New Mexico budget**—390 hits (▼)
3. (1) **Gov. Susana Martinez**—260 hits (▼)
4. (-) **New Mexico + immigration**—254 hits (▲)
5. (3) **Ex-Gov. Bill Richardson**—173 hits (▼)
6. (6) **New Mexico wolves**—158 hits (▲)
7. (4) **New Mexico drought**—148 hits (▼)
8. (8) **Sen. Tom Udall**—136 hits (▲)
9. (7) **New Mexico wildfires**—128 hits (▲)
10. (5) **Virgin Galactic**—119 hits (▼)

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## It's for the Birds

Adventures in bird identification.

I don't know why, but for some strange reason, we've had a plethora of different bird species attending our little valley this year.

Our valley is small by most standards; in fact, it's shallow as far as good valleys go. The hills on either side are somewhat gentle in slope, rising a couple of hundred feet from the dry sand wash and no more.

Scrub oak, juniper and piñon dominate the surfaces, with the oaks far outnumbering the rest.

So we expect to see bird varieties that reflect this vegetation; then something out-of-the-ordinary shows up. These unexpected birds are usually making quick stopovers before moving north or south, depending on the time of the year.

It's our water dishes that more than likely attract these visitors, although our feeder did the trick one or two times. Once, about a year ago, we had a brilliant blue bird come to stay for a long while. I couldn't identify it in the Sibley's, and so I called all of the really good "birders" I knew, and they couldn't give me an answer, either.

I would daily check it out up-close-and-personal with a pair of Alpen 8X30 binos, and the mystery remained. Until one day I got the brainstorm to look at my "truck copy" of *Peterson's Bird Guide* and eureka! It was in there. The bird was a blue grosbeak! (Sometimes the *Sibley's* is just not definitive enough with its pictures.)

Another rare visitor is a white collared dove that comes to the feeder every year during the late spring. It stays for a week or so, then is gone for another year. It has been visiting us for three or four years now. Of course, it isn't a Eurasian or African collard, but a turtle dove, the variety that is released at weddings. Why that dove doesn't hang with the Eurasians all year around is a mystery.

Right now, I'm looking out the window at the feeder and a pair of whitewing doves is there. They usually stay for the summer and then are gone.

Now, let me qualify that none of these aforementioned bird species are rare in Southwest New Mexico, nor are the others that I will mention here. But they are rare for my little real estate.

It's the "water birds" (as in those attracted by our water dishes) that really draw our attention. For instance, take the robins: We usually have a resident pair that stays all year round, but this year, we had a bunch of them over-winter here. Some of them are real bullies; they chase away every other species that dares to drink when the robins are at the water.

This went on all winter, until on a recent day I looked out the kitchen window and a large curve-billed thrasher sent the bullies into full retreat! That gave me a good chuckle. Strangely, he was willing to share the water dish with all manner of finches and sparrows, unlike the bully robins.

Then there are the Western bluebirds. This year we had two pairs come and stay for three months, from January to April. In years past, one pair would come through and stay for a week or two, but not this winter. They are a treat to watch, especially since they sit on the fence some 10 feet from the window; I will fetch the Alpens (I can focus these 8X30s down to seven feet) and really get a good eyeful. Why, I can almost see the lice jumping on their feathers!

My wife Jeri spotted one fellow that initially defied identification. I found it in the *Sibley's*; it was a red-naped sapsucker, and we had never had such a visitor before in the seven years we've lived in this valley. That was in February and after two days it was gone.

We have a pair of warblers here. I'm not sure which sub-species they belong to because there are so many as to boggle my mind, and they all seem alike in appearance to these old eyes. I do know that I've identified a pair of golden warblers that visit the water, but they don't come every year.

One bird took a coupla days to identify—not because she wasn't in the book, but because she didn't stay around long enough for me to get a good look at her. I say "her," because when she did stick around long enough, she turned out to be a female red cardinal! I used the Alpens on her to make sure.

Strangely she was always alone and no brilliant male was ever with her. She has hung around the water for over a week now.

In mid-March we had a real mystery bird show up; Jeri saw them arrive in a small flock one morning. They only visited once and were gone.

She examined every page of the guide and couldn't identify them. Four characteristics seemed to stand out to her: a broad yellow band on the tip of the tail; white bars on the back at the base of the tail; light brown in body color; and maybe they had crests on the top of their heads, she thought, but she wasn't positive.

I looked through not one but two copies of *Sibley's* and couldn't come up with an answer. They sorta looked like rock wrens, what with the yellow tail tips, but no, I wasn't convinced; remember, I hadn't personally seen them.

So a trip to the truck and out came the *Peterson's* and there they were: She'd seen a ramblin' flock of cedar waxwings! I showed the pictures to Jeri and she positively identified "her birds." Mystery solved!

I've Learned that a  
person needs at least  
two guides if you want  
to be serious about  
bird watching.

I then did find them in the *Sibley's* but the picture definitely didn't do justice to the species. I have now put the smaller *Sibley's* in the truck and the *Peterson's* now resides on the bookshelf.

I've learned that a person needs at least two guides if you want to be serious about bird watching. So far, between the two of my guides we've been able to identify all species that have come to water or dine.

While not all that rare to us, I will mention the two pair of phainopeplas that are year-round residents. Both couples hang together and come on a regular schedule to the water dish.

I only mention them because the males are so strikingly stunning and beautiful among all bird species in their bright blue-black coats and those piercing red eyes that give them the appearance of a "don't mess with me" look. Besides, I am partial to that unruly top-knot of a crest!

One bird species came neither to the water nor the feeder, yet it showed up yearly for the first four years we lived in the valley. It was always in the late spring to early summer and each time they raised a covey of youngsters.

However, they were neither Gambel's nor scaled quail. For the first three years I thought that they were Mearns' quail. But during the last year of their appearance I was in for a surprise: They showed up one morning with their brood and fed across the arroyo in the field opposite our kitchen window. I got out my pair of 10-power Alpen Raniers and focused in and was shocked to see that they were indeed bobwhite quail!

It was if they had to identify themselves to me once and for all before they disappeared from our valley for good. I've never seen them again, although I've looked in vain. Where did they come from and where did they go?

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.

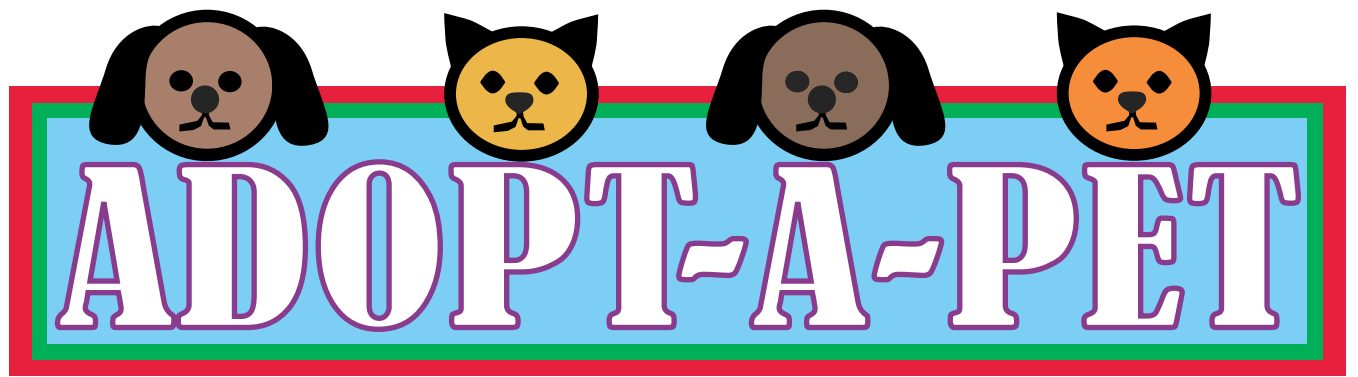


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**Sheba**

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**Turkey Trot**

Adult, Neutered Male, DSH



**Smokey Robinson**

3 mos., Male, DSH



**Alvin**

4 mos., Male, Shepherd-X



**Ruru**

2 yrs., Neutered Male, Pit Heeler



**Splish Splash**

3 mos., Male, DSH



**3 Little Kittens**  
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2 mos., DLH



**Betty**

2 yrs., Female, Terrier-X



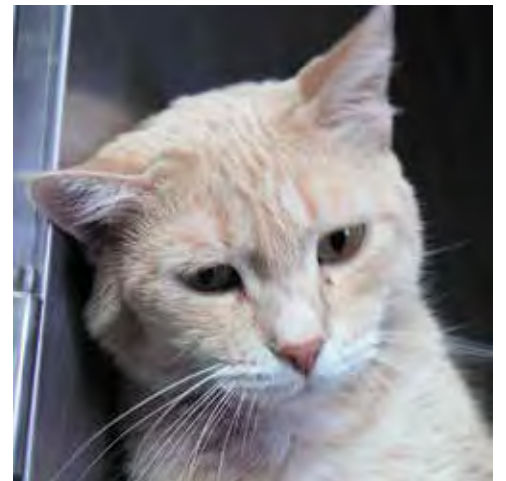
**Cypress (1 of 6)**

6 wks., Male, Aussie Shepherd



**Kiki**

2 mos., Female, Siamese



**Mella**

Adult, Spayed Female, DSH

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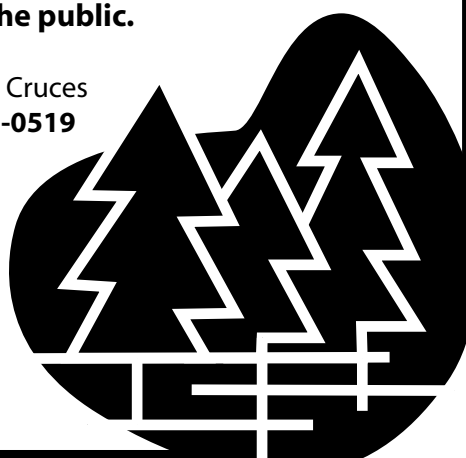
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# Garden Tour Allure

Previewing the Evergreen Garden Club's annual tour, plus greening Silver City with parks supervisor Jesus Alvarar.



So many lovely, private gardens to frolic in this month, but only one day to see some special ones at the Evergreen Garden Club's Annual Tour on Sunday, June 9, from 1 to 5 p.m.

Highlights of the five featured Silver City-area spreads include a 12-foot-plus waterfall and koi pond that amply demonstrate the comforting sound of water; a hillside garden of native plantings and garden art, with a colorful patio and a greenhouse of unusual cacti; and a courtyard garden created on solid rock—a case study of how permaculture solutions to watering and drainage problems have transformed a difficult site.

Everyone will also be keen to see the garden of Silver Heights Nursery owners Regina and Steve Vinson (see June 2010)—a first-hand opportunity to learn how those in the know do it. The Vinsons describe their garden as “an organically grown landscape where fruit trees, vegetable and herb gardens, perennials and an Oriental garden are integrated into a deer-proof space that's great for entertaining year-round.”

“Deer-proof” is a charm sought by many area gardeners, and the Vinsons have accomplished the feat without unattractive fencing.

Refreshments will be served on their covered outdoor patio, and tour participants may also visit the nursery's growing areas.

Only the Whiteley garden (see October 2008), a “floribundus” wonder, has been on the tour previously. These days, however, the landscape is embellished with more roses and showcases a lifestyle that includes both gardening and making art. Much of what is grown finds its way to Blythe Whiteley's

Above: Views of the Eisenhower-Renfro courtyard garden, one of five gardens on the Evergreen Garden Club's Annual Tour on Sunday, June 9. Right: Jean Eisenhower, who studied permaculture in southern Arizona, and built an off-the-grid straw-bale, passive-solar house there, can tell you how she solved drainage and irrigation problems at her hillside garden.



bouquet stand at the downtown farmers' market in Silver City.

An accomplished potter, Whiteley will sell her garden art at the event.

Each ticket purchased for the “five for \$5” tour qualifies for a drawing where the winner receives a \$50 gift certificate at Silver Heights Nursery.

Proceeds from ticket sales will benefit a range

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Silver City's parks supervisor, Jesus Alvillar, at the Silver City Museum—one of many landscapes maintained by him and his crew. (Photos by Vivian Savitt)

of Grant County charities. For more information regarding membership in the 62-year-old gardening organization or the tour, call (575) 538-3216.

Tickets are available at AmBank, Mimbres Farms Greenhouse & Nursery, the Grant County Farmers' Market, Silver Heights Nursery and Allotta Gelato.

**Just Another Day in the Park**

Now that I've met Jesus Alvillar, I understand why Gough Park looks perfect the day after the Blues Festival ends.

Dressed head-to-toe in black, Alvillar, 34, can be easily mistaken for a movie action hero. Dark glasses curve hyperbolically around his eyes and his steel-toed boots attest to a strenuous daily workout.

A year has passed since Alvillar took the job as Silver City's parks supervisor, and the boots show that he hit "the grounds" running as the caretaker of 16 park properties.

Alvillar's domain includes your neighborhood park that, like mine on Pope Street, may be no more than a shady, rectangular chunk of grass with a swing set, slide and picnic tables. Some, like Noble, Cherry Hills and Spring Street Parks, are a little larger and possess distinctive characteristics.

Town landmarks (Gough, Penny and Big Ditch Parks)—as well as the garden at the Silver City Museum—retain a lovely, hometown ambiance thanks to Alvillar and his six-man crew.

Beside typically "green" maintenance tasks—over-seeding (usually with a 50/50 mixture of perennial rye and tall fescue), mowing, pruning and planting—repairs to swings, sprinkler heads, basketball nets and fences are ongoing efforts. Equipment like broken slides and water fountains is replaced with the help of an irrigation tech, five landscape maintenance workers and Alvillar.

Work is seasonal: The baseball field at Scott Park

required the assembling of 110 pieces of fencing and took three weeks to complete. Before soccer gets underway, the fencing must come down again. Even spreading wood chips at the Skate Park for purposes of safety and curb appeal takes four days.

When the Olympic-sized Municipal Swimming Pool opened in late May, it had been "scrubbed down inch by inch and took two weeks to finish," Alvillar says. Then it passed state inspection.

Passing inspection and passing away—after Alvillar's cell phone rang, I learned that the Parks Department is also responsible for digging the graves at Memory Lane Cemetery.

"The work is 96% backhoe," Alvillar says, "but our shovels and jackhammer also get used depending on the grave's location."

When I ask how many graves he digs each month, the response evokes Alvillar's hometown ethos: "What God wants it to be," he replies.

Born in Grant County, Alvillar attended Cobre schools and met his future wife at CC Snell Middle School. After seven years in Phoenix, gaining experience and certification as an Arizona landscape professional, Alvillar and his wife decided to return home to raise their son.

"My boss, Peter Peña, and I are passionate about parks and want to make them more playful," Alvillar says. Peña is Director of Public Works.

"I love doing the work," Alvillar continues, "being outdoors and making things look sharp. I do park drive-bys a lot, and people ask me to plant more shade trees."

For structure, beauty and longevity, Alvillar likes bloodgood sycamore and Southern live oak.

"This is a trees and shrubs year," Alvillar reports. "Our goal is to beef up the parks and create more shade."

On-call 24/7 as parks supervisor, Alvillar relaxes on the weekends playing with his son at baseball practice or riding all-terrain vehicles.

Come Monday morning, he may be weeding or planting a dozen new trees at Memory Lane Cemetery. Perhaps the crew will use soil probes to determine if both trees and turf are receiving enough or too much water.

So far Alvillar hasn't seen a deer on the properties, but when grub-hunting skunks dig up the grass—it's just another day in the park for the action hero.

*Southwest Gardener columnist Vivian Savitt gardens at Ditch Cottage in Silver City.*

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<b>July 26</b> 9am to 5pm 210 N. Bayard Street Santa Clara, NM (Old Hotel)	<b>July 27</b> 9am to 5pm 1721 Little Walnut Road Silver City, NM (Historic Waterworks building)	<b>July 28</b> 9am to 5pm 410 Highway 211 Gila, NM (Old Gila Store)
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This project is partially funded by the Historic Preservation Division, State of New Mexico with federal funds from the National Park Service, U. S. Department of the Interior.

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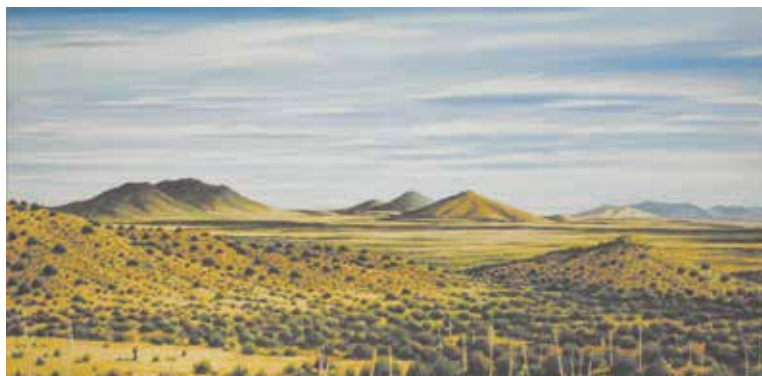
## ARTS EXPOSURE

# Arts Scene

The latest area art happenings.

### Silver City/Grant County

Local art icon **Harry Benjamin**, 67, died May 2 at his home/gallery/studio, What's a Pot Shop, on the corner of Yankie and Arizona streets in Silver City. Benjamin was *Desert Exposure's* cover artist in May 2004 and July 2007, and was profiled in-depth in the latter issue ("Still Wild About Harry"; read it online at [www.desertexposure.com/200707/200707\\_benjamin.php](http://www.desertexposure.com/200707/200707_benjamin.php)).



A Grant County native, born Sept. 5, 1945, Benjamin and his two brothers grew up in Bayard, where their father's Texaco station was described by one childhood friend as "a scene right out of Mayberry." He was introduced to art at an early age by two aunts who painted, and his artistic abilities were recognized and encouraged by Cobre High School art teacher Ken Sparks. He briefly attended the California School of Arts and Crafts in Los Angeles, but grew homesick and returned to Grant County, where he completed his formal education at what is now Western New Mexico University, earning an art degree.

In 1967 he became involved with efforts to open a museum in the historic H.B. Ailman House, due to be vacated by the Silver City Fire Department. Benjamin served as founding curator of the Silver City Museum, with lodgings in a one-room apartment upstairs provided in partial compensation. (See "Making History," June 2007; read it online at [www.desertexposure.com/200706/200706\\_silver-city\\_museum.php](http://www.desertexposure.com/200706/200706_silver-city_museum.php).)



Harry Benjamin's painting—not to mention his works in other media—ranged widely, from his iconic landscapes (top) to distinctive still lifes (above) and "Miss Mary and Her Third Grade Class" (below left).



He and his assistant, Susan Berry (who would follow him as museum director), came up with the idea of a gazebo for Gough Park as a local Bicentennial project and garnered Town Council support for its construction. After an unsuccessful attempt to save the community's old railroad depot from demolition, they organized the Silver City Historic Development Association, a proto-MainStreet group for downtown improvement. The Big Ditch Park project emerged out of this organization.

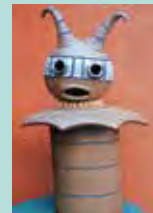
By night, the museum workroom became Benjamin's studio, where he stayed up late creating paintings, ceramic art, sculptures, assemblages and collages in a wide variety of media (including latex house paint, asphaltum and scavenged elements from his own bowling trophies). In 1976 Harry and fellow artists Beth Menczer, Polly Hughes and Eric Montoya opened *Pentimento*, one of the first downtown studio-galleries, on South Bullard Street. He

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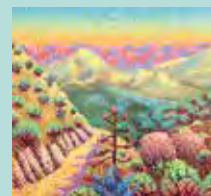
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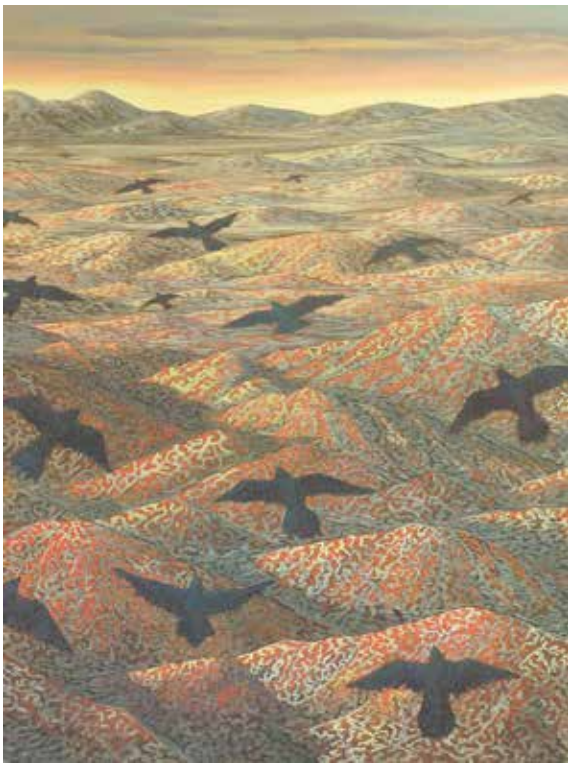


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This detail from a Harry Benjamin landscape was our July 2007 cover, on the occasion of a retrospective of his work.

later bought the old Silver Freight Lines warehouse at the corner of Yankee and Arizona. It would be his home, studio, and gallery/shop for more than three decades.

Benjamin moved into his new property and became a full-time artist in 1982, after nearly 10 years at the museum's helm. He opened What's a Pot Shop?, creating a nucleus around which the Yankee Street art district gradually gathered. His property was perhaps his largest work of art—a constantly changing, visually stunning environment that was featured in an HGTV documentary on nontraditional homes.

His paintings, especially his

monumental landscapes, became sought-after collectors' items, but he lavished equal attention on smaller creations. The pots that were his stock-in-trade featured painted landscapes and designs influenced by ancient cultures. His iconic corn angels have "flown" throughout the world, along with a heavenly host of clay angels in other forms. The Silver City Museum celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2007 with a Benjamin retrospective.

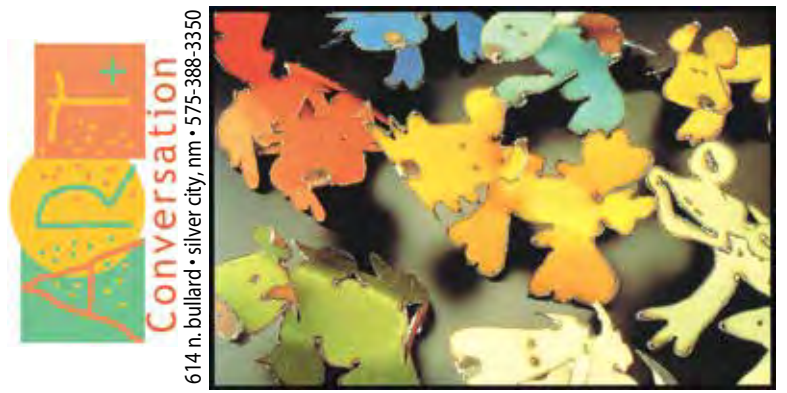
In 2008, Benjamin's colleagues nominated him for a Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts, New Mexico's highest honor for lifetime artistic achievement. They kept the nomination a secret, knowing he would have objected. Friends from around the country traveled to Santa Fe to attend the award ceremony.

In a typical act of generosity, Harry Benjamin left his estate to two cultural entities that were important to him throughout his adult life. He willed his downtown property to the Silver City Museum Society, and his artwork and personal effects were left to the WNMU Expressive Arts Department to benefit a scholarship fund established in his name. Contributions to the Harry Benjamin Expressive Arts Fund may be sent to the WNMU Foundation, PO Box 1158, Silver City, NM 88062, (575) 538-6310.

A downtown celebration of Harry Benjamin's life, hosted by his friends from the arts community, will take place Saturday, June 15. Details are pending.

Looking back on his key role in sparking Silver City's museum and arts scene, Harry Benjamin told

**ARTS EXPOSURE** continued on next page



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June 28-30

**Seedboat Gallery** Closed until June 26th  
214 W. Yankee St. • Silver City, NM  
seedboatgallery.com • 575.534.1136

**Leyba and Ingalls Arts**  
315 Bullard Street

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**YOUTH MURAL CAMP - Penny Park**

**July 8 - 19, 2013 9am - 12pm**

2 Weeks - \$150  
1 Week - \$100

Register at **L & I Arts** - (575)388-5725

Registration forms at:  
[www.mimbresarts.org/youth-mural-camp](http://www.mimbresarts.org/youth-mural-camp)

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**Sept. 13-15, 2013**

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The Trishas | Carolyn Martin  
The Hard Road Trio | Joe West SF Revue  
Bootleg Prophets | Sacaton  
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THE WORLD IN YOUR CUP

**June 7th through August 31st**

Coffee presents the story of one of the world's most widely traded commodities and how it has affected cultures, economies, and environments across the globe. Public Programs: coffee demonstrations, family workshops, coffee tastings and more. Check out our website [las-cruces.org/museums](http://las-cruces.org/museums) for details.

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Coffee: "The World in Your Cup" has been organized by the Burke Museum of National History and Culture, University of Washington, Seattle.

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# Our Cover Artist

You could say third time's the charm for this month's cover artist, San Simon, Ariz., painter **Jean Chandanais Bohlender**—but her first and second appearances on our cover, in January 2008 and May 2012, were equally charming. Her works can be seen at the Seedboat Gallery in Silver City, where she will be featured in an exhibit in August, as well as at Bucko's on Railroad Avenue in Wilcox, Ariz.

Bohlender, who started painting when she was 14 years old, paints in watercolor as well as oils, depicting subjects ranging from wildlife to landscapes to hard-working cowboys.

"I am grateful to God for the chance to paint, and do the very best I can for the work's sake," she says. "I am an American painter, and am proud to offer my impressions of my country, her people and places, plants and animals."

Read our interview with Bohlender, "Letting Go," in the June 2008 issue, online at [www.desertexposure.com/200801/200801\\_jean\\_bohlender.php](http://www.desertexposure.com/200801/200801_jean_bohlender.php). You can visit her website at [www.jeanbohlender.com](http://www.jeanbohlender.com).



Seedboat Gallery is located at 214 W. Yankie St., 534-1136, [www.seedboatgallery.com](http://www.seedboatgallery.com). Hours are Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m., or by appointment.

## ARTS EXPOSURE continued

a *Desert Exposure* interviewer in 2007, "We were just a bunch of friends, running around together, doing things together. We all thought it was just so much fun! That's why we did it. It was fun."

He smiled and shrugged, then added, "I mean, if it's not fun, why do it?"

Oil painter Chris Alvarez will teach a special outdoor workshop, "Paint the Town in Oils," exploring the streets and scenes of Silver City, June 28-30, sponsored by **Leyba & Ingalls Arts**. Cost is \$250 and pre-registration is required. 315 N. Bullard, 388-5725, [www.LeybaIngallsARTS.com](http://www.LeybaIngallsARTS.com).

The **Community Arts and Crafts Street Fair/Market** is back for its sixth year, downtown at 703 N. Bullard St. every Saturday from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. 313-6468.

March 2013 cover artist Louise Sackett is now opening her **Wind Canyon Studio** on Mondays and Wednesdays, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., and by appointment. 11 Quail Run, off Hwy. 180 mile marker 107, 574-2308, (619) 933-8034.

Artist of the month at the **Cottage Stained Glass and More** in the Mimbres is Jimmy Head, creating sofa tables, lamps and other furniture art. 40 Cedar Lane, Hwy. 35 just north of mile marker 14, 536-3234.

**Copper Quail Gallery** will be featuring "Kachinas and More," clay art by Phoebe Lawrence. 211A N. Texas, corner of Texas and Yankie, 388-2646.

**Two Spirit Gallery**, 313 N. Bullard, has closed its doors.

The 2013 **Silver City Clay Festival** has announced that it will feature a three-day Juried Vendor Fair showcasing clay-related work by local and regional artisans, including books, clothing, pottery, jewelry and more. The Vendor Fair will be held at the former Workshops of Carneros at 405 N. Bullard St., downtown, August 2-4. Hours will be Friday and Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

The Clay Festival will showcase tile, pottery,



Clay works by artist Jared Carpenter will be featured at the Silver City Clay Festival.



Above: Chris Alvarez will teach a workshop, "Paint the Town in Oils," in Silver City June 28-30. Below: Louise Sackett's Wind Canyon Studio is now open on Mondays and Wednesdays, featuring works such as "Dear, Guess What?"



adobe and natural building processes. The festival, July 27-August 4, will include workshops, demonstrations, sales and exhibitions of clay art of all kinds; child-friendly activities; lectures, tours and films; receptions, dances, an opening-night gala, an adobe labyrinth build workshop; a poker tournament fundraiser and more. For more details, see [www.clayfestival.com](http://www.clayfestival.com) and watch for the preview in our July issue.

## Las Cruces/Mesilla

On display through June 8 at the **Las Cruces Museum of Nature & Science** is "ME=My Environment," featuring the photography of Ron Saltzman. This select group of wildlife images came from a photo safari on the Ladder and Armendaris Ranches in southern New Mexico. 411 N. Main St., 522-3120, [www.las-cruces.org/museums](http://www.las-cruces.org/museums).

The **Main Street Gallery** features "Capturing Cuba!," works by photographer Storm Sernay from a recent People to People Cultural Exchange trip to Havana, which he says was like an excursion in Peabody's "way-back" machine. The exhibit opens June 7, 5-7 p.m., and continues through June. 311 N. Main St., 647-0508.

The Las Cruces Arts Association's **Mountain Gallery** celebrates its first year with a Birthday Bash on June 7, 4-7 p.m. Currently on display are paintings in acrylic, encaustic, oil, pastel, silk and watercolor; fiber art; fused glass; jewelry; photographs and stained glass. 138 W. Mountain off Water Street, 652-3485.

**Creative Harmony Gallery and Gifts** will feature Roy Van der Aa in "An Evening with the Artist," June 14, 5-8 p.m. 220 N. Campo St., 312-3040.



The Las Cruces Museum of Nature & Science features "ME=My Environment," photographs by Ron Saltzman.

The **West End Art Depot** is inviting Doña Ana County residents to submit works for a show that will open July 5. Works will be accepted at the gal-


lery June 29 and 30, 12-3 p.m. each day. For information, email nmart-co.op@gmail.com. 401 N. Mesilla St., 312-9892

The **Pastel Society of New Mexico** is seeking entries for the 22nd Annual National Pastel Painting Exhibition, Nov. 1-24, at Expo New Mexico in Albuquerque. Digital entries are due August 15. For information, see www.pastelsnm.org or send SASE to PSNM-F, PO Box 3571, Albuquerque, NM 87190. ☎

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

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ARTS EXPOSURE

# Gallery Guide

**Silver City**  
**ANN SIMONSEN STUDIO-GALLERY,** 104 W. Yankee St., 654-5727.  
**ART + CONVERSATION,** 614 N. Bullard, 388-3350. Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sundays 12 a.m.-6 p.m. Gallery and gathering space. www.artandconversation.com.  
**ARTESANOS,** 211-B N. Texas St., 519-0804. Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 12-6 p.m.  
**[A]SP."A"OE,** 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.  
**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 THREAD,** 107 W. Broadway, 538-5733. Mon., Thurs, Fri. and Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Retail and gallery space for fiber arts. www.fiberartscollective.org.  
**COPPER QUAIL GALLERY,** 211-A Texas St., corner of Yankee and Texas, 388-2646. Tues.-Sun. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Fine arts and crafts.  
**COW TRAIL ART STUDIO,** 119 Cow Trail in Arenas Valley. Mon. 12-3 p.m. or by appointment, (706) 533-1897, www.victoriachick.com.  
**CREATIONS & ADORNMENTS,** 108 N. Bullard, 534-4269. Mon.-Sat. 9 a.m.-5

p.m. Work by Diane Reid.  
**DRAGONFLY STUDIO,** 508 W 6th St., 388-8646. By appointment.  
**FRANCIS McCRAY GALLERY,** 1000 College Ave., WNMU, 538-6517.  
**GALLERY 400,** Gila House, 400 N. Arizona, 313-7015. Tues.-Sat., 1-6 p.m. www.gilahouse.com.  
**HOWELL DESIGN & GALLERY,** 200 W. Market St., 388.2993. www.anthony-howell.com.  
**JEFF KUHN'S POTTERY,** 3029 Pinos Altos Road, 534-9389. By appointment.  
**LEYBA & INGALLS ARTS,** 315 N. Bullard St., 388-5725. Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Contemporary art ranging from realism to abstraction in a variety of media featuring artists Crystal Foreman Brown, Romaine Begay, Christana Brown, Susan Brinkley, Gorde Headlee, Diana Ingalls Leyba, Dayna Griego, Constance Knuppel, Mary Alice Murphy, Phillip Parotti, Betsey Resnick, Teri Matelson, Joe Theiman, Zoe Wolfe, Melanie Zipin. www.LeybalngallsARTS.com, LeybalngallsART@zianet.com.  
**LOIS DeLONG STUDIO,** 2309 Paul Place, 388-4759. By appointment.  
**LOIS DUFFY ART STUDIO,** 211C N. Texas, 534-0822. Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Original paintings, cards and prints. www.loisduffy.com, loisduffy@signal-peak.net.  
**LOYD STUDIOS,** 306 W. Broadway, (303) 378-0926. Weds-Sat. 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Sun. 12-5 p.m. lloydstudios.com.  
**MARY'S FINE ART,** 414 E. 21st St., 956-7315. Mary A. Gravelle.  
**MIMBRES REGION ARTS COUNCIL GALLERY,** Wells Fargo Bank Bldg., 1201 N. Pope St. www.mimbresarts.org.  
**MOLLY RAMOLLA GALLERY & FRAM-**

**ING,** 307 N. Texas, 538-5538. www.ramollaart.com.  
**OFF BEAD GALLERY,** 701 N. Bullard, 388-8973. Mon-Fri 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-4 p.m.  
**OL' WEST GALLERY & MERCANTILE,** 104 W. Broadway, 388-1811/313-2595. Daily 11 a.m.-6 p.m.  
**RED EARTH GALLERY,** 108 W. Yankee St., (505) 850-3182, www.pudfranzblau.com.  
**SEEDBOAT CENTER FOR THE ARTS,** 214 W. Yankee St., 534-1136. Mon., Thurs.-Sat. 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Sun. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Tues.-Weds. by appointment. info@seedboatgallery.com.  
**SILVER SPIRIT GALLERY,** 215 W. Broadway, 388-2079.  
**STONEWALKER STUDIO,** 105 Country Road, 534-0530. By appointment. Barbara Jorgen Nance.  
**STUDIO BEHIND THE MOUNTAIN,** 23 Wagon Wheel Lane, 388-3277. By appointment. www.jimpalmerbronze.com.  
**THE STUDIOSPACE,** 109 N. Bullard St., 534-9291. www.jessgorell.com.  
**STUDIO UPSTAIRS,** 109 N. Bullard St., 574-2493. By appointment.  
**SUSAN SZAJER STUDIO,** Sanctuary Road, 313-7197 By appointment.  
**TATIANA MARIA GALLERY,** 305 & 307 N. Bullard St., 388-4426.  
**TOP HAT ART,** 115 N. Bayard.  
**21 LATIGO TRAIL,** 388-4557. Works by Barbara Harrison and others.  
**WILD WEST WEAVING,** 211-D N. Texas, 313-1032, www.hosanaeilert.com. Mon.-Thurs. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Fri-

**GALLERY GUIDE** continued on next page

**Wind Canyon Studio Fine Art**  
Pastels and Oil Paintings  
11 Quail Run, off mile marker 107,  
Hwy 180



Open Mondays  
and  
Wednesdays  
9a.m. to 4p.m.

Otherwise open by appointment 575-574-2308  
Owner/artist Louise Sackett 619-933-8034

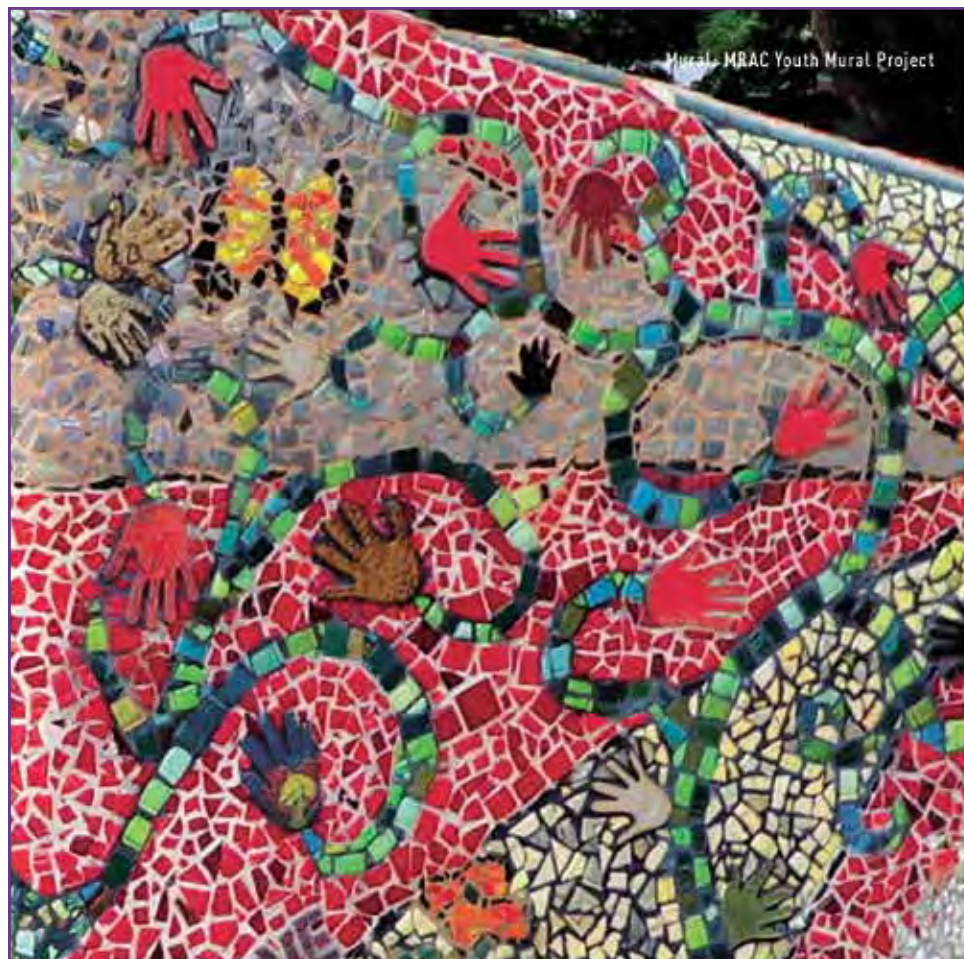
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### GALLERY GUIDE continued

Sat. 9 a.m.-6 p.m.  
**WIND CANYON STUDIO**, 11 Quail Run off Hwy. 180 mile marker 107, 574-2308, (619) 933-8034. Louise Sackett. Mon., Weds. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and by appointment.  
**WYNNEGATE GALLERY & STUDIO**, 110 W. Yankie St., (214) 957-3688. Mon., Thurs.-Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sun. 11:45 a.m.-4 p.m., Tues.-Wed. by appointment.  
**YANKIE ST. ARTIST STUDIOS**, 103 W. Yankie St., 313-1032. By appointment.  
**ZOE'S GALLERY**, 305 N. Cooper St., 654-4910.

#### Tyrone

**MOONSTRUCK ART STUDIO**, 501 Covellite Dr., 956-5346, 654-5316. By appointment.

**SUN DAWG STUDIO**, 501 Malachite Ave., 388-3551. By appointment.

#### Pinos Altos

**HEARST CHURCH GALLERY**, Gold St., 574-2831. Open late-April to early-October. Fri., Sat., Sun. and holidays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

#### Mimbres

**CHAMOMILE CONNECTION**, 3918 Highway 35N, 536-9845. Lynnae McConaha. By appointment.

**COTTAGE STAINED GLASS & MORE**, Cedar Lane off Hwy. 35, 536-3234. Fri. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat.-Sun. 2-5 p.m.

**KATE BROWN POTTERY AND TILE**, HC 15 Box 1335, San Lorenzo, 536-9935, katebrown@gilnet.com, www.katebrownpottery.com. By appointment.

**NARRIE TOOLE**, Estudio de La Montura, 313-2565, www.narrietoole.com.



The Main Street Gallery features "Capturing Cuba!" works by photographer Storm Sermay from a recent People to People Cultural Exchange trip to Havana.

p.m.  
**GALERIA TEPIN**, 2220 Calle de Parian, 523-3988. Thurs.-Sun., 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

**MESILLA VALLEY FINE ARTS GALLERY**, 2470 Calle de Guadalupe, 522-2933. Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Sun. 12-5:30 p.m.

**THE POTTERIES**, 2260 Calle de Santiago, 524-0538.

**ROKOKO**, 1785 Avenida de Mercado, 405-8877.

#### Las Cruces

**ALEGRE GALLERY**, 920 N Alameda Blvd., 523-0685.

**BLUE GATE GALLERY**, 311 Old Downtown Mall, 523-2950. Tue.-Fri. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-noon.

**CHARLES INC.**, 1885 W Boutz Rd, 523-1888, Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

**COTTONWOOD GALLERY**, 275 N. Downtown Mall (Southwest Environmental Center), 522-5552. Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

**CREATIVE HARMONY**, 220 N. Campo St., 312-3040. Weds.-Sun. 12-5 p.m.

**CRUZ NOPAL**, 1175 W. Picacho, 635-7899. Thurs.-Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. or by appointment. ouida@ouida-touchon.com, www.ouida-touchon.com.

**CUTLER GALLERY**, 2640 El Paseo, 541-0658. Tues.-Fri. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

**GALERIE ACCENTS**, 344 S. San Pedro #3, 522-3567. Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

**GALLERIE CRAMOISIE**, 1695 Hickory Loop, 524-9349. Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

**GRIGGS & REYMOND**, 504 W. Griggs Ave., 524-8450, Tue.-Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

**JUSTUS WRIGHT GALERIA**, 266 W. Court Ave., 526-6101, jud@delvalleprintinglc.com.

**J.T. MACRORE STUDIO**, 639 S. San Pedro, 524-1006.

**LAS CRUCES MUSEUM OF ART**, 491 N. Main St., 541-2137. Tues.-Fri. 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

**LUNDEEN INN OF THE ARTS**, 618 S. Alameda Blvd., 526-3326. Daily 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

**MAIN STREET GALLERY**, 311 N. Downtown Mall, 647-0508. Tues.-Fri. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat. 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

**MESQUITE ART GALLERY**, 340 N. Mesquite St., 640-3502. Thur.-Fri. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat. 2-5 p.m.

**MOUNTAIN GALLERY AND STUDIOS**, 138 W. Mountain St. Thurs.-Sun., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

**M. PHILLIP'S FINE ART GALLERY**, 221 N. Main St., 525-1367.

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

**NEW DIMENSION ART WORKS**, 615 E. Piñon, 373-0043.

**NEW MEXICO ART**, 121 Wyatt Dr., Suite 1, 525-8292/649-4876. Weds. 1-6 p.m., Thurs.-Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

**NMSU ART GALLERY**, Williams Hall, University Ave. east of Solano, 646-2545. Tues.-Sun.

**NOPALITO'S GALERIA**, 326 S. Mes-

quite. Fri.-Sun., 8 a.m.-8:30 p.m.  
**QUILLIN STUDIO AND GALLERY**, behind Downtown COAS Books, 312-1064. Mon.-Thurs., Sat.

**STUDIO 309**, 309 E. Organ Ave., 649-3781. By appointment.

**STUDIO 909**, 909 Raleigh Road, 541-8648. By appointment.

**TIERRA MONTANA GALLERY**, 535 N. Main St., 635-2891. Tues.-Sat., 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

**TOMBAUGH GALLERY**, Unitarian Universalist Church, 2000 S. Solano, 522-7281. Weds.-Fri. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. or by appointment.

**UNSETTLED GALLERY & STUDIO**, 905 N. Mesquite, 635-2285.

**VIRGINIA MARIA ROMERO STUDIO**, 4636 Maxim Court, 644-0214. By appointment. agzromero@zianet.com, www.virginiamariaromero.com.

#### La Mesa

**LA MESA STATION GALLERY**, 16205 S. Hwy. 28, 233-3037. Fri.-Sat. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 1-4 pm.

#### Columbus

**ART ON THE WESTERN EDGE**, at Windwalker Guest Ranch B&B, Hwy. 11 north, mile marker 7, 640-4747.

#### Deming

**ART SPACE GALLERY**, 601 S. Silver, 546-0673. Mon., Fri. 12-6 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., donni@chris-donni.com.

**DEMING ARTS CENTER**, 100 S. Gold St., 546-3663. Tues.-Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

**KING'S KORNER**, 103 E. Ash, 546-4441.

**GOLD STREET GALLERY**, 112-116 S. Gold St., 546-8200.

**STUDIO LEMARBE**, 4025 Chaparral SE, 544-7708.

#### Rodeo

**CHIRICAHUA GALLERY**, 5 Pine St., 557-2225.

#### Hillsboro

**BARBARA MASSENGILL GALLERY**, 894-9511/895-3377, Fri.-Sun. 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

**PERCHA CREEK TRADERS**, 895-5116, Weds.-Sun. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

#### Chloride

**MONTE CRISTO**, Wall St., 743-0190. Daily 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

**SUBMIT GALLERY INFORMATION TO—** Desert Exposure, PO Box 191, Silver City, NM 88062, fax 534-4134, email editor@desertexposure.com.



"Bird of Paradise" by Judy Licht, featured at the Las Cruces Arts Association's Mountain Gallery Birthday Bash on June 7.

Contemporary western oils, giclées and art prints. By appointment.

**REESE-BENTON ARTS**, 3811 Hwy. 35, 536-9487. By appointment.

#### Bayard

**KATHRYN ALLEN CLAY STUDIO**, 601 Erie St., 537-3332. By appointment.

**T. ALI STUDIO**, 421 E. Elm St., 537-3470. By appointment.

#### Hanover

**FIERRO CANYON GALLERY**, 4 Hermosa St., 537-3262, www.fierrocanyongallery.com. Thurs.-Mon. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

**LA GARITA**, 13 Humboldt, 537-6624. By appointment.

#### Hurley

**JW ART GALLERY**, Old Hurley Store, 99 Cortez Ave., 537-0300. Weds.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat.-Sun. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., www.jwartgallery.com.

**Northern Grant County & Catron County**

**ANNIE'S ON THE CORNER**, Hwy. 180 and Adair, Luna, 547-2502.

**CASITAS DE GILA**, 50 Casita Flats Road, Gila, 535-4455. Sat.-Sun. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. or by appointment. gallery@casitasdegila.com, www.galleryat-casitas.com.

**WILLOW GALLERY**, Hwy. 15, Gila Hot Springs, 536-3021. By appointment.

#### Mesilla

**ADOBE PATIO GALLERY**, 1765 Avenida de Mercado (in the Mesilla Mercado), 532-9310. Tues.-Sat. 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

**GALERI AZUL**, Old Mesilla Plaza, 523-8783. Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

**GALERIA ON THE PLAZA**, 2310 Calle de Principal, 526-9771. Daily 10 am.-6

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TALKING HORSES • SCOTT THOMSON

# Reader Questions, Answered

## Responsibility lives in your barn.

**Q** How much do you think a trainer should be riding a horse for the owner?

**A** To paraphrase a philosophy about learning: Tell me what to do and I'll probably forget it; show me what to do and I may remember; have me do it and I'll remember it forever.

During my first clinic, the clinician would take an owner's horse and "tune him up" under saddle in front of the entire class. The clinician would make the horse look beautiful. The owner would beam with pride, aspire to the same level of excellence, and, more important (for the clinician), buy more lessons, clinics, equipment and videos. It was "aspirational" marketing at its best, and it really worked.

Then I noticed that when the owner took the horse back, within about an hour the horse looked exactly like it did before the trainer rode him. So, maybe the real variable in how a horse develops is the skill of the person in the saddle at that moment and not what a trainer puts in.

For me, the ONLY thing that matters to YOUR horse is what YOU can do—not what I, your best friend or some other trainer can do. I ride every horse of every student, but when and how much is different in every situation. With an older horse or a re-start, I may ride the horse right away to determine his physical/mental abilities. In a younger or dangerous horse, it may come later after a solid foundation is established from the ground. With an experienced rider, I can help more by being the eyes on the ground to see what small changes can improve results. With a less experienced rider, a good visual from horseback can help make progress.

I believe my job, and that of any good teacher, is to *empower the owner* to improve your own skills and your horse. This doesn't happen by showing the owner I'm a better rider who can make the horse do amazing things, or by simply putting miles on the horse. As radical as it sounds, I believe the more time a trainer spends riding your horse, the slower your progress will be in developing your own riding relationship with your horse.

**Q** I have a rescue horse that clearly has had some major trauma—can I bring the horse back myself or do I need a trainer who specializes in such cases?

**A** This is a great question and I applaud you for having a rescue horse. I've lost count of how many horses like this I've worked with—from trailer wrecks to lion attacks to human abuse, I think I've seen it all. Sadly, just like people, not all of them can be brought back.

An unavoidable trap you fall into when you hear the words *rescue*, *abused* or *traumatized* applied to any animal is thinking the solution is only about love, kindness and gentleness. This is critical for an animal during rehabilitation, but more important is the kind of handling horses seek as part of their basic nature. The things humans do to horses don't really go on in the herd, so giving the horse what would be normal in a herd—clear communication with body language, an easily understood hierarchy, experienced and savvy leadership, and maybe a buddy or two—probably brings the horse back faster than anything else.

Back in Washington I worked with a woman who had rescued a beautiful thoroughbred. The horse had a frightening accident in a starting gate, flipping over backwards, breaking a back leg. Rather than put the horse down on the spot, the breeder elected instead for a complicated surgery to repair the damage. When the horse had recovered enough, it was offered for rescue.

For two years, the horse was a pretty solid citizen, getting tremendous love and kindness from the new owner. She started to do some light riding and eventually got out on the trails. Then the wheels came off. He bucked her off on a familiar trail; he was impossible to lead; he blew up if asked to go through a gate or tight spot. He wouldn't go near the trailer. For whatever reason, now confident of his physical abilities and the soundness of his leg, all the bad memories of that awful accident resurfaced.

Overwhelmed by the change, the owner did what many people would do. She found a trainer who "specialized" in bringing back traumatized horses and ar-

ranged to send her horse off for as long as it would take to "fix" him. After about two months the trainer said he was good to go.

Within a few weeks, the horse was right back to where he was before sending him off.

That's when I got involved. We worked together over the next year, meeting twice per month—I guided, she did the work. A year later she was riding the horse again on the trails in just a rope halter and having no problems with leading, gates and tight spaces. Over the next few years she taught him how to pull a cart, and even a sleigh during a couple of snowy winters. He goes in the trailer—nervously but safely—for dressage clinics and new places to ride. Now, almost 10 years since I met her, she has a great all-around horse in his mid-teens with many more good years in front of them.

Did she do anything wrong sending this horse to a "specialist"? No, except for one thing: She was not involved in the process. She was not there to see what was done, how it was done, or to learn techniques she might need to handle a relapse. She believed training, or in this case rehab work, was programming, and once the training was in there the job was done.

Depending on the trauma and the resulting behavior, you may need some professional help to deal with your rescue horse. But, for your horse's long-term mental health, you need to be involved in the process. If you've sent him off to someone, arrange to be there as much as possible to see what is being done, why and how. If possible, work alongside the trainer to develop skills that match your personality and physical abilities, not those of the trainer's, so you can help your horse when he's home with you. All horses need this commitment from the owner, especially those that have experienced a traumatic event.

**Q** My horse has some frustrating behavioral problems. I've sent him to several trainers but nothing ever seems to stay fixed. What can I do?

**A** In defense of all the good trainers out there, maybe you shouldn't blame the trainers.

I might respond differently if your trainers have been the kind that didn't demand you be involved and learn what is being done, the kind that want to keep the techniques and "magic" to themselves.

In my first clinic, after watching my horse throw a couple of good rodeo bucks, the teacher said, "You put that in there!" I responded, "I just bought the damn horse, how could I have put that in there already?" Of course, my horse didn't buck for him. Years later I figured out what he was trying to say—I had to have the relationship with the horse and had to learn how to work things out. My horse was my responsibility.

One of my early students had a horse she bought as a yearling. The horse was now 12 and had some awful habits, some very dangerous. I heard a long rant about all the different trainers who'd been involved and how none had fixed the problems. What I didn't hear was anything about what the owner had tried to do with the horse. That told me everything I needed to know. The owner thought commitment to doing the right thing for the horse meant spending the money to send the horse off, not putting in the hours to learn the skills herself.

Your responsibility for your horse goes way beyond the fun stuff—the feeding, grooming, riding and love. It involves a serious commitment to improving your own skills and knowledge so you can see and hear what your horse is "saying" to you. Seeking outside help with a problem is fine, but in the end the horse is going to look to you for the help he needs every day. If you don't commit to doing this, then what the horse does or becomes falls squarely on your shoulders, not some third-party trainer.

There is no app for good horsemanship, only your effort and commitment. 🌱

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



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THE COWBOY WAY • DAVID A. FRYXELL

# A Greenhorn's Guide to the Rodeo

Discover your inner cowboy at Silver City's annual Wild, Wild West Pro Rodeo this month.



Saddle Bronc Riding at the Wild, Wild West Pro Rodeo (All photos © CariSue Flores)

at Bearup can't remember when he wasn't involved in rodeo. "It's been part of my whole life in one way or another," he says. "I competed in high school, and I still do team roping now. My dad and I have a crane company, and we help put up the scoreboard at the Southwest Horseman's Arena for the rodeo every year."

Ten years ago, Bearup became part of the committee that plans and puts on the annual Wild, Wild West Pro Rodeo in Silver City, which this year will be June 5-8. Six years ago he stepped up to be the committee chair.

He's quick to say, though, "I cannot do any of this without lots of volunteers and the whole committee and the help of sponsors."

This is the 23rd annual pro rodeo here, but the roots of the sport locally go back to the early 1900s, Bearup says. "Rodeo has been almost nonstop in Silver City since then. Before, it was always on the Fourth of July, and the arena was about where the Army Reserve Center is now on Swan Street. The Fourth of July is the 'Cowboy Christmas,' and there would be hundreds of rodeos held then nationwide."

When the "old rodeo grounds" were torn down, the action moved out to the site that's now the Grant County Business and Conference Center on Hwy. 180 East. After that site was sold to build what was originally a Walmart, the rodeo moved again, across 180 to the Southwest Horseman's Arena. About that same time, the rodeo switched from an amateur event under the auspices of the New Mexico Rodeo Association to a professional competition affiliated with the growing Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA). The date moved from the "Cowboy Christmas" to June to reduce the competition with so many other rodeos.

The Wild, Wild West Pro Rodeo adjusted its schedule again this year, about a week later in June, to actually better coincide with a pair of other area rodeos. In recent years, the Silver City event had matched up with rodeos in Clovis and Window Rock, NM. A

little overlap is a good thing, Bearup explains: "For a rodeo cowboy, having three rodeos within a six- or eight-hour drive is like heaven. In one weekend, you can collect three different paychecks."

But when Window Rock's rodeo switched to the July 4 weekend and Clovis also moved, contestant numbers dropped here. This year, the June 5 "Boys and the Bulls" and June 6-8 PRCA Pro Rodeo in Silver City will synchronize again with Clovis, as well as a rodeo in Cortez, just over the Colorado border.

All are part of the PRCA's Turquoise Circuit, which mostly encompasses New Mexico and Arizona. Oth-

er circuits cover a single big state, such as Texas or California. Top finishers at the Turquoise Circuit finals in Las Cruces in October will compete in the national circuit championships.

Local rodeo fans may very well have seen some of those top competitors here. "We've had lots of big-name, top-tier guys," says Bearup. "They come here because our contractor, Scotty Lovelace of Classic Pro Rodeo, has a really good string of roughstock and timed-event stock." After all, in roughstock rodeo events—bareback riding, saddle bronc riding and bull riding—half the score comes from the performance of the horse or bull.

"I've been told," Bearup goes on, "that if Silver City was in Texas, we'd be in contention for rodeo of the year every year, which is voted on by the contestants. We're just too out of the way here, though."

Rodeo fans, deflecting criticism from animal-rights advocates, like to point out that theirs is the only American sport that developed from the skills needed for an occupation. As promoters for the annual 101 Wild West Rodeo in Ponca City, Okla., put it, "It emerged from an industry—from the daily routine and long hours performed by ranch hands who came to know very well the animals with which they lived. If it were any other kind of job, leisure hours might have produced another kind of ball game rather than a recreation involving the very animals one had already spent long hours tending. But cowboying has always been more of a way of life than a job or an opportunity to get rich."

Those occupational skills were first developed by Spanish *vaqueiros* on early cattle ranches in California. The word "rodeo" means "roundup" in Spanish, and many of the events in today's rodeos have their roots in techniques that vaqueros used to roundup their herds. As Americans drove westward and especially after the Mexican War and US Civil War, those vaqueros' skills were passed along to American cowboys, along with the idea of the rodeo. According to the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame, "The difference between Spanish rodeo and American rodeo is that the Spanish version focuses on style, while the American version focuses on speed."

Several places claim to have hosted the first American rodeo, including right here in New Mexico, where Santa Fe held an event in 1847 that Captain Mayne Reid described in a letter to a friend in Ireland: "This round-up is a great time for the cowhand, a Donnybrook fair it is indeed. They contest with each other for the best roping and throwing, and there are horse races and whiskey and wines. At night in clear moonlight, there is dancing on the streets."

Deer Trail, Colo., stakes it own claim to the first US rodeo for an event held in 1867, and Pecos, Texas, claims the honor for a rodeo in 1883. All were free to the public and varied widely in their spectrum of cowboy-skill events.

The first American rodeo that resembled today's organized events is generally agreed to have been held on July 4, 1888, in Prescott, Ariz. The rodeo charged for admission, awarded prizes and had rules for competition set out by an organizing committee. The events would not have seemed too unfamiliar to today's rodeo fans—bronco riding, steer roping and "cow pony races." Steer riding, the forerunner of today's bull riding, was added in 1889, and calf

roping in 1917. The contests weren't standardized until 1929, however, and the term "rodeo" wasn't even universally adopted until about the same time.

For many spectators as the real "Wild West" was tamed, rodeo competitions were intermixed with "Wild West shows" staged by the likes of "Buffalo Bill" Cody. An actual Medal of Honor recipient for "gallantry in action" as a civilian scout for the Third Cavalry in 1872, William Frederick Cody joined one of the original Wild West Shows, produced by Ned Buntline. Cody performed in a production called "Scouts of the Plains" with his friend "Texas Jack" Omohundro and another Western legend, James Butler "Wild Bill" Hickok.

After touring with others for 10 years, Cody founded his own "Buffalo Bill's Wild West" show in 1883 in North Platte, Nebr. More grandly, by 1893 it became known as "Buffalo Bill's Wild West and Congress of Rough Riders of the World." By that time, Cody had already performed in London for Queen Victoria's Jubilee and met Pope Leo XIII; the show would tour Europe eight times.

According to the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame, "Today's rodeos are an offspring of these early shows that featured great cowboys such as Buffalo Bill Cody and Bill Pickett"—a famed black cowboy credited with inventing "bulldogging," today's steer wrestling.

Early rodeos and Wild West shows might include "Pony Express" races, "nightshirt" races and "drunken rides," as well as the occasional football game. Trick and fancy roping and riding were popular, as were "Roman standing races"—one foot on the back of each of a pair of horses. There were no chutes, gates or time limits.



Mutton Bustin', a popular event for kids.

As Wild West shows faded, events more like true rodeos began to take their place. In 1897, Cheyenne, Wyo., held its first Frontier Days, which today draws some 200,000 people. In 1912, businessmen in Calgary, Canada, hired American roper Guy Weadick to organize the first Calgary Stampede rodeo. He fol-

lowed with "stampedes" in Winnipeg and New York City, paving the way for powerful producers to popularize rodeo in major cities from Chicago to Boston and even in Europe.

After World War I, which nearly killed the fledgling sport, Tex Austin created the Madison Square Garden Rodeo in New York City in 1922. It soon overtook even Cheyenne's Frontier Days in popularity and importance, with the winners viewed as the unofficial world rodeo champions.

Austin lost control of the event, however, to Texan Col. William T. Johnson, who adapted the rodeo to better suit indoor arenas. Most races were impractical for indoors, and rodeos could no longer go on all day as they had out West. His rodeos featured six cowboy contests, mostly the list familiar to today's



Barrel racing is now the only rodeo event that regularly stars women.

## 23rd Annual Wild, Wild West Pro Rodeo

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5**—"Boys and the Bulls," with hometown team roping and WPRA Barrel Racing.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 6**—PRCA Rodeo. Family Night: buy three tickets and the fourth is free. Spectators and contestants are encouraged to wear pink as part of "Tough Enough to Wear Pink" night; part of the proceeds benefit the GRMC Cancer Center and Cowboys for Cancer Research. New this year Ranch Bronc Riding. At 6:15 p.m. is the Exceptional Rodeo, where kids with disabilities ride with the pros.

**FRIDAY, JUNE 7**—PRCA Rodeo.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 8**—PRCA Rodeo. Gates at the Southwest Horseman's Arena open at 6 p.m. Mutton Bustin' begins at 7:30 p.m. and rodeo performances begin at 8 p.m. Every night enjoy food and other vendors. The US National Guard will present the colors, with local national anthem singers as well as Rodeo Royalty, Rockin' Robbie Hodges and the Classic Pro Rodeo Bullfighters.

Tickets: \$18 at the gate, \$15 in advance at: Circle Heart Western Wear and First New Mexico Bank in Silver City, Circle S Western Emporium in Deming, Trail Town Chevron in Lordsburg. Shuttle runs from First New Mexico Bank, 6-7:45 p.m., and you can purchase rodeo tickets at advance price.

### RELATED EVENTS:

**TUESDAY, JUNE 4**—Pot of Silver Open Team Roping, 11 a.m.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5**—Timed events slack at 9 am.

**JUNE 5-8**—Dance nightly at the Flame Convention Center.

**JUNE 7-8**—Family dance on the slab at the arena after the rodeo by Lone Mountain 4-H.

For more information, see [www.silvercityprorodeo.com](http://www.silvercityprorodeo.com).



Bull riding is the most popular rodeo event.

Autry sang "Home on the Range" at a 1940 rodeo while cowgirls rode around him, it became a tradition to croon at every rodeo—and to feature a western singer as a headliner. Autry was more than just star power, however, and formed a company that took over the Madison Square Garden, Boston and other big rodeos.

Today, the PRCA has professionalized rodeo in more than just name. It boasts more than 6,000 members; \$38.7 million in prize money was awarded at PRCA-sanctioned rodeos, which number more than 600 annually nationwide. Counting

audiences but with women competing in bronc riding, plus other entertainment including basketball played on horseback. Johnson's innovations enabled rodeo to ride out the Depression: In the 1930s, the average rodeo cowboy earned \$2,000 to \$3,000 a year—as much or more than a dentist.

Rodeo cowgirls didn't fare as well, however, after a bronc-riding accident in 1929 claimed the life of superstar Bonnie McCarroll. Many western rodeos responded by dropping women from competition, and today the only event that features cowgirls is typically barrel racing. That event was created in 1931 at the Stamford Cowboy Reunion and proved wildly popular. But when rodeo producers organized the Rodeo Association of America (RAA) in an effort to tame the sport, it was an all-male entity.

In 1936, the cowboys decided to form their own organization after a dispute over prize money at Johnson's rodeo in Boston. The group was dubbed the "Cowboy Turtle Association," because the cowboys were "slow to stick their necks out," but stubborn once they did take a stand. It was renamed the Rodeo Cowboys Association in 1945 and the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association in 1974; the producers' rival RAA gave up in 1955.

Meanwhile, Hollywood had gotten in on the act, in the person of "singing cowboy" Gene Autry. After

career prize money, 77 rodeo cowboys have earned more than a million dollars each at PRCA events, such as Silver City's Wild, Wild West Pro Rodeo.

PRCA events like the one in Silver City typically feature six or seven events, three in the judge-scored roughstock category and three or four (depending on the number of roping events) in which contestants compete to finish in the fastest times. Judging the roughstock events works almost like gymnastics—if, that is, the gymnasts were also scored for how well the pommel horse or rings fought back. Typically two judges each award points for each ride (saddle bronc, bareback horse or bull) on a scale of 0 to 25, with another 0 to 25 points awarded for the horse or bull's performance. The scores are then totaled for a maximum of 100 points. That's assuming, of course, that a cowboy stays on his bucking mount for a full eight seconds, and avoids disqualification for several possible infractions.

Here's how the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame describes the three roughstock competitions:

- **Saddle Bronc Riding**—Rodeo's "classic" event, saddle bronc riding, has roots that run deep in the history of the Old West. Ranch hands would often gather and compete among themselves to see who could display the best style while riding untrained horses. It was from

RODEO continued on next page

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## RODEO continued

this early competition that today's event was born. Each rider must begin his ride with his feet over the bronc's shoulders to give the horse the advantage. A rider who synchronizes his spurring action with the animal's bucking efforts will receive a high score. Other factors considered in the scoring are the cowboy's control throughout the ride, the length of his spurring stroke and how hard the horse bucks.

Disqualification results if, prior to the buzzer that sounds after eight seconds, the rider touches the animal, himself or his equipment with his free hand; if either foot slips out of a stirrup; if he drops the bronc rein; he fails to have his feet in the proper "mark out" position at the beginning of the ride; or he bucks off.

• **Bareback Riding**—A bareback rider begins his ride with his feet placed above the break of the horse's shoulder. If the cowboy's feet are not in the correct position when the horse hits the ground on its first jump out of the chute, the cowboy has failed to "mark out" the horse properly and is disqualified. Throughout the eight-second ride, the cowboy must grasp the rigging (a handhold made of leather and rawhide) with only one hand.

A rider is disqualified if he touches his equipment, himself or the animal with his free hand or bucks off. The rider is judged on his control during the ride and on his spurring technique. The score also is based on the rider's "exposure" to the strength of the horse. As in all roughstock events, the horse's performance accounts for half the potential score.

• **Bull Riding**—Unlike the other roughstock contestants, bull riders are not required to spur. No wonder. It's usually impressive enough just to remain seated for eight seconds on an animal that may weigh more than a ton and is as quick as he is big. Upper-body control and strong legs are essential to riding bulls. The rider tries to remain forward, or "over his hand," at all times. Leaning back could cause him to be whipped forward when the bull bucks. Judges watch for good body position and other factors, including use of the free arm and spurring action. Although not required, spurring will add points to a rider's score.

A bull rider will be disqualified for touching the animal, himself or his equipment with his free hand or bucking off.

The four timed events you'll see at a rodeo are:

• **Tie Down Roping**—Like bronc riding, tie down roping is an event born on the ranches of the Old West. Sick calves were roped and tied down for medical treatment. Today, success in tie down roping depends largely on the teamwork between a cowboy and his horse. After the calf is given a head start, horse and rider give chase. The contestant ropes the calf, then dismounts and runs to the animal. After catching and flanking the calf, the cowboy ties any three of the animal's legs together using a "pigging string" he carries in his teeth until needed. If the calf is not standing when the contestant reaches it, the cowboy must allow the animal to stand. When the cowboy completes his tie, he throws his hands in the air as a signal to the judge. He then remounts and allows the rope to become slack. The run is declared invalid if the calf kicks free within six seconds. As with any timed event, a 10-second penalty is added if the roper does not allow the calf the proper head start—this is known as "breaking the barrier."

• **Steer Wrestling**—Wrestling a steer requires more than brute strength. The successful steer wrestler, or bulldogger, is strong, to be sure, but he also understands the principles of leverage. The steer wrestler on horseback starts behind a barrier, and begins his chase after the steer has been given a head start. If the bulldogger leaves too soon and breaks the barrier, he receives a 10-second penalty. The steer wrestler



Walt Nichols Memorial Team Roping, with local contestants Del Hooker and David Hooker. (All photos © CariSue Flores)

is assisted by a hazer, another cowboy on horseback tasked with keeping the steer running in a straight line. When the bulldogger's horse pulls even with the steer, he eases down the right side of the horse and reaches for the steer's horns. After grasping the horns, he digs his heels into the dirt. As the steer slows, the cowboy turns the animal, lifts up on its right horn and pushes down with his left hand in an effort to tip the steer over. After the catch, the steer wrestler must either bring the steer to a stop or change the direction of the animal's body before the throw or is disqualified. The clock stops when the steer is on his side with all four legs pointing the same direction.

**10 Rodeo Superstitions**

- Saddle bronc riders always put their right foot in the stirrup first.
- Never kick a paper cup thrown down at a rodeo.
- Cowgirls often wear different color socks for good luck.
- If you compete with change in your pocket, that is all you win.
- If you put your hat on a bed, you may be seriously injured or killed.
- Eating a hotdog before a competition brings good luck.
- Never read your horoscope the day of competition.
- Never eat peanuts or popcorn in the arena.
- Always shave before a competition.
- Wearing yellow in the arena will bring bad luck.

—101 Wild West Rodeo

• **Team Roping**—Team roping is unique in that two cowboys work together for a shared time. The first cowboy, known as the "header," ropes the steer either by the horns, around the neck, or "half head," which is one horn and the neck. After this catch is made, the header wraps his rope around the saddle horn, commonly known as "dallying," and turns the steer in a wide arc to the left. The second cowboy is known as the "heeler." He trails along beside the steer until the header turns the steer, then moves in behind the steer and attempts to rope the back feet. If he manages only one hind foot, the team receives a five-second penalty. Time is stopped when both cowboys' horses are facing each other.

• **Barrel Racing**—In barrel racing, a competition for cowgirls, the contestant and her horse enter the arena at full speed. As they start the pattern, the horse and rider trigger an electronic eye that starts the clock. Then the racer rides a clo-

verleaf pattern around three barrels positioned in the arena, and sprints back out of the arena, tripping the eye and stopping the clock as she leaves. The contestant can touch or even move the barrels, but receives a five-second penalty for each barrel that is overturned. With the margin of victory measured in hundredths of seconds, knocking over even one barrel spells disaster.

"One thing about rodeo," says Bearup, "is that there is a broad spectrum of action. The events have a lot of finesse if you understand them a little bit."

Bull riding always comes last at the Wild, Wild West Pro Rodeo, he adds, because that's the most popular event, so the others lead up to it. Bearup sees some similarities between the appeal of bull riding and that of NASCAR racing: "People like to see people win, but they're also there to see the wrecks. It's not that they want to see people get hurt, but there's that anticipation—and then cheering when a competitor walks away from a wreck."

Over the years, he adds, the rodeo audience in Silver City has changed. "It's not the ranching community it was 20 or 30 years ago," Bearup explains. "People in the stands are not as tied to the cowboy, ranching culture.

"But they still like a good show." 🌵

David A. Fryxell is editor of Desert Exposure.



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SOUTH OF THE BORDER • MORGAN SMITH

## House of Love

Recalling life-changing experiences with Palomas' La Casa de Amor Para Niños, as the former orphanage embarks on a new mission.



Martina Ontiveros and her two daughters and two granddaughters at La Casa de Amor Para Niños in Palomas. (Photos by Morgan Smith)

It was May 7, 2010, and I was crossing the border at Palomas, Mexico. My destination was an orphanage called La Casa de Amor Para Niños (“the house of love for children”). A woman we know in Santa Fe has a friend named Martina Ontiveros who worked there as a volunteer and suggested that I visit. Little did I know how much this visit would change my life.

I headed south on the main street, turned right by the Coca-Cola sign as directed and worked my way to the west along dusty, potholed dirt streets. Due to the violence, many residents had fled and it seemed like half the homes were in ruins or abandoned. Eventually I found the building and, sure enough, Martina was inside, working with the 30-plus children who were living there.

These were dangerous years in Palomas. Tanis Garcia, the popular mayor, was murdered in October 2009. So one of my first questions to Martina was, “Aren’t you afraid?”

She replied saying that she is a “*soldado de salvación*.” Working here was her mission, no matter what the danger might be.

With those words, she opened a window to a world that I didn’t know existed—a world of persistent and courageous humanitarians, some affiliated with specific churches but all deeply religious. In short, people who have a mission and will not be deterred. I’m not a churchgoer so this is a completely new experience, one that has led to a continuing project of visiting, photographing and writing about these many individuals and organizations, mostly in Palomas and Juárez.

After interviewing Martina, I went outside and saw several Americans unloading supplies from a van with New Mexico plates. What a surprise it was to discover that they too were from Santa Fe. Part of a coalition of 12 Christian churches in New Mexico—six in Santa Fe, four in Silver City and two in Deming—they had been bringing supplies to Palomas the second weekend of every month for the preceding 11 years. That was a record of extraordinary persistence, especially since getting food across the border was always a struggle with the Mexican customs authorities. On that particular day, for example, 300 of the 1,000 pounds of beans they brought were confiscated, despite the enormous hunger in Palomas.

At the time, La Casa had 32 children, ranging in

age from a newborn to 12 years. One child, Wendy, came when she was only three months old and addicted to crack via her mother. By the time of my arrival, she had recovered from early seizures and seemed like just a bright, cheery six year old. All of them were thrilled to see visitors, as I discovered on many subsequent trips.

La Casa was managed by a coalition that included the 12 New Mexico churches as well as a church in Palomas. The president was and still is Jim Noble, the pastor at the Light at Mission Viejo in Santa Fe as well as an immigration attorney. This was a huge team effort, however, including among many others his wife, Pat. Dale Giese, a member of the Good Shepard Episcopal Church in Silver City, had received a Rotary Club grant for \$10,000 to build the wall around the building. Tom Bates, the deacon from the same church, would buy 1,000 pounds of beans every month. Tanis Garcia had been on their board until his murder. Maria Lopez, who took his place as mayor or *presidenta*, was active in helping get the food and supplies through customs and continues to run a program for “*abuelitas*.” The Mondragons from Durango, Colo., were developing vocational programs.

The next day was a Mother’s Day celebration. The whole town was invited for a meal, music provided by a rock band called Rocka Fuerte from Juárez and games organized by an Assembly of God Church in Juárez called Manantial de Vida. Much of this exciting day was organized by a young woman named Eunice Herrera, who grew up about an hour south of Palomas, then went to school in the United States and now works as a legal assistant in Jim Noble’s law office. (I recently had the honor of writing a recommendation for law school for her and she has just been accepted at Southern Illinois University.) What these volunteers put together that day was an extraordinary display of support not only for these youngsters but for the approximately 400 residents of Palomas who attended.

That December, I attended their Christmas celebration and there must have been 600

attendees. In addition to music, food and games, each family received a “*dispensa*” with household goods. At the Mother’s Day festival in 2012 there were over 800 attendees, gifts for more than 300 families and volunteers from Texas, New Mexico and Colorado.

After Maria Lopez left her position as mayor, relations with the government of Palomas took a turn for the worse and the DIF (*Desarrollo Integral de la Familia*) began referring fewer and fewer children. As a result, the orphanage had to close last year.

La Casa’s supporters then shifted their focus and began sponsoring kids to go to school. This means providing a uniform, a pair of new shoes, a backpack and school supplies, some food and the instructional fees. The cost is about \$150 per year for elementary children, \$250 for junior high and \$500 for high school.

Why is it so important to keep these kids in school? A report from the Port of Entry in Palomas indicated, for example, that 40% of the marijuana seizures involved smugglers under the age of 17. This is understandable in a community where so many young people are totally unprepared for any kind of legitimate work and where dealing with drugs can seem like the only option.

In 2011, La Casa secured sponsorships for 80 children; now there are 165. I’m a sponsor, for example,



Maria Lopez, the former mayor, with Tarahumara Indians at La Casa fiesta.

of a 13-year-old boy named Miguel Ángel Paredes Chavira. I hope to have a chance to meet him and his family on an upcoming trip. A woman in Palomas named Betty Jurado is in charge of the program.

In February 2013, Noble received good news. The director of the DIF for the state of Chihuahua met with several of La Casa’s board members and said that she needs a shelter for children who are 11 years old and up who either aren’t adoptable because of their age or who are older and have been in state-run shelters and now have to fend on their own. This is not an easy challenge, since these children have no family support and little education or training and Palomas itself has almost nothing in terms of employment.

Noble and other board members believe that they can provide a “family atmosphere” for these children, help them in school, provide tutoring after school and, later on, prepare them for trade schools, technical schools or college.

A huge task

lies ahead and involves:

- Modifying the interior of their building to provide bedrooms for girls.
- Finishing a security system for the gates as well as adding security cameras inside the building.
- Upgrading the kitchen and bathrooms.
- Pressurizing the water system.
- Upgrading the yard and the sports equipment.
- Setting up a “business office.”
- Updating their computer training capacity and furnishing a study area.
- Finding a program director and the right house parents. (This is perhaps the biggest challenge because the pool of trained staff in Palomas is very small.)

The strategy for taming violence in Mexico has been a “top-down” one, especially as carried out by former President Felipe Calderón. By that, I mean going after the leaders of the cartels. An equally important issue is the “bottom-up” one. That is, finding opportunities for young people to develop careers and obtain jobs. If this doesn’t happen, they will continue to be drawn into cartels or gangs where they can make quick money with carjackings, kidnappings, extortion and, eventually killings.

Therefore, what Noble and his team members are trying to do—give young people the guidance and the skills to function in a legal society—is critical.



Several of the kids in La Casa with the author’s dog, Bella, in 2010.



La Casa Christmas party in Palomas.



Eunice Herrera and Jim Noble.

It's also encouraging that the DIF has recognized its commitment to Palomas and come to them for help.

The goal now is to re-open by August 1 and to focus on young women ages 11-13. These young women would be selected by the DIF director, given a "family" atmosphere within the facility, encouraged with their school work and provided tutoring in the afternoons. Once they completed high school, they would have the opportunity to go to a trade school, technical school or college. The challenge is enormous but the Casa de Amor "team" has been committed to Palomas for well over a decade and has a record of persistence that is truly inspiring. I'm betting that they will succeed. ❁

*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 former member of the Colorado House of Representatives and Colorado Commissioner of Agriculture. He now lives in Santa Fe and travels to the border at least once a month to visit, photograph and write about humanitarian projects there. He can be reached at Morgan-smith@comcast.net.*



Two of the children at La Casa de Amor Para Niños when it served as an orphanage.



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ANNALS OF AGRICULTURE • KAREN RAY

## Bee Wise

New Mexico beekeepers harvest honey while providing pollinators for much of the other food we eat.



Anita Feil with her "Topbar" hive. (Photo: Karen Ray)



The "Workin' Girls" at work. (Photo: Anita Feil)

"In the bee-ginning..." there were bees. Bees are one of the most important links in our finely tuned ecosystem and are one of the pollinators "essential for human life," according to the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation. "Approximately one in three mouthfuls of food and beverage required the presence of a pollinator.... Bees are the primary pollinator for most wildflowers and crops in the United States and Canada." According to the society, "Worldwide, there are an estimated 20,000 species of bees, with approximately 4,000 species native to North America."

From Van Morrison's iconic ode to his sweetheart in "Tupelo Honey" to Blake Shelton's country-sweet "Honey Bee," honey has epitomized many of our human expressions of love and affection. Our love affair with honey is as old as the planet. Honey has been used as currency and the bee appeared on Greek coinage around the sixth century BC.

Bee keeping is one of the original cottage industries, amenable to backyard hobby producers as well as large-scale commercial production. The cultivation of honey has been honed to a fine art with nuances of flavor exquisitely tuned to geographic location, climate and season. Connoisseurs throughout history have deftly employed different types of honey to create just the right epicurean delight.

The health benefits of honey consumption have long been touted as people have sought more youthful skin, fewer allergies, and the natural antibiotic qualities of honey. Legend has it that ancient rulers were sometimes embalmed in honey.

In researching this article, I remembered a long-ago school lesson regarding Cleopatra and honey, and followed the bee trail to an unusual website. There, on the home page of "The Art of Being Feminine," in

between pages of articles on how to be "lovely, charming and charismatic," was recipe after recipe for the Queen of the Nile's beauty products, many involving honey, beeswax, yogurt and milk. Quite the entertaining read while I applied my beeswax lip balm.

Great skill and expertise have developed over the centuries of beekeeping. Bees have been cultivated not only as important pollinators, but also as a source of honey for sweetening and the raw ingredient for mead, a fermented alcoholic drink enjoyed worldwide.

Author and bee specialist Tammy Horn, in her book *Beeconomy: What Women and Bees Can Teach Us about Local Trade and the Global Market*, discusses the impact of the chilling climate change of the 14th through 19th centuries on the industry of beekeeping: "The vagaries of the Little Ice Age meant more winds and more storms, so shelters called 'bee boles' were constructed in rock walls to protect skeps (beehives).... Most bee boles were located near houses, suggesting that farmers' wives tended the bees." It also appears as if there was quite a bit of royal support for the apiary industry: "Queen Elizabeth created a legal structure for beekeepers, Queen Anne promoted an economic infrastructure for domestic beekeeping."

The National Honey Board reports that the average per capita consumption of honey in the US is about 1.3 pounds per year. The board lists over 170 varieties of honey, from Acacia and Alfalfa to Tupelo and Willow. The Tupelo varietal, a favorite in popular culture, is produced from the nectar of the flowering tupelo tree, found primarily along just a few rivers in Georgia and Florida. Interestingly, Slow Food USA reports, "Because of its unusually high fructose content (versus sucrose), Tupelo honey will not granulate... and some diabetics may eat it."

In our arid southwestern climate, typical honey varieties are alfalfa and mesquite, with more robust flavors and richer color than Tupelo. Although



Anita Feil's backyard hive. (Photo: Karen Ray)

varietal honey from chile to delicate lavender can be found around the Mesilla Valley, Gordon Steel, past president of the New Mexico Beekeepers Association, points out that it is almost impossible to say honey is a specific variety due to the fact that bees can range up to five miles in their foraging for nectar sources.

Steel owns and operates Rio Grande Winery, located south of Mesilla on Hwy. 28, where he sells his own locally produced wine as well as locally grown honey. He has kept as many as 125 hives at a time and has a wealth of beekeeping expertise. Currently, he estimates there are 15 commercial beekeepers in New Mexico, the largest maintaining approximately 4,000 hives each and about 100 producers keeping fewer than 10 hives. He says a bee colony will produce four to five gallons of honey per year.

When asked about the "colony-collapse disorder" affecting honeybee populations, Steel replies, "There are lots of causes. Biggest one is the drought. In a drought season there's a definite problem for the bees to collect enough nectar. Honey production is really low; last year was the worst in quite some time." He

### The Sweet Life

Recipes from the National Honey Board (www.honey.com):

#### Honey Almond Granola

3 cups quick cooking oats  
3/4 cup almonds, sliced  
1/2 cup coconut  
1/2 cup honey  
1/4 cup coconut oil, melted  
2 Tbsp water, warm  
1 tsp vanilla extract

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Coat a baking sheet with non-stick cooking spray. Combine oats, almonds and coconut in a large bowl and set aside. In another bowl combine honey, coconut oil (melted in microwave), water and vanilla. Pour over oat mixture and stir well. Spread mixture onto cookie sheet. Bake about 12-15 minutes, stirring every 5 minutes. Remove and let cool. Yield: 10 servings.

#### Honey-Lime Chicken Skewers

2 Tbsp honey  
3 Tbsp soy sauce  
1 tbsp olive oil  
1 lime, juiced  
1 lb. chicken breast strips, skinless and boneless  
In a small bowl, whisk all liquid ingredients together until completely blended. Pour mixture into a freezer bag and add in chicken strips. Reseal bag and gently shake to cover chicken strips. Allow to marinate for 2 hours.  
Next, prepare skewers by soaking bamboo sticks in water for 15 minutes. Remove chicken strips from marinade and skewer onto bamboo sticks. Grill on medium to high heat for 8 minutes or until juices are clear and chicken is fully cooked. Yield: 8 servings.

says that mites are also a contributing factor.

The *American Bee Journal* reports, "Research in the wake of Colony Collapse Disorder, a mysterious malady afflicting (primarily commercial) honeybees, suggests that pests, pathogens and pesticides all play a role." The EPA reports that researchers are concentrating on mites, pesticide poisoning (especially from the neonicotinoid class of chemicals), bee-management stress from moving colonies to pollinate crops, drought and habitat modification leading to inadequate forage or poor nutrition.

Research conducted by May Berenbaum of the University of Illinois "indicates that the honeybee diet influences the bees' ability to withstand at least some of these assaults. Some components of the nectar and pollen grains bees collect to manufacture food to support the hive increase the expression of detoxification genes that help keep honeybees healthy."

Steel is a proponent of the Langstroth style of hives, patented in 1852, which provide frames for the bees to build their honeycombs on. These hives are the rectangular boxes often seen out in the country. Thorough information on this hive model can be found in Rev. Lorenzo Lorraine Langstroth's book, *Hive and the Honey-Bee: The Classic Beekeeper's Manual*. Steel believes the Langstroth hives are easier to work with, particularly in the process of removing the frames. He says not having to make the wax combs anew each time helps the bees conserve energy.

Another popular type of hive design is the Top Bar, which Steel says came out of Kenya. These hives have a more horizontal construction than the Langstroth style. Bees build their combs off the top bar, hanging down into the hive.



Feil's beekeeping equipment. (Photo: Karen Ray)



A honeycomb on display at a Pollinator Partners Workshop. (Photo: Ray Bernstein)



Working with a hive in full protective gear. (Photo: Ray Bernstein)

Anita Feil is a beekeeper who works with a lovely Top Bar style hive in her backyard. By day she is a program coordinator at New Mexico State University, but after hours she is an enthusiastic bee wrangler. I made her acquaintance through a mutual friend who was also initiated into the joys of beekeeping. Anita agreed to share what she's learned and introduce me to her "workin' girls." She feels "this is the most natural way to keep bees" and has been a beekeeper for about four years. She says beekeeping is "not for the faint of heart" and strongly recommends getting a "bee buddy" or mentor to help you get started.

After showing me the hive, a wooden box she laughingly describes as shaped something like a small coffin, she describes the habits of the bees and some of her routine in caring for them. Her gear is minimal and is kept in a large canvas bee bag. It includes a helmet with a veil, gauntlet-like gloves, and cotton to get her smoker going. Her backyard hive is settled among beautiful raised beds of flowers and herbs. Some of the plants she recommends growing for a bee "cafeteria" are: catnip, bachelor buttons, sunflowers and cosmos.

She affirms that "bees are our friends" but also always carries an EpiPen for self-injecting epinephrine in case of stings. The most challenging part of working with bees, Feil adds, is staying calm. She

subscribes to *Bee Culture* magazine, which prints a wealth of information as well as a regional honey price report. Feil delightfully refers to the bees as "her girls" (worker bees are all female) and sells their honey, which is spoken for before it's even produced, under the label "Workin' Girl Honey."

Feil highly recommends the book *Top-Bar Beekeeping: Organic Practices for Honeybee Health*, by New Mexicans Les Crowder and Heather Harrell. On Crowder's website, "For the Love of Bees," there is a useful schedule for what to do when with bee management.

Crowder and Harrell raise bees in Penasco, NM, near Taos. He has over 30 years experience and has been teaching beekeeping classes since 1983. In his "Top Bar Beekeeping" video he shares some wisdom gleaned from a lifetime of experience beekeeping. His goal is to learn and to teach people "how to work with honeybees and see what they're going to do. Read signs from bees and learn from bees. Let them become our teachers, let them show us what they need and be sensitive to that and change the way we keep bees to help them."

After losing hives to the Varroa Mite years ago, Crowder began breeding queens from his resistant hives, combining genetics from Russian Mite resistant bees, and catching feral bees that showed resistant genetics helped him to build his hive stock back to its original size. He hasn't had any trouble with mites since.

His patience, gentleness and deliberate movements around his bees give them time to move out of the way as he adjusts hives and re-spaces the combs to allow for expansion. Often working the hives without gloves, Crowder says, "It's a much more pleasant experience to work with your beehive if you've had a little bit of smoke puffed in there before you open

BEES continued on next page

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## BEES continued

it." The smoke makes them less inclined to sting.

"I'm all about not buying fancy equipment and still doing a top-rate job," he says as he strips a willow twig to use in harvesting a queen bee larva. He encourages potential beekeepers: "With top bar beekeeping you can actually keep bees for free. You can make hives out of scrap materials. You can fasten your top bars and set up a hive somewhere in your backyard or up on your roof and it can literally cost you zero dollars. And then for equipment for harvesting you can use a colander and a mixing bowl. So it's stuff that you already have in your kitchen."

He adds a reminder that "the wax can be as valuable as your honey. It can be made into candles, salves, lip balms, ornaments, any number of products, even furniture polish."

Creating a bee-hospitable environment can be simple and enjoyable. Bees need resources of pollen and nectar to sustain both themselves and their brood of offspring. Aim to create landscaping that will provide these resources in an ongoing array of blooms throughout the season. Provide a ready source of water but keep in mind that bees can't swim; a container filled with water and rocks is ideal so they can land, drink and get out. Also, making your yard a pesticide-free place will result in a healthy habitat not just for the bees but many other pollinators. The Xerces Society reminds us, "Pollinators are a keystone species group; the persistence of a large number of other species depends upon them. As pollinators disappear, the effect on the health and viability of crops and native plant communities can be disastrous."

Marcy Scott of Robledo Vista Nursery, a native and resource-efficient plant nursery north of Las Cruces, shares advice on creating a bee-friendly yard. She finds that the bees really like to feed on cholla cacti blooms during the spring. Bees are also extremely fond of flowering plants in the blue color range, particularly delphiniums, which are 40% nectar.

"Desert willow ranks really high, especially with carpenter bees. Hummingbirds and orioles adore it," Scott says.

This top pick plant is one "almost anybody can grow; it's quick to establish and while in the wild it will bloom during May and June, in a landscape setting it can bloom right through the summer."

She also recommends any variety of Texas sage. Although not native, "they do super well in our area and come in all different sizes and shapes. The increased humidity in mid-July will cause repeat flushes of bloom that the honeybees and all the native pollinators love." Plants in the Aloysia genus, like verbena, are also delicious to bees.

Did you know there is a rule in place to keep beekeepers from setting up shop too close to each other? Talk about range wars! According to the New Mexico Beekeepers, a non-profit association dedicated to all things bee-related, "The New Mexico Bee Rule came about to keep competitive commercial beekeepers from putting yards too close to each other and getting into beeyard wars. If you want to keep bees, there is nothing stopping you besides remembering that the nectar sources in New Mexico are scarce and we shouldn't try and put pressure on the nectar reserves of existing nearby beekeepers."

The association has a set of 10 practical beekeeping guidelines to facilitate good relations with the



Rebecca Wiggins-Reinhard, co-director of La Semilla Food Center, and Loreita McGrath, director of the Pollinator Partners Program, conduct a workshop. (Photo: Ray Bernstein)

neighbors, summarized below:

1. Put the hives away from the property line.
2. Never have them facing your neighbors' entrances to their property, house doorways, or any walkways.
3. Build screens, fencing or shrubbery at least six feet high so the bees' flight pattern will not be at head level.
4. Make sure your bees' flight path is not going to go over an area of your neighbor's yard such as the laundry line.
5. Make sure you have a water source for the bees.
6. Make sure you don't overwhelm the neighborhood with bees. If you have only a quarter of an acre to an acre lot, you should put only one to five hives maximum.
7. Do not work your bees while your neighbors are out having a family picnic, etc.
8. Don't leave your broken or bad frames or hive bodies lying around the yard.

## Catch the Buzz

- Rio Grande Winery is located south of Mesilla on Hwy. 28. Hours are Friday through Sunday from 12-5:30 p.m. (575) 524-3985, [www.riograndewinery.com](http://www.riograndewinery.com).
- Les Crowder's website is [www.fortheloveofbees.com](http://www.fortheloveofbees.com)
- Marcy Scott and Jimmy Zabriskie of Robledo Vista Nursery can be found nearly year-round at the Las Cruces Farmers Market Saturdays and most Wednesdays, as well as at the growers market in front of Mountain View Market on Sunday mornings in Las Cruces. (575) 541-8083, (915) 203-4385, Radium Springs, [RobledoVista@aol.com](mailto:RobledoVista@aol.com), [www.robledovista.com](http://www.robledovista.com).
- The "Bee Hive Journal" blogspot has over 300 hive designs and "a swarm of information about bees and their doings," according to the New Mexico Beekeepers Association. This is a great resource for designing a hive to suit your style of beekeeping. [beehivejournal.blogspot.com](http://beehivejournal.blogspot.com).
- Learn more about the New Mexico Beekeepers Association at [www.nmbeekeepers.org](http://www.nmbeekeepers.org).

9. Re-queen an aggressive colony immediately.

10. Be a good beekeeper and maintain your hives, to prevent swarming.

The group advises telling your neighbors "how to protect themselves by placing a hand over their face if they get a bee with an attitude. Also, tell them that swatting at any bee just gives it a worse attitude.... You might think about getting an extra set of gloves, hat and veil and invite them to come watch you work the bees. You would be surprised at how giving them a knowledge of bees and seeing it firsthand calms any fears they might have had."

The knowledge base of bee benefits is growing. Bee venom is being used to treat a variety of health issues. Scientists at the Washington University School of Medicine report, "Melittin is a powerful toxin found in bee venom. It can poke holes in the protective viral envelope that surrounds the human immunodeficiency virus, as well as other viruses."

Beekeepers large and small have a great desire to see beekeeping skills kept alive and passed on. "There are fewer colonies than there used to be," Steel says. "Very few younger people get into beekeeping." His description of bee keeping is so fascinating I was almost convinced to embark on some bee wrangling of my own, on the spot.

August 21 is National Honey Bee Day. As we head into summer, consider celebrating by planting a bit of food for the bees. Les Crowder's closing video admonition still buzzes in my ears: "Everything has a place in the universe and the honeybees are part of that. Honeybees enrich our garden, they enrich our lives." 🐝

*Karen Ray is a Las Cruces-based writer and personal historian. She can be reached at [karen@rememberingthetime.net](mailto:karen@rememberingthetime.net).*

BORDERLINES • MARJORIE LILLY

# A Tree Grows in Palomas

A revived park symbolizes a town's changing spirit.

In Palomas, neighbors have created a kind of free zone where people and trees can flourish.

It's a park on the far west side of town, a block in from the border. One warm evening recently I drove by and saw dozens of children climbing over cheerful yellow, green and red playground equipment and swings. Relaxed, smiling parents with strollers chatted on benches. In one corner of the park, a fierce volleyball game was in progress.

It may not sound remarkable, but it's the only park like this in Palomas. There's an updraft of good feelings there. Life vibrates from the trees and playground equipment.

A couple nights later I went back to the park and a church was holding a fundraising event with pop/rock musicians in the gazebo singing religious songs to electric instruments. There were fruit-flavored *aguas* for sale, warm pots with beans and salsa, and a man frying whole tilapia on a grill.

I asked a woman selling food at a folding table if she knew anything about Pancho, the *jefe de los narcos*, who had been shot a couple weeks earlier. She turned up her nose in disgust (not fear) and said she didn't want to say anything.

The park, psychologically but not physically, is a safe zone from crime and the drabness of poverty.

Five men got together four years ago and decided to make it happen. One of them is the owner of a car body shop named Hector Ramirez. He showed me some official papers with the name of the group, *Comite de Vecinos* [Neighborhood Committee] "*Pancho Villa*."

The park has thrived on donations. The town of Palomas provided the basketball court. Columbus donated a picnic table. A *regidora* named Carmen at City Hall provided two streetlights. The Deming development group Border Partners found people to build playground equipment. McDonald's in Deming donated its giant play equipment called the Toboggan, and Palomas zoologist Joel Carreon helped get the trees.

I wondered why they have planted so many trees, and Hector responded, "To have a green place in Palomas—a forest." I counted 65 pine trees, many just a couple of feet tall and ringed with tires, plus maybe two-thirds that many deciduous trees.

There are informal volleyball and basketball games of school kids and adults, with official T-shirts.

"No one used to come," Hector said, speaking of the time the park existed without the new equipment and trees.

But the night of the fundraiser I counted 22 cars on one side of the park and 12 on another. "During [school] vacation, the number doubles," he said. "There's not enough parking."

People say they stay till 9 or 10 at night without worry. "Families socialize here, children play," said Hector. "What matters is what you feel inside, because of what you do for others." He poked my forearm with his knuckles, showing his enthusiasm.

He said that if they find drunks hanging out in the park, he calls the police and they're taken away. The vandalism that has occurred has slowed down.

I also asked Hector what he knew about "Pancho." He said he doesn't know anything.

The man known as the *jefe de los narcos* in Palomas was killed on the first weekend in May. It didn't happen in Palomas. Depending on whom you talk to, it happened either at the *entronque* (the T in the road a half-hour south of Palomas) or in Janos, over an hour south of the border.

Everybody knows his name was Pancho, but nobody seems to know his last name. Rumor has it he was killed by some higher-up in the Juarez Cartel, which he belonged to. (The Juarez Cartel controlled Palomas before Calderón's war and still does.)

He's probably already been replaced.

The kind of power he had is hard to define. All I know is what I hear in scraps of information from people. I heard from one man that he ruled over everybody in Palomas, in that if you said or did something that displeased the cartel, you would be forced to leave town or even be killed.

"He controlled everything," another man said. "The police needed to tell him what was going on."

He ruled over the group of *narcos* who kept a watch over the town, checking vehicles to see if any drug competitors were moving into their territory. This group, or committee, existed before the drug war. A woman I know said, "In these last years, I think it's more obvious." Not everybody knows they used to be there.

The people I've talked to speak negatively of the drug traffickers, and roll their eyes when you talk about them. They wish they would go away.

But Pancho was also known to help the elementary school that his daughter went to. He had the school thoroughly cleaned and had some stones removed that were dangerous to the kids. He also paid for a school festival. Someone who worked there said, "I miss him. He used to come every few days."

I've heard one young woman say that the police and the narcos were "the same thing."

But the police are not necessarily all ogres. On another occasion this same woman said she has a friend who told her, "My husband quit [the police] because they always had to obey orders." This occurred even to the point of "sending him to a house to pick up a body." The husband left town. This happened a year and a half ago.

The young woman I interviewed said, "If my husband was hurting me, the police would arrest him." Hector Ramirez trusted the police to get rid of drunks in the park.

The drug organization's structure still persists despite Calderón's drug war, like tough tendons that are almost impossible to cut, while remaining harmless and invisible to most people. The general feeling among those I talk to in the streets, businesses and homes is that you won't get hurt if you don't say the wrong things about the drug traffickers. The organization has basically gone underground.

I don't have to work up my courage anymore to go to Palomas. I hear that "health tourists" are returning more and more.

Visiting Palomas is probably not too different from visiting Italy at the height of the Mafia's powers, which millions of American tourists did over the years. Probably any poor country that you visit has crime networks unseen to tourists.

Palomas has changed dramatically in practical terms for most people in the last three or four years. It's a world apart from what it was, though crime's vague forms still float beneath the surface. ❁

To help the people of Palomas, see our list of resources at [www.desertexposure.com/palomas/index.php](http://www.desertexposure.com/palomas/index.php). Borderlines columnist Marjorie Lilly lives in Deming.



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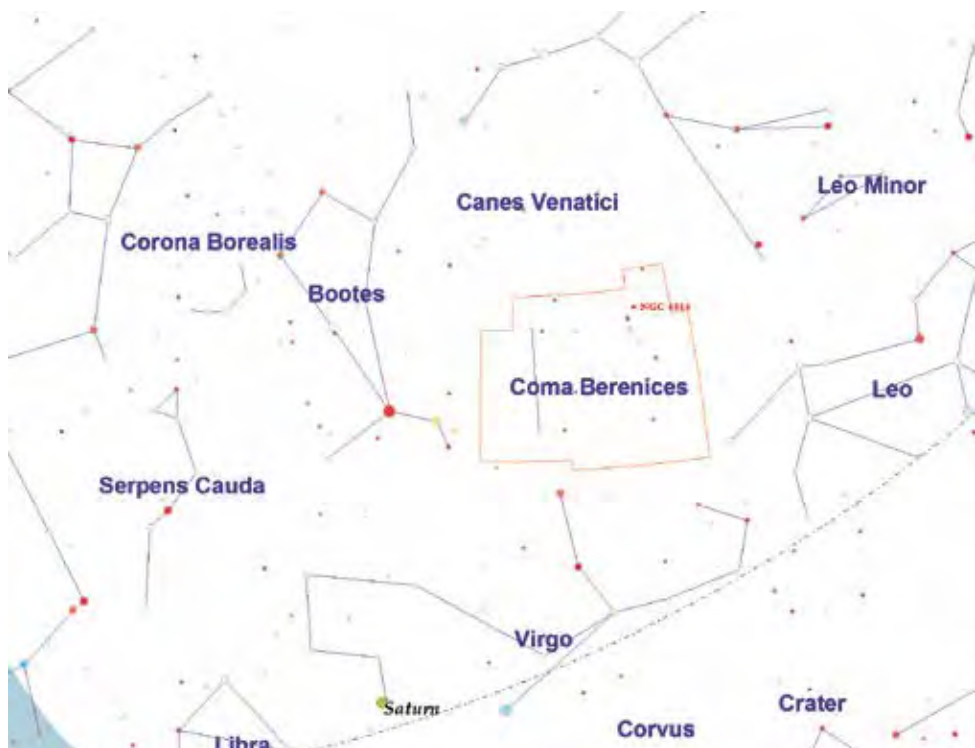
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THE STARRY DOME • BERT STEVENS

# Coma Berenices, Berenice's Hair

Plus the planets for June.



Coma Berenices is high in our southern sky on June evenings. With the Virgo Cluster of Galaxies in southern Coma and the Coma Cluster of Galaxies in the north, there are many galaxies in this constellation. These include the spiral galaxy M100, the elliptical galaxy M85 and the almost edge-on spiral M98. You can also find the interacting galaxies NGC 4676, known as "The Mice" because of the trails of stars that have been pulled out of each galaxy by the other.

For a larger, printable version of this map, visit [www.desertexposure.com](http://www.desertexposure.com)

The constellation Coma Berenices, Berenice's Hair, is just south of overhead, crossing the meridian early during our June evenings. This constellation is actually named after a historical figure, Queen Berenice II of Egypt, wife of Ptolemy III Euergetes. The famous Greek astronomer Claudius Ptolemy did not include it in his list of 48 constellations in *The Almagest*, even though he also lived in Alexandria, Egypt, somewhat later. He considered these stars a tuft at the end of the tail of the neighboring Leo the Lion, rather than a separate constellation.

Northeast of the Egyptian empire lay the Seleucid Empire. After a falling out at the Seleucid court, Ptolemy III Euergetes' eldest sister, Berenice Pheronphorus, was murdered along with her infant son. Because of this murder, Ptolemy III invaded Syria, starting the Third Syrian War.

In prosecuting the war, Ptolemy III undertook a particularly dangerous mission. Queen Berenice II swore to the goddess Aphrodite to sacrifice her beautiful, long blonde hair if her husband returned safely from the mission. When he did, the queen cut off her hair and placed it on the altar in Aphrodite's temple. The next morning, the hair was missing. The court astrologer told the king that Aphrodite had taken the hair and put it in sky as a small group of stars we now know as Coma Berenices.

Even though Claudius Ptolemy did not include it in his list of constellations, he did at one point mention it as a "lock of hair." Coma Berenices did not become a recognized constellation until cartographer Caspar Vopel put it on his 1536 celestial globe. Tycho Brahe, frequently credited with giving Coma its constellation status, did not list it until his 1602 star catalog.

Coma Berenices is composed of about 15 fourth-magnitude stars, scattered in no particular pattern. It also includes two galaxy clusters: One is in the southern part of Coma and extends well into Virgo, so it is called the Virgo Cluster of Galaxies. It is only 60 million light-years away with many bright and beautiful galaxies. The other cluster is much farther away, almost 300 million light-years, in northern Coma. It is called the Coma Cluster of Galaxies. The large distance makes this cluster's galaxies appear faint and small as viewed from Earth.

Coma also boasts a few galaxies that do not belong to either cluster. One is NGC 4314, a barred spiral galaxy in far northeastern Coma. This galaxy is magnitude 11.4 and 4.2 by 3.7 minutes-of-arc across. It was observed in 1976 by Fritz Benedict, who was using a 2.7-meter telescope at McDonald Observatory in western Texas. He was assigned to track Earth satellites for the Air Force, but between passes, he would use the telescope to observe other objects.

When Benedict looked at NGC 4314, it was very smooth with little star formation, probably due to most of the gas being stripped out by a collision with another galaxy. But down in the center of NGC 4314 he saw what looked like a separate little spiral galaxy. This fascinated him and NGC 4314 became his favorite galaxy.

Benedict would work on NGC 4314 on and off. In 1993 he observed it with the Hubble Space Telescope and was able to resolve its very center, finding a ring of active star formation regions. The young stars in this nuclear ring are incredibly young, only 1 million to 15 million years old, while the whole galaxy is around 10 billion years old.

The star-forming ring is only about 1,000 light-years across—tiny compared to the rest of the galaxy. The tiny spiral Benedict saw in the center of NGC 4314 was dust that had been stripped out of the galaxy in the original collision, but was being pulled back and falling all the way to the nuclear ring to form these young stars. While these (and other) observations have explained the overall mystery of NGC 4314, there is still much more to learn about the interactions between the inner nuclear ring and the rest of the galaxy.

## Watch the Skies

(times MDT)

**June 8**, 9:56 a.m.—New Moon  
**June 12**, 11 a.m.—Mercury 24 degrees east of Sun  
**June 16**, 11:24 a.m.—First Quarter Moon  
**June 20**, 11 a.m.—Mercury 1.9 degrees south of Venus  
 11:04 p.m.—June Solstice  
**June 23**—5:32 a.m.—Full Moon  
**June 29**—10:53 p.m.—Last Quarter Moon

## The Planets for June

Mars and Jupiter are too close to the Sun to be seen this month, but Venus, Mercury and Saturn are all in our evening sky. Last month, Venus, Jupiter and Mercury were close together, but this month we will have Mercury traveling downward, passing Venus, as it leaves the evening sky.

**Mercury** will start the month about four degrees above and slightly to the right of Venus, about 13 degrees above the west-northwestern horizon as it gets dark. Mercury will continue to move upward faster than Venus, until it approaches its farthest point from the Sun on June 12. Venus will then catch up with Mercury and pass two degrees north of it on June 20. Mercury then turns westward and heads back toward the Sun, disappearing into the twilight by the end of the month. At midmonth, Mercury will be magnitude +0.9 and its disc will be 8.8 seconds-of-arc across. The disc will be 31% illuminated, becoming more of a crescent each day. The Messenger of the Gods spends the entire month in Gemini, first traveling east and then turning around and heading west. It sets around 9:55 p.m.

**Venus** starts the month in far eastern Taurus, travels eastward across all of Gemini and ends the month in Cancer. At midmonth it sets around 9:45 p.m. and shines at magnitude -3.9. The Goddess of Love's disc is 93% illuminated and 10.6 seconds-of-arc across, becoming less full as the month goes on.

**Saturn** is 44 degrees up in the south-southeast as it starts to get dark. It is spending the month in Virgo, very near the 4.2-magnitude star 98-Kappa Virginis. Now well after opposition, the Ringed Planet shines at magnitude +0.4, with a disc 18.1 seconds-of-arc across at midmonth. The Rings are 41.0 seconds-of-arc across and tilted down 17.2 degrees with the northern face showing. Saturn sets around 3:20 a.m.

The Sun reaches its northernmost point in our sky on June 20 for the June Solstice. This marks the beginning of astronomical summer in the northern hemisphere. This will be the longest day of the year, with the corresponding shortest night, so make the most of our few hours of darkness and "keep watching the sky!" ☼

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



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# Choice Locations

Plenty of hiking options off Signal Peak Road, north of Pinos Altos.

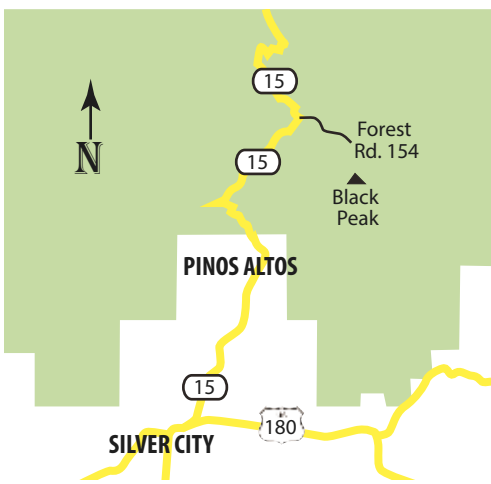
**Name:** CD Trail from Signal Peak Road

**Distance:** various

**Difficulty:** moderate

**Directions:** Starting at the intersection of Highway 15 and 32nd Street in Silver City, drive north on Highway 15 for 12.8 miles to Forest Road 154 (on the right after cattle guard). Forest Road 154 is known to the locals as Signal Peak Road. Take this road 4.1 miles and look for Forest Road 4256B marked on your left. Park. Walk along on 4256B. There are two forks in the road. At the first fork, stay left. Go through the gate. At the next fork, you will see a yellow arrow pointing to the left; stay to the right on this fork. In a few minutes you will come to the CD Trail and have to choose left or right. Both are beautiful hikes. This hike describes the hike to the left.

**Hike Description:** This is a well-marked trail that winds down the side of a mountain and then back up the other side. You will hit a road at the bottom of the trail (I believe it is 4256B). We continued on the CD Trail and meandered up the other side. You will enjoy long-range views and a pine-tree-covered trail.



**Notes:** I categorized this hike as “moderate” due to the steep climb back up that mountain-side. This whole area has interesting things to explore. There are several trails and dirt roads to hike. If you follow the yellow arrows described at the beginning of the hike, you will find Forest Service snow-measuring apparatus. If you drive or hike to the top of the main road (154), you will come to another CD access point, other trail heads and, farther on, the Signal Peak

Lookout Tower.

Please note that Road 154 is closed in the winter. ❄️

To read more about Linda Ferrara's 100-hike challenge, check out her blog at [100hikesinayear.wordpress.com](http://100hikesinayear.wordpress.com).



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- Saturday June 8 8:00 AM** Big Ditch water life meet at the Silver City Visitors Center, Andrew Lindlof leader
- Sunday June 9 7:30 AM** Big Ditch birding meet at Visitors Center Parking Lot, Karen Beckenbach leader
- Saturday June 22 8:00 AM** La Capilla wetlands nature walk meet at Senior Center parking lot, Patricia Taber leader
- Saturday June 22 9:00 AM** La Capilla history meet at Senior Center parking lot, Jose Ray leader

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Funding provided to Southwestern NM Audubon by National Audubon Society through a Collaborative Grant, Gila Native Plant Society, Grant County Community Health Council Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities and the Silver City Arts and Cultural District with funding from Silver City Lodger's Tax. Assistance also provided by the Town of Silver City and Gila Resources Information Project.



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# African Odyssey

Two Silver City physicians had to go back to basics to help patients on a medical mission to Nigeria.

When Dr. Roland Snure first found himself in a dim and dingy operating room in southeastern Nigeria late last year, he immediately wished he were back in the United States. As an American surgeon with a practice in Silver City at Surgical Associates, Snure admits he has come to expect the high standard of a sterile environment, sophisticated diagnostics and—at a bare minimum—general anesthetic for surgery. “What we actually administered, and what was available,” he recalls, “is known mostly as a pain killer for horses.”

Snure, who is chief of surgery at Gila Regional Medical Center, is one of thousands of doctors, nurses and dentists who journey each year to desperate parts of the world. He works according to the Hippocratic Oath, to “treat the sick to the best of one’s ability,” and nowhere is that care more critical than for the people of Mbaise, in Nigeria.

For over two weeks in late December and early January, Snure, along with friend and colleague, Dr. Victor A. Nwachuku, journeyed to Nigeria, a world as tainted and raw as its chaotic, colonial history. Here you’ll find people like Folorunsho Alakija, a Nigerian oil tycoon, one of the 10 richest women in the world—an icon among 150 million others who can only imagine the luxury of clean water, electricity and access to affordable medicine.

“What I saw were people living on less than a dollar a day,” says Snure, who grew up in Apache, Ariz., and attended Animas High School. “Of course, I’ve seen real poverty up close, too, in Mexico and in the remote stretches of the Southwest.” But nothing could prepare him for the reality of Nigeria.

His first trip to Africa took him to Zimbabwe in 2012. “Growing up, I’d seen photos of the country’s natural beauty and heard stories of the history,” Snure says. That visit was a high-end American tour with air conditioning, indoor plumbing and upscale restaurants, where so-



Dr. Victor A. Nwachuku (left) and Dr. Roland Snure traveled from Silver City to Nwachuku’s home town in Nigeria on a medical mission.

called “primitive camp-outs” turned into luxurious outings. “I think this is what many Americans see when they visit.” But Snure wanted to experience something more.

It was Nwachuku, an OB/GYN at Cassie Health Center for Women and GRMC’s chief of staff, who proposed plans for a second trip to Africa.



Dr. Snure with a patient in Nigeria.

Snure says, “I remember he said to me, ‘Roland, do you want to see the real Africa? Do you want to be part of a medical mission?’ In the end, it was an offer Snure could not easily ignore. “Victor explained the many needs there—the primitive settings we would mostly work with, the noise of generators, and the inferior medical equipment we would use. But I didn’t have a clue about the situation we would find ourselves in.”

What Snure found in Nwachuku’s home village was sweltering heat, flashlight-lit care, and a country plagued by corruption, poverty and the desperate need for medical care. “I have to say (as word got out) there would be long lines of people waiting at the doors each morning,” says Snure. There were few phones, “but somehow, they heard that two American doctors were coming here. So people arrived, on foot, many in great pain, to get any treatment available.”



Dr. Nwachuku and Dr. Snure in their Nigerian operating room. Says Snure, “When I saw the real conditions of this facility, I had to think about backing out for a time. We had no diagnostic/ultrasound scanning equipment and few medications. And I thought to myself, ‘How can I actually function in this as a doctor?’”

Victor Nwachuku knows Mbaise, a region in Nigeria still dominated by subsistence farming, well. It is a place where his father, Emmanuel Ukachukwu Nwachuku, left a legacy of humanitarian work.

“My father was a very giving person and a leader in this town,” says Nwachuku. “When his own father died, he raised six siblings and put them all through high school. Over the years, he helped establish the first medical system of care here. So there is a foundation now for care—there are medical supplies and equipment shipped here each month. The buildings have been upgrad-



"There would be long lines of people waiting at the doors each morning," says Dr. Snure. There were few phones, "but somehow, they heard that two American doctors were coming here."

ed.... So it's a beginning."

In Nigeria, expectant mother mortality rates run high and fatal infections are common. "You see, there really are no set rules in place, no privacy laws, or records kept," says Nwachuku of the neighborhood clinic. "This area (of Nigeria) has no ambulance system for emergencies, very little modern equipment or diagnostics. So there is a lot yet to be done, to organize resources—and to put structures in place for better care."

Nwachuku credits the GRMC, private individuals and the First Baptist Church in Silver City with providing ongoing financial support for the medical mission at Ogbor Nguru Holy Rosary Hospital. "Each month, we have people here who donate funds for equipment and medical supplies," says Nwachuku of the outreach clinic that provides for an average of 18 deliveries per month in Mbaise. "So the assumption is, if we can just get the medical shipments and supplies through, it's working, but there is no guarantee with delivery."

Unfortunately, there is a lucrative black market in Nigeria, kidnapping happens, and people barter for food and services while corruption and bribery is common to small and large villages alike. Snure says that travel with armed body guards is not out of the ordinary for people who can afford it. At Nwachuku's family compound, both doctors relied on armed security when moving throughout

the city and for protection day to day. And this time, their pre-shipment of medical equipment and supplies was impounded at the airport by government bureaucracy.

"In short, we needed help in securing our shipment through the Lagos airport, and then to have it released to an assistant there," says Snure. "I guess it's an all-too-common issue in Nigeria—they held up most of our new equipment, and we were never able to access all of our supplies."

In the end, the two physicians "made do" with what they had.

Snure points out that many of the surgeries were minor in nature, such as pediatric hernia, with a variety of basic procedures. Still others, however, were life-and-death operations. "There was one man who came to us with a perforated ulcer—and we had to operate immediately," says Snure.

Another woman arrived begging for treatment for a disfiguring face tumor—"Can you help me?" she would cry. Unfortunately, Snure says, there were no MRI, ultra-sound scans or biopsies to preview. "I just didn't think we

could do this without more sophisticated equipment."

But Nwachuku knew what disfigurement means for women in Mbaise—in short, no marriage, no future, no life. Snure recalls, "He calmly said to me, 'Roland, we've got to do this, and maybe we can change her life.'"

Even seeing to operate could be a challenge. Snure says, "Like most of the people who live in Nigeria, we had generators to operate power and lights, but if those stopped working, if the lights went out, then we had to use flashlights—and that was our only option."

Many surgeries were performed without general anesthesia, Snure adds. "So we dealt with malfunctioning or out-of-date instruments, in a mostly non-sterile environ-

ment.... When I saw the real conditions of this facility, I had to think about backing out for a time. We had no diagnostic/ultrasound scanning equipment and few medications. And I thought to myself, 'How can I actually function in this as a doctor?'"

Nwachuku admits he knew what they would face in this part of Africa, and the challenges of getting good equipment and supplies to the clinic. "There really is no safety net here for most people—few rules, no order, and no one there to object to the dismal conditions."

During their mission, Snure estimates that they diagnosed, treated and released more than 35 patients with the chance for a better future.

Some patients were beyond the scope of their ability to perform a surgery given the conditions, however. Several had to be turned away for lack of resources or equipment.

Nonetheless, Snure says, "It's hard to believe, given the conditions, but these people could not thank us enough. They'd fall to the floor in gratitude. It didn't matter how much pain they had experienced; we had changed their life."

"In the future, I would like to see many more people get involved with this mission," says Nwachuku of his hope for clinical improvements, more structure, and a working medical triage system. "My father taught me a great deal about

hard work. He would always say, 'If you become successful, remember to find a way to give back, to pull people up.' It was his legacy for Mbaise."

Says Snure of the trip, "More than anything, it really changed my perception of this world—of my role as a doctor. I know we helped some people. We fixed some hernias and made life better for others. But there's a bigger impact here, to know just how bad it is in countries like this, and how good it is in the US." ❀

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

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## Say What?

Understanding the barriers to constructive communication.

Communication plays a powerful role for every essential purpose in life: our happiness, our health, our children's development, our family well-being, and our work effectiveness. This important skill also fundamentally affects our intimate and social relationships, as it negotiates alliances and status in our interpersonal communities.

Whatever communication's purpose may be, there are many skills and other factors that determine how well it accomplishes its goal. Numerous skills are involved in the communication process, but the essential ones include clarity of expression, listening for understanding, and connecting to your audience through trying to understand them.

The purpose or intention of a communication shapes the meaning we wish to convey with it. Intentions have a great deal of power to shape interactions, and the verbal and nonverbal exchanges that come with them. To understand intentions, we need to look at the three dynamics that often motivate them: needs, feelings and power.

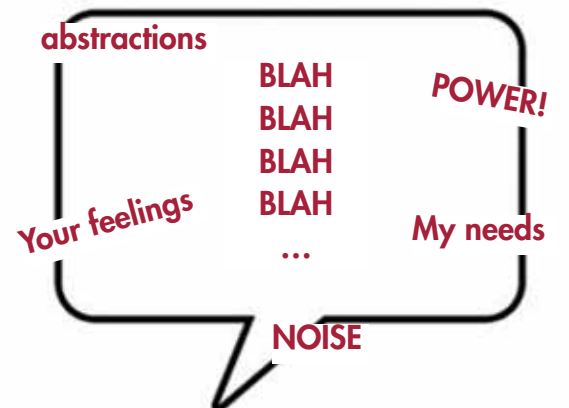
**Needs**—Needs are often the goal of communication, creating a powerful drive to interact in order to satisfy them. Unfortunately, people are often unaware of their needs and the role they play in relationships, so they communicate them dishonestly, or without consideration for others' needs.

Pioneering psychologist Abraham Maslow considered physiological needs as foremost because of their connection to survival, but also considered emotional needs, such as security, connection, achievement, self-esteem, creativity and fulfillment, to be important to well-being. Other emotional needs that are often considered important include autonomy, play, mental stimulation, meaning, mental health, social support, good work, financial livelihood and education.

When mutual needs are not considered in romantic relationships, frustration often turns to anger that interferes with communication, so shared understanding is lost. Frustrated needs cause misunderstandings in many kinds of interactions, because people generally close down when they are not happy.

When needs are not being met in relationships, or when one person gets their needs met much more than the other person does, then dissatisfaction grows. Frustrated needs may create barriers to future understanding through blocking of messages or infecting interactions with anger and other negative feelings.

**Feelings**—Feelings play a key role in social interactions and communication as they both shape what happens and tell us about our internal reactions to them. Emotions signal changes in our tension and stress levels, help to synchronize our energy for social rituals (parties, church services, school), and



help us to fit in with the norms of the situation.

Feelings are also ways of signaling whether our needs are met or not, so communicating feelings provides a good way to negotiate and balance needs. Sharing emotions can help us to process these reactions more openly with each other and then to negotiate conditions for meeting needs cooperatively. This makes it possible to work out more balanced relationships at home and at work.

Remember that emotions shape our state of mind, so be wary of spending much time discussing negative emotions (such as anger, fear and hurt), as they will push your dialog further into harmful directions. The point is to get information from feelings, not to enthrone them or deny space to others involved until one side is satisfied. Not everyone will become happy through our interactions, but we can develop habits to hear each other and work more effectively towards balance and understanding.

**Power**—Communication about emotions often informs us about the power and status of people in the situations we encounter, especially our place in that interaction. Much of our verbal and nonverbal communication is overtly or covertly about power dynamics and the emotions that let us know if we're prevailing or losing status in the power hierarchy.

Power is such an automatic part of communication that it plays a major role in business communication. Studies in organizational communication have examined the difference between upward, downward and horizontal communication, referring to the power positions of the speaker towards the listener. When the speaker is above the listener in the hierarchy, many differences are found in communication style, especially a lack of respect by higher power people for the lower power person and less attention and openness from those with higher power to what lower power people have to say. When the speaker is below the listener in the hierarchy, they tend to try to please the higher power person through what they say and limit damaging information.

Power dynamics are behind much negative communication, especially verbal emotional abuse, criticism and negative labeling. These negative communications are often meant to reinforce the existing power hierarchy, especially to keep lower power people in their place.

Communication also serves to control intimacy distance in a way which reinforces power statuses by giving greater access to those on the same level, and to higher level people we wish to find favor with. People just meeting each other will "size each other up" by asking key questions about status, and then open or close their intimate space according to the answers.

Negative verbal and nonverbal strategies then serve to push people away from intimate connection. Since our physical and emotional health often depend



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on social support, lower power people often accept more verbal abuse in order to maintain social connections, despite the damage it may bring.

**Barriers to Communication**

Regardless of communication skills or intentions, there are numerous barriers that can still block or distort understanding. Here are two important kinds of barriers to remember:

**Noise**—This is a term for all the things that interfere with understanding in communication. These can include environmental interference (loud sounds, bad weather), emotional preoccupation, fatigue, illness, poor hearing, mismatched wording and cultural misunderstandings. Noise can make it very difficult to hear one another, so there is less exchange of meaning.

**Abstract concepts**—The abstract nature of many of our concepts is a common source of misunderstandings and other difficulties in communication. When we find we have a different understanding of an abstract concept, such as love or truth, than someone else, we're likely to argue that our view is right and theirs is wrong. Few people realize that their understanding of many things is not the same as how others understand them.

Abstract concepts have conceptual meanings that are often far removed from physical reality. Abstract concepts such as love or truth are not physically palpable or measurable. They are based on meaning found in our experiences and are mental creations. Unfortunately, most people don't realize that their understanding of so many things is personal, not universal.

Because they are individually interpreted, abstract concepts are largely based on culture and background, and there is lots of potential for mismatches. Societies, generations, families, cultures, races, classes and genders have unique points of view and belief systems, and each is liable to dozens of biases and prejudices that affect all of us. These preconceptions are often impossible to separate when we are talking about matters of values and ethics. Even fundamental values may be interpreted differently by members of the same family.

Language can be the source of misunderstandings when we use words that are above or below our audience's level of understanding. Speakers can make their listeners feel inferior by using words that are too technical or complex. The best communication is matched to the understanding level of those you are interacting with.

**Misunderstandings**

There are many ways that these elements and intentions can clash with each other and send the wrong message or contradict a positive message that is intended. Problem communication frequently happens in spite of good intentions, when the message does not come out as the sender wished because their nonverbal signals are anxious or they use the wrong words. Also, communication can have mixed effects, conveying both positive and negative

messages by lacking clarity or conveying tension, which can be very confusing to the listener.

Another complication is that most communication also has multiple layers, including many messages about power, emotional significance and the present environment. Additionally, there are many emotional tones that can flavor an interaction in infinite positive and negative directions.

It's important to remember that nonverbal aspects of communication account for 75% of our messages. This is often where some communication goes wrong, as tension, defensiveness and anger may contradict our words through signals like crossing arms, frowning or making nervous gestures.

The arousal of anger often causes problems when stress chemicals make the speaker regress into self-protective habits of disrespect, blame and negative labels. Defensive and overly needy people may unconsciously strive to undermine power, intimidate and blame their problems on others. Under threat, our human propensity is often to treat the other person as a thing that we see as a means to get to our goals.

**Negative Communication**


Communication with a negative emotional tone drives and empowers the negative and fearful side of relationships. Reasonable differences of opinion are seen as threatening when that negative atmosphere is activated, leading to defensive wars of blaming so that every disagreement becomes a harmful conflict. Verbal abuse such as angry ranting, harsh criticism, humiliation and name-calling can result, inflicting a great deal of damage and too frequently leading to escalating harm. Harsh verbal abuse also plays a grooming role in physical and sexual abuse, destabilizing the recipient so they feel less worthy and may deserve being bullied and violated.

Much negative communication is not consciously motivated to harm others, as criticism and blaming are usually old habits that are byproducts of people's upbringings. Negative communication can also be subtle, often working quietly to undermine others' power and/or self-esteem in individual situations. The motive may be to "win" recognition or power through that interaction, but there is little awareness of the effects of these put-downs, criticisms and disrespect, as they slowly work to erode the recipient's self-esteem, trust of others and energy.

*Nonverbal aspects of communication account for 75% of our messages. This is often where some communication goes wrong.*

*Joanie V. Connors, PhD, is a counseling psychologist who specializes in interpersonal issues and trauma from an ecosystems perspective. She has a private practice in Silver City (phone 575-519-0543) and teaches sociology as an adjunct at WNMU.*

*Next issue, she will explore strategies for overcoming these challenges and engaging in constructive communication.*



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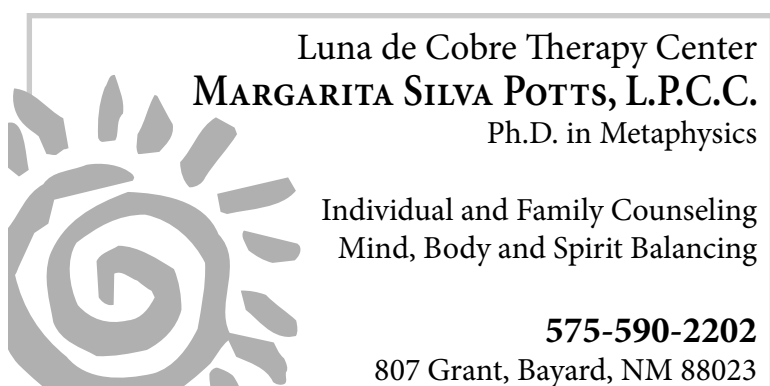
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## Soothing Salts for Great Skin

Not so good for your insides, salt is terrific for your outsides.

**S**alt, the rock we eat, was money before money came into existence. We are talking about a building block of human civilization when we talk about salt—a substance entwined with ancient practices on a level the sheer ordinariness of table salt makes it difficult for us to understand.

It has also been used for centuries to cleanse, soften and treat the skin and hair. The Egyptians and Romans made salt rubs by massaging a mixture of salt, herbs and natural oils into the body to cleanse and refresh. Hippocrates was one of the first to promote the use of salt in the bath to heal and soothe the body. Today salt is still a popular beauty ingredient, and can be found in many natural and commercial products. You will see salt listed as “sodium chloride” on product labels.

Salt baths, scrubs and rubs have become popular spa treatments in many high-end salons and spas. In the bath, salt is soothing to sore muscles, helps boost circulation and draws toxins from the body. Coarse salt is mixed with light oils and other aromatic ingredients and massaged into damp skin to help remove dead skin cells and other surface impurities, leaving your skin sparkling clean.

### Shopping Tips

**W**hen shopping for salt, you will find many different kinds, from common kitchen salt to the more exotic sea salts that come from all over the world. These range in color from bright white to pink and even black. You will also find salt in several different sizes or grains, from fine to large rocks.

Depending on how you are using the salt, you can choose your grain size. Finer grains mix and dissolve very easily in recipes such as bath soaks; larger, coarse grains have more scrubbing power and are used for cleansing tough skin spots such as heels and elbows.

Here are a few at-home recipes featuring salt to get you started. Enjoy!

### Sore Muscle Soak

**T**his is a soothing muscle soak that is perfect after a day of strenuous physical activity—or when you just need to relax. Epsom salt (or magnesium sulfate) is a classic cure for sore muscles and can be found in the health-care or first-aid aisle of your local store. Salt is mildly astringent and helps increase blood flow. Makes 24 ounces.

- 1 cup salt
  - 1 cup baking soda
  - 1 cup Epsom salts
- Mix all ingredients together and stir well.

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**To use:** Fill your tub with warm water and pour 1 to 2 cups of the bath salts under the running water. Soak for 15 to 20 minutes.

### Sea Salt Body Scrub

**S**alt scrubs and rubs are popular exfoliating treatments. Salt has been used

throughout history to clean and deodorize the skin. This Sea Salt Body Scrub is great for deep-cleansing and freshening the skin, which will help it absorb more moisture and function more efficiently. For extra scrubbing power, use a natural loofah sponge to apply the mixture. You can also substitute other oils for the almond oil. Makes 16 ounces.

- 2 cups kosher salt
  - 1 cup almond oil
- Stir salt and oil together, and spoon into a clean container.

**To use:** Stand in the shower or tub, take a handful of the rub and massage it into your skin, starting with your feet. Massage the Sea Salt Body Scrub all over your body. When you've finished and your body is covered, rinse well with warm water. Don't use soap, or you'll remove the oil and its benefits. Also use caution when in the shower, as the oil will make things a bit slippery.

### Beach Hair Spray

**A** day at the beach in the salty seawater and warm air gives your hair body, volume and natural waves. You can give yourself this same effect by mixing up this simple Beach Hair Spray. It can be drying, so try to limit how often you use it and make sure to use a good hair-conditioning pack weekly to keep your hair soft and flexible. Makes 8 ounces.

- 1 cup warm water
  - 2 to 3 tablespoons sea salt
  - 1 to 2 drops essential oil for scent (optional)
- Put ingredients in a clean spray bottle and shake vigorously until salt dissolves.

**To use:** While drying and tousling your hair, spray with this Beach Hair Spray recipe to build volume and create that “day at the beach” look.

### Natural Beauty with Salt

**C**olored bath salts: Mix equal parts Epsom salts and kosher salt with a bit of natural food coloring for a bath salt that also makes a wonderful gift.

**Dry shampoo:** If you can't wash your hair with water and soap, salt makes an effective dry shampoo that you can massage into your scalp and comb out. Make sure to use a coarse grain of salt such as kosher salt, as fine salt will be hard to comb out.

**Foot soak:** For a deodorizing and softening foot soak, add 1 cup sea salt or kosher salt to a tub of water and soak your feet for 15 to 20 minutes. Scrub with a natural pumice stone to soften rough spots.

**Emergency blemish treatment:** Soak a cotton ball in warm salt water solution and press on top of a breakout or blemish for three minutes to help dissolve the top and disinfect the area. Dab a bit of honey on the spot and let sit for another 10 to 15 minutes, then rinse with warm water. ❁

Excerpted from *The Herb Companion*, a national magazine devoted to growing, cooking and healing with herbs. To read more articles from *The Herb Companion* magazine, visit [herbcompanion.com](http://herbcompanion.com) or call (800) 456-5835 to subscribe. Copyright 2012 by Ogden Publications Inc.

Body, Mind & Spirit

# Grant County Weekly Events

Support groups, classes and more.

**Sundays**

**ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY**—First Sun. of every month, field trip. 536-3092, whudson43@yahoo.com.  
**BEAD SOCIETY**—1 p.m. Alotta Gelato 388-1362.  
**BINGO**—1st and 2d Sun. Doors open 12:30 p.m., games start 1:35 p.m. Benefits Salvation Army and Post 18 charities. American Legion Post 18, 409 W. College Ave. 534-0780  
**HOLISTIC PRESENTATIONS**—11 a.m. PeaceMeal Coop Deli. 534-9703  
**PRAYER AND STUDY IN THE EASTERN ORTHODOX TRADITION**—Sunset. Theotokos Retreat Center, 5202 Hwy. 152, Santa Clara. 537-4839, theotokos@zianet.com.

**Mondays**

**A COURSE IN MIRACLES**—6:30 p.m., 600 N. Hudson. Information, 534-9172 or 534-1869.  
**AARP CHAPTER #1496**—Third Monday. 12:30 p.m. Senior Center, 205 W. Victoria. Contact Marcia Fisch, 388-1298  
**AARP WIDOWED PERSONS**—Second Mondays. 11 a.m. Glad Tidings Church. Contact Sally, 537-3643.  
**AL-ANON**—12:05 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, 1915 Swan, Silver City. Contact Valerie, 313-2561.  
**ART CLASS**—9-10:45 a.m. Silver City Senior Citizen Center. Beginners to advanced. Contact Jean 519-2977.  
**ARTS ANONYMOUS**—5:30 p.m. Artists Recovering through the Twelve Steps. Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 3845 N. Swan St. 534-1329.  
**GENTLE YOGA**—5:30-7 p.m. First Church of Harmony, 609 Arizona St., Becky Glenn, (404) 234-5331.  
**PING PONG**—5:30-7 p.m. Grant County Convention Center. Beginners 7-8 p.m.  
**SILVER CITY SQUARES**—Dancing 7-9 p.m. Presbyterian Church, 1915 N. Swan St. Kay, 388-4227, or Linda, 534-4523.  
**TAI CHI FOR BETTER BALANCE**—1 p.m., Senior Center. Call Lydia Moncada to register, 534-0059.

**Tuesdays**

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**—Men's group, 7 a.m. Unitarian Fellowship Hall, 3845 N. Swan. Jerry, 534-4866.  
**ALZHEIMER'S/DEMENTIA SUPPORT**—1-3 p.m. Senior Center. Margaret, 388-4539.  
**BAYARD HISTORIC MINE TOUR**—2nd Tuesday. Meet at Bayard City Hall, 800 Central Ave., by 9:30 a.m. \$5 fee covers two-hour bus tour of historic mines plus literature and map; call 537-3327 for reservation.  
**COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS**—4th 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.  
**GILA WRITERS**—6:30 p.m. Gila Regional Medical Center Conference Room, 1313 E. 32nd St. Trish Heck, pheck@grmc.org, 538-4072.  
**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.  
**REIKI CIRCLE**—First Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m. 2035 Little Walnut. Treatment for those in need of healing.

Vicki, 388-8114, or Virginia, 388-4870.  
**SLOW FLOW YOGA**—11:30 a.m. 5:30-7 p.m. First Church of Harmony, 609 Arizona St., Becky Glenn, (404) 234-5331.  
**SOCIAL SERVICES**—Noon. Red Barn, 707 Silver Heights Blvd. 538-5666.  
**TEA PARTY PATRIOTS**—2nd and 4th Tues. 6 p.m. Red Barn Steakhouse, 708 Silver Heights Blvd. 388-4143.

**Wednesdays**

**ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY**—Third Weds. of every month. Oct.-Nov., Jan.-April 7 p.m. Silver City Women's Club. Summers 6 p.m. location TBA. 536-3092, whudson43@yahoo.com.  
**BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN**—2nd Weds. 6 p.m. Gila Regional Medical Center Conference Room. Subject to change. 574-2888.  
**CURBSIDE CONSULTING**—Free for nonprofits. 9 a.m.-noon. Wellness Coalition, 409 N. Bullard, Lisa Jimenez, 534-0665, ext. 232, lisa@wellnesscoalition.org.  
**FOOD ADDICTS ANONYMOUS WOMEN'S GROUP**—6:30 p.m. 1000 N Hudson St., 519-1070.  
**GRANT COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY**—2nd Weds. Potluck at 5:30 p.m., meeting at 6:30 p.m. Sen. Howie Morales' building, 3060 E. Hwy. 180.  
**GROUP MEDITATION**—5:30 p.m., A Daily Practice, 104 N. Texas St. 388-2425.  
**LADIES GOLF ASSOCIATION**—8 a.m. tee time. Silver City Golf Course.  
**PFLAG**—(Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) 1st Weds. 5:30 p.m. Sparks Clinic, 1000 N. Hudson. 590-8797.  
**PING PONG**—5:30-7 p.m. Grant County Convention Center. Beginners 7-8 p.m.  
**PROSTATE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP**—3rd Weds. 6:30 p.m. Gila Regional Medical Center Conference Room. 388-1198 ext. 10.  
**REPUBLICAN PARTY OF GRANT COUNTY**—Third Weds. 6 p.m. Red Barn.  
**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 Danita, 534-9057.  
**BAYARD AL-ANON**—6:30 p.m. Bayard Community Center. 575-537-3141.

**Thursdays**

**CANCER SUPPORT GROUP**—1st Thurs. 6 p.m. Gila Regional Medical Center Board Room. 388-1198 ext. 10.  
**CARDIAC SUPPORT GROUP**—3rd Thurs. 4 p.m. Grant County Business and Conference Center, 3031 Hwy 180E, 590-2578.  
**DE-STRESSING MEDITATIONS**—12-12:45 p.m. New Church of the SW Desert, 1302 Bennett St. 313-4087.  
**GRANT COUNTY ROLLING STONES GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY**—2nd Thurs. 6 p.m. Senior Center, 204 W. Victoria St. Kyle, 538-5706.  
**HATHA YOGA**—5:30 p.m. First Church of Harmony, 609 Arizona St. Lori Zitzmann.  
**HISTORIC MINING DISTRICT & TOURISM MEETING**—Second Thurs. 10 a.m. Bayard Community Center, 290 Hurley Ave., Bayard. 537-3327.  
**KUNDALINI YOGA**—5:30 p.m. A Daily Practice, 104 N. Texas, 388-2425.  
**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 St., 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**

**KUNDALINI YOGA**—Noon. A Daily Practice, 104 N. Texas St.  
**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. 313-1091.  
**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 BEGINNERS**—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 MEDITATION**—1 p.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 ORTHODOX TRADITION**—5 p.m. Theotokos Retreat Center, 5202 Hwy. 152, Santa Clara. 537-4839, theotokos@zianet.com.  
**KIDS BIKE RIDE**—10 a.m., Bikeworks, 815 E. 10th St. Dave Baker, 590-2166.  
**NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS**—6 p.m. New 180 Club, 1661 Hwy. 180 E.  
**SADHANA MORNING PRAYER, MEDITATION, YOGA**—Last Sat. 5-7 a.m. A Daily Practice, 104 N. Texas, 388-2425.  
**SPINNING GROUP**—1st Sat., 1-3 p.m. Yada Yada Yarn, 614 N. Bullard, 388-3350.  
**VINYASA FLOW YOGA**—10 a.m. All levels. First Church of Harmony, 609 Arizona St., Becky Glenn, (404) 234-5331. ❄



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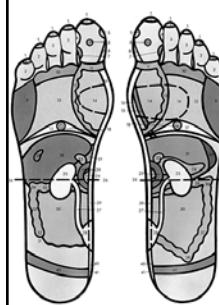
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**June Class Schedule**

**Monday** — Qi 5-6pm

**Tuesday** — Qi 12-1pm,  
 QST 5:30-6:30pm

**Wednesday** — Qi 8-9am

**Thursday** — QST 12-1pm  
 Qi 6:30-7:30

**Friday** — QST 7-8am

**June Workshop**

**Monthly Breath Empowerment**  
 Saturday June 8th, 10am-noon \$20

**Monthly 9-Breath Method and Prayer Circle**  
 Saturday June 8th, 1-2:30pm, \$10  
 (will be held 3rd Sat. of the month starting July 11-12:30pm)

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## Alotta Words about ALOTTA GELATO

Wow, it's June, and chances are that you're searching desperately for a gift for Dad, a grad, or the newlyweds. Well, look no further—help is on the way! When you visit *ALOTTA GELATO* at 619 N. Bullard St. in beautiful Downtown Silver City's Arts & Cultural (and Gelato!) District, we will be happy to sell you one of our valuable gift certificates, available in any amount—truly a tasteful gift!

Since it's also the time of year for picnics and other gatherings, we want to remind you that our delicious low-fat Italian gelato is available in hand-packed pints and quarts in your choice of flavors (and yes, we can pack several flavors into each insulated container). We've got 20 flavors on hand in our main display case (including 9 dairy-free fruit flavors), several others in our Grab & Go case, and at least one Sugar-Free flavor sweetened with Splenda®!

Speaking of flavors, our Cherries Jubilee has become a real favorite; creamy vanilla gelato enhanced with imported tart Amarena cherries makes for an irresistible treat! [Author's note: I've been having a hard time staying away from this stuff myself!]

Remember that we also carry delicious dessert items such as Key Lime Bars, Chocolate Chip Brownies, Triple Lemon Cheesecake, slices of flourless Chocolate Raspberry Torte, cookies, and big honkin' wedges of triple-layer Carrot Cake—plus hot and cold drinks to go with them.

*ALOTTA GELATO* is open 7 (count 'em!) days a week, beginning at Noon every day until 9:00 PM (Sunday through Thursday) or 10:00 PM (Friday and Saturday)—sometimes even later. School's out, so come on by, bring your friends/family/neighbors/significant others and experience the best gelato in the state! One last thing: our gelato is not frozen yogurt, Italian ice, soft serve, ice milk, frozen beads or any of that phony stuff—it's simply the best home-made ice cream you've ever tasted (and to think that the Italians have had this all along)! 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.**

Find us on Facebook Visit us online at: [www.alottagelato.com](http://www.alottagelato.com)



**Alotta Gelato - 619 N. Bullard St.,**  
in Downtown Silver City - 575-534-4995

# Red or Green?

Southwest New Mexico's best restaurant guide.

**R**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](http://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

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](mailto: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](http://www.desertexposure.com). Bon appétit!

## GRANT COUNTY Silver City

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

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

**ASIAN BUFFET**, 1740 Hwy. 180E, 388-0777. "A boundless buffet that would satisfy the Mongol hordes." (April 2010) Chinese, Thai, Malaysian, sushi: L D.

**BILLY'S BBQ AND WOOD-FIRED PIZZA**, Hwy 180E, 388-1367. "A freewheeling mixture of barbecued ribs and brisket, freshly made pasta, Cajun catfish, seared Ahi tuna, authentic Greek gyros, and pizzas baked in a wood-fired oven and featuring a wide range of innovative toppings." (November 2010) Barbecue, pizza, gyros, pasta: Tues.-Fri. D. Sat.-Sun. L D. Italian nights Weds., Sat.\*

**BRYAN'S PIT BARBECUE**, Mimbres Valley 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) Weekend brunch, weekday L 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 Medical Center, 538-4094. American: B L, with special brunch Sundays.\*

**CURIOS KUMQUAT**, 111 E. College Ave., 534-0337. "A hotspot of modern culinary innovation. Lunch features soups, salads and sandwiches. Dinners are elaborate, imaginative, exotic five-course 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.\*

**DELIGHTFUL BLEND**, 3030 N. Pinos Altos Road, 388-2404. Coffeeshop.  
**DIANE'S RESTAURANT**, 510 N. Bullard St., 538-8722. "As they serve Diane's fresh, inventive dishes, the staff will make you subtly aware you are indeed enjoying a big-city-caliber dining experience—without the least bit of snootiness to detract from the fact that you are, nonetheless, in small-town New Mexico." (Sept. 2007) Homemade American, Euro and Pacific Rim: Tues.-

Sat. L D, Sun. D only, weekend brunch, catering.

**DIANE'S BAKERY & DELI**, The Hub, Suite A, Bullard St., 534-9229. "Top-notch pastries in the morning, deli lunch or...dinner... Diane's new Deli has it all—to go!" (Sept. 2007) Artisan breads, sandwiches, deli, baked goods: B L D.\*

**DON JUAN'S BURRITOS**, 418 Silver Heights Blvd., 538-5440. Mexican: B L.

**DRIFTER PANCAKE HOUSE**, 711 Silver Heights Blvd., 538-2916. Breakfast, American: B L, breakfast served throughout.

**EAT YOUR HEART OUT**, 800 W. Market, 313-9005. Catering.\*

**GALLO PINTO**, 901 N. Hudson St., 597-3663. Mexican: B L D.

**GIL-A BEANS**, 1304 N. Bennett St. Coffeeshop.\*

**GOLDEN STAR**, 1602 Silver Heights Blvd., 388-2323. "If you sometimes long for the guilty pleasures of the Chinese food served at a mall food court—think Panda Express—or just want your wontons without waiting, there's good news.... Normal appetites will find the three-item combo tough to finish, so plan on leftovers whether you're eating in or taking out. All of it's plenty tasty, and you can enjoy it just like in the food court." (February 2007) Chinese: L D.

**GRANDMA'S CAFÉ**, 900 Silver Heights Blvd., 388-2627. American, Mexican: B L.\*

**GRINDER MILL**, 403 W. College Ave., 538-3366. Mexican: B L D.\*

**HEALTHY EATS**, 303 E. 13th St., 534-9404. Sandwiches, burritos, salads, smoothies: L.

**JALISCO CAFÉ**, 100 S. Bullard St., 388-2060. "The Mexican restaurant where you take out-of-town guests.... Jalisco's massive menu goes well beyond the traditional combination plates, though it has those, too." (December 2007) Mexican: Mon.-Sat. L D.

**JAVA THE HUT**, 611-A N. Bullard St., 534-4103. Espresso and coffeeshop: Mon.-Sat.\*

**JAVALINA COFFEE HOUSE**, 201 N. Bullard St., 388-1350. Coffeeshop.\*

**KOUNTRY KITCHEN**, 1505 N. Hudson St., 388-4512. Mexican: Mon.-Sat. B L early D, Sun. B only.\*

**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 established many years ago at the family's restaurant in Chihuahua." (April 2013) Mexican and American: B L, closed Tues. Lion's Den, 208 W. Yankie, 654-0353. Coffeeshop.

**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.\*

**MI CASITA**, 2340 Bosworth Dr., 538-5533. New Mexican cuisine: Mon.-Thurs. L, Fri. L 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. B L D.

**THE PARLOR AT DIANE'S**, 510 N. Bullard St., 538-8722. Beer and wine bar, sandwiches, light bites: Tues.-Sun. afternoons.

**PEACE MEAL BURRITO BAR**, The Hub, 6th and Bullard, 388-0106. "Slow-roasted beef, pork and chicken options in addition to vegetarian and vegan fare... with a commitment to provide food that is organic and healthy." (January 2013) Chipotle-style burrito bar: Weds.-Mon. L early D.\*

**PRETTY SWEET EMPORIUM**, 312 N. Bullard St., 388-8600. Dessert, ice cream: Mon.-Sat.\*

**Q'S SOUTHERN BISTRO AND BREWERY**, 101 E. College Ave., 534-4401. "Q's Southern Bistro has found its niche and honed its 'elevated pub' menu to excellence to serve its fun-loving, casual dining crowd." (October 2010) American, steaks, barbecue, brewpub: Mon.-Sat. L D.

**RED BARN**, 708 Silver Heights Blvd., 538-5666. "From the friendly staff to the down-home food—steaks, of course, plus chicken, seafood, burgers, sandwiches and a sampling of superb Mexican fare—you might be settling in for lunch or dinner at an especially large ranch house." (October 2009) 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.\*

**SABOR**, 1700 Mountain View Road, 388-2737. Mexican, sandwiches: B L D.

**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, 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.\*

**TERRY'S ORIGINAL BARBEQUE**, Hwy. 180 and Ranch Club Road. Barbeque to go: L D.

**TRE ROSAT CAFÉ**, 304 N. Bullard St., 654-4919. "The 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.-Fri. L, D. Sat. D.\*

**VICKI'S EATERY**, 315 N. Texas, 388-5430. "Serving hearty breakfasts, 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.-Sat. B L. Sun. B.\*

**WRANGLER'S BAR & GRILL**, 2005 Hwy. 180E, 538-4387. Steak, burgers,

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The Red Barn  
Tre Rosat Café  
Vicki's Eatery  
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Mon.-Fri. 6am to 5pm • Sat. 8am-3pm



appetizers, salads: L D.\*

**YANKIE CREEK COFFEE HOUSE**, 112 W. Yankee 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.  
**LOS COMPAS**, 1203 Tom Foy Blvd, 654-4109. Sonoran-style Mexican, hot dogs, portos, menudo: L D.  
**M & A BAYARD CAFÉ**, 1101 N. Central Ave., 537-2251. "A down-to-earth, friendly, unpretentious place—kind of a cross between a Mexican cantina and a 1950s home-style diner, serving tasty, no-frills Mexican and American food at reasonable prices." (October 2011) Mexican and American: Mon.-Fri. B L D.  
**SPANISH CAFÉ**, 106 Central Ave., 537-2640. Mexican, tamales and menudo (takeout only): B.  
**SUGAR SHACK**, 1102 Tom Foy Blvd., 537-0500. Mexican: Sun.-Fri. B L.

**Cliff**

**PARKEY'S**, 8414 Hwy. 180W, 535-4000. Coffeeshop: Mon.-Sat.  
**Hurley**  
**GATEWAY GRILL**, 2705 Hwy. 180E, 537-5001. "From Friday Steak Night to everyday American and Mexican food, worth hitting Hwy. 180 for." (December 2011) American and Mexican: Sun.-Thur. B L, Fri.-Sat. B L D.\*

**Lake Roberts**

**LITTLE TOAD CREEK INN & TAVERN**, 1122 Hwy. 35, 536-9649. "Rustic gourmet... designed to appeal to the eyes as well as the taste buds. And this is true of the items on the brunch menu, as well as those on the very different dinner menu." (June 2012). Steaks, sandwiches, American: Thurs.-Fri. D, Sat.-Sun. brunch and D. Tavern with soups, sandwiches, Scotch eggs: Daily L D.  
**SPIRIT CANYON LODGE & CAFÉ**, 684 Hwy. 35, 536-9459. "For the German sampler, café customers can choose two meat options from a revolving selection that may include on any given day three or four of the following: bratwurst, roast pork, schnitzel (a thin breaded and fried pork chop), sauerbraten (marinated roast of beef), stuffed cabbage leaves, or roladen (rolled beef with a sausage and onion filling)." (July 2011) German specialties, American lunch and dinner entrées: Saturday midday D.

**Mimbres**

**ELK X-ING CAFÉ**, (352) 212-0448. Home-style meals, sandwiches and desserts: B L.  
**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.  
**Pinos Altos**  
**BUCKHORN SALOON AND OPERA HOUSE**, Main Street, 538-9911. "The Buck, as most locals affectionately call it, has a history of satisfying at the dinner plate with its long-favored menu including generous slabs of meat, hearty green chile stew with kick and 'honest pours' at the full bar." (December 2010) Steakhouse, pasta, burgers: Mon.-Sat. D.

**DOÑA ANA COUNTY**

**Las Cruces & Mesilla**  
**ABRAHAM'S BANK TOWER RESTAURANT**, 500 S. Main St. #434, 523-5911. American: Mon.-Fri. B L.  
**ANDELE'S DOG HOUSE**, 2184 Avenida de Mesilla, 526-1271. Mexican plus hot dogs, burgers, quesadillas: B L D.  
**ANDELE RESTAURANTE**, 1950 Calle del Norte, 526-9631. Mexican: Mon. B L, Tues.-Sun. B L D.  
**ANTONIO'S RESTAURANT & PIZZERIA**, 5195 Bataan Memorial West, 373-0222. Pizza, Italian, Mexican: Tues.-Sun. L D.  
**AQUA REEF**, 900-B S. Telshor, 522-7333. Asian, sushi: D.  
**BAAN THAI KITCHEN**, 1605 S. Solano Dr., 521-2630. Thai: Tues.-Sat. L D, Sun. L.  
**THE BAGEL SHOP**, 1495 S. Solano Dr., 521-4784. Bagels: Mon.-Sat. B L.  
**THE BEAN**, 2011 Avenida de Mesilla, 523-0560. Coffeeshop.  
**A BITE OF BELGIUM**, 741 N. Alameda St., 527-2483. Belgian food: Mon.-Fri. B L.  
**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.\*  
**BRAVO'S CAFÉ**, 3205 S. Main St., 526-8604. Mexican: Tues.-Sun. B L.  
**BURGER NOOK**, 1204 E. Madrid Ave., 523-9806. Burgers: Tues.-Sat. L D.  
**BURRITOS VICTORIA**, 1295 El Paseo Road, 541-5534. Burritos: B L D.

**CAFÉ AGOGO**, 1120 Commerce Dr., Suite A, 636-4580. Asian, American, sandwich, salad, rice bowl: Mon.-Sat. L D.  
**CAFÉ DE MESILLA EN LA PLAZA**, 2051 Calle de Santiago, 652-3019. Coffeehouse, deli, pastries, soups, sandwiches: B L early D.  
**CARILLO'S CAFÉ**, 330 S. Church, 523-9913. Mexican, American: Mon.-Sat. L D.  
**CATTLEMEN'S STEAKHOUSE**, 2375 Bataan Memorial Hwy., 382-9051. Steakhouse: D.  
**CHA CHI'S RESTAURANT**, 2460 S. Locust St #A, 522-7322. Mexican: B L D.  
**CHICAGO SOUTHWEST**, 3691 E. Lohman, 521-8888. Gourmet hot dogs and smoothies: Mon.-Sat. L D.  
**DAY'S HAMBURGERS**, Water & Las Cruces St., 523-8665. Burgers: Mon.-Sat. L D.  
**DE LA VEGA'S PECAN GRILL & BREWERY**, 500 S. Telshor Blvd., 521-1099. "The restaurant uses local produce whenever possible, including the pecan wood pellets used in the smoking and grilling. A lot of the foods and drinks are infused with pecans, and also with green chiles from Hatch, processed on site. They even serve green chile vodka and green chile beer." (February 2010) Pecan-smoked meats, sandwiches, steaks, seafood, craft beers: L D.  
**DELICIA'S DEL MAR**, 1401 El Paseo, 524-2396. Mexican, seafood: B L D.  
**DG'S UNIVERSITY DELI**, 1305 E. University Ave., 522-8409. Deli: B L D.\*  
**DICK'S CAFÉ**, 2305 S. Valley Dr., 524-1360. Mexican, burgers: Sun. B L, Mon.-Sat. B L D.  
**DION'S PIZZA**, 3950 E. Lohman, 521-3434. Pizza: L D.  
**DOUBLE EAGLE**, 2355 Calle De Guadalupe, 523-6700. "All the steaks are aged on the premises in the restaurant's own dedicated beef aging room... An array of award-winning margaritas and deliciously decadent desserts." (March 2012) Southwestern, steaks, seafood: L D, Sun. champagne brunch buffet.\*  
**DUBLIN STREET PUB**, 1745 E. University Ave., 522-0932. Irish, American: L D.  
**EL AHUUA'S**, 1001 E. University Ave., 556-9484. Mexican: B L D.  
**EL PATRON CAFÉ**, 1103 S. Solano Dr. Mexican: Tues.-Thur., Sun. B L, Fri.-Sat. B L early D.  
**EL SOMBRERO PATIO CAFÉ**, 363 S. Espina St., 524-9911. Mexican: L D.  
**EL TIBURON**, 504 E. Amador, 647-4233. Mexican, seafood, steak: L D.  
**EMILIA'S**, 2290 Calle de Parian, 652-3007. Burgers, Mexican, soup, sandwiches, pastry, juices, smoothies: L D.  
**EMPIRE BUFFET**, 510 S. Telshor Blvd., 522-2333. Asian: L D.  
**FORK IN THE ROAD**, 202 N. Motel Blvd., 527-7400. Buffet: B L D 24 hrs.  
**FOX'S PIZZA DEN**, 1340 E. Lohman Ave., 521-3697. Pizza: L D.  
**GARDUÑO'S**, 705 S. Telshor (Hotel Encanto), 522-4300. Mexican: B L D.\*  
**GINA'S CANTINA**, 300 N. Downtown Mall, 541-7492. Mexican, Hawaiian: Sat. B, Mon.-Sat. L, Tues.-Sat. D.  
**GRANDY'S COUNTRY COOKING**, 1345 El Paseo Rd., 526-4803. American: B L D.  
**GUACAMOLE'S BAR AND GRILL**, 3995 W. Picacho Ave., 525-9115. Burgers, pizza, salads, sandwiches, Hawaiian appetizers: L D.  
**HIEBERT'S FINE FOODS**, 525 E.

Madrid Ave. #7, 524-0451. Mexican, American: B L D.  
**HIGH DESERT BREWING COMPANY**, 1201 W. Hadley Ave., 525-6752. Brew pub: L D.\*  
**INTERNATIONAL DELIGHTS**, 1245 El Paseo Rd., 647-5956. Greek and International: B L D.  
**JAPANESE KITCHEN**, 141 Roadrunner Parkway, 521-3555. Japanese: L D.  
**J.C. TORTAS**, 1196 W. Picacho Ave., 647-1408. Mexican: L D.  
**JIREH'S**, 1445 W. Picacho. Mexican, American: B L early D.  
**JOSE MURPHY'S**, 1201 E. Amador (inside Ten Pin Alleys), 541-4064. Mexican, American: L D.  
**JOSEPHINA'S OLD GATE CAFÉ**, 2261 Calle de Guadalupe, 525-2620. Pastries, soups, salads, sandwiches: Mon.-Thur. L, Fri.-Sun. B L.  
**KATANA TEPPANYAKI GRILL**, 1001 E. University Ave., 522-0526. Japanese: Mon.-Fri. L D, Sat. D.  
**KIVA PATIO CAFÉ**, 600 E. Amador Ave., 527-8206. Mexican, Southwestern, American: B L D.  
**LA COCINA**, 204 E. Conway Ave., 524-3909. Mexican: Mon.-Sat. B L.  
**LA MEXICANA TORTILLERIA**, 1300 N. Solano Dr, 541-9617. Mexican: L D.  
**LA NUEVA CASITA CAFÉ**, 195 N. Mesquite, 523-5434. Mexican and American: B L.  
**LA POSTA RESTAURANT DE MESILLA**, 2410 Calle De San Albino, 524-3524. "A restaurant with history hard-wired into the fiber of its being. Through building, menu and ownership, its roots extend all the way back to the 1840s." (September 2011) Mexican, steakhouse: L D, Sat.-Sun. and holidays also B.  
**LAS TRANCAS**, 1008 S. Solano Dr., 524-1430. Mexican, steaks, burgers, fried chicken: L D, Sat.-Sun. also B.  
**LE RENDEZ-VOUS CAFÉ**, 2701 W. Picacho Ave. #1, 527-0098. French pastry, deli, sandwiches: Mon.-Sat. B L.  
**LORENZO'S PAN AM**, 1753 E. University Ave., 521-3505. Italian, pizza: L D.  
**LOS COMPAS CAFÉ**, 6335 Bataan Memorial W., 382-2025. Mexican: B L D.  
**LOS COMPAS CAFÉ**, 603 S. Nevarez St., 523-1778. Mexican: B L D.  
**LOS COMPAS**, 1120 Commerce Dr., 521-6228. Mexican: B L D.\*  
**LOS MARIACHIS**, 754 N. Motel Blvd., 523-7058. Mexican: B L D.  
**MAIN STREET BISTRO AND ALE HOUSE**, 139 N. Main St., 524-5977. Bistro fare, beers: L, D Mon.-Sat.  
**MARIA'S**, 1750 N. Solano Dr., 556-9571. 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: L D.  
**METROPOLITAN DELI**, 1001 University Ave., 522-3354. Sandwiches: L D.  
**MIGUEL'S**, 1140 E. Amador Ave., 647-4262. Mexican: B L D.  
**MI PUEBLITO**, 1355 E. Idaho Ave., 524-3009. Mexican: Mon.-Fri. B L D, Sat.-Sun. B L.  
**MILAGRO COFFEE Y ESPRESSO**, 1733 E. University Ave., 532-1042. Coffeehouse: B L D.\*

**DINING GUIDE**

continued on page 43



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**Early Afternoon Supper**

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**Sunday, June 16**

**at 5:00 p.m.**

First United Methodist Church  
 314 W. College Ave., Silver City, NM

Pasta dishes, Salad, Bread, Dessert and Beverage  
**\$10 per person**

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.

**June is the Month of Anniversaries & Fathers**

*Let us make your celebrations that much more special!*

**Middle East Cooking Class**

Saturday, June 29, starting at 11am. Learn all the Middle Eastern dishes served during our Middle East Wine Tasting Dinner—attendance at the Wine Tasting Dinner **not** required to take the class.

See the link on our website for details. Preregistration required.

**Middle East Wine Tasting Dinner**

Join us on Friday, June 21 at 6:30pm for a six-course dinner featuring the foods of Israel, Lebanon, Syria & Jordan with optional matched wines. See our website for details—or scan the QR code at right. Reservations highly recommended.

*Summer Hours:*

Monday	5pm-9pm
Tuesday	5pm-9pm
Wednesday	CLOSED
Thursday	CLOSED
Friday	5pm-9 <sup>30</sup> pm
Saturday	5pm-9 <sup>30</sup> pm
Sunday	5pm-9pm



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 a community market since 1974  
**June Community Forum:**  
 will be showing a documentary film  
**Birth Story: Ina May Gaskin & The Farm Midwives**  
 the story of a spirited group of women who taught themselves how to be midwives while creating a commune called The Farm in the 1970s.  
**Tuesday, June 11th noon to 2 pm**  
 In the Co-op Community Room  
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RED OR GREEN? • PEGGY PLATONOS

# Unlikely to be Forgotten

Deming's new "forghedaboutit" pizza & wings serves memorable New York-style fare.

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 and have named it, whimsically, "forghedaboutit" pizza & wings.

"I think the name says it all," Bob comments. "It says New York. It says Italian. And it says unique."

Bob himself seems to qualify on all three counts himself. A New York City native, his life experience has ranged from amateur boxer to private jet broker operating in the moneyed stratosphere of Manhattan. But his roots are deeply Italian.

"I was raised by two sets of Italian grandparents straight from Italy," he explains. "I learned Italian food at the aprons of my grandmothers, just by watching and eating."

By his late forties, Bob had achieved his financial goals and shifted his focus to quality of life for himself and his family. Looking for a quieter, less hectic life-style, Bob and Kim brought their five children to Deming, where Kim's father had already settled.

"I don't miss New York," Bob says. "I like the relaxed life that Kim and I have here. And the kids are thriving."

At the age of 49, however, Bob wasn't quite ready for the rocking chair. "I started asking myself, 'What am I going to do here?'"

He decided to honor both his Italian heritage and his long attachment to New York City, and give Deming something new. "I decided to create a true New York pizza parlor here."

His family enthusiastically endorsed the idea and have all pitched in to help. Kim takes care of the bookkeeping, and the teenagers—Caleigh, Chelsi, Gabby and Nick—help with the cooking. Eight-year-old Trent may one day join the crew.

"We opened February 2 this year, and business has been off the charts," Bob reports. "We average 80 pizzas a day and use about 1,000 pounds of flour each month."

The flour that goes into the homemade traditional New York-style thin crust comes all the way from Vermont. "It's King Arthur flour—the best flour you can buy for pizza crust," Bob says.

It's part of the relentless quest for quality that underlies all of the food on the menu at "forghedaboutit" pizza & wings.

"We bring the finest ingredients from all over the United States," Bob says. "We have excellent pepperoni from New York City. We make our sauces from California tomatoes. We bring 'Amoroso rolls' all the way from Philadelphia to make Philly steak sandwiches the original, authentic way."

The specially imported rolls are used for all of the nine different cold and hot subs on the "forghedaboutit" menu. Prices range from \$7 for a veggie sub or a basic ham, turkey or salami sub, to \$10.50 for the "Giant Philly and Cheese" sub. The "Chicken Philly and Cheese" sub that has turned out to be one of the customer favorites sells for \$9.50.

The "foeghedaboutit" menu includes, as one might expect, a long list of pizza possibilities. Prices range from \$13 to \$18. The \$13 pizza options include NY Style Pepperoni Pizza, New Mexico Hatch Chile Pizza, Unique Hawaiian Pizza, and Mushroom Pizza. At the upper end of the price range, you'll find Meat Lover's Pizza "Wow" with bacon, sausage, ham and pepperoni and Supreme Pizza with pepperoni, sausage, mushrooms, green peppers, red peppers, onions, black olives and mild banana pepper rings, both for \$17. And top-of-the-line at \$18 is the Phat Boy's Customs with a blend of three cheeses, double sau-



"Forghedaboutit" pizza & wings owner Bob Yacone shows off a signature New York-style Pepperoni Pizza, with two of his daughters at his side, Caleigh (left) and Chelsi. The girls help with the cooking at the family's new restaurant in Deming. (Photo by Peggy Platonos)

sage, steak and double jalapeño.

All of the pizzas are made with the traditional New York-style thin crust that is crisped as each pizza is finished on a stone surface in a 700-degree oven. And the pizzas are big. Really big. A full 16 inches in diameter. Bring a huge appetite or a lot of friends.

In addition to pizza, the name of the restaurant also mentions wings. Bob went to college in Buffalo, NY, and often ate at the Anchor Bar there, where Buffalo wings originated. In addition to the Anchor Bar-type wings available in the original Hot style, "forghedaboutit" offers Super Hot wings with jalapeño sauce added to the original Buffalo sauce. For the faint-hearted, wings can be ordered Mild. You can also get some unforgettable BBQ wings at "forghedaboutit" that are char-broiled and very tasty without being spicy hot.

Wings of any style cost \$1 each, with a minimum order of 10 required. They are billed as "Jumbo" wings and definitely live up to the title.

A variety of salads are available at "forghedaboutit," too, ranging from a simple side salad for \$3 to an Italian Salad extravaganza for \$8.50 that easily feeds two and includes pepperoni, salami, olives, cheese, onions, pepper rings, croutons and peppers.

Fried Baskets are on the menu, too, including Fried Calamari for \$7.50 and Fried Shrimp for \$8.

The dessert menu deserves special consideration, as well as the foresight and restraint to save enough room to top the meal off with one of the tantalizing options, which include Chocolate Hand-

dipped Cannoli, Tiramisu, authentic gelatos and New York-style Chocolate Cheesecake. Big handmade milk shakes are also available. The price for each of these is \$3.50.

The restaurant will be receiving its wine and beer license by the end of the month, and will be offering a selection of each.

A banquet room is available at "forghedaboutit" for receptions and private parties. It seats up to 88 people, and is somewhat more elegant than the clean, simple, straightforward pizza parlor environment of the restaurant proper.

"Forghedaboutit" pizza & wings is located at 2020 Hatch Hwy. 26, about a mile in from the Hwy. 180 turnoff. It is open seven days a week, with the hours on Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and on Sunday from 3 to 8 p.m.

For more information, to make a reservation or to place an order for free delivery in the town of Deming, call (575) 275-3881. ☎

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

**DINING GUIDE**  
continued

**MIX PACIFIC RIM CUISINE AND MIX EXPRESS**, 1001 E. University Ave. #D4, 532-2042. "For a true taste of Tokyo, a classic curry, a Vietnamese tidbit or big bite of Australia—all served up with the sophistication of San Francisco—head to Mix Pacific Rim Cuisine for an international dining experience that satisfies." (March 2008) Asian, Pacific: Mon.-Sat. L D.

**MOONGATE CAFÉ**, 9395 Bataan Memorial, 382-5744. Coffeeshop, Mexican, American: B L.

**MOUNTAIN VIEW MARKET KITCHEN**, 120 S. Water St., 556-9856. Sandwiches, bagels, wraps, salads and other healthy fare: Mon.-Sat.: B L early D. \*

**MY BROTHER'S PLACE**, 334 S. Main St., 523-7681. Mexican: Mon.-Sat. L D.

**NELLIE'S CAFÉ**, 1226 W. Hadley Ave., 524-9982. Mexican: Tues.-Sat. B L.

**NOPALITO RESTAURANT**, 2605 Missouri Ave., 522-0440. Mexican: L 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.\*

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

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

**PANCAKE ALLEY DINER**, 2146 W. Picacho Ave., 647-4836. American: B L, early D.

**PARKER'S BBQ**, 850 E. Madrid Ave., 541-5712. Barbecue carryout: L, early D.

**PASSION ULTRA LOUNGE**, 201 E. University Ave. (inside Ramada Palms), 523-7399. Steaks, burgers, salmon: L D.

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

**PEPPERS CAFÉ ON THE PLAZA (IN THE DOUBLE EAGLE RESTAURANT)**, 2355 Calle De Guadalupe, 523-6700. "Creative handling of traditional Southwestern dishes.... [plus] such non-Mexican entrées as Salmon Crepes and Beer Braised Beef Carbonnade." (March 2012). Southwestern: L D. \*

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

**PIT STOP CAFÉ**, 361 S. Motel Blvd., 527-1993. Mexican, American, steak: Mon.-Sat. B L D.

**PLAYER'S GRILL**, 3000 Champions Dr. (NMSU golf course clubhouse), 646-2457. American: B L D.

**PULLARO'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT**, 901 W. Picacho Ave., 523-6801. Italian: L D.

**Q's**, 1300 Avenida De Mesilla,

571-4350. Brewhouse with steak and pasta: L D.

**RANCHWAY BARBEQUE**, 604 N. Valley Dr., 523-7361. Barbecue, Mexican: Mon.-Fri. B L D, Sat. D.

**RASCO'S BBQ**, 5580 Bataan Memorial E. (inside Shorty's gas station). Barbecued brisket, pulled pork, smoked sausage, ribs.

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

**ROBERTO'S MEXICAN FOOD**, 908 E. Amador Ave., 523-1851. Mexican: B L D.\*

**ROSIE'S CAFÉ DE MESILLA**, 420 Avenida de Mesilla, 526-1256. Breakfast, Mexican, burgers: Sat.-Thurs. B L, Fri. B L D.

**SAENZ GORDITAS**, 1700 N. Solano Dr., 527-4212. Mexican: Mon.-Sat. L D.

**SANTORINI'S**, 1001 E. University Ave., 521-9270. "An eclectic blend of Greek and Mediterranean dishes—gyros with different meats, such as lamb or chicken, hummus with pita, Greek salads—plus sampler plates and less-familiar items such as keftedes and pork shawarma. Vegetarian options are numerous." (July 2010) Greek, Mediterranean: Mon.-Sat. L D.

**SAVOY DE MESILLA**, 1800-B Avenida de Mesilla, 527-2869. "If you are adventurous with food and enjoy a fine-dining experience that is genuinely sophisticated, without pretension or snobbishness, you definitely need to check out Savoy de Mesilla. The added attraction is that you can do this without spending a week's salary on any of the meals—all of which are entertainingly and delectably upscale." (March 2013) American, Continental: B L D.

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

**SI ITALIAN BISTRO**, 523 E. Idaho, 523-1572. "Wood-fired pizzas are the star of the show, along with plenty of authentic pasta dishes." (February 2006) Italian: Mon.-Sat. L D.

**SIMPLY TOASTED CAFÉ**, 1702 El Paseo Road, 526-1920. Sandwiches, soups, salads: B L.

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

**SPANISH KITCHEN**, 2960 N. Main St., 526-4275. Mexican: Mon.-Sat. B L D.

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

**ST. CLAIR WINERY & BISTRO**, 1720 Avenida de Mesilla, 524-0390. "A showcase for St. Clair wines... rooted in the same attention to detail, insistence on quality and customer-friendly attitude as the winery." (July 2012) Wine tasting, bistro: L D.

**SUNSET GRILL**, 1274 Golf Club Road

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

**TERIYAKI CHICKEN HOUSE**, 805 El Paseo Rd., 541-1696. Japanese: Mon.-Fri. L D.

**THAI DELIGHT DE MESILLA**, 2184 Avenida de Mesilla, 525-1900. "For the adventurous, there are traditional Thai curries, soups and appetizers to choose from, all of which can be ordered in the degree of heat that suits you.... The restaurant is clean, comfortable, casual in a classy sort of way, and totally unpretentious." (January 2011) Thai, salads, sandwiches, seafood, steaks, German: L D.\*

**TIFFANY'S PIZZA & GREEK AMERICAN CUISINE**, 755 S. Telshor Blvd #G1, 532-5002. "Greek as the Parthenon, the only pure outpost of Greek food for 200 miles.... When the food arrives, it's in portions that would satisfy a Greco-Roman wrestler." (February 2005) Pizza, Greek, deli: Tues.-Sat. B L D.\*

**UMP 88 GRILL**, 1338 Picacho Hills Dr., 647-1455. "An authentic taste of the Emerald Isle in a delightfully authentic pub atmosphere." (December 2008) Irish pub: L D.

**VALLEY GRILL**, 1970 N. Valley, 525-9000. American: B L D, Friday fish fry.

**VINTAGE WINES**, 2461 Calle de Principal, 523-WINE. "The atmosphere is casual and relaxed, the handful of tables situated snugly as in a real French bistro to encourage conversation. Kick off the evening with wine and tapas inside, or wrap up the night out on the charming, cozy patio with a dessert wine or port." (June 2008) Wine and cigar bar, tapas: L D.

**WOK-N-WORLD**, 5192 E. Boutz, 526-0010. Chinese: Mon.-Sat. L D.

**ZEFFIRO PIZZERIA NAPOLETANA**, 136 N. Water St., 525-6757. "Owner Gary Ebert and his very attentive and efficient staff serve up gourmet-style pizza on hand-tossed crusts." (August 2009) 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.

**Anthony ERNESTO'S MEXICAN FOOD**, 200 Anthony Dr., 882-3641. Mexican: B L.

**LA COCINITA**, 908 W. Main Dr., 589-1468. Mexican: L.

**Chapparal EL BAYO STEAK HOUSE**, 417 Chaparral Dr., 824-4749. Steakhouse: Tues.-Sun. B L D.

**TORTILLERIA SUSY**, 661 Paloma Blanca Dr., 824-9377. Mexican: Mon.-Sat. B L D, Sun. B L.

**Doña Ana BIG MIKE'S CAFÉ**, Thorpe Road. Mexican, breakfasts, burgers: B L D.

**Organ THAI DELIGHT**, 16151 Hwy. 70E,

373-3000. Thai, steaks, sandwiches: L D.

**Radium Springs COUNTRY CUPBOARD**, 827 Fort Selden Rd., 527-4732. American: B L D.

**Santa Teresa BILLY CREWS**, 1200 Country Club Road, 589-2071. Steak, seafood: L D.

**LUNA COUNTY Deming ADOBE DELI**, 3970 Lewis Flats Road SE, 546-0361. "The lunch menu features

traditional deli-style sandwiches... The dinner menu is much grander, though some sandwiches are available then, too. Dinner options include filet mignon, flat iron steak, T-bone, ribeye, New York strip, Porterhouse, barbecued 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.\*

**DINING GUIDE**  
continued on next page




## MUSIC EVENINGS IN JUNE

June 1—Eddie and Dane  
June 7—Greg Renfro & Charlie Alfero  
June 21—Bob Einwick

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**SILVER CITY MUSEUM**

Don't forget our annual Ice Cream Social this July 4th!

Calendar of Events for June 2013

Saturday, June 1, 10 am to 12 noon at the Museum Annex, 302 W. Broadway  
Adobe Dynamics 101: A Public Meeting on Adobe and Stonework Preservation by Jake Barrow of Cornerstones Community Partnerships of Santa Fe

Sunday, June 2, 1 pm to 2 pm at the Silver City Museum  
Spinning Demonstration with Kathi Anderson and Jacque Cusick

Thursday, June 6, 12 pm to 1 pm at the Silver City Museum Annex, 302 W. Broadway  
Brown Bag program: Railroads of Southwestern New Mexico with Joe Gill

Saturday, June 8, 10 am to 12 noon at the Silver City Museum  
Craft Class: Cowboy Up! Embellish a Bandana  
For crafters aged 8 and older. Pre-registration encouraged \$5

Saturday, June 8, 2 pm to 3 pm at the Silver City Museum  
Presentation and Book Signing: Fulltimers - The Adventures of Lou and Martha by John Catsis

Saturday and Sunday, June 15 and 16, 10 am to 4 pm at the Silver City Museum  
Free! Father's Day gift! Model sailboat kit

Saturday, June 22, 10 am to 11 am at the Silver City Museum  
Bilingual Storytelling with Maria Vigil

Saturday, June 22, 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm at the Silver City Museum  
Inkle Weaving Class, for students aged 16 and older. Pre-registration required. \$20

For more information: visit us at 312 West Broadway, Silver City NM, call 575-538-5921, or click www.silvercitymuseum.org

**DINING GUIDE**  
continued

**BALBOA MOTEL & RESTAURANT**, 708 W. Pine St., 546-6473. Mexican, American: Sun.-Fri. L D.

**BELSHORE RESTAURANT**, 1030 E. Pine St., 546-6289. Mexican, American: Tues.-Sun. B L.

**BENJI'S RESTAURANT**, 821 W. Pine, 546-5309. Mexican, American: Mon., Tues. Thurs, Fri. B L D, Weds. B L.

**CAMPOS RESTAURANT**, 105 S. Silver, 546-0095. "Owner Albert Campos prides himself on the authentic Mexican and southwestern food he cooks up, inspired by his home in the Mexican state of Zacatecas—such as the fantastic BBQ Beef Brisket Sandwich, a family recipe. But the restaurant has much more than Mexican fare." (June 2007) 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.

**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.

**"FORGHEDABOUT" 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.

**GRAND MOTOR INN & LOUNGE**, 1721 E. Pine, 546-2632. Mexican, steak, seafood: B L D.

**IRMA'S**, 123 S. Silver Ave., 544-4580. Mexican, American, seafood: B L D.

**LA FONDA**, 601 E. Pine St., 546-0465. "Roomy, bright and airy, La Fonda is no mere taco joint. The extensive menu features all the Mexican favorites at bargain prices, plus a wide range of Anglo fare and a breakfast that's worth the drive to Deming. Famous for its fajitas: Choose chicken, beef or both, fajitas for two, or try the unusual stuffed fajita potato or seemingly contradictory fajita burrito." (September 2009) 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.

**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: Tues.-Fri. D, Sat.-Sun. L D.

**PALMA'S ITALIAN GRILL**, 110 S. Silver, 544-3100. "Even if you think you don't like Italian food, you might want to try this family-run enterprise, with Harold and Palma Richmond at the helm. In addition to the name, Palma brings to the restaurant her Sicilian heritage and recipes that came to the United States with her grandmother. Harold brings training in classic Continental cuisine, along with his family's New England food traditions." (Sept. 2010) Italian: L D. Sat. prime rib, Sun. buffet.\*

**PATIO CAFÉ**, 1521 Columbus Road, 546-5990. "The famed burgers are ground fresh daily from 85% lean beef—a half-pound apiece before cooking—and formed for each order. You can adorn your burger in any of a dozen different combinations of cheese, bacon, chiles, pico de gallo, sautéed onions, barbecue sauce, fresh mushrooms, even ham." (February 2006) Burgers, American: Mon.-Sat. L D.\*

**PRIME RIB GRILL (INSIDE HOLIDAY INN)**, I-10 exit 85, 546-2661. Steak, seafood, Mexican: B D.

**RANCHER'S GRILL**, 316 E. Cedar St., 546-8883. Steakhouse, burgers: L D.\*

**SI SEÑOR**, 200 E. Pine St., 546-

3938. Mexican: Mon.-Sat. B L D, Sun. B L.

**SUNRISE KITCHEN**, 1409 S. Columbus Road, 544-7795. "Good-quality comfort food. There's nothing on the menu that is really exotic. But all the familiar dishes, both American and Mexican, are done well, and it's that care in preparation that lifts the food above the ordinary. This is not a freezer-to-fryer type of restaurant." (September 2012) American, Mexican, breakfasts: Mon.-Thur. B L, Fri. B L D.

**TACOS MIRASOL**, 323 E. Pine St., 544-0646. Mexican: Mon., Wed.-Sat. B L D, Tues. B L.

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

**Columbus PATIO CAFÉ**, 23 Broadway, 531-2495. Burgers, American: B L.\*

**HIDALGO COUNTY Lordsburg EL CHARRO RESTAURANT**, 209 S. P Blvd., 542-3400. Mexican: B L D.

**FIDENCIO'S**, 604 E. Motel Dr., 542-8989. Mexican: B L early D.

**KRANBERRY'S FAMILY RESTAURANT**, 1405 Main St., 542-9400. Mexican, American: B L D.

**MAMA ROSA'S PIZZA**, 1312 Main St., 542-8400. Pizza, subs, calzones, salads, chicken wings, cheeseburgers, shrimp baskets: L D.

**RAMONA'S CAFÉ**, 904 E. Motel Dr., 542-3030. "Lordsburg's quit Mexican food treasure offers some unusual takes on traditional recipes." (December 2012) Mexican, American: Tues.-Fri. B L D, Sun. B mid-day D.

**Animas PANTHER TRACKS CAFÉ**, Hwy. 338, 548-2444. Burgers, Mexican, American: Mon.-Fri. B L D

**Rodeo RODEO STORE AND CAFÉ**, 195 Hwy. 80, 557-2295. Coffeshop 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. B L.

**BLACK GOLD**, 98 Main St., 533-6538. Coffeehouse, pastries.

**CARMEN'S**, 101 Main St., 533-6990. Mexican, American: B L D.

**ELLA'S CAFÉ**, 533-6111. American: B L D.

**UNCLE BILL'S BAR**, 230 N. Main St., 533-6369. Pizza: Mon.-Sat. L D.

**Glenwood ALMA GRILL**, Hwy. 180, 539-2233. Breakfast, sandwiches, burgers, Mexican: Sun.-Wed., Fri.-Sat. B L.

**GOLDEN GIRLS CAFÉ**, Hwy. 180, 539-2457. "Dig into an honest taste of the local scene and a down-home breakfast you'll surely wish your mama had made. The specials listed up on the whiteboard all come with biscuits and gravy, and the

**Table Talk**

Silver City's espresso institution, **Yankie Creek Coffee House**, is going through another change, with new owners Barbara Gramling and Terry Sheffield. They're taking over from Greg Bond and MaryAnn Marlar, who will continue to own Vicki's Eatery. The coffee house, at 112 W. Yankie St., was originally A.I.R. Coffee. Gramling and Sheffield met in Alaska; initially she'll be running the coffee shop with veteran barista Dale Rucklos while Sheffield wraps up things in Alaska.

In other Silver City java news, **Three Dogs Coffeehouse**, downtown at 503 N. Bullard, has closed.

Dads dining at **Shevek & Co.** on Father's Day, Sunday, June 16, will receive a complimentary glass of wine or dessert. Then the restaurant will hold a Middle East Wine Tasting Dinner on Friday, June 21, at 6:30 p.m., featuring six courses of foods from Israel, Lebanon, Jordan and Syria with optional matched wines. Wine expert Bob Geitgey will be in attendance to discuss the wines. \$80 per person (\$45 without the wines). More information at silver-eats.com. On Saturday, June 29, Chef Shevek will hold a Middle East Cooking Class at 11 a.m., teaching all the dishes from the Middle East Tasting Dinner. Attendance at the dinner is not required, but preregistration is. More details at thekissmethodgourmet.com. 602 N. Bullard St., 534-9168.

**Little Toad Creek** in Lake Roberts plans musical evenings in June, plus a 4th of July Backyard BBQ next month. Performers will be Edie and Diane on June 1, Greg Renfro and Charlie Alfero on June 7 and Bob Einwick on June 21. 1122 Hwy. 35, 536-9649, littletoadcreek.com.

Las Cruces welcomes yet another Mexican eatery, **El Ahuua's**, in the plaza at 1001 E. University Ave., near the corner of University and Espina. Hours are daily 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. 556-9484.

**K-Bob's**, familiar to steakhouse fans from its half-dozen New Mexico locations including Socorro and T or C, is coming to Las Cruces. The regional restaurant chain will take over the former Dickey's Barbecue Pit site at 1660 S. Valley Dr.

Another chain, **Five Guys Burgers**, plans to open a Las Cruces location this fall near the Mesilla Valley Mall. ☼

Send restaurant news to updates@red-or-green.com.

ample menu has all the usual suspects—omelets, pancakes, French toast and, of course, breakfast burritos—clueing you into the rib-sticking satisfaction ahead." (Nov. 2007) Breakfast: B.

**MARIO'S PIZZA**, Hwy. 180, 539-2316. "This unpretentious eatery serves up better pizza than you'll find in many a big city. But a recent visit to the tiny, scenic mountain town will forever be remembered as the time I had, absolutely, the best calzone of my life." (Nov. 2008) Italian: Mon.-Tues., Fri.-Sat. D.

**Other Catron County PURPLE ONION CAFÉ**, Mogollon, 539-2710. "Seasonal, quirky and way off the beaten path... serves eclectic fare and 'famous' pie." (August 2011) Breakfast, burgers, veggie melts, pita pockets, pies: Fri.-Sun., Mon. holidays, May-Oct.: B L.

**SNUFFY'S STEAKHOUSE AND SALOON**, Quemado Lake, 773-4672. Steakhouse: D (Dec.-April: closed Mon.-Tues.)

**SIERRA COUNTY**

**Hillsboro**

**BARBER SHOP CAFÉ**, Main St., 895-5283. American, Mediterranean, sandwiches: Thurs.-Sat. L.

**HILLSBORO 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. ☼

40 DAYS & 40 NIGHTS

# What's Going on in June

Plus a look ahead into early July.

**JUNE**

**SATURDAY**

**1 Silver City/Grant County**

**ADOBE DYNAMICS 101**—A Public Meeting on Adobe and Stonework Preservation by Jake Barrow of Cornerstones Community Partnerships of Santa Fe. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Silver City Museum Annex, 302 W. Broadway, 538-5921, silvercitymuseum.org.

**ANGELS 101**—Workshop with Gaye Rock. 9 a.m.-12 p.m. \$25. Rock Center, 413 N. Bullard St., 956-5200, gayerock.com.

**COMMUNITY ARTS AND CRAFTS STREET FAIR/MARKET**—Saturdays. Local handmade artwork. Live music, artists, food, entertainment. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. 703 N. Bullard, 313-6468.

**EDIE AND DANE**—Little Toad Creek, 1122 Hwy. 35, Lake Roberts, 536-9649, littletoadcreek.com.

**FIELD TRIP TO SAN VICENTE CIENEGA**—Southwestern New Mexico Audubon Society monthly field trip and bird walk. First of six nature and history walks in celebration of publication of the revised Greenways of Silver City brochure. 7 a.m. WNMU Fine Arts Parking lot, swnmaudubon@gmail.com.

**GILA FARMERS' MARKET**—Tuesdays and Saturdays. 1-4 p.m. 414 Hwy. 211, 535-2729.

**JOSHUA BREAKSTONE**—7 p.m. \$35. Seedboat Center for the Arts, 214 W. Yankie St., 534-1136.

**METHODIST CHURCH YARD SALE**—Food available. Proceeds support local non-profit organizations. UMC Men's Group. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. United Methodist Church, 300 College Ave.

**NATIONAL TRAILS DAY**—Three-mile guided hike or guided bike ride. 10 a.m. Dragonfly Trailhead, Arenas Valley Road & Elias Road. Dr. Richard Kozoll on how trails enhance life, noon at Cobre Performing Arts Center. Free. 538-8078, Andrew@gilaresources.info.

**PAT PANTHER**—Buckhorn Saloon, Pinos Altos, 538-9911, buckhornsaloon-andoperahouse.com.

**SILVER CITY FARMERS' MARKET**—Saturdays. 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Mainstreet Plaza, N. Bullard at 7th St., 654-4104.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**HEALING WITH DOWSING**—Gary Plapp, Master Dowser. Photon workshop. 1-5 p.m. \$25. Las Cruces Wellness Center, 755 S. Telshor Blvd., Building R #201, 521-4076, lascruceswellnesscenter.org.

**JENNINGS & KELLER**—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**—Sonya Weiner. 10:30 a.m. Coas Books Solano, 1101 S. Solano.

**TERRA NOVA**—Through June 16. By Ted Tally directed by Algernon D'Amassa. This drama explores the character of Robert Falcon Scott ("Scott of the Antarctic") in the final, fatal days of his 1911-12 expedition to the South Pole. 8 p.m. \$10, \$9 students and seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, no-strings.org.

**TO THE WONDER**—Through June 6. After visiting Mont Saint-Michel, Marina and Neil come to Oklahoma, where problems arise. Marina meets a priest and fellow exile, who is struggling with his vocation, while Neil renews his ties with a childhood friend. Directed by Terrence Malick. Stars Ben Affleck, Olga Kurylenko, Rachel McAdams. 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, \$5 MVFS members, children and Weds. Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, 524-8287, mesillavalleyfilm.org.

**WATER HARVESTING AND IRRIGATION WORKSHOP**—MVM Farm Manager Lori Garton. Learn the basics of making the most of our limited water resources here in the southwest desert. Water harvesting is a simple tool to conserve water. For those who seek a more substantial resource to irrigate their crops sustainably, find out about drip irrigation and how it can save water while also reducing weeds and strengthening your plants. 9-11 a.m. \$20, \$15 MVM members. Mountain View Market Farm, 2653 Snow Road, 523-0436, mvmoutreach@gmail.com.

**Glenwood**  
**GLENWOOD LIBRARY APPRECIATION BREAKFAST**—For volunteers and patrons. 9 a.m. Glenwood Community Center.

**Reserve**  
**SPRING FLING & WESTERN MUSIC FESTIVAL**—Mike Moutoux from Silver City and Earl Gleason from Belen. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. Park between the Village of Reserve Office/Library and the High School.

**SUNDAY**  
**2 Silver City/Grant County**  
**224 CLUB HOME TOUR**—Tickets

available at Adobe Springs, Manzanita Ridge, Finishing Touch, Seedboat Gallery and from the members. 1-4 p.m. \$20.

**BOSTON HILL NATURE WALK**—Nature walk with Karen Beckenbach. 7 a.m. Spring Street Trailhead, swnmaudubon@gmail.com.

**SPINNING DEMONSTRATION**—With Kathi Anderson and Jacque Cusick. 1-2 p.m. Silver City Museum, 312 W. Broadway, 538-5921, silvercitymuseum.org.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**SUNDAY GROWERS' MARKET**—Sundays. Featuring fresh produce, locally roasted coffee, water-wise desert plants, sustainable crafts and more. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436.

**MONDAY**

**3 Gila Cliff Dwellings**  
**3TJ SITE**—Through June 7. While the Cliff Dwellings are temporarily closed for hazard rock removal, area visitors will have the unique opportunity to explore this unexcavated surface pueblo that is normally closed to the public. Reservations recommended. 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Free. 536-9461.

**TUESDAY**

**4 Silver City/Grant County**  
**GILA FARMERS' MARKET**—Tuesdays and Saturdays. 3-6 p.m. 414 Hwy. 211, 535-2729.

**POT OF SILVER OPEN TEAM ROPING**—11 a.m. Southwest Horseman's Arena, www.silvercityprorodeo.com.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**ARGENTINE TANGO DE LAS CRUCES**—Tuesdays. 6:30-9:30 p.m. \$5, NMSU students free with ID. 2251 Calle de Santiago, 620-0377.

**TRAP, NEUTER AND RETURN: FERAL CAT CARE**—Join nationally recognized expert on feral cat care, Joe Miele, who will explain some simple things we can do to make the feral cat population more comfortable, and learn how to humanely reduce the population by preventing new litters. 6-7:30 p.m. Free. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436.

**WEDNESDAY**

**5 Silver City/Grant County**  
**5 WILD, WILD WEST PRO RODEO**—Through June 8. See story in this

**EVENTS** continued on next page



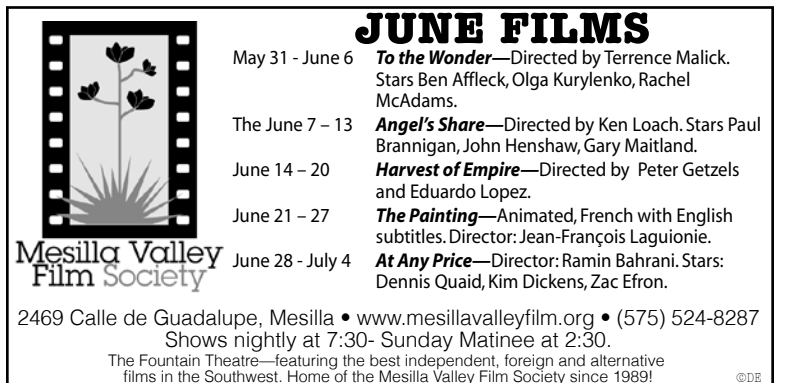
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## JUNE FILMS

May 31 - June 6 **To the Wonder**—Directed by Terrence Malick. Stars Ben Affleck, Olga Kurylenko, Rachel McAdams.

The June 7 - 13 **Angel's Share**—Directed by Ken Loach. Stars Paul Brannigan, John Henshaw, Gary Maitland.

June 14 - 20 **Harvest of Empire**—Directed by Peter Getzels and Eduardo Lopez.

June 21 - 27 **The Painting**—Animated, French with English subtitles. Director: Jean-François Laguionie.

June 28 - July 4 **At Any Price**—Director: Ramin Bahrani. Stars: Dennis Quaid, Kim Dickens, Zac Efron.

2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla • www.mesillavalleyfilm.org • (575) 524-8287  
Shows nightly at 7:30- Sunday Matinee at 2:30.  
The Fountain Theatre—featuring the best independent, foreign and alternative films in the Southwest. Home of the Mesilla Valley Film Society since 1989!

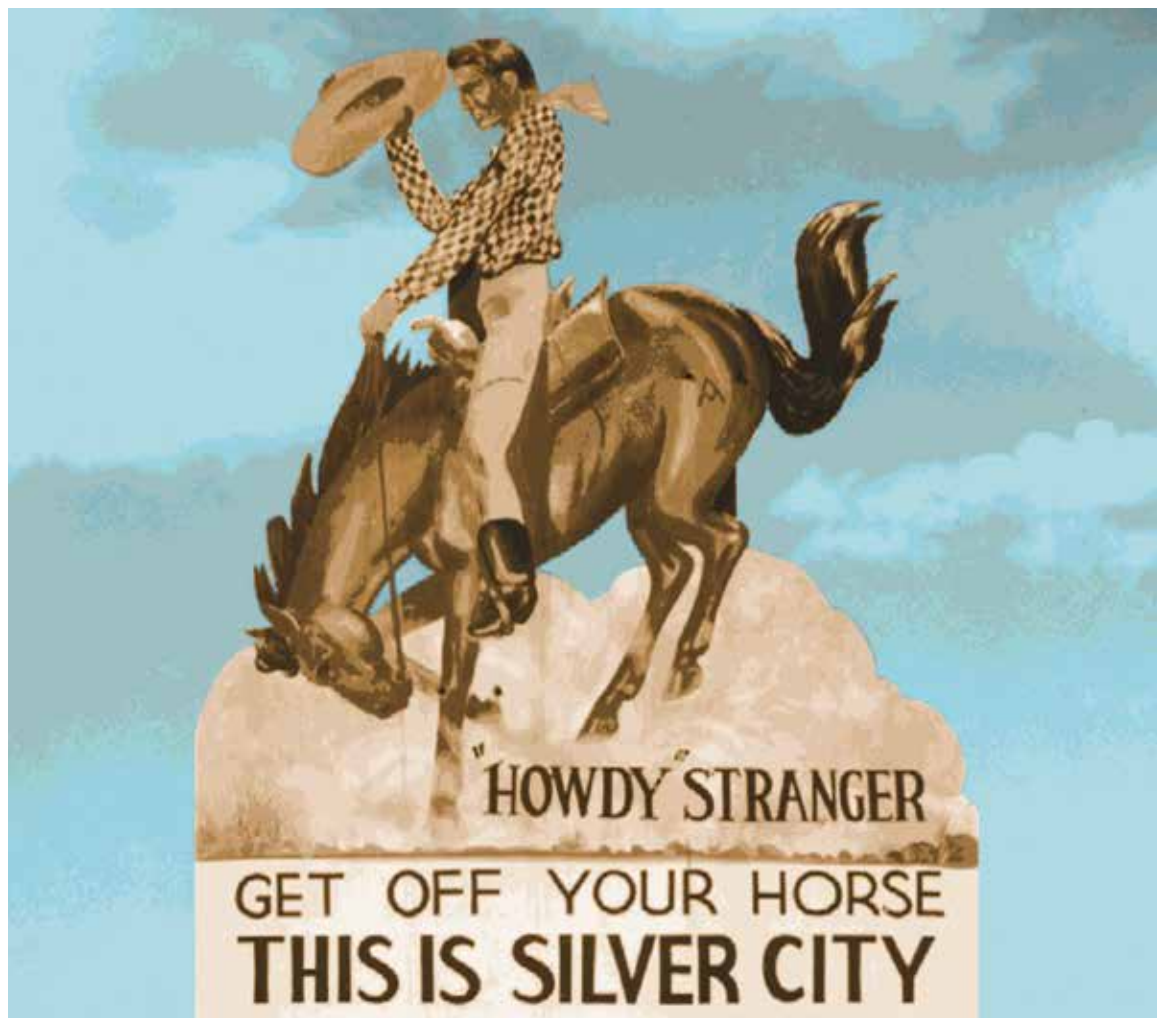


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- Thu 6/20 Bob Einweck (Tucson)
- Sat 6/22 Courtney Marie Andrews (Seattle)
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theoversouls.com • youtube.com/theoversouls

**THE TO DO LIST**  
Bustin' out all over.

**T**hat heat you're feeling just might be the sizzling schedule of musical entertainment enlivening area venues this month. Start with

**Joshua Breakstone** on **June 1** at the Seedboat Center for the Arts in Silver City. Note for Note calls Breakstone "one of the most gifted and formidable jazz guitarists in the country." Then on **June 7** it's the **Summer Music Series** at St. Clair Winery in Deming, starting with Tom Morris and continuing on Fridays. On **June 13**, the "Nashville Invasion" continues at the Buckhorn in Pinos Altos, with **AG and Garrison Starr**. Adrienne Gonzalez (AG), with nine solo albums to date, has had songs featured on countless hit TV shows and opened for performers including Jeff Buckley and Jackson Browne. Starr has toured with Melissa Etheridge, Sarah McLachlan and Mary Chapin Carpenter.



Garrison Starr.

On the busy **June 29**, it's **Bayou Seco** and friends performing and teaching old-time dances at the Ole Tavern in Cliff. In Silver City at the WNMU Fine Arts Center Theatre, the Grant County Community Concert Association presents a special pre-July 4th concert by the **Mesilla Valley Concert Band**, joined by members of Grant County's own Concert Band of the Southwest. And up in Pinos Altos, **The Oversouls** host a CD release party at the Buckhorn Opera House.

This is also the month for Silver City's **Wild, Wild West Pro Rodeo, June 5-8**, which you can read about elsewhere in this issue. If you're more into reading than rodeo, check out occasional *Desert Exposure* contributor **John Catsis** at the Silver City Museum on **June 8**, presenting and signing his first novel, *Fulltimers—The Adventures of Lou and Martha*. The *Albuquerque Journal* called it a "funny, RV-connected political satire."

In Las Cruces, on **June 7**, the Branigan Cultural Center opens a new exhibit, **Coffee: The World in Your Cup**, which runs through August 31. The exhibit tells the story of one of the world's most widely traded commodities and how it has affected cultures, economies and environments across the globe. Public programs will include coffee demonstrations, family workshops, coffee tastings and more.

Back in Silver City, **June 15** brings **JUMP into Summer** at Gough Park. This family fun day features games, raffles and prizes. If you haven't already jumped into summer, now there's no excuse! ☼



Mesilla Valley Concert Band,

**EVENTS continued**

issue. "Boys and the Bulls," with a little hometown team roping and WPRA Barrel Racing. Gates open at 6 p.m. Mutton Bustin' begins at 7:30 p.m. and rodeo performances begin at 8 p.m. \$18 at the gate, \$15 in advance at: Circle Heart Western Wear and First New Mexico Bank in Silver City, Circle S Western Emporium in Deming, Trail Town Chevron in Lordsburg. Shuttle runs from First New Mexico Bank, 6-7:45 p.m. Southwest Horseman's Arena, www.silvercityprorodeo.com.  
**ESTHER JAMISON**—Buckhorn Saloon, Pinos Altos, 538-9911, buckhornsaloon-andoperahouse.com.

**THURSDAY**  
**7 Silver City/Grant County Wild, Wild West Pro Rodeo**—Through June 8. See story in this issue. PRCA Rodeo. Spectators and contestants are encouraged to wear pink as part of "Tough Enough to Wear Pink" night; part of the proceeds benefit the GRMC Cancer Center and Cowboys for Cancer Research. New this year Ranch Bronc Riding. Gates open at 6 p.m. Exceptional Rodeo, where kids with disabilities ride with the pros, at 6:15 p.m. Mutton Bustin' begins at 7:30 p.m. Rodeo performances begin at 8 p.m. Family Night: buy three tickets and the fourth is free. \$18 at the gate, \$15 in advance. Shuttle runs from First New Mexico Bank, 6-7:45 p.m. Southwest Horseman's Arena, www.silvercityprorodeo.com.

**BROWN BAG PROGRAM**—"Railroads of Southwestern New Mexico" with Joe Gill. 12-1 p.m. Silver City Museum Annex, 302 W. Broadway, 538-5921, silvercitymuseum.org.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**BIG BAND DANCE CLUB**—CDs, DJ Mike D'Arcy. 7-10 p.m. \$7. Court Youth Center, 402 W. Court St., 526-6504.

**DREW REID**—High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

**HOMEMADE AND ORGANIC FERTILIZERS WORKSHOP**—MVM Farm Manager Lori Garton. Want to learn how to fertilize your crops without the use of harmful synthetic chemicals? Come to this workshop to find out the many ways an organic grower can help their plants thrive. Pre-registration required. 9-11 a.m. \$20, \$15 MVM members. Mountain View Market Farm, 2653 Snow Road, 523-0436, mvmoutreach@gmail.com.

**MESILLA VALLEY STAMP CLUB**—Guests, beginning and advanced collectors are invited to trade, buy and sell stamps. 6-8 p.m. Thomas Branigan Memorial Library, 200 E. Picacho Ave., 528-4000, library.las-cruces.org.

**TASTE OF LAS CRUCES**—Samples

from 20 restaurants, silent auction, live entertainment. Benefits Roadrunner Food Bank's Southern Branch. 6-8:30 p.m. \$40. Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave.

**TERRA NOVA**—See June 1. Through June 16. 7 p.m. \$7. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, no-strings.org.

**FRIDAY**  
**7 Silver City/Grant County Wild, Wild West Pro Rodeo**—Through June 8. See story in this issue. PRCA Rodeo. Gates open at 6 p.m. Mutton Bustin' begins at 7:30 p.m. and rodeo performances begin at 8 p.m. Family dance on the slab at the arena after the rodeo by Lone Mountain 4-H. \$18 at the gate, \$15 in advance. Shuttle runs from First New Mexico Bank, 6-7:45 p.m. Southwest Horseman's Arena, www.silvercityprorodeo.com.

**BIKE EVENINGS**—Fridays. Bike repair workshop and social bike ride followed by the Bike-In Movie Night. 6 p.m., 8:30 p.m. movie. Bikeworks, 820 Bullard St, 388-1444.

**CLAM TOSTADA**—Buckhorn Saloon, Pinos Altos, 538-9911, buckhornsaloon-andoperahouse.com.

**GREG AND CHARLIE**—Acoustic original folk and favorite covers. 12-1 p.m. Courtyard Cafe, Gila Regional Medical Center, 32nd St.

**GREG AND CHARLIE**—Acoustic original folk and favorite covers. 7-9 p.m. Little Toad Creek Inn, Hwy. 15 & 35, Lake Roberts.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**ARTISTS RECEPTION**—5 p.m. Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Downtown Mall, 523-6403, riograndetheatre.com.

**BIRTHDAY BASH**—4-7 p.m. Las Cruces Arts Association Mountain Gallery, 138 W. Mountain, 652-3485.

**CAPTURING CUBA**—Photos by Storm Sermay. 5-7 p.m. Main Street Gallery, 311 N. Main St., 647-0508.

**COFFEE: THE WORLD IN YOUR CUP**—Exhibit opening, through August 31. The story of one of the world's most widely traded commodities and how it has affected cultures, economies and environments across the globe. Public programs will include coffee demonstrations, family workshops, coffee tastings and more. See website for details. Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main St., 541-2154, las-cruces.org/museums.

**LUNCHTIME YOGA**—Fridays. 12 p.m. \$12 includes lunch. Downtown Desert Yoga, 126 S. Downtown Main St.

**RGT LIVE!**—Open mic. 6:30 p.m. Free. Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Downtown Mall, 523-6403, riograndetheatre.com.

**TERRA NOVA**—See June 1. Through

June 16. 8 p.m. \$10, \$9 students and seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, no-strings.org.

**THE ANGEL'S SHARE**—Through June 13. Narrowly avoiding jail, new dad Robbie vows to turn over a new leaf. A visit to a whiskey distillery inspires him and his mates to seek a way out of their hopeless lives. Directed by Ken Loach. Stars Paul Brannigan, John Henshaw, Gary Maitland. 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, \$5 MVFS members, children and Weds. Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, 524-8287, mesillavalleyfilm.org.

**Deming**  
**TOM MORRIS**—Summer Music Series. 5:30-8:30 p.m. St. Clair Winery, 1325 De Baca Road, 546-1179.

**Hatch**  
**REMEMBER THEN, A CLASS ACT**—1950-60s tribute show band. TGIF Dinner Show doors open at 6 p.m. 7:30-9:30 p.m. \$10, available at White's Music Box, Mountain Music and Valley Pro Music in Las Cruces, and in Hatch at Sparky's. Green Chile Room, Sparky's. 541-0656, (915)355-3453, 267-4222, edmondsbarb38@gmail.com.

**SATURDAY**  
**8 Silver City/Grant County Wild, Wild West Pro Rodeo**—See story in this issue. PRCA Rodeo. Gates open at 6 p.m. Mutton Bustin' begins at 7:30 p.m. and rodeo performances begin at 8 p.m. Family dance on the slab at the arena after the rodeo by Lone Mountain 4-H. \$18 at the gate, \$15 in advance. Shuttle runs from First New Mexico Bank, 6-7:45 p.m. Southwest Horseman's Arena, www.silvercityprorodeo.com.

**BIG DITCH WATER LIFE**—Learn about some of the fascinating life that inhabits San Vicente Creek with Andrew Lindl of the Silver City Watershed Keepers at Gila Resources Information Project. 8 a.m. Visitor Center Parking Lot, swmaudubon@gmail.com.

**CITY OF ROCKS MONTHLY OBSERVATIONS**—City of Rocks has some of the darkest skies in the area. Come check out the observatory and telescope. 5:30-8:30 p.m. \$5. City of Rocks State Park, emnrd.state.nm.us/SPD/cityofrockstatepark.html.

**CLAM TOSTADA**—Buckhorn Saloon, Pinos Altos, 538-9911, buckhornsaloon-andoperahouse.com.

**ARTS AND CRAFTS MARKET**—9 a.m.-2 p.m. 703 N. Bullard, 313-6468.

**RAFT CLASS**—Embellish a bandana. For crafters ages 8 and up. Pre-registration encouraged. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. \$5. Silver City Museum, 312 W. Broadway,



The Brown Bag Lecture at the Railroad Museum on June 11 will feature Jeff Wooten, demonstrating a 19th century soldier's uniform and equipage.

538-5921, silvercitymuseum.org.

**FRIENDS OF LIBRARY BOOK SALE**—Huge variety of gently used books, music CDs, DVDs, recorded books on tape and CD, and videotapes. Kids get a book free if it contains the word or color red. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. FOL Warehouse, 1510 W. Market St.

**GILA FARMERS' MARKET**—Tuesdays and Saturdays. 1-4 p.m. 414 Hwy. 211, 535-2729.

**GREG AND CHARLIE**—Acoustic original folk and favorite covers. 6:30-9 p.m. Diane's Parlor, Bullard St.

**PRESENTATION AND BOOK SIGNING**—*Fulltimers: The Adventures of Lou and Martha* by John Catsis. 2-3 p.m. Silver City Museum, 312 W. Broadway, 538-5921, silvercitymuseum.org.

**SILVER CITY FARMERS' MARKET**—Saturdays. 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Mainstreet Plaza, N. Bullard at 7th St., 654-4104.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**EVERETT HOWL**—High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

**MULLIGANS FORE MUTTS**—Adoption Programs for Animals. Come play golf for animals. 7 a.m. \$100-\$500. RedHawk Golf Club, golfdigestplanner/23128-Mulligans\_Fore\_Mutts, 621-4942.

**STORYTELLERS OF LAS CRUCES**—Douglas Jackson. 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.

**TERRA NOVA**—See June 1. Through June 16. 8 p.m. \$10, \$9 students and seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, no-strings.org.

**Truth or Consequences**  
**5TH ANNUAL HOT SPRINGS FESTIVAL**—Live music, tours, contests, beer garden, spa poker run, kids' activities. 4-9 p.m. Downtown on Daniels and Sims, behind Lee Belle Johnson Center. www.HotSpringsFestival.org.

**SUNDAY**  
**9 Silver City/Grant County**  
**BIG DITCH PARK BIRDING**—Explore Silver City's riverwalk with Karen Beckenbach and learn some of the birds that frequent the area. 7:30 a.m. Free. Visitor Center Parking Lot, swnmaudubon@gmail.com.

**EVERGREEN GARDEN CLUB ANNUAL GARDEN TOUR**—See Southwest Gardener column. Tickets at Silver City Farmers' Market, Ambank, Silver Heights Nursery, Aloita Gelato, Mimbres Farms Greenhouse & Nursery. 1-5 p.m. \$5.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**20TH CENTURY CELEBRATION**—Las Cruces Revue Troupe. Favorites from Elvis, the Beach Boys, Gloria Estefan, Michael Jackson, Benny Goodman, Glenn Miller and more. 7 p.m. \$10. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, no-strings.org.

**ANTIQUA TREASURES DAY**—This is the only one day each year visitors get the opportunity to enjoy a behind-the-scenes look at the facility's collections and preservation program. Museum curators will talk about the process of donating artifacts along with their care and preservation. 12-4 p.m. \$5, \$3 seniors, \$2 children 5-17. Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road, 522-4100, nmfarmandranchmuseum.org.

**SUNDAY GROWERS' MARKET**—10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436.

**TERRA NOVA**—See June 1. Through June 16. 2:30 p.m. \$10, \$9 students and seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, no-strings.org.

**Deming**  
**HILLSBORO ARTS**—Deming Arts Council Reception. 1 p.m. 100 S. Gold, demingarts.orbs.com.

**MONDAY**  
**10 Silver City/Grant County**  
**WIDOWED PERSONS SERVICE**—

Travelers will tell about their Hawaiian cruise trip. 11 a.m. \$10 includes lunch. Glad Tidings Church, 537-3643.

**TUESDAY**  
**11 Silver City/Grant County**  
**BIRTH STORY**—Ina May Gaskin and The Farm

Midwives, the story of a spirited group of women who taught themselves how to be midwives while creating a commune called The Farm in the 1970s. 12-2 p.m. Free. Silver City Food Co-op, Community Room, 111 6th St., 388-2343, silvercityfoodcoop.com.

**GILA FARMERS' MARKET**—Tuesdays and Saturdays. 3-6 p.m. 414 Hwy. 211, 535-2729.

**TEA PARTY PATRIOTS**—Meeting. 6 p.m. Red Barn Family Steak House, 708 Silver Heights Blvd., 388-3848.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**ARGENTINE TANGO DE LAS CRUCES**—Tuesdays. 6:30-9:30 p.m. \$5, NMSU students free with ID. 2251 Calle de Santiago, 620-0377.

**GUITAR GREG**—Every Other Tuesday. 6:30 p.m. Free. Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Downtown Mall, 523-6403, riograndetheatre.com.

**A DAY IN THE LIFE**—Jeff Wooten, New Mexico State Monument Ranger at Fort Selden, will demonstrate the uniform and equipage of a 19th century soldier living in the desert Southwest, and explain duties in the field and garrison. 12 p.m. Railroad Museum, 351 N. Mesilla St., 647-4480.

**WEDNESDAY**  
**12 Silver City/Grant County**  
**LIVE MUSIC**—Buckhorn Saloon, Pinos Altos, 538-9911, buckhornsaloonandoperahouse.com

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**FILM LAS CRUCES**—Trailers for locally made films are screened alongside short films by student filmmakers, followed by Q&A sessions with the filmmakers and industry news. 7 p.m. Free. Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Downtown Mall, 523-6403, riograndetheatre.com.

**ORTHO-BIONOMY: WHEN NOTHING ELSE HELPS YOUR PAIN**—Techniques will be demonstrated by Patricia Gray. 5-6 p.m. Free. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436.

**THURSDAY**  
**13 Silver City/Grant County**  
**GAG AND GARRISON STARR**—7 p.m. Buckhorn Saloon, Pinos Altos, 538-9911, buckhornsaloonandoperahouse.com.

**ROLLING STONES GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY**—Potluck dinner. Lee Stockman and Judy Allen will discuss rock identification. 6 p.m. Senior Center, Victoria St., 534-1393, rollingstonesgms.blogspot.com.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**BIG BAND DANCE CLUB**—Jim Helder Septet. 7-10 p.m. \$9, \$7 members. Court Youth Center, 402 West Court St., 526-6504.

**TIFFANY CHRISTOPHER**—High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

**TREES ARE KILLING OUR FORESTS**—Forest Health in the West. George Duda, who spent 16 years with the state of New Mexico Forestry Division as the Timber Management Officer, will talk about how the misinterpretation of natural processes has brought us to a time of unparalleled loss of forests and woodlands in the Western US. Duda also has spent time in the private sector, working for 22 years as Resource Manager for the Duke City Lumber Co. 7 p.m. \$2. Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road, 522-4100, nmfarmandranchmuseum.org.

**FRIDAY**  
**FLAG DAY**  
**14 Silver City/Grant County**  
**BIKE EVENINGS**—Fridays. Bike repair workshop and social bike ride followed by the Bike-In Movie Night. 6 p.m., 8:30 p.m. movie. Bikeworks, 820 Bullard St., 388-1444.

**GREEN DRINKS**—Van Clothier of Stream Dynamics will show how to assess water resources and cost effectively make use of them. An update on the 2013 Legislative session, local business/community announcements and networking will wrap up the evening. Green Chamber of Commerce. 5:30-7 p.m. Energy Ideal, 820 N. Bullard St., 538-4332.

**SILVER CITY MUSEUM SOCIETY**—Drop off your auction donations and unwanted items. Items will be auctioned off on

August 17. 3-6 p.m. Silver City Museum Annex, 302 W. Broadway, 538-5921, silvercitymuseum.org.

**TREVOR REICHMAN**—Buckhorn Saloon, Pinos Altos, 538-9911, buckhornsaloonandoperahouse.com.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**AN EVENING WITH THE ARTIST**—Roy Van der Aa. 5-8 p.m. Creative Harmony Gallery & Gifts, 220 N. Campo St., 312-3040.

**HARVEST OF EMPIRE**—Through June 20. A powerful documentary that exposes the direct connection between the long history of US intervention in Latin America and the immigration crisis of today. Directed by Peter Getzels and Eduardo Lopez. 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, \$5 MVFS members, children and Weds. Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, 524-8287, mesillavalleyfilm.org.

**LUNCHTIME YOGA**—Fridays. 12 p.m. \$12 includes lunch. Downtown Desert Yoga, 126 S. Main St.

**TERRA NOVA**—See June 1. Through June 16. 8 p.m. \$10, \$9 students and seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, no-strings.org.

**Deming**  
**BUZZ TONES**—Summer Music Series. 5:30-8:30 p.m. St. Clair Winery, 1325 De Baca Road, 546-1179.

**SATURDAY**  
**15 Silver City/Grant County**  
**BET WITH YOUR BOOTS ON**—Western wear encouraged, food and drink available. Benefits the Education Center being built under the auspices of Border Partners at the Town Library in Palomas. Western wear encouraged, food and drink available. Tickets at the door. 7-11 p.m. \$25. Billy's Restaurant, Hwy. 180 E., 537-5988.

**ARTS AND CRAFTS MARKET**—9 a.m.-2 p.m. 703 N. Bullard, 313-6468.

**DOUG SNYDER**—Buckhorn Saloon, Pinos Altos, 538-9911, buckhornsaloonandoperahouse.com.

**GILA FARMERS' MARKET**—Tuesdays and Saturdays. 1-4 p.m. 414 Hwy. 211, 535-2729.

**JUMP INTO SUMMER**—Family fun day. Games, raffle, prizes. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Gough Park, 534-0248.

**MODEL SAIL BOAT KIT**—Also June 16. Father's Day gift for kids. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. Silver City Museum, 312 W. Broadway, 538-5921, silvercitymuseum.org.

**ROLLING STONES GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY FIELD TRIP**—388-2010, rollingstonesgms.blogspot.com.

**SILVER CITY FARMERS' MARKET**—Saturdays. Greg Renfro 9-11 a.m. Market 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Mainstreet Plaza, N. Bullard at 7th St., 654-4104.

**THE LOOSE BLUES BANDS**—Rock, blues and country. 6-9 p.m. Diane's Parlor, Bullard St.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**DESERT BABY-WEARERS**—Learn about safe and comfortable baby-wearing, practice new methods, try different carriers and meet other baby-wearers at this monthly meeting. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436.

**LIFE 101**—Level 1 workshop for manifesting your life. 1-4 p.m. \$25, \$60 for all three levels on following Saturdays. Register at jeannieky.webs.com. Las Cruces Wellness Center, 755 S. Telshor Blvd., Building R #201, 521-4076, lascruceswellnesscenter.org.

**MEAN MARY**—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**—Loni Todoroki. 10:30 a.m. Coas Books Solano, 1101 S. Solano.

**TERRA NOVA**—See June 1. Through June 16. 8 p.m. \$10, \$9 students and seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, no-strings.org.

**Deming**  
**MUSIC IN THE PARK**—6 p.m. Rockhound State Park, Hwy. 143.

**Glenwood**  
**BUCKY'S BIRTHDAY BASH**—Cowboy dinner, potluck dessert. Dance. Music by Bucky Allred, Dee Ford, Ty Martin, Joe Delk, Mark Delk, Byron Delk, Joe Garcia, Myron Sullivan, Cheryl Allsup & Friends. Contributions benefit the New Mexico Off-Highway Vehicle Alliance. 6 p.m. www.nmohva.org.

**SUNDAY**  
**FATHERS' DAY**  
**16 Silver City/Grant County**  
**EARLY SUNDAY DINNER**—Pasta, salad, bread, drinks and dessert will be

EVENTS continued on next page

**BUCKHORN SALOON & OPERA HOUSE**  
Mondays Open Mic Night @ 7pm  
JUNE 2013  
Wednesdays Saloon Spaghetti

Sat 1 **Pat Panther** Blues - Bisbee  
Wed 5 **Esther Jamison** Finger Style Guitar - Silver City  
Fri 7 & 8 **Clam Tostada** Alternative Folk Rock - Tucson  
Wed 12 **TBA**  
THURS 13 - **Special Nashville Invasion** -  
**AG & Garrison Starr** - LIVE in the Saloon!!!  
Fri 14 **Trevor Reichman** Singer Songwriter - Big Bend  
Sat 15 **Doug Snyder** Folk Rock - ABO  
Wed 19 **Ray Tarantino** Singer Songwriter - Portland  
Fri 21 **Eric from Philly** Folk Rock  
Sat 22 **Wally Lawder & the Raptured Coyotes**  
Wed 26 **TBA**  
Fri 28 **Tiffany Christopher** Folk Rock - Las Cruces  
Sat 29 **Mason Reed** Soul, Singer Songwriter - Texas

THURSDAY, JUNE 13  
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**Prostate Cancer Support Group**

Current patients, survivors, and those at-risk for prostate cancer are encouraged to attend. Information on local, state and national resources will be available!

Meets the Third Wednesday of Every Month @ 6:30 p.m.  
Same Time and Place  
Gila Regional Medical Center—  
Conference Room (1313 E. 32nd St.)  
Facilitators:  
Dave Schwantes and Walt Hanson

For more information, call the Grant County Community Health Council at (575) 388-1198 ext. 10

GRANT COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCIL  
Gila Regional Medical Center  
NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH





HENRY LIGHTCAP'S JOURNAL • HENRY LIGHTCAP

# Love Is Love

An education in what's "normal."

When I was a skinny, snout-nosed sixth grader, we played a dastardly game called "smear the queer." A complex game of strategy and skill, the sole point of the activity was to identify the weakest member of the herd and pummel him mercilessly with rubber balls. In rural New Mexico in 1975, the word "queer" didn't mean much to my naive 10-year-old ears, and I was just thankful when the target wasn't me.

It was a few years later that my friends and I heard rumors that there was a particular variety of boy that was prone to like other boys. These boys were "queers" and became the subject of much speculation and suspicion.

There were plenty of labels that we tossed about with the careless indifference of thoughtless youth—*fags, queers, homos*. Of course, we were positive that there were no gay people in our circles, because all of us were "normal." Each of us took pride in expressing our disapproval of anything remotely gay through increasingly boisterous displays of manly behavior. The word "gay" was a versatile insult.

When I went to college, I briefly worked for the student newspaper, with Woodward-and-Bernstein stars in my eyes. I met with the editor of the paper, a gregarious young man a few years older than me with a penetrating countenance and a rock-hard handshake. Curiously, he had posters of men on the walls of his office, which confused me a bit. However, he offered me the job, and gave me my first assignment, which I latched onto like a fat kid on a doughnut. After a few weeks, I got to know some of the other people on the staff, and when I asked about the posters, one of the writers blinked and said, "Well, duh. He's gay."

My first thought was: He's awfully normal for a gay guy. My second thought was: He didn't even try to hit on me. In the span of 10 seconds, everything I thought I knew about homosexual men was sliced, diced, spindled and mutilated. This vexed me for several days, and I came to understand that all the jokes and labels weren't so harmless, that they were constructs to give form to our fears that were born of ignorance. The editor was a helluva nice guy, and putting a label on him wasn't funny.

As decades passed, I met more gay people, men and women who were increasingly but cautiously trusting of their friends and families. Popular and political issues were constantly affecting these people, who pretty much seemed to be just trying to get through the day like I was. I remember a conversation between a group of my straight friends once that hinged on whether homosexuality was biology or a choice. This puzzled me greatly—after all, if homosexuality was a choice, why would anybody choose it? It's not like gay people brag about how much easier their lives are because of their gayness.

When AIDS was gaining notoriety and scaring the beejeezus out of the public, I saw a group of religious zealots celebrating the disease as God's judgment. According to them, AIDS was an acronym for "Anally Injected Death Syndrome." In 1998, authorities found Matthew Shepard's beaten body on a fence in Laramie, Wyo. The Westboro Baptist Church demonstrated at Shepard's funeral with a sign reading, "Fag Matt in Hell." The naiveté of my youth was stripped away, and I saw how fear leads to senseless hate.

Over the years, I have met gay couples who are remarkable in their ordinariness. They live together and pay

bills together, they watch TV on the couch after a long day at work, and they sometimes bicker over household chores. How is this any different from any of us? I have met couples raising children in the same positive, caring environment I did, and guess what? The kids are "normal" and well adjusted. In fact, the only difference I can detect is that their parents aren't married, which is fine if that's their choice. Unfortunately, it's not a choice.

Why can't gay people be married? Because there are lot of people who are experts on tradition and morality and God's will who have decided basic human rights for certain Americans are conditional. Just like Jim Crow laws and the Japanese internment camps of World War Two, there are apparently times when it's okay to have different rights for different Americans based on fear. Gay people are going to screw up the sanctity of marriage that we heterosexuals have treated with so much respect over the years, so they shouldn't be allowed to take part in the philandering, cheating, spousal abuse, child neglect and marital dysfunction that we straight people have enjoyed for so long.

As Americans who supposedly subscribe to buzzwords like "liberty" and the "pursuit of happiness," it seems ironic that we are blasé about the denial of the right to marriage, the ultimate form of lasting love, to an entire sector of our population. As a people, how can we continue to rationalize this? Using legal precedent to justify discrimination doesn't work, as any legislation preventing gay marriage sort of flies in the

face of the 14th Amendment. Using religion to justify discrimination doesn't work, either, as our nation is not a theocracy. Besides, if gay people are destined to burn in hell, I'm pretty sure the die is already cast. Marriage rights aren't going to change that.

June is Gay Pride month, and I have attended a couple of events over the years as a married man. I smile and laugh and talk with my friends, but I feel conspicuous and guilty, standing there with my wife. We enjoy a bond that gay couples can't, simply by dint of legislative fiat, and I just can't understand that. Our nation—hell, our world—has so many important problems and issues to tackle, and why we continue to expend a dram of energy preventing these people from being equal in our society is dumb. Love is love, and the world is richer place when there is more of it. ✿

My first thought was:  
He's awfully normal  
for a gay guy. My  
second thought was:  
He didn't even try to  
hit on me.

*Henry Lightcap lives and  
lets live in Las Cruces.*



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CONTINENTAL DIVIDE • DAVID A. FRYXELL

# Made in the Shade

Tis the season for getting out of the sun.

Rather to my surprise, June is typically the hottest month here in the desert Southwest. Growing up in the Midwest, June was more of a thunderstormy ramp-up to the real heat of July and August. Freshly out of school, we could enjoy summery days that weren't quite real scorchers, with mosquitos not yet the size of F-16s, followed by long, lingering evenings when darkness held off until almost bedtime. Not quite the light-all-night "midsummer" of Scandinavia (where many South Dakotans' ancestors had lived), June evenings were nonetheless invitations to stay outside as the porch lights



slowly winked on, until our parents hollered it was time to quit kick-the-can and dawdlingly come inside.

Unless, of course, a thunderstorm built and blew up in the humid Midwestern skies, driving us into the house with pelting rain and hailstones. Or a tornado warning sent us deeper still, into the relative shelter of the basement.

Such stormy weather typically doesn't materialize here in the Southwest until early July, with the much-anticipated arrival of the annual monsoons. So, lacking that relief, the heat just builds during the long, sunny June afternoons. These are the days when one wonders: Really, is a swamp cooler enough? Honey, maybe it's time to finally spring for "refrigerated air." Or at least a window air conditioner or two. Or three.

Still, one can't stay sitting directly in the path of the swamp cooler all day long, no matter how tempting. Errands must be run, groceries restocked, the box at the post office emptied. Besides, the car has "refrigerated air," so a little drive can be

a cooling relief.

Until, that is, you arrive at your destination and have to park. Then you begin the contemplation of the horror that will await you upon your return to the vehicle, especially from a lengthy errand such as an Albertson's excursion. Sitting in the blazing June sun for upwards of an hour, the surrounding temperature at least 90, your car will become an oven on wheels.

So begins the summer ritual of placing shiny, windshield-shaped folding reflectors in the front window. You park and out comes the sunscreen. Back in the car, which is an oven despite your best efforts, and you must fumble with and fold up the dang thing. Start the car first, for gosh sakes, what are you thinking? Not that the air conditioning pumps out anything remotely "refrigerated" in temperature at first, but at least the air in the car is moving while you refold and wrestle that stupid sunscreen into the back seat or just give up and hurl it out of your way...

Have you ever noticed that they don't make rear-window sunscreens? What if you park so that the sun is blazing in from the back? True, at least you won't fry your butt when you return and sit down, but the whole oven effect will still happen.

And can we just all agree at this point that people who leave their pets or kids in closed cars during the summer should all be locked in black cars with big, untinted windows in a hot parking lot for a couple hours, to get a taste of their own medicine? Really, shouldn't evolution have taken care of this problem by now?

Anyway, the alternative to window sunscreens and auto interiors by Hotpoint is, of course, the search for shade. Trees are at a premium in the desert Southwest to begin with ("desert" should have been your first clue), but in hot summer months we point our cars toward them like magnetized needles seeking north in a kids' science project.

If you're so lucky as to see someone pulling out of a shady parking place near the store, just as you drive into the lot, it's like winning Powerball. You will wait even for the ancient-ist, creakiest, slowest old-lady driver to haul her powder-blue Chrysler 300 out of that parking spot—snails could go faster, grandma!—and let the honking traffic back up behind you. Honk all you want, buddy! I'm parking in the shade!

When a store isn't busy, you can see the cars scattered across the parking lot under every available scrap of shade. There might be 40 feet between one shaded car and the rest of the sun-drenched automotive multitudes. Don't care. It's shade. Enjoy baking in your BMWs and Buicks, suckers!

Come search-for-shade season, in fact, complex calculating is required to balance the benefits of more remote shaded parking spots against the sun-exposed walk across the lot to the store. Will I suffer more roasting until reaching the air-conditioned bliss of the store entrance than I would coming back to a 130-degree car? If the asphalt is black, that's one factor. Duration of shopping trip is another. And are we talking

deep, cottonwood-type shade, or the filtered partial sun under a mesquite? Might the sun move enough during the shopping trip to rob the car of shade? How cruel that would be—a blazing odyssey across the parking lot plus a surprisingly sunny, sweltering car!

When all the factors in this equation work, however, there's nothing quite like the *schadenfreude* of sliding into a deliciously cool, shaded car while your fellow shoppers return to automotive kilns. Is it wrong to take pleasure in others' suffering when you have so adroitly snagged some shade? Maybe I won't even turn on the AC until I get out into traffic, because it's so cool in my shaded car! Heck, maybe I'll just sit here in the shade and watch that woman's ice cream turn into a puddle in her zillion-degree car. Hey, balding guy who cut me off pulling into Albertson's, how does that brand-new Mercedes with its fancy-dancy black-leather seats feel when the interior is hotter than the surface of the sun?

(Seriously, explain to me the popularity of black automobiles and trucks and black interiors in a climate where the sun can melt the sunglasses right onto your head. What are these people thinking? Did they not take physics in high school?)

The joy of shade in our sizzling corner of the country can be attributed to the fundamental truth of that oft-satirized saying: *It's not the heat, it's the humidity.* And don't forget: *But it's a dry heat.* In benighted places like the American South (I'm talking about the climate here, but draw your own conclusions about the rest), the humidity acts as a conveyor for the heat. The mercury may not reach the triple-digit excesses of places like Tucson or Phoenix, but the heat is inescapable. Even in the shade in Alabama (I speak from experience), it feels hot. Here, yes, laugh if you will, it's hot—but it's a dry heat!

Sans humidity, shade offers a remarkable escape from even the sternest, most spirit-crushing heat. As brutal as the sun gets, the shade seems all the more kind.

Growing up in the Midwest, where summers got plenty humid if not the crackers-don't-stay-crisp humidity of the Deep South, I never imagined how wonderful shade could feel on a hot day. That heat-humidity one-two punch could even drive us inside on sunny summer days, to the sweet relief of air conditioning. (No one called it "refrigerated air," and I'd never seen a "swamp cooler.")

So this June, even as the mercury climbs and the longing for monsoon relief becomes palpable, take a moment to appreciate the special, simple pleasure of shade in the desert Southwest.

Just stay out of that shaded parking spot—I saw it first! ☘

David A. Fryxell works up a sweat editing Desert Exposure.



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Wednesday - Saturday, June 5 - 8

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Saturday, June 8

10:00 am - 12:00 noon • Silver City Museum, 312 W. Broadway

**Craft Class: Cowboy Up! Embellish a Bandana**

For crafters aged 8 and older • \$5. Pre-registration encouraged  
More information, 575-538-5921 or [www.SilverCityMuseum.org](http://www.SilverCityMuseum.org)

1:00 - 5:00 pm • MainStreet Plaza (Farmers' Market Location)

**Rodeo Fun and Games**

More information, 575-534-1700

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**Patrick Conlin, Broker/Owner**

**Silver City's #1 Selling Office for 2012—157 Transactions—\$19.2M sold**



**MLS 30065 • \$110,000**

Quaint Farmhouse on 7 acres located under the Geronimo Mountains on seasonal Whitewater Creek. Living room has oak floors, wood beams, wood tongue and groove ceilings, brick accent wall and woodstove. Dining room has built in ironing board cabinet and telephone nook. Kitchen features high ceilings, brick wall and laminate flooring. Large laundry room, 2 closets, also could be used as a 3rd bedroom. 3 storage buildings plus 2 stall metal carport. Amazing views of the Geronimo Mountains and Twin Sisters Peaks. Horses allowed.



**MLS 30074 • \$89,000**

SCENIC TWO ACRE PARCEL in the Mimbres with 2 registered wells, septic system, power, all fenced and gated. Property has an unfinished cabin with workshop/studio, kitchenette and an open living & bedroom area. Bathroom needs to be added. Storage building for gardening tools. Riparian area with large trees. Access to the Mimbres River.



**MLS 30067 • \$85,000**

GREAT HIGH TRAFFIC HIGH VISIBILITY LOCATION. Located just east of the DQ and just South of the Food Basket Grocery Store. Currently leased as an automotive service facility, endless use possibilities. City says residential use allowed if associated with the Commercial use of the property. LOTS OF PARKING IN TOWN!!



**MLS 30045 • \$175,000**

You will never live any better in Grant County for the price. Too many high quality amenities to list. Enclosed back porch and workshop with a very low maintenance yard make this very rare to find all of these perks in one property. You'll be picturing yourself living in this home from the moment you tour it.



**MLS 30012 • \$225,000**

Comfortable home in the Mimbres Valley. Fantastic views from all sides. Split floor plan, recessed lighting, 9 ft. ceilings, and gorgeous windows. Large open kitchen. Double sided gas log fireplace. Room for office. Private covered patio with partial courtyard wall, ceiling fan. RV parking and hookup. Large laundry room. Storage cabinets in the garage. 2 x 6 exterior walls, extra insulation, high efficiency furnace. Underground utilities and community water system.



**MLS 30046 • \$29,900**

COMMERCIAL or RESIDENTIAL land on Hwy. 35. Nice level lot with views of surrounding mountains and the valley. Community water available. 156 foot frontage to a paved road.



**MLS 30007 • \$112,000**

CLEAN, TIDY, MOVE IN READY. Nice home in a nice neighborhood CLOSE TO EVERYTHING. Good size yard for kids and pets, Deck on East side with nice view. Custom built cabinets in kitchen. Newer architectural-grade shingle roof. Fresh paint. Priced to sell quickly.



**MLS 30025 • \$83,500**

ARTISTS HIDEAWAY - in Rodeo. Currently this property is a gallery with three showing areas. Could be converted to a residential home. Kitchen is in and has an area for dining. Full bath has a tub/shower and is tiled. Back has a covered porch. Views are of the Chiricahua and the Peloncillo Mountains.



**MLS 30031 • \$99,00**

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**MLS 30092 • \$139,500**

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**GOOD CLEAN FOOD COOKED IN CAST IRON BY REAL COWGIRLS**

**River Ranch Market is a member of SlowFoodUSA.org**  
**Slow food is an idea, a way of living and a way of eating.**



**300 S. Bullard**  
**Historic Downtown Silver City, NM**



**The Cast Iron Cowgirls**  
**Louise Cash, Ceci McNicoll, & Dana Carlsen**