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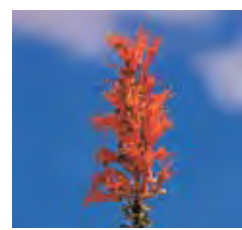
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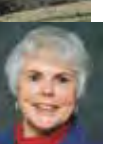
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About the Cover: "Morning Menu" by Silver City artist Marilyn Howard. Her work can be seen at Blue Dome Gallery, 307 N. Texas. Read more about the artist and preview this month's Red Dot Art Weekend in this issue's Arts Exposure section.

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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK • DAVID A. FRYXELL

Shooting from the Lip

Why the gun debate needs both sides, not slogans.

The reaction of gun advocates to the recent tragedy at a shooting range near Las Vegas was sadly typical of the tunnel vision that characterizes what passes for debate on America's firearms fixation. A nine-year-old girl accidentally shot and killed an instructor at "Bullets and Burgers" when she lost control of an Uzi. The incident might lead reasonable people to question the wisdom of a nine-year-old wielding an automatic weapon capable of firing 600 rounds a minute, or at least to wonder if such entertainments need stricter age or size restrictions. But the National Rifle Association responded instead to the death of a fellow gun enthusiast by tweeting a list of ways kids can "have fun at the shooting range" with colorful, kid-oriented targets.

That Twitter entry was quickly deleted, belatedly showing more respect than "Joe the Plumber" (Samuel Joseph Wurzelbacher) did earlier this year in commenting on an interview with the father of one of the six victims in the UC-Santa Barbara shooting: "Your dead kids don't trump my Constitutional rights."

That such a crude thought should even enter the vacant space of Joe the Plumber's head, much less be given utterance, betrays how remote we remain from sensible solutions to gun violence. Even the US Supreme Court has joined in gun advocates' collective amnesia about the first clause of the much-cited Second Amendment: "A well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state..." Surely the Founding Fathers never envisioned that mentally ill individuals like the UC-Santa Barbara shooter should have access to semi-automatic handguns, or that nine-year-olds would have fun with Uzis. Neither shooter seems a promising candidate for militia membership.

To be clear, despite the NRA's fear-mongering to fire up its membership and fundraising, no one in a position of authority—from President Obama on down—has seriously proposed taking away the guns of mentally competent, law-abiding citizens. (No need, folks, for those bumper stickers about your "cold, dead hands.") Notwithstanding the run on ammunition at gun stores ever since Obama's election, even the most draconian proposals to restrict firearms would amount to little more than minor inconvenience for gun enthusiasts—a little paperwork, maybe reloading more often with smaller clips. Even in the wildest fantasies of would-be gun regulators, guns would remain less tightly governed than automobiles.

"Slippery slope" warnings about Uncle Sam seizing guns simply distract from serious conversations about dealing with America's gun violence. Instead of dire pronouncements unmoored to reality, the NRA should offer sensible proposals that gun owners could live with. But the extremism on these complicated questions is entirely one-sided. You might not agree with the ideas of ex-New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg or the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, but such gun-control advocates are much closer to a middle ground than the NRA's leadership. (The extreme gun-control equivalent of the NRA position would be something along the lines of "confiscate all guns and melt them down." Neither Bloomberg nor the Brady group says anything remotely like that.)

Many grassroots NRA members, we're sure, would be much more open to dialog. For most of its history, in fact, the NRA supported reasonable gun control measures; as recently as 1968, it did not oppose the

landmark Gun Control Act. Ironically, responsible gun owners—who, after all, know guns best—could contribute the most to a search for solutions that would ratchet down the carnage while preserving what's most important to them.

And, yes, there is carnage and there is a uniquely American problem—despite the NRA leadership's insistence that "guns don't kill people, people kill people." The NRA has even sought to block the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention from gathering data about gun violence. But that hasn't kept some researchers from showing that, indeed, guns do kill people and they do so disproportionately in the United States.

A 2013 study found that the US has 88 guns per 100 people and 10 gun-related deaths per 100,000 population—the most on both counts of 28 developed countries. Japan has both the fewest guns (0.6 per 100 people) and gun-related deaths (0.06 per 100,000). (Those who blame violent video games rather than guns for Americans' violent habits might note that Japan spends 25% more per capita on video games than the US.)

You might have heard, however, that England and Wales—with strict gun control laws—have triple the rate of violent crime as the US. Those who cite that statistic fail to add that "violent crime" statistics in the US and Britain, perversely, don't count homicides, which are a separate category. The per capita homicide rate in gun-toting America is quadruple that of England and Wales: 14,022 homicides in 2011 (11,101 committed with firearms) versus 622 in England and Wales (equivalent to 3,421 when adjusted for population).

But surely owning a firearm keeps you safer, doesn't it? A study released early this year reported that Americans with access to a gun are almost twice as likely to be killed by a gun (and three times as likely to commit suicide with a gun). A gender gap in the statistics is startling: Men with firearm access were 29% more likely to die in a gun-related homicide, while women were nearly three times as likely to be victims than those in gun-free households.

In a *New York Times* column earlier this year, Nicholas Kristoff compared the need for informed, sensible gun reforms to the early 20th century dilemma of automobile deaths. "If we had the same auto fatality rate today that we had in 1921, by my calculations we would have 715,000 Americans dying annually in vehicle accidents." Instead, thanks to traffic laws, driver's licenses, seatbelts, air bags and other changes, that number is less than 34,000 (about the same as all firearm-related deaths). Motorists still enjoy their God-given right to travel—just not at 130 miles an hour, or drunk, or in unsafe vehicles.

Is it too much to ask that gun enthusiasts put forward similar common-sense approaches to reduce the toll of gun violence? (Instead, when an entrepreneur introduced a "smart gun" that only the owner could fire, the NRA condemned it and stores dropped it after anonymous death threats.) I'm sure that people who enjoy owning and using guns could come up with much better and more palatable strategies than those thrust into this debate by becoming victims of gun violence. The parents in Newtown or Santa Barbara don't know about guns, only their grief.

If you come away from this column thinking I'm advocating gun control, you're missing the point.

I'm advocating a gun conversation. And it's impossible to have a meaningful conversation when one side is shouting instead of talking. ☘

David A. Fryxell
 is editor of Desert Exposure.



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LETTERS

Forest Feedback

Larry Lightner has a rich imagination. His article about the Gila National Forest's Travel Management decision ("Forest Firestorm," August) would more accurately be called an editorial, since it relates Lightner's opinions, not facts. To wit: Lightner states that despite the fact that "the ecologies of the Sierra Nevadas, the rain forests of the far Northwest, the windy ridges of Wyoming, the frigid lands of Michigan and the lush forests of Virginia are all vastly different in scope and nature... plan G was mandated across the nation."

This is a complete fabrication. Alternative G, the one the Forest Service chose, is specific to only the Gila National Forest. While it's true that every National Forest was tasked with developing a travel system, each forest created and chose unique alternatives; they are not all implementing the same plan.

Lightner asserts that "about 21% of forest users are hikers" and "about 70% of all users are vehicle drivers of some sort; in other words, they are the majority, and they are the ones who will be penalized by this mandate." Drivers are hardly being penalized; this decision allows driving on 3,300 miles of roads in the forest, the distance from San Diego to Maine!

According to the Gila National Forest's Recreation Report, one of the studies appended to the Travel Management Environmental Impact Statement, "The distribution of activities by recreation type estimates that motorized activities account for 26% to 50% and non-motorized activities account for 53% to 76% of the Gila NF recreation." These data are based on random surveys of forest users, not opinions or anecdotes.

Lightner says that "70% of all users are vehicle drivers of some sort," and that may well be true. But his assumption that vehicle drivers exclude hikers is simply faulty, since the vast majority of hikers drive to the forest.

According to Lightner, the Travel Management decision "encourages otherwise lawful citizens to ignore the law," and "Virtually every user has told me they plan to do just that." Yet Lightner also claims that "every ATV owner I know stays on existing roads, including Yours Truly." Sorry, Larry, you can't have it both ways. Either the majority of ATV users are law-abiding citizens or they're not.

While Lightner is often entertaining, he makes some pretty flawed leaps of logic and is an unreliable source of information. In other words, he writes fiction.

Thomas M. Krohley
Board Member, Upper Gila Watershed Alliance

Your Gila National Forest Travel Management Plan "debate" between Donna Stevens of UGWA and columnist Larry Lightner was enlightening. Lightner's piece alleges a conspiracy: "radical" environmentalists cooked up the TMP years ago, and have somehow imposed it regardless of local issues and needs, based on an irrational, emotional hatred of ATVs. His sources? Conversations with unnamed Forest Service employees.

Sadly, it's Mr. Lightner's article that's clearly emotional, not Ms. Stevens'. Lightner simply ignores the fundamental issue here, laid out clearly by Stevens: off-road vehicles (ORVs) have increasingly wrought havoc on our public lands.

I spent time in the 1950s and 1960s in the Carson National Forest in northeast New Mexico, and remember what it was like before ORVs. I loved Jeep trips on high mountain tracks, along with hiking and horseback riding. When off-road vehicles were introduced, things changed dramatically. Over time ORVs have become bigger, more powerful, more damaging, and more able to go places humans rarely went. I've seen the massive damage they've done in riparian areas such as the San Francisco River below Glenwood, and I'm sure the ORV biological destruction Ms. Stevens outlines is both real and pervasive.

Mr. Lightner simply denies there's any ORV damage, and then blusters about being discriminated against by anti-ATV forces. He never suggests any level of restriction of ORVs that might be acceptable. Apparently for him the only satisfactory "compromise" between the competing rights of ATV users and everyone else is completely unfettered ability for ATVs to run roughshod over the public lands. Access to 84% of the GNF is not enough.

The TMP is a long-studied middle-ground solution

to the serious problems caused to our public lands by off-road vehicles. It's not a conspiracy; it's a fair compromise, required by law, that takes into account thousands of comments from all segments of the community.

New Mexico has a 150-year history of environmental degradation via thoughtless overuse of our wonderful landscape. We should understand the wisdom of a little restraint.

Shelby Hallmark
Silver City

Editor's note: For Larry Lightner's response to these and last month's letters, along with his specific suggestions regarding the USFS plan, see this issue's "Ramblin' Outdoors" column.

Rant Retort

Dave, I do enjoy your rants, but you seem to only base your opinions on the left's ideology. (Using factcheck.org is not fact checking, unless you are trying to support a left-leaning opinion.)

On windmills and solar panels ("Powerful Blows," July), they do produce electricity, but unless there is a load to send it to, it is lost. To ensure that we all have lights when we turn the switch, there has to be a dependable source of power available, so when the wind dies, and the sun goes behind a cloud, there has to be a power plant able to generate the power needed. This all costs the consumer, even though the utility is mandated to have a certain percent generation of wind and solar power. The practice of allowing folks to run their meter backwards with their roof-mounted solar panels costs all of us in the long run, so why should the utility be required to purchase that power that is undependable, and often wasted. I'm sure you have heard that PNM will be asking for another rate increase; someone has to pay for the costs!

I do believe in inoculations (Editor's Notebook, September), but your attempt to demonize those who don't, with non-belief in the global warming theory, doesn't help your cause. Even those invested in the scam are admitting that there has been no warming for almost 18 years, in spite of the increased CO2 levels. (No they can't explain it, they never could, they are just a cult being paid to promote the idea.) You used the 97% myth, please do some research, and you'll find that there never was 97% consensus on the CO2 theory (as if science should be determined by consensus anyway, i.e. flat earth, solar system revolves around the earth, medical conditions are caused by bad blood, etc.)

Thanks for publishing you paper. I believe all ideas should be heard, and ideas that are based on the facts are called science.

Bill Moore
Silver City

Editor's note: The climate-change reference was tangential, regarding a BBC report on how to cover scientific controversies that aren't. Nonetheless, for the record, a study published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* using "an extensive dataset of 1,372 climate researchers and their publication and citation data" found that 97%-98% of the climate researchers most actively publishing in the field support the tenets of human-caused climate change outlined by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Shopping List

I love to read, and it is interesting how authors will often list a sequence of items—which is so interesting, one keeps reading. Marjorie Lilly's list of what they sell at "La Pulga" was just one of those paragraphs (Borderlines, September)! A delight to read, informative as always, and her update on drug violence is timely and saddening. What havoc the insatiable thirst for drugs in this country has caused!

Maya nola
via email

Mail Call

Poor Henry Lightcap ("Going Postal," September)! He really needs to get out of the city. Out here in God's Country, where not everyone has e-mail, or a cell phone for texting, we really need our postal service to get our magazines and our bills and—yes—letters and cards from faraway family

and friends. And we enjoy our encounters with postal delivery people, and running into our friends at the post office.

I will be the first to admit that I don't need six-day delivery. They could eliminate Saturday delivery—and Wednesday as well, for that matter, Wednesday being my day to get no mail—and many of us would not miss it. The rest would get used to it eventually.

Suzanne Thompson
Silver City

Healing Words

I wish to thank you for publishing Azima Lila Forest's fine, thoughtful and refreshing article on the multi-faceted topic of healing ("A Dream of Healing," September). Not only does she take care to cite facts and give clear examples, but she addresses the subject in a broad-based way, from her long history of healing and offering her own respect for the many aspects of medicine—allopathic and alternative, physical and vibrational, explicable and mysterious. She is to be praised for her open-mindedness and care in writing this wonderfully crafted and illuminating piece. Caring for our Body Temple is not a One-Size-Fits-All situation, and I feel this well-written article addresses many aspects of healing and some of the not-often-discussed choices available to us.

Donna Clayton Walter
Santa Fe

Soccer It to Me

I enjoyed your article on football (Continental Divide, August)—forget the "soccer" crap but you may be the last man in the world not to enjoy football. Perhaps by the next World Cup, in Russia no less, 2018 if you're wondering, you will have gained the knowledge and patience to sit and concentrate for 45 minutes, without a break! I look forward to receiving your comments on the games AFTER the next World Cup.

G. Marlowe
Las Cruces

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DESERT DIARY

First Drinks and Deep Thoughts

Plus fairies, senior romance and whistling in church.

When Irish eyes are smiling... Why do jokes always seem funnier when told in an Irish accent? Even **Farmor, the Swedish Grandma**, agrees:

"Paddy had long heard the stories of an amazing family tradition. It seems that his father, grandfather and great-grandfather had all been able to walk on water on their 18th birthdays. On that special day, they'd each walked across the lake to the pub on the far side for their first legal drink.

"So when Paddy's 18th birthday came around, he and his pal Mick took a boat out to the middle of the lake. Paddy stepped out of the boat—and nearly drowned! Mick just barely managed to pull him to safety.

"Furious and confused, Paddy went to see his grandmother. 'Grandma,' he asked, 'Tis me 18th birthday, so why can't I walk across the lake like me father, his father and his father before him?'

"Granny looked deeply into Paddy's troubled blue eyes and said, 'Because yer father, yer grandfather and yer great-grandfather were all born in December, when the lake is frozen, and ye were born in August, ya blinkin' idiot!'"

Send your funny yarns in any accent to diary@desertexposure.com and let the world in on the joke.

Losing the battle of the sexes... New correspondent **Joyce** fires this double salvo in the gender wars:

"Cash, check or charge?" I asked, after folding items the woman wished to purchase.



Postcards from the edge... Going places? Take along a copy of *Desert Exposure* and snap a photo of yourself holding it "on location"—like **Catherine Swain and Kathryn Schmid**, shown here "relaxing contemplating the hiking we are going to be doing in Costa Rica."

"As she fumbled for her wallet, I noticed a remote control for a television set in her purse. 'So, do you always carry your TV remote?' I asked.

"No," she replied, 'but my husband refused to come shopping with me, and I figured this was the most evil thing I could do to him legally.'"

On the other hand, Joyce shares this "man's perspective" on women:

"I know I'm not going to understand women. I'll never understand how you can take boiling hot wax, pour it onto your upper thigh, rip the hair out by the root—and still be afraid of a spider."

Then there's this romantic tale sent our way by **GeeRichard**:

"A married couple in their early 60s was celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary in a quiet, romantic little restaurant. Suddenly, a tiny yet beautiful fairy appeared on their table. She said, 'For being such an exemplary married couple and for being loving to each other for all this time, I will grant you each a wish.'

"The wife answered, 'Oh, I want to travel around the world with my darling husband.'

"The fairy waved her magic wand and—poof!—two tickets for the *Queen Mary II* appeared in her hands.

"The husband thought for a moment, then said, 'Well, this is all very romantic, but an opportunity like this will never come again. I'm sorry, my love, but my wish is to have a wife 30 years younger than me.'

"The wife—and the fairy—were deeply disappointed, but a wish is a wish! So the fairy waved her magic wand and—poof!

"The husband became 92 years old.

"The moral of this story: Men who are ungrateful bastards should remember fairies are female."

This tale of a divorce settlement was passed along by **Pdanx**. Trust us, it's worth sticking with until the end:

"On the first day, he sadly packed his belongings into boxes, crates and suitcases. On the second day, he had the movers come and collect his things. On the third day, he sat down for the last time at their beautiful dining-room table, by candlelight; he put on some soft background music, feasted on a pound of shrimp, a jar of caviar, and a bottle of spring water. When he'd finished, he went into each and every room and deposited a few half-eaten shrimps dipped

in caviar into the hollow center of the curtain rods. He then cleaned up the kitchen and left.

"On the fourth day, the wife came back with her new boyfriend, and at first all was bliss. Then, slowly, the house began to smell. They tried everything: cleaning, mopping and airing-out the place. Vents were checked for dead rodents, and carpets were steam-cleaned.

"Air fresheners were hung everywhere. Exterminators were brought in to set off gas canisters, during which time the two had to move out for a few days, and in the end they even paid to replace the expensive wool carpeting. Nothing worked! People stopped coming over to visit. Repairmen refused to work in the house. The maid quit.

"Finally, they couldn't take the stench any longer, and decided they had to move. But a month later—even though they'd cut their price in half—they couldn't find a buyer for such a stinky house.



Postcards from the edge... Our next reader photo comes from **Dean and Leda Evert** of Silver City, "standing in front of the Parthenon with our copy of *Desert Exposure* while on a trip to Greece in May and June."

"Word got out, and eventually even the local Realtors refused to return their calls.

"Finally, unable to wait any longer for a purchaser, they had to borrow a huge sum of money from the bank to purchase a new place.

"Then the ex-husband called the woman and asked how things were going. She told him the saga of the rotting house. He listened politely and said that he missed his old home terribly and would be willing to reduce his divorce settlement in exchange for having the house.

"Knowing he could have no idea how bad the smell really was, she agreed on a price that was only a tenth of what the house had been worth—but only if he would sign the papers that very day. He agreed, and within two hours her lawyers delivered the completed paperwork.

"A week later the woman and her boyfriend stood smiling as they watched the moving company pack everything to take to their new home—and just to spite the ex-husband, they even took the curtain rods."

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Postcards from the edge... Finally, here's a photo from **David Gaughan**, who writes: "This picture was taken in the flint hills of Lyon County, Kansas, on my dad's half-section. It's been in the family since the 1800s."

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

And finally, **PA Charlie** again tells us he was in bed with his wife with the light on as they caught up on their day: "We were just finished when she said, 'Oh, I heard a good joke today.' No better way to go to sleep, I thought." Here it is:

"Seems two men and a woman hiker came to a raging stream and had to cross it, or take a very long way back. Being religious, the first guy prayed, 'I need strength and courage.' Zap! He was filled with courage and, after a hard struggle, he made it to the other side.

"The second guy prayed, 'I need strength and courage and a kayak.' Zap! A kayak was on the bank and off he too went through another hard struggle as he lost the kayak mid-stream.

"The woman prayed, 'I need courage and the knowledge to get across.' Zap! She turned downstream, walked down the bank 100 feet and crossed a bridge hidden from view.

"My wife's giggling from her one-up-man-ship on men kept me awake half the night."

You're only as old as you feel... These were passed along by **Ned Ludd**, who writes, "As I have retired recently, these hit pretty close to home..."

"Top Ten Excerpts from the Senior Citizen's Romance Novel:

"10. He was as old and hard as the candy I keep on the table.

"9. When she walked into the room, his heart stopped.

"8. He had an ass like Coolidge.

"7. 'Blow in my hearing aid,' she cooed.

"6. Enrique's pants weren't pleated anymore.

"5. 'Teeth in or out?'

"4. She caressed the balls of his walker legs.

"3. It was a position called 'The Reverse Rocking Chair.'

"2. 'We watched 'Wheel of Fortune' and he gave me an 'O.'

"1. Finally she whispered, 'That's what I call an early-bird special.'"

Kids say the darnedest things... From the wisdom of age to that of youth, the **Silver City Greek** shares a couple of tales of quotable kids:

"When my daughter, Kelli, said her bedtime prayers, she would bless every family member, every friend, and every animal (current and past). For several weeks, after we had finished the nightly prayer, Kelli would say, 'And all girls.'

"This soon became part of her nightly routine, to include this closing. My curiosity got the best of me and I asked her, 'Kelli, why do you always add the part about all girls?'

"Her response, 'Because everybody always finishes their prayers by saying, "All men!"'

"During the minister's prayer one Sunday, there was a loud whistle from one of the back pews.

"Tommy's mother was horrified. She pinched him into silence and, after church, asked, 'Tommy, whatever made you do such a thing?'

"Tommy answered soberly, 'I asked God to teach me to whistle, and He did!'"

Pondering the imponderables... More deep thoughts, courtesy of **GeraldH**:

"Is it true that you never really learn to swear until you learn to drive?"

"If a cow laughed, would milk come out of her nose?"

"Whatever happened to Preparations A through G?"

"Why, why, why do we press harder on the remote control when we know the batteries are getting weak?"

"Why do banks charge a fee due to insufficient funds, when they already know you're broke?"

"Why is it that when someone tells you that there are a billion stars in the universe you believe them, but if they tell you there is

wet paint you have to touch it to check?"

"Why do they use sterilized needles for lethal injections?"

"Why did kamikaze pilots wear helmets?"

"Whose cruel idea was it to put an 's' in the word 'lisp'?"

"Why is it that, no matter what color bubble bath you use, the bubbles are always white?"

"Is there ever a day that mattresses are not on sale?"

"Why do people constantly return to the refrigerator with hopes that something new to eat will have materialized?"

"Why do people run over a string a dozen times with their vacuum cleaner, then reach down, pick it up, examine it and then put it down to give the vacuum one more chance?"

"Why is it that no plastic bag will ever open from the first end you try?"

"How do those dead bugs get into the enclosed light fixtures?"

"Why is it that whenever you attempt to catch something that's falling off the table you always manage to knock something else over?"

"Why, in winter, do we try to keep the house as warm as it was in summer when we complained about the heat?"

"How come you never hear father-in-law jokes?"

Send those father-in-law jokes (there must be SOME of them somewhere) and deep thoughts to diary@desertexposure.com!

Annals of intoxication... Finally, we come full circle with another tale of a boy's first trip to the pub, this one passed along by **Old Grumps**:

"I was reading an article last night about fathers and sons and memories came flooding back of the time I took my son out for his first pint.

"Off we went to our local pub, which is only two blocks from the house. I got him a Foster's. He didn't like it—so I had it.

"Then I got him a Carling Black Label. He didn't like it, so I had it.

"It was the same with the 1664 Lager and Premium Dry Cider.

"By the time we got down to the whisky, I could hardly push the stroller back home." ❄️

Please stay sober enough to send your favorite anecdotes, jokes, puns and tall tales, addressed to Desert Diary, PO Box 191, Silver City, NM 88062, or email diary@desertexposure.com. The best submission each month gets a Desert Exposure mouse pad, scientifically proven to take the strain out of emailing jokes to Desert Diary.



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TUMBLEVEEDS

Branson's Sure This Time

It's not rocket science—or is it?

Sir Richard Branson has finally made it official—on, of all places, “The Late Show with David Letterman.” Last month, the Virgin Galactic founder told Letterman that he will be on the first flight of SpaceShipTwo from New Mexico’s Spaceport America “in February or March” 2015. That flight would follow test flights at the Mojave Air and Space Port in California, where the ship is being developed by Scaled Composites. On the Letterman show, Branson said the inaugural, \$250,000 up-and-down flights would reach the 62-mile limit of space and “make you an astronaut,” followed by orbital flights “in time.”



Only a few days after Branson’s appearance, though, the space news service Parabolic Arc broke the news that Scaled Composite’s chief aerodynamicist, Jim Tighe, would be leaving the company on the eve of that crucial series of flight tests. According to Parabolic Arc, “Tighe has been at the very center of the development of SpaceShipTwo.... Scaled Composites founder Burt Rutan has credited Tighe with having designed the suborbital spacecraft.... One source said Tighe knows more about SpaceShipTwo, its systems, performance and flaws than even the pilots that fly it. The announcement of his departure has left many people in shock and disbelief, sources said.”

reserved for him and his family—“My dad has put his hand up and will be 90 at the time.” That means 2008.

April 2007: Branson tells a trade show that SpaceShipTwo’s maiden commercial launch will be in 2009.

May 2008: Under the headline, “Countdown Begins to First Galactic Take-off,” *Travel Weekly* reports that Branson expects the inaugural flight “in two-and-a-half years’ time.” Or November 2010.

December 2009: Branson tells 300 people who’ve booked flights (at a then-bargain \$200,000 each) to pack their bags for regular flights beginning in 2011.

April 2011: At a reopening of the Virgin America terminal in San Francisco, Branson says, “I hope 18 months from now, we’ll be sitting in our spaceship and heading off into space” That would be October 2012.

April 2013: “Maybe I’ll dress up as Father Christmas,” Branson says, promising the first liftoff will be Dec. 25, 2013.

January 2014: London’s *Sunday Times* starts serializing a “scathing new biography” of Branson by Tom Bower. Despite Virgin Galactic amassing \$80 million in fares and deposits, Bower writes, he still has no license to fly and no rocket proven to be powerful enough to do so. A letter in response from CEO George Whitesides vows “commercial service later in 2014.”

Parabolic Arc also quoted Sierra County Commissioner Walter Armijo’s reaction to Branson’s announcement: “I was surprised as all heck to hear that on ‘David Letterman’ and not from the New Mexico Space Authority.” He added that the county has seen little return on the \$300,000 per year in taxpayer funding for Spaceport America; of about 150 people currently employed at the Spaceport, Armijo said, only about 10 were hired from the local community.

February 2014: Branson tells a TV interviewer, “We should be going into space in about three or four months’ time. If myself and my family are not in space by the end of the year I’d be very, very, very worried.”

“They’ve been delaying this for so long I’m not holding my breath,” Armijo said. “They promised jobs, tourism and housing and we haven’t seen any of that. None of the expectations and promises have come true.”

March 2014: On a British TV show, Branson thinks even bigger: “If we can get enough people wanting to fly, we can start building Virgin hotels in space, we can start doing trips to Mars, we can colonize Mars, we can start pulling asteroids back to Earth to see what minerals they have got in them.”

As chronicled in these pages, this would hardly be the first hiccup in the long development of space tourism at Spaceport America. The English publication *Private Eye*, in fact, recently created a timeline of Branson’s promises for Virgin Galactic on its website (www.private-eye.co.uk/sections.php?section_link=news&issue=1374). Some highlights—or lowlights:

If you hurry, you might be able to get the Mars T-shirt concession at Spaceport America. ☘

September 2004: Virgin Galactic plans to start construction next year “and to offer flights by 2007.”

October 2004: Branson says the first flight will be

TUMBLEVEEDS

Life in a State of Nature

More reader critter photos.

Readers continue to share their snapshots of the wild-life of all kinds they spot out in our “Southwest zoo.”



Here’s one from **Tom Vaughan** of Silver City, who writes: “We live in Indian Hills and found this specimen looking us over the other day. Actually, there was a dead snake in the grass below.”

About this snake picture, **Dennis Lane** writes: “I almost ran over this beautiful yet dangerous five-foot-long black-tailed rattlesnake, on Pinos Altos Road at mile marker 9. It may have just had a meal and was on its way to its hide-out, because we had no trouble getting it off the road. It was, however, buzzing to beat the band.”



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Andy Dimler, a frequent visitor from Denver, shared this photo of a gray fox at night in the Tres Hermanas Mountains, taken with a trail camera.



Can you spot the critter in this photo by **Gordon Berman** of Las Cruces? "The bleached earless lizard, its coloration adapted to the White Sands environment, is found between dunes where water collects to foster plant growth. Very hard to spot unless they are moving.



Share your own photos of local creatures great and small. Send to editor@desertexposure.com or mail to PO Box 191, Silver City, NM 88062. 📧

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. Sen. Martin Heinrich (known as "Hottie Heinrich" on Capitol Hill) will co-star in a reality TV show, "Rival Survival," with Arizona GOP Sen. Jeff Flake (below). Meanwhile, we close the book on tracking "New Mexico + Tesla."

1. (3) **Gov. Susana Martinez**—267 hits (▲)
2. (1) **New Mexico + immigration**—239 hits (▼)
3. (2) **Virgin Galactic**—174 hits (▼)
4. (4) **New Mexico drought**—173 hits (▼)
5. (6) **Sen. Tom Udall**—169 hits (▲)
6. (5) **New Mexico + Border Patrol**—145 hits (▲)
7. (8) **Gubernatorial candidate Gary King**—117 hits (▲)
8. (-) **Spaceport America**—107 hits (▲)
9. (9) **New Mexico + Tesla**—86 hits (▼)
10. (10) **Sen. Martin Heinrich**—80 hits (▼)



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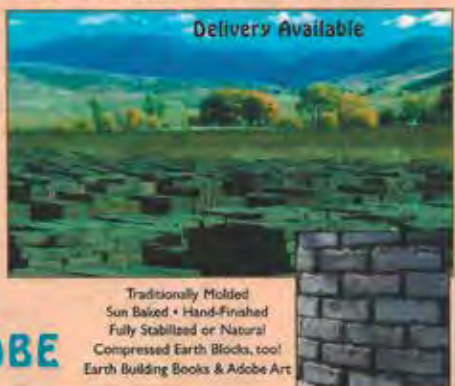
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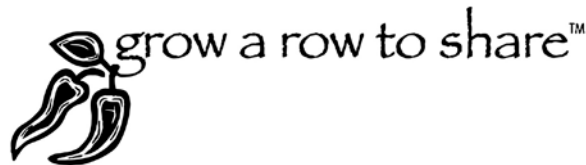
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Orange Is the New Crop

Understanding the many varieties of pumpkins, this season's star squash.

It's somewhat difficult to come up with a backyard garden crop more a part of American culture than that plump, round, ribbed, vining fruit that we look forward to honoring every fall. Backyard crops take a backseat each fall as families head into the pumpkin patch, gather around the picnic table to carve jack-o'-lanterns, and in the end enjoy a delicious squash pie at Thanksgiving. Wait... squash?

The simplest maxim is all pumpkins are squash, but not all squash are pumpkins. So what is a pumpkin, and why do we care? Botanists call one particular group of squash, which belongs to one particular species, pumpkins. The species, *Cucurbita pepo*, differs from all other species of squash in certain characteristics, such as its leaves and stem. The classic orange fruit, whether big or small, round or oblong, is what botanists routinely agree is a pumpkin. Not everyone else, though, is on the same page. Let's try and get to the bottom of it, shall we?

Pepo squashes include pattypan, zucchini (var. *fastigata*) and yellow summer squash, the winter varieties of acorn (var. *turbinata*), pumpkin (var. *pepo*) and spaghetti squash, and others.



A variety of pumpkins makes for a colorful display. (Photo by Toni Leland)

Only Orange?

How botanists came to call only the orange fruit "pumpkins" is tied up in history and etymology, and not all of it is clear. Pepo, the species name of pumpkins, also refers to the botanical name of the fruit of all cucurbits, including squash. In Greek, *pepon* refers to a sun-ripened or "cooked" fruit, which at that time meant Old World watermelon and melons, and in Latin that became *peponem* or *pepo*. In middle French, this became *pompon*, and in English *pompion*, then *pumpion*, and eventually *pumpkin* or *punkin*. A 19th-century writer speculated the word came from "pump" since

growers pumped so much water to grow pumpkins.

The term *pompion* was applied to Native American pepo squashes beginning in the early 16th century. Orange pumpkins were one of the first fruits encountered by explorers and settlers in the New World.

Over time, though, the terms *pepo* and *pompion* became closely associated with the pepo squash group and pumpkins. The term *pompion* was used continually in describing the pepo squashes in North

America and northern Europe, although on some occasions it might also refer to melon, watermelon or even a true gourd (*Lagenaria*).

While botanists stick close to the original application of the word to describe those ribbed orange fruits, the public does not, and hence the term has been applied to a wide variety of squash.

The most obvious use of the term *pumpkin* applied to a non-pepo squash is the so-called Cinderella Pumpkin, otherwise known as *Rouge vif d'Etampes*, which is a maxima squash. The *Cucurbita maxima* species originated in South America. The Cinderella Pumpkin is a large, strongly ribbed reddish-orange flattened squash, vaguely resembling the classic orange pumpkin. It was cultivated in France and introduced in 1883 to the United States. The fruit can weigh up to 35 pounds, and the flesh is thick with good taste. Some claim this is the authentic Cinderella pumpkin. But in the fairy tale popularized by Charles Perrault in 1697, he added to the original story that the carriage turned into a "golden pumpkin," which seems closer to the bright orange of true pumpkins. According to his version, "Her godmother scooped out all the inside of it, having left nothing but the rind," which again sounds like a traditional carving pumpkin rather than a thick-fleshed maxima squash.

Another orange-skinned *maxima* variety is Mammoth—also known as Mammoth King Pumpkin, Jumbo Pumpkin, Giant Pumpkin and other names. It was known by 1834, and is the



Pumpkin and squash varieties on display. (Photo by Lorain Ebbett-Rideout)

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Long Island Cheese pumpkins can be stringy with good flavor. (Photo courtesy Seed Savers Exchange, www.seedsavers.org)

largest American variety, sometimes weighing more than 50 pounds. It is globe shaped with orange skin, thick flesh and buff stripes, vaguely resembling a true pumpkin. The quality was not good, so it was used exclusively as cattle feed. It may have been the leading variety for which the terms *squash* and *pumpkin* were used interchangeably.

Mammoth was also known as Potiron, the name of a French variety, *Potiron Jaune Gros de Paris*, which commonly reached 50 to several hundred pounds. While this variety may have been synonymous with Mammoth, it seems more likely to be a close relative. There were a number of variations of this squash with skin ranging from yellow to salmon color, with the rind relatively smooth to ribbed. First documented in the 1850s in Europe, it was originally grown in the United States by Henry David Thoreau, who obtained seeds from the US Patent Office in 1857.

During the last few decades, the name *pumpkin* has been affixed to an offspring of the Potiron, the Atlantic Giant Pumpkin, bred by Howard Dill, which has produced record-breaking squash, with specimens currently reaching the 2,000-pound range. Giant pumpkin contests are common throughout the country, and this usage of *pumpkin* has surely added to present-day confusion in terminology.

Many other *maxima* squash may be called *pumpkins* depending on which seed catalog you are reading.

Moschatas

Cheese Pumpkins are large, round, flattened, tan-colored squash, which were cultivated in Colonial times and first offered commercially by Bernard McMahon in 1807. They belong to the *Cucurbita moschata* species, whose ancestors originated in northern South America or Central America about 5,000 to 6,000 years ago. Butternut is probably the most well-known representative of this species. A number of variations of the Cheese squash exist, although all are fairly similar with prominent ribs weighing about 6 to 12 pounds. Long Island Cheese is one variety commonly

available, which vaguely resembles the Cinderella Pumpkin. These squash taste fairly good, although they tend to be a bit stringy.

Another member of this species is the Dickinson Field Pumpkin, a variety originating in the Southeast around 1835 and brought north to Illinois by Elijah Dickinson. This is an oblong ribbed squash weighing 30 to 40 pounds with smooth, thick flesh. Dickinson is the squash most of us consume in pies and other products since most of the US production of "pumpkin" filling is from this variety.

Pumpkin is also a name applied to a fourth species of squash, *Cucurbita argyosperma*. These are the cushaws, or cashaws, and are represented by varieties such as Green-Striped, Tennessee Sweet Potato, Golden Cushaw and forms of White Cushaw. These were used for pies in the 19th and early 20th centuries, and sometimes had "pumpkin" affixed to their name or were considered pumpkins in catalogs and cookbooks.

Whether you call a pumpkin a pumpkin, a squash a pumpkin, or a squash a squash, just remember that most of your fellow citizens have probably never tasted a real pumpkin pie. If you want to try a "pepo pumpkin" this fall, reach for heirlooms such as Connecticut Field, New England Sugar Pie and Winter Luxury, as well as modern varieties such as Howden, Spookie (also known as Spookie Pie or Deep Sugar Pie) and others. ❁

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Southwest Gardener columnist Vivian Savitt will return in our March issue.



Atlantic Giants have been bred for 130 years to produce huge fruit; the largest on record weighed 2,009 pounds. (Photo by Toni Leland)

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ARTS EXPOSURE

Red Dot Marks the Spot for Art

Silver City features 21 galleries and 16 studios, Oct. 11-13.

If it's Columbus Day weekend, it must be time to tour the galleries and art studios in Silver City. The 17th annual art event, now called the **Red Dot Art Weekend** and sponsored by the Silver City Art Association, will be Oct. 11, 12 and 13. New features this year include an exhibition of work by member artists at the Seedboat Performance Space, 214 W. Yankee St. The first edition of a free eight-by-eight booklet featuring Silver City area artists will be available there and at all Red Dot locations; an insert map will direct visitors to all art galleries and studios open for the weekend.

Also new, continuous after-dark displays of art will be projected outdoors Saturday night on Kelly Street just off Bullard. These large projection images are a good way for visitors to see examples of the kinds of art they can see in person at the 21 galleries

and 16 area art studios on this year's tour.

Self-guided studio tours, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday, will include encaustic methods, painting techniques, the intricacies of weaving, jewelry design, photographic processes, glass etching, hot metal cutting, using a printing press, putting together mixed media materials, pottery making and developing large-scale clay architectural pieces. Some participating studios will offer the opportunity for visitors to try their hands at art-making materials.

Participating galleries will be open with new exhibitions, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, with special opening receptions Saturday evening, 5-8 p.m. Gallery exhibitions will feature work by local, regional and nationally known artists in a wide variety of media.



Above: Paintings and sculpture at Leyba and Ingalls Arts. Below: "The Family Tree," encaustic relief by Diane Kleiss, whose studio will be on the Red Dot Tour. Left: Paula Geisler cutting design resist material in preparation for sandblasting glass. Below left: Painting by Molly Ramolla.

Drawings will be held Saturday at 5 p.m. to award gift certificates redeemable at some of Silver City's gourmet restaurants. Prize registration can be made at the Visitors' Center or at Seedboat Gallery. Winners do not need to be present.

For more on the Red Dot weekend, see www.silvercity-art.com.



Photo by Dennis Weller

"While I was Waiting..."

by Cece Stanford

Saturday, October 11

10:30 a.m. at

Blue Dome gallery downtown
Cece Stanford will give a talk on her work in her show



"Monsoons Burro"



"Burwood 2"

Magical Works of Barbara Jorgen Nance

Artists' Reception
Friday, October 10
5-7pm

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Fenestra, Teri Matelson,
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October 11-13

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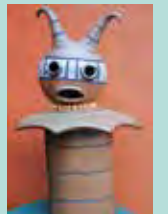
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ARTS EXPOSURE

Arts Scene

The latest area art happenings.

Silver City/Grant County

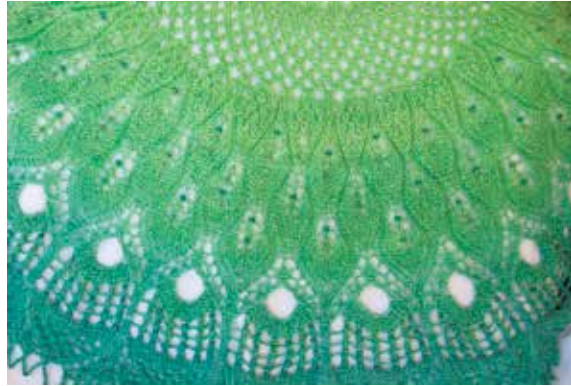
The Francis McCray Gallery at WNMU continues with "Michael Cook: The Notion of Landscape," through Oct. 17, a solo survey exhibition of paintings from 1981 to 2009. Cook, a professor of art at the University of New Mexico, has had more than 20 individual exhibitions and his work has been included in numerous group shows in Albuquerque, Santa Fe, Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Cambridge and New York. His artwork has been extensively reviewed and included in many publications, private collections and the permanent collections of The New Museum of Contemporary Art (New York), San Diego Museum of Contemporary Art and The Albuquerque Museum of Art and History, among others. 1000 College Ave., 538-6517.

a)sp."A"©e Studio•Art•Gallery will feature "Seven," paintings by Carol Ann Young, opening Oct. 9, concurrent with the gallery's fifth anniversary. 10 W. 7th St., 538-3333.

Blue Dome Gallery's return to downtown Silver City is set for Oct.1, with a new show of works by Cece Stanford, "While I Was Waiting....," plus works by Barbara Jorgen Nance. An artist's reception will be held Oct. 10, 4-7 p.m., and Stanford will give a talk on her work Oct. 11 at 10:30 a.m. 307 N. Texas.

Copper Quail Gallery will feature "The Checkerboard of Life," a group show, Oct. 10-Nov. 2. 211A N. Texas, 388-2646.

The Shared Studio Spaces and Gallery at The Warehouse will celebrate that building's 100th birthday with live music and cake on



"A Renaissance of Fiber" by the Mesilla Valley Weavers opens Oct. 3 at the Branigan Cultural Center in Las Cruces.

Oct. 12, 12-3 p.m. 305 S. Texas, SSS305.com.



The Mesquite Art Gallery will be showing works by Wanda Fuselier.

The Grant County Art Guild's annual Old Masters Exhibit will open at the Mimbres Region Art Council gallery on Friday, Oct. 3, with a reception from 4-6 p.m. On view all month, the show features paintings and other art copying the works of famous artists. The purpose of the show is to give member artists an opportunity to study the work of famous artists and to practice painting in the style of that particular master artist. It also provides an educational experience for the public in identifying the styles and paintings of famous artists. 1201 N. Pope St.

www.mimbresarts.org, www.gcag.org.

ARTS EXPOSURE continued on next page



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RED DOT Art Weekend Oct. 11-13, 2014

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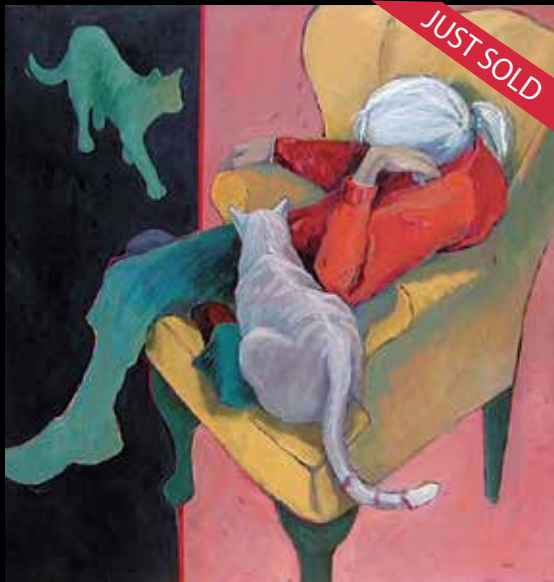
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About the Cover

Silver City artist **Marilyn Howard** was educated at Emporia State University in Kansas and has studied art in Italy and Greece. Landscape has long been the focus of imagery in most of Howard's work in various media including fabric assemblage, collage-painting, printmaking and pastel. Results of early experiments with fabric resembled "crazy quilts." Subsequent pieces became more three-dimensional, wall reliefs she called "fabric assemblages." Gradually, her work began to shift from the use of fabric to paper.

For the past 10 years Howard has concentrated on pastel painting, but still takes time for some drawing and printmaking. In addition to the landscapes in the pastel medium, she has also completed several groups of still lifes. She enjoys care-

fully arranging selected objects, including fabrics of rich color and pattern, and lighting the compositions to more or less create small "theater" environments.



Marilyn and her husband Cecil Howard, a long-time professor and chair of the art department at

WNMU and a Governor's Art Award recipient, live in Silver City. Her work can be seen at **Blue Dome Gallery**, 307 N. Texas, which will be re-opening in downtown Silver City this month in time for the Red Dot Art Weekend (see story in this section). ☼

ARTS EXPOSURE continued

The art guild will also be hosting its second annual "Art in the Barn" show at the Red Barn Steakhouse on Oct. 25, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The restaurant's banquet rooms will be filled with the work of local artists and fine crafters. Live music from 12-2 p.m. will be by Mountain Aire Folk Music. There will also be art demonstrations and talks from local artists and activities for children to show their artistic talents. 708 Silver Heights Blvd.

Kate Brown Pottery & Tile will hold a one-day intensive tile-making class, Oct. 26, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mimbres, 536-9935, katebrownmimbres@gmail.com.

The first annual **Mimbres Valley Youth Art Show** will be Nov. 1-8 at Valle Mimbres Market in the Mimbres. The juried show features two- and three-dimensional art from school-age children of the valley. Proceeds from the art sale will benefit the children of the Mimbres Valley. The show will be open Saturday, then Tuesday through Saturday, Nov. 4-8, 12-6 p.m. 2739 Hwy. 35 (1.5 miles off Hwy. 152).

Las Cruces & Mesilla

An exhibition of silk art and wearables by Judy Licht, "Soul of Silk," continues through Oct. 24 at the **Tombaugh Gallery**. On Sunday, Oct. 5, from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Licht will talk about nuno-felting and demonstrate wax-resist work. 2000 S. Solano Dr., 522-7281.

A show of paintings and photographs by Roy van der Aa and Michael C. Gutierrez continues at **Aa Studios** through Nov. 2. Behind 2645 Doña Ana Road on Calle de Oro, 520-8752.

The **Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery** will feature artists Naida Zucker and Yvonne Postelle this month. 2470-A Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla, 522-2933.

The **Las Cruces Arts Association's** monthly



Past *Desert Exposure* cover artist Ouida Touchón is now exhibiting at the Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery.

"Art on Easels" pop-up gallery at the Community Enterprise Center will return Oct. 3, 5-7 p.m. 125 N. Main St.

The **Branigan Cultural Center** is celebrating fiber arts, with "A Renaissance of Fiber" by the Mesilla Valley Weavers opening Friday, Oct. 3. The exhibit demonstrates how weaving has changed over the last 400 years, showcasing contemporary weaving and how it harkens back to traditional weaving. The exhibit closes on Saturday, Oct. 25.

Over the course of the month, several programs will be offered in conjunction with the exhibition. Members of the Mesilla Valley Weavers will give demonstrations of weaving and basketry techniques on Oct. 11 at 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. and Oct. 18 at noon, respectively. On Oct. 25, the Spider Rock Girls of Chinle, Ariz., will be present to demonstrate Navajo weaving traditions, along with an auction by RB Burnham Trading Post, sponsored by the Foundation for Las Cruces Museums. The auction will include more than 200 rugs in a wide range of styles, both historic and recently completed. Visitors can preview items from 9-11 a.m. and then listen to a talk on Navajo history and the tradition of trading posts. The auction begins at noon.

The Branigan will also be hosting a free family event celebrating the culture and diversity in the community on Saturday, Oct. 1, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., with NMSU International Student Organizations. 501 N. Main St., 541-2154, las-cruces.org/museums.

The **Mesquite Art Gallery** will be showing works by Wanda Fuselier, Oct. 2-31, with a reception Oct. 11, 4-6 p.m. 340 N. Mesquite St.

Jacklyn St. Aubyn opens her exhibit, "Natural Reflections," with an artist's reception at **Unsettled Gallery** from 4-6 p.m. on Oct. 11. St. Aubyn's work has been included in numerous solo and group exhibits in both private and public institutions; her work resides in many private and public collections. She is a professor emerita at NMSU where she taught painting and drawing. 905 N. Mesquite St., 635-2285, www.unsettledgallery.com.

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RED DOT Art Weekend Oct. 11-13, 2014



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Jacklyn St. Aubyn opens her exhibit, "Natural Reflections," with an artist's reception at **Unsettled Gallery** on Oct. 11.

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The **Mesquite Art Gallery** will be showing works by Wanda Fuselier, Oct. 2-31, with a reception Oct. 11, 4-6 p.m. 340 N. Mesquite St.



Above and right: Examples of work by artists participating in the Black Range Artists' benefit for the Wounded Warrior Project in Deming, Oct. 11-12.

invites applications for people wishing to exhibit in host studios, Nov. 29-30. Send your name, a brief description of your work and three jpegs, as well as your website if you have one, and any social media sites that apply, to northcuttjb@comcast.net. In the subject line, please put PICACHO TOUR. A fee of \$75 is due on acceptance.

Deming

The Black Range Artists annual membership show will be Oct. 1-25 at the **Deming Arts Center**, with a reception Oct. 5, 1-3 p.m. Next up at the center is a Guatemala Mercado, Oct. 31-Nov. 1, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., featuring unusual, colorful handmade items. 100 S. Gold, 546-3663.

The Black Range Artists are also hosting a juried fine art event, Oct. 11-12, to benefit the **Wounded Warrior Project**, at the Deming Special Event Center. Prior to the event, plein air artists will be painting outdoors in various locations from Deming to Silver City. Then they will be among the more than 50 award-winning artists from as far away as Louisiana featured in the show. Satur-

day hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m.-4 p.m., and admission is free. Each artist has agreed to donate 30% of their sales to the Wounded Warrior Project. A silent auction with donations from artists and businesses will include a signed print by Amado Pena and a print by Robert (Shoofly) Shufelt, which he will customize with a drawing on the corner.

Live music during the event on Saturday will be by Max Crook, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., and Vintage Two with Connie Grove and Carol Linhart, mandolin players, 3-5 p.m. There will be art demonstrations Saturday from 1-2 p.m. by Carol Bree on weaving with fiber and metal and by Kathy Neilson on weaving skills from 3:30-4:30 p.m. On Sunday, Crook will play from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and Veronika Barnes from 2-4 p.m. Dorothy Waddell will have a watercolor demonstration from 1-3 p.m. 2300 E. Pine, 546-4650, blackrange-art.com. 🌻

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

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Deming is www.ExploreDeming.com blackrangeart@gmail.com



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OCT. 11-13**

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TALKING HORSES • SCOTT THOMSON

Getting to the “Why”

Rethinking the words and the feel of working with your horse.

My last column generated some interesting emails, with several questions about my comments on the words/phrases we use with horses and the “feel” of good horsemanship. In many ways these thoughts go beyond horses, so I thought I’d expand on them a bit.

Despite what the Internet and texting have done to our language and conversation, we’re still verbal creatures. Words can make us feel great (or awful) or see things in a certain way. They can change our attitude and even our body language. The evolution of the “spin doctor” in politics and the media proves just how powerful an influence words can be.

When you have a horse in your life, however, you are interacting with a non-verbal animal that bases all its behavior on the body language and the behavior of the people or other animals surrounding it. Horses live in our world now but still have instincts and needs that don’t necessarily match with what we want from them. Maybe changing our vocabulary a bit can help us give them more of what they need by changing our perception of what we do with them, and then our actual behavior towards them.

Let me give some simple examples that I try to use in my teaching and approach to good horsemanship.

If I hand you a rope and a halter, your image of the use for this equipment is colored by the words. Rope and halter mean *catch, control, restrain, confine, discipline*, maybe even *dominate*. You are almost predisposed to use this equipment in these ways because of the way you define the words in other contexts.

But if I ask you to think of this equipment as a single rein, not as a rope, you are more likely to handle it differently. For most riders—good ones, anyway—a rein is about communication, direction, support and balance. In most cases, a good horseman is using a rope and halter as a single rein for teaching, bending and directing, not as a rope for restraint. He or she handles it with the same softness and clarity you should use with your reins.

In some cases, one end of the rope should be used like a leg when sitting on the horse. Looking at the end of the rope as an aid for communication to support and direct movement and body posture, as if you’re applying a good leg aid, rather than a quick way to smack the horse for discipline, will change the way you handle it.

When you pick up a training stick, you probably see it as a whip or a tool for punishing the resistant horse. But if I tell you to call the stick a leg, an outside rein, a supporting rein or a rail (the ways this piece of equipment should be used), everything about the way you hold and use the stick will change.

Try some of these other adjustments to your horse vocabulary to improve your horsemanship. When you go to the arena for “work,” tell yourself instead you’re going for play, cross training, exercise, to learn some new things or to improve your partnership. When your horse seems braced and resistant to something, don’t use words like *dumb, slow, stubborn* or the dreaded “he doesn’t like to do this.” Call it for what it really is to him—he’s confused, he doesn’t understand, he needs more direction and support from you. Before you label unwanted behavior as “acting like a dink,” disrespect or lack of affection for you, think more in terms of natural reactions to a current situation (pain, play?) or conflict with a horse’s natural instincts.

Changing words or phrases may not seem like much, but it will change your attitude and your body language, and this will significantly improve your horsemanship.

Feel, on the other hand, is maybe the one thing you can’t teach, which is what makes it so elusive. In just about every athletic activity there are two parts. There are the techniques of the activity—how you swing the racket, how you dribble the ball, the steps in the dance, etc. There is also the intellectual side of the activity, which is where you need to understand the strategy, meaning or goals of what you are doing. In my experience, it is far easier for us to comprehend and embrace the intellectual side of the activity than it is to master the techniques. The good player (or dancer, musician, etc.) has true

“feel” from having a good level of competency on both sides of the equation.

With horses, there are two entirely different beings involved that have to work together, and that’s what makes finding true feel such a challenge. On the one hand there are the techniques of horsemanship and riding. On the other, there is the science of the horse—his behavior, his bio-mechanics, how he learns.

It may make it easier to understand by describing good horsemanship as a combination of the art (the techniques) and the science. “Feel” comes when the human sees, understands and embraces the relationship between both sides in the practice of good horsemanship. Competence on one side or the other leads to mechanical movements with no fluidity or timing (techniques without understanding) or information without knowledge or application (science without techniques).

And that’s the rub for many horse owners. The techniques of natural horsemanship, the art if you will, can be a real challenge. They take physical skills, patience, lots of practice and time, maybe even years to develop some sort of competence. Throughout all this you need to remain humble and teachable. For the same reasons learning any physical activity can be tough, many owners simply say it’s all too hard. Then they conclude none of it works anyway to make themselves feel better about not being able to master the techniques.

After over a decade of teaching and several hundred students of varying abilities, I truly understand this frustration. Maybe this different perspective can help:

Natural horsemanship, or any approach to horsemanship that puts the horse’s needs first, is based on the science of the horse. Clear and simple. It doesn’t take hours of practice or great physical skills to learn about the science of horse behavior and movement. All it takes is some intellectual curiosity. If you look at horsemanship through the lens of the science of the horse, you will stop looking at the techniques as something different and unrelated. You won’t get so hung up on your level of expertise because you will see even a close approximation of good techniques will get the job done if you’re working with an understanding of the science behind what you’re doing. I’ve always felt the “why” is far more important than the “how,” and it’s the “why” that makes it easier to get better at the “how.”

Here’s one simple example. We know the horse is a flight animal and as such is highly claustrophobic. His basic instincts tell him to make sure there is an avenue of escape and that he can move his feet and run if need be. His level of stress is far less when he knows this most basic need can be satisfied. This is all science. It’s the way horses are, no matter how old, how well trained or what breed.

Many of the basic horsemanship techniques to help horses deal with new or scary situations require you to move the horse (think of the basic “squeeze” game). A main reason these techniques work so well is not because you’re tiring the horse out or showing him who’s boss (don’t get me started on any trainer or owner who uses that phrase!), but because you are meeting a basic horse need (movement) that actually makes him more receptive to learning. The less he feels restricted or trapped, and the more he can move his feet, the calmer he is and the more teachable he becomes. So the technique is simply an expression of the science.

Virtually every technique you need to learn in natural horsemanship, no matter what teacher or clinician you follow, is based on the science of the horse. Study more of this first, and it will make the physical aspects of your learning much easier. Then you’ll be well on your way to developing the “feel” that makes a good horseman different from a horse owner. 🌱

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



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CELEBRATIONS • JAY W. SHARP

Lively After Death

The origins of the Día de los Muertos tradition trace back to ancient Mesoamerica, long before the coming of Christianity.



Above: A Día de los Muertos ofrenda for *los angelitos*, Mesilla Plaza. Below: Artist at her booth, Mesilla Plaza. (All photos by Jay W. Sharp)

The Día de los Muertos, or the Day of the Dead, festival, staged on the Mesilla plaza as well as Silver City galleries and shops around the first of November every year, has roots in the millennia-old history of the Mesoamerican city-state cultures of Mexico and Central America. Also embraced by many other modern-day communities—in Latin America, the United States, Europe, and even in Australia, New Zealand and the Philippines—Día de los Muertos represents not only a loving remembrance of the departed, but also a festive celebration of their lives. No one, the belief holds, truly passes until he or she has been completely forgotten.

National Geographic commented, “Día de los Muertos recognizes death as a natural part of the human experience, a continuum with birth, childhood and growing up to become a contributing member of the community. On Día de los Muertos, the dead are also a part of the community, awakened from their eternal

sleep to share celebrations with their loved ones.”

History

The Mesoamerican origins of the Día de los Muertos lie shrouded in the mists of the past, as Juanita Garciagodoy

said in her book *Digging the Days of the Dead*. But archeologists and other scholars have found evidence that the Mesoamericans staged ritual celebrations of the life and afterlife of their dead more than three millennia ago, or more than 1,000 years before the rise of Christianity.

Apparently, from their earliest times, the Mesoamericans buried dead family members near or within their homes, covering the body with red dust and wrapping it in a *petate*, or a reed shawl. In seasonal rituals, they left offerings that the deceased would need during a four-year journey to Mictlan, the Kingdom of Mystery, ruled by Lord Mictlantecuhtli and Lady Mictecacihuatl.

Old man, or *viejito*, calling “dead” dancers back to life, Mesilla Plaza.



In Mesoamerican burials through the centuries, archeologists have found indications that these peoples probably continued to leave offerings for individuals long after the four-year journeys to Mictlan had passed. In those graves, researchers have found artifacts such as ceramic pottery and figurines, lithic tools, personal ornaments, jewelry, toys and pyrite mirrors. They have discovered vessels with traces of food and drink, presumably the favorites of the dead. They have even found the remains of sacrificed women, children and even pets, likely the beloved of the dead.

When the Spanish came, in the 16th century, the Mesoamerican peoples still followed their ancient rituals of communing with those past. In festivals and rites staged in the late summer and early fall, they focused special remembrances not only of deceased family members but of others such as warriors who had died in battle, women who had died during their first childbirth, sons and daughters who had died as children, and unfortunates who had died by lightning strike or drowning.

As Garciagodoy noted, the Mesoamericans spent long hours beside graves during the annual ceremonies. They brought to the deceased the offerings of clothes, food, drink and personal and symbolic artifacts—evidence of remembrance. They burned artifacts ritually on the graves, believing the flames would convey the offerings to the departed for use and enjoyment in the afterlife.

In one ancient illustration of the Mesoamerican connection with the dead, wrote Christian Clarke Cásarez of the University of Texas at Austin, “a classic Maya stela (or carved upright stone slab) from the ancient site of Piedras Negras in Guatemala depicts the presentation of an offering to a deceased ancestor, who rests below in a chamber, swaddled in cloth as a mummy bundle.”

“Instead of fearing death,” said Carlos Miller in an *Arizona Republic* article, the Mesoamericans “embraced it. To them, life was a dream and only in death did they become truly awake.”

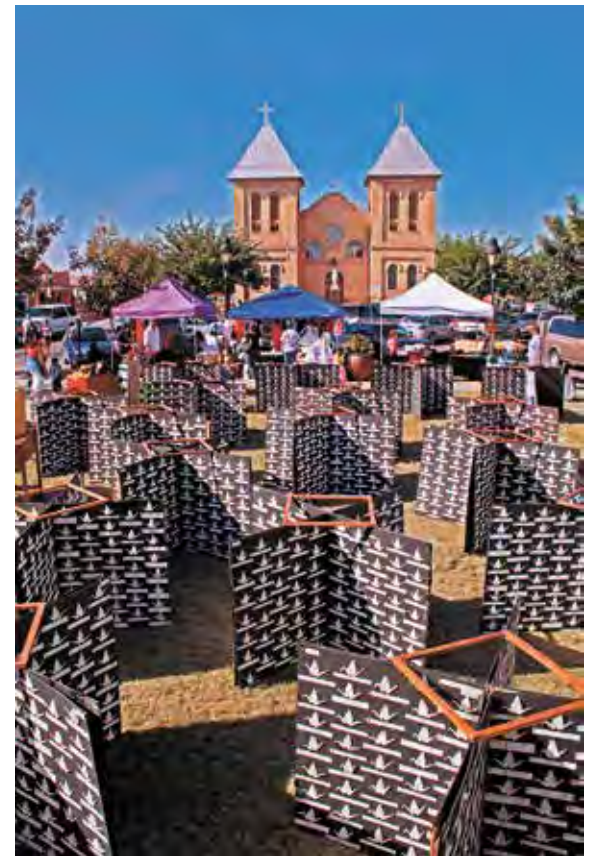
After the Spanish conquistadors had conquered Mexico and Central America, the Franciscan missionary priests who came in their wake viewed the Mesoamerican peoples as “barbaric and pagan,” said Miller. They set out to put an end to the indigenous peoples’ “idolatrous” rituals, but the Mesoamericans refused to relinquish their ancient outreach for their dead.

Finally, the priests—noting a correlation between the Christian and the Mesoamerican beliefs in life after death—embraced the idea of Día de los Muertos. To give it a veneer of Christianity, they folded it into the Catholic feasts held on All Saints Day, on Nov. 1, and All Souls Day, on Nov. 2.

All Saints Day, dating to Roman times, commemorates saints, known and unknown, who died in martyrdom. In Día de los Muertos, it is also the day when families remember *los angelitos*, or the little angels—their lost children. All Souls Day, more than a thousand years old, recalls those souls who languish in Purgatory. Moreover, it is the day when families recall all lost souls. Día de los Muertos has become a “rich and historical cultural tradition that springs from the human hope to never be forgotten,” according to Cásarez.

Celebrations Today

In places such as Mesilla, where Día de los Muertos has become an important annual event, merchants stock up well ahead of time with goods they anticipate selling for the occasion. These may include such things as the ancient incense copal, incense burners, votive candles, candle holders and seasonal foods and flowers.



Mesilla memorial panels with the names of locals who gave their lives in service to their country.

Families clean and decorate their homes, preparing for visits by their ancestors as well as by living guests. The families visit local cemeteries, where they tidy up their deceased relatives’ graves, decorating them with flowers—especially wreaths of marigolds, which, they believe, attract the souls of

the dead. They may add offerings and toys for *los angelitos* and favored foods and beverages for the other lost souls. Some may even decorate long abandoned, neglected, unmarked graves, remembering the adage that those who have been totally forgotten will have truly passed.

On the first evening of the celebration, families and friends may join

in a candle-lit twilight procession to the cemetery, where they will speak to a respectful crowd in remembrance of those who have died. They will recall moments—loving, sad, dramatic, pivotal, funny—in the lives of the departed.

At their homes, families will improvise memorial altars with offerings—or *ofrendas*—in memory of those who have died. As Garciagodoy said, they typically place the Día de los Muertos *ofrendas* near the permanent altars that “many traditional and humble families keep in a hallway or corner of their living room or bed-



Ofrenda for a beloved pet in Mesilla.



An ofrenda for Frida Kahlo, famous Mexican artist.

room for devotions to their special saints.”

At fiesta sites, such as the town plaza in Mesilla, families or individuals may construct *ofrendas* that recall not only departed family members but also national heroes, lost military veterans, admired performers, artists, authors, lost friends, and even beloved pets.

Ofrendas

Exploring the *ofrendas* at Día de los Muertos celebrations, you will discover a startling span of creative diversity, reflecting a range of emotions, from humble and simple longings to outrageous humor. You will find *ofrendas* built, for instance, on a specially designed structure, a box or boxes, a table, shelves, or, simply, a blanket or *petate*. Typically, you will see the deceased’s picture, treasured personal articles and favored foods and beverages. You may find religious icons, *pan de muerto* (the delicious “bread of the dead”) and sugar skulls (with the name of the deceased lettered across the forehead). In the *ofrendas* at some festivals, you will find such things as water to slake the dead’s thirst, sugar and salt to evoke sweetness and bitterness, candles to symbolize immortal triumph, copal or incense to convey prayer, and flowers to recall love and the sun.

You may find amusement in images and ceramic replicas of smiling skulls, or *calaveras*, and complete skeletons, or *calacas*, dancing, gossiping, eat-



Catrina figure, Mesilla Plaza.

ing, drinking and celebrating life. Indeed, the smiling *calaveras* and the fun-filled *calacas* embody the spirit of Día de los Muertos.

You will surely delight in the *Catrina* representations—a woman’s skeleton bedecked in a large hat and a royally elegant dress. Originally conceived by Mexican artist José Guadalupe Posada, the “*Catrina*” may represent the Hispanic vision of the Kingdom of Mystery’s Lady Mictecacihuatl.

Costumes, Music, Dance

You may also be taken aback by the creative diversity and sheer humor embedded in Día de los Muertos participants’ attires and makeup, their music, and their dance.

From children to adults, they may portray themselves, for example, as fanciful *calacas* in colorful dress—with the women often recalling Posada’s *Catrina*—or as lost souls from Purgatory. The children—*los angelitos*—often take on roles as impish *calacas*. Even pets, especially dogs, may find themselves enlisted in the celebration.

On the plaza in Mesilla, surrounded by *ofrendas*, the mariachis and street minstrels, with their trumpets, violins, *guitarróns* and *vihuelas*, reach back through the decades, to their musical origins in the Mexican state of Jalisco, to invest Día de los Muertos celebrations with a festive blend of Spanish, African and indigenous Latin rhythms and song. They would awaken the spirits of the deceased. They also awaken the living participants’ irresistible urge to dance.

Moving to the rhythms of the mariachis, *ballet folklórico*—or Hispanic folk dance—groups take center stage in the plaza. During Día de los Muertos, they may become a joyous swirl of color. They may be prone “dead” figures called to life and dance by an aging man (or *viejito*). They may be a pair of *calacas* dancing with great vigor and joy.

Sometimes, you may even find yourself emerging from the gathering, submitting to the call to dance



The vitality and joy of a dance for Día de los Muertos.

in the plaza with a *calaca*. That is, for a small contribution that will be donated to a local charity, you can dance with death. ☘

This year Mesilla will celebrate Día de los Muertos at the plaza on Oct. 31 and Nov. 1 and 2. Call the Town of Mesilla, (575) 524-3262, for more information. For details on Silver City galleries’ celebrations, see the Arts Exposure section.

Jay W. Sharp is a Las Cruces author who has been a contributor for various print and Internet publications over the past several years and who is the author of Texas Unexplained, now available as an e-book from Amazon or iTunes.

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THE WILD WEST • KAREN RAY

Blazing Saddles

Those thrilling days of yesteryear are back in the fast-growing sport of Cowboy Mounted Shooting.



Tracy Kaden at the New Mexico state shooting event. (Photo courtesy David Kaden)

To learn more about mounted shooting, visit the website of the New Mexico Territory Cowboy Mounted Shooters at www.nmmountedshooters.com. Upcoming mounted shooting events include:

- **Oct. 4-5**—Quick Draw Mounted Shoot in Santa Fe
- **Nov. 15-16**—Year-end NMTCMS Awards Match and 10th birthday, details to be announced.

Ever seen John Wayne's response to Ned Pepper's jibe of "Bold talk for a one-eyed fat man" (*True Grit*)? If so, then you've seen an example of Cowboy Mounted Shooting.

The Mounted Shooters of America (MSA) reports that the sport is "one of the fastest growing equine sports in the nation. The object of the sport is to shoot 10 balloon targets while riding through a variety of challenging courses using specially loaded blank cartridges fired from Old West-style single-action revolvers. It's a high-speed, timed spectator sport in which the competitor who rides the fastest with the least amount of missed targets wins." During competitions western dress is either expected or required, whether it is modern or rolled back to 1800s style. Some women even compete in full long dress.

Attendees at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum's annual Cowboy Days this spring in Las Cruces got their first gander at the sport with a presentation by the Borderland Pistoleros. But mounted shooting has actually been around for a decade: The New Mexico Territory Cowboy Mounted Shooters will celebrate its 10th birthday next month, Nov. 15-16.

Jim Huff, spokesman for the Borderland Pistoleros, talks about the sport as he saddles up Buster, a.k.a. Hesadunskippin, his 12-year-old Quarter Horse, for a practice session at Dave and Tracy Kaden's Flight Leader Farm in Canutillo, NM, south of Anthony. "I've been a shooter and rider all my life," he recalls. But he had never seen the two put together until he attended the Cowboy Symposium in Ruidoso in 2004. "My wife came and got me and said 'You have got to see this!' They were doing some cowboy mounted shooting and I've been involved in it ever since."

Huff and others started the New Mexico Territory Mounted Shooters in 2005. That organization has grown to 60-100 members. "When we first started we had seven clubs around the state," Huff says. "We joined into the one club and now have close to 20 competitions around the state."

The Borderland Pistoleros was started by Huff,



Sandra Whaley's championship belt, buckle and guns. (Photo: Karen Ray)

the Kadens and Robert Barnard. "We're kind of a loose-fit informal group that gets together to practice," Huff says. "We're just promoting the sport" and trying to get more mounted shooting events going locally.

Huff puts the finishing touches on Buster's gear and heads toward the arena while giving a running commentary on the sport. "Mounted shooting started in '92 in Arizona with a fellow named Jim Rodgers, co-founder of the Cowboy Mounted Shooting Association, who started putting it together. It's the fastest growing equine sport in America, probably in the world; it's growing exponentially."

He adds, "Part of the appeal is the Wild West, John Wayne, shoot-em-up, ride fast, shoot the gun. I mean, we all grew up watching 'Gun-smoke.'"

"The other part of this sport that's second to none, and I've competed in every equine sport there is except maybe polo, is the camaraderie. The people are the best of the best of everything come together in mounted shooting.... The family and camaraderie is the most important thing about the sport. It's a wonderful group of people; we all travel together. It's not a cheap sport, but it's worth it."

He adds, "We have a family that comes all the way from the Gila area and has four generations of shooters in the family. We kid about it; when they show up we don't need anybody else, we have enough with their family." He notes that these folks sponsored a Las Cruces shoot in August.

Four organizations in the United States sanction mounted shooting, according to Huff. The Borderland Pistoleros is part of both the Cowboy Mounted Shooting Association (CMSA), which is the biggest, and the Mounted Shooters of America (MSA). The Cowboy Sports Association (CSA) operates primarily back East. The Single Action Shooting Society (SASS) is the oldest mounted shooting sanctioning body, but is not focused exclusively on mounted shooting, also organizing "gunfights" on foot and other competitions. The SASS is heavily into the reenactment side of things, complete with authentic dress.

The firearms used in the events are single-action .45-caliber revolvers, loaded with blank cartridges. Huff explains the strict regulation of the ammo: "The ammo manufacturer sends 100 rounds to CMSA for testing. They have to break a balloon every time at 15 feet and never at 20." Interestingly, it is actually an ember from the black powder that breaks the balloon, not the concussion from the shot. You can sometimes see the smoke from the powder hanging in the air. There are three classes of shooting: the pistol, carbine and shotgun, all single-action—meaning they must be cocked manually before the first shot is fired.

Huff says wearing the guns in front is unique to mounted shooting. The Pistoleros "shoot single-action .45 Colt pistols. We all shoot the same caliber.... We all shoot out of the same box of ammunition.... For competitions you have to shoot supplied ammunition that's certified by the CMSA; that's a safety, written-in-stone rule."

The horses often wear leg protection and both riders and horses also wear ear protection. Commercially made sets are available, but Huff displays a custom set of memory-foam earplugs he made for



Sandra Whaley prepares to train her horse. (Photo by Karen Ray)

Buster. "You put them in the ear and they form back to the shape of the horse's ear. They're a lot harder for them to shake out."

Extensive training goes into preparing a horse to be a mounted shooting partner. It's not wise to just hop on and start banging away with a gun. Horseman Hank Webb, Tracy Kaden's father, says, "If you have good horsemanship, you can learn to shoot." Louise Huff explains that horses must be trained against their flight instinct: "The only thing lower than a horse on the food chain is grass." She notes that people just don't realize this because the horse is so big.

Jim Huff explains, "We start by popping bubble wrap, just kind of get them used to that and evaluating. Not every horse will do this." He says riders do a lot of dry firing from horseback so the horses get used to seeing that motion in their peripheral vision. Mounted shooters will often use "ram set blanks, like used in construction for driving nails.... They're .22 caliber and fairly inexpensive. They just 'pop'—they don't make a big 'bang.'"



David Kaden on Big Guy at the national championships in Mississippi. (Photo courtesy David Kaden)

He also recommends training horses by giving them their grain, walking away about 100 yards, shooting, then moving incrementally closer. "If the horse is bothered by that, chances are they'll never get used to it," he says. "When I started Buster I probably popped caps around him for two days before I shot off his back."

He says the horse had been around mounted shooting quite a bit, knew what it sounded like and just didn't seem to care. "He's more bothered by the balloons flapping.... A lot of times we'll tie balloons around their stalls. I did that to the point where he'd go around and pop them with his nose."

Huff adds that he once had a horse that was fine with all the shooting but didn't like applause and "would have a fit at the end" when people would clap.

"Lots of practice is the key to getting really good at this sport," Huff says. "Once I get a horse accustomed to the gunfire and they're not surprised, then I hardly shoot at all. Then we start doing more of the finesse stuff, figuring out how to get your lines and

angles." Horses learn to follow the gun, responding to their rider's motions and turning whichever way the gun is pointed.

Five riders warm up in the arena as Tracy Kaden hands me a special deck of cards and explains that there are 62 different patterns printed on them. Riders regularly practice through all of these so they and their mounts are familiar with the different routines. She says at competitions they don't know ahead of time which routines they'll be doing. The person running the match randomly draws the patterns and posts them. Everyone then runs the same patterns.

I open the arena gate for Huff and Buster and the practice is on. Kaden fills balloons and patiently explains what I'm seeing: "They have to shoot all the white balloons first and then they have to turn this barrel and go turn the 'run down' barrel and then shoot the blue ones last."

The courses are timed and there are penalties for misses, dropping a gun, knocking over a barrel. During competitions points are earned and often large purses of prize money are up for winning, which helps offset the expense of traveling to the matches.



The Borderland Pistoleros wait to practice. (Photo by Karen Ray)

In the background folks laugh and shout out "Hi-yo, Silver!" and "Cowboy up!" as they warm up their horses and reconnect with friends. Kaden says, "This is practice, so most of the people didn't bring their finished horses; they brought horses that they want to work on."

Sandra and Clay Whaley are saddling up a four-year-old gelding and an eight-year-old mare. She laughs and says, "They have not shot before so they are all new to this.... They're just here to train." She explains that a key part of the training is "to make sure you're around seasoned horses. They read off each other."

Someone shouts "Fire in the hole!" and the first horse and rider team runs the course. A few minutes later, another rider takes his turn, carefully taking shots, while Clay Whaley shadows him on the four-year-old gelding, so the younger horse can see that it's okay. Both do beautifully.

Today, David Kaden is working a five-year-old horse named Big Guy, registered name "Western Attire." The horse had been raised near a gun range over in Alamogordo and so is used to the noise. He had been intended by the previous owners as an endurance horse but was too big for that sport. The Kadens are expecting him to do a super job with mounted shooting. She says, "When we're not competing we try and shoot at least twice a week." This sport takes a lot of practice.

She says she's seen many horses fall with riders at events. "That's scary. Their footing might not be real good and the horses are going fast. So the horse and the rider will fall and they have a loaded gun in their hands and the gun sometimes goes off.... When you look at that it makes you be very careful." Other times, she says with a laugh, "sometimes people just forget where they are in the arena and in the pattern. They're so focused on shooting they just lose track of where they are in space and will just do crazy patterns."

Hank Webb and his wife, Cris, spent over 10 years helping their daughter with her endurance horses, traveling with her all over the US and even riding in some competitions. Tracy Kaden has ridden over 6,000 miles in endurance races and competed internationally with her horses, including winning a silver medal in the Pan American Games. She first competed in Cowboy Mounted Shooting in October 2013 in Tombstone, Ariz. Then, at the CMSA New Mexico Championship competition in Bernalillo this year, she won.

Winners "have this funny tradition called 'Doin' the Dance,'" relates Webb. "Tracy said, 'Mom, it took me a long time but I finally used those tap-dance lessons.'"

He proudly adds, "We try to attend all her competitions. It's a real family activity and the people are wonderful; they help each other and loan each other horses and guns. I'm amazed at the respect they have for each other.... Every time Tracy returns from an event she says, 'Dad, we met the nicest people from... and they're going to come visit us.'"

Whether you just turn out to watch for a bit of Old West excitement, or want to get involved in the sport directly, you're sure as shootin' to have a good time. 🌵

Karen Ray is a Las Cruces-based writer and personal historian. She can be reached at karen@rememberingthetime.net.

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OUT AND ABOUT • LINDA FERRARA

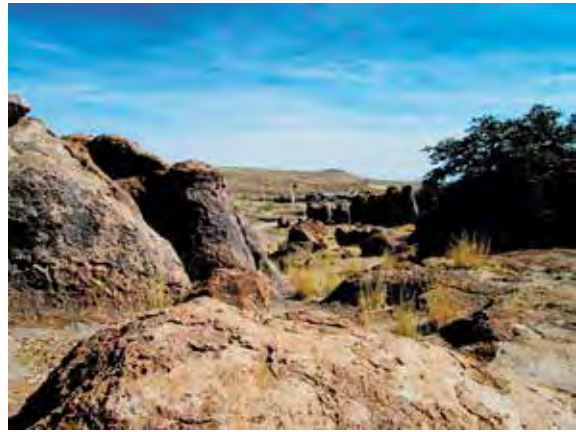
Rock Star

Think you know City of Rocks State Park? Take our tour and leave no stone unturned.

If you live in the southwest part of New Mexico (and if you're reading this, you probably do), there's a high probability that you've been to the City of Rocks State Park. It's one of the things you do when you have company from other parts of the country visiting. We all have photographs of relatives on, in front of, climbing, peeking out from behind, or eating a snack near those magnificent rock formations. And we have good reason to; it's an amazing landscape type that's found in only six places on earth. (Texas Canyon in Arizona is another.)

On one trip to the City of Rocks earlier this year, I spent some time in the visitor's center and, while reading about the place, I realized there's much more to do than just exploring this rock labyrinth in the desert. Let me take you on a tour of what you've been missing at City of Rocks.

Although you can visit for the day, you won't get to see and do everything in that span, so plan to spend a couple of days; bring camping gear and rent one of the spaces tucked among the rocks around the park. To reserve, call or go online at www.nmparks.com. The park has 52 developed campsites, some with water and electric hook-ups. There are also group sites, and restrooms with water, shower and vault toilets. Be sure to bring your bicycles and kites!



Scenes from City of Rocks State Park. (Photos by Linda Ferrara)

Start your visit by paying at the gate. A one day permit is \$5 per vehicle, while a camping permit ranges from \$4 with a valid annual camping pass to \$14. Be sure to pay the park fee or you will receive a citation. After putting your permit on your windshield, make a right turn onto the dirt road at the entrance.

You will quickly arrive at the top of Observation Point. Enjoy the views and information boards here. On a clear day, you can see 40 miles. Look to the south and imagine being here in the 1860s when the Butterfield Stagecoach came through this area. The passengers and mail would all be squeezed into the coach, pulled by mules or horses, uncomfortably travelling through the hot and dusty Chihuahuan Desert. (Sounds about as pleasant as present-day air travel, doesn't it?).

Looking to the north, you get a wonderful vista of the park in its entirety. If you look northeast, you can see the Black Range where once there stood the volcano that created the park. You'll also see Table Top Mountain—it's the two-tiered mesa to the east. Those two layers were created by two different lava flows. Enough with the geology/geography lesson; soak it in, and then drive down to the visitor's center.



Enter the visitor's center, where you can learn about the park, use the bathrooms, get a map and find out about any upcoming events. Through murals on the walls, videos, exhibits, pamphlets and hands-on displays, you'll learn a lot about

the history of the area. Construction began on this natural playground some 35 million years ago when that volcano to the northeast, near present-day Hill-sboro Peak, erupted and spewed out volcanic ash. When the molten ash settled, it formed a layer of hot pumice and ash. Some of the material was so hot that it compressed together and created huge boulders. Millions of years of erosion wore away the softer material and what remains are the rock pinnacles seen today.

Once you've settled in, it's time to explore. Enjoy walking among the labyrinth of boulders, exploring the interesting shapes and sizes, the highest of which are 40 feet.

At some point you will find yourself in the northwest part of the maze, near campsite number 34. Here you will find many Indian mill-grinding holes that are remnants of life 900 years ago. Imagine women grinding corn and grains in these holes while their little children played amongst the boulders much as you have been doing. Some tribe members would have been out in the nearby grasslands hunting, while others farmed out in the open space we now call desert. If you're interested in native petroglyphs, ask at the desk and they will give you details on how to find them within the park. The Mimbrenos Indians aren't the only past visitors to the park; Apaches were also in this area in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Also, there is evidence of Spanish conquistadors visiting—see if you can find the Spanish crosses etched into the rocks near campsite number 29.

At night, enjoy a campfire in one of the fire rings. Be sure to bring your own wood and marshmallows!



Rock formations like those at City of Rocks are found in only six places in the entire world.

On day two, I suggest you hike around the outskirts of the park using the Hydra Walking Trail, where you will have the opportunity to view wildlife and plants. Access it from either the left of the Observation Point, the visitor's center, the Pegasus Campground (close to the windmill near sites 29 and 30), or from the botanical gardens. This will give you a good feel for the desert. If your knees allow, climb to the top of Table Top Mountain. This is a recently created section of trail on the northeast side of the park (see "100 Hikes," March 2014). The views are awesome and you can have fun jumping from boulder to boulder up there.

On your walking tour you may find a variety of common desert plants including emory and black oak trees, soaptree yucca, lechuguilla agave, sotol, barrel cactus, cholla, prickly pear, creosote bush, ephedra and a wide variety of grasses and wildflowers. In the southwest corner of the park is a botanical garden where you can view many plants. A deep freeze in 2011, plus desperately thirsty javelina, killed many plants in the garden, but the staff of the park is working to replenish them. (I bet a plant-loving volunteer would be a welcome addition at the park.)

You will also enjoy checking out the desert wildlife in



the area. If you have little kids, ask for an activity book at the visitor's center. You might enjoy making a list and see who identifies the most animals. Commonly sighted are squirrels, chipmunks, kangaroo mice, cottontail rabbits, jackrabbits, coyotes, javelinas, deer, antelope, and the more fear-provoking desert tarantulas, vinegaroons, desert millipedes, scorpions, giant centipedes and snakes. Occasionally, visitors and staff at the park have even reported seeing bobcats, mountain lions and black bears. Included on the City of Rocks bird list are the red-tailed hawk, northern harrier, golden eagle, great horned owl, turkey vultures, common raven, house and purple finches, canyon towhees, western flycatchers, cactus and canyon wren, mockingbirds, curve-billed thrashers, Gambel's and scaled quail, rufous and black-chinned hummingbirds, the greater roadrunner and many other songbirds.

What to do in the afternoon? Did you bring your bicycles and kites? Good! Biking is allowed in the park on all trails. Remember that pedestrians have the right of way. If it's during the windy season, you can even fly a kite.

The park manager, Gabe Medrano, is a 29-year-old alumnus of WNMU. He has been working at the City of Rocks for six years and after talking to him several times, I can feel his enthusiasm when he talks about what they've done and what plans are for the future. He humbly credits his staff and the volunteers for much of the work accomplished. In addition to park maintenance, customer service and everything else they do, the team has done an excellent job of providing educational programs at the park. Check at the visitor's center or on the website for a variety of educational talks that are regularly scheduled, most often on Saturdays. Topics have included: "Going Batty," petroglyphs, "Coffee with the Ranger," "Snake, Rattle and Coil," Mimbrenos, and coyotes.

Plans for the future at City of Rocks include seven to eight additional miles of trails with wildlife blinds and benches for discreet viewing. The park is also moving towards more solar power in the visitor's center and comfort stations (the observatory is already solar powered). They are looking into creating a "Friends of the City of Rocks" group that would assist the park by hosting events, presenting interpretive talks, and having live music events in the park, much like Rockhound State Park near Deming.

The City of Rocks, being in the middle of the desert, makes a great location for dark-sky star gazing. By now, you've seen the names of the campsites. A generous volunteer made the signs using names of constellations you can view from each location. On the eastern part of the park you will see the Orion Group area. Not only can this area be reserved for larger groups, but one Saturday a month you can join what the park calls a "Star Party." If you get the opportunity to attend, I highly recommend this fascinating and educational event.

Using a laser pointer, Matt Wilson shows you planets, stars and constellations. He sets up a 14-inch Meade telescope, powered by a photovoltaic system, that can view 140,000 objects from its on-board computer catalog. Visitors can look through the eyepieces to see astronomical objects magnified.

He also sets up an iPad with an astronomy app. Just point the iPad up to the sky, and the app tells you exactly what you're looking at. For dates and times of these events, go to Facebook and "like" the "City of Rocks Astronomy Presentations," or check the "40 Days and 40 Nights" listings in *Desert Exposure*. The entire astronomy program at



I realized there's much more to do than just exploring this rock labyrinth in the desert.

City of Rocks State Park

Elevation: 5,250 feet
Size: 2,958 acres
Visitors annually: 60,000
Hours: Gate closed 9 p.m.-7 a.m.
Directions: From Silver City, take US 180 south-east to NM 61. Go northeast on NM 61 for four miles to park entrance. From Deming, take US 180 northeast to NM 61.
Address: 327 Hwy. 61, Faywood, NM 88034/
Telephone: (575) 536-2800
Contact: Gabriel Medrano, park manager, gabriel.medrano@state.nm.us
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campsite, doing a good deal of walking, taking photographs, watching videos and talking with visitors. I got a kick out how many different license plates we saw: Colorado, Ohio, Iowa, South Carolina, Tennessee, California, Florida, Nevada and British Columbia. Some of what I did you may want to avoid—like getting lost in the labyrinth of rocks. Not to worry; you can't get too lost. Just walk until you hit the road that surrounds the rocks—and remember the number of your campsite!

At one point, I chatted with a visitor who was from Silver City and occasionally comes down to the park for a weekend to take advantage of the peacefulness. Later, sitting quietly at my campsite, I understood what she meant. I heard children playing in the distance, the delightful kind of sound when they're laughing and enjoying each other. Then I heard the rhythmic clang of a windmill turning; it reminded me of a church bell.

I spoke to another guest who was staying there for a week. He and his wife are full-time RVers and just wander around the country enjoying each location and then, after a few days, moving on to the next wonder. He was struck by how different the desert is from his native South Carolina. Yes, sir, it sure is! And there's no better place to enjoy it than at City of Rocks.

Linda Ferrara writes the "100 Hikes" column.

the park is possible because of a donation made by local ranchers Gene and Elisabeth Simon in 2005.

Don't have time to stay for a few days? Don't worry—you can come to the City of Rocks just for the Star Party (day use fees apply).

So you've played in the labyrinth, hiked, checked out some human history, learned about geology, explored both flora and fauna, and gazed at the stars, all here at the City of Rocks. But there is still more to see and do. Every February, the park hosts "Rumble in the Rocks," a bike race. In March, there is a 10K run at the park, "The San Patricio Run." And on the last weekend in October, there is Boulderfest, a fun rock-climbing competition. For more information on how to compete in or watch these events, check out www.nmparks.com or call the park.

While visiting the park, my husband and I enjoyed relaxing at a



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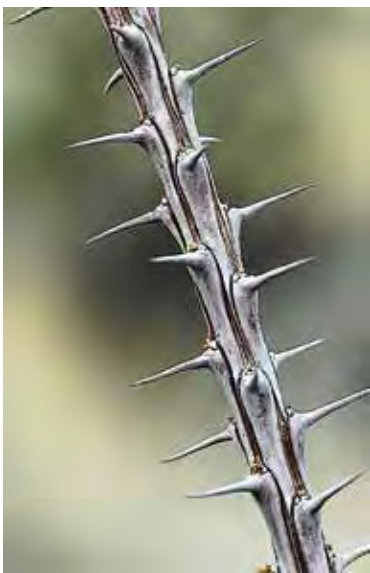
Desert Icon



The ocotillo has developed impressive adaptations to help it survive in the desert environment.

Above: In the Southwest, ocotillos, like this one, hold a showy place in the gardens of many desert homes. (Photos by Jay W. Sharp)

The ocotillo—also called the devil's walking stick, flaming sword, Jacob's staff, candlewood, slimwood, coachwhip and various other names—may not look much like a shrub. It looks more like a wind-whipped spray of witches' wands—each with wicked spines and, sometimes, with leaves along the unbranched length and with blood-red blossoms at the tip. But the ocotillo fits the botanist's definition of a shrub—a plant, smaller than a tree, with permanent woody stems rising from the root crown.



Above: The ocotillo's waxy-barked stems trap and store water.

Adaptable and resilient, the ocotillo grows widely across the arid regions of the southwestern United States and northern Mexico. An iconic plant, it has established itself in habitats as dissimilar as California's Death Valley and Texas' 6,500- to 7,000-foot-high Trans-Pecos mountain slopes. Death Valley, of course, ranks as the lowest, hottest, driest place in the United States. The Texas mountain slopes rank as one of our more diverse Southwestern landscapes, with rocky and barren to wooded landscapes, with hot and dry summers and often frigid and sometimes snowy winter days.

Across its area, the ocotillo keeps company, says the US Forest Service, with the plants of ecological systems such as those of the desert grass- and shrublands, mesquite and mesquite-acacia savannas, creosote-bush stands, oak-juniper woodlands, western hardwoods, and,



Ocotillo on desert floor a few days after a monsoonal rain. The Organ Mountains lie to the east.

sometimes, sparsely vegetated desert landscapes. Occasionally growing in a dense, thorny maze, the ocotillo appears to prefer soils, especially on southern-facing slopes, that "are generally rocky, shallow, well-drained, and of limestone or granitic origins and are often underlain by caliche."

The Plant

The ocotillo (*Fouquieria splendens*)—sometimes reaching 20 or more feet in height—may produce six or seven dozen 1- to 2-inch-diameter, waxy-barked stems, all unbranched, each bearing 1/2- to 1-inch-long spines from end to end.

Bare and essentially dormant much of the year, the branches spring to life after a decent rainfall during the warmer months. Within a few days, they produce, from the bases of the spines, 1- to 1 1/2-inch-long, oval-shaped heavy green leaves. They may shed their leaves and return to dormancy within a few weeks without timely follow-up rainfall. They may repeat the pattern of producing and shedding their leaves four or five times or more during the year, depending on the rainfall intervals.

The ocotillo's branches bear clusters of scarlet, tubular-shaped, five-petal flowers at their tips, primarily during the spring and early summer, often before they produce their first leaves for the year. Each flower, about 1 to 1 1/2 inches long, has perhaps a dozen prominent stamens, and it produces several small seeds fringed with fine filaments. The flowers' showiness plays an importing role in attracting pollinators.

The ocotillo develops its spines in an unusual, if not unique, way in the plant kingdom, according to the aneyefortexas website. As an ocotillo establishes itself, it produces, along the bases of its growing stems, first-generation leaves with oversize stalks and midribs. As the plant sheds those first leaves, it retains the stalks and midribs, which harden into the spines. Thereafter, it produces new generations of leaves from the bases of those spines. "No other plant we know of," notes aneyefortexas, "produces thorns this way."

The ocotillo grows a radiating root system that typically lies just beneath the soil surface, according to the Forest Service. The shallow root laterals serve to capture rainwater promptly, before it soaks down to deeper soil layers or evaporates back into the sky. However, the laterals—relatively few in number and so near the surface—serve as a poor anchor in the event of erosion. The ocotillo may be quickly uprooted and toppled if the soil beneath its canopy becomes eroded by rushing water from a heavy rain.

Reproduction and Lifespan

The ocotillo's flowers may self-pollinate to a limited degree, according to the Forest Service, but, primarily, they receive cross-pollination

as a courtesy of hummingbirds and, to a lesser extent, carpenter bees and other insects. Ocotillos that bloom coincident with hummingbird migrations appear to be capitalizing on the birds' pollination services, and they will produce more of the plant's small, white, flat and feathery seeds, which are designed for dispersion by the desert winds.

The seeds, notes the Forest Service, apparently have specialized requirements for germination. For instance, unlike many other desert plants, the ocotillo's seeds require moisture soon after dispersion if they are to survive. By comparison, many other desert plant seeds may lie dormant for years in dry soil. Further, the ocotillo's seeds seem to fare better in undisturbed soils than in stirred or recently burned soils. This has apparently inhibited the plant's ability to expand and increase its population. "There seems to be no significant change in the distribution and abundance of this species within the recent past," says the Forest Service—even as other desert plants, such as the creosote bush, have expanded their reach significantly.

The ocotillo, a slow-growing, solid example of stability in the desert, has a relatively long lifespan, averaging 60 to 70 years according to the Forest Service and maybe decades longer according to other authorities.

Drought Tolerance

The ocotillo has developed impressive adaptations to help it survive in the desert environment. Opportunistic, the plant produces leaves in short order, within a few days, after a rain during the growing season. In the process known as photosynthesis, the leaves act swiftly to convert the sun's light energy into the chemical energy, that is, the sugars, that the plant requires for growth. Although it is not a cactus, the ocotillo's waxy-barked stems trap and store water something like the cacti as well as other succulents, maintaining a stock of moisture in the inner tissues for future use.

If it receives no rainfall for several weeks, the ocotillo sheds its leaves to minimize transpiration, or the loss of water by evaporation through the leaf pores. It promptly re-enters a state of near dormancy, al-



Each flower has five petals and measures about 1 to 1 1/2 inches long. It has perhaps a dozen prominent stamens.

though the stems continue the process of photosynthesis, but at a reduced rate. Meanwhile, the ocotillo's shallow roots—encased in cork-like, water-retaining cells—lie in wait, ready to intercept any new rainwater before it reaches competing plants.

Strangely, according to the Forest Service, just a segment of an ocotillo stem, even after months of dry storage, may begin to sprout new leaves within 24 hours after being placed in water. With its various adaptations, the ocotillo can live for more than a year without receiving any rainwater at all.

Resource for Animals and Humans

Despite its bristly personality, the ocotillo holds attractions for certain of our wildlife. Its blooms provide food for several bird species,



The ocotillo's branches bear clusters of scarlet flowers at their tips, primarily during the spring and early summer—often, like these, before they produce their first leaves for the year.

especially the hummingbirds, including the endangered Lucifer hummingbird, and for various insects, especially the carpenter bee. Its leaves serve as browse for mule deer, white-tailed deer, bighorn sheep and antelope ground squirrels, according to Perry Crampton at Northern Arizona University. The plant holds little attraction, however, for domestic livestock.

The ocotillo has also been used in diverse and surprising ways by human beings, both historically and prehistorically.

In the rural areas I have visited in northern Mexico, for instance, I have seen ocotillos planted tightly side by side, in straight lines at the margins of fields and gardens, to form "living fences." I have even seen ocotillo stems incorporated into the walls of barns and storage sheds. In Mexico and the Southwest-



ern United States, resin and wax from the plant's bark have long been used to treat and condition leather. In the Southwest, ocotillos have become a showy presence in the gardens of many desert homes.

Among the Native American peoples of the Southwest, the ocotillo has long brought both pleasure and healing. "The Ca-huilla, Papago and Yavapai tribes," says the Forest Service, "used the flowers in beverages, the fruits for a 'candy.'" The Papago used the ocotillo thorns for ear piercings. The Apaches used an ocotillo root mixture as a bath to relieve fatigue. They used powder made from ocotillo roots, according to Crampton, to treat wounds, and a beverage from the flowers to treat coughs. Many Indian tribes, writes Maya Strunk in *Medicinal Plants of the Southwest*, used ocotillo in various ways to "alleviate coughing, achy limbs, varicose veins, urinary tract infections, cervical varicosities and benign prostate growths."

A distinctive botanical resident of the Southwest and northern Mexico, the ocotillo has long held an intriguing place in our desert life. 🌵

Jay W. Sharp is a Las Cruces author who has been a contributor for various print and Internet publications over the past several years and who is the author of Texas Unexplained, now available as an e-book from

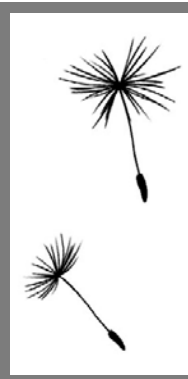
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100 HIKES • LINDA FERRARA

Recipe for a Good Hike

Walking near Bill Evans Lake with chef Rob Connoley.

I love to cook, I love to eat and I love to hike, so when I recently had the opportunity to forage with local chef and owner of The Curious Kumquat, Rob Connoley, I jumped at the chance. He says that hiking keeps him thin, but for him it's really all about his dog, Lexi (short for Miss Lexington Elizabeth Connoley). I got a good workout keeping up with his pace, and since he's 6'3", it's quicker than most hikers.

As we walked along, he regularly stopped mid-sentence to point out a variety of plants: "Oh, good, the hackberries are out" and "I don't know if I'll get any oyster mushrooms this year" and "I got the mother lode of green walnuts over that way last week." At one point he pulled off a few mesquite pods and handed one to me: "Chew it, but don't swallow it." All I tasted was the woody outer pod. But then, as it softened, I tasted a pleasant, citrus flavor. He said, "I make syrups, breads and cakes with it," and moved on.

Connoley walks daily and forages, which he calls "grocery shopping," for home and restaurant. The plants, berries and seeds he gathers include mushrooms (he carries a mushroom field guide with him on all walks), mesquite, amaranth, poppy seeds, watercress, cattails and much more. When he opened the restaurant, he was interested in using local products as much as possible, which led him to learn about what was grown here in the past and what is currently available in the wild. He's been experimenting and pleasing palates ever since.

I spoke with the Gila National Forest office and they informed me that the only items you need a permit to forage are prickly pears and piñon nuts.

I also did some research and found out how Bill Evans Lake, where we went hiking, got its name. Evans was an attorney at Phelps Dodge in the 1960s who was instrumental in acquiring land/water rights for the company, which built the reservoir, diverted water from the Gila, and pumped the water more than 12 miles uphill to the Tyrone Mine operations site.

Name: Bill Evans Lake—Forest Road 4233E
Distance: Three-plus miles
Difficulty: Easy

Directions: Starting at the intersection of Hwy. 180 and Little Walnut Road in Silver City, drive west on Hwy. 180 for 26 miles. You will see a brown sign for Bill Evans Lake, just past mile marker 88. Turn left onto Bill Evans Lake Road. Drive 3.6 miles and bear right onto Newby Road. Drive 2.2 miles and after a turn around a bend/cliff, on the right you will see a small dirt road drop-off. A brown marker for Forest Road 4081Y is partly hidden in the brush on the right. Drive 0.4 miles to 4233E, staying left. Park at the end of the road, where you will see a green gate. There is a brown "walk-through" gate for easy access. Walk along this road/trail. You can't get lost if you keep the cliff on your left and the drop-off and river on your right on the way in.

Hike description: This is an easy, shaded walk along the Gila River with many photo opportunities.



Expect to climb over a few downed trees. I suggest that you have the tall skinny guy lead so he can clear out any cobwebs. We saw a beautiful crane, a black hawk, bear scat and elk tracks along the way. At the 0.9-mile mark, go right (not up the hill to the left). It may appear to be blocked by a huge, downed tree, but look carefully and go through the hidden passage. After going through a few gates, you will come up out of the trees and walk along a dirt road. Stay right and you will soon come to a National Forest sign that says: "Gila River Bird Habitat Management Unit." Walk down the short path and enjoy a cove of trees and access to the river. You may turn back or continue on at this point.

Tell us about a particularly memorable hiking experience:

"I'm the kind of person that likes to push my limits and one day I decided to take a long hike up past Moon Ranch. I was accustomed to mountain climbing at high altitudes, so my confidence was high that I could handle this sort of hike. We had walked off trail quite far, and I turned around to go back. After looking for the trail in a zigzag pattern for hours, the sun set and Lexi and I were forced to bed down for the night. I had a Bivy Sack with me just for this purpose. Lexi and I had a rough night of it listening to nearby wildlife and thinking about our predicament.



"In the morning, we continued our search for the trail. After seven hours of looking, I saw a water tower, which is located near the trail, in the distance. We bushwhacked towards it and in order to get to it, had to maneuver down a cliff and through some nasty growth. Relieved, we got back to the car and then back home. When I walked into the house, my partner looked at me stunned: 'What happened?'

"I was confused at his response until he pulled me in front of a mirror and I saw that I was covered head to toe in blood. I had thousands of tiny cuts all over me which took weeks to heal."

Do you hike any differently because of that experience?

"Yes, two things changed after that. I use a GPS on long hikes and provide clearer communication as to where I am and when I'll be back."

Good advice, chef. What's new at the restaurant?

Rob told me about his first cookbook, due out in late 2015. He's busy with design, photography, recipes and publishing houses. The cookbook will feature the restaurant's top recipes using modern preparations of foraged ingredients. Oh, Rob, please tell me that the recipe for the Oaxacan sandwich will be in there! 🍴

To read more about Linda Ferrara's 100-hike challenge, check out her blog at 100hikesinayear.wordpress.com. See a new collection of her previous 100 Hikes columns at www.desertexposure.com/100hikes.



BORDERLINES • MARJORIE LILLY

Invisible Hands

Catching up with farm workers, when you can find them.

It has basically been several years since I've talked to farm workers. Since the violence erupted in Mexico in about 2008, I hardly even knew where they lived anymore.

When I moved to Deming in 1996, you could see them in the summer and fall streaming off the buses after work. This was almost any time of day, because their work days were sometimes just an hour and a half long, sometimes seven or eight.

Labor contractors picked them up at the Snappy Mart from about four to six in the morning while it was still dark, and they were left off there when work was done.

They often wore bandanas tied in a little knot on their forehead and hanging down behind their head, for shade, with a visor cap on top.

I used to be able to go to Mayz Trailer Park north of town and find three to five people outside to talk to without any effort. There were several other houses in town where I could talk to them, or a couple of other places near the truck stop, or in front of the supermarkets.

Now they're really almost invisible.

A couple of knowledgeable sources say that the numbers of field workers have decreased by about half in the last 10 years, since before mechanization.

Actual statistics are hard to come by, but the Workforce Connection in Deming currently has about 398 cases open for farm workers.

The mechanization of the red chile harvest is important because it shaved off the last couple of months of the season for the workers. A lot of workers couldn't sustain themselves any more.

This was a push factor in the exodus of the workers to other towns or states—Arizona, Colorado, Texas, among other places. They went to work in "the mines, the oil fields and construction," according to Jose Porras, a handicapped former field worker who lives at Desert Sun Apartments north of town. They earn more in these jobs, obviously.

But maybe the main reason they're invisible is that almost no contractors provide buses any more for their workers. They now go in private cars and trucks, often car-pooling for \$2-\$5. This atomized the farm workers, so they no longer have a visible presence.

I found one man to talk to at Mayz Trailer Park in late August on his tiny plot of land covered with leaves of a large green squash that his wife said they planned to sell to neighbors. She was roasting long green chiles on a tiny grill on the ground.

His name was Francisco Rivera, and he was fairly tall with a big, wide grin. He claimed he can get \$90 to \$100 in the first picking of chile, which means he's a very good picker. In the third picking, he gets \$40 or \$50, he says.

But he had a hearing aid that a friend gave him, and all his teeth were missing. He showed me a card that he says paid for his dental treatment. "They pulled all the teeth, but didn't replace them!" he said. "There's no one to help me," he complained. He is 53 years old.

He was from the *municipio* of Satevó in southern Chihuahua. He said it was a dangerous area, which he described by swinging his index finger across his throat.

He beamed out such good will and ingenuousness that you knew he could never do that kind of thing himself.

As I drove back through the simmering sunlight of the summer evening, I remembered how much I liked the farm workers before the drug violence came barging into the news in 2008 and I couldn't write about anything else.

When I talk to people like this man, the thought comes that there must be an equal amount of goodness on every level of society. There's no universal scale of per-

sonal value that goes up as income increases.

Another day I visited the Desert Sun Apartments, where farm workers, workers in the food processors and their families are eligible to live.

I talked to one man there whom I'll call Jose. He showed me one *recibo* (wage receipt) he'd recently gotten where the total for four hours' work was \$73.25. He told me that three people were included on that slip of paper, which has been an illegal practice for covering up sub-minimum wages. He also said, "There were others who earned less."

New Mexico law says that field workers must be paid at least \$7.50 even though they earn less on the basis of piece work.

Jose told me he earns \$6,000 to \$7,000 per year. A man named Juan Vasquez, a farm worker and construction worker who is planning on being a labor contractor next year, claimed that fieldworkers usually earn between \$4,000 and \$7,000. They often used to get \$8,000.

But Jose had the major advantage of paying only \$57 a month on his subsidized apartment, plus food stamps and other benefits.

One old farm worker at Mayz Trailer Park thought the minimum wage was being respected more these days. Another man said that none of the contractors paid any attention to the law.

I'd have to talk to 20 or 30 workers before I could guess how often wage laws are violated.

The farm worker situation is for me like a river that has gone underground for a while and then resurfaced. Some things may have changed, but it still has the same feel.

Years ago, when I still lived in northern New Mexico and had written a couple of stories about sub-minimum wages for farm workers, I got an astonishing call from a man in El Paso who identified himself as a grower named Ed.

"Your article was absolutely correct, but you should have taken it *further!*" he said with an intensity that made me hang onto my chair seat so I wouldn't fall off.

"Hundreds of thousands of dollars in unemployment and Social Security is not being paid!" he added. He was referring to the way contractors cheat workers.

He told me he was a grower, but he sounded exactly like a wild-eyed leftist. I for sure thought someone was playing a joke on me.

He continued for several minutes with suggestions on how the situation should be handled, which still don't make too much sense to me, and it was clear that he really was a grower by the way he talked.

Nothing has ever convinced me more of the wage violations in the fields.

This phone call had a lot to do with why I moved down to southern New Mexico. No reparations have ever been made to field workers collectively, and it looks like they never will.

Borderlines columnist Marjorie Lilly lives in Deming.



The mechanization of the red chile shaved off the last couple of months of the season for the workers.




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Capsaicin Craze

Putting chile where it doesn't belong.

I have an addiction that obligates me neither to shame nor rehabilitation. In the modern world of 12-step programs, pandering support groups and helpless victimization, it's refreshing to embrace my dependency and enjoy it to its fullest potential. Sure, the side effects can be a bit difficult to deal with: Watery eyes, flushed skin, spontaneous perspiration, esophageal pain and burning bowel movements aren't for sissies. In the end, I love the flavor of this spicy little monkey on my back, and I'm not alone. Chile is practically a religion in New Mexico, and most of us visit the crack house of red-and-green regularly. Like any addiction, it's important to recognize your limits, and identify certain situations where even the most capsaicin-addled chile junkies need to say, "Whoa, that's enough. I don't need to put chile on everything."

As a hard-core chile-head, I measure the quality of my meals on the Scoville scale, wallowing in traditional New Mexican food with swinish abandon. The ways in which chile should be properly prepared are legendary, from the sauciness of an enchilada to the greasy perfection of a chile relleno. In recent years, chile has been added to some non-traditional menu items with great success, such as a green chile alfredo pasta or a pizza topping. Culinary experimentation is important to finding new and unique ways to employ these versatile pods of wonder, but the line between experimentation and just wasting chile is a fine one.

I'm not sure what the genesis of this compulsion to put chile on non-chile dishes was, but I'm pretty sure it involved someone who didn't really like chile all that much. I remember the first time I was offered chile brittle, combining glass-like shards of sugar with chile powder and some very confused peanuts that would've rather been anywhere else. I didn't like it, but somebody must have, because I began seeing chile defiled in other sweets, such as chocolates and candy. Some people say that the sweetness interacts with the capsaicin to take the bitter, hot edge off, but so does milk, and you don't see anybody dunking a Big Jim in their moo juice.

Fine. To each their own, I thought as I continued to employ my chile in traditional ways that wreak havoc on my digestive tract. It's a big state with lots of chile fields, so if others choose to sully their precious pods with sugar like feckless Philistines, that's their deal.

Then my wife and I went to a friend's house in Cuchillo to celebrate a birthday and drain his liquor bottles. A bit of a Bohemian, he proudly produced a pan of red enchiladas for the main

course, with circular discs of mozzarella on top. Different, but I'm always game for melty cheese. My bride and I each put substantial piles on our platters, and picked up our forks with gusto. But the first bite left our taste buds angry and confused: What form of madness was this? Our host had infused the enchilada with honey. "Good, isn't it?" he asked as I politely spit my mouthful onto the floor in disgust. Apparently, "good" means something different in Cuchillo. Chile and honey isn't it.

Chile coffee, chile popcorn, green chile pumpkin pie—madness takes many forms. The Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort and Spa in Bernalillo markets a red chile-infused mud bath for \$190 to cater to the needs of those who need the succulent skin that can only

result from spicy mud. Several wineries and breweries now market alcohol with chile flavoring, "a delicious blend of New Mexico flavor with robust fruits and grains," said no one, ever. Finally, we have a refreshment to serve to people who don't like alcohol or chile!

Things came to a head last week when I visited a local purveyor of frozen treats for a late-night sundae with my wife. Along with the normal smorgasbord of frozen yumminess was a new chile-flavored concoction. My eye began to twitch, and my face developed an involuntary tic. "Why do we need chile in our ice cream?" I wanted to nobody in particular, and my wife acted like she didn't know me. What self-respecting New Mexican ever looked at a big pile of ice cream and said, "You know what this needs? A big pile of habanero peppers." That's like going into a steakhouse and asking for syrup on your sirloin.

Look, I understand the vice-like grip that chile exerts on all of us. I get the shakes whenever I travel too far beyond our state borders and cannot order anything spicier than bell peppers for more than a few days. My own mother used to travel overseas with small tins of green chile in her suitcase. I get it—chile is the manna of our domain. But there is a saying about too much of a good thing being bad for you, and I think putting chile into a smoothie is a big red flag. So consume chile in massive quantities if you want, even until you feel your stomach lining peeling, for all I care. But please—use chile responsibly. ☘

Henry Lightcap likes it hot in Las Cruces.



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Body, Mind & Spirit • JENNIFER AGOSTA, MD

The Whole Picture

Introducing Integrative Medicine, or Body-Mind Medicine.

What is Integrative Medicine, or Body-Mind Medicine? These approaches to healthcare offer patients the opportunity to bring in more than physical health concerns: They address a bigger picture, and take into account concerns of mind and spirit, as well as those of the body. Patient and practitioner can look at a wide variety of issues, explore possible origins, and potentially release root causes.

I am trained and board certified as an internist and see many patients for straightforward medical concerns at Silver Health CARE in Silver City. I have also been dedicated over the years to offering Body-Mind medicine for those patients who wish it, and I am now expanding that part of my practice. Body-Mind medicine recognizes there may be many components to well-being, and that addressing these is often the key to health.

There are several approaches that patients interested in such an approach may choose to work with. These include the techniques of body-mind psychotherapy, hypnotherapy that focuses on regression and transpersonal work, Reiki, and general consults in complementary medicine and nutrition.

Patients with widely ranging health concerns, including skin conditions, digestive problems, headaches, hypertension, and general stress and fatigue, and even a history of trauma may be able to begin healing the condition by exploring mind-body-spirit aspects. We may take a look at nutrition factors, or an emotional history behind that condition. There may be psychotherapeutic work that takes place during an appointment, addressing the roots of depression, anger, grief or any of the many forms of anxiety. These conditions, too, may be addressed by allowing the deeper body-mind a chance to speak.



Dr. Jennifer Agosta: "Body-Mind medicine recognizes there may be many components to well-being, and that addressing these is often the key to health."


Body-mind psychotherapy, based on the work of Susan Aposhyan and others, uses the physical body, and a physical issue, as a bridge back to the beginnings of the trouble. Often the cause includes memory and emotion that have been left in the tissues. This can lead to a chemical imprint, or a physical holding pattern. And this can occur whether the experience was long-lasting, a one-time event, or both. The process is always patient-directed, and through a gentle exploration of the deeper self, begins to release and resolve the constellation of physical or mental symptoms.

Hypnotherapy is another patient-directed approach that offers a method of shifting baseline body chemistry. Here, a session of relaxation moves the brain into a greater-than-usual level of theta-wave activity, much as in meditation. This brain state allows blood pressure, heart rate, respiratory rate and muscle tension to drop, and if this state is sustained for 20 minutes or longer, the level of stress hormone in the body also drops. Such increased theta-wave activity also enhances awareness of the



The Silver Health CARE "Grow Dome" and raised garden beds, adjacent to the Family Clinic on Hwy. 180E, adds some "hands-on" experience to the nutritional aspect of health.

BODY, MIND & SPIRIT continued on next page




Body, Mind & Spirit is a forum for sharing ideas and experiences on all aspects of physical, mental and spiritual health and on how these intersect. Readers, especially those with expertise in one or more of these disciplines, are invited to contribute and to respond. Write PO Box 191, Silver City, NM 88062, or email editor@desertexposure.com. The opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of *Desert Exposure* or its advertisers, and are not intended to offer specific or prescriptive medical advice. You should always consult your own health professional before adopting any treatment or beginning any new regimen.

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BODY, MIND & SPIRIT continued

world within, increasing awareness of a deeper self, and allows the “everyday mind” to rest. By putting aside the everyday mind, a client accesses levels of understanding that can yield solutions to problems that the everyday mind may not have recognized.

Hypnotherapy is always very effective for general relaxation and stress-release. And it can work on other levels as well. Going beyond time, place and circumstance, hypnotherapy moves awareness into places akin to “dreamtime,” helping to mend the deeper self. Similar to body-mind psychotherapy, hypnotherapy also can focus on “regression,” a way of moving back in time to origins of a situation. The patient's journey back to unresolved events can dissolve their imprints, release associated symptoms, and free personal awareness and energy.

Reiki, a form of “healing touch” or “therapeutic touch,” will be familiar to many readers. The work may be done directly on the body, or slightly away, in the surrounding electromagnetic field. Reiki can be used to speed healing of acute musculoskeletal conditions, to relieve chronic pain, and to address psycho-emotional issues.

Another aspect of integrative healthcare is nutrition. Nutrition consults offer a patient the opportunity to review current diet, to look at possible adverse reactions or “sub-optimal components” that certain foods may be producing, and to begin put new components in place. Discussion considers possible allergens, irritants and toxins, looks at possible genetic aspects of reactions to diet, and suggests new options.

One of the simplest ways to pinpoint possible trouble-causing elements in a diet is the “elimination technique.” When we are not certain what is causing trouble, I often have a patient eliminate all gluten (wheat, oats, barley and rye), as well as flours of all kinds. We eliminate flours because these can cause general irritation and inflammation in the gastrointestinal tract. After two weeks, we add back in one category of foods, and so on, allowing us to more readily recognize troublesome factors.

Patients frequently find that they feel significantly better overall by making these kinds of adjustments since the body is more completely nourished, and they naturally and easily drop excess weight. If a pa-

tient already has an optimal diet, and still feels that s/he is carrying unwanted weight, we may work with the concept of “full nutrition with caloric restriction.” Here we talk about basic protein needs, along with vitamin and mineral requirements and optimal fats so that the body remains strong—and even strengthens—while releasing the extra weight.

The Silver Health CARE “Grow Dome” and raised garden beds, adjacent to the Family Clinic on Hwy. 180E, adds some “hands-on” experience to the nutritional aspect of health. Here we grow plants for food and medicine. Many of the vegetables and culinary herbs go to the Food Pantry and some of it goes to the Dome volunteers and SHC staff. We also grow medicinal plants inside the dome in the winter, and outside in the raised beds. I use the medicinal plants for teaching patients who may be interested in using them for healing work, but refer them elsewhere for buying the dried herbs, tinctures, salves and oils for actual use.

Finally, I often simply give general complementary medicine consults. Here, rather than addressing particular issues, we take a look at the range of approaches within “alternative medicine,” both for general knowledge and for possible use for the particular patient. We review modalities such as acupuncture and oriental botanical medicine, chiropractic medicine, and bodywork, and may talk about the principles of Ayurvedic medicine, or macrobiotics. Discussion centers both on how each modality might be helpful for any given set of issues, and on the overall approach to health that each modality contains.

Each of these methods—body-mind psychotherapy, hypnotherapy, Reiki and nutrition—is based on the idea that the general chemistry of our physical and emotional states affects our neurochemistry and our immune status. With attention to these more subtle aspects of ourselves, we can greatly enhance overall health and general well-being. ❁

Dr. Jennifer Agosta is a board-certified internist who practices at The Family Clinic, a division of Silver Health CARE, located at 1380 Hwy 180E in Silver City. She offers integrative medicine appointments for patients Wednesdays through Fridays.

BODY, MIND & SPIRIT • LINDA B. WHITE

Spice Away Soreness

Finding inflammation fighters in your kitchen.

Accidents happen. Maybe you slipped on the sidewalk and ended up with a nasty bruise or a sprained ankle. Perhaps you picked up that too-heavy box in just the wrong way, and wound up with strained muscles. Or maybe you decided to enthusiastically engage in a sport you haven't played since Reagan was in office—and afterward a pulled muscle was the least of your troubles.

Any kind of mechanical trauma can injure the elements of the musculoskeletal system: muscles, joints, bones, tendons (connective tissue that attaches muscle to bone) and ligaments (connective tissue holding joints together). Such pain can range from mildly irritating to debilitating. Even daily wear and tear on our bodies can lead to chronic conditions such as arthritis. And whether such pain is acute (short-term) or chronic (lasts longer than three months) makes no difference—all pain affects our day-to-day life.

While many people turn to nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory (NSAID) drugs such as aspirin, ibupro-



fen and naproxen, or acetaminophen drugs such as Tylenol, prolonged use of these drugs can actually impede the healing of injuries. Studies even suggest that prophylactic use—taking them before exercise—may be counterproductive because they can inhibit the synthesis of substances such as collagen, which strengthens muscles and bones. Instead, turn

to your kitchen cabinets for anti-inflammatory foods and medicinal spices to reduce muscle and joint pain.

Studies show that creams containing capsaicin, which gives peppers like cayenne their kick, can reduce painful conditions such as back pain and arthritis.

Eat Anti-Inflammatory Foods

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Turmeric, the spice that makes curry yellow, contains the potent anti-inflammatory chemical curcumin.

rich hues of fruits and vegetables, may reduce free-radical damage—a sort of cellular warfare that both worsens and is aggravated by arthritis. Within this dietary framework, focus on these particular foods, whose key chemicals have caught the attention of scientists.

Fatty fish are laden with inflammation-fighting omega-3 fatty acids. Supplemental fish oil can also reduce rheumatoid-arthritis symptoms. Interestingly, a 2014 study showed that an omega-3 fatty acid extract from New Zealand green-lipped mussels outperformed fish oil in providing relief for people with osteoarthritis (OA).

Beet juice has many healthful merits. In a 2010 study published in the *Journal of Applied Physiology*, seven healthy men drank two cups of beet juice a day for six days. Drinking it appeared to improve athletic performance by enhancing the efficiency of skeletal muscles' use of oxygen. Blood pressure was also reduced.

Watermelon contains the amino acid L-citrulline, which increases nitric oxide, in turn promoting blood circulation and glucose uptake into cells. It also seems to reduce muscle pain. In a 2013 study, athletes who drank 17 ounces of fresh watermelon juice an hour before an intense workout had less

muscle soreness than those who drank a placebo beverage.

Healing Spices

You can up the anti-inflammatory ante in your meals using spices shown to reduce pain.

Turmeric, the spice that makes curry yellow, contains the potent anti-inflammatory chemical curcumin. Studies show curcumin supplements can ease arthritis pain. Traditionally, the powdered herb is also made into a paste and applied topically for strains, sprains and arthritis pain.

Cayenne pepper gets its heat from a chemical called capsaicin. When capsaicin binds to pain receptors in the skin, it initially causes a pricking sensation. Afterward, pain sensitivity usually declines, especially with repeated application of capsaicin. Studies show that capsaicin creams can reduce painful conditions such as back pain and arthritis.

Ginger, which belongs to the same plant family as turmeric, may combat pain and inflammation. In one study, 250 milligrams of a ginger extract (taken four times a day) diminished pain from knee OA, but only after three months of continuous use. Similar to turmeric, ginger can be applied topically. Massage alone can modestly reduce soreness in exercise-related muscle injury, but one study found that using a product containing ginger essential oil enhanced the ability of Swedish massage to relieve back pain. Another study showed that ginger compresses and commercial ginger-containing skin patches mitigated OA pain. ❁

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BODY, MIND & SPIRIT • NIH NEWS IN HEALTH

The 411 on 911

Can you recognize a heart attack or stroke?
What to do when every moment counts.

How would you react to a medical emergency? When it comes to life-threatening conditions like heart attack or stroke, every minute counts. Get to know the signs and symptoms of these health threats. If you think you or someone else might be having a heart attack or stroke, get medical help right away. Acting fast could save your life or someone else's.

Heart disease and stroke are two of the top killers among both women and men in the US. Nationwide, someone dies from a heart attack about every 90 seconds, and stroke kills someone about every four minutes, according to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Quick medical help could prevent many of these deaths. Fast action can also limit permanent damage to the body.

Heart attack and stroke are caused by interruptions to the normal flow of blood to the heart or brain—two organs that are essential to life. Without access to oxygen-rich blood and nutrients, heart or brain cells begin to malfunction and die. This cell death can set off a series of harmful effects throughout the body. The changes ultimately lead to the familiar symptoms of a heart or brain emergency.

ing a heart attack, women may feel extremely exhausted and fatigued or have indigestion and nausea.

"Many women have a vague sense of gloom and doom, a sense of 'I just don't feel quite right and don't know why,'" says Dr. Patrice Desvigne-Nickens, an NIH expert in heart health.

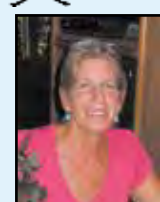
The symptoms of stroke include sudden difficulty seeing, speaking or walking, and feelings of weakness, numbness, dizziness and confusion. "Some people get a severe headache that's immediate and strong, different from any kind you've ever had," says Dr. Salina Waddy, an NIH stroke expert.

At the first sign of any of these symptoms, fast action by you, someone you know, or a passerby can make a huge difference. NIH-funded research has helped ensure that more people survive heart attacks and strokes every year. We now have medicines, procedures and devices that can help limit heart and brain damage following an attack, as long as medical help arrives quickly.

If the heart is starved for blood for too long—generally more than 20 minutes—heart muscle can be

BODY, MIND & SPIRIT continued on next page

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You might know the most common symptoms of heart attack: sustained, crushing chest pain and difficulty breathing. A heart attack might also cause cold sweats, a racing heart, pain down the left arm, jaw stiffness, or shoulder pain.

Many don't know that women often have different heart-attack symptoms than men. For instance, instead of having chest pain dur-

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Zazen and Dharma
 Saturday 9:00 am
Dokusan (Pastoral Counseling)
 by appointment

Resident Priest: Rev. Dr. Oryu Paul Stuetzer
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BODY, MIND & SPIRIT continued

irreversibly damaged, Desvigne-Nickens says. "You need to be in the hospital because there's a risk of cardiac arrest [your heart stopping]," which could be deadly. At the hospital, doctors can administer clot-busting drugs and other emergency procedures.

With stroke, Waddy says, "The longer you wait, the more brain cells are dying," and the greater the chance for permanent damage or disability.

Emergency treatment for stroke depends on the kind of stroke. The most common type, ischemic stroke, is caused by a clot that clogs a blood vessel in the brain. The clot-dissolving drug tPA works best when given soon after symptoms begin. NIH research shows that patients who received tPA within three hours of stroke onset were more likely to recover fully.

Other strokes are caused by a hemorrhage—when a blood vessel breaks and bleeds into the brain. "The patient can have a larger hemorrhage within the first three hours," Waddy says. A hospital medical team can help contain the bleeding, so every moment counts.

Even if you're unsure, don't feel embarrassed or hesitate to call 9-1-1 if you suspect a heart attack or stroke. "You should not go get your car keys. Your spouse shouldn't be driving you to the hospital," advises Desvigne-Nickens. "The emergency crew is trained to treat these symptoms, and it could mean the difference between life and death."

Heat attack or stroke can happen to anyone, but your risk increases with age. A family or personal history of heart attack or stroke also raises your risk. But some risk factors for heart attack and stroke are within your control. Treating them can dramatically reduce your risk.

"If you have high blood pressure, high cholesterol or diabetes, work with your doctor to get these conditions under control," Waddy says. "Know your numbers [blood pressure, blood sugar and cholesterol] and what they mean."

You can also prepare for a medical emergency, to some degree. A hospital may not have access to your medical records when you arrive. Keep important health information handy, such as the medicines you're taking, allergies and emergency contacts. It would be important for the medical team to know, for example, if you've been taking anticoagulants to help prevent blood clots; these blood thinners put you at increased risk of bleeding. You might consider carrying an NIH wallet card that lists heart-attack symptoms and has room for your personal medical information. NIH researchers are studying new drugs and pro-

cedures to help the heart and brain repair themselves and improve organ function. "But there is absolutely nothing that will save both your time and health as well as prevention," says Dr. Jeremy Brown, director of NIH's Office of Emergency Care Research. Studies show that making healthy lifestyle choices can help prevent these medical emergencies from hap-

pening in the first place. Eat a healthy diet rich in protein, whole grains and fruits and vegetables, and low in saturated fat. Get regular physical activity and don't smoke.

"I think one of the most important things we can do is to take a basic CPR and first aid course," recommends Brown. "We know the majority of cardiac arrests happen outside of hospitals and of that many, many can be saved if we get people with basic training on the scene quickly. An ambulance can never get there as quickly as a

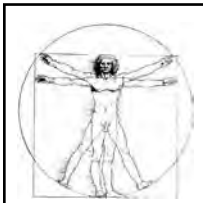


citizen passing by."

Whether or not you're trained to offer help, if you see someone having symptoms of a heart attack or stroke, call for help immediately.

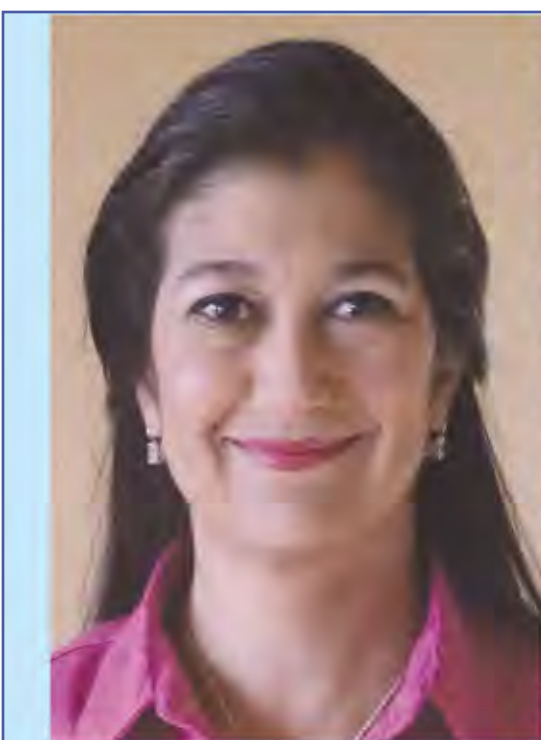
"If you're even thinking about calling 9-1-1, you should call," Desvigne-Nickens says. "Yes, other conditions can mimic the signs and symptoms of a heart attack or stroke, but let the emergency physician figure that out in the emergency room." ❧

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) plays a major role in finding better ways to diagnose, treat, cure or prevent diseases. The practical health information in NIH News in Health is reviewed by NIH's medical experts and based on research conducted either by NIH's own scientists or by our grantees at universities and medical schools around the country.



Body, Mind & Spirit is a forum for sharing ideas and experiences on all aspects of

physical, mental and spiritual health and on how these intersect. Readers, especially those with expertise in one or more of these disciplines, are invited to contribute and to respond. Write PO Box 191, Silver City, NM 88062, or email editor@desertexposure.com. The opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of Desert Exposure or its advertisers, and are not intended to offer specific or prescriptive medical advice. You should always consult your own health professional before adopting any treatment or beginning any new regimen.



Silver Health CARE is pleased to announce that Belen Vigil, a board-certified nurse practitioner, is joining our practice. Belen has deep roots in Grant County and has many years of experience.

Belen is welcoming new patients for primary care and will follow up on all your health care needs. She will be seeing patients at the main clinic in Silver City and at the Bayard clinic. Call 575-538-2981 for an appointment!

And . . . remember our Urgent CARE clinic when you need to be seen quickly without an appointment! We treat minor illnesses and injuries, at a fraction of the cost you would pay at the ER. Open in Silver City Monday-Friday from 10AM-7PM, Sat. 9AM-5PM, Sun. 1-5PM.



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 Copper Medical 1385 N. Leslie Rd.

Deming
 1511 S. Lime St.
Bayard
 608 Winifred St.

575-538-2981

www.silverhealthcare.org



BODY, MIND & SPIRIT

Grant County Weekly Events

Sundays

ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY—First Sun. of every month, field trip. 536-3092, whudson43@yahoo.com.
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

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.
GENTLE YOGA—5:30-7 p.m. First Church of Harmony, 609 Arizona St., Becky Glenn, (404) 234-5331.
OLD-TIME COUNTRY DANCING—3rd Mon., 7-9 p.m. Pin Room, Silver Bowling Center. Free.
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—1st Tues. 1:30 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. 7 p.m. Support for those who've lost a child. Episcopal Church, Parish Hall, 7th and Texas St. Mitch Barsh, 534-1134.
FIGURE/MODEL DRAWING—4-6 p.m. Contact Sam, 388-5583.
KIWANIS CLUB—Noon. Red Barn, 708 Silver Heights Blvd., 590-0540.
LOS COMADRES CANCER SUPPORT GROUP—1st Tues. 6 p.m. Business and Conference Center, 3031 Hwy. 180 E. (next to Ace). 388-1198 ext. 10.
MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SUPPORT

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

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.

BAYARD AL-ANON—6 p.m. New Church of the Southwest Desert, 1300 N. Bennett, Silver City. 313-7094.

A COURSE IN MIRACLES—7:15 p.m., 600 N. Hudson. Information, 534-9172 or 534-1869.

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

FOOD ADDICTS ANONYMOUS WOMEN'S GROUP—6:30 p.m. 1000 N Hudson St., 519-1070.

GIN RUMMY—1 p.m. Yankie Creek Coffee House.

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.

LADIES GOLF ASSOCIATION—8 a.m. tee time. Silver City Golf Course.

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

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

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.

Thursdays

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

N. Swan St. 534-1329.

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP—1st Thurs. 6 p.m. Gila Regional Medical Center Board Room. 388-1198 ext. 10.

DE-STRESSING MEDITATIONS—12-12:45 p.m. New Church of the SW Desert, 1302 Bennett St. 313-4087.

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

GRANT COUNTY ROLLING STONES GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY—2nd Thurs. 6 p.m. Senior Center, 204 W. Victoria St. Kyle, 538-5706.

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

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

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS—6 p.m. Gila Regional Medical Center conference room. 313-9400.

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

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

WOODCARVING CLUB—2d and 4th Fridays except holidays. 1 p.m. Senior Center. 313-1518.

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

Saturdays

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS 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, 388-1444.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS—6 p.m.

New 180 Club, 1661 Hwy. 180 E.

SPINNING GROUP—1st Sat., 1-3 p.m. Yada Yada Yarn, 614 N. Bullard, 388-3350.

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

VINYASA FLOW YOGA—10 a.m. All

levels. First Church of Harmony, 609 Arizona St., Becky Glenn, (404) 234-5331. ☯

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



Silver City Seventh-Day Adventist Church

12 Peterson Drive (Arenas Valley)

(575) 538-3882

HWY 180 east to Peterson Dr.

Right on Peterson Dr. 2 blocks to the church on the right.

Come out for worship service every Sabbath (Saturday)

Sabbath School 9:30 AM

Church service 11:00 AM

Vegetarian pot luck every Sabbath at 12:45PM

Tuesday "Bible Study" at the church 6:30PM

October Presenters

4th: Pastor Leroy Chacon, conference president

11th: Pastor Hector Quiniones

18th: Joseph Gonzalez

25th: Norma Gonzalez



Church of Harmony
Corner of 7th & Arizona, Silver City

Gila Friends Meeting

The Religious Society of Friends

Quaker Meeting
for Worship

Sundays 10-11 a.m.

for more info: 575-538-3141
marionbowersnewton@sbcglobal.net



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Mailing Address: P.O. Box 5000, Silver City, NM 88062

Attend Our Annual Flu Clinic
Saturday, Oct. 11
9AM-12 Noon

Silver City
1600 E. 32nd St
(for established patients only)

Deming
1511 S. Lime St
(all welcome)

GET THE FLU SHOT, NOT THE FLU!

- Flu Season can begin as early as October and peaks in January and February
- CDC recommends a yearly flu vaccine for everyone 6 months of age and older
- Getting the flu vaccine as soon as it is available is always a good idea, and the protection you get from the vaccination will last throughout the flu season
- In addition to getting the flu shot, preventative steps like staying away from sick people and washing your hands reduce the spread of germs
- If you are sick with the flu, stay away from work or school to prevent spreading the flu to others

If you can't make it to our Flu Clinic, after Oct. 11th walk-in shots will be available from Mon.-Fri. 1PM-4PM at all our Silver City and Deming clinics.



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THE STARRY DOME • BERT STEVENS

Delphinus, the Dolphin

Plus the planets for October.

About two-thirds of the way up in our southern sky on these October evenings is the small constellation Delphinus, the Dolphin. This constellation is marked by a small diamond-shaped group of third- and fourth-magnitude stars just a little east of the first-magnitude star Altair. In size, Delphinus is the 69th out of the 88 official constellations, only 189 square degrees.

As is often the case, there are multiple stories associated with Delphinus, but they all relate to dolphins. According to one Greek myth, Poseidon, god of the seas, was looking for a wife when he saw the beautiful sea nymph Amphitrite dancing on the island of Naxos. She was not interested in Poseidon's advances and fled to the Atlas Mountains.

Poseidon sent out searchers to look for her, among them Delphinus. He found her in the mountains, and presented Poseidon's case so convincingly that Amphitrite changed her mind and returned to the sea to marry Poseidon. In gratitude, Poseidon placed Delphinus in the sky.

The four stars that form the diamond-shape that mark Delphinus are sometimes known as Job's Coffin. Counterclockwise from the right, they are Rotanev, Sualocin, Gamma Delphini and Delta Delphini. Rotanev and Sualocin are around magnitude 3.7, while the other two are fainter, around magnitude 4.3.

Gamma Delphini is one of the best-known double stars in the sky, the pretty pairing of a yellow star with an orange star that is just slightly brighter. The two are 9.2 seconds-of-arc apart, a good separation for even a modest telescope. The two stars are designated Gamma¹ Delphini, the yellow star, and Gamma² Delphini, the orange star. When these designations were assigned, it was thought that Gamma¹ Delphini was the primary, but it turns out that this is not true.

The orange star Gamma² Delphini is actually 1.7 times the mass of our Sun, while the yellow star Gamma¹ Delphini is only 1.5 times the Sun's mass. This slight difference in mass has moved Gamma² Delphini faster along its evolutionary track; it has become an orange giant as the hydrogen burning in its core moved into a sphere around the dead helium core. Gamma¹ Delphini is a little behind Gamma² so it is still a yellow dwarf similar to our Sun, burning hydrogen in its core.

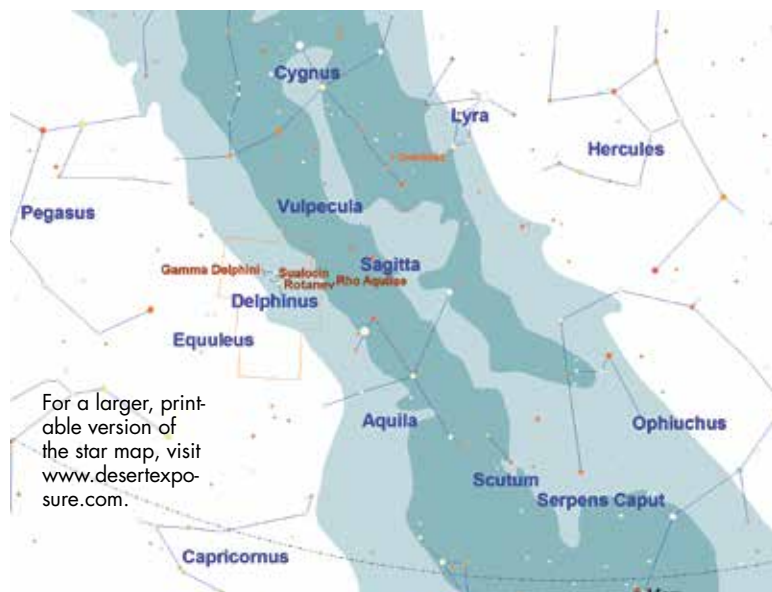
Also among the stars of Delphinus is Rho Aquilae. You might be wondering what a star with a name like Rho Aquilae is doing in Delphinus. Well, this star was originally in Aquila, but in 1992 it crossed the border into Delphinus, keeping its name.

Rho Aquilae is an A2 spectral class star that shines at magnitude 4.9 and is 2.1 times the mass of our Sun. It is fairly close, about 150 light-years away. Its relative proximity exaggerates its motion through the galaxy. Rho is moving 0.055 seconds-of-arc eastward every year. Since it was already near the eastern edge of Aquila, it did not take long (only a few hundred years) for it to drift across the boundary into Delphinus.

This motion of a star across our sky is called its "proper motion." This is not a measure of total motion, but only that motion perpendicular to our line-of-sight. A star coming directly at us or going directly away from us would have a proper motion of zero, but it might still be moving very quickly. The star with the fastest proper motion is Barnard's Star in Ophiuchus, a whopping 10.4 seconds-of-arc per year!

The Planets for October

Mercury, the Sun and Venus form a straight line on Oct. 14, so the two planets are not visible in our night sky. Mercury is travel-

For a larger, printable version of the star map, visit www.desertexposure.com.**Watch the Skies**

(times MDT)

- Oct. 1**, 1:33 p.m.—First Quarter Moon
- Oct. 8**, 4:51 a.m.—Full Moon-Total Lunar Eclipse
- Oct. 15**, 1:12 p.m.—Last Quarter Moon
- Oct. 16**, 3 p.m.—Mercury at inferior conjunction
- Oct. 23**, 3:57 p.m.—New Moon-Partial Solar Eclipse
- Oct. 25**, 2 a.m.—Venus at superior conjunction
- Oct. 30**, 8:48 p.m.—First Quarter Moon

ing westward when it reaches conjunction with the Sun on Oct. 16, while Venus is traveling eastward as it passes its conjunction with the Sun on Oct. 25.

Saturn is ending its run in the evening sky, now only 12 degrees up in the west-southwest as it gets dark and setting around 8:15 p.m. Its disc is 15.3 seconds-of-arc across with its Rings tilted down 22.7

degrees with the northern face showing, 34.8 seconds-of-arc across. The Ringed Planet is moving slowly eastward in central Libra.

Mars starts the month moving eastward in southwestern Ophiuchus. It traverses that constellation and moves into Sagittarius

where it ends the month not far west of Kaus Borealis, the topmost star of the Teapot. At the middle of the month, the God of War shines at magnitude +0.9 with a disc 5.8 seconds-of-arc across. Mars is 25 degrees up in the southwest as it gets dark and sets by 9:45 p.m.

You will have to wait until 2 a.m. for the next planet to come up. Jupiter rises in the east-northeast and is 56 degrees up in the east-southeast as it gets light. The King of the Planets' disc will be 34.9 seconds-of-arc across and it shines at magnitude -2.0. During the month Jupiter moves from eastern Cancer into western Leo.

There are two eclipses visible from the desert southwest this month, one lunar and one solar. The first is a total lunar eclipse on the morning of Oct. 8. It starts at 2:16 a.m. when the Sun begins to slip behind the Earth as seen from the very eastern edge of the Moon. Over the next hour, we will see the eastern edge of the Moon slowly darken as more of the sunlight is cut off from the Moon. At 3:15 a.m. the eastern edge of the Moon has lost the Sun completely and may glow a dull red. At 4:25 a.m. the Moon will be totally in the Earth's shadow. While most of it will probably be reddish, lit by all the sunsets and sunrises all over the Earth, the southern part will be darker, possibly even gray.

Mid-eclipse comes at 4:56 a.m. as the Moon starts to move away from the center of the Earth's shadow. It starts to get direct sunlight again at 5:24 a.m. when it begins to leave the total shadow and is completely out by 6:34 a.m. The Moon will still be delicately shaded on the southwestern edge until it sets.

On Oct. 23, safely seeing our partial solar eclipse will require special solar glasses, a solar filter on the front of your telescope, or a special solar telescope. The eclipse starts at 3:34 p.m. when the edge of the Moon moves onto the Sun. Maximum eclipse will be at 4:45 p.m. when 43% of the Sun will be covered. The eclipse ends at 5:49 p.m. when the Moon moves off the solar disc. These times are for Las Cruces and will be slightly earlier farther west.

Enjoy our two eclipses and "keep watching the sky"! ☼

An amateur astronomer for more than 45 years, Bert Stevens is co-director of Desert Moon Observatory in Las Cruces.

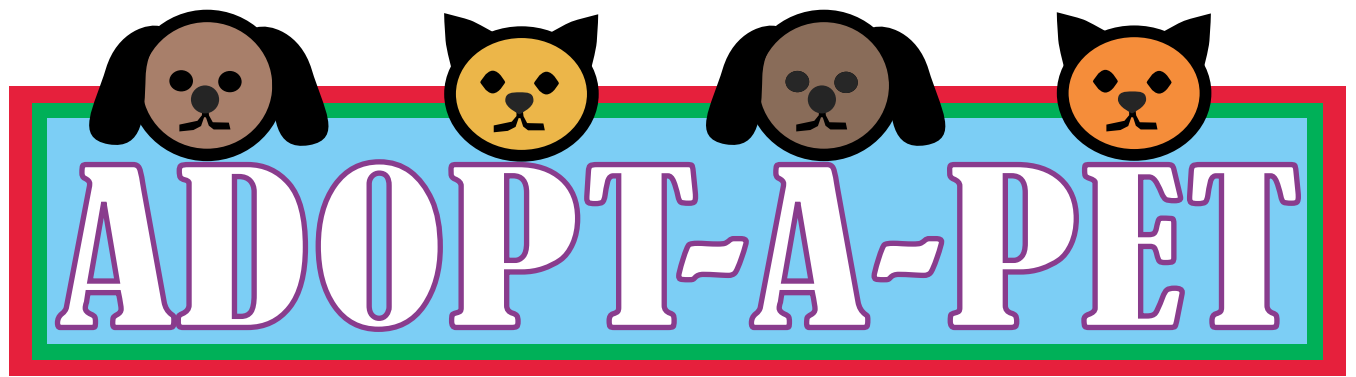


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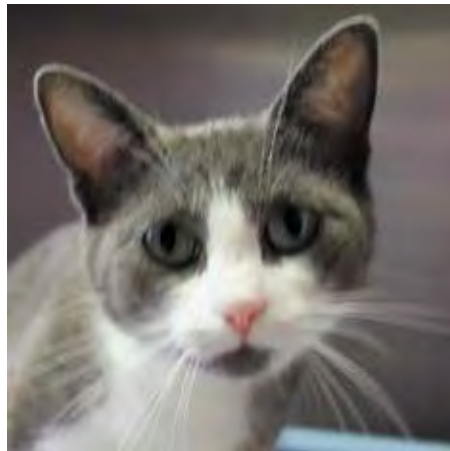
NEW Hours: Tuesday-Friday 11-5:30
Saturday 11-5

Monthly Vaccination Clinic
Second Saturday
9-Noon



Coda

6 mos., Female
at HDHS since March. TAKE ME HOME!



Belzoni

2 yrs., Female



Venus

8 mos., Female, Shepherd-X
housetrained



Yazzy

2 yrs. Female, Lab-X



Cynna

5 mos., Female



Haj

Young adult, Male
I Love to CUDDLE!



Pogo

2 yrs., Male, Chihuahua



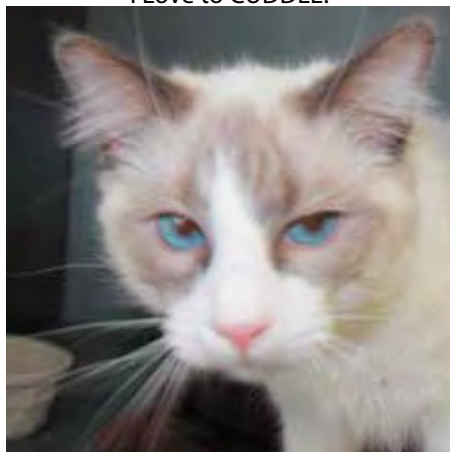
Abelard

5 yrs., Male, Akita/Chow
Home without large male dogs.



Popeye

6 wks., Male (shown full-size)



Pickles

Adult, Male, Flame Point Siamese



Hugsy

1 yr., Male, Chihuahua



Macho Man

2-3 yrs., Male, Rott/Mastiff

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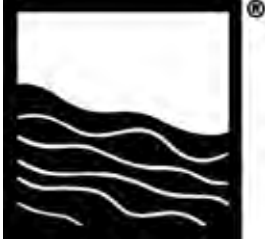


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RAMBLIN' OUTDOORS • LARRY LIGHTNER

Answer to the Naysayers

Feedback on gun deaths and wilderness travel management.

I was quite intrigued over the responses that were sent in via letter about my columns on both gun control and the opposition to the Gila Forest Service travel management plan, both of which appeared in the August issue.

In all cases, the opposition believes that I made "my facts" up! They don't seem to want to accept the idea that I did extensive research before I made my arguments and they argue my "statistics" are bogus. I can assure you they are not. Permit me to explain, although I realize some readers are not going to believe me no matter what I say; that is the downside to being in the public arena.

Let's address the gun column first, which drew one letter from Richard Earnheart, who is no stranger when it comes to taking umbrage with my thoughts on any subject.

Because I wanted to be as objective as I could, and being a member of the NRA, I decided not to use any NRA information, contrary to what Mr. Earnheart states. In fact, I used only statistics from both Eric Holder's Justice Department and the website for the FBI. Neither site is biased in favor of the NRA!

I have a good friend who happens to be an ardent liberal. That person and I agree to disagree on friendly terms about a whole lot of subjects. In this case, when the person learned of my column, he readily gave me backup information from Facts.org and *New York* magazine. Again, neither is particularly biased in agreement with the NRA and the magazine is decidedly leftist. My other source, CBS News, is again, not exactly to the right on most issues.

I was not looking to support a predisposed position but rather looking to see just what were the facts concerning school shootings, causes of death and murder in the USA. And so, I was as much surprised by the results as some of you were. So let's bury that dog right here and now.

Concerning the column on the Forest Service plan, as stated by the editor in August, he asked me to write a position against the plan; I did not come to him on my own to do it, as one letter writer believes. In fact, the idea came from Donna Stevens, who wrote mostly in support of the plan.

Again, I had strong emotions on this subject, but I waited until I calmed down for a week before I began to research the project, so I dismiss the accusations that I wrote out of pure emotionalism. My goal was to be objective as to what sources I used, and again, I did not use any source that was biased against the plan.

As I stated in the article, I was angry, but I did not permit that to cloud my research.

I gave two sources from the web for the reader to look at. Why was it that no one bothered to look at this data, but chose instead to dismiss it, simply on the argument that it went against their beliefs?

I received a copy of the travel management plan on CD from the Forest Service and read through a bunch of it. That is the third and last place that I received my facts—from the source itself!

Sadly, I have to conclude then that my naysayers did not want to see the "elephant in the room"!

I noticed that nearly every letter focused on just one area—the number of miles that were still open to vehicular travel. That was but one small part of my argument, and frankly, I don't have so much trouble with the amount of miles as I do with where the road travel is proposed. As a hunter first and foremost, I'm concerned with access to my hunting areas, and a road one to two miles away is not conducive to my health as a senior citizen!

I noticed that not one person addressed this dilemma for the senior hunter or the disabled person. Neither was there one comment pertaining to the issues of camping or woodcutting. Instead all of the comments were about ATV abuse on the forest.

No one mentioned anything about the exorbitant fines that could be assessed that seem way out of line for the ATV offense. This suggests to me that the letter writers and those who agree with them indeed have an agenda!

Of course, my conclusion that there is a nation-

wide agenda to stop or severely curtail vehicular travel is hypothetical, not fact. But the fact remains that in virtually all of the forest plans across the nation that I researched, they are indeed very similar, if not the same, regardless of whether they are called plan "G" or not. Don't believe me? Just do the research for yourselves.

As the old saying goes, if it looks like a duck, walks like a duck and quacks like a duck, then it must be a duck!

Just this past month I read that the Carson National Forest is now considering a very similar plan.

I do have one theory, though, but it is just that: I'll be willing to bet that none of my critics owns or operates an ATV, and if you got below the surface, most actually don't like them very much. That means they have a bias when they write.

One writer said that we need to join together and not be enemies. Well, then my suggestion is to find someone with an ATV and take a ride with them, and talk candidly to them before you draw conclusions.

I wonder how many hikers or horse-people would remain calm if the Forest Service said that they would now be limited to certain trails or that they had to use only the Sheep Corral Road, Signal Peak Road or Bursum Road? I think their dander might well be up!

My point? Please put yourself in the boots of a vehicle user and try to understand their point of view.

When asked by my editor to give an argument opposing the plan, I was not asked to give my solutions as an alternative. I will do so now, since one writer mentioned it. I know this will not have any chance of changing anything in the plan, but for what it is worth:

1. Mandate there will be no future cross-country travel by vehicle EXCEPT for game retrieval. Had the plan stated that, it would have ended the entire issue.
2. No new roads will be opened—period.
3. Any road that was open as of 2012 would remain open.
4. All riparian areas on and off rivers would be closed to vehicular travel.
5. Certain roads would be designated for ATV and motorcycle travel only.
6. All hunters could use vehicles to retrieve game anywhere on the national forest except in riparian areas.
7. Any vehicular travel within 150 yards of an occupied dwelling would be limited to a 10 mph speed limit.
8. All vehicles would be required to stop when encountering horseback riders, hikers or bicyclists until all had safely passed by.
9. Camping would be permitted within 300 feet of all open roads.
10. Woodcutters would be required to declare where they would be cutting when they bought their permit.

11. Woodcutters would be required to close any trails behind them with debris from cutting to discourage further usage by others.

12. Woodcutters would be required to fill in all ruts in soft earth made by themselves.

13. At least four specific areas of 100 acres would be set aside in portions of the forest for ATV and motorcycle racing or usage.

14. Speed limits would be in effect for all off-highway travel other than those four areas.

15. Mandate that ALL forest users pay a yearly fee for usage as do current hunters, to help defray local upkeep costs in the Gila.

16. Permit forest users to maintain trails and two-tracks on their own without specific permission.

That's all I have to say on these matters.

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.*



Red or Green?

Southwest New Mexico's best restaurant guide.

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

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

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.

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

GRANT COUNTY Silver City

ADOBE SPRINGS CAFÉ, 1617 Silver Heights Blvd., 538-3665. 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.*

BILLY'S WILD WEST BBQ & STEAKHOUSE, Hwy 180E, 388-1367. "A free-wheeling mixture of barbecued ribs and brisket, freshly made pasta and pizzas baked in a genuine Italian brick oven featuring a wide range of innovative toppings." (November 2010) Barbecue, steak, pasta, pizza: Tues.-Fri. D. Sat. L D. Italian nights Weds., Sat.*

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

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.*

DIANE'S RESTAURANT, 510 N. Bullard St., 538-8722. "Always evolving, always interesting, Diane's has it all." (Sept. 2013) Fine dining (D), steaks, seafood, pasta, sandwiches (L), salads: Tues.-Sat. L D, Sun. D only (family-style), weekend brunch.

DIANE'S BAKERY & DELI, The Hub, Suite A, Bullard St., 534-9229. "Always evolving, always interesting, Diane's has it all." (Sept. 2013) Artisan breads, sandwiches, deli, baked goods: Mon.-Sat. B L early D, Sun. B L.*

EL GALLO PINTO, 901 N. Hudson St., 597-4559. Mexican: Mon.-Sat. B L D, Sun. B L.

GIL-A BEANS, 1304 N. Bennett St. Coffeehouse.*

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

GREEN TURTLE NOSHERY, 601 N. Bullard St. in The Hub, 200-6895. "The menu varies somewhat from day to day, and reflects the seasonal availability of local fruits and vegetables. Most of the items on the menu are vegetarian, but several non-vegetarian dishes have turned out to be popular and are likely to remain regular options." (July 2014) Baked goods, organic breakfast and lunch items: Thurs.-Sat. B L, Sun. B L brunch.

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

JALISCO CAFÉ, 100 S. Bullard St., 388-2060. "Four generations of the Mesa family who have been involved in a restaurant that remains family-friendly." (June 2014) Mexican: Mon.-Sat. L D.

JAVALINA COFFEE HOUSE, 117 Market

St., 388-1350. Coffeehouse.*

KOUNTRY KITCHEN, 1700 Mountain View Road, 388-4512. Mexican: Tues.-Sat. B L D, Mon.-Sun. B L.*

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

LA FAMILIA, 503 N. Hudson St., 388-4600. Mexican: Tues.-Sun. B L D.*

LA MEXICANA, Hwy. 180E and Memory Lane, 534-0142. Mexican and American: B L, closed Tues. Lion's Den, 208 W. Yankee, 654-0353. Coffeehouse.

LITTLE TOAD CREEK BREWERY & DISTILLERY, 200 N. Bullard St., 956-6144. "The menu offers what they call 'pub food'—but always with a bit of a twist." (March 2014) Burgers, wings, salads, fish, pasta, craft beers and cocktails: Weds.-Mon. L D.*

MEXICO VIEJO, Hwy. 90 and Broadway. Mexican food stand: Mon.-Sat. B L early D.

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

MILLIE'S BAKE HOUSE, 215 W. Yankee, 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. "Always evolving, always interesting, Diane's has it all." (Sept. 2013) Burgers, sandwiches, homemade pizzas, paninis: Tues.-Sun. L 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. American, steaks, barbecue, brewpub: Mon.-Sat. L D.

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

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.*

STREETSIDE FOOD, College and Bullard. Asian: Mon.-Sat. L.

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

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

THREE DOGS COFFEEHOUSE, 503 N. Bullard St. Coffeehouse, baked goods, sandwiches, wraps: B L.*

TRE ROSAT CAFÉ, 304 N. Bullard St., 654-4919. "The menu ranges from humbler (but not humdrum) fare like burgers, pizzas (at lunch and happy hour) and pastas to seasonal specials like duck confit, rabbit blanquette and Elk osso buco." (August 2012) International eclectic: Mon.-Sat. L, D.*

VICKI'S EATERY, 315 N. Texas, 388-5430. "Sandwiches both cold and grilled, wraps and salads that satisfy in a homey yet sophisticated way. Don't miss the German potato salad." (Dec. 2009) American: Mon.-Fri. L, Sat. B L, Sun. B (to 2 p.m.).*

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

DINING GUIDE

continued on next page

Alotta Words about ALOTTA GELATO



It's October again, the days are getting shorter, the nights are getting cooler, and that can only mean one thing: it's time for Pumpkin Pie gelato! People ask us all year for the stuff, but we only make it in the Fall. Time's a-wastin', so come on in and taste this seasonal favorite; it's a perfect way to end a good hearty meal, or as an added dividend to a delicious dessert. We sell it by the serving and also have hand-packed pints and quarts available in case you want to stock up. And we're not just talking about Pumpkin Pie: we can hand-pack your choice of more than 30 incredible flavors (such as the ever-popular Bounty coconut chocolate and our exclusive Gila Conglomerate), including dairy-free fruit flavors and sugar-free ones sweetened with Splenda® (and yes, we can pack several flavors into each insulated container). This is the real deal, folks: authentic Italian gelato, low in fat but bursting with great tastes, made on the premises with imported flavorings and fresh ingredients. (And if all this isn't enough to get you in here, wait 'til next month when we bring back a couple more of our seasonal favorites: Egg Nog and Peppermint Stick!)

Remember that we also carry delicious dessert items such as Key Lime bars, brownies, cheesecake, cookies, flourless Chocolate Raspberry Torte, and big honkin' slices of three-layer Carrot Cake—plus hot and cold drinks to go with them. Lastly, we have gift certificates available in any amount for any occasion including Halloween (no, we didn't forget Halloween).

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Wednesday	CLOSED	CLOSED
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Friday	CLOSED	5pm-9:30pm
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RED OR GREEN? • PEGGY PLATONOS

Street Smarts

Silver City's Streetside Food offers a limited menu, but endless variety.

Looking a bit like a genteel refugee from an old-time circus or carnival, the bright red Streetside Food vending wagon adds a picturesque touch to downtown Silver City.

Located at the corner of College Avenue and Bullard, Streetside Food is an intriguing collection of paradoxes.

First of all, its menu rarely offers more than three or four items on any particular day, yet it features an eclectic variety of food from all over the world on a revolving basis.

"We have a couple of things that are always available," owner Ria Ramsey explains. "We always have sesame peanut noodles and our roast pork sandwich on the menu. During the summer months, we also offer a Spanish-style tomato gazpacho on a daily basis. In addition, we have a special vegetable dish that varies from day to day according to what locally grown vegetables are available at the time. Because of popular demand, our daily vegetable special is always spring rolls on Wednesdays and falafel on Thursdays. In the cooler months, the vegetable specials are usually one kind of curry or another."

Ria first adopted the policy of a limited but fluid menu years ago in her successful San Francisco restaurant, Pizzetta 211 (the "211" referring to the number in the establishment's street address).

"A limited menu is more fun, really," Ria says. "And, of course, it's less exhausting to cook a larger quantity of a few dishes than to prepare a lot of different dishes, especially with only one or two people doing the cooking. I want to bring myself fully to the food. With a limited menu, I can do that. And having a different special every day provides an endless opportunity for creative cooking."

A second paradox with Streetside Food is the serving of unusual and somewhat exotic food in no-frills to-go cartons that can be carried away or eaten outdoors at tables on a covered patio.

"I want to keep things simple," Ria says. "I sometimes use special ingredients like Balinese finishing salt or *agrumato* (a lemon-infused oil from Italy) because that's what I feel makes the food taste good. I don't publicize their use, because it doesn't matter whether people recognize a particular ingredient or not, as long as they appreciate the final result. I'm not interested in showing off or impressing people with fancy names or lists of exotic ingredients. Our pork sandwich is actually a Vietnamese-style *banh mi* sandwich, but I just call it a roast pork sandwich. I'm not interested in snob appeal. I hate it. That's why I left San Francisco."

In addition to aiming for an unpretentious, down-to-earth tone to the food presentation and seating options at Streetside Food, Ria also aims to keep her prices down as low as possible. "I want the food to be inexpensive, so anyone can afford it."

She seems to have succeeded.

A generous portion of the sesame peanut noodles costs just \$5.50. The noodles are served cold, tossed with cucumber, scallions, toasted peanuts and a sauce made with peanut butter, chili paste, coconut milk, soy, garlic and ginger root.

The roast pork sandwich costs \$6.50. It features tender and succulent slices of marinated and roasted pork loin, and is crammed with such treats as pickled julienned carrots, jalapeño peppers, cilantro, cucumbers and spicy mayonnaise. Each sandwich is assembled as ordered, with willing adjustments made for stated preferences regarding spiciness.



Streetside Food owner Ria Ramsey with her assistant Scott Bodley at the bright red custom-built vending wagon. (Photo by Peggy Platonos)

Gazpacho (available during the warmer months) costs \$4.75. And the daily vegetable specials generally range in price from \$5.50 to \$6.50.

You can finish up with a homemade ice cream sandwich that I would say qualifies as gourmet, though Ria doesn't use the term. The "sandwich" part consists of dark chocolate cookies spiced with chili and black pepper. The ice cream is sometimes Vietnamese coffee and other times malted milk with chocolate swirl. This out-of-the-ordinary delight costs \$3.75.

Ria says she comes by her passion for cooking naturally. "My mother, who is Greek, studied classic French cuisine and taught both Greek and French cooking. Her father, my grandfather, came to the United States from Greece at the age of 16 and opened a produce store, then later had restaurants in Massachusetts. My sister and I have always had food and restaurants in our blood."

Ria is assisted in her Streetside Food venture by Scott Bodley, whose interest and experience in cooking also started in childhood. "My mother did French and Italian cooking, and my grandmother was a baker," he says. "I learned a lot from them, and over the years, I've worked with some very professional people who have taught me much more. And I'm still learning. For the past three and a half years, I've been assisting in the kitchen at Shevek & Co., and Shevek has been one of the most generous professional chefs in terms of sharing tips and techniques."

The hours for Streetside Food have recently been expanded to include Mondays and Saturdays, and Scott has been turned loose to provide his own menu on those days, "with my blessing," says Ria. "I expect we'll see his special Thai curry and *Cubano* roast pork sandwich appearing on the menu on those days."

Open only since March, Streetside Food is intended to be a year-round operation. Asked if he thinks people will want to sit outside in the winter months, Scott laughs and replies, "We'll see. I do predict there will be more to-go business, though."

Streetside Food is open Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. There's room for just one or two cars to pull up in front of the vending wagon, but parking is also available on College Avenue opposite Streetside Food, or around the corner on Bullard. ☘

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

DINING GUIDE continued

appetizers, salads: L.D.*

YANKIE CREEK COFFEE HOUSE, 112 W. Yankee St. Coffeeshop, home-made pastries and ice cream, smoothies.*

Bayard

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. Mexican and American: Mon.-Fri. B L D.

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

Cliff

D'S SMOKED MEATS & MORE, 8409 Hwy 180. Breakfast dishes, burritos, burgers, weekend smoked meats and ribs: Thurs.-Sun. B L.

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

Hurley

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

Lake Roberts

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 roland (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.

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

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

Pinos Altos

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

DOÑA ANA COUNTY

Las Cruces & Mesilla

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

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

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

BAAN THAI KITCHEN, 1605 S. Solano Dr., 521-2630. Thai: Tues.-Sat. L D, Sun. L.

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.*

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

BRAVO'S CAFÉ, 3205 S. Main St., 526-8604. Mexican: Tues.-Sun. B L.

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.

CRAVINGS CAFÉ, 3115 N. Main St., 323-3353. Burgers, sandwiches, wraps, egg dishes, salads: B L.

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.

DICK'S CAFÉ, 2305 S. Valley Dr., 524-1360. Mexican, burgers: Sun. B L, Mon.-Sat. B 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.

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.

ENRIQUE'S, 830 W. Picacho, 647-0240. Mexican: B L D.

FARLEY'S, 3499 Foothills Rd., 522-0466. Pizza, burgers, American, Mexican: L D.

FIDENCIO'S, 800 S. Telshor, 532-5624. Mexican: B L D.

FORK IN THE ROAD, 202 N. Motel Blvd., 527-7400. Buffet: B L D 24 hrs.

GAME BAR & GRILL, 2605 S. Espina, 524-GAME. Sports bar and grill: L D.

GARDUÑO'S, 705 S. Telshor (Hotel Encanto), 522-4300. Mexican: 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.

JESSE'S KANSAS CITY BBQ, 230 S. Church, 522-3662. Barbecue: Mon., Tue., Thurs-Sat. 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. "A delicious change of pace. There are a variety of classic deli sandwiches to choose from, all served on freshly baked bread, as well as the soup of the day in a cup or bowl, and salads." (October 2008) 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.

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

KIM-CHI HOUSE, 1605 S. Solano, 652-4745. Korean: Tues.-Sun. L 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 GUADALUPANA, 930 El Paseo Road, 523-5954. Mexican: Tues.-Sat. B L D, Sun. 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.

LET THEM EAT CAKE, 2001 E. Lohman, Suite 136, 649-8965. Cupcakes: Tues.-Sat.

LORENZO'S PAN AM, 1753 E. University Ave., 521-3505. "Homey, classic Italian fare.... Also features ravioli dishes, in half and full portions, served with salad and a basket of warm, fresh bread. Save room for dessert." (July 2008) 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.

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.*

MESILLA VALLEY PIZZA & SUBS, 3961 E. Lohman Ave. #21, 521-9293. Pizza, sandwiches: Mon.-Sat. L D.

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.*

MIX PACIFIC RIM CUISINE AND MIX EXPRESS, 1001 E. University Ave. #D4, 532-2042. 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.

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

RENOO'S THAI RESTAURANT, 1445 W. Picacho Ave., 373-3000. Thai: Mon.-Fri. L D, Sat. 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. 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

DINING GUIDE continued on next page

"Taste The Difference"

Diane's

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Christmas Party?
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October Events

Oct 11th - Wine Pairing Dinner
A Wonderful Night for Mushroom Lovers - 6pm
Limited Seating-Reservations Required-\$70 per person

Oct 20th - Holiday Pie Class
Demonstration - Discussion (Crusts, Fillings, Techniques)
Light Fare Supper Included - 4-7pm
Limited Seating-Reservations Required-Call 388-1255

Oct 26th - Asian Night
New Items on Menu - 5-8pm
Experience the Flavors of Thailand - Japan
Enrees-Soups-Salads-Sushi-Noodle Bowls-Tempura

Oct 27th - What to Do with those Holiday Leftovers?
Diane will be demonstrating Turkey Noodle Soup, Deep Dish Turkey Pie w/ Savory Crust, Old Fashioned Fruit Cake, Holiday Fruit Trifle, Cream Custard, etc.
Light Fare Supper Included - Limited Seating
Reservations Required-Call 388-1255 - 4-7pm

Oct 30th - Halloween Costume Contest
1st - 2nd - 3rd Prizes

510 N Bullard - Silver City, NM
DianesRestaurant.com



SUNRISE ESPRESSO
1513 N. Hudson

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

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

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


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LUNCH EXPRESS

New Fast Casual Lunch Menu

11:30 AM - 2:00 PM Tue-Sat

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November 29, 2014

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DINING GUIDE
 continued

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 D.*

SHEBA GRILL, 2265 S. Main St., 525-1100. Indian, Middle Eastern: Mon.-Thurs., Sat.-Sun L D, Fri. D.

SI ITALIAN BISTRO, 523 E. Idaho, 523-1572. Italian: Mon. L, Tues.-Sat. L D.

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 BOWL, 2300 N. Main St., 524-2055. Japanese: Mon.-Sat. 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. "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.

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.*

CAMPOS RESTAURANT, 105 S. Silver, 546-0095. Mexican, American, Southwestern: L D.*

CANO'S RESTAURANT, 1200 W. Pine St., 546-3181. Mexican: Mon.-Sat. L D.

CHINA RESTAURANT, 110 E. Pine St., 546-4146. "Refreshingly different from most of the Chinese restaurants you find these days in this country. Chef William Chu, who owns the restaurant and does the cooking, is committed to offering what he calls the 'fresh and authentic flavors of Chinese food.'" (August 2014) Chinese: Tues.-Sun. L D.

DEMING TRUCK TERMINAL, 1310 W. Spruce St., 544-2228. American, Mexican, Indian: B L D, Sun. L buffet.

EL CAMINO REAL, 900 W. Pine St., 546-7421. Mexican, American: B L D.

ELISA'S HOUSE OF PIES AND RESTAURANT, 208 1/2 S. Silver Alley, 494-4639. American, barbecue, sandwiches,

pies: Mon.-Sat. L D.*

EL MIRADOR, 510 E. Pine St., 544-7340. Mexican: Mon.-Sat. B L D.

"FORGHED-ABOUT" PIZZA & WINGS, 2020 Hatch Hwy. 26, 275-3881. Italian, pizza, wings: Mon.-Sat. L D, Sun. D.

GOLDEN SUN STAR, 500 E. Cedar St., 544-0689. Chinese: L D.

LA FONDA, 601 E. Pine St., 546-0465. Mexican: B L D.*

LAS CAZUELAS, 108 N. Platinum Ave. (inside El Rey meat market), 544-8432.

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

PALMA'S ITALIAN GRILL, 110 S. Silver, 544-3100. Italian: L D. Sat. prime rib, Sun. buffet.*

PATIO CAFÉ, 1521 Columbus Road, 546-5990. Burgers, American: Mon.-Sat. L D.*

PRIME RIB GRILL (INSIDE HOLIDAY 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. 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.

TOCAYO'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT, 1601 E. Pine St., 567-1963. Mexican, dine in or take out: Mon.-Sat. B L D, Sun. 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.

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. 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,

Table Talk

Shevek & Co. Restaurant in downtown Silver City will continue serving brunch Sundays all month. A "Mediterranean Medieval Feast" cooking class will be Saturday, Oct. 4, 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Then on Friday, Oct. 31, at 6:30 p.m., a Spanish wine-tasting dinner will feature six courses with optional matching wines. 602 N. Bullard, 534-9168, silver-eats.com.

Diane's in downtown Silver City has a busy month planned: Oct. 11 6 p.m., wine-pairing dinner featuring mushrooms (\$70, reservations required); Oct. 20, 4-7 p.m., holiday pie class, reservations required; Oct. 26, 5-8 p.m., Asian night; Oct. 27, 4-7 p.m. holiday leftovers class, reservations required; and Oct. 30, Halloween costume contest. 510 N. Bullard, 388-1255, DianasRestaurant.com.

Billy's has a new fast-casual "Lunch Express" menu, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. 2138 Hwy. 180E, 388-1367.

Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery in downtown Silver City hosts an "Oktoaderfest," kicking off Oct. 24 at 6 p.m. and with music by Sean Ashby at 8 p.m. Then it's all German all day on Oct. 25, starting at noon with a keg toss, pint carry, dancing girls, German food and beer specials. Live music at 2 p.m. will be by Soulshine, 5 p.m. Illusion Band and 8 p.m. Rhythm Mystic. On Oct. 31, the "city Toad" is holding a Halloween costume dance party at 8:30 p.m. 200 N. Bullard, 956-6144.

Café Oso Azul at Bear Mountain Lodge will feature Pig Iron Pizza Oct. 25, 5-8 p.m. 60 Bear Mountain Ranch Road, 538-2538, www.bearmountainlodge.com.

Silver City's downtown **Tamal Fiesta y Más** will return on Saturday, Nov. 29 (the day of the Lighted Christmas Parade), from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 538-4332, TamalFiestaYMas.org.

Mesilla's **Andele** restaurant won the Battle of the Salsas at the New Mexico State Fair. Andele's Traditional Salsa won the popular balloting among 33 entries. While the restaurant has been in business for nearly 20 years, Andele has only recently begun packaging its salsa in jars for sale elsewhere. 1950 Calle del Norte, 526-9631. 🍷

Send restaurant news to updates@red-or-green.com.

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.

CARMEN'S, 101 Main St., 533-6990. Mexican, American: B L D.

ELLA'S CAFÉ, 533-6111. American: B L D.

Glenwood

ALMA GRILL, Hwy. 180, 539-2233. Breakfast, sandwiches, burgers, Mexican: Sun.-Weds., Fri.-Sat. B L.

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

MARIO'S PIZZA, Hwy. 180, 539-2316. Italian: Mon.-Tues., Fri.-Sat. D.

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.

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. 🍷

Welcome to the Ninth Annual



Saturday
October 11, 2014
San Lorenzo School
NM Hwy 35
10am to 4pm

Live Music

featuring
 Geri & the Heartbreakers
 Cippy Martinez y la Nueva Cerveza Band
 River's Bend

Dance to the Big Ditch Crickets

6pm-9pm at the Roundup Lodge

Free Health Fair 9am-2pm

Lion's Club Eye Van
 Free Flu Shots by Walgreens
 Free Blood Test Screening

Farmers' Market

Arts & Crafts Fair

Delicious Locally-Prepared Food

Games & Activities for All Ages

New Kids' Activities!

Giant Raffle

Grand Prize a cord of wood & great prizes of \$50 or more!






The tadpoles are here!

Bear Mountain Lodge

We are happy to announce the Chiricahua Leopard Frog's new home.

Special Thanks to Cinda and AT Cole, Janet and Randy Jennings, and Anne for the photo.

60 Bear Mountain Ranch Road (out Cottage San)
575 538 2538 • www.bearmountainlodge.com
info@bearmountainlodge.com



Guadalupe Montessori School
Helping Your Child Reach for the Stars
www.guadalupeмонтessori.org
1731 N. Alabama St., Silver City
(575) 388-3343

UPCOMING EVENTS—

Thu Oct 16
6:30–8 pm

Oct 30 & 31

Thu Nov 20
6–7:30 pm
(@ St. Mary's)

Nov 28–Dec 7
Check website for details!

GMS Open House. Meet us, meet each other, tour the school. All welcome.

Green Halloween. Haunted Garden! Kids Activities! Family Fun! Check us out on Facebook or call the school for details...

History of St. Mary's. A talk and Q&A by Silver City author and historian Susan Berry about St. Mary's varied past.

Festival of Trees. We'll be setting up at the former Yada Yada Yarn (downtown) to create a Winter Wonderland of beautiful trees and gifts for sale to benefit the GMS scholarship fund!



Fri. 10/31
3:30 - 5pm
GRMC
Main Lobby

Gila Regional Medical Center

Bring Your Goblin for a Free Halloween Goodie Bag
(While Supplies Last)



October 2014

1-2—*Manhattan Short*
3-9—*The Trip to Italy* (Dir: Michael Winterbottom, 108 min.)
10-16—*Fifi Howls From Happiness* (Dir: Mitra Farahani, 96 min. Persian w/Eng)
17-23—*Siddharth* (Dir: Richie Mehta, 96 min. Hindi w/Eng)
24-30—*Marius* (Dir: Daniel Auteuil, 93 min. French w/Eng)
25th Patron Admitted Free & Small Popcorn is 25¢ for all on the 25th day
31—*Night of the Living Dead* (Dir: George A. Romero, 96 min.)

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 artistic films in the Southwest. Home of the Mesilla Valley Film Society since 1989!

40 DAYS & 40 NIGHTS

What's Going on in October

Plus a look ahead into early November.

OCTOBER

WEDNESDAY
1 Silver City/Grant County
LUNCH & LEARN—“Prospects for Palomas,” Bill Charland, Ivonne Romero and Peter Edmunds. 12 p.m. Free. WNMU Global Resource Center, 538-6835, www.will-learning.com.

Las Cruces / Mesilla
SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO STATE FAIR AND RODEO—Through Oct. 5. Midway, auction, food, music, livestock shows, cowboy rodeo and live car racing. 8 a.m.-10 p.m. \$8-\$10. Southern New Mexico State Fairground, I-10 exit 127 or 132, 524-8602, 524-8612, www.snmstatefairgrounds.net.

THURSDAY
2 Silver City/Grant County
BROWN BAG PROGRAM—New Mexico Cienagas, part II with A.T. Cole. 12-1 p.m. Silver City Museum Annex, 302 W. Broadway, 538-5921, www.silvercitymuseum.org.

IS IT LOCO TO SPEAK LOCAL...?—Also Oct. 7, 21. Be part of a community conversation on what we need and how to get it. Sponsored by the Grant County Food Policy Council and The Volunteer Center. 6-8 p.m. The Commons, 501 E. 13th St. 388-2343

LANDSCAPE AND LANGUAGE—Former Kansas Poet Laureate Denise Low discusses how cultural and structural geology, landscape painters, other poets, and her own cultural heritage influenced her to write her recent collection of poetry. Part of the Prologue Weekend, Oct. 2-4, sponsored by the Southwest Festival of the Written Word. 6 p.m. Free. WNMU Global Resource Center. www.swordfiesta.org.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
BIG BAND DANCE CLUB—Jim Helder's Septet. Dance lesson 7 p.m. 8-10 p.m. \$9, \$7 members. Alma de Artes School, 402 W. Court St. 526-6504.

BOURBON LEGEND—Uke-rock. 8-11 p.m. High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

HABANEROS—The Habaneros quintet comes from Havana, Cuba. These celebrated performers (three violins, one cello and a clarinet) are all members of the National Symphony orchestra of Cuba. Program includes classical favorites and new arrangements of Cuban and South American compositions. 7:30 p.m. \$20. Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Downtown Mall, 523-6403, www.riograndetheatre.com.

SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO STATE FAIR AND RODEO—Through Oct. 5. See Oct. 1. 8 a.m.-10 p.m. \$8-\$10. Southern New Mexico State Fairground, I-10 exit 127 or 132, 524-8602, 524-8612, www.snmstatefairgrounds.net.

FRIDAY
3 Silver City/Grant County
HABANEROS—The Habaneros quintet comes from Havana, Cuba. These celebrated performers (three violins, one cello and a clarinet) are all members of the National Symphony orchestra of Cuba. Program includes classical favorites and new arrangements of Cuban and South American compositions. Grant County Community Concert Association. 7 p.m. Non-subscribers \$20 adult, \$5 student. WNMU Fine Arts Center Theatre. 538-5862, gccca@gccconcerts.org.

OLD MASTERS EXHIBIT—Opening for Grant County Art Guild exhibit. 4-6 p.m. Mimbres Region Arts Council, 1201 Pope St., 538-2505, info@mimbresarts.org, www.mimbresarts.org.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS—Proclamation Reading. Woman's Club. 9 a.m. 538-2125, www.eridv.org.

STARLIGHT DRAGONS—Rock and blues. 8:30 p.m. Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard, 956-6144.

SWNM AUDUBON—Carol Beidleman, New Mexico Audubon's Director of Bird Conservation, will present “Conserving Migratory Birds through International Partnerships: A Full Life-Cycle Approach.” 7 p.m. WNMU Harlan Hall. 388-2386.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
JESSE REINHARD AND ADI SCHWAB'S ART SHOW—Opening reception for art show through Oct. 31. 6-9 p.m. West End Art Depot, 401 N. Mesilla St., 312-9892.

MESILLA VALLEY JAZZ HAPPENING—Through Oct. 5. Bands play at the following venues: Emilia's on the Plaza,

“The RG Trio”; The Bean, “Just Friends Quartet”; Double Eagle, “Jim Helder Trio”; La Posta de Mesilla, “Ruben Gutierrez Trio”; Josefina's, “Pancho Romero Trio”; St. Clair Winery & Bistro, “Border Trio with Roman Chip”; and Café de Mesilla, “Derrek Lee Trio.” 6-9 p.m. Old Mesilla Plaza and Mercado Plaza. 526-2620, www.mesillanm.gov/tourism.

SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO STATE FAIR AND RODEO—Through Oct. 5. See Oct. 1. 8 a.m.-12 p.m. \$8-\$10. Southern New Mexico State Fairground, I-10 exit 127 or 132, 524-8602, 524-8612, www.snmstatefairgrounds.net.

THE TRIP TO ITALY—Through Oct. 9. Steve Coogan and Rob Brydon return for another round of travel and food porn, which follows our intrepid armchair gastronomes on a carb-heavy tour of Italy from northern Piemonte to the sun-drenched Amalfi Coast. 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.

WEST HIGHLAND WAY—Through Oct. 12. Play by Meredith Friedman. Jane, reeling from a broken engagement, sets forth on a 95-mile walking trail in Scotland with her father. When a chance encounter with a charming Irishman re-opens her heart, she must choose between her old life and an uncertain future. 7:30 p.m. NMSU Center for the Arts, 1000 E. University Ave., 646-4515, www.nmsutheatre.com/events.

SATURDAY
YOM KIPPUR
4 Silver City/Grant County
AN EVENING WITH STARS OF PROSE AND POETRY—Readings by novelist Mary Sojourner, former Kansas Poet Laureate Denise Low, and Silver City Poet Laureate Elise Stuart. Book signings and refreshments follow the readings. Part of the Prologue Weekend, Oct. 2-4, sponsored by the Southwest Festival of the Written Word. 7 p.m. Free. 214 N. Hudson. www.swordfiesta.org.

ANNUAL PINOS ALTOS FIESTA—Food and entertainment. Benefit for Pinos Altos Volunteer Fire Rescue. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Main Street, Pinos Altos. 574-8394, lmwk@dishmail.net.

ART AND WINE EXTRAVAGANZA—Works by 15-plus artists. Music by Mariachi Rosas Del Desierto, 1-2 p.m.; Jessica Juarez, 3-5 p.m. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. La Esperanza Vineyard & Winery, Royal John Mine Road, (505) 259-9523, www.laesperanzavineyardandwinery.com.

BOOK SIGNING—New Mexico Beer: A History of Brewing in the Land of Enchantment by Jon C. Stott. 2-3 p.m. Little Toad Creek, 200 N. Bullard St. 538-5921, www.silvercitymuseum.org.

FARMERS' MARKET—8:30 a.m.-noon. Mainstreet Plaza, N. Bullard at 7th St., 654-4104.

GILA MONSTER GRAN FONDO—Long-distance, timed cycling event that is fun yet has a competitive edge for the individual, amateur and recreational cyclists. The course follows the iconic Tour of the Gila “Gila Monster” road race, covering some of the most stunning routes in New Mexico. Roving sag wagons and rest stations will provide extra support to get you to that finish line. Post-ride party at Little Toad Creek, 5-7 p.m. 7:30 a.m. \$50. Gough Park, Hi-Spot on Hwy. 52, Camp Thunderbird. 388-3222, brennan5231@comcast.net, www.tourofthegila.com/gila-monster-challenge-gran-fondo-1.

GREG & CHARLIE—Original folk and favorite folk-rock covers. 2-4 p.m. Free. Yankie Creek Coffee House, Yankie and Texas.

MEDITERRANEAN MEDIEVAL FEAST—Cooking class. 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Shevek & Co. Restaurant, 602 N. Bullard, 534-9168, silver-eats.com.

PAPERMAKING FOR ADULTS—Craft class with Veronique De Jaegher. Pre-registration required. 2-4 p.m. \$15. Silver City Museum, 312 W. Broadway, 538-5921, www.silvercitymuseum.org.

SOUP TO NUTS—From first draft to publishable poetry, a workshop for poets of all levels with Denise Low, publisher and former Kansas Poet Laureate and publisher. Reserve your space: info@swordfiesta.org or 313-3172. Part of the Prologue Weekend, Oct. 2-4, sponsored by the Southwest Festival of the Written

Word. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. \$75. www.swordfiesta.org.

SPEED DATE WITH A PUBLISHER—Prepare a five-minute summary of your book project and pitch it to Denise Low, co-publisher of Mammoth Publications and formerly with Cottonwood Review Press. Get an on-the-spot response to the proposal and the pitch, with suggestions for improvement. Reserve your space: info@swordfiesta.org or 313-3172. Part of the Prologue Weekend, Oct. 2-4, sponsored by the Southwest Festival of the Written Word. 3:30-5 p.m. \$25 for 15 minutes. www.swordfiesta.org.

THE SCALPEL AND THE THREAD—A Master workshop for writers with Mary Sojourner, novelist, writing teacher, NPR commentator. Space is limited to 10 participants. Reserve your space: info@swordfiesta.org or (520) 850-0014. Part of the Prologue Weekend, Oct. 2-4, sponsored by the Southwest Festival of the Written Word. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. \$95.



“Moonlight and Magnolias” opens Oct. 10 and runs through Oct. 26 at the Black Box Theatre.

Pinos Altos. www.swordfiesta.org.

VACCINATION CLINIC—9 a.m.-noon. High Desert Humane Society, 3050 Cougar Way, 538-9261.

WNMU HOMECOMING—Alumni activities, Homecoming court, football game, tailgating. 10 a.m. Homecoming Parade will start at the university, come down College Avenue, go through the downtown area on Bullard Street, and turn back up the hill on Broadway. 538-6675, wnmw.edu.

WNMU FOOTBALL VS. FORT LEWIS COLLEGE—Homecoming. 7 p.m. WNMU Ben Altamirano Memorial Stadium, www.wnmumustangs.com.

WNMU VOLLEYBALL VS. ADAMS STATE—5 p.m. WNMU campus, wnmumustangs.com.

WORKHORSE—Rock, blues, classic country. 8 p.m. Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard, 956-6144.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
DREW REID—Singer-songwriter. High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

MESILLA VALLEY JAZZ HAPPENING—Through Oct. 5. Jazz on the plaza performances: 1-2:15 p.m. Candice Reyes Quintet; 2:30-3:30 p.m. Big Band on the Rio Grande; 4-5 p.m. El Paso Jazz Quartet. Old Mesilla Plaza and Mercado Plaza. 526-2620, www.mesillanm.gov/tourism.

NMSU AGGIES FOOTBALL VS. GEORGIA SOUTHERN—6 p.m. NMSU Aggies Memorial Stadium, 646-1420, 532-2060, nmstatesports.com.

SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO STATE FAIR AND RODEO—Through Oct. 5. See Oct. 1. 8 a.m.-12 p.m. \$8-\$10. Southern New Mexico State Fairground, I-10 exit 127 or 132, 524-8602, 524-8612, www.snmstatefairgrounds.net.

WEST HIGHLAND WAY—Through Oct. 12. See Oct. 3. 7:30 p.m. NMSU Center for the Arts, 1000 E. University Ave., 646-4515, www.nmsutheatre.com/events.

SUNDAY
5 Las Cruces / Mesilla
MESILLA VALLEY JAZZ HAPPENING—Performances on the plaza: 2-3:15 p.m. Fernie Lechuga Latin Jazz Band; 3:30-4:45 p.m. Dave Borrego Quartet; 5-6 p.m. Jazz Unlimited. Old Mesilla Plaza and Mercado Plaza. 526-2620, www.mesillanm.gov/tourism.

SOUL OF SILK—Judy Licht will talk about nuno-felting and will demonstrate wax-resist work, in conjunction with

hibit through Oct. 25. 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Tombaugh Gallery, 2000 South Solano Dr., 522-7281.

SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO STATE FAIR AND RODEO—See Oct. 1. 8 a.m.-6 p.m. \$8-\$10. Southern New Mexico State Fairground, I-10 exit 127 or 132, 524-8602, 524-8612, www.snmstate-fairgrounds.net.

WEST HIGHLAND WAY—Through Oct. 12. See Oct. 3. 2 p.m. NMSU Center for the Arts, 1000 E. University Ave., 646-4515, www.nmsutheatre.com/events.

Deming

BLACK RANGE ARTISTS—Reception for annual membership show, Oct. 1-25. 1-3 p.m. Deming Arts Center, 100 S. Gold St., 546-3663, demingarts@gmail.com.

JAM SESSIONS—Every Sunday. 2-4 p.m. Free. Historic Morgan Hall, 109 E. Pine St., 545-8872.

TUESDAY

7 Silver City/Grant County **IS IT LOCO TO SPEAK LOCAL...?**—See Oct. 2. 6-8 p.m. Bayard Community Center. 388-2343

Las Cruces/Mesilla

ARGENTINE TANGO DE LAS CRUCES—Every Tuesday. Tango lesson 6:30-7:15 p.m., Milonga 7:15-9:30 p.m. \$5. 2251 Calle de Santiago, Mesilla. (505) 620-0377.

WEDNESDAY

8 Silver City/Grant County **LUNCH & LEARN**—"The Men and Women Behind the Birds," Brian Dolton. 12 p.m. Free. WNMU Global Resource Center, 538-6835, www.will-learning.com.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS—Silent vigil. Gough Park. 5:30 p.m. 538-2125, www.eridv.org.

Deming

SOUTHWESTERN NEW MEXICO STATE FAIR—Through Oct. 12. New carnival; parade downtown Friday 10 a.m.; Agtoberfest Friday, 12-5 p.m. (kids free); Casper Baca Rodeo Friday and Saturday; Owen Washburn bull-riding Sunday. \$5, kids \$3. Southwestern New Mexico State Fairgrounds. 544-5012.

THURSDAY

LEIF ERICKSON DAY SUKKOT BEGINS **9 Silver City/Grant County** **MEDICINAL HERB PRESENTATION**—Doug Simons. 3-4:30 p.m. Free. Silver City Food Co-op annex, 614 N. Bullard St. 388-2343. www.chanchka.com.

MILITARY FUNERAL HONORS—The public is invited to attend a Military Funeral Honors for 1st Lt. Juan Arroyos. The service, 138 years after his death, will be held at the Arroyos memorial grave site. The ceremony will be conducted by the New Mexico National Guard under the command of Brigadier General Andrew E. Salas and will include a 21-gun salute. 1:30 p.m. Santa Clara Cemetery.

SOUTHWEST NM GREEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE—Monthly meeting. 5:30 p.m. Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard, 956-6144. 538-4332, swGreenChamber@gmail.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

BIG BAND DANCE CLUB—CDs, Mike D'Arcy, DJ. Dance lesson 7 p.m. 8-10 p.m. \$7. Alma de Artes School, 402 W. Court St. 526-6504.

ESTEBAN AND TERESA JOY—Guitarist Esteban Joy has topped the Billboard charts with his albums, videos and DVDs. 7:30 p.m. Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Downtown Mall, 523-6403, www.riograndetheatre.com.

GLEEWOOD—Folk-rock duo. High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

HISTORY NOTE LECTURE—Jeanna Rodriguez-Lawson on "The Abernathy Boys' Adventure through New Mexico." 1 p.m. Free. Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main St., 541-2154, www.las-cruces.org/museums.

HOT AIR BALLOON WORKSHOP—Through Oct. 10. Fall break workshop for middle-school students. Pre-registration is required. \$30. Museum of Nature & Science, 411 N. Main St., 522-3120.

HOW FOODS FROM THE AMERICAS CHANGED THE WORLD—Author Dave DeWitt of Albuquerque will talk about the spread of chile peppers into the Old World, the theme of his new book, Precious Cargo: How Foods From the Americas Changed the World. He will also discuss the farm-to-table movement, which is the theme of his other new book, *Dishing Up New Mexico*. Tasting of some of the recipes from that book. 7 p.m. \$2. Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road, 522-4100, www.nmfarmandranchmuseum.org.

WEST HIGHLAND WAY—Through Oct. 12. See Oct. 3. 7:30 p.m. NMSU Center for the Arts, 1000 E. University Ave., 646-4515, www.nmsutheatre.com/events.

Deming

SOUTHWESTERN NEW MEXICO STATE FAIR—Through Oct. 12. See Oct. 8. \$5, kids \$3. Southwestern New Mexico State Fairgrounds. 544-5012.

FRIDAY

10 Silver City/Grant County **ARTISTS' RECEPTION**—Reception for exhibits by Cece Stanford and Barbara Jorgen Nance. 4-7 p.m. Blue Dome Gallery, 307 N. Texas.

DREW REID—Old-time rock and country. 8 p.m. Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard, 956-6144.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

18TH BIENNIAL MOGOLLON ARCHAEOLOGY CONFERENCE—Through Oct. 11. Sponsored by NMSU Department of Anthropology. Presentations by 40 leading archaeologists from Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Texas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Nevada and Mexico on Mogollon Archaeology including Mimbres, Jornada and Northern Chihuahuas areas. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. NMSU Corbett Center Auditorium. 522-169, www.lonjul.net/mog2014.

COWBOYS FOR CANCER RESEARCH—Dinner, dance and silent auction. Music by the Graham Brothers Band. 5:30 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m., dance at 9 p.m. \$100. Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave. 526-2887.

DEATH TRAP—Through Oct. 26. Thriller by Ira Levin, dealing with the

devious machinations of a writer of thrillers whose recent offerings have been flops, and who is prepared to go to any lengths to improve his fortunes. Gala night. 8 p.m. \$12, students/senior/military \$11, 6 and under \$9. Las Cruces Community Theater, 313 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1200, www.lcctnm.org.

FIFI HOWLS FROM HAPPINESS—Through Oct. 16. Bahman Mohasses is an Iranian openly gay sculptor and painter who's lived in self-imposed exile in Italy since the start of the Islamic Revolution. The documentary itself is Mohasses' final canvas. In Persian with English subtitles. Nightly 7:30 p.m., Sat. 1:30 and 7:30 p.m., Sun. 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. \$7 regular, \$6 seniors and students, \$5 MVFS members, children and Weds. Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, 524-8287, mesillavalleyfilm.org.

MOONLIGHT AND MAGNOLIAS—Through Oct. 26. By Ron Hutchinson, directed by Shaun Hadfield. Comedy about writing the screenplay for *Gone With The Wind*. 8 p.m. \$12, \$10 students/seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, www.no-strings.org.

NMSU AGGIES WOMEN'S SOCCER VS. KANSAS CITY—3 p.m. \$6-\$24, 12 and under free. NMSU campus, off Payne St., www.nmstatesports.com.

WEST HIGHLAND WAY—Through Oct. 12. See Oct. 3. 7:30 p.m. NMSU Center for the Arts, 1000 E. University Ave., 646-4515, www.nmsutheatre.com/events.

Deming

SOUTHWESTERN NEW MEXICO STATE FAIR—Through Oct. 12. See Oct. 8. Parade downtown 10 a.m.; Agtoberfest, 12-5 p.m.; Casper Baca Rodeo. \$5, kids \$3. Southwestern New Mexico State Fairgrounds. 544-5012.

SATURDAY

11 Silver City/Grant County **9TH ANNUAL MIMBRES VALLEY HARVEST FESTIVAL**—Live music, farmers' market, arts and crafts fair, local food, kids' activities, free health fair, raffle, Friesian horses riding and driving demo. 11 a.m.: River's Bend Old-time Gospel. 1:30 p.m.: Geli & the Heartbreakers. 2:30 p.m.: Cippy Martinez y la Neuva Cerveza Band. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. San Lorenzo School, Hwy. 35. 536-9629, www.MimbresHarvestFest.com.

MIMBRES HEALTH FAIR—Child hearing tests, mental-health screenings, cholesterol tests, eye van and more. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Free. San Lorenzo School cafeteria, Hwy. 35. 388-1198, health-council@grmc.org.

MIMBRES HARVEST FESTIVAL DANCE—Music by the Big Ditch Crickets. Traditional New Mexican dances, waltzes, schottisches, polkas, contras and more. All dances will be taught. 6-9 p.m. \$5 donation, children free. Round Up Lodge, San Lorenzo. 536-2864.

FARMERS' MARKET—Harvest Pie Contest. Loose Blues Band, 9-11 a.m. 8:30 a.m.-noon. Mainstreet Plaza, N. Bullard at 7th St., 654-4104.

FLU CLINIC—9 a.m.-noon. Silver Health Care, 1600 E. 32nd St. www.

EVENTS continued on next page



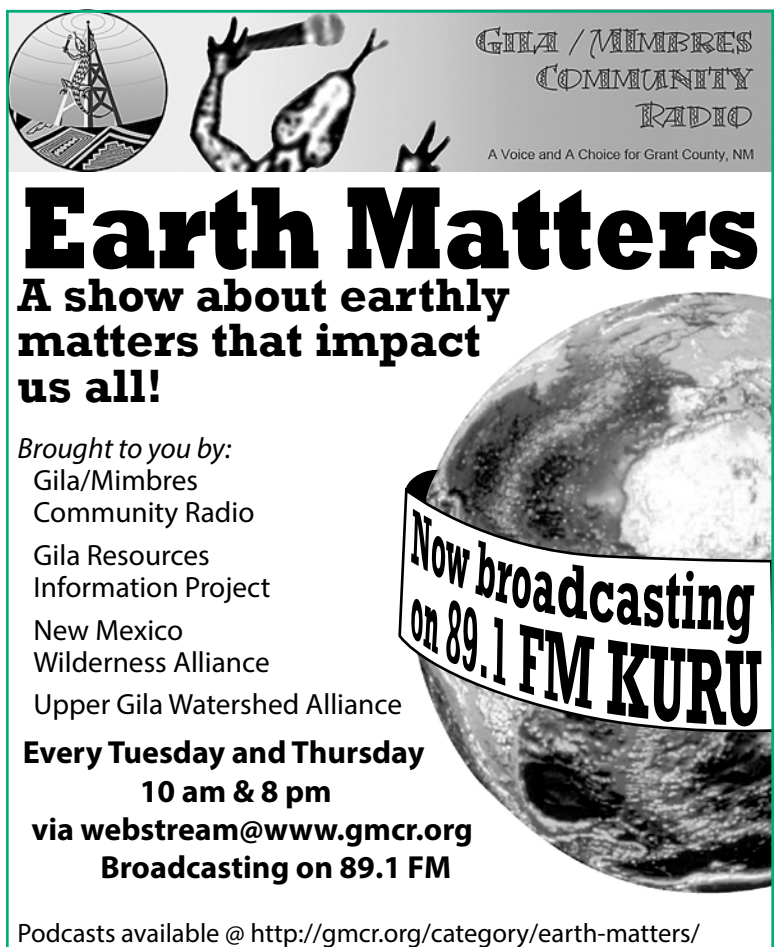
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A show about earthly matters that impact us all!

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Gila Resources Information Project
New Mexico Wilderness Alliance
Upper Gila Watershed Alliance

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Every Tuesday and Thursday
10 am & 8 pm
via webstream@www.gmcr.org
Broadcasting on 89.1 FM

Podcasts available @ http://gmcr.org/category/earth-matters/



OKTOADERFEST!

Oct. 24 - **Oktoaderfest Kick-off 6pm**
Keg tapping ceremony and Sauerbraten Feast
Live music with Sean Ashby - 8pm

Oct. 25 - **Oktoaderfest Street Party - noon - 11pm**
Bullard and Broadway
Keg toss, stein race, dancing girls,
German food, beer specials, live music, and more!
2pm - Soulshine - outdoor stage
5pm - the Illusion Band - outdoor stage
8pm - Rhythm Mystic - indoor stage

Oct. 26th - **Bloody Mary Bar with the works! - 11am-2pm**

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Starlight Dragons
Rock and Blues - 8:30pm
- October 4
Workhorse
Rock, Blues, Classic Country - 8pm
- October 10
Drew Reid
Old-time Rock'n'Roll & Country - 8pm
- October 16
Latch Key Kids - 8pm,
I Am the Albatross
Americana Folk Punk - 9:30pm
- October 17
Mackie Redd
Singer-Songwriter Troubadour - 8pm
- October 18
Joshua Burke - 8pm
- October 23
Hello Dollface
Indie Soul - 8pm
- October 31
Costume Dance Party!
8:30pm



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 Sat 10/4 Drew Reid (Florida Singer/Songwriter)
 Thu 10/9 Gleewood (Ruidoso Folk-Rock Duo)
 Sat 10/11 Blue Gramas Contra Dance Band
 Thu 10/16 Sean Ashby (Guitar Virtuoso from Canada)
 Sat 10/18 Gary Paul Hermus (Santa Fe Singer/Songwriter)
 Thu 10/23 Bat (All-Request One-Man-Band)
 Sat 10/25 Stefan George (Tucson Bluesman)
 Thu 10/30 Gold Hearted Crows (Alt-Country/Rock)

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THE TO DO LIST
 A harvest of happenings

The leaves may be starting to fall, but here in our corner of the Southwest that's just a signal for events to kick into high gear. Take the first weekend of October, for example: Starting **Oct. 2**, with a talk by former Kansas Poet Laureate **Denise Low**, the Southwest Festival of the Written Word's **Prologue Weekend (through Oct. 4)** presents a rich mix of opportunities for writers to polish their craft and readers to interact with authors. Other events also feature novelist Mary Sojourner and Silver City Poet Laureate Elise Stuart. On **Oct. 2** at the Rio Grande Theatre in Las Cruces and **Oct. 3** at the WNMU Fine Arts Center Theatre in Silver City, the **Habaneros** quintet performs. Coming all the way from Havana, these three violinists, one cellist and one clarinet player are all members of the National Symphony orchestra of Cuba. In Mesilla, **Oct. 3-5**, it's the **Mesilla Valley Jazz Happening**—first, Friday night, at venues all around the plaza, then on Saturday and Sunday at the plaza.

But the weekend is just warming up! On Saturday, **Oct. 4**, bicyclists take to some or all of the iconic Tour of the Gila "Gila Monster" road race course in the Gila Monster **Gran Fondo**. Many of them will wind up (or take a break) at the annual **Pinos Altos Fiesta**, a benefit for Pinos Altos Volunteer Fire Rescue. That Saturday is also **WNMU's Homecoming** parade and football game.

It's also fair time. The **Southern New Mexico State Fair and Rodeo** at the fairground just outside Las Cruces runs **through Oct. 5**. Then in Deming, the **Southwestern New Mexico State Fair** takes over, **Oct. 8-12**. That fair features a new carnival, a parade downtown on Friday, the Casper Baca Rodeo Friday and Saturday, and bull-riding with local legend Owen Washburn on Sunday.

You can read all about the **Red Dot Art Weekend** in Silver City, **Oct. 11-13**, in this issue's Arts Exposure section. Also on **Oct. 11**, the **9th Annual Mimbres Valley Harvest Festival** features live music, a farmers' market, an arts and crafts fair, local food, kids' activities, a raffle, even a Friesian horses riding and driving demo. Performers include River's Bend Old-time Gospel, Geli & the Heartbreakers and Cippy Martinez y la Neuva Cerveza Band. It all takes place around the San Lorenzo School, while inside the **Mimbres Health Fair** offers kids' hearing tests, mental-health screenings, cholesterol tests, an eye van and more. Finally, kick up your heels Saturday evening at the **Mimbres Harvest Festival Dance** at the Round Up Lodge, with music by the Big Ditch Crickets.

The Mimbres Region Arts Council kicks off both of its performing-arts series the following weekend, with the **Las Cruces Symphony Orchestra** coming to the WNMU Fine Arts



Habaneros quintet, performing Oct. 2 and Oct. 3.



Violinist Lindsay Deutsch performs Oct. 17.

Center Theatre on **Oct. 17**. The "symphony blossoming in the desert" will feature violinist Lindsay Deutsch, performing the Bruch "Concerto for Violin" and Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue," plus Copland's "Outdoor Overture" and Kalinnikov's "Symphony No. 1." The next night, **Oct. 18**, at the Buckhorn Opera House in Pinos Altos, MRAC's Indie/Folk Series opens with **David Francey**. His first album, "Torn Screen Door," came out in 1999 and was a hit in Canada. Since then, he has released 10 albums, won three Juno Awards and has had his songs covered by such artists as The Del McCoury Band, The Rankin Family, James Keelaghan and Tracy Grammer.



Folk singer David Francey at the Buckhorn Opera House Oct. 18. Friesian horses will be at the Mimbres Valley Harvest Festival, Oct. 11.



If show tunes, spirituals and old favorites are more your style, catch the **Hi Lo Silvers'** autumn concerts on **Oct. 18 and 19**. Directed by Valdeen Wooton and accompanied by Virginia Robertson on piano and Bill Baldwin on string bass, the chorus will perform free at First Presbyterian Church in Silver City.

October is also the month of Halloween, of course, and you can get in the spooky spirit **starting Oct. 24** with RT Dinner Theater's performances of Noel Coward's **Blithe Spirit**. There will be five performances with dinner, through Nov. 1, plus a matinee Oct. 26, all at the Old Elks Lodge in Silver City. In Las Cruces, **Oct. 24-25** the Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum brings history to life (well, afterlife) with the annual **Ghosts of the Past**. New characters this year offer a unique living history experience that transports visitors of all ages to a variety of eras in New Mexico history. WNMU students portray area "ghosts" in a **Halloween Ghost Walk on Oct. 25** at the Silver City Museum. That's also the date for the **Fifth Annual Zombie Walk** in downtown Las Cruces, sponsored by the Rio Grande Theatre. Diane's in Silver City has a costume contest on Oct. 30.

On Halloween itself, **Oct. 31**, the Fountain Theatre in Mesilla has a special screening of George Romero's horror classic, **Night of the Living Dead**. And Little Toad Creek in downtown Silver City has a **Costume Dance Party**.

So go ahead, leaves, fall if you must. It's the time of year, we suppose. But we've got too much else to do to bother with raking! 🍂

EVENTS continued

silverhealthcare.org.
MEXICAN PAPER FLOWERS—Craft class, ages 8 and up. Pre-registration encouraged. 10 a.m.-noon. Silver City Museum, 312 W. Broadway, 538-5921, www.silvercitymuseum.org.

RED DOT ART WEEKEND—Through Oct. 13. See story in Arts Exposure section. Galleries are open from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday, plus a Saturday evening stroll from 5-8 p.m. in downtown Silver City will take visitors to festive gallery openings offering food and refreshment. Prize drawings will be held at the Seedboat Gallery at 5 p.m. on Saturday. www.silvercityart.com.

SELF REALIZATION FELLOWSHIP MEDITATION GROUP—Hatha Yoga 3-4 p.m. Energization exercises 4:05-4:15 p.m. Meditation and readings 4:15-5:15 p.m.; readings from the lectures of Paramahansa Yogananda. 110 E. 11th St., 574-5451.

WHILE I WAS WAITING—Talk by artist Cece Stanford. 10:30 a.m. Blue Dome Gallery, 307 N. Texas.

WINE PAIRING DINNER—For mushroom lovers. Reservations required. 6 p.m. \$70. Diane's, 510 N. Bullard, 388-1255, DianasRestaurant.com.

4TH ANNUAL PIE/CAKE AUCTION—Benefits Bridge Community. 4-6 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, 1900 Swan St. 538-5754.

Las Cruces/Mesilla 18TH BIENNIAL MOGOLLON ARCHAEOLOGY CONFERENCE—See Oct. 10. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. NMSU Corbett Center Auditorium. 522-169, www.lonjul.net/mog2014.

BLUE GRAMAS—Contra dance band. High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

CRAFTS FOR KIDS—Children of all ages are invited to come by the museum and create their own fall crafts to take home. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Regular museum admission. Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road, 522-4100, www.nmfarmandranchmuseum.org.

CULTURAL BAZAAR—Family event features the traditions, art, dance, clothing and other customs of more than a dozen cultures represented in Las Cruces. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main St., 541-2154, www.las-cruces.org/museums.

DEATH TRAP—Through Oct. 26. See Oct. 10. 8 p.m. \$12, students/senior/military \$11, 6 and under \$9. Las Cruces Community Theater, 313 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1200, www.lcctnm.org.

LATIN COMEDY JAM—Starring Roberto Rodriguez, Shayla Rivera and Dillon Garcia. 8 p.m. \$15 and up. Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave. (602) 690-6922, www.TheLCJ.com.

LOS LEONES DE MESILLA CAR SHOW—10 a.m.-3 p.m. Free. Old Mesilla, 2355 Calle de Guadalupe. 524-3262 ext. 116, mesillaevents@comcast.net.

MOONLIGHT AND MAGNOLIAS—Through Oct. 26. See Oct. 10. 8 p.m. \$12, \$10 students/seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, www.no-strings.org.

NATURAL REFLECTIONS—Opening for show of works by Jacklyn St. Aubyn. 4-6 p.m. Unsettled Gallery, 905 N. Mesquite St., 635-2285.

WANDA FUSILIER—Reception for art show, Oct. 2-31. 4-6 p.m. Mesquite Art Gallery, 340 N. Mesquite St.

WEAVING DEMONSTRATIONS—In conjunction with the exhibit "A Renaissance of Fiber" by the Mesilla Valley Weavers.

10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main St., 541-2154, www.las-cruces.org/museums.

WEST HIGHLAND WAY—Through Oct. 12. See Oct. 3. 7:30 p.m. NMSU Center for the Arts, 1000 E. University Ave., 646-4515, www.nmsutheatre.com/events.

Deming

BLACK RANGE ARTISTS—Through Oct. 12. Multimedia fine art show to benefit the Wounded Warrior Project and homeless veterans. Mimbres Valley Event Center, 2300 E. Pine St. 546-4650, blackrangeart.com.

CAROL MARKSTROM—Original songs largely based on the Indian side of the Western story. 2 p.m. \$10, DPAT members \$8. Historic Morgan Hall, 109 E. Pine St., 545-8872.

FLU CLINIC—9 a.m.-noon. Silver Health Care, 1511 S. Lime St. www.silverhealthcare.org.

SOUTHWESTERN NEW MEXICO STATE FAIR—Through Oct. 12. See Oct. 8. Casper Baca Rodeo. \$5, kids \$3. Southwestern New Mexico State Fairgrounds. 544-5012.

SUNDAY

12 Silver City/Grant County RED DOT ART WEEKEND—Through Oct. 13. See story in Arts Exposure section. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. www.silvercityart.com.

WHEREHOUSE BIRTHDAY PARTY—12-3 p.m. 305 S. Texas, 553-305.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla DEATH TRAP—Through Oct. 26. See Oct. 10. 2 p.m. \$12, students/senior/military \$11, 6 and under \$9. Las Cruces Community Theater, 313 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1200, www.lcctnm.org.

WEST HIGHLAND WAY—See Oct. 3. 2 p.m. NMSU Center for the Arts, 1000 E. University Ave., 646-4515, www.nmsutheatre.com/events.

Deming

BLACK RANGE ARTISTS—See Oct. 11. Mimbres Valley Event Center, 2300 E. Pine St. 546-4650, blackrangeart.com.

JAM SESSIONS—Every Sunday. 2-4 p.m. Free. Historic Morgan Hall, 109 E. Pine St., 545-8872.

SOUTHWESTERN NEW MEXICO STATE FAIR—See Oct. 8. Owen Washburn bull-riding. \$5, kids \$3. Southwestern New Mexico State Fairgrounds. 544-5012.

MONDAY

COLUMBUS DAY NATIVE AMERICAN DAY 13 Silver City/Grant County AIDS MEMORIAL QUILT—Through Oct. 17. Sponsored by LGBT Grant County. Monday, Wednesday and Friday 1-7 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday 1-5 p.m. Reception Wednesday 5 p.m. to recognize International Latino AIDS Awareness Day. WNMU Graham Hall. 519-5562, gaysilver.org.

RED DOT ART WEEKEND—Through Oct. 13. See story in Arts Exposure section. www.silvercityart.com.

WIDOWED PERSONS SERVICE—Don Turner will talk about women and rodeo. 10:30 a.m. Lunch \$10. Glad Tidings Church, 11600 Hwy 180 E. 537-3643.

TUESDAY

14 Silver City/Grant County COMMUNITY FORUM—Also Oct. 16. Presentation on the recent Detox Summit. 12-1 p.m. Free. Silver City Food Co-Op annex, 614 N. Bullard St. 388-2343.

Las Cruces/Mesilla INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM FOR PERSONAL AND COMMERCIAL SPACEFLIGHT—Through Oct. 16. Guest speaker: Stuart



Singer-songwriter Gary Paul plays High Desert Brewing Oct. 18.

Witt, CEO, Mojave Air and Space Port. 11 a.m. \$50. Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road. 646-6414, www.ispcs.com.

WEDNESDAY SUKKOT ENDS

15 Silver City/Grant County AIDS MEMORIAL QUILT—Reception to recognize International Latino AIDS Awareness Day. 5 p.m. WNMU Graham Hall. 519-5562, gaysilver.org.

LUNCH & LEARN—Diane Aldrich Kleiss and Timothy Hasenstein on "Two Approaches to Fine Art." 12 p.m. Free. WNMU Global Resource Center, 538-6835, www.will-learning.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM FOR PERSONAL AND COMMERCIAL SPACEFLIGHT—Through Oct. 16. 11 a.m. \$50. Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road. 646-6414, www.ispcs.com.

THURSDAY

16 Silver City/Grant County COMMUNITY FORUM—See Oct. 14. 12-1 p.m. Free. Silver City Food Co-Op annex, 614 N. Bullard St. 388-2343.

TWO BANDS—Latch Key Kids, 8 p.m. I Am the Albatross, Americana-folk-punk, 9:30 p.m. Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard, 956-6144.

OPEN HOUSE—6:30-8 p.m. Guadalupe Montessori School, 1731 N. Alabama St., 388-3343, www.guadalupe-montessori.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla BIG BAND DANCE CLUB—Ron Theilman's Septet. Dance lesson 7 p.m. 8-10 p.m. \$9, \$7 members. Alma de Artes School, 402 W. Court St. 526-6504.

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM FOR PERSONAL AND COMMERCIAL SPACEFLIGHT—11 a.m. \$50. Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road. 646-6414, www.ispcs.com.

SEAN ASHBY—Guitarist. High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

FRIDAY

17 Silver City/Grant County GILA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY—Lisa Mandelkern will give a presentation on the Botanical Garden in Tübingen. 7 p.m. Free. WNMU Harlan Hall. Room 219. www.gilanps.org.

LAS CRUCES SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA—With violinist Lindsay Deutsch, scheduled to play the Bruch Concerto for Violin, and Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue. In addition to those pieces the orchestra will

EVENTS continued on next page

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- Mining District: October 7, 6-8 pm—Bayard Community Center
- Gila/Cliff: October 21, 10 am-noon,—Grant County Fairgrounds

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—Attributed to Don Vincenzo Giobbe

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Weaving demonstration by the Spider Rock Girls - Emily Malone, Rose Yazzie, and Laramie Blake, from Chinle, AZ

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EVENTS continued

be playing Copland's Outdoor Overture and Kalinnikov's Symphony No. 1. 7:30 p.m. WNMU Fine Arts Center Theatre. 538-2505, www.mimbresarts.org; 538-5862, www.gccconcerts.org.

MACKIE REDD—Singer-songwriter. 8 p.m. Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard, 956-6144.

WNMU VOLLEYBALL VS. CSU-PUEBLO—7 p.m. wnmumustangs.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

CUARTETO LATINOAMERICANO—Formed in 1982, known worldwide as the leading proponent of Latin American music for string quartet. This Latin Grammy-winning ensemble from Mexico consists of the three Bitrán brothers, violinists Saúl and Arón and cellist Alvaro, along with violist Javier Montiel. 7 p.m. Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Downtown Mall, 523-6403, www.riograndetheatre.com.

DEATH TRAP—Through Oct. 26. See Oct. 10. 8 p.m. \$12, students/senior/military \$11, 6 and under \$9. Las Cruces Community Theater, 313 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1200, www.lcctnm.org.

MOONLIGHT AND MAGNOLIAS—Through Oct. 26. See Oct. 10. 8 p.m. \$12, \$10 students/seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, www.no-strings.org.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

SIDDHARTH—Through Oct. 23. The story of a man's search for his missing son. Mahendra plies his trade repairing zippers for passersby on the streets of Delhi. Having been told of an opportunity for extra income, he puts his 12-year-old son on a bus to a neighboring state at a factory. When the boy

Altamirano Memorial Stadium, www.wnmumustangs.com.

WNMU VOLLEYBALL VS. WESTERN STATE COLORADO UNIVERSITY—7 p.m. wnmumustangs.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

BASKETRY DEMONSTRATIONS—In conjunction with the exhibit "A Renaissance of Fiber" by the Mesilla Valley Weavers. 12 p.m. Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main St., 541-2154, www.las-cruces.org/museums.

CLASSICS TWO—Also Oct. 19. Las Cruces Symphony Orchestra with violinist Lindsay Deutsch. Copland: Outdoor Overture. Bruch: Concerto For Violin. Gershwin: Rhapsody In Blue. Kalinnikov: Symphony No. 1. 7:30 p.m. \$35 and up. NMSU Center for the Arts, 1000 E. University Ave. 646-3709, www.lascrucessymphony.com/contactUs.htm.

DEATH TRAP—Through Oct. 26. See Oct. 10. 8 p.m. \$12, students/senior/military \$11, 6 and under \$9. Las Cruces Community Theater, 313 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1200, www.lcctnm.org.

GARY PAUL—Singer-songwriter. High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

MOONLIGHT AND MAGNOLIAS—Through Oct. 26. See Oct. 10. 8 p.m. \$12, \$10 students/seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, www.no-strings.org.

STARS-N-PARKS—National Public Observatory program. Mars is low in the west. Andromeda Galaxy is rising in the northeast and is viewable. The Milky Way bifurcates the evening sky. Presenter: John Gilkison. Sunset 6:31 p.m., program start 7:40 p.m. \$5 park fee, \$3 donation. Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park, 5000 Calle de Norte, 523-4398, www.Astro-NPO.org.

Deming

STARS-N-PARKS—National Public Observatory program. Mars is low in the west. Andromeda Galaxy is rising in the northeast and is viewable. The Milky Way bifurcates the evening sky. Presenter: Sally Allen. Sunset 6:31 p.m., program start 7:40 p.m. \$5 park fee, \$3 donation. Rockhound State Park, 9880 Stirrup Road SE, 546-6182, www.Astro-NPO.org.

SUNDAY

19 Silver City/Grant County
HI LO SILVERS—See Oct. 18. 3 p.m. Free. First Presbyterian Church, 1915 N. Swan St.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

CLASSICS TWO—See Oct. 18. 3 p.m. \$35 and up. NMSU Center for the Arts, 1000 E. University Ave. 646-3709, www.lascrucessymphony.com/contactUs.htm.

DEATH TRAP—Through Oct. 26. See Oct. 10. 2 p.m. \$12, students/senior/military \$11, 6 and under \$9. Las Cruces Community Theater, 313 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1200, www.lcctnm.org.

MOONLIGHT AND MAGNOLIAS—Through Oct. 26. See Oct. 10. 2:30 p.m. \$12, \$10 students/seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, www.no-strings.org.

Deming

JAM SESSIONS—Every Sunday, 2-4 p.m. Free. Historic Morgan Hall, 109 E. Pine St., 545-8872.

MONDAY

20 Silver City/Grant County
HOLIDAY PIE CLASS—Reservations required. 4-7 p.m. Diane's, 510 N. Bullard, 388-1255, DianasRestaurant.com.

TUESDAY

21 Silver City/Grant County
IS IT LOCO TO SPEAK LOCAL...?—See Oct. 2. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Grant County Fairgrounds. 388-2343

THURSDAY

23 Silver City/Grant County
HELLO DOLLFACE—Indie soul. 8 p.m. Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard, 956-6144.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

BAT—All-request one-man band. High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

BIG BAND DANCE CLUB—CDs, Dale Ellis, DJ. Dance lesson 7 p.m. 8-10 p.m. \$7. Alma de Artes School, 402 W. Court St. 526-6504.



Mountain Aire Folk Music will provide music for the Grant County Art Guild's Art in the Barn, Oct. 25.

doesn't return for the Diwali holiday, it becomes clear that something awful has happened. In Hindi with English subtitles. Nightly 7:30 p.m., Sat. 1:30 and 7:30 p.m., Sun. 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. \$7 regular, \$6 seniors and students, MVFS members free, \$5 children and Weds. Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, 524-8287, mesillavalleyfilm.org.

SATURDAY

18 Silver City/Grant County
DAVID FRANCEY—2014-2015 Folk Series. Scottish-born Canadian carpenter-turned-songwriter, who has become known as "one of Canada's most revered folk poets and singers." 7:30 p.m. \$20, members \$15. Buckhorn Opera House, 32 Main St., Pinos Altos. 538-2505, www.mimbresarts.org.

FARMERS' MARKET—8:30 a.m.-noon. Mainstreet Plaza, N. Bullard at 7th St., 654-4104.

CELEBRATION OF FAMILY—Cooperative games and activities for all ages. 2-4 p.m. Gough Park. Cpc.grantcountynm@gmail.com.

HI LO SILVERS—Also Oct. 19. Autumn concert. Directed by Valdeen Wooton and accompanied by Virginia Robertson on piano and Bill Baldwin on string bass, the chorus will sing old favorites, spirituals, and songs from Broadway and film. 7 p.m. Free. First Presbyterian Church, 1915 N. Swan St.

JOSHUA BURKE—8 p.m. Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard, 956-6144.

PSA SCREENING—Grant County Health Council. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Gila Regional Medical Center. 388-1198 ext. 10.

STARS-N-PARKS—National Public Observatory program. Mars is low in the west. Andromeda Galaxy is rising in the northeast and is viewable. The Milky Way bifurcates the evening sky. Presenter: Matt Wilson. Sunset 6:31 p.m., program start 7:40 p.m. \$5 park fee, \$3 donation. City of Rocks State Park, 327 Hwy 61, Faywood. www.Astro-NPO.org.

WNMU FOOTBALL VS. COLORADO MESA UNIVERSITY—12 p.m. WNMU Ben

GALLERY TALK—In conjunction with "Off the Wall" exhibit. Nathan Green. 6 p.m. NMSU University Art Gallery. D.W. Williams Hall, University Avenue and Solano Drive, 646-2545, uag.nmsu.edu.

MOONLIGHT AND MAGNOLIAS—Through Oct. 26. See Oct. 10. 7 p.m. \$8. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, www.no-strings.org.

NMSU HIGH DESERT HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE FESTIVAL—Through Oct. 25. Students from 17 schools throughout the state. Event will culminate in the 12th Annual One-Act Production Competition. NMSU's Center for the Arts, Corbett Center, and the Ramada Hotel and Conference Center. 646-5812, www.nmsutheatre.com.

FRIDAY

24 Silver City/Grant County
FOUR SHILLINGS SHORT—Celtic/folk/world music duo. 6 p.m. Free. Public Library, 515 W. College Ave., 538-3672.

NOEL COWARD'S BLITHE SPIRIT—Through Nov. 1. Presented by RT Dinner Theater. Tickets available at Raven's Nest Boutique and Gallery and Yankee Creek Coffeehouse. Dinner service at 6:30 p.m., show starts at 7:30 p.m. \$35 each or \$65 per couple. Non-dining seats \$10. Old Elks Lodge Gallery and Performance Hall, 315 N. Texas St.

OKTOADERFEST KICK-OFF—6 p.m. Sean Ashby (Americana, rock, blues, Motown) 8 p.m. Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard, 956-6144.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

DEATH TRAP—Through Oct. 26. See Oct. 10. 8 p.m. \$12, students/senior/military \$11, 6 and under \$9. Las Cruces Community Theater, 313 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1200, www.lcctnm.org.

GHOSTS OF THE PAST—Also Oct. 25. Explore the museum at night as you time travel back in New Mexico history or meet historical ghosts during two exciting nights. The popular tours, with new characters this year, offer a unique living history experience that transports visitors of all ages to a variety of eras in New Mexico history. 6-8 p.m. \$5, \$2 children advance; \$6, \$2 children same day. Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road, 522-4100, www.nmfarmandranchmuseum.org.

MARIUS—Through Oct. 30. Marseilles, 1920s. Torn between his wanderlust and his eye for beautiful shellfish hawker, Marius is mortified to find a wealthy older man steal her hand, if not her affections. Blunt advice from dad Cesar (Daniel Auteuil) pushes him towards a big decision. Based on Marcel Pagnol's play. In French with English subtitles. Nightly 7:30 p.m., Sat. 1:30 and 7:30 p.m., Sun. 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. \$7 regular, \$6 seniors and students, \$5 MVFS members, children and Weds. Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, 524-8287, mesillavalleyfilm.org.

MOONLIGHT AND MAGNOLIAS—Through Oct. 26. See Oct. 10. 8 p.m. \$12, \$10 students/seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, www.no-strings.org.

NMSU HIGH DESERT HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE FESTIVAL—Through Oct. 25. See Oct. 23 NMSU's Center for the Arts, Corbett Center, and the Ramada Hotel and Conference Center. 646-5812, www.nmsutheatre.com.

PORTAL, ARIZ.
11TH ANNUAL OKTOBERFEST—9 a.m.-1 p.m. (520) 558-0096.

SATURDAY

25 Silver City/Grant County
ALL SOULS URBAN TRAIL RACE—5K and 15K trail races start at the Silco Theater, ascend to Boston Hill and then finish on Bullard Street. Benefits Save Our Silco. Free kids fun run at 8:45 a.m. 9 a.m. \$25. 574-2902, nlvartner@gmail.com, mrgreendreams@msn.com.

ART IN THE BARN—Grant County Art Guild member artists and fine crafters will fill the banquet rooms with paintings, photography, needlework, ceramics, jewelry and more. Mountain Aire Folk Music 12-2 p.m. Art demonstrations and talks from local artists and activities for children to show their artistic talents. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Red Barn Steakhouse, 708 Silver Heights Blvd. www.gcag.org.

CHIJI CON CARNE COOK-OFF—Supports Masonic charitable work. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. \$10 contestants, \$5 judging. Masonic Lodge #8, 11 Ridge Road. 654-5102, 538-8561, mnat@q.com.

FARMERS' MARKET—Farm2Chef tastings 10 a.m. 8:30 a.m.-noon. Mainstreet Plaza, N. Bullard at 7th St., 654-4104.

HALLOWEEN GHOST WALK—With students from WNMU as area "ghosts." For the entire family, come and meet ghosts, have fun, and get a treat. 1-3 p.m. Silver City Museum, 312 W. Broadway, 538-

5921, www.silvercitymuseum.org.

NOEL COWARD'S BLITHE SPIRIT—Through Nov. 1. See Oct. 24. Dinner service at 6:30 p.m., show starts at 7:30 p.m. \$35 each or \$65 per couple. Non-dining seats \$10. Old Elks Lodge Gallery and Performance Hall, 315 N. Texas St.

OKTOADERFEST STREET PARTY—Noon: keg toss, pint carry, dancing girls, German food, beer specials, live music. 2 p.m.: Soulshine. 5 p.m.: Illusion Band. 8 p.m.: Rhythm Mystic. Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard, 956-6144.

PIG IRON PIZZA—Reserve one of 40 spots. 5-8 p.m. \$27 with salad and dessert. Café Oso Azul, 60 Bear Mountain Ranch Road, 538-2538, www.bearmountainlodge.com.

SELF REALIZATION FELLOWSHIP MEDITATION GROUP—Hatha Yoga 3-4 p.m. Energization exercises 4:05-4:15 p.m. Meditation and readings 4:15-5:15 p.m.; readings from the lectures of Paramahansa Yogananda. 110 E. 11th St., 574-5451.

Las Cruces/Mesilla DEATH TRAP—Through Oct. 26. See Oct. 10. 8 p.m. \$12, students/senior/military \$11, 6 and under \$9. Las Cruces Community Theater, 313 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1200, www.lcctnm.org.

FIFTH ANNUAL ZOMBIE WALK—Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Downtown Mall, 523-6403, www.riograndetheatre.com.

GHOSTS OF THE PAST—See Oct. 24. 6-8 p.m. \$5, \$2 children advance; \$6, \$2 children same day. Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road, 522-4100, www.nmfarmandranchmuseum.org.

MOONLIGHT AND MAGNOLIAS—Through Oct. 26. See Oct. 10. 8 p.m. \$12, \$10 students/seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, www.no-strings.org.

NAVAJO RUG AUCTION—Foundation for Las Cruces Museums benefit for Navajo weavers and the Branigan Cultural Center. More than 200 rugs in a wide range of styles, both historic and recently completed, will be on display and available for purchase. Preview items from 9-11 a.m. and then listen to a talk on Navajo history and the tradition of trading posts in Indian country. Auction begins at noon. Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main St., 541-2154, www.las-cruces.org/museums. www.foundationlcm.com.

NMSU HIGH DESERT HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE FESTIVAL—See Oct. 23 NMSU's Center for the Arts, Corbett Center, and the Ramada Hotel and Conference Center. 646-5812, www.nmsutheatre.com.

STEFAN GEORGE—Blues. High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

Deming COMMUNITY YARD SALE—8 a.m. Courthouse Park. 546-2674.

FOUR SHILLINGS SHORT—Celtic/folk/world music husband/wife act. 2 p.m. \$10, DPAT members \$8. Historic Morgan Hall, 109 E. Pine St., 545-8872.

SUNDAY 26 Silver City/Grant County NOEL COWARD'S BLITHE SPIRIT—Through Nov. 1. See Oct. 24. Presented by RT Dinner Theater. Non-dinner performance. 2:30 p.m. \$10. Old Elks Lodge Gallery and Performance Hall, 315 N. Texas St.

INTENSIVE TILE-MAKING CLASS—9 a.m.-5 p.m. Kate Brown Pottery & Tile, Mimbres, 536-9935, katebrownmimbres@gmail.com.

ASIAN NIGHT—5-8 p.m. Diane's, 510 N. Bullard, 388-1255, DianasRestaurant.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla DEATH TRAP—See Oct. 10. 2 p.m. \$12, students/senior/military \$11, 6 and under \$9. Las Cruces Community Theater, 313 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1200, www.lcctnm.org.

MOONLIGHT AND MAGNOLIAS—See Oct. 10. 2:30 p.m. \$12, \$10 students/seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, www.no-strings.org.

Deming JAM SESSIONS—Every Sunday. 2-4 p.m. Free. Historic Morgan Hall, 109 E. Pine St., 545-8872.

MONDAY 27 Silver City/Grant County HOLIDAY LEFTOVERS CLASS—Reservations required. 4-7 p.m. Diane's, 510 N. Bullard, 388-1255, DianasRestaurant.com.

TUESDAY 28 Las Cruces / Mesilla SUE CALDWELL—Every Other Tuesday. With Flat Bok. 6:30 p.m. Free. Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Downtown Mall,

523-6403, www.riograndetheatre.com.

THURSDAY 30 Silver City/Grant County NOEL COWARD'S BLITHE SPIRIT—Through Nov. 1. See Oct. 24. Dinner service at 6:30 p.m., show starts at 7:30 p.m. \$35 each or \$65 per couple. Non-dining seats \$10. Old Elks Lodge Gallery and Performance Hall, 315 N. Texas St.

HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST—Diane's, 510 N. Bullard, 388-1255, DianasRestaurant.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla BIG BAND DANCE CLUB—Halloween dance with Steppin' Up. Dance lesson 7 p.m. 8-10 p.m. \$9, \$7 members. Alma de Artes School, 402 W. Court St. 526-6504.

GOLD HEARTED CROWS—Alt-country/rock. High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

FRIDAY HALLOWEEN 31 Silver City/Grant County COSTUME DANCE PARTY—8:30 p.m. Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard, 956-6144.

NOEL COWARD'S BLITHE SPIRIT—Through Nov. 1. See Oct. 24. Dinner service at 6:30 p.m., show starts at 7:30 p.m. \$35 each or \$65 per couple. Non-dining seats \$10. Old Elks Lodge Gallery and Performance Hall, 315 N. Texas St.

SPANISH WINE-TASTING DINNER—Six courses with optional matching wines. 6:30 p.m. Shevek & Co. Restaurant, 602 N. Bullard, 534-9168, silver-eats.com.

WNMU VOLLEYBALL VS. FORT LEWIS COLLEGE—7 p.m. wnmumustangs.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla DIA DE LOS MUERTOS—Through Nov. 2. See story in this issue. 2-7 p.m. Mesilla Plaza, 2355 Calle de Guadalupe, 524-3262, www.mesillanm.gov/tourism/events/category/events.

NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD—For Halloween, George Romero's horror classic. 10:30 p.m. \$7 regular, \$6 seniors and students, \$5 MVFS members, children. Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, 524-8287, mesillavalleyfilm.org.

Deming GUATEMALAN MERCADO—Through Nov. 1. Unusual, colorful handmade items like beaded jewelry, hand-sewn blouses, skirts and pants, linens, purses. 12-5 p.m. Deming Arts Center, 100 S. Gold St., 546-3663, demingarts@gmail.com.

TALES FROM SIX FEET UNDER—Also Nov. 1, 7, 8. Locally written play featuring some of Deming's Notable Departed. 7 p.m. \$8, 2/\$15. Depot Theater, 207 N. Country Club Road (next to Starmax). 545-3131.

NOVEMBER SATURDAY DAY OF THE DEAD 1 Silver City/Grant County FIDDLING FRIENDS—Fiddlers, ages 5-18, play music from around the world. 12:15-1 p.m. Free. Alotta Gelato. 534-0298.

CARLOS GUTIERREZ OFRENDA—Also Nov. 2. 4-6 p.m. Bear Mountain Lodge, 60 Bear Mountain Ranch Road, 538-2538, www.bearmountainlodge.com.

FIRST ANNUAL MIMBRES VALLEY YOUTH ART SHOW—Through Nov. 8. Opening of juried art show. 12-6 p.m., closed Sunday and Monday. Valle Mimbres Market, 2739 Hwy. 35, Mimbres.

NOEL COWARD'S BLITHE SPIRIT—See Oct. 24. Dinner service at 6:30 p.m., show starts at 7:30 p.m. \$35 each or \$65 per couple. Non-dining seats \$10. Old Elks Lodge Gallery and Performance Hall, 315 N. Texas St.

WNMU FOOTBALL VS. ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY—12 p.m. WNMU Ben Altamirano Memorial Stadium, www.wnmumustangs.com.

WNMU VOLLEYBALL VS. COLORADO MESA UNIVERSITY—7 p.m. wnmumustangs.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla 43RD ANNUAL RENAISSANCE ARTS-FAIRE—Through Nov. 2. Spend a week-end with kings and queens. Ongoing entertainment at three different areas, royal processions, and the Children's Realm, a large designated area full of family activities and entertainment. Lake canoe rides, horse games, battles, demonstrations, music, food and beverages. Young Park, 1905 E. Nevada Ave., 523-6403, www.riograndetheatre.com.

DIA DE LOS MUERTOS—Through Nov. 2. See story in this issue. Procession at 6 p.m. 12-7 p.m. Mesilla Plaza, 2355 Calle de Guadalupe, 524-3262, www.mesillanm.gov/tourism/events/category/events.

NMSU AGGIES FOOTBALL VS. TEXAS STATE—Military Appreciation Game. 6 p.m. NMSU Aggies Memorial Stadium,

646-1420, 532-2060, nmstatesports.com.

Deming GUATEMALAN MERCADO—See Oct. 31. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Deming Arts Center, 100 S. Gold St., 546-3663, demingarts@gmail.com.

TALES FROM SIX FEET UNDER—See Oct. 31. 7 p.m. \$8, 2/\$15. Depot Theater, 207 N. Country Club Road. 545-3131.

SUNDAY DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS 243RD ANNUAL RENAISSANCE ARTSFAIRE—See Nov. 1. Young Park, 1905 E. Nevada Ave., 523-6403, www.riograndetheatre.com.

DIA DE LOS MUERTOS—See story in this issue. 12-5 p.m. Mesilla Plaza, 2355 Calle de Guadalupe, 524-3262, www.mesillanm.gov/tourism/events/category/events.

NEW HORIZONS SYMPHONY—Five operatic arias sung by Las Cruces native Stephanie Sanchez. Also on the program: Johann Strauss' Die Fledermaus Overture, Wagner's Die Meistersinger, Rossini's Barber of Seville, and Bizet's Carmen Suite No. 1. 3 p.m. Free. NMSU Atkinson Hall, 1075 N. Horse-shoe, 646-2421.

Deming JAM SESSIONS—Every Sunday. 2-4 p.m. Free. Historic Morgan Hall, 109 E. Pine St., 545-8872.

THURSDAY 6 Las Cruces / Mesilla GALLERY TALK—In conjunction with "Off the Wall" exhibit. Silvia Marinas. 6 p.m. NMSU University Art Gallery. D.W. Williams Hall, University Avenue and Solano Drive, 646-2545, uag.nmsu.edu.

FRIDAY 7 Deming TALES FROM SIX FEET UNDER—See Oct. 31. 7 p.m. \$8, 2/\$15. Depot Theater, 207 N. Country Club Road. 545-3131.

SATURDAY 8 Silver City/Grant County VACCINATION CLINIC—9 a.m.-noon. High Desert Humane Society, Cougar Way.

SELF REALIZATION FELLOWSHIP MEDITATION GROUP—Hatha Yoga 3-4 p.m. Energization exercises 4:05-4:15 p.m. Meditation and readings 4:15-5:15 p.m.; readings from the lectures of Paramahansa Yogananda. 110 E. 11th St., 574-5451.

Las Cruces/Mesilla DESERT DASH—Half Marathon, 10K, 5K, and Children's 1-Mile Trail Race. Fundraiser for the non-profit Asombro Institute for Science Education. 8:30 a.m. \$15-\$35. Chihuahuan Desert Nature Park, 56501 N. Jornada Road, 524-3334, www.asombro.org/dash.

NMSU AGGIES FOOTBALL VS. LAFAYETTE—Homecoming Game. 6 p.m. NMSU Aggies Memorial Stadium, 646-1420, 532-2060, nmstatesports.com.

Deming TALES FROM SIX FEET UNDER—See Oct. 31. 7 p.m. \$8, 2/\$15. Depot Theater, 207 N. Country Club Road. 545-3131.

SUNDAY 9 Silver City/Grant County WILLIAM FLORIAN—Sixties folk. Grant County Community Concert Association. 3 p.m. Non-subscribers \$20 adult, \$5 student. WNMU Fine Arts Center Theatre. 538-5862, gccca@gconcerts.org.

Deming JAM SESSIONS—Every Sunday. 2-4 p.m. Free. Historic Morgan Hall, 109 E. Pine St., 545-8872.

TALES FROM SIX FEET UNDER—See Oct. 31. 2 p.m. \$8, 2/\$15. Depot Theater, 207 N. Country Club Road. 545-3131. ❄

Send events info by the 20th of the month to: events@desertexposure.com, fax 534-4134, PO Box 191, Silver City, NM 88062 or NEW—submit your event online at www.desertexposure.com/submitevents.



BEFORE YOU GO: Note that events listings are subject to change and to human error! Please confirm all dates, times and locations.

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SILVER CITY MUSEUM **October 2014 Calendar of Events**

Thursday, October 2, 2014
Brown Bag program: **New Mexico Cienagas; Part II** with A. T. Cole—12 noon to 1 pm Silver City Museum Annex, 302 W. Broadway

Saturday, October 4, 2014
Pinos Altos October Fiesta—Come and Play Historic Games! 11 am to 5 pm, in Pinos Altos!

Book Signing: **New Mexico Beer; A History of Brewing in the Land of Enchantment** by Jon C. Stott—2 pm to 3 pm at Little Toad Creek "Toad Corner" 200 N. Bullard St. Silver City, NM

Craft Class: **Papermaking for Adults** with Veronique De Jaeger—2 pm to 4 pm For adult crafters, \$15, limit 6 crafters, pre-registration required.

Saturday, October 11, 2014
Craft Class: **Mexican Paper Flowers**—10 am to 12 noon. For crafters aged 8 and older, \$5, limit 10 crafters, pre-registration encouraged.

Saturday, October 25, 2014
1 pm to 3 pm, **Halloween Ghost Walk** with students from WNMU as area "ghosts"! For the entire family, come and meet ghosts, have fun, and get a treat!

Ongoing Exhibits at the Silver City Museum:
Gila Wild: A Celebration of the 90th Anniversary of the Gila Wilderness and the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act, now through January 4, 2015
Wilderness: Michael Berman, James Hemphill and Anthony Howell, now through November 30, 2014

For more information: visit us at 312 West Broadway, Silver City, NM, call 575-538-5921, or click www.silvercitymuseum.org

CONTINENTAL DIVIDE • DAVID A. FRYXELL

Holiday Spirits

Ghosts of Halloweens past.

At our house, I confess, we have lost the Halloween spirit. No ghoulishly carved pumpkins adorn our front porch. Our roofline is free from strings of garish orange lights. I will not be donning a Spider-Man costume or shooting “webs” at unsuspecting trick-or-treaters. Indeed, we will be very surprised if any trick-or-treaters trek to our door at all, and any that do will have to be satisfied with whatever we can scrounge from the pantry at the last minute.

(“Here you go, ‘Batman,’ a can of black beans!” “Oooh, here’s a box of farfalle for the scary skeleton!”)

I blame our location—beyond the streetlit routes of town neighborhoods, remote even from

most houses in our subdivision. It’s a long haul down our gravel driveway for an uncertain candy reward. We’ll probably turn the porch lights off, in any case, to discourage the odd Halloween beggar who’d have to trek back up to the road with a bag laden with quinoa instead of Snickers.

It was not always thus in our household. Even before we had a trick-or-treater of our own, we got a kick out of handing out brightly wrapped invitations to childhood obesity. (The candy had to be selected carefully, of course, for us to enjoy sampling it as Halloween wore on and for dealing with any leftovers. “Bite-sized” versions of the various Mars candies—Three Musketeers, Mars bars, Milky Way, Snickers—were a favorite choice. Maybe an extra bag, just in case the turnout was bigger than last year. When else did we have an excuse to buy candy bars, after all?) The monsters and superheroes and princesses at our apartment door were like the ghosts of Halloween yet to come, when we’d have our own child to take out to threaten the neighbors with mayhem. (Don’t you just hate those homeowners who greet the giggling extortionists at their door with, “I’ll take a trick”?)

Once our daughter was of trick-or-treating age, of course, we went full-on Halloween. My wife carved elaborate jack-o-lanterns; one election year, she made both presidential candidates out of pumpkins. She also sewed costumes for all of us: her as Peter Pan, me as Captain Hook and our daughter as Tinker Bell; whatever the latest cartoon craze was for our daughter; other superheroes for me, the comic-book fan.

When we lived in Pittsburgh, our church had an annual pre-Halloween party, which gave us an excuse to don costumes without being one of those houses on Halloween night that try to one-up the kids. There

was even a “haunted house” staged by the teen group in the sanctuary, which our daughter tried just once. We still quote her reaction to the frights among the pews: “Get me out of here!”

Today, Halloween ranks second only to Christmas in the merchandising of American holidays, but it was not always so popular. The Puritan ethos of colonial New England discouraged celebrations of Halloween, which originally took hold as a harvest festival in the southern states. Halloween didn’t really catch on in America until after the 1846 potato famine with the arrival of Irish immigrants, who brought the Jack O’Lantern with them.

The original Jack O’Lantern tale, by the way, was pretty grisly—definitely not rated PG: Jack trapped the devil in a tree until the devil agreed that Jack, a notorious sinner, wouldn’t go to Hell when he died. The devil gave Jack a burning ember from Hell to light his way through the dark places of the earth, since heaven was forbidden to him, and Jack placed it in a lantern made of a carrot or turnip. Placing the “burning ember from hell” in pumpkins proved more practical once the Irish got to America.

For young women in 19th century America, Halloween was “San-Apple Night,” when it was believed that girls could predict the name or appearance of their future husbands by Halloween magic with mirrors, yarn or apple parings or by bobbing for apples. Thank goodness that tradition had died out by the time we had a daughter.

As for trick-or-treating, some popular histories of Halloween maintain that this officially sanctioned protection racket was popularized by adults as a way to bribe youngsters not to commit acts of vandalism. For example, Ze Jumbo Jelly Beans were packaged with the message, “Stop Halloween Pranksters.” Adults’ trick-or-treating scheme to bribe children to behave was temporarily derailed during World War II by sugar rationing, however. With no candy for treats, children resorted to tricks.

Even after World War II, trick-or-treating remained controversial: In a 1948 Halloween parade in New York City, members of the Madison Square Boys Club carried a banner that proclaimed, “American Boys Don’t Beg.” And as late as the 1950s, some adults viewed trick-or-treating as a form of extortion—or had to have the Halloween traditions explained to them by the costumed children at their door.

I grew up in the golden age of Halloween, before its current complete commercialism on the one hand and concerns about safety on the other. My costumed friends and I would take off into the late autumn night (in South Dakota, sometimes decorated with snow among the fallen leaves), ranging with our candy bags as far as our legs and sugar appetites would take us. We’d go for blocks, invading neighborhoods where the homeowners wouldn’t have known us even without our masks. Bands of caped

and cowed youngsters passed in the night—speaking only to share the occasional scoop about which house had good candy and which was fobbing off apples—like some sort of juvenile Hieronymus Bosch painting.

We didn’t do tricks, and each year only a few houses would endure even minor acts of vandalism from other kids—toilet paper on the trees, maybe a smashed pumpkin swiped from the porch. No, for us it was all about the treats: mostly candy bars, sometimes suckers and lollipops, a few apples promptly delegated to the fridge, a couple of homemade popcorn balls. The best part of the evening was coming home and spilling the contents of my candy bag on the carpet. The haul was astonishing, in retrospect, enough to keep me on a sugar high until Christmas.

Looking back, too, our (and our parents’) blithe attitudes about safety astonishes as well. We were dimly aware of the dangers of crossing the street at night wearing costumes as dark-hued as the October sky. But still we flitted through the neighborhood like bats, trusting that motorists would react in time to the shadows in their headlights. No one I knew ever got so much as a skinned knee on Halloween—but what were our parents thinking?!

We’d heard, too, the occasional tales of needles stuck in Halloween candy or other horrors. Safety seemed a good excuse to banish those apples to the kitchen for mom or dad to eat, but keep your hands off our popcorn balls! Today, the notion of children going (unaccompanied) house to house in the dark, accepting unwrapped treats homemade by strangers, seems like something out of the Brothers Grimm. But no popcorn balls since have ever tasted as good.

Today’s sanitized and commercialized Halloween is of course more sensible. Why we even still allow door to door trick-or-treating in this day and age is a wonder. (Are there no theme parks? No shopping malls or church Halloween parties?)

But perhaps my lack of enthusiasm around Oct. 31 stems in part from a loss of magic. When Halloween is defined by Wal-Mart and Hallmark, rather than shadowy candy-seeking vagabonds in the night, it’s hard to get in the true spirit of the holiday.

Maybe it’s just a matter of faith. Remember Linus, from the Peanuts comic strip and Halloween TV special? “On Halloween night, the ‘Great Pumpkin’ rises out of the pumpkin patch, then flies through the air to bring toys to all the good little children everywhere. Wouldn’t you like to sit with me in the pumpkin patch on Halloween night and wait for the Great Pumpkin?”

Yes, Linus, yes I would. ☘

Desert Exposure editor David A. Fryxell will spend Halloween delivering the November issue.



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Patrick Conlin, Broker/Owner

Mimbres Office:
2991 Highway 35, Mimbres, NM
Toll-free (866) 538-0404
Office (575) 574-8798
 www.mimbresvalleyrealestate.com
 robin@prudentialsilvercity.com

#1 Listing/Selling Office 2013 - 113 units sold, \$13.9M



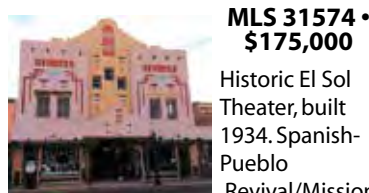
MLS 31605 • \$199,800
 Hacienda style home with views in the tall pines. Set above Lake Roberts on the Gila National Forest Boundary. Open floor plan with wood stove, built in bookshelves and ceramic tile flooring. Flag stone patios, latilla porches and walkways around the home with a relaxing gazebo. Two RV hookups, 2 stall carport and two outbuildings. Terraced flower and garden areas.



MLS 31598 • \$309,000
 2bd/2ba main house and 1+bd/1ba guest house, both renovated and in excellent condition on 1.8 acres with horse facilities. Hardwood and tile floors, Kiva fireplace, flowering and fruit trees, Horse set-up includes 4 stall barn, hay barn with trailer parking, Round-Pen, water, electricity. MOVE IN READY.



MLS 31580 • \$12,000
 Fixer adobe house on nearly 1/2 acre near Hurley. Great views of Geronimo Mt, mostly fenced lot, city water available. Restore this 4 to 5 room adobe or bring in a manufactured home for a land/home package. Sold as-is. No current plumbing or electrical service is to the house.



MLS 31574 • \$175,000
 Historic El Sol Theater, built 1934. Spanish-Pueblo Revival/Mission influence, brick construction with stucco facade. Painted Indian motifs. Two storefronts and two offices with 1/2 baths. Former theater space with delivery door plus balcony. 3rd floor large projection room plus ticket room & customer restrooms. Bullard St. in the historic downtown area. Small loading/parking area included. Possible owner finance



MLS 30756 • \$199,000
 Bordering state land (BLM), this 150 acre property has two 1,200 sq.ft. Mueller steel buildings, storage/garden shed, & power/well/septic & propane. One building has a 1Bd/1Ba residential set-up. The other building has guest area with bath, plus an art studio/workshop/flex-space area. Set on the west slope of the Florida Mountains 11 miles south of Deming, the property offers privacy, seclusion, and excellent panoramic views. Low utility costs, low maintenance.



MLS 31555 • \$115,000
 This home with gorgeous long range views on almost an acre. Great potential for adding another shop or outbuilding. Most of home with metal roof and front and rear covered decks to enjoy the peaceful outdoors. The home is in city limits with a rural zoning.



MLS 31573 • \$155,000
 LARGE downtown office building on busy Bullard St. in the center of the historic commercial district. Building would make a great LIVE/WORK space! Have your retail or business venture up front, and have a large living space in the rear. Property extends the width of the whole block back to N. Texas St. Parking spaces are in the rear of the building along with the potential for a yard/garden area. Possible owner finance!



MLS 30909 • \$110,500
 2 bd/2 ba home with two living areas. Front living room with bay window and hardwood floors and easy access to dining room and kitchen. One bedroom has it's own bathroom, the other bedroom provides a pass-thru to the family room. Light & bright family room looks out on the private backyard.



MLS 31021 • \$334,900
 Custom southwestern style home north of town on 2.6 private & wooded acres, mountain views to the west. Wrap-around covered porch & oversized garage. Updating includes granite countertops in kitchen & baths, carpeting in living room & bedrooms, faucets, elastomeric paint on stucco, ceiling fans. City water through private water association.



MLS 31543 • \$105,000
 Move in ready home, to include most furnishings and newer appliances including washer and dryer. Upgraded vinyl, double paned windows! 2bd 2ba home with office area or third bedroom. Mature trees shade the front and brick wall enclosed backyard.

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October 2014 Domestic Violence Awareness Month



- **October 3, 9am: Domestic Violence Proclamation Reading Silver City Women's Club**
- **October 8, 5:30 pm: Domestic Violence Silent Vigil @ Gough Park**

NO MORE Campaign:
 Public Service Announcements throughout October
"GREATER AWARENESS, ACTION TO END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & SEXUAL ASSAULT"

To learn more about how you can make a difference.
 For more information:

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The Community Partnership for Children presents

Celebration of Families



Saturday, Oct. 18 from 2 – 4 p.m.
in Gough Park

Cooperative games and activities for family fun.

for more info email: cpc.grantcountynm@gmail.com