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Good weeds, bad  
weeds, page 10



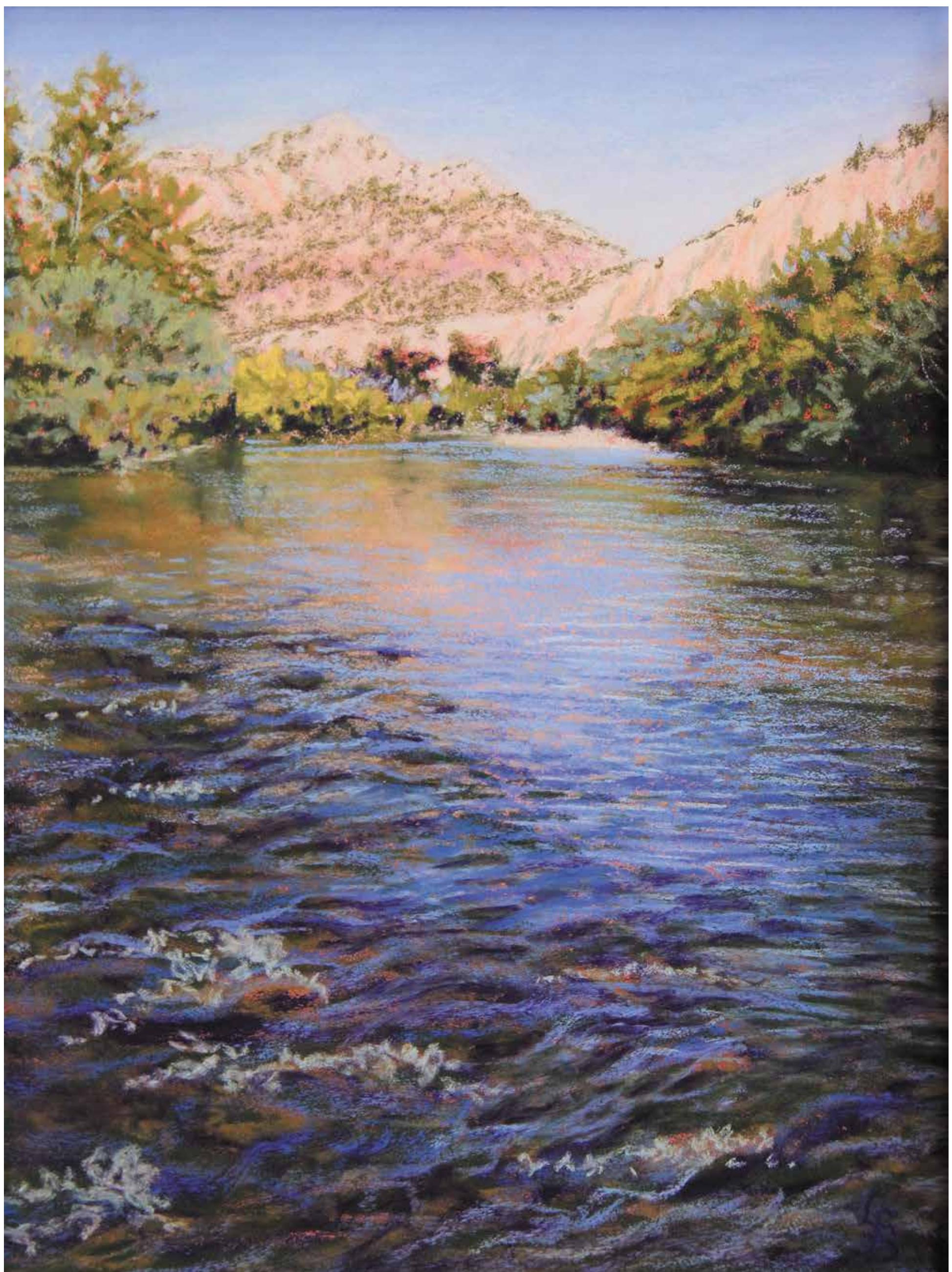
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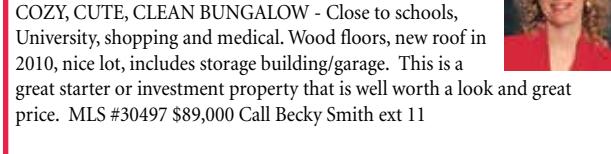
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OCTOBER 9  
Jim Kelly

The Real Legends Behind Some Fictional Ones

A discussion of the fluid nature of reality, and the fuzzy line between what is true and what is not.



OCTOBER 16  
Frost McGahey

Shakespeare's Sonnets, With Readings By Local Thespians

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OCTOBER 23  
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**About the cover:** "Gila Glow" by **Linda Boatwright**. Her paintings as well as jewelry can be seen at Azurite Gallery, 110 W. Broadway in Silver City, 538-9048, and will be part of this month's Red Dot Gallery Tour. See this month's Arts Exposure section for details.

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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK • DAVID A. FRYXELL

## Love Conquers—for Now

New Mexico's sudden shift toward marriage equality.

Sometimes it just takes one domino to start the toppling that creates societal change. Think of Rosa Parks, Cesar Chavez or Elizabeth Cady Stanton. We suspect that Lynn Ellins, the self-effacing Doña Ana County clerk, would be uncomfortable being placed in such company. But at least in New Mexico, Ellins' decision in August to begin issuing marriage licenses to gay and lesbian couples has created just such a domino effect. Last month, Grant County became the seventh in the state to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples, with five happy couples tying the knot in the first flurry of ceremonies.

We can't blame Grant County Clerk Robert Zamarripa for seeking legal clarification before joining this trend. After all, Ellins is now facing a civil suit by a group of Republican legislators; rather than burden taxpayers with the estimated \$40,000 cost of defending the suit, Ellins is seeking private funds through an online appeal ([equalitydonaanacounty.com](http://equalitydonaanacounty.com)). In Grant County, Judge J.C. Robinson quickly ruled on the matter, and by all accounts Zamarripa graciously complied.

Statewide, county clerks have sought similar clarity, and the New Mexico Supreme Court will hold a hearing Oct. 23 on the constitutional issues of same-sex marriages. However the court rules, let's hope that it's not so cruel as to invalidate the marriages already certified by Ellins, Zamarripa and other clerks, as the GOP legislators have requested.

New Mexico's courts had previously dragged their feet on tackling this important issue, apparently needing the sort of nudge that Ellins bravely provided. Although state law specifies "male" and "female" labels on the marriage form, New Mexico is unique among the 50 states, experts say, in not explicitly allowing or banning same-sex marriage—by legislative action, referendum or prior court rulings.

The question of whether New Mexico would have to recognize same-sex marriages performed in other states seems clear-cut, as Attorney General Gary King has concluded. That statute reads: "All marriages celebrated beyond the limits of this state, which are valid according to the laws of the country wherein they were celebrated or contracted, shall be likewise valid in this state, and shall have the same force as if they had been celebrated in accordance with the laws in force in this state."

The New Mexico legislature has several times seen bills that would allow (or prohibit) same-sex marriage, or that would provide for domestic partnerships, but nothing has passed. In the absence of legislation, some, notably Gov. Susana Martinez, have argued that the issue should be put to a statewide vote.

Questions of fundamental human rights, however, should never be a matter of electoral whims or political engineering. (This likewise makes us uncomfortable about Albuquerque's proposed late-term abortion ban on the ballot this fall.) We're quite certain, for instance, that slavery would have been upheld in a 19th century referendum, even if non-slaveholding states had been included.

Rather, based on the bedrock of the Bill of Rights, these should be matters for the courts. The judiciary can get it wrong, too, of course—witness the Dred Scott decision. But ultimately it was Brown v. Board of Education in 1954 that began to topple segregation, a full decade before Congress passed the Voting Rights Act.

In any case, it's puzzling why so many self-proclaimed conservatives vehemently oppose including gay and lesbian couples in the inherently conservative institution of marriage. Isn't it in the

interest of an orderly society to bring such relationships inside the same strictures that otherwise earn the swooning praise of "family values" advocates?

It's hard to put much stock in arguments that same-sex marriage would somehow damage the institution itself. Heterosexuals seem to be doing plenty of damage without any help, with divorce rates now approaching 50% (and even higher for subsequent marriages). The gay and lesbian couples we know have long-lasting and more solid relationships,

on the whole, than most of our straight friends. Maybe they could teach us a thing or two.

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opt to enforce as matters of law; one might as well argue for outlawing the sale of pork or shellfish. Biblical injunctions against tattoos, fortune telling and of course divorce are also quite clear, yet not enforced in state law.

Marriage has been a secular, as well as religious, institution for several centuries. New Mexico counties began keeping official marriage records as soon as each county was formed. Couples married by a justice of the peace, rather than by a minister or priest, have always been recognized as lawfully wedded nonetheless. It is no disrespect to people of faith for that secular tradition to embrace all New Mexico citizens.

## Writing Winners

The best of a bumper crop of entries.

This issue presents the winners of our annual writing contest, which we're pretty sure garnered more entries than ever before. This year's contest stands out, too, for its unusual group of winners. We can't recall the last time, if ever, we had two poetry entries among our finalists, or that no non-fiction entries made the final cut (three short stories earned those spots instead). For the first time that we can think of, moreover, Grant County writers swept the top honors. (Perhaps it's the influence of last month's Southwest Festival of the Written Word in Silver City.)

Last year's grand prize winner hailed from Deming, as did a fiction finalist, and the top poem was crafted in Las Cruces, so we're trusting this was an aberration and that authors outside Grant County will rise to the challenge next time.

Not surprisingly, given the outpouring of entries, making the final selection was tough. We whittled down perhaps a dozen outstanding pieces to the grand prize winner, Cheryl Gardarian's short story, "Building from the Ashes," and the finalists, written by Tom Hester, V.J. Moore, Bill Voyce and Sara Boyett. Gardarian, Hester and Moore are all first-time winners. Voyce is a former grand prize winner, and Boyett was a finalist last year (but for nonfiction, whereas this time it's poetry).

All who entered our contest are winners in our book, for having the courage and simple stick-to-itiveness to put words on the page and share them with the world. Enjoy this year's winning entries, and come back next month for our regular mix of articles.

David A. Fryxell is editor of Desert Exposure.



## LETTERS

# Our Readers Write

## The Elderly Are Us

**D**efrauding and abusing the elderly has become an industry in America, and on a smaller scale, Silver City has no exemption from this. Little scams circulate everywhere there is opportunity. Understanding the needs of the elderly and their vulnerability becomes even clearer as we read the highly informative and deeply personal articles ("Diary of a Caregiver") by John Catsis in the last two issues of *Desert Exposure*. Whether we like it or not, we don't remain morning dew on the vine forever, and it becomes more and more important that we understand that the elderly are us, all of us. When we afford them greater understanding and protection, we are, in fact, extending that to ourselves as well.

These have been an important series of articles for my wife and me, personally, and I want to thank this paper and this author for talking the time and interest in sharing them with the public.

Richard Earnheart  
Silver City

## Pearce's Way

I've just read your editorial in the September issue ("My Way vs. the Highway"), about Rep. Steve Pearce and his GOP colleagues. Bravo! Anything I could say about what you have written would be an understatement.

I was reminded, however, of my recent attendance at Congressman Pearce's Open Town Hall at the Dream Center. I stood in line, raised my hand, was given a mike and then was told by Pearce that I would not be allowed to speak and ask a question. The congressman then went into a personal and irrational rant against the executive director of Communities of Action & Faith and the devious, unfair conspiracies he claimed were directed at him. Also, at this same Town Hall Pearce stood by while an elo-

quent young lady, a Dreamer, had a story and a question for him. Pearce permitted two older gray-haired women to interrupt and heckle this delightful young person in a rather ugly way. I also understand that the congressman continued his own ranting on a local radio station the next morning.

Of what is Congressman Pearce so afraid? Are his devious answers of conflicting platitudes, gratuitous assumptions with erroneous conclusions catching up with him? Could it be that his no-solution, no-answer good enough, do-nothing obstructive behavior is no longer workable in the Congress, or acceptable for all the people in this District?

I must admit the congressman is putting his own innovative touch on the democratic process. However, there are some curious defects here. Among them is demonstrated an almost a pathetic poverty of any understanding of the true democratic process. The congressman is a smart and tenacious man and he is capable of doing much better for all of us and our country. As your editorial makes clear, each one of us, his constituents, carries the burden of demanding that he do just that and that he do it soon.

F. Patrick Fitzgerald  
Las Cruces

I am sorry to be so blunt, but my Congressman Steve Pearce is essentially a liar. Pearce's irresponsible actions will obviously threaten a government shutdown, and he knows it (Editor's Notebook, September). Yet he denies that this is his intention. Here is the far-right-wing Freedom Works describing the government shutdown: "Republicans are willing to take a hard stance—even allowing the government to be shut down, if necessary—in order to stop the catastrophically unworkable and unaffordable health care law from taking effect this January." Congressman Steve Pearce is a strong supporter of this group.

Now he telling us that he would work during a government shutdown without pay. Pearce made millions during his stint as a Congressman including the questionable sale of his company to Key Energy.

Greg Lennes  
Las Cruces

**Correction:** The August 2013 article "Diary of a Caregiver" (part one) incorrectly identified the Silver City Care Center as Sunset Vista Adult Residential Care. Additionally, the fees attributed to Sunset Vista are substantially less than stated. *Desert Exposure* regrets the error. \*

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

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## DESERT DIARY

# Ethnic Excess! Gender Jokes! Pearly Gates!

Plus driving to Toronto and digging into government.

**E**qual-opportunity offenders... Lacking any good blonde jokes this month, we are forced to resort to ethnic humor, which we trust is gentle enough in spirit not to seriously offend. First, the Scandinavians get theirs from **GeraldH**:

"Ole was working at the fish plant up north in Duluth when he accidentally cut off all 10 of his fingers. He went to the emergency room and when he got there the Norskie doctor looked at Ole and said, 'Okie dokie, let's have da finkers and I'll see what I can do.'

"Ole said, 'I haven't got da finkers.'

"What do you mean, you hafn't got da finkers?" the doctor said. "Lordy, it's 2013 and I've got micro-surgery and all kinds of incredible techniques. I could hafe put dem back on and made you like new! Why didn't you brink da finkers?"

"Ole replied, 'How vas I suppose to pick dem up?'

Then there are these two grandparenting tales from **Shanty Shaker**:

"A Jewish grandmother is giving directions to her grown grandson who is coming to visit with his wife: 'You come to the front door of the apartments. I am in apartment 301. There is a big panel at the front door. With your elbow, push button 301. I will buzz you in. Come inside and the elevator is on the right. Get in, and with your elbow, push third floor. When you get out, I'm on the left. With your elbow, hit my doorbell. OK?'

"Grandma, that sounds easy, but, why am I hitting all these buttons with my elbow?"

"What, you're coming empty handed?"

"An old Italian man in Brooklyn is dying. He calls his grandson to his bedside, 'Guido, I wan' you lissina me. I wan' you to take-a my chrome-plated .38 re-

volver so you will always remember me.'

"But grandpa, I really don't like guns. How about you leave me your Rolex watch instead?"

"You lissina me, boy! Somma day you gonna be runna da business, you gonna have a beautiful wife, lotsa money, a big-a home and maybe a couple of bambinos. Somma day you gonna come-a home and maybe finda you wife inna bed with another man. Whatta you gonna do then? Point to your watch and say, 'Times up!'"

**L**osing the battle of the sexes... In case we've missed any targets, we now move on to the gender wars, with zingers for both men and women. First this from **CharlesC**:

"Attending a wedding for the first time, a little girl whispered to her mother, 'Why is the bride dressed in white?'

"The mother replied, 'Because white is the color of happiness, and today is the happiest day of her life.'

"The child thought about this for a moment, then said, 'So why is the groom wearing black?'

Then these two from the **Silver City Greek**:

"Have you ever seen \$20 all crumpled up?" the woman asked her husband.

"No," said her husband.

"She gave him a sexy little smile, unbuttoned the top buttons of her blouse and slowly reached down into the cleavage created by a soft, silky push-up bra and pulled out a crumpled \$20 bill. He took the crumpled bill from her, and smiled approvingly.

"Have you ever seen \$50 all crumpled up?" she then asked her husband.

"Uh, no, I haven't."

"She gave him another sexy little smile, pulled up her skirt, and seductively reached into her tight, sheer panties and pulled out a crumpled \$50 bill. He took the crumpled bill and started breathing a little quicker with anticipation.

"Now," she said, "have you ever seen \$50,000 all crumpled up?"

"No way," he said, obviously becoming even more excited.

"Well, go look in the garage."

"When everybody on earth was dead and waiting to enter Heaven, God appeared and said, 'I want the men to make two lines. One line for the men who were true heads of their household, and the other line for the men who were dominated by their women. I want all the women to report to St. Peter.'

"Soon, the women were gone to St. Peter, and there were two lines of men. The line of the men who

were dominated by their wives was 100 miles long, but in the line for those who truly were heads of their household, there was only one man.

"God said to the long line, 'You men should be ashamed of yourselves; I created you to be the head of your household! You have been disobedient and have not fulfilled your purpose! Of all of you, only one obeyed. Learn from him.'

"God turned to the one man, 'How did you manage to be the only one in this line?'

"The man replied, 'My wife told me to stand here.'

*Whatever your gender, ethnicity or hair color, your jokes are welcome at Desert Diary. Email diary@desertexposure.com.*

**H**ot enough for you?... With the hottest weather well behind us now, we can share this account passed along by **Ned Ludd** without (we hope) karmic blowback:

"May 30: Just moved to Arizona. Now this is a state that knows how to live! Beautiful sunny days and warm balmy evenings. What a place! It is beautiful. I've finally found my home. I love it here."

"June 14: Really heating up. Got to 100 degrees today. Not a problem. Live in an air-conditioned home, drive an air-conditioned car. What a pleasure to see the sun every day like this. I'm turning into a sun worshipper."

"June 30: Had the backyard landscaped with western plants today. Lots of cactus and rocks. What a breeze to maintain. No more mowing the lawn for me. Another scorcher today, but I love it here."

"July 10: The temperature hasn't been below 100 all week. How do people get used to this kind of heat? At least it's kind of windy, though. But getting used to the heat is taking longer than I expected."

"July 15: Fell asleep by the community pool. Got third-degree burns over 60% of my body. Missed three days of work. What a dumb thing to do. I learned my lesson though. Got to respect the ol' sun in a climate like this."

"July 20: I missed Lomita (my cat) sneaking into the car when I left this morning. By the time I got to the hot car at noon, Lomita had died and swollen up to the size of a shopping bag and stank up the upholstery. The car now smells like kibbles and crap. I learned my lesson though. No more pets in this heat."

"July 25: The wind sucks. It feels like a giant freaking blow dryer! And it's hot as hell. The home air-conditioner is on the fritz and the AC repairman charged \$200 just to drive by and tell me he needed to order parts."

"July 30: Been sleeping outside on the patio for three nights now—\$225,000 house and I can't even go inside. Why did I ever come here?"

"August 4: It's 115 degrees. Finally got the air-conditioner fixed today. It cost \$500 and gets the temperature down to 85. I hate this stupid state."

"August 8: If another wise-ass cracks, 'Hot enough for you today?' I'm going to strangle him. Damn heat. By the time I get to work the radiator is boiling over, my clothes are soaking wet, and I smell like baked cat!"

"August 9: Tried to run some errands after work. Wore shorts, and when I sat on the seats in the car, I thought my ass was on fire. I lost two layers of flesh and all the hair on the back of my legs and ass. Now

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**Postcards from the edge...** Our second beach-y picture shows Silver City residents **Charlotte Rice, Julia Biglin, Carol Vaughn and Marcia D. Fisch** (who submitted the photo) in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Whether you're heading to the beach or the backwoods, 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.

my car smells like burnt hair, fried ass, and baked cat.

"August 10: The weather report might as well be a damn recording. Hot and sunny. Hot and sunny. Hot and sunny. It's been too hot to do crap for two damn months and the weatherman says it might really warm up next week. Doesn't it ever rain in this damn desert? Water rationing will be next, so my \$1,700 worth of cactus will just dry up and blow over. Even the cactus can't live in this damn heat."

"August 14: Welcome to HELL! Temperature got to 120 today. Forgot to crack the window and blew out the damn windshield of the car. The installer came to fix it and said, 'Hot enough for you today?' My sister had to spend \$1,500 to bail me out of jail. Freaking Arizona! What kind of a sick demented idiot would want to live here? Will write later to let you know how the trial goes."

**You're only as old as you feel...** This tale of the sprightly side of aging comes courtesy of **Pop Hayes**:

"One night a nurse was making her rounds in a nursing home. While walking down the hall, she came across an open door. She looked in and saw old Frank sitting up in bed pretending to drive. She asked, 'Frank, what are you doing?'

"He replied, 'I'm driving to Toronto.' The nurse smiled at him and carried on making her rounds.

"The next night as she walked past Frank's room she saw the same thing. Again she asked, 'Frank, what are you doing?'

"He replied, 'I'm driving to Toronto. It's a two-day trip, you know!' The nurse smiled at him and carried on making her rounds.

"Five minutes later she came across another open door and looked in. She saw Bob pretending to dance with someone. She asked, 'Bob, what are you doing?'

"Bob replied, 'I'm dancing with Frank's wife. He's gone to Toronto for a couple of days!"

**Good enough for government work...** This tale of bureaucratic thinking was passed along by **Ramblin' Man**:

"A guy stopped at a local gas station, and after filling his tank, he paid the bill and bought a soft drink. He stood by his car to drink his cola and watched a couple of men working along the roadside. One man would dig a hole two or three feet deep and then move on. The other man came along behind him and filled in the hole. While one was digging a new hole, the other was 25 feet behind filling in the hole. The men worked right past the guy with the soft drink and went on down the road.

"I can't stand this," said the man, tossing the can into a trash container and headed down the road toward the men. "Hold it, hold it," he said to the men. "Can you tell me what's going on here with all this digging and refilling?"

"Well, we work for the government and we're just doing our job," one of the men said.

"But one of you is digging a hole and the other fills it up. You're not accomplishing anything. Aren't you wasting the taxpayers' money?"

"You don't understand, mister," one of the men said, leaning on his shovel and wiping his brow. "Normally there's three of us: me, Elmer and Leroy. I dig the hole, Elmer sticks in the tree, and Leroy here puts the dirt back. You see, with the government sequestering, they are not buying any more trees, so Elmer's job's been cut. So now it's just me an' Leroy."

**E**con 101... Speaking of cutbacks and tight finances, there's this short from **Biffy**:

"A man goes up to his boss' office and says, 'Sir, you've got to give me a raise. Three other companies are after me.'

"'Well, is that a fact?' his boss asked. 'Which companies would they be?'

"The man replies, 'The electric, phone and gas companies.'

**O**h, heavenly daze... Finally, another report from heaven, this one thanks to **GeeRichard**:

"Three pastors and their wives, car pooling to a conference, are all killed in a traffic accident. When the group arrives at the Pearly Gates, they are pleased to see there is a courtesy lane for Clergy. Expecting to walk straight through, they are surprised when they come to a check-in post, staffed by an angel.

"The first couple steps up and, after Pastor Brown states his name, the angel browses a big book, opens to a page and says: 'Aha, Mr. Brown, I read that you are greedy, so much so that you married a woman named Penny. Please sit at the waiting bench. I'll deal with you later.'

"Next couple steps up and the husband introduces himself as Pastor Jones. The angel browses her ledger, then says, 'Aha, Mr. Jones, I read here that you are a lover of liquid spirits, so much so that you married a woman named Ginny. Please sit on the waiting bench, for now.'

"Before the next couple steps up, the husband says to his wife, 'I think we should get in the lane for the laity, don't you, Fanny?'" ☺

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



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## Good Weed, Bad Weed

It's all in the eye of the beholder.

A weed is simply a plant in the wrong place. But which plants and what places are a deeply personal matter. I realized this when I joined a work party at a town park and everyone was weeding differently. Some were scouring the ground bare, some were selectively plucking up elm seedlings or silver leaf nightshades, others hoed goatheads and horehound, and one ambitious individual was grubbing out a tree of heaven, roots and all. All of us were convinced ours were the baddest weeds of all and attacked them with a vengeance.

There was one in particular, though, that I left alone. A few years ago, I hated this weed. It was a spindly gray-green plant covered with innocent yellow daisies that quickly mutated into dandelion-like seed-clouds. It grew everywhere, erupting from sidewalk cracks all over town, blanketing vacant lots, and infesting my yard. I knew when it went to seed, there would be millions more to deal with the following year.

I was obsessed with getting rid of it. Week after week, I attacked it with hoe and weed eater, and yanked it up by the roots. But it kept coming back, its yellow eyes mocking me. I went on autopilot, pulling up the pesky weeds wherever I saw them—in my yard, neighbors' yards, at the post office parking lot.

It wasn't until I visited a friend, littering the path to her door with uprooted gray-green skeletons, that I realized how manic I'd become. She greeted me with a quizzical look and asked gently, "Why are you pulling up my wildflowers?"

Wildflowers?

Could this be true? I went home and looked up the plant in a wildflower book, surfed the Internet, and phoned a botanist. They confirmed that my weed was indeed a native wildflower, a "yellow spiny daisy" or "slender goldenweed." Its scientific name was *Xanthisma gracile*—"gracile" meaning slender and graceful. It also had the unique genetic distinction of being the only member of the plant kingdom with just two pairs of chromosomes.

Suddenly, my nemesis had my respect. I was in awe. This persistent little daisy had a focused and ef-



"Yellow spiny daisy" or "slender goldenweed." (Photos: Nancy Gordon)

ficient genetic code. Be a plant. Grow. Flower. Send swarms of seeds off on the wind. My 23 pairs of chromosomes were no match for its two. I felt humbled by this simple plant on which I'd wasted so much energy.

When I looked at the little spiny plants again, I saw them in a new light. Their sunny yellow faces grinned back at me knowingly.

"Look at us," they seemed to say. We're simple and elegant. We're good at what we do.

We're your friends.

Since then, I've been more careful about labeling plants as weeds or wildflowers. My current weeding frenzies have been directed at goatheads. The goathead plant, also known as "puncture vine," is a terribly invasive weed with hard, sharp-pointed fruits that stick in animal paws and flatten bicycle tires.

Then, just recently, a man was watching me whack away at a patch of weeds. "What are you doing?" he asked.

"Getting rid of goatheads," I said, keeping my eyes to the ground.

"Goatheads are good for you," he said.

I stopped hoeing and looked at him. "Huh?"

"I eat goatheads. They make me strong," he said, thumping his chest with his fists to emphasize the point.

I told him he could pick all he wanted, and went back to weeding.

But my curiosity got to me. I checked out *Tribulus terrestris* on the Internet and, sure enough, it's used as an herbal medicine. You can buy goathead extract that is not only supposed to strengthen muscles and help your heart but is also an alleged aphrodisiac.

That took me back a bit. I had to reconsider my actions. Now I look at goatheads differently, even respectfully, realizing that they have value to some people—as I continue chopping away at them with a hoe.

Sorry, but they're still weeds to me.

I'd say it's nothing personal, but it is.



The dreaded puncture vine aka goathead plant.

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Nancy Gordon wrote about the Bataan Death March re-creation in our March 2010 issue. She lives in Silver City.

# In the News

Media mentions of our little corner of the world.

## GOOD EATS

**G**uidebook author Zora O'Neill, in the Travel section of the *New York Times*, wrote about Silver City's culinary scene ("All That Shines Isn't Silver"):

"Silver, as it's known, has recently become a road-trip destination among those willing to drive for a good meal.... The town founders were determined to make a lasting place, unlike other slapdash mining camps. So up rose grand limestone, brick and cast-iron edifices. They weathered the crash of the silver market, two flash floods and the collapse of downtown commerce that beset so many small American towns. Now that sturdy shell fosters creativity—including our next meals."

## TAKE THE I-25 TATOOINE EXIT

**L**atino Review reported: "Over the past couple of days, the talk of New Mexico being used for the new Star Wars movies has been pretty constant. What wasn't mentioned is where in New Mexico they would choose to film. Today we have our answer: The City of Crosses, Las Cruces.

"Looking at some of the pictures from the area this location could definitely work for areas of Tatooine and possibly the Sith homeworld of Korriban itself.

"According to my source, very little will be shot in Las Cruces along with Los Angeles and 90% will be done in London when filming gets underway in 2014."

## ASK SPOCK

**E**ngland's *Daily Mail* newspaper reported that "Star Trek" star William Shatner opted not to be a passenger at New Mexico's Spaceport America. Virgin Galactic honcho Richard Branson blamed Shatner's fear of flying, which the actor confessed in his autobiography. But as the io9 website picked up the story: "Shatner's explanation has less to do with fear, and more to do with money—Branson wanted Shatner to pay for the trip, and Shatner wanted to be paid. Said Shatner: 'He wanted me to go up and pay for it and I said, 'Hey, you pay me and I'll go. I'll risk my life for a large sum of money.' But he didn't pick me up on my offer." Shatner then commented via Twitter: "As for the silly *Daily Mail* story—again with Virgin??? How old is this story? They want me to pay and they are using my name for publicity."

## NAKED AMBITION

**M**ark Leibovich, in his new book *Two Parties and a Funeral—Plus, Plenty of Valet Parking!—in America's Gilded Capital*, describes this 2008 scene:

"From the moment Obama secured the Democratic nomination, he and his staff were subjected to a frantic frenzy of flattery. Serial sucking up is common to any hot political enterprise, but it reached comic levels of desperation in this case. Bill Rich-

ardson, who was then the governor of New Mexico and had run unsuccessfully for president earlier in 2008, pulled aside Joe Biden before a campaign event in Mesilla, New Mexico, in October. 'Joe, you got to make me secretary of state,' Richardson pleaded in an exchange that surprised nearby campaign staffers for how naked—and public—it was."

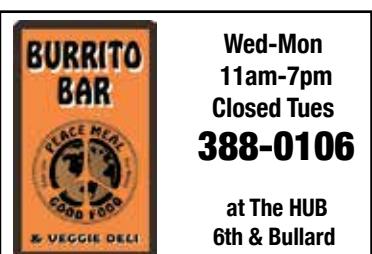
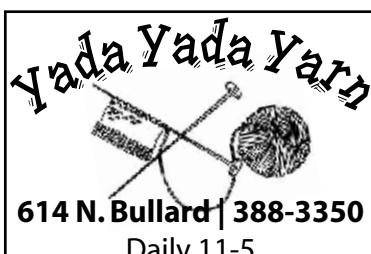
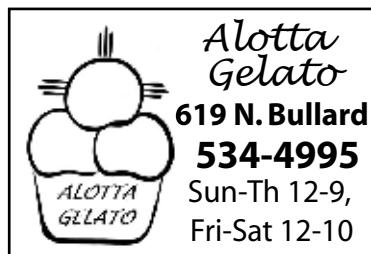
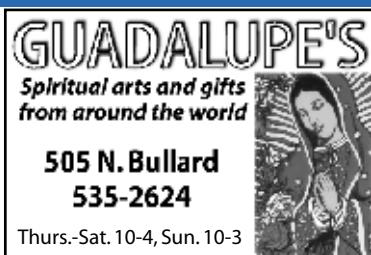
## The Tumbleweeds Top 10

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. From drought and wildfires to flooding, all in one news cycle! Plus, for those of you keeping score at home, "New Mexico + Breaking Bad" just missed the cutoff, with 117 hits.

1. (2) **Gov. Susana Martinez**—300 hits (▼)
2. (6) **New Mexico wolves**—237 hits (▲)
3. (1) **New Mexico + immigration**—234 hits (▼)
4. (3) **New Mexico drought**—215 hits (▼)
5. (7) **Sen. Tom Udall**—197 hits (▲)
6. (-) **New Mexico flooding**—183 hits\*
7. (5) **Virgin Galactic**—180 hits (▼)
8. (8) **Ex-Gov. Bill Richardson**—167 hits (▲)
9. (9) **New Mexico wildfires**—159 hits (-)
10. (-) **New Mexico gay marriage**—144 hits \*

**TUMBLEWEEDS**  
continued on  
next page

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**TUMBLEWEEDS****Life in a State of Nature**

Reader photos of creatures big and small.

Our photographic "zoo" continues to fill up, as readers respond to our call for their favorite local wildlife photos. The monsoon rains brought out a variety of critters to pose for readers' cameras, such as this bunny snapped by **Lon K. Shelton** of Deming, who writes: "Recent rains have brought an abundance of 'green' to our backyard wildlife sanctuary—too bad the rabbits don't seem to find the weeds very tasty. This one was heard muttering, 'green, green everywhere, but not a bite to eat.'"



Less benign was this find by **Susan Byersdorfer**: "This Blacktail Rattlesnake was discovered by my dog Bristol. She barked viciously and constantly from a distance until I stopped weed-eating to deal with the intruder."



Still more exotic, at least to our eyes, was this "badger making an unusual daytime appearance," sent in by **Joel Chinkes** from Hidden River Ranch in Columbus.



This month's deer photo is another submission from the desert yard of **Debbie Morris** of Las Cruces.

And finally, as promised, here's one more rare insect sighting by **Elroy Limmer** of Silver City—Sumichrast's Toothpick Grasshopper, *Achurum sumichrasti*. He writes: "A very unusua-looking critter, about 2.5 inches long. I saw several late in February this year when I was cleaning up some clumps of Little Bluestem grass. So I know that they can or do overwinter as adults."



Share your own photos of the Southwest's "zoo." Show us what you've seen out there, large or small, from snakes to swallow-tails. Send to [editor@desertexposure.com](mailto:editor@desertexposure.com) or mail to PO Box 191, Silver City, NM 88062, and include your postal address for a little thank-you. \*

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# Evolution of a Hiker

In search of a hiking staff worth sticking with.

I picked up my first hiking staff somewhere along about 1974 in the mountains of Pennsylvania; it was made of alder.

At the time I was stumbling around a very rocky portion of the woods; it was May and I was turkey hunting. I spied the arrow-straight stick lying there on the ground and fetched it up to help me along my way.

I still have that stick today. I added a 12-inch section of quarter-inch-thick ceramic-coated steel rod to the tip to make it an ideal length for me. Today that stick resides in the bowels of my camper, ready to be called upon at a minute's notice.

While in Pennsylvania, I tried other stick material of one sort or the other, but none came up to the standards of that first one when it came to utility. One "friend" even tried to secretly "appropriate" it from me, but I caught him!

It was my only staff until I moved to Grant County some 25 years ago. Out west, I've used more than that stick with varying degrees of success as I constantly tried to find the perfect one.

I have a few requirements in a stick that must be met. First, it must be as straight as possible with a length somewhere between six and seven feet (I'm six foot, two inches tall). I prefer a light stick in weight, well-dried and cured, about two inches in thickness at the handle and one to one and a half inches at the tip. It must be strong.

But these factors eliminate oak and other really dense hardwoods, simply because they weigh too much and can be unwieldy. I found box elder and juniper good for my purposes.

My first attempts at improving the staffs involved drilling holes in the center of the tips and gluing in a 16-penny nail minus the head. That enabled the stick to not slip on uneven or slippery ground, and thus, I did not slip or fall, either.

But the metal tip was noisy when it hit pebbles, stones or rocks, giving away my position to wary wildlife. So I switched to screwing into the tip a hex-head lag bolt a quarter-inch in diameter with a steel washer of the diameter of the wooden tip. That worked really well but still was noisy. In both cases, the metal tips prevented wear of the wooden tip.

My next move was to a stout broom-handle of six feet in length; it had the bonus of having a foam-rubber handle and it was strong and lightweight. Of course, I added the bolt and washer plus attached a length of rope for a handle, secured by good old duct tape—pretty, no! But the rope enabled me to sling the stick and keep my hands free when I didn't have need of it.

That staff usually resided in the back of my pickup.

But I still wasn't satisfied in my search for the "ultimate staff." That's when I discovered yucca stalks. For everyday hiking around my property, I settle on a yucca stalk; it is both light and strong and I have no problem in finding straight ones of any length. It is also stout enough to deliver a painful blow if needed.

It was seven feet originally, but over the years it has diminished down to five feet.

I used one stalk for over five years, until one day I leaned it against the garage between the doors, and it fell and I unknowingly backed a tire over it. To its credit it didn't break, but it was severely weakened, and even with a heavy wrapping of that good old duct tape, it wasn't trustworthy any longer. Sigh.

I like the stalks to be a year old and well dried and cured. I then sand the upper portion to get rid of splinters and install two rubber feet on the tip: One is the diameter of the tip and glued to it; then another larger one is slipped over the first and glued with silicone.

That arrangement worked fairly well—that is, until I kept getting

minuscule splinters in my hand, and somewhere I lost the tips. Oh, well.

So for the past 39 years or so a single, stout staff has served me well as a third leg and I never needed anything else, but evolution with age goes onward. Awhile back sometime, I wrote another column about staffs, and a wife of a friend of mine asked her husband why I didn't use two sticks. So he relayed the question, and I replied I didn't *need* two of them. Secretly I thought, "Two sticks are for girlie-men." I would soon eat those words.

In fact, the subject was all but forgotten until I read a book about hiking the Appalachian Trail, and I found that all of the "professional hikers" used two sticks, made of either aluminum or carbon fiber.

I still shrugged off the idea, until I suffered a life-changing injury totally unrelated to hiking but still debilitating. I labored to move uphill; a mile seemed like eternity and the injury was sapping me of energy and will.

That's when I asked myself, *Why not two sticks?*, remembering that woman's question. So I took my two yuccas and cut them to 40 inches—voilà! The next hike was much easier and I actually did two miles! I had found near nirvana! The two sticks made a tremendous difference; I could actually look about as I hiked while not having to stop to do so. If I slipped, one or the other stick steadied me.

But I had a problem with those yuccas: I still absorbed micro-splinters, and the left one kept slipping from my grasp. It was time to evolve to "real" staffs—"trekking poles."

I phoned my friend (husband of the question asker) and asked his opinion, since he obviously used two trekking poles. Right away I was both shocked and dismayed that these critters cost big bucks! Too much for my meager budget.

But my friend had a solution: He had two that he no longer used, made of aluminum, adjustable, with cork handles and, best of all, at the right price!

I was in front of his house almost before he could hang up the phone.

Length for length, they are heavier than the yuccas, but the cork handles mean no more splinters; they have straps, too, so they cannot slip out of my hands, a welcome addition. The tips have metal rods and they are noisy and they stick in the mud, but those are minor annoyances. I can look around as I hike and I've managed to cut a bunch of time off of my old limits.

I've used them for four months now and can find no real faults with them. I seldom go on a hike without them. Oh, yeah, and being a "girlie man" be danged!

As always, keep the sun forever at your back, the wind forever in your face, and may The Forever God bless you too! ☺

*When not ramblin' outdoors, Larry Lightner hangs up his trekking poles in Silver City.*



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## Cultivating Fiction

Two writers who plotted both soil and story.

**A**n early coolness hints at autumn and seems to subdue any hubbub in town. At my place the leaves of catalpa trees, like yellow handkerchief-sized parachutes, drop from canopy to ground, seeking to dominate the seasonal color spectrum. Underlying the hush of falling leaves is a discordant whirring of male cicadas—Mother Nature's contribution to white noise. These signs indicate it is time to stockpile books.

Not that I've abandoned my garden. A small parcel of mail-order bulbs was just interred. But two wonderful books have turned up that highlight the relationship between "pen and trowel." One is just published; the other escaped my notice when it appeared two years ago. The first is *Beatrix Potter's Gardening Life: The plants and places that inspired the classic children's tales* by Marta McDowell (Timber Press, 339 pp., \$24.95). The second is *One Writer's Garden: Eudora Welty's Home Place* by Susan Haltom and Jane Roy Brown (University Press of Mississippi, 272 pp., \$35).

Both books deserve attention to text, but page-flipping also reveals rich photographic and archival materials, including an unforgettable photo of Potter holding her pet dormouse, Xarifa. Another treat is Welty—facing away from the camera—hosing a flower bed from her lawn chair. The photo epitomizes a bygone southern languor.

Potter (1868-1943) formed her love of sylvan landscapes and wildlife in childhood spending summers with family in a series of country houses and estates. The book shows her accomplished pencil drawing of foxglove and periwinkle at age 10. Potter started to garden in earnest—and cultivate her farms in England's Lake District—at age 40, once her book sales and a legacy from an aunt accorded funds to purchase land.

**W**elty (1909-2001) began gardening as a youth alongside her mother, Chestina, at their Jackson, Miss., home. Ultimately the writer would live most of her life at the Tudor Revival home.



Top: Eudora Welty in the garden, undated. (© Eudora Welty LLC). Above: A contemporary overhead view of the garden spaces, 2009. (Photo by Langdon Clay). Reprinted courtesy University Press of Mississippi.

Another formative experience for Welty was traveling her rural home state as a publicist and photographer for the Work Projects Administration (WPA). The job enabled her to meet people from various social backgrounds and form characters who later appeared in her writing.

Welty also used photography to document her mother's garden—an archive that proved priceless in designating the property as a National Historic Landmark in 2006.

Garden and plant images appear frequently in Welty's fiction. In her early short story, "A Curtain of Green," the character Mrs. Larke works nonstop in her garden to erase the pain of her husband's accidental death:

"To a certain extent she seemed not to seek or order, but to allow an over-flowering, as if she consciously ventured forever a little farther, a little deeper."

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Top: A modern version of Beatrix Potter's inspiration. Above: Potter's Hill Top Farm. (Photography by Ward. Images taken from *Beatrix Potter's Gardening Life* © 2013 by Marta McDowell. Published by Timber Press, Portland, OR. Used by permission of the publisher. All rights reserved.)

er, into her life in the garden....

"But memory tightened about her easily, without any prelude of warning or even despair. She would see promptly, as if a curtain had been jerked quite unceremoniously away from a little scene, the front porch of the white house, the shady street in front, and the blue automobile in which her husband approached, driving home from work....

"There had been no warning. But there was the enormous tree, the fragrant chinaberry tree, suddenly tilting, dark and slow like a cloud, leaning down to her husband."

This story is contained in *The Collected Stories of Eudora Welty*, winner of a National Book Award in 1983. Her novel *The Optimist's Daughter* received a Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 1973.

The authors of *One Writer's Garden* comment: "References to flowers and gardens colored her fiction and correspondence. Their consistent presence in her writing reveals that the flower garden lay at the heart of her inner world, sustaining her creativity and stirring her imagination."

Welty's close friendships were with gardeners. Foremost among them was her literary agent, the Irishman Diarmuid Russell.

Another correspondent—Elizabeth Lawrence, author of the seminal book *A Southern Garden* (1942)—addressed Welty's guilt over the status of the garden and the onslaught of old age: "It grieves me for you to feel guilty, when you have no reason to. I don't feel guilty about neglecting mine. I don't owe it to anyone but myself to keep it alive. I just feel frustrated, not knowing how long I can keep it at all."

Romance for both Potter and Welty was bittersweet. Welty's relationship with her beau, John Robinson, endured from the late 1930s through the early 1950s. Late in life, during the period of her mother's death and that of many of her closest friends, Welty had a relationship with the detective writer Ross Macdonald.

In 1905, one month after Potter was married to Norman Warne, he died of leukemia. Norman had been project manager of her books at F. Warne & Co. publishers. Their last project together was *The Tale of Mrs. Tiggy-Winkle*.

Shortly thereafter, she purchased Hill Top Farm, her first property.

Author McDowell writes, "Gardening eases grief. Beatrix launched herself into the pleasant distraction of making her first garden. Millie Warne, Norman's sister, became her garden confidante and first guest."

When a farm across the road from Hill Top came on the market, Potter purchased it, working with William Heelis, a local solicitor. In 1912, he proposed, and the year of their marriage saw the publication of *The Tale of Pigling Bland* (1913), a charming romance with a small pig who sighs, "I wish I could have a little garden and grow potatoes."

Potter and Welty were writers who got their hands dirty and ate from their gardens during war years.

Both books contain thorough plant lists.

I am enthusiastic about the size of the Potter book. At 6 1/2 by 8 1/2 inches, it is exceptionally comfortable to hold. Perhaps this design attribute was necessitated by the book's final section, a gardening pilgrimage. This travel guide takes Potter devotees from her earliest South Kensington neighborhood in London, to an exhibition celebrating her time in Scotland. The Perth Museum of Art there houses

"a choice collection of Potter's fungus paintings" (see Southwest Gardener, August 2013). Tips are offered for visiting her numerous farms and homes in the Lake District, many now National Trust properties. Other museums that feature Potter collections, including the Armett in Ambleside, are described. ☀

*Southwest Gardener* columnist Vivian Savitt gardens at Ditch Cottage in Silver City. Her column will return next spring.



Hill Top Farm. (Photo by Marta McDowell)

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## Three Takeaways

What I learned from traveling 2,200 miles.

Early this past summer I had the opportunity to go on the road to do some clinic work and give some individual lessons. I covered over 2,200 miles and saw good chunks of four different states. Along the way I met and worked with some good horses and some dedicated and committed horse owners.

These periods of concentrated horsemanship, working with people and their horses all day long, and sometimes well into the night, remind me of why I decided to pursue my horse journey in the first place. I get very energized by horse owners who are curious and anxious to learn and try new things. My goal when I started doing this was to make things as personal and individualized as possible, providing real solutions and information that incorporated Western and English traditions as well as the evolving science of horse care. Taking this out to a wider audience is just plain fun.

There were three things that really stuck in my mind from this trip, all I think good lessons for any horse owner:

**1 There is no such thing as a bomb-proof horse.** In one group I was fortunate enough to have a trainer who was interested in learning some new approaches to help grow his own business. In this particular case we were working on obstacles and scary objects, and going through the steps a horse would take to solve a problem by himself—the squeeze game, approach and retreat, rewarding small tries, opening and closing doors, etc. We were using a simple tarp for the exercise. We had done all this on the ground, and were now duplicating the techniques under saddle.

Given that I had an experienced trainer on his horse—a horse that had been over hundreds of tarps and was used in cutting and roping competitions, annual branding on a ranch, lessons, and just about anything else you could do with a horse—I assumed this would be an easy and smooth demonstration of how to do it.

The rider did a perfect job of showing how each step would ultimately lead to success. He had brought the horse up to the tarp with calmness and good leadership, and I was on the ground describing to the group what had happened and what we would do next. He asked the horse to take a step on to the tarp in exactly the right way. Next thing I knew I was flat on my back in the dirt as the horse jumped and bucked sideways, coming right over top of me and getting the rider halfway out of the saddle. Only the last bit of athletic ability I had kept me from being seriously hurt, and only the skill of the rider kept him in the saddle.

Only the horse knew why that particular tarp on that day in that location was too scary to deal with. I fell asleep at the switch, as did the rider, both of us assuming this was a routine task for a horse of this level. We didn't "ride every stride" and nearly paid the price.

Moral of the story: Make sure you're always testing your horse and yourself under pressure. And never assume that old Fluffy can't become a frightened flight animal in the blink of an eye, no matter how many times he's seen or done something. I hate to keep getting proved right about this, but with every new wreck I see or hear about, I know many riders just aren't taking it seriously.

**2 You are responsible for yourself and your horse, so trust your own instincts above all else.** In one group I had a student who was as dedicated and passionate about horses as anyone I've met. She came to horses late in life. About 10 years ago, she was starting to take lessons on her wonderful new horse, a three-year-old quarterhorse that was started beautifully and showed a good mind. A pretty well-known clinician was coming to town, and her trainer told her she was ready for a clinic, even though she was very green.

As often happens, there were way too many people in the clinic, and the range of horse breeds, ages and rider skill levels created the classic accident

waiting to happen. Now, I'm in the horse business and I can tell you the easiest way to make money is to fill up a clinic with lots of people and auditors, give broad-stroke instructions for a few days, sell some stuff, take your money and head to the next stop. Profitable and cost effective. I've done it, but won't do it again.

In this case someone paid a tremendous price. As everyone was sitting on their horses and the clinician was gassing on about something, a young rider on a two-year-old horse wasn't paying attention. Her horse bolted and ran into the horse of this woman. Her horse jumped out from under her and she hit the dirt hard. After dusting herself off, she knew she didn't feel right, but got the old "cowgirl up" and "get back on the horse" refrain from the group. She couldn't lift her left leg to reach the stirrup, so went around to the right and was offered a leg up by the clinician. He threw her up with such force and her pain was so great that she passed out, went all the way over the horse and hit the ground on the other side.

Here's the sad part. Her injuries—physical and mental—were so great that it was 10 years before she could get back on her beautiful horse. The horse is now 13 and it was a joyous and tearful moment when she got back on her horse with me for the first time. It was just simply walking on a lead rope, but for her after her ordeal, like riding in the Olympics.

Did she do anything wrong? Not much in my book. With such a green rider, her "trainer" should have said audit a clinic first, don't ride in it. The clinician should have thought more about safety and crowding than butts in the saddle. What she should have done was recognize she wasn't ready for this, get off her horse and go watch—trust her instincts, not anyone else's. And she yielded to peer pressure. Don't ignore pain and the power of adrenaline and get back on a horse after a bad fall. Most of us are recreational riders, but this is a dangerous sport. It's OK to say no to something that doesn't feel right or that makes you too nervous. And it's OK to ask for your money back at a clinic or lesson if you think it is too crowded, badly organized and possibly dangerous for you.

**3 Those of us with horses are a bit selfish.** In one of my groups there was a young woman who was obviously very talented with horses. Turns out she and her husband had a training business of their own, mostly developing cutting, roping and ranch horses, and giving riding lessons. She was very quiet during our sessions.

I was pretty shaken when I found out she had lost her husband just two months before—to a horse accident. An expert rider, doing something he had done hundreds of times before, his horse went one way while he went another. The kind of thing that happens with horses. He hit the ground, hit his head and was killed on the spot. No helmet (doctors said one would have saved him). He left a young wife a widow with three kids. I was honored she was using my clinic to start trying to put her life back together.

It made me think of something else, too. Most of us have other people in our lives—spouses, kids, parents, lifelong friends. What happens to us, good and bad, affects many others. If you ride horses, maybe you ought to think about that a bit more. Taking every step possible to make our passion as safe as it can be—constantly improving our skills, wearing safety equipment, riding only to your level, buying the right horse, getting professional help (not just advice from a friend), keeping our horses fit and healthy—seems like something we owe to all those other people in our lives. It's not just about what we like to do. ☺

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.



100 HIKES • LINDA FERRARA

## Burros Byway

Enjoy the views from this hike off Mangus Valley Road, west of Silver City.

**Name:** Forest Road 4246, Burro Mountains

**Distance:** Various

**Difficulty:** Easy to moderate

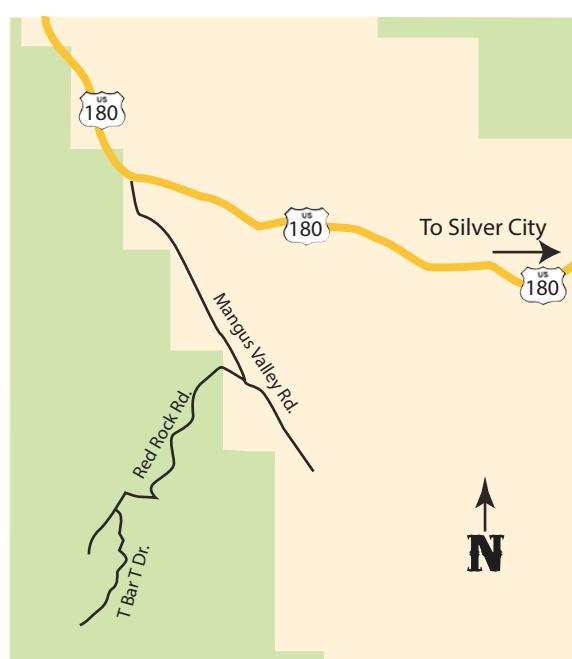
**Directions:** From the intersection of Highway 90 and Highway 180, drive west on 180 12.8 miles. Turn left onto Mangus Valley Road. Go 4.6 miles and turn right onto Red Rock Road. At the 2.4-mile mark, you will cross over a cattle guard and the road turns into a well-maintained dirt road. At the 3.2-mile mark, turn left onto T-T Road (aka T Bar T). Go 0.9 mile to the end of this road and turn left. Go 0.2 mile and you will reach another cattle guard. After the cattle guard, turn right onto Forest Road 819. Go 0.3 miles and park. You will see a dirt road on both sides of the road. This article describes the hike to the right, which is Forest Road 4246. (As of this February there was no Forest Road sign at this location, but you will see several markers along the trail.)

**Hike Description:** The road goes through a sandy area and then starts a gentle and steady climb upwards. There are striking long-range views of Jack's Peak, the Mogollons, the Tyrone Mine and more along the way and lots of wildlife evidence and sightings (if you're quiet enough). This appears to be a well-used trail as we saw foot prints, tire tracks and two ATVers on the trail. The terrain is rolling hills with piñon, juniper and scrub oak.

**Notes:** There are several interesting trails in this vicinity. Enjoy exploring them during the cooler months.

**Helpful Hint:** It's hunting season. Wear bright colors; put bright colors on your pets. I buy bright orange T-shirts at one of the secondhand stores in town for my dogs.

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



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**The Diamonds**  
Classic Rock & Roll  
Tuesday, Oct. 15, 2013



**Anthony Kearns**  
Acclaimed Irish Tenor  
Wednesday, November 6, 2013

**Jesse Lynch's Jazz 101**  
20<sup>th</sup> Century Jazz Standards  
Friday, January 24, 2014



**And: Midori**  
World renowned violinist  
In a special concert separate  
from the regular season  
Monday, April 21, 2014



**Pavlo and his Band**  
Master of the Greek Guitar  
Thursday, April 3, 2014



Performances start at 7:30 p.m. and are held in the  
WNMU Fine Arts Center Theater in Silver City

### Grant County Community Concert Association 2013-14 Season Subscription Form

To help support the full cost of our concert series and our Educational Outreach program for school children, please consider augmenting your subscription payment with a tax-deductible donation under one of our donor plans:

New	<input type="checkbox"/> Student(s) @ \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> Friend \$40
Renewal	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult(s) @ \$45	<input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$70
	<input type="checkbox"/> Early Bird(s) @ \$40 (if paid by 6/30/13)	<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$130
	<input type="checkbox"/> Midori @ \$15 (subscriber rate)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor \$240
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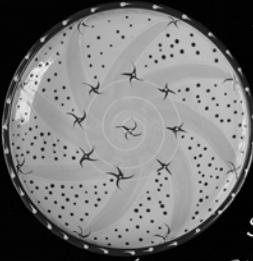
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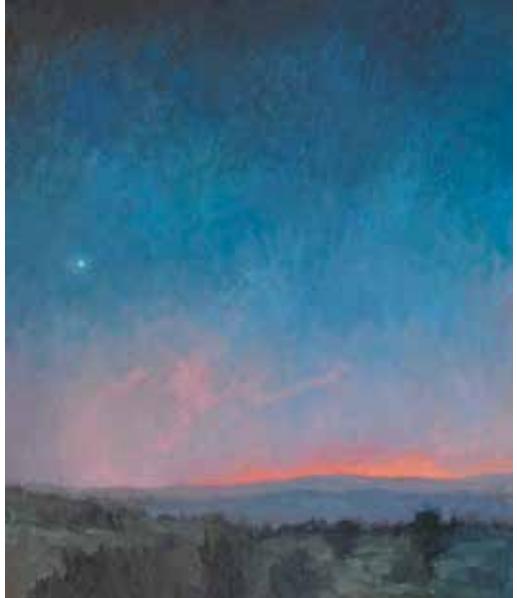
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Weekend**

**October  
11-14**



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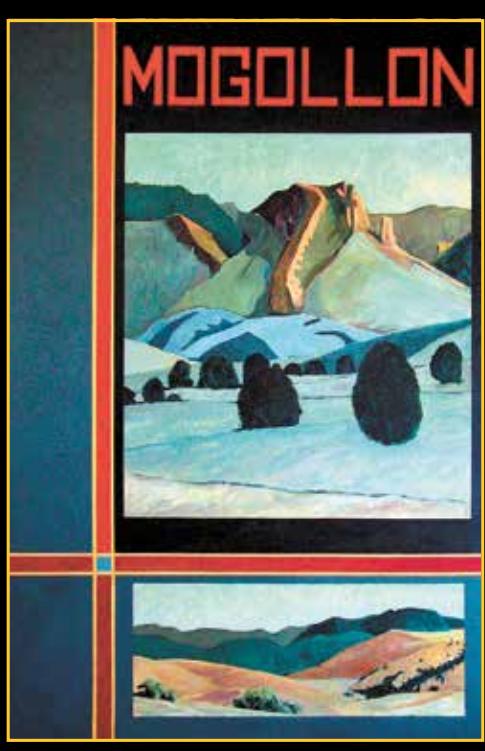
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*Mogollon*, acrylic, 76" x 51"

## ARTS EXPOSURE

# Around the World with Art

Silver City's Red Dot Gallery Weekend, Oct. 11-14, takes a global view.

This year's annual gallery-hopping weekend in Silver City has a global theme, with 18 participating galleries serving up international fare along with fine artwork. The Red Dot Gallery Weekend, Oct. 11-14, starts on Friday with a mural tour; meet at Leyba & Ingalls Arts at 3:30 p.m. Also on Friday, in a featured restaurant event, Curious Kumquat, 111 E. College St., will feature an Oktoberfest beer selection and tapas from 12-9 p.m. That evening, from 6-8 p.m., Seedboat Gallery presents art and a narrative slide show by Paula Wittner.

On Saturday, Oct. 12, you can stroll in a Gallery Walk from 11 a.m.-7 p.m. and enjoy gallery openings beginning at 3 p.m. Meet the artists and enjoy music and food from different countries, along with surprise events. The Gallery Walk on Sunday, Oct. 13, runs from 11 a.m.-4 p.m., followed by a raffle drawing at 4 p.m. at Seedboat Gallery. Raffle tickets are free with each purchase of art during the weekend, before the raffle, and prizes will be on view at Seedboat. Sunday also features brunch at Vicki's Restaurant, corner of Market and Texas Street, from 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

Finally, on Columbus Day, Monday, Oct. 14, there will be a final Gallery Walk, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., and another mural tour meeting at Leyba & Ingalls Arts at 2 p.m. That afternoon at 1 at the Hub, prizes will be awarded for works in a children's art exhibit on view all weekend in downtown storefronts.

Participating galleries are located in the historic downtown area with the exception of Ann McMahon Photography (see directions below):

- **Ann McMahon Photography**, 125 Country Road, (225) 346-0707, www.AnnMcMahon.com



Works from natural materials at Lloyd Studios.



Seedboat Gallery features art by Paula Wittner.

Fine art photographic image development and printing in a classic Southwest-style home, built to be a showcase gallery and studio. Take Hwy. 180 E to Rosedale Road on your right. Proceed down Country Road 1.1 miles to #125 on your left.

- **Art & Conversation/Yada Yada Yarn**, 614 N. Bullard, 388-3350, www.artandconversation.com / www.yadayadayarn.com—Contemporary art featuring nationally recognized artist Janey Katz with her “critters from the hood,” who will be doing demos all weekend. Also featuring local fiber and clay artist Suzi Calhoun and Story People prints, sculptures, cards and books. Refreshments from the USA.

- **a sp. "A" @e / Studio • Art • Gallery**, 110 W. 7th St., 538-3333, www.aspacestudioartgallery.com—A 4000-square-foot multi-purpose contemporary art and performance space. Features work of local artists with painting, fused glass, mixed-media assemblage sculpture, collage, pottery, mosaic, drawings and prints. Art installation is planned during the weekend. Food from Canada will be served.

- **Azurite Gallery**, 110 W. Broadway, 538-9048, www.azuritegallery.com—Home of the Square Ring. Contemporary designer jewelry by Linda and Cecil Boatwright. Featuring local turquoise from Santa Rita and Tyrone Mines, and Southwest landscape paintings by local artist Marilyn Gendron, who will demonstrate watercolor techniques on Saturday. Greek cuisine will be featured.

- **Copper Quail Gallery**, 211-A N. Texas St., 388-2646—Offering a selection of original paintings, photography, stained glass, metal art and works in clay,

at the crossroads  
of Yankie &  
Texas Streets  
in Historic  
Downtown  
Silver City

# Yankie/Texas ART DISTRICT



**Vibrations Gallery**  
108 W. Yankie  
654-4384



**Lois Duffy Art**  
211C N. Texas  
313-9631



**Copper Quail Gallery**  
211A N. Texas  
388-2646



**Vicki's Eatery**  
315 N. Texas  
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Sun 8-2 • Lunch M-Sat 11-3



**Artesanos Gallery**  
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**Seedboat Gallery**  
214 W. Yankie  
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**Yankie Street  
Artists**  
103 W. Yankie  
519-0615

©DE



Works by Crystal Foreman Brown, featured at Leyba & Ingalls Arts.

wood and fiber, all created by local artists. Featured event: "Shadowcast," a multi-artist show in diverse media. Refreshments from the USA.

• **Creations & Adornments Gallery/Studio**, 116 N. Bullard, 534-4269—Showing fine art, copper recycled art, pottery, gourd art by Lenora Elmer, and unique jewelry. Refreshments from Sweden.

• **Leyba & Ingalls Arts**, 315 N. Bullard, 388-5725, www.leybaingallsarts.com—An opening on Saturday, 3-7 p.m., will spotlight Crystal Foreman Brown. Reception features Thai cuisine.

• **Lois Duffy Studio**, 211C N. Texas St., 313-9631 www.loisduffy.com—A working studio with space to wander and enjoy unusual paintings, giclee prints and hand-signed cards. Invited guest Gerry Szajer will be showing his mobiles and metal creations. Mexican food and live music featured on Saturday from 3-7 p.m.

• **Lloyd Studios**, 306 W. Broadway, (303) 378-0926, www.lloydstudios.com—William and Elizabeth Lloyd create their art in some of our most ancient mediums: antler, bone, ivory and horn. Featuring detailed antler sculpture, jewelry, serving pieces and weapons. Each piece is handmade locally in the attached working studio. Greek cuisine will be served.

• **Molly Ramolla Gallery & Framing**, 307 N. Texas, 538-5538/654-0334, www.ramollaart.com—Contemporary fine art and sculpture. Specializing

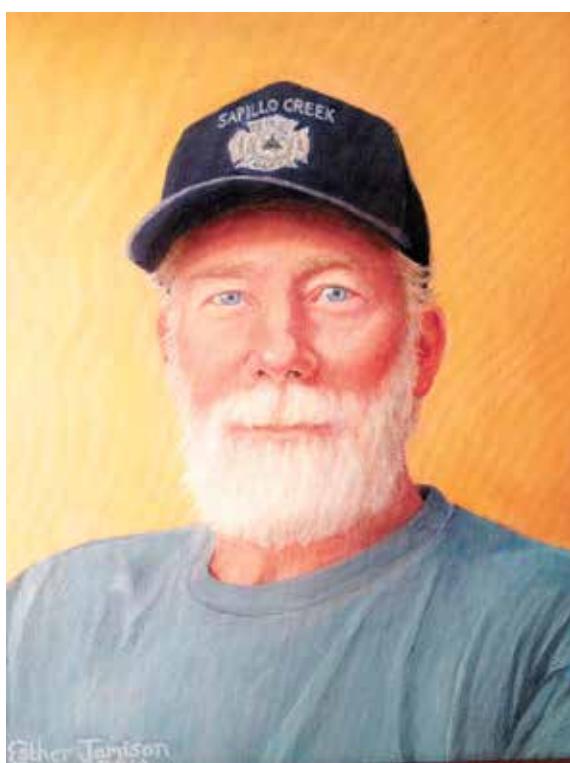
in wax casein tempera, egg-tempura, watercolor and fine crafts. Refreshments will include German piroshkies and more.

• **Seedboat Gallery**, 214 W. Yankie St., 534-1136, www.seedboatgallery.com—Presenting representational and abstract painters, photographers, sculptors and jewelers from the western US in a museum-like setting. Abstract metal and stone sculpture fill the courtyard. Japanese cuisine.

• **Silver Spirit Gallery**, 215 W. Broadway, 388-2079, www.silverspiritgallery.com—A family of fine artists and craftspeople working in many mediums to create art in all price ranges. Showing paintings and photographs of scenery along Hwy. 180 between Silver City and Alma and one-of-a-kind wearable art from recycled materials. Refreshments from France.

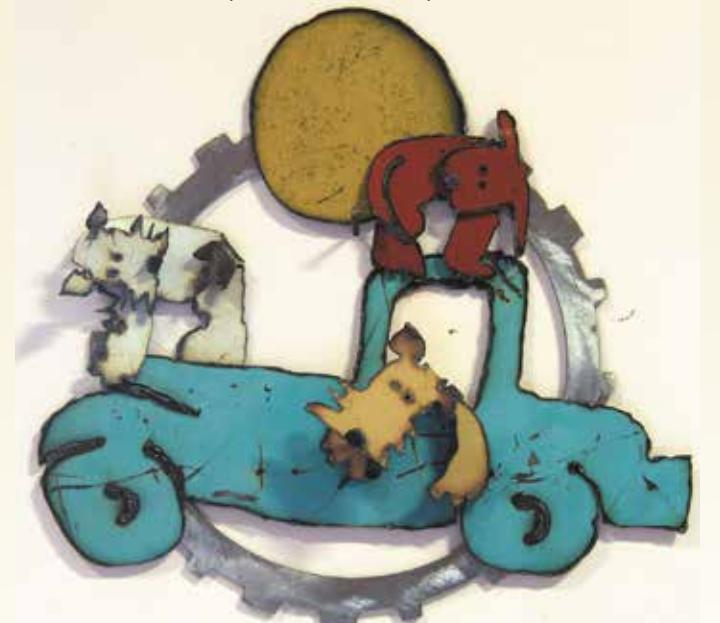
• **Syzygy**, 106 N. Bullard St., 388-5472, www.syzy-

**ARTS EXPOSURE** continued on next page



Esther Jamison will demonstrate portrait painting at Tatiana Maria Gallery.

See "Road Trip" and other original artwork by artist Janey Katz



at the **Red Dot** Gallery weekend October 11-14



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### "The Palisades at Little Cherry Creek"

A benefit auction for the Mimbres Region Arts Council



Oct. 5, 2013

6:00 pm

Bear Mountain Lodge  
Works by local  
Silver City artists  
also for sale

### ARTIST LECTURE SERIES



Oct. 10, 2013, 6:30 pm

**Danny Reyes**, History of Jazz  
WNMU Jazz Studies Professor  
WNMU, Parrot Hall  
in partnership with WILL & WNMU  
Free & Open to the Public



Oct. 25, 2013, 7:30 pm

Presented in partnership with  
WNMU and the Grant County  
Community Concert Assn., the  
LCSO will focus on the classics  
and feature Grammy nominated  
violinist Philippe Quint.  
WNMU Fine Arts Center Theatre  
\$20 Adults | \$5 Students  
Group pricing (10+) \$10 each



[www.MimbresArts.org](http://www.MimbresArts.org)  
575-538-2505

### INDIE/FOLK SERIES 2013-2014



#### Kris Delmhorst & Jeffrey Foucault

Oct. 18, 2013, 7:30 pm  
Dynamic folk duo Kris  
Delmhorst & Jeffrey  
Foucault delight audiences  
with their double-barreled  
singer-songwriter mastery.

Buckhorn Opera House | \$15 Members/\$20 Non-members.

#### Guatemalan Mercado

Nov. 2, 2013, 9:30 am - 3:30 pm  
at the MRAC Gallery featuring affordable, authentic,  
handmade gift items from Guatemalan artisans.  
Fundraiser for the MRAC programs.

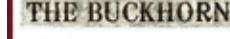
#### GOLDEN DRAGON ACROBATS

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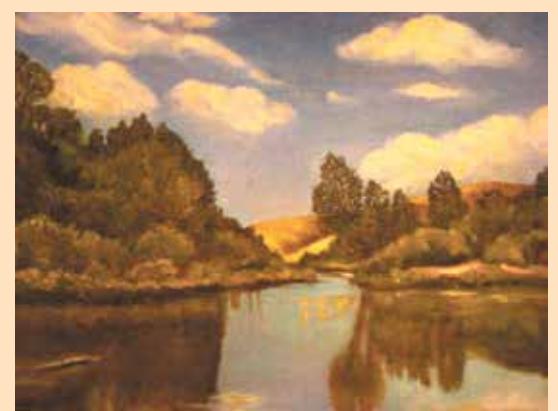
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### ART

## RED DOT Gallery Weekend Silver City, New Mexico



Azurite Gallery



Tatiana Maria Gallery



Creations & Adornments



Leyba & Ingalls Arts

**Oct. 11-14, 2013**

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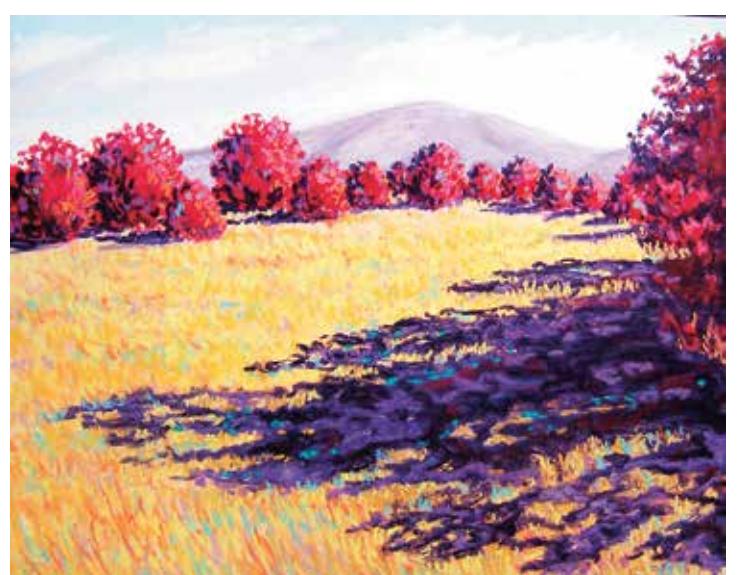
125 Country Road (Next to Stonewalker Gallery), Silver City, NM  
225-346-0707 • By Appointment Except Published Tours

**Red Dot Gallery Tour, Oct. 11-14**

## Our Cover Artist

**P**aintings as well as jewelry by Linda Boatwright can be seen at Azurite Gallery, 110 W. Broadway in Silver City, 538-9048, and will be part of this month's Red Dot Gallery Tour.

Making her living in art right out of college, Boatwright and her husband, Cecil, opened their first gallery, The Great Outdoors, in Atlanta in 1973. In that "art boutique," works of nature featuring stones, shells, plants and more complemented her striking photography, paintings and pastels. After moving to Silver City in 1995, they opened the Azurite Gallery on Broadway in 1996.



To read more about the artist, see "Out of the Blue" in our August 2006 issue, online at [www.desertexposure.com/200609/200609\\_boatwright.html](http://www.desertexposure.com/200609/200609_boatwright.html).

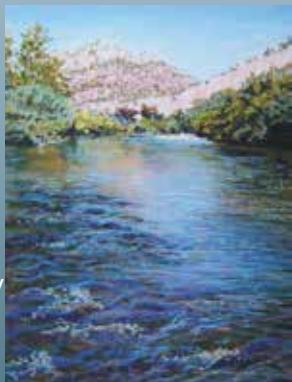
## Azurite Gallery

**New Paintings and Jewelry**

By Linda Boatwright

**During the  
Red Dot  
Gallery  
Weekend**

110 W. Broadway  
corner of Broadway  
and Texas Sts.  
538-9048



### ARTS EXPOSURE continued

zytile.com—At the Syzygy factory 20 artisans work together to produce handmade tile; shapes and mosaics are cut and pressed by hand, and glazes are carefully applied with a brush. Light food, drink and tiles will be available.

• **Tatiana Maria Gallery**, 305/307 N. Bullard, 388-4426—A collection of regional art, jewelry, furnishings and textiles in an historic 1884 structure. Featuring Dan Boldman, Maria H. Brion, Brent Flenniken, Miles Roberts and the handcrafted furniture of gallery owners Jim and Tatiana. On Saturday, Oct. 12, portraits of locals by Esther Jamison will be featured beginning at 2 p.m., with a live portrait demonstration at 2:30 p.m. and refreshments and live music from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Cuisine from Spain.

• **The Common Thread**, 107 W. Broadway, 538-5733, [www.fiberartscollective.org](http://www.fiberartscollective.org)—Original fiber arts by local women in New Mexico and the Southwest: quilts, rugs, clothing, wall art and cards. On Saturday, from 5-7 p.m., Mary Leen and Kathi Anderson will show demos. Featuring food from Colombia.



Janey Katz will demo making "Critters from the Hood" at Art & Conversation.

paint on canvas, featuring traditional and southwestern art and photography. Roy Adams works in oils and acrylic on canvas, showing traditional and southwestern art and photography. They will demonstrate oil on canvas. Italian food will be the choice for Saturday evening.

For more information or to download a brochure, go to [www.silvercitygalleries.com](http://www.silvercitygalleries.com) or call 313-9631.

### ARTS EXPOSURE

## Arts Scene

The latest area art happenings.

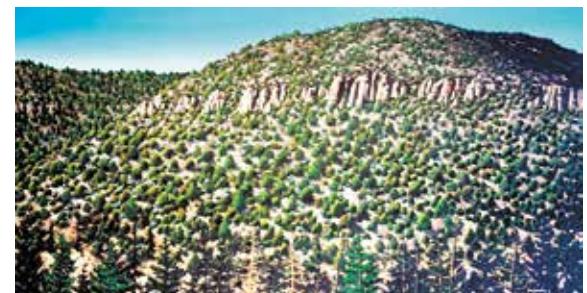
### Silver City & Grant County

**T**he Mimbres Region Arts Council will auction a painting by iconic local artist Harry Benjamin, "Palisades at Little Cherry Creek," donated by Dr. Gail Willow, to benefit MRAC programs. The auction will take place at the Bear Mountain Lodge, Saturday, Oct. 5, at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$40 per person and include bidding privileges, hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. Off-site bidding will be possible via mobile phone for \$20. The painting will be on display at Leyba & Ingalls, 315 N. Bullard St., in downtown Silver City through Oct. 4. Several Silver City artists have also donated commemorative works in honor of Benjamin, who died earlier this year. They will be available for \$194.50 in honor of his birth year.

For tickets or to sign up to bid, visit MRAC at 1201 Pope St. (Wells Fargo Bank building) or call 538-2505. [www.mimbresarts.org](http://www.mimbresarts.org).

**I**n the Mimbres, **Kate Brown Pottery & Tile** will hold a one-day intensive tile-making class on Saturday, Oct. 12, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., followed by an advanced site-specific workshop, Oct. 13, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. 536-9935, [katebrown@gilanet.com](mailto:katebrown@gilanet.com).

**La Esperanza Vineyard and Winery**, also in the Mimbres, will host its First Annual Art and Wine Extravaganza on Saturday, Oct. 19. In addition to works by 10 participating artists and award-winning wines,



"Palisades at Little Cherry Creek" by Harry Benjamin.

entertainment will be provided by the Deming High after-school Latin dance program "Cielo" (1 and 3 p.m.), Jessica Juarez (2 and 4 p.m.) and Andrew Dahl-Bredine (5 and 6 p.m.). Food will be provided by Acosta Farms. To get there, from the intersection of Hwy. 152 and 61, head south to Royal John Mine road, left across the river to DeLaO, left about one mile to 100 DelaO in Sherman. (505) 259-9523, (505) 238 6252.

**T**he folks at Blue Dome Gallery at Bear Mountain Lodge will be opening a new gallery space in downtown Silver City, **The Little Blue Box of Eccentricities**, "featuring wonderful jewelry and magical art." Look for an opening in mid-October at 303 Texas St.

**Guadalupe's** is now also open on Sundays from

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619-933-8034

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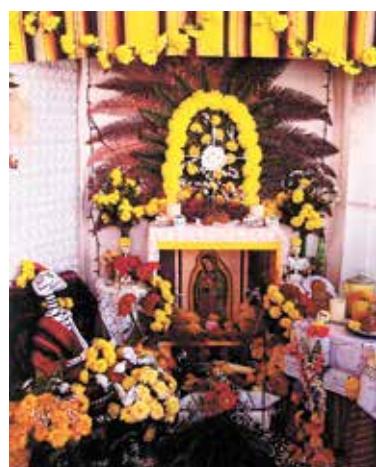
The **Yankie/Texas Arts District** and its neighbors are sponsoring a Dia de Los Muertos (Day of the Dead) celebration for the community and for loved ones lost this year or in years past. "Dia de Los Muertos is a celebration for the souls that have moved on to the spirit world," says Rebecca Martin of Vibrations Gallery. "The Aztec Indians were the first to honor and celebrate the passing of their people. This beautiful celebration has since spread around the world. It is a day of remembrance of our dead and includes a special altar that is assembled to honor and remember our loved ones. The *ofrenda* is a beckoning (invitation) to the spirit to come and join us on this special day."

At Yankie and Texas streets in downtown Silver City on Nov. 2, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., you can enjoy music, food, arts, crafts and children's activities that tell the story of this celebration. Public altars located throughout the arts district invite participation in the form of leaving prayers or mementos for those no longer with us, or you can set up your own altar in the spaces provided in the street.

The **Mimbres Region Arts Council** will host its Guatemalan Mercado on Saturday, Nov. 2, from 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at the MRAC/Wells Fargo Bank Gallery, 1201 N Pope St. The sale will feature an extensive selection of handmade weavings created by Guatemalan artisans and offered for sale by Sonia and Curt Porter, longtime vendors of Guatemalan textiles. This event is free. 538-2505, [www.mimbresarts.org](http://www.mimbresarts.org).

#### Las Cruces & Mesilla

The New Mexico Watercolor Society-Southern Chapter exhibition "Gardening in the Chihuahuan Desert" continues through Dec. 1 at the New Mexico Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum.



Dia de Los Muertos altar by Margaret Beltran.

The 37 watercolor paintings in the show represent the plants grown in the Southern New Mexico region. 4100 Dripping Springs Road.

The **Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery** will feature works by Ruth Ann Sugarman and Yvonne Postelle this month. Sugarman is primarily an acrylic landscape painter, while Postelle paints landscapes primarily in oils. 2470-A Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla, 522-2933, [www.mesillavalleyfinearts.com](http://www.mesillavalleyfinearts.com).

**T**he **Mesquite Art Gallery** will feature Dia de los Muertos creations by the Potters'

Guild of Las Cruces, opening Oct. 3 with a reception on Oct. 12, 4-6 p.m. Guild members have created works in clay, fabric and mixed media illustrating their interpretation of popular Day of the Dead themes. 340 N. Mesquite St., 524-1146, 640-3502.

Mesquite Art Gallery owner Mel Stone is teaming with Deming sculptor Diana LeMarbe in a joint exhibit at the **Tombaugh Gallery**, "Bones of New Mexico," opening Sunday, Oct. 6, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Says Stone, "This was all Diana's idea; her years of living in the Southwest and study of geology persuaded her to create sculptural pieces, based not on reality, but her interpretation of this part of the earth. She asked me to create photographs that would reflect both parts of the earth and how that influenced human occupation of the Southwest." 2000 S. Solano.

The 2013 Pro-Artists Series at the **Adobe Patio Gallery** will feature a series of paintings by Shelley Black in a special solo exhibition, "Americana Revisited...Continued," Oct. 1-26. An opening reception for the artist will be held on Saturday, Oct. 5, 6-8 p.m. 1765 Avenida de Mercado, Mesilla, [www.adobepatiogallery.com](http://www.adobepatiogallery.com).

**Creative Harmony Gallery and Gifts** will feature "An Evening with the Artist" with Nadia Zucker, Oct. 11, 5-8 p.m. Zucker's art combines digital photog-

**ARTS EXPOSURE** continued on next page

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**Día de los Muertos**  
**Day of the Dead**

**Saturday, Nov. 2, 2013**  
**10 a.m. – 4 p.m.**  
**Yankie & Texas streets**  
**Silver City, NM**

**The Yankie/Texas Arts District & its neighbors are sponsoring a celebration for the community & for our loved ones lost this year or in years past.**

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Frequency	Departs	Arrives	Flight
Monday-Friday	7:30a	9:35a	7307
Daily	1:30p	3:35p	7308

\* Schedule is effective as of October 7, 2013 and subject to change

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## ARTS EXPOSURE continued

raphy and hectography, a hand-printed method that uses a gelatin sheet as the printing plate and the artist's hands as the printing press. Her show will run through the end of October. 220 N. Campo St., 312-3040.

The **Art Board of the City of Las Cruces** is calling for artists to display their work in city facilities, primarily the City Hall, for a period of six months to a year. Works may be in any media. Artists must be residents of Doña Ana County, and all works must be original. Deadline for submission is Oct. 15. For further information call John Northcutt at (410) 925-9126.

### Deming

The **Deming Arts Council** will host a Guatema Mercado, Oct. 25-26, from 12-5 p.m. each day. 100 S. Gold St.

### Sierra County

The **Historic Percha Bank Museum and Gallery** in Kingston continues its show, "Common Ground," featuring the work of six artists: Melody Sears, David Farrell, Matilde Holtzwarth, Nolan Winkler, Dee M. Holen and Jan Haley. The show refers to landscapes seen from Hwy. 152, and reflects how the communities of Hillsboro and Kingston came together during this summer's forest fire. The show continues through Nov. 30. Historic Percha Bank is located a quarter-mile up Main Street, on the left, across from the fire station.

The **Monte Cristo Gift Shop & Gallery** in Chloride will hold its 7th Annual Birthday Bash on Saturday, Oct. 5, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The gallery is located in the old Monte Cristo Saloon & Dance Hall, which was built in 1880 to serve the thirsty miners of Chloride. Today the Monte Cristo, which is a site on the New Mexico Fiber Arts Trail, is home to the works of approximately 30 local artisans. They work in a variety of mediums including photography, painting, quilting, counted cross-stitch, stamping, jewelry, wood



The 2013 Pro-Artists Series at the Adobe Patio Gallery will feature paintings by Shelley Black.



Work by Deming sculptor Diana LeMarbe, who joins Mel Stone in a joint exhibit at the Tombaugh Gallery, "Bones of New Mexico."

work, metal work, book binding and more. In honor of National Book Month, the Monte Cristo will feature *New Mexico Recollections* by long-time Chloride resident Raymond Schmidt (1897-1996). Authors Tom Diamond and Patsy King will be available to sign their books. Chloride is 40 miles from Truth or Consequences. From I-25 take exit 83 or 89 to Hwy. 181, then Hwy. 52 west to Winston. At Winston take the first left past the General Store, stay on the paved road two miles. 743-0493, montecristogallery@windstream.net. \*

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

## ARTS EXPOSURE

# Gallery Guide

### Silver City

**ANN SIMONSEN STUDIO-GALLERY**, 104 W. Yankie St., 654-5727.

**ART + CONVERSATION**, 614 N. Bullock, 388-3350. Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sundays 12 a.m.-6 p.m. Gallery and gathering space. [www.artandconversation.com](http://www.artandconversation.com).

**ARTESANOS**, 211-B N. Texas St., 519-0804. Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 12-6 p.m.

[A]SP."A"OE, 110 W. 7th St., 538-

3333, [aspace.studiogallery@gmail.com](mailto:aspace.studiogallery@gmail.com).  
**AZURITE GALLERY**, 110 W. Broadway, 538-9048, Wed.-Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. [www.azuritegallery.com](http://www.azuritegallery.com).

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

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

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

**COMMON THREAD**, 107 W. Broadway, 538-5733. Mon., Thurs., Fri. and Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Retail and gallery space for fiber arts. [www.fiberartscollective.org](http://www.fiberartscollective.org).

**COPPER QUAIL GALLERY**, 211-A Texas St., corner of Yankie and Texas, 388-2646. Tues.-Sun. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Fine arts and crafts.

**COW TRAIL ART STUDIO**, 119 Cow Trail in Arenas Valley. Mon. 12-3 p.m. or by appointment, (706) 533-1897, [www.victoriachick.com](http://www.victoriachick.com).

**CREATIONS & ADORNMENTS**, 108 N. Bullard, 534-4269. Mon.-Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Work by Diane Reid.

**DRAGONFLY STUDIO**, 508 W. 6th St., 388-8646. By appointment.

**FRANCIS McCRAY GALLERY**, 1000 College Ave., WNNU, 538-6517.

**GALLERY 400**, Gila House, 400 N. Arizona, 313-7015. Tues.-Sat., 1-6 p.m. [www.gilahouse.com](http://www.gilahouse.com).

**GUADALUPE'S**, 505 N. Bullard, 535-2624. Thurs.-Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

**HOWELL DESIGN & GALLERY**, 200 W. Market St., 388-2993. [www.anthonychowell.com](http://www.anthonychowell.com).

**JEFF KUHNS POTTERY**, 3029 Pinos

Altos Road, 534-9389. By appointment.  
**LEYBA & INGALLS ARTS**, 315 N. Bullard St., 388-5725. Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Contemporary art ranging from realism to abstraction in a variety of media featuring artists Crystal Foreman Brown, Romaine Begay, Christana Brown, Susan Brinkley, Gordie Headlee, Diana Ingalls Leyba, Dayna Griego, Constance Knuppel, Mary Alice Murphy, Phillip Parrotti, Betsey Resnick, Teri Matelson, Joe Theiman, Zoe Wolfe, Melanie Zipin. [www.LeybalngallsARTS.com](http://www.LeybalngallsARTS.com), [LeybalngallsART@zianet.com](mailto:LeybalngallsART@zianet.com).

**Lois DeLong Studio**, 2309 Paul Place, 388-4759. By appointment.

**Lois Duffy Art Studio**, 211C N. Texas, 534-0822. Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Original paintings, cards and prints. [www.loisduffy.com](http://www.loisduffy.com), [loisduffy@signalpeak.net](mailto:loisduffy@signalpeak.net).

**LLOYD STUDIOS**, 306 W. Broadway, (303) 378-0926. Weds.-Sat. 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Sun. 12-5 p.m. [lloydstudios.com](http://lloydstudios.com).

**MARY'S FINE ART**, 414 E. 21st St., 956-7315. Mary A. Gravelle.

**MIMBRES REGION ARTS COUNCIL GALLERY**, Wells Fargo Bank Bldg., 1201 N. Pope St. [www.mimbresarts.org](http://www.mimbresarts.org).

**MOLLY RAMILLA GALLERY & FRAMING**, 307 N. Texas, 538-5538. [www.ramollaaart.com](http://www.ramollaaart.com).

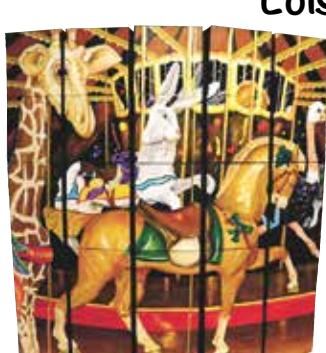
**OFF BEAD GALLERY**, 701 N. Bullard, 388-8973. Mon.-Fri 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

**OL' WEST GALLERY & MERCANTILE**, 104 W. Broadway, 388-1811/313-2595. Daily 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

**SEEDBOAT CENTER FOR THE ARTS**, 214 W. Yankie St., 534-1136. Mon., Thurs.-Sat. 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Sun. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Tues.-Weds. by appointment. [info@seedboatgallery.com](mailto:info@seedboatgallery.com).

**SILVER SPIRIT GALLERY**, 215 W. Broadway, 388-2079.

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**STONEWALKER STUDIO**, 105 Country Road, 534-0530. By appointment. Barbara Jorgen Nance.

**STUDIO BEHIND THE MOUNTAIN**, 23 Wagon Wheel Lane, 388-3277. By appointment. [www.jimpalmerbronze.com](http://www.jimpalmerbronze.com).

**THE STUDIO SPACE**, 109 N. Bullard St., 534-9291. [www.jessgorell.com](http://www.jessgorell.com).

**STUDIO UPSTAIRS**, 109 N. Bullard St., 574-2493. By appointment.

**SUSAN SZAJER STUDIO**, Sanctuary Road, 313-7197 By appointment.

**TATIANA MARIA GALLERY**, 305 & 307 N. Bullard St., 388-4426.

**21 LATIGO TRAIL**, 388-4557. Works by Barbara Harrison and others.

**VIBRATIONS GALLERY**, 108 W. Yankie St., 654-4384, [starxr@usa.net](mailto:starxr@usa.net).

**WILD WEST WEAVING**, 211-D N. Texas, 313-1032, [www.hosaneaelert.com](http://www.hosaneaelert.com). Mon.-Thurs. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Fri.-Sat. 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

**WYNNEGATE GALLERY & STUDIO**, 110 W. Yankie St., (214) 957-3688. Mon., Thurs.-Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sun. 11:45 a.m.-4 p.m., Tues.-Wed. by appointment.

**YANKIE ST. ARTIST STUDIOS**, 103 W. Yankie St., 313-1032. By appointment.

**ZOE'S GALLERY**, 305 N. Cooper St., 654-4910.

**Tyrone**

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

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

**Pinos Altos**

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

**Mimbres**

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

**KATE BROWN POTTERY AND TILE**, HC 15 Box 1335, San Lorenzo, 536-9935, [katebrown@gilanet.com](mailto:katebrown@gilanet.com), [www.katebrownpottery.com](http://www.katebrownpottery.com). By appointment.

**NARRIE TOOLE**, Estudio de La Montura, 313-2565, [www.narrietoole.com](http://www.narrietoole.com). Contemporary western oils, giclees and art prints. By appointment.

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

**Bayard**

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

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

**Hanover**

**FIERRO CANYON GALLERY**, 4 Hermosa St., 537-3262, [www.fierrocanyongallery.com](http://www.fierrocanyongallery.com). Thurs.-Mon. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

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

**Hurley**

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

**Northern Grant County & Catron County**

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

**CASITAS DE GILA**, 50 Casita Flats Road, Gila, 535-4455. Sat.-Sun. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. or by appointment. [www.casitasdegila.com](http://www.casitasdegila.com), [www.galleryatthecasitas.com](http://www.galleryatthecasitas.com).

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

**Mesilla**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Las Cruces ALEGRE GAL-**

**LERY**, 920 N Alameda Blvd., 523-0685.

**AZURE CHERRY GALLERY & BOUTIQUE**, 330 E. Lohman Ave., 291-3595. Weds.-Thurs. 12-5 p.m., Fri.-Sat. 12-8 p.m.

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

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

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

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

**CRUZ NOPAL**, 1175 W. Picacho, 635-7899. Thurs.-Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. or by appointment. [ouida@ouidatouchon.com](mailto:ouida@ouidatouchon.com), [www.ouidatouchon.com](http://www.ouidatouchon.com).

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

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

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

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

**JUSTUS WRIGHT GALERIA**, 266 W. Court Ave., 526-6101, [jud@delval-leprintinglc.com](mailto:jud@delval-leprintinglc.com).

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

**LUNDEEN INN OF THE ARTS**, 618 S.

OCTOBER 2013

Hwy. 28, 233-3037. Fri.-Sat. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 1-4 pm.

**Deming**

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

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

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

**READER'S COVE USED BOOKS & GALLERY**, 200 S. Copper, 544-2512. Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Photography by Daniel Gauss.

**STUDIO LE MARBE**, 4025 Chaparral SE, 544-7708.

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

**Hillsboro**

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

**Chloride**

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

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**Saturday, October 5  
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San Lorenzo School Cafeteria  
Hwy 35 San Lorenzo, NM**

- How to Collect the Water Sample:**
- Use a clean glass or plastic container (at least a liter).
  - Do not use containers that have a strong odor, such as citrus or pickle jars.
  - Collect the sample before any water treatment systems such as reverse osmosis, water softener, or carbon filter.
  - Let the water run for a couple of minutes before collecting the sample.
  - Collect the sample as close to the time of testing as possible.
  - Cover the container with a clean lid.
  - If available, please provide well depth, depth to water, well casing material (i.e., steel, pvc) and distance from well to the nearest septic tank/leachfield system.
  - Limited analysis will be performed the same day, and you can either pick up results or have them mailed to you.

- Drinking water will be field tested or the following parameters:**
- Electrical conductivity • Nitrate
  - Arsenic • Iron • pH
  - Manganese • Fluoride • Sulfate

For further information contact the NMED Ground Water Quality Bureau at: 505-222-9574.

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## 2013 WRITING CONTEST • CHERYL GARDARIAN

# Building from the Ashes

Sometimes when you're trying to fit into a small New Mexico town, it takes the worst to bring out the best in people.

What makes an outstanding short story? As our Grand Prize Winner by Cheryl Gardarian shows, it's characters who jump off the page, a sense of place and a story in which things are not the same at the end as they were at the beginning.

The angry vinegaroon scuttled across the floor, disturbed from its hiding place by the inquisitive fingers of my now-screaming child. Mindy, both attracted and repelled, picked up a stick and, while continuing with her ear-splitting screams, leaned forward to poke at the monster.

As her hand moved downward, I yelled, "No! Don't touch it."

Behind me, someone inhaled sharply, then made a *tsk-ing* sound. Out of the corner of my eye, I could see her back up, as did the next several customers queued in line at the mini-mart.

Mindy let out a screech and, using the stick like a sword, stabbed at the ugly, scorpion-like creature. A thin stream of spray and the stink of vinegar answered her attack. Instantly, Mindy's scream became a howl. Turning to look at me, her eyes filled with tears and her little mouth puckered. She charged and buried her face in my skirt.

Helen, the cashier, let out a tired sigh. She motioned with her head to the bagger. "Bobby, get a broom and a can of deodorizer."

"I'm so sorry," I said, raising my voice over the loud cries of my child. "I'll pay for the spray."

Helen's expression was sour—I wasn't sure whether from the stench or her feelings toward me—when she answered, "It's fine. Things like this happen."

Someone behind me muttered, "Way too often."

My eyes burned. Embarrassed again, I watched the clerk scoop the bug out the door and exaggeratedly spray the whole area with a nauseating floral scent. He handed Helen the can and she rang it up.

Extricating my purse from Mindy's grasp, I counted out the dollar bills. That can would cost us by the end of the week. Bobby must've grabbed the most expensive deodorizer on the shelf. He didn't offer to help carry out my groceries.

Tucking the bag under one arm, I tried to get Mindy turned around.

"Nuh-uh," she snuffled. "Bad thing there."

"It's gone now, sweetie. Let's go home." I patted the top of her head and pushed a little.

She clung tighter to my leg. The sound of someone loudly clearing their throat filled my ears. I pushed harder. Mindy clung tighter. I began to waddle like a penguin toward the door, my daughter stuck to my leg like Velcro, wishing for a quick moment she'd never been born and wondering if I'd had an amniocentesis, would I have... then immediately chastised myself.

The asphalt parking lot shimmered in the hot New Mexico summer sunshine. Its glare scorched the landscape. Billows of heat radiated out of my beat-up old Chevy when I opened the door. Throwing the groceries into the back, I yanked Mindy off my leg, picked her up like a sack of potatoes, and not very gently plopped her down on the front seat. I was instantly rewarded by renewed howling. The plastic seats were blazing and she was in shorts. Springing up like a jack-in-the-box, her head clocked me under the chin and my teeth sank into my tongue. "God damn it!"

"Mommy! Bad words. No, No. God loves you."

Rubbing my sore jaw, I nodded as I put my arms around her. "I know, sweetie. Sorry."

She looked up at me with her sweet, wide-set eyes. "I sorry, too."

Hugging her close, I reached for her jacket on the floor and arranged it over the seat. "Okay, it's better now."

"Kay, 'kay, 'kay," she parroted.

I rolled down her window, as the air conditioner had stopped working at the start of the summer, fastened her seat belt, then walked around to the other side. Taking a deep breath, I lifted the hair off my sweaty neck,

and composed myself a moment before I got in.

"Mommy, where we going?"

"Home."

"Why?"

"To put away the groceries."

"Why?"

*Lord, give me patience today.* "Because some of it needs to go in the refrigerator."

"Why?"

"To keep it cold." I held up my hand. "No more questions."

She pouted. "Wuh..."

My death-stare cut her off. We drove in blessed silence down the hot, dusty street.

After lunch, we went to my part-time job at Paws and Claws. I was the weekend dog-walker. The owner, Mrs. Claus (yep, it's her real name), was a sympathetic woman, and she let me bring Mindy along. I couldn't afford a babysitter on Saturdays and Sundays. I was barely able to stay ahead of my bills as it was.

Most of the time, Mindy was a plus; she loved the animals and never tired of throwing a ball for the kennel dogs. Several of the regulars would hand her a little tip for giving their pets extra attention while they were away on a trip. Mindy's eyes would glow with pride and that huge smile would light up her moon-shaped face. However, I had the sinking premonition that today was going to be different.

Dog-walking is an art. You quickly learn which animals are compliant and which ones spell trouble. When taking out several dogs on leash at the same time, it's imperative to immediately establish control and keep it. I checked out the pups on my schedule. I recognized most of them. Several had already become fast friends while playing in the "dog park enclosure." I figured they'd walk nicely together.

I watched Mindy wander over to a cage holding a cute apricot poodle. "I'll put her in the playpen for you when I get back. Why don't you check with Mrs. Claus and see if there's something you can do to help her."

Mindy had her own special bucket, broom and mop. She'd sweep and scrub all day if you let her. Mrs. Claus loved having a sparkling, clean waiting room.

My left hand was full of husky, chow and shepherd and my right held a retriever, a boxer and a terrier when the bell over the door announced someone had entered. I frowned. Pickups and drop-offs are scheduled in the mornings. Usually the front door is locked for the afternoon.

"Hello?" I hollered. "I'll be there in a minute."

As I hurriedly guided the pack down the hall, my heart sank when I heard: "Hi, little girl. Can you take my kitty?"

Too late. The woman foolishly handed my daughter her cat carrier. Mindy's prying fingers had the cage door open before another word could escape my lips. That lady's sweet pet went from a cute, purring furball to a claw-raking bobcat in 60 seconds. Mindy's screech was drowned out by the cacophony of barking dogs as they ripped their leashes out of my hands and tore down the hall in pursuit of Pansy the cat.

Mrs. Claus exited her office, a storm-cloud of anger on her face. She helped me round up the dogs and rescue Pansy from her perch atop the filing cabinet, then gave me my two-week notice. I kept my composure long enough to gather my belongings and secure Mindy in the car, then burst into body-racking sobs.

"Mommy, no. No cry."

Ignoring her pleas, I cursed. My outburst was met

with a gasp and a spurt of her own tears. Now we were both crying.

People gawked as they strolled down the street intent on their business, obviously too busy to even ask if they could help. I cranked the key and shoved the car into gear.

I wanted to go straight home, but it was Saturday, and I needed to pick up my mail. I cringed at the thought of running into more judgmental citizens. I'd been a resident of this small town for only two months, but it seemed to me like everyone here seemed to know and disapprove of Mindy. Anger at my neighbors surfaced. *Nobody cares.*

When I pulled into the post office parking lot, the smell of rain was in the air. A summertime monsoon was approaching. Big billowing thunderheads lined the horizon. *Better hurry. Mindy's scared of thunder.*

"Stay in the car. I'll just be a minute."

"Yes, Mommy."

I pointed a finger at her. "I mean it."

Her face was angelic. "I be good."

I swung my legs to the ground and walked up the steps. A grizzled, middle-aged man sat on a bench outside the building. He was reading a newspaper, a Styrofoam coffee cup and a pile of mail placed on the seat next to him. He eyed me over the edge of the local periodical. I nodded to him as I passed.

I'd just inserted my key in the mailbox, when I heard a gruff voice holler, "What the hell!"

Somehow I knew Mindy was the focus of his anger. I rushed outside. The man was still mouthing expletives as he whisked the liquid off of his pants and stared at his brown-stained mail.

"What happened?"

He paused from his frantic brushing and pointed. "That weird little girl plopped down on the bench and spilled hot coffee all over everything."

Mindy's head was bowed. She sniffed. "I didn't mean to."

I turned to the man. "So sorry." *Those words seem to be the only thing out of my mouth today.* Grasping my daughter's hand, I hauled her back to the car. "Thought I told you to stay in your seat."

"Loud boom scared me. Thought man could help."

"Hmm. Just do what I tell you from now on. Okay?"

Her almond-shaped eyes twinkled. "Kay, 'kay, 'kay."

Even though I was irritated, I smiled at her favorite phrase.

On the drive home, I agonized over my rash decision to move out of the city. It'd seemed like such a good idea after my divorce became final. Get out to the fresh air and open spaces of the country where people are friendly and there are no drive-by shootings. Now I was here, and yeah, I guess we don't have drive-bys, well, maybe when the locals get drunk and plunk at rabbits. But friendly? Haven't seen much evidence of that yet.



The trailer was stuffy. No A/C in it, either. The fan made a horrible ratcheting noise as it spun off balance in a circle above my head. Hot tears of pity burned my eyes. *I should start dinner.* I looked at the jar of spaghetti sauce and the packet of pasta and almost retched. So far this week our spartan dinners had consisted of: macaroni and cheese, spaghetti, chili, spaghetti, and now spaghetti again. I shook my head. "Come on. Let's splurge and go out to eat."

Mindy looked up in surprise. She gleefully clapped her hands and jumped up and down, then ran for the door.

The corner café was crowded. It felt like everyone stared as we entered. I lifted my head and walked proudly to a table. The waitress handed me a menu and started to leave.

"Me, too. I want one," Mindy cried loudly.

"Hush, honey. You can't read."

"Me, me, ME!" Her volume increased with her determination.

The server handed one to her.

It was cooler in the restaurant, and I was finally starting to feel comfortable. Mindy stared at the pictures of food, and I checked out the cheapest offerings.

The server approached. She stood with pen poised over her pad. "What'll you have?"



## GRAND PRIZE WINNER



"An à la carte cheese enchilada with an extra plate, please."

"Red or green?"

Mindy heard that question. Colors always excited her. She began to babble, "Red or green, red or greeeen, red oooor greeeen..."

Frowning at her, I hissed, "Mindy. Be quiet." Looking back at the waitress, I mouthed "Red."

She nodded and quickly left.

Mindy quieted for awhile, but then she heard the server ask that same question at another table. She twisted around in her seat and yelled, "Green, I want green. Pretty greeen."

I grabbed her hand. "Shh." I felt as if all the patrons had turned to stare at us. I remembered in the city the restaurants gave kids crayons to keep them busy. I signaled the waitress. "Do you have paper and crayons?"

She exhaled in an exaggerated huff. "No."

I sighed.

For the next few minutes, Mindy practiced snorting through her nose, evidently trying to duplicate the waitress' huffing sound.

When the dinner arrived, I slid some of the enchilada onto the extra plate and put it in front of Mindy. She picked up her spoon and scooped a bite into her mouth. A big smile crept across her face as she chewed. "Yum, Mommy. Mmm, have some." She held out her spoon with a little mound of melted cheese.

I took the bite and smiled back at her.

She positively glowed as she mumbled with her mouth full, "Mommy, I love you."

In the way only mothers can understand, her sweet

face and those three words made the horrible day worthwhile. I loved my little girl with all my heart.

We finished eating and headed home. The storm had held off but the smell of rain was still in the air. I glanced out at the desert. It was so beautiful at dusk. The purple mountains in the distance were encircled with a halo of dark clouds. Lightning flashed and lit the sky over them. The gorgeous vista made it almost worth living here, but today had convinced me to give up that dream. We were going back to Phoenix.

After giving Mindy her bath and putting her to bed, I called my mother. I chewed on my lip the whole time the phone rang. I hated asking her if we could stay there, even if it was just until I got back on my feet. I didn't have the money to pay first and last. She didn't answer, so I hung up without leaving a message.

The horrible day weighed heavily on my mind. In my room, I closed my eyes and mercifully drifted off to sleep. It was dark when a brilliant flash of light and a huge bang shook the trailer and woke me. Disoriented for a moment, I watched the bursts of lightning explode across the wall of the trailer, followed instantly by an accompanying loud boom. Suddenly, I realized Mindy wasn't crying. *She should be howling in fear.* Jumping up, I ran to her room. Her bed was empty. I looked under it—her favorite hiding place, but she wasn't there, either. Even with the muggy heat, fingers of ice tweaked down my spine. *Where is she?*

The front door hung open. Sheets of rain poured in. Intermittent flashes of lightning gleamed in the pool of water on the floor.

"Mindy!" I screamed as I ran into the storm.

I frantically searched the brush-covered lot, yelling her name. The rain poured down, drenching me. I shivered. The temperature had dropped with the storm, and now I was cold. *Mindy will be freezing and so scared. Where can she be?*

I rushed back to the trailer and searched every cabinet and in every conceivable nook and cranny. She was gone. Shaking, I picked up the phone and dialed the sheriff. He was at my door in minutes. I was shocked. The response time in Phoenix for a non-life-

**ASHES** continued on next page



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## Copper Country Cruizers would like to thank

135 entrants that helped make the 22nd annual Run to Copper Country Car Show a huge success. We also thank Silver City Public Works for the use of Gough Park, the many vendors who participated in the show, and to Big K for providing the music, PA system and emcee for the parade. Last but certainly not least are the people and businesses who contributed to our show. (We apologize if there are any errors or omissions in this ad.)

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**ASHES**

continued

threatening emergency probably would've been hours.

I explained the situation. He nodded. "My cousin has a Down Syndrome child. He's scared of thunder, too. Don't you worry—we'll find your daughter."

In a trembling voice I asked, "How?"

"We'll call out the New Mexico Mounted Search and Rescue Team. They'll find her. You should stay here in case she comes home. Is there anyone I can call to come sit with you?"

"No, I'm new to the area. I don't know anybody."

He patted my hand. "You shouldn't be alone. I'll see if my wife will come over."

I shook my head. "Oh, don't bother her. I'll be fine."

"No bother, really." He reached for his cell phone.

**T**wenty minutes later, my tiny trailer had become a command post. His wife had put out the word and several women showed up with food. The pelting rain stopped and a search and rescue dog and his handler arrived. I gave him one of Mindy's T-shirts and broke down. One of the women enveloped me in her arms as I sobbed. When I finally sniffed, took the tissue from her hand, and looked into her face, I realized it was Helen from the minimart. "Thank you," I murmured.

"You're welcome. If you need anything, just call. I wrote my number on the pad by your phone."

The rain started again. I sat on the couch wondering what I could do. I needed to go search for my daughter, but one of the SAR volunteers cautioned against it. He warned me that then there'd probably be two lost souls in the desert.

The hours dragged on and at some point, exhausted, I fell asleep on the couch. When I woke everyone had left except for Helen.

"Where'd everybody go?"

She sat down next to me on the couch. "They set up a new command center at the post office." Then she took my hand. "Several more people are missing. Because of the recent fires, the arroyos flooded with water, ash and debris. A car was washed down river."

"Oh, God." My hand flew to my mouth.

"They've called in more search teams. Don't worry, they'll find your daughter."

I scrambled to my feet. "I can't sit here any longer. Will you stay in case Mindy comes home?"

"Sure."

The streets were awash as the rain continued to pour down. As I navigated my old Chevy through the flowing roadways, I was suddenly glad for the "big old boat." If I'd been in a little economy vehicle, I'd never have made it through some of the washes.

Emergency vehicles, patrol cars, tow trucks and pickups filled the parking lot. Several tents had been set up, and uniformed personnel manned the center. I rushed over.

"My name's Patty Venstra. Mindy, my little girl is missing. Any word yet?" My heart pounded as I waited for his answer.

"No, ma'am. If you'd like to check-in with Officer Mesilla over there, he'll keep you updated."

They'd opened the post office lobby, and a coffee station was available for all. I went inside, poured myself a cup, and stood huddled in a corner holding the steaming cup close for warmth.

A young woman walked over. "I'm sorry about

your daughter."

It was the waitress from the café. It seemed like weeks ago, but the realization hit me it'd just been last night. I sadly nodded my acknowledgement.

"The owner of the restaurant is bringing over food if you're hungry."

I shook my head. "No thanks."

"Well, if I can do anything, I'll be at the serving table. My name's Sophie."

I numbly watched her walk away, then returned to staring at the command post, willing good news.

A short while later someone tapped my shoulder. It was Sophie. She held out a plate with some fruit and a Mexican sweet roll.

Tears glazed my eyes. "Thanks."

My daughter loves sweet breads, but we can't afford them very often."

Sophie cocked her head. "It's probably none of my business, but we waitresses are notoriously nosy. I noticed you didn't order much for dinner last night. Are you out of work?"

"Just lost my part-time job at Paws and Claws, and my ex isn't sending any child support."

"Hmm. Well, we need a hostess at the restaurant for the summer. You could talk to my boss. I'll introduce you. He's right over there." She pointed.

*Great. I look a mess. And... am I staying or going?*

Sophie tugged my arm. "Come on. It's a fun place to work." She lowered her voice. "And you can take home the expired foodstuffs."

As she dragged me toward her boss, I realized two of the people who'd been involved in yesterday's dreadful experiences had turned out to be friends.

**M**r. Mackie was a nice man. I had the job if I wanted it. *Should I stay? What will I do if they don't find Mindy?* Tears slipped from my eyes and onto my cheeks.

He patted my shoulder. "I know you've got a lot going on. Give it a couple of days. I'm praying they find your daughter safe and sound."

Sophie kept me company for awhile, but then she had to man the food table.

As I nibbled on the sweet bun, every bite reminded me of Mindy. Suddenly I felt like I couldn't breathe. Rushing to the glass door, I pushed it open just as the crowd of people parted. Several water-drenched riders were approaching. A tarped, child-sized bundle was draped over the saddle of the first horse. Bile rose in my throat. I threw down my roll and ran. One of the volunteers grabbed me. I struggled to get free, frantically shoving and clawing at the arms that held me from reaching my child. Through my fog of terror, I realized the screaming I heard was coming from my own mouth.

The strong arms of my captor wouldn't let go. He dragged me, crying and thrashing, to the first-aid station. An emergency worker took my flailing arm and squeezed it until I gasped and looked into his eyes. "If you don't calm down, I'm going to have to sedate you. That won't help your daughter."

I took a deep breath. "Is it her?" My voice shook.

"I don't know. Can you calm down enough to iden-

tify the body?"

Closing my eyes, I pictured Mindy's sweet face. "Yes."

The SAR volunteer led me through the crowd. A separate recovery tent had been set up, and he lifted the flap. Every part of my body screamed, NO, NO!

We went inside. He gently lifted the tarp. I held my breath and recited the Lord's Prayer over and over in my mind.

Her hair was tangled and covered in ash and mud. I stared at the pointed little chin and the delicate nose and wept tears of joy. *It's not Mindy!*

I shook my head and turned to the volunteer. "She's not my daughter."

When he raised the flap to lead me out of the tent, I was suddenly staring into the haunted eyes of a bedraggled woman being escorted inside. As the look of joy drained from my face, she collapsed.

**T**he day dragged on. The rain poured down. Mr. Mackie began serving lunch. Needing something to do, I went over to help. Woodenly, I placed a taco and a scoop of rice and beans on

each plate. The word got out that one of the missing was my daughter. After that every person in line gave me their well-wishes.

Late in the afternoon the crowd parted again. I rushed outside and frantically searched the incoming horses for a tarp-covered bundle. The rain was coming down so heavy it was almost impossible to see. The rescue team all wore rain slickers and they tented out over the saddles, but finally I spotted Mindy's smiling, ash-streaked face as she rode in front of one of the riders. This time I outran the volunteer who tried to grab me.

As Mindy's rescuer slid her off of the horse and into my arms, I scolded, "I was so worried. Don't you ever scare me like that again!"

She snuggled her dirty, wet nose against my neck. "Kay, 'kay, 'kay. But Mommy I want to ride that horsy again."

I hugged her tight. "We'll see. I love you so much, sweetie."

"I love you too, Mommy."

As I carried my daughter through the crowd, my neighbors cheered. Many addressed me by name, and told me how much they loved Mindy's sunny disposition and happy smile. It felt like I was a real part of this community. Suddenly I realized the town had taken me and my daughter to its bosom. Whatever happened, we were staying. ☺

*Cheryl Gardarian grew up in Huntington Beach, Calif., and attended USC. Trained as a dental hygienist, she has been a real estate broker, specializing in equestrian properties, and a volunteer firefighter; while also raising a son and caring for a multitude of barnyard animals. Then her creative side beckoned, and she began her writing career. Now a published author, she currently divides her time between California, Utah and Silver City. Her books are available on Amazon.com and locally at Stained Glass & More in the Mimbres Valley.*

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2013 WRITING CONTEST • SARA BOYETT

## Ravens

Part of what makes fine poetry is enabling the reader to see the everyday—like the ravens that flock around our yards and fields—in a fresh way. Sara Boyett, a finalist last year for her essay, "Notes on Being a Newcomer," does just that as she turns her hand to poetry.

**T**hese ravens may be bird imitators. Like all authority figures they wear serious black with collars. Your eyes obey the All Rise to watch them cross the sky or preside from a pulpit pole.

They spend their day at the dump, and from them no secrets are hid. Twice a day they pass the cemetery. Burials interest them greatly. Favorite topic of corvid gossip is decay. They sleeken on scraps and irony.

Original conspirators with Fate, they appear when you need them, and sometimes call you by name. They never answer a direct question, but they know whose name is on the deed to the air.

They row home to their rookery when light begins its slow slide toward night. Low over roofs and porches they come, at times so low you feel the rush of air from their wing strokes on your face, filling, for an instant, the sails of your life. ☀



Photo by Lisa D. Fryxell

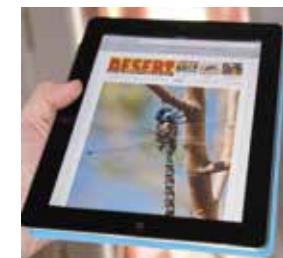
Sara Boyett is an historian with a background in preservation and museum work. She spent her childhood in the South, her adulthood in the West, and now enjoys retirement in the Southwest, living in Silver City.

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OCTOBER 2  
Craig Freas



OCTOBER 9  
Jim Kelly

### The Real Legends Behind Some Fictional Ones

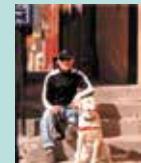
A discussion of the fluid nature of reality, and the fuzzy line between what is true and what is not.



OCTOBER 16  
Frost McGahey

### Shakespeare's Sonnets, With Readings By Local Thespians

The sonnets by the greatest writer who ever lived are jewel boxes containing the secrets of his life—the delights of love and the despairs of betrayal.



OCTOBER 23  
Dr. Lawrence (Black Larry)  
McDaniel & Victoria York

**Great Issues Of Our Time: Who's Better, Dogs Or Cats?**  
A lighthearted yet serious exchange on the merits and advantages of our canine and feline companions.

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Wednesdays, Noon-1:00pm

Room ABC in the

WNMU Global ResourceCenter  
at 12th St & Kentucky



**"Laughing in the  
Face of Death"**  
Friday October 11, 2013  
7:00-8:30pm

WNMU Global Resource Center,  
12th Street and Kentucky

**Gail Rubin,  
The Doyenne of Death™**

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Gail Rubin is coming to Silver City to encourage us all to have that conversation.

Copies of her new book, *Good Goodbye: Funeral Planning for Those Who Don't Plan to Die*, will be available for purchase and signing at the event.  
Visit Gail's website [www.agoodgoodbye.com](http://www.agoodgoodbye.com)

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2013 WRITING CONTEST • TOM HESTER

## A Point of View

To make great art, someone has to poke the cattle.

There's a certain kind of person who's attracted to places like Silver City. We couldn't exactly explain it, but Tom Hester captures it in this charming story of art and a surprising friendship with another kind of local with roots that go much further back.



Photos by Mike Barragree.

**A**rtists are like campfires, I told Starr. And our lives are the kindling. How good the art is depends on the quality of life the artist burns. I said this to her when she stammered to talk on and on about her cows and JMW Turner.

"What are you telling me?" she said through clenched teeth.

"Nothing more than if you want to make good pictures out of cattle, you'd damn well better be passionate about it." That's what I said. To the word.

I'm only Starr's neighbor and not as much an artist as a craft person, an enameler of copper, mementos that tourists like to buy and take home for the backs of their dresser drawers. I've been making enamel pieces since 1972. You couldn't distinguish a cloisonné box that I made 20 years ago from the one that I took out of the kiln this morning. So I'm not a great artist, a condition my late husband Ben always made sure that I recognized. But then, I also refuse any invitation to self-immolation.

Starr, though, is an authentic Joan of Arc, giving up her existence for art, just not to much good effect. At least not to good effect until this latest cow-infatuation. Periods in her life burst into flame and have become patches of ashes like those in the Gila Wilderness after lightning strikes. In 2002 she read *auras*. And she talked incessantly of Egon Schiele. Then

she was into reflexology and had prints of Francis Bacon's nudes taped on every wall in her little Silver City house. (I despised that period.) Then it was Buddhism of a sort I can't pronounce and Watteau. Watteau! Like she had to make up for the Bacon disaster.

She has reduced her distant family life—comprising her son George and her daughter Astarte—to phone calls that Starr once described to me in detail like

an old general outlining glory-filled feints and parries. "I could hear that buck-toothed harridan of George's scratching out instructions to him as he wheedled me for money to buy a car. 'George,' I told him, 'if you need another squirrel to give you financial advice, I have some parks to recommend.'"

So I was not surprised when one evening Starr knocked on my back door and announced that she had found a herd of corriente cows in the Mimbres Valley, about 25 miles east of Silver City, and that these livestock are dead ringers for the cows JMW Turner painted in oils or watercolors or captured in etchings. (The Spaniards brought corrientes to Mexico in the 17th century, and the cattle have kept their rangy, big-boned look, unlike the permed and frizzy Herefords and the sleek angus.)

She proceeded to elaborate the whole theory about Turner's place at the fulcrum between representational art, trying to convey reality with tricks, and modernism, seeking the reality behind our seeing. On and on, standing on my kitchen door threshold, she talked about the cows' role in this "shift."

Never once did she stop to consider that while the corrientes in the pasture may be Turner's, the cows she puts in oils on her canvas are not likely to be even close to Turner's. Besides, I don't think cows had anything at all to do with Turner's seascapes.

Looking for cattle to paint, she had driven from Dwyer to Lake Roberts along the Rio Mimbres, which means "willows" in Spanish, though Starr couldn't give you the definition because she can barely manage "*buenas dias*." Somewhere about the middle of the return trip she turned up a long, steep and supposedly private drive and met Epifanio Ramirez, a man in his 80s living with a dog and a few chickens on a carved-down hunk of a ranch that his great-great-grandfather claimed at the beginning of time.

"His dog Lobo, a brown-and-black brute, circled the car baying and snarling when I drove up and I just sat there and honked. Pretty soon Epi came out of the house bent like a question mark. He hobbled over to the car and I rolled down the window. I told him that I was looking for cows to paint. He said that all his cows were painted already. We had instant understanding, he and I," she said, standing at the door because I wouldn't let her into my kitchen. Invite Starr into your house and you're committed for a good three hours. So she looked in his eyes, and if he could see past his cataracts, he looked in hers and BOOM—instant rapport.

Starr is not an authentic starving artist because her third husband, now her second ex, is a San Francisco banker, and for the privilege of his release he sends a monthly check, like paying for an exterminator. She told Epifanio that she was willing to pay to paint his herd, though how she knew he had cattle, I cannot say. I suspect that a good deal of the instant agreement on his part derived from that offer. "Epi looked around at his adobe and the old beat-up green pickup parked next to it and at the two sheds and the outhouse behind the adobe and said, 'There ain't no cows here.' 'Perfect,' I said, 'I want them down next to the Mimbres where they can chew their cuds and wag their tails.' Epi's accent got really thick, and he said that he did not think cows wag their tails. 'All right. Swish,' I said. 'The important part is that thanks to my banker ex, you can make real money renting your cows as models.' Epi said, 'OK. Can they keep their clothes on?' Cute, huh?"

A regular Mexican Henny Youngman, I told her.

**S**tarr described to me Epi's house, a cool, dark place that smelled of sage and leather. He made Lobo stay outside, else I don't think Starr would have gone in. He made some sort of herbal tea, which had a flavor akin to diluted kerosene. I told Starr that she was lucky she still had her kidneys because the *mezicano* herbal teas can turn a person inside-out. I can just hear her, chattering away as she sat at the little table and peered around to decipher any secrets Epi had tucked away.

"I knew that his wife had died recently," Starr told me. "Homemade curtains at the windows, a rag rug on the floor, and old-fashioned apothecary jars held leaves on the kitchen cabinet, which was covered with linoleum that glowed with huge hibiscus blossoms. The room had no clutter and little furniture, but I was impressed with a wooden cabinet that leaned against the wall as though it had had too much to drink." (That cabinet is called a *trastero* and every traditional Mexican house with a claim to respectability has one.)

"On the wall next to the outside door, besides a crucifix and pictures of a saint or two, there was a calendar with a busty brunette in a peasant blouse. Above the bed hung photographs, mostly of gradu-

tions and weddings, I think. In the center of the jumble of photographs was a large black-and-white shot of a handsome young man in an Army uniform and a smiling girl in a spring print dress, apparently making a quick exit from the justice of the peace."

The item that impressed Starr the most was a book next to the only lamp. She told me that when she commented to Epi, whose dim eyes probably couldn't make out anything smaller than my hand, that he was a reader, he just said, "Hummum." I've seen Starr sit at my kitchen table and go through bills that I've opened and stuffed back in their envelopes, so that it's no surprise that she leaned across and retrieved the book. It was poetry by Sor Juana Inéz de la Cruz. Sister Juana was Mexico's first real poet in Spanish, a nun in the 17th century. Starr probably knew about Sor Juana the same way I did: art history. Miguel Mateo Maldonado y Cabrera, a Zapotec artist, painted her portrait, which became famous as one of the first images of Spanish Mexico. I figure Epifanio, apparently religious, had memorized the poetry and the book was a prompt. It's a gesture that belongs to a culture we've left behind, like the learning of American frontier families, with hardly five years of school among them, reading Shakespeare.

Starr said that she pointed to the photograph of the young couple and asked if it was of his wedding day. It was. Epifanio and Ana Louisa Ramirez were married 63 years, an arrangement that ended three years ago with Ana's death from the effects of diabetes. Starr passed this knowledge on to me with the same breathlessness I might have expected for her dishing the dirt on Jennifer Aniston or Helen Mirren.

"You know what was truly unusual, Liz?" Starr said to me. "When I told him about my three husbands, he said nothing, though I received clear vibrations that his silence was from a respect for me and my privacy rather than from a lack of interest in my life."

*She told Epifanio  
that she was willing  
to pay to paint his  
herd, though how she  
knew he had cattle, I  
cannot say.*

I could have suggested a half-dozen other, less complimentary reasons why Epifanio bit his tongue, but I bit my tongue. I can clearly imagine Starr seated in the circle of light at Epifanio's table, prattling on about Santa Fe, Siena and San Francisco, her three favorite cities, as she has insisted to me at least a dozen times, and her arthritic Spanish host wanting desperately to take a nap. Starr instead, with the subconscious stereotyping that carries her forward

like a river at flood, commented that he had passed his life within a hundred miles of his great-grandfather's adobe, but seemed pleased that she had known "intimately" both Italy and Cambodia.

**S**ome weeks after the doorstep monologue, about the same time of the evening, Starr knocked at my door. She had a matted watercolor in one hand and an oil in the other. Both were quite good. Better than anything from her Francis Bacon season in hell. The watercolor's hues emerged from a sun that had soaked the paper. Three steers were grazing next to the stream that is the Mimbres at midsummer. The shade from the silvery cottonwoods splayed across the river bank and the grassy incline to the water's edge. A thunderhead boiled up in the deep sky.

"I told Epi that I had to be above the scene. You know how important that is." I did know. I had gone with Starr to a Chamber of Commerce meeting where she tried to persuade the guardians of the purse that the arch they were set to erect over the entrance to "historical" downtown should enable tourists to ascend to the apex, like the arches in St. Louis and Paris. Paris? Did I mention Paris? Starr gave Chamber planners an expansive tour of the City of Light, from the lines snaking out in front of Notre Dame because tourists want to climb the stairs in the left tower, to the Eiffel Tower, to Sacre Coeur and Montmartre. The owners of real estate companies and antique shops were grinning when Starr began her tour of high places and "how the human heart yearns to gaze out on a panorama below." By the time she had finished, they were scowling and making obvious glances at their watches.

"Epi has been such a dear," she explained to me. "I wanted him to rearrange the cows, you see. You can see how they are perfect. But he was reluctant to prod them to their proper places. He explained to me why they stand the way they stand."



I didn't say, "I bet," but my heart went out to this poor old man whom I'd never met.

"I would like to give you this watercolor," she said. She had never given me any of her work previously and I was immediately suspicious. "Epi and I were talking about the picture and he asked me if I had ever given you one of my works. I mean, you've meant a lot to me." I said nothing, like a mute stroke victim.

I couldn't leave her babbling on the porch so I invited her in. Firmly planting my right thumbprint on the mat's upper left corner, I propped it against the backsplash of the kitchen cabinet, and readied myself for the flood of words. She crammed the unframed oil next to the watercolor, all the while talking. Her newest enthusiasm had to do with the conflict between our compulsion to see something new while knowing that whatever we see depends entirely upon what we've already seen. "Epi, poor darling, just stares at me when I say stuff like that."

Starr grabbed a shock of peroxided hair and pulled it out from her head. "Do you know what he said to me today?" I, of course, had no idea what they had talked about. "Epi said that if he could make a picture as good as that one" (here she pointed across the room to the oil shining beneath the glare of my kitchen fluorescent) "he wouldn't talk about it. 'Talking ruins the picture,' he said. 'But how are we to understand?' I said. 'We don't understand what is. We live what is,' he said." Here Starr slapped the table.

"We were talking about the cattle. 'Why do some lie in the shade and some stand in the sun?' I asked Epi. He makes this cute little gesture that has come to fix him in my mind. He looks at the animals grazing at the edge of the stream. They appear to be avoiding getting their hooves wet. 'Maybe we should buy tickets to Acapulco for the standing ones, because they want a tan,' he says." Starr grabbed another handful of hair and stretched it out. Great tremors of laughter made her face redden; I laughed as well, to be polite.

I explained to Epi that we humans have this internal conflict between the compulsion to see and to see something new while knowing that of all things in life, newness is the rarest quality, and that interpretation of anything new depends entirely on what we've already seen. He looked at me for a moment, perfectly silent, which was his way, and said that he could put the cows where I could look down on them if that was what I wanted."

**S**o she painted his cows and talked and talked, as she at one time had talked to me. My late afternoons had become sinkholes of monkish silence without her rummaging through my cabinets and massaging my works of enameled copper between her hands. Unlike Ben, Starr never sneered at my stuff.

About three months after Starr discovered Epi, I had arranged a clutch of jewelry in the kiln. It was four in the afternoon and I walked in front of my house, along Yucca Street, to look north toward the hills where the sun rubs against arroyos and junipers and abrades their texture. Starr stopped her car next to my fence, going the wrong way on the street.

"Our Mont St. Victoire," she said after she lowered the window and leaned across the passenger's seat to look up at me.

"What?" I said.

"Those mountains are to us like Cezanne's was to him."

"Maybe for you, JMW Turner. For me, they're just a nice frame for the world. Purplish blue tissue pasted on cerulean sky, Nature's collage." She snorted air from her mouth and nose, like a bull. Her commentary.

"I want to show you something," she said, struggling to unhook her seat belt and then almost tumbling out of the Mini Cooper.

"It's still fresh, so hold it by the stretchers," she commanded as she pushed a painting toward me. We walked toward my back door. When inside, I looked at the oil. It was again a picture of cattle, as seen from above, going down a bank toward a creek, and New Mexico light suffused the center of the canvas and opened up a vista across a field of grama toward cliffs, dark and red rough against the bleached sky. The painting conveyed space and time as well as I have

ever seen them done. An artist like Bierstadt captured the immensity of the American western landscape by filling walls with huge works. Starr had kept the feelings produced by some of those 19th century vista paintings while tossing out the details and shrinking all but the feeling to a 24-by-30 inch painting.

I told her Turner would have been proud. She reacted like a school girl, twirling about my kitchen, giggling. She announced that she was taking the painting and a dozen others to her gallery the next day.

**A**fter I saw Starr open her garage the next morning and weave her Mini down Yucca Street, I drove out to the Mimbres Valley. It wasn't difficult to find Epi's place, thanks to Starr's close descriptions. As she had done, I gunned the car up an insane incline to an open patio in front of an adobe shack. I honked. Lobo first barked and then skulked around my car, sniffing the tires. To my surprise two old men looked out the front door. Only when I honked a second time did the older of the two, armed with a six-foot staff, limp toward my car.

I had made up my cover story. I was Teresa Avila, lost in the wilds of New Mexico. I was looking for a Narciso Garcia. Epi—and it was Epi investigating who was disturbing his dog—said that he knew of many Garcias but no Narciso Garcias. That is, if I were looking for a *live* Narciso Garcia, for he thought he could assist me in finding a dead one.

I said that only live ones would do. I had a bequest that my law firm would like to turn over to the appropriate Narciso. Epi crept toward the house and consulted with his colleague. He emerged again after some minutes and suggested that I join them and talk about the Garcias in the shade of a box elder that



hung over the roof of the house. We sat in three aluminum lawn chairs with faded and shredding vinyl webbing. Black ants scrambled across my feet so that I had to stamp my sandals every minute or two.

Gumicindo introduced himself. "People who know me call me Chorty, sometimes Chapo," he said. Chorty's eyebrows, the size of frazzled paint brushes, wagged when he talked. He held my hand until I snatched it free. His right hand was amazingly soft and puffy.

We three sat watching almost a dozen iridescent birds ducking in and out of a mound of prickly pear, the dead, almost petrified pads at the base forming protective niches for nests. That day the nopales had burst into a riot of fuchsia-colored blossoms and bees dodged the birds to reach the nectar.

"It's lovely here," I told them. "Why did you build your house so far away from the river?"

"I did not build my house," Epi said. "My great-grandfather constructed the beginning of my house, and after him, my grandfather and father added other parts. I don't know why he built the first house where he did, *aunque* if you ever saw the Mimbres flood, you would appreciate how smart he was."

We proceeded to uncover the complex genealogy of the Mimbres Garcias, a tricky affair since neither Epi nor Chorty had familial ties to Garcias. At the end of our time together, after we had shared Mason jars of water and store-bought macaroons, I was convinced that every family in the Mimbres had incestual links to everyone else in the valley. I stayed till the early afternoon, watching the air shimmy and glow above the almost dry river, and hearing the old men ruminate like cicadas over the centuries of sere stories and partial memories. They accepted me into their company as a sort of accident of nature that gave them cause to call up a rusty fact or a disused association. Still I

POINT OF VIEW continued on next page

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### October 2013 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday, October 3, 2013, 12-1 pm: **Brown Bag program: Railroads of Southwestern New Mexico - Silver City, Pinos Altos & Mogollon RR.** 24 with Joe Gill. Silver City Museum Annex, 302 W. Broadway

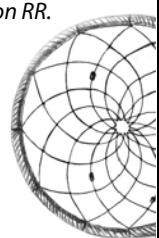
Saturday, October 12, 2013, 10 am to 12 noon: **Craft Class: Dream Catcher** at the Silver City Museum, 312 W. Broadway. For crafters age 8 and older, \$5, limit 10 crafters, pre-registration encouraged. Parent or guardian attendance required.

Saturday, October 12, 2013, 6:30 pm: **Baxter Black Show**, a fundraising event to benefit the Silver City Museum Society at the WNMU Fine Art Theater, Silver City, NM

Sunday, October 27, 2013, 2 pm to 3 pm: **Poetry Reading** with Bonnie Maldonado at the Silver City Museum, 312 W. Broadway

Saturday, November 2, 2013, 12:30 pm to 4 pm: **Pocket Shrine Adult Craft Class** at the Silver City Museum, 312 W. Broadway. For crafters 16 years and older, \$35 includes supplies, class is limited to 6 students. Pre-registration encouraged.

For more information: visit us at 312 West Broadway, Silver City NM, call 575-538-5921, or click [www.silverscitymuseum.org](http://www.silverscitymuseum.org)



### POINT OF VIEW continued

crouched under the shade of their elaborate courtesy and they may have been sorry to see me go.

I don't believe Starr ever learned about my visit. When she and I later together met Chorty at the funeral, he just winked his eyebrows at me and mentioned nothing of our afternoon together when I was Teresa. His discretion was another element of his courtly civility. Starr had already ceased her invasions of my kitchen, but after I had sampled her time in the Mimbres, her visits to my studio became even scarcer. One early morning several weeks later, I saw her wearing oven mitts and carrying two aluminum baking trays to put into the Mini's trunk. She was taking casseroles on her *plein air* expedition.

That same noon I again drove to the Mimbres, and where the road to San Lorenzo curved, just below Epi's place, I pulled onto the shoulder and hoisted my bird-watching binoculars to my eyes. From my parking spot I couldn't make out the plaza in front of the house but could see the back of the adobe. Epi had dragged a rickety potting table into the shade of the box elder, and three men and a woman sat on lawn chairs around the table, eating from paper plates. Bottles of Dos Equis tilted on the table's uneven top. I knew at once that Starr had prepared her only dish of any note other than an arugula and goat cheese salad: macaroni and cheese with a toasted bread crust. Using a cream sauce base, emmenthal and fontina and parmesan, she transformed childhood comfort food into a dish of mysterious complexity. Starr had made the casserole for me once, and through the binocs I could make out the sensuous pleasure that had flooded me, playing on the faces of Epi, Chorty and a man I learned later was Flaco Quintana.

I confess it. I so wanted to put down the glasses and drive up to Epi's adobe and sit in the shade of the box elder and pull a beer out of the cooler, wet and icy, and eat the crusty edges of warm macaroni and cheese from a paper plate as my friend talked of cows, the sky, feelings and ungrateful sons. I yearned to do those things, but my pretend visit as Teresa Avila prevented me. My longing to be with Starr, Epi and Chorty could not overcome my shame. I drove back home.

**S**tarr continued to take hot aluminum trays at least once a week. Nearly every day she returned late, so that as daylight shortened I would look out my window to watch her parking her car in the dark. As she scuffled about the opened trunk, I guessed that she was unloading completed canvases. She had stopped coming to visit me even on the weekends, however, until one November evening. Rather than turn into her drive, she parked the Mini at the curb and came straight to my door.

When I opened the door, the first things I saw were bloodshot eyes and flushed cheeks. "Liz," she said, just at the edge of a sob, "you must help me."

I asked her in, but she refused. She shook off my attempted hug. "Come with me," she commanded. I followed her to the car. She opened the trunk, and in the banana glow of the trunk light I could make out Lobo's brown-and-gray fur.

"What the....?" I said.

"It's Epi's dog. He died last night and none of us was strong enough to dig a grave."

"And why is he in your trunk?"

"Poor Epi was so shattered by the dog's death and his not being able to bury him that I knew I had to get Lobo away from his place. It was the only thing I could think to do."



I told her to grab Lobo's back legs as I put my arms around his neck. He was wedged into the trunk, tight, and Miss JMW Turner scarcely lifted anything at all but just made grunts like a tennis pro. I found a collapsed cardboard box, put it under the rear of the car, and rolled Lobo's stiff body onto the cardboard with a thud.

"What are you proposing that we do now?" I asked.

"Let's bury him in my backyard," Starr said.

"Who's going to dig the grave?" I asked. A silly, silly question. With Starr's only square-pointed shovel, I dug a hole among her salvia and snapdragons, as she held a wavering and, at the end, dead flashlight. When we dragged the body to the edge of the hole and I was about to shovel dirt over that cursed dog whose only approach to me was to snarl, Starr put her hand on my arm.

"Wait, aren't you going to say a few words?"

"Words?"

"Yeah, like a prayer or something. Epi would expect that."

"Starr, he's a dog, not a person."

"I know, but he's a Catholic dog."

"The only prayer I know is the Lord's Prayer," I said.

"That'll do," she said. "But you gotta say it in Spanish."

"Oh for God's sake," I said.

"He's a Mexican Catholic dog," she said.

So after I recited *Nuestro Padre* (dredged up from my high school Spanish taught by the very pious Señorita Cummings) and made some sort of sign of the cross, Starr hugged me and thanked me two or three times. "You know," she said at the last, when I was putting the shovel away, "I think Epi might not survive this loss."

**T**hree days later, in the morning, Starr knocked at my back door. She had on her Santa Fe clothes, designer stuff that makes a woman look overdressed no matter the occasion.

"I've got to take a group of pictures to MacIver's," she said. "They're doing a little show for me next month."

I was surprised that Starr hadn't called me the moment one of Santa Fe's main galleries had scheduled an opening. "Congratulations," I said, trying to summon some enthusiasm.

Starr's face looked grim. "Thanks," she said. "But I can't go to check on Epi. Will you go for me?"

I said sure, I guessed, but she had already turned and was striding toward the car, her Ralph Lauren ankle-length skirt hobbling her gait.

When I roared up Epi's drive, the house, the truck, the chicken pen seemed especially forlorn, abandoned. I sat in my car, waiting for Epi to come to the door, listening to my motor cool and the hens cackle. Epi didn't appear. I went to his door and knocked. Still no answer. I tried the handle and opened the door.

"Epi," I said. "You home?"

"Pase," said a voice in the dim.

The house was just as Starr had described it, except for a sink loaded with dishes and pans. Epi was in a short double bed in the corner of a large room, and a 40-watt light flooded his pieced quilt. He was leaning on his right elbow and peering toward me.

"Hi," I said, as cheerily as I could. "Remember me?"

"The woman looking for Narci-

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POINT OF VIEW continued on page 32

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## POINT OF VIEW continued

so Garcia, to give him a million dollars, Teresa Avila," he said.

"Well, that wasn't exactly the truth," I said.

"I knew that."

"How did you find me out?"

"There's not one Garcia from Mimbres Valley who'd ever save more than a hundred dollars. And if one did, he'd never hire a lawyer to give it to one of his *maldita familia*."

I went close to his bed, where in the light Epifanio looked gaunt, all ears and nose. I explained as well as I could my deception, why I wanted to know who he was.

He lay back; strands of yellowing white hair splayed over the cotton pillow case. "Your heart missed your friend," he said. "She was all the time with us and you were *celoso*."

"Yes," I said. I was jealous of an 84-year-old broken-down Mexican rancher.

"Well, she gave me that," he said, as though he were reading my mind and could prove his importance. He pointed an index finger, crooked as a juniper twig, toward an oil hanging on the wall. It pictured an adobe with a box elder behind and three men sitting together, bottles of Tecate beer in their hands.

I walked over to look at the painting. One man's mouth was open, his head thrown back, and I could hear his laughter. "I think she's become a much better painter since last year. Thanks to you, probably."

Epi coughed, a deep and distressing cough. "I done nothing except poke the *vacas*." He then told me that he would not have let her stay at the beginning, but that she had paid real money. And later he saw the beautiful things that she created, and he fell in love with those beautiful things.

"I done nothing," he said again.

"You did more than you thought," I said. I didn't tell Epi about my late husband's repeated criticism of my enamel work, but there in the dark I understood in a flash that all relationship rests on invisible deeds and debts. "And why are you in bed?"

"Oh, my *pinche* dog died. We were putting him in the car and I hurt something. Son of a bitch it hurts." Epi rubbed his stomach under the quilt.

"Don't you think we'd better get you to the doctor?"

"No! I don't believe in no doctors. They killed my Ana Louisa. One of my neighbors is a *curandera*, and she gives me herbs. I drink teas."

So I washed and dried and put away the dishes and heated some pintos he had in the refrigerator and tried to make him comfortable. It was the first time in my existence that I emptied a slop jar. He was slumped at the table when I left in the stillness of a purple evening.

I never again saw Epi alive. He died less than a month after my visit.

**S**tarr had just one story from that time that she told Chorty, Flaco and me in front of the tiny San Lorenzo church where Epi's funeral was conducted. On a cloudy December afternoon, she had finished sketching and taking photographs. She carried her pad up the hill to show Epi the sketches and found a red Mustang in the drive behind her Mini and a burly young man with tattoos and a shaved head at the adobe's door, talking to Epi. Epi, who had been feeling unwell for weeks, was grinning and animated. He introduced Starr to his great-grandson, Chuy Junior. Chuy didn't have much use for Starr; she said that his dislike was clear. He ended his visit by saying, "Thanks, Abuelito. You helped a lot."

When Chuy got in his Mustang and skidded down the drive, Starr asked Epi what the visit was about. She had met lots of his grandkids and great-grandkids, but Chuy was new to her.

"He just got in a little bit of *dificultades* with a loan company," Epi said.

"So you helped him out with your little bit of money?" Starr said.

"Ah, Chica," Epi said, using the name that he had come to call her, "life is short and the family is big. When they give to me, they will feel real good because they have given but were not made to give. Just as I feel good because I can give. Nobody makes me."

Starr told us that as speeches went, that was about Epi's longest.

Standing on the patch of gravel and rabbit bush in front of the church, with seemingly hundreds of cars of Epi's relatives and friends perched at crazy angles around us, we five traded our favorite remembrances of Epifanio. Though it was just after Christmas, the sun burned through our dark jackets and made us warm. It would have been good to sit at the side of an adobe, overlooking the almost non-existent Mimbres river, and talk of our happy memories as we ate Starr's macaroni and cheese.

As Starr and I hugged the three friends and started to trip toward the Mini, Chorty caught Starr's left elbow and in a confidential tone told her that Epifanio Ramirez didn't own those cows he had herded around for her. The cows belonged to "Dr. Adams," an absentee Texas dentist who paid Epi to look after things.

"I knew that, Chorty," Starr said, "the day I read the ear tag of one of those beasts. But if they weren't Epi's livestock by law, I made them his by art."

*Tom and Consuelo Hester came to Silver City from Arlington, Va., seven years ago. He retired from the Department of Justice, where he was the head of the editorial staff of the Bureau of Justice Statistics. He and Consuelo have one son.*



I so wanted to put down the glasses and drive up to Epi's adobe and sit in the shade of the box elder and pull a beer out of the cooler, wet and icy...

## WNMU EXTENDED UNIVERSITY



**WNMU**

**EXTENDED UNIVERSITY**

Western New Mexico University's Extended University department would like to start offering non-credit classes to community residents. We are looking for persons interested in sharing their expertise in educational, cultural, and recreational services.

We would like to prepare programs for the adult courses that will begin in the fall 2013 and programs for the Kids Kollege that will begin in the Summer 2014.

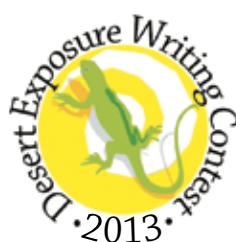
Rebecca Estrada, Continuing Education Planner for WNMU, is excited about getting the non-credit program started again. Ms. Estrada's office is located in the P.E. Complex, room 131 and may be contacted by phone at 538-6149 to set up an appointment for persons interested in teaching a class.

## 2013 WRITING CONTEST • BILL VOYCE

# Chauvet

Wordsworth famously defined poetry as "the spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings: it takes its origin from emotion recollected in tranquility." Sometimes out in the quiet of the Southwest, as in Bill Voyce's poem here, it's tranquility itself that gives rise to powerful thoughts and feelings.

**A**uthor's note: While sleeping on a clear, late, November night, a strong north wind came up and battered me awake to batten down loose ends. Standing out in a midnight sky, I recalled many of the stories within my knowledge of the constellations and stars. The



moonless sky seemed to close over my thoughts and become the roof of those magnificent caves in southern France like Le Céaux and Chauvet, with their superbly animate drawings by anonymous talent working in their depths by fire. Then I came back to the cold night and its infinite view.

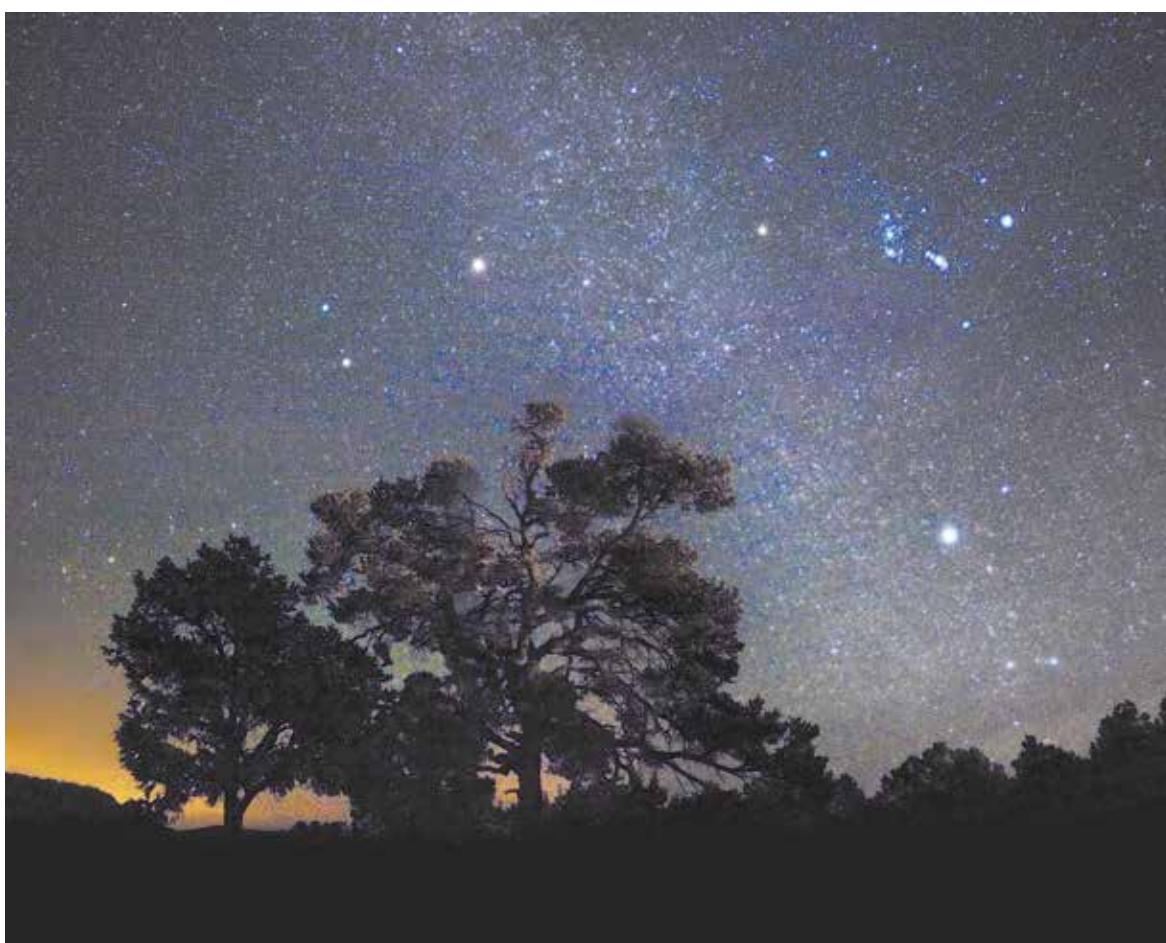


Photo by David Cortner

**B**edding down on a caliche ridge,  
Icy Night navigates the tangled geometry  
Of piñon, juniper and mountain mahogany,  
Lacquering my skin  
In its penetrating embrace.  
Above,  
An anthracite sky,  
Bejeweled for a coronation,  
Speaks in bold abstractions of antiquarian dramas  
Recorded across its sooted and storied ceiling  
By anonymous hearts,  
Defining in the weight of a line,  
Or strength of a gesture,  
The judgment, at the root of each creation.  
En-wombed in this primal studio,  
With only a clear eye to amplify the pale light,  
I paint a world of muscled Auroch, spiked Ibex and  
the great Bear  
Emerging in harsh lines,  
Mingling with subtle hues,  
Animating my cerebral landscape of the canvas over-head.

Pecking a hole in the hard shell surface of this aging sky,  
I peer through its revealing light  
At a world, fresh and fluid,  
In the purity of its creation,  
Before the fear of overreaching its Perfection,  
Darkens the condensing sky into weeping stone,  
Sheltered within its dimly lit cave,  
Awaiting a new season of artists  
That unlock the anthracite sky once more,  
Inviting us to cross over  
Into the ever unfolding electric Wonder  
That never rests. \*

*Bill Voyce won our 2010 Grand Prize for his poem, "Llamas in a Summer Meadow." He is currently finishing a collection of 30 poems titled The Long Dirt Road to Euphoria. They draw their inspiration, he says, "from the humbling beauty of our planet, wet and dry, that Jane and I have been fortunate to embrace for six-plus decades, while living on the Hopi rez, our ranch along the Mogollon Rim, the Big Sur coast, in Southeast waters, and here in the hills near Pinos Altos."*

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## 2013 WRITING CONTEST • V.J. MOORE

# Heat Wave

In the cool of the night, someone was listening to her music.

In another but very different story about making a connection in a small Southwestern town, V.J. Moore captures the rhythms of everyday life that is nonetheless open just a crack to possibilities.

**W**anda pried open first one eye, then the other. There would still be time for some more sleep if it weren't for the god-awful heat. Dull predawn light filtered through the lace curtains. She flipped her pillow over and closed her eyes. The ceiling fan made a clicking sound with each rotation as it spun around, stirring the sluggish air.

Streaks of soft pink sunrise began to trail across the bottom of the window pane. The rooster that lived in the neighbor's backyard started to crow, once, twice, three times. A crowd surged in from off the street. The apartment filled up, wall to wall people. There was something about their clothes, the colors swirled in a dizzying array of purples, blues and yellows. They were strangers, too, not a familiar face in the crowd....

The obnoxious buzzing of the alarm clock chased the dream people away. Her mind drifted, landing briefly on the notion of taking the day off. It was tempting, but getting Gus in a big stew was never a good idea. Kicking her legs loose from the sweat-sticky sheets, she sat up on the edge of the bed and stared glumly at the bedside clock.

"I'm up, I'm up." The words faded away into the silence of the empty bedroom. From the kitchen the smell of freshly brewed coffee made her think of her

good friend, Ruby, who had given her an automatic-timer coffee maker for Christmas last year. She made a mental note to tell Ruby how much she appreciated that machine.

Sitting at her kitchen table, Wanda watched the sun rise up over the desert. Then, as it did each morning, the little thought wiggled its way in: What if this was the day?

"What if I turned left instead of right at the bottom of the stairs today? What if I just kept walking? Would it be the end of the world?"

"Come on, Wanda Boyden. No more whining." Wanda could be brutal if she caught herself sliding off into a bunch of foolishness.

"You're sitting here watching the sunrise from your own kitchen window, enjoying a cup of coffee that was already brewed by the time you got up. Today, unlike some people, you have a job to go to. Tonight, God willing, you'll have the music. Be thankful for what you have."

She took her time, savoring the first cup of coffee while she soaked up the view of the sunrise. The hummingbirds came out in force, swarming around the gangly ocotillos. Prickly pear cactus blooms added splashes of color, bright reds and yellows dotted across the sandy desert floor. Taking a few minutes in the morning to be still gave her a fighting chance at surviving the day with her sanity intact.

Not that anything out of the ordinary ever happened at the coffee shop. All her regulars would be showing up for coffee, eggs, bacon, sausage and biscuits. Heat wave or no, the coffee shop clientele ordered huge hot breakfasts. There were times when the sight of those steaming plates of food twisted her stomach into a knot. She'd learned to ignore her queasy stomach by reminding herself that those big appetites were what kept Gus in business and kept her in a job. She glanced at the rooster clock on the kitchen wall. Her quiet time was over.

Leaning in close to the bathroom mirror, Wanda took in every little detail. Her age was beginning to show. With her hair pulled back into a ponytail, a broad silver streak was plainly visible. The wrinkle cream, applied every night without fail, wasn't doing much anymore. Turning away from her daily close-up inspection, she reached for her face powder. Some lipstick, a fresh uniform, a spritz of Lavender Nights



perfume and the transformation was complete.

"Guess that will have to do." Wanda made a face at her own reflection in the mirror, a reminder not to take herself too seriously.

Ignoring the stiffness in her knees, she navigated the two flights of stairs to the sidewalk. She turned right, walking down Pine Street toward the Copper Creek Coffee Shop. The marquee at the bank across the street flashed, "Good morning, 6:00 AM, 85 degrees."

From a block away Wanda could smell the bacon frying. Her friend Earl occupied his usual place at the counter, his big gnarled hands wrapped around a steaming mug of coffee. Wanda tossed a copy of yesterday's newspaper on the counter next to Earl. At his request, she saves him her paper and brings it to him at the coffee shop every morning.

"Thanks, hon." Earl slid the paper over and began to read each article out loud, pausing occasionally to shake his head in mute disapproval. Other than his daily rendition of yesterday's news, Earl never has much to say.

**B**y noontime Wanda had waited on dozens of tables and served up cups and cups of coffee, each one with a friendly smile and a "What else can I get for you today?" Her tips had been decent; there was enough for bus fare for a week with a little cash left over. Her customers made sure she was up to speed on all the latest gossip going on in Copper Creek, a place where everyone knows at least a little something about everyone else's business.

The members of the "Front Porch Club" waited for Wanda to pass by on her way home each day. The Manor House Assisted Living Community residents spent the morning sitting on the front porch drinking lemonade or iced tea, armed with blue and yellow fly swatters to chase away the occasional fly. They called out, waving her over to offer her a glass of tea, but she had no time to stop.

The afternoon, like every other afternoon, would be spent visiting Blanche. By timing everything down to the minute, Wanda could swing by the apartment, grab some lunch, get changed out of her uniform and catch the bus to the nursing home. The heat shimmered off the sidewalks in waves, sucking the energy out of anyone unlucky enough to be outdoors. The bus stop bench that is in the sun was empty. The shaded bench was full.

A man waiting for the bus pointed toward the sunny bench and rolled his eyes at Wanda. "This time of day, bet you could fry an egg on that thing."

With brakes hissing and diesel smoke belching out the rear, the bus rolled to a stop in front of the line of passengers. The air inside the bus was blessedly cool. Leaning back in her seat, Wanda closed her eyes and took a deep breath. The smells, sights and sounds of the nursing home hallways tried to crowd their way into her thoughts. She pushed them away, back into the closet where she kept certain things locked away.

Blanche is in poor health but still has plenty of energy to compile a daily list of complaints. Each day she waited for Wanda to arrive, ready to unload on her. Today's list included a lunch that was served too cold, while at the same time, the iced tea was served too warm.

"I'll look into it, Mother. How about a little nap?" Wanda soothed Blanche's ruffled feathers while she straightened out the tangled bed sheets.

"Why hasn't Vicky been to see me?" Blanche plucked fretfully at her nightgown, her eyes wary.

"Vicky can't come to see you, Mom. She passed away a few years ago. You remember, don't you? She got sick. You and I took care of her, remember? She's with the angels now."

Blanche stared at Wanda suspiciously. Wanda reached out and took Blanche's hands, then leaned over to kiss her on the forehead.

"How about that nap? Wouldn't you like to rest for a while?" Wanda held on to her mother's hands until Blanche calmed down. A few tears leaked from the corners of her eyes. Wanda dabbed them away with Kleenex.

"It's OK, Mom. I miss Vicky, too."

Blanche squeezed her eyes closed, reached for the bed sheet and pulled it closer to her chin.

"All I do is sleep all the time. You know that, don't you?"

"I could turn on the TV for you, if you want me to. Wanna watch some TV before your nap?" Wanda waited, TV remote in hand.

Blanche's chest underneath her nightgown set up a steady rising and falling. The frown between her eyebrows relaxed, leaving her looking more peaceful in her sleep. Wanda pulled a chair up next to the bed and took a book out of her tote bag.

Blanche slept all afternoon while Wanda read a romance novel. The low humming of the oxygen machine, combined with the close, stuffy, little room made it almost impossible to stay awake. Twice she dozed off in the chair, waking up to the chatter of the aides going about their business in the hallway.

At 5 p.m. the supper trays were served, and to Wanda's relief, everything on the tray was to her mother's liking. After the trays were picked up they watched the 5:30 news together. By 6 p.m. it was time for a sponge bath and a change into a fresh nightgown. With Blanche tucked in for the night, she could catch the 6:30 p.m. bus back home.

**B**y the time she walked home from the bus stop, the blistering desert sun had set. Wanda sipped an iced tea with lemon and sugar while she soaked her swollen feet. It was still too hot to think about cooking. She ate a salad with a slice of French bread on the side for dinner. Her favorite time of day had finally arrived.

She lifted the violin out of its case. It had been passed down from her grandfather to her father. From about the age of 12, she had pleaded with her father to teach her how to play. He had shown her how to coax a few notes from the strings, but he only

"Wanda, you'll never  
Learn to play the  
thing. It will sit around  
and collect dust. We  
might as well sell it."

wanted to play after he'd had too much to drink, so the lessons were jumbled, sometimes causing more confusion than anything. Then her father would become irate and the violin would go back into its case. Getting his permission to take the instrument out and play it without his supervision had proved impossible. The week before her 50th birthday, Wanda's father died and she quietly moved the violin case from underneath his bed to underneath her bed. Convincing her mother to let her keep the violin was the next hurdle. Blanche's words had become her challenge:

"Wanda, you'll never learn to play the thing. It will sit around and collect dust. We might as well sell it. Maybe it's worth something. Not that I ever expected your father to leave anything of value behind."

Wanda kept the violin hidden away underneath her bed. Sometimes, at night, after Blanche had gone to sleep, she got it out and held it under her chin, imagining how it would feel to take up the bow and stroke it across the strings. Eventually Blanche forgot about the violin, as she was came to forget about a good many things, and Wanda began to teach herself to play.

In the beginning, the going was rough but Wanda was gifted with natural talent and full of determina-



tion. When some of the squeaks and squawks began to sound like pure tones, a fire was kindled in her soul. She played from the heart, letting the music flow outward like a river, choosing its own course. She played alone at night, never for an audience. She recorded her favorite combinations of notes by their letter names, in pencil on notebook paper. Over the years the pages of handwritten notes of her music filled up several large folders. The folders sat in a box labeled "Wanda's Music."

Tonight the music drifted through the open window, pushing through thick warm air to make its way heavenward. After she had warmed up the bow, the notes began to fly off the violin like birds freed from their cages. After working on a new composition, she revisited several of her old pieces. Lost in the music, she lost track of the time. She finished with "I'll Fly Away," in honor of her little sister, Victoria.

"I love you, Vicky. Mama loves you, too. We both miss you so much." The words were whispered into the night.

Wanda wiped down her instrument and returned it to its case. She ran a bath filled with fragrant bath salts and soaked in the tub until all the day's cares were forgotten. Even her dread of fighting the heat for a few hours of sleep slid down the drain with the bath water. The sheets felt cool against her damp skin. She was asleep before her head hit the pillow.

**O**n a quiet summer evening Zeke Santa Maria ate chicken tacos with rice for dinner, said goodnight to El Gato and left for his music place. He traveled alone and on foot, taking the weathered wooden orange crate that sat outside his front door with him. He had found the music by accident one night after he had become strong enough to walk around the neighborhood in the evening. Zeke was a survivor. The first bout of cancer cost him the lower lobe of his right lung. Ten years later the doctors had removed a tumor from his stomach. The doctors said they were optimistic about his chances to remain cancer free. For Zeke, each day was a gift from God.

His housemates were two hens named Iris and Lulu and a one-eyed cat by the name of El Gato. Iris and Lulu actually lived in their henhouse in the backyard and El Gato only came around every two or three days, but Zeke still considered all of them his family. The hens laid a few eggs each week and El Gato was content to sleep in the corner of the sofa as

long as no one pestered him.

Zeke's talent for carving birds and animals from pieces of driftwood had been his best medicine. In a twisted piece of wood he saw a graceful living creature. His hands were still strong, his carving tools sharp. He had an endless supply of patience to work with the wood until whatever was concealed there was freed. He sat and carved every morning after breakfast, while the light was good. After lunch he'd sit outside underneath the shade of a giant Chinese elm tree in his backyard and play checkers with his friend Ernie. He wouldn't want to say so, but once in a while he let Ernie win. Otherwise, his friend might get discouraged and stop coming over.

For the last few months, after dinner, Zeke has walked down to his music place.

From the open window of the apartment two floors up, the music began. At first the notes were sweet, a little shy but full of promise. Later on they would grow much stronger, and on some nights they became hauntingly sad. Sitting on his orange crate, Zeke leaned back against the wall. The rough plaster poked through his thin cotton shirt. Even though the day was drawing to a close, it was still very hot.

"Thank God I remembered to bring along some water." He took a long drink from his bottle of wa-

ter. Then he let the music wrap itself around him.

When the music ended, Zeke picked up his orange crate and started his journey back home. He wanted to tell this person who played the violin so beautifully every night how grateful he was to have the music, but he would never intrude on another person's grace. He would return tomorrow night, and each

**HEAT WAVE** continued on next page



Tonight the music drifted through the open window, pushing through thick warm air to make its way heavenward. After she had warmed up the bow, the notes began to fly off the violin like birds freed from their cages.

ter. Then he let the music wrap itself around him.

When the music ended, Zeke picked up his orange crate and started his journey back home. He wanted to tell this person who played the violin so beautifully every night how grateful he was to have the music, but he would never intrude on another person's grace. He would return tomorrow night, and each

**HEAT WAVE** continued on next page



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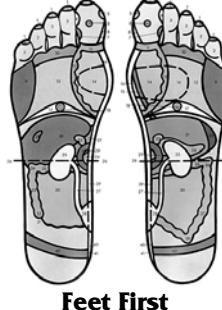
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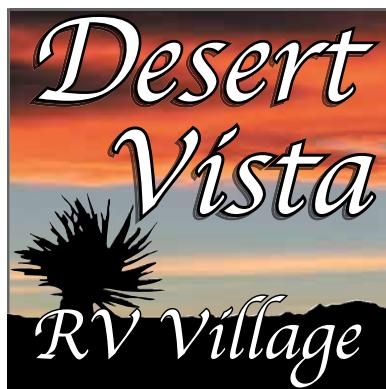
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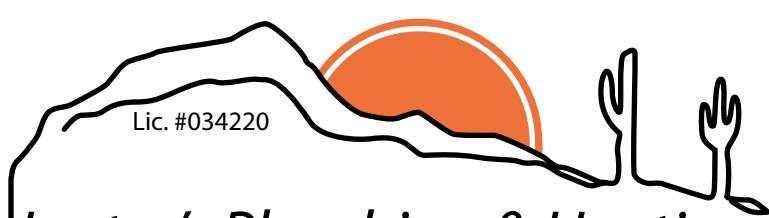
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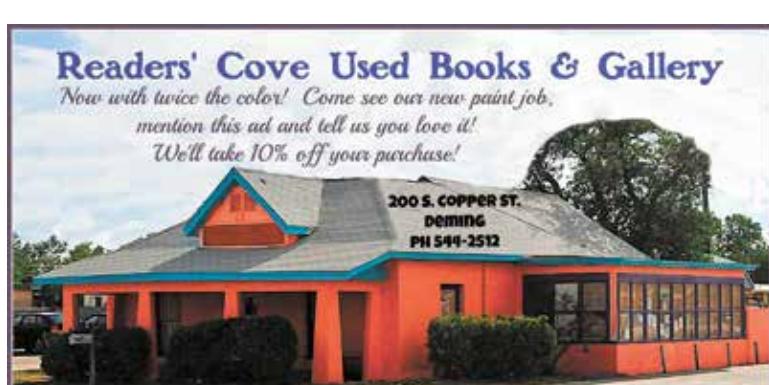
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### HEAT WAVE continued

night after that. For as long as he was able, he would come to this place, sit underneath the window, close his eyes and listen.

**O**n Saturday Wanda spent the day exactly as she had on Friday, serving breakfast plates to her customers at the coffee shop all morning and sitting beside her mother's bed at the nursing home all afternoon. By the time she got home she was hungry enough to fix herself a hamburger with tomatoes and dill pickles. After dinner she played the violin, staying up long past her usual bedtime.

After the music ended, she opened her window wider than usual, leaning out into the night for a breath of fresh air. Looking down she saw an elderly man making his way up the sidewalk. Thin, with stooped shoulders, he carried an orange crate in one hand and an empty water bottle in the other. His thick white hair was pushed back from his face, held there by a rolled-up bandana. Wanda watched him until he was out of sight. She went to bed thinking of the stranger walking in her neighborhood.

Sunday dissolved into Monday and another week of extreme temperatures marched relentlessly along. Rain clouds gathered every afternoon, but instead of dropping the much-needed rain, the clouds pulled back and disappeared into the horizon. On Friday, Wanda left the nursing home a little earlier than usual, stopping by Bennie's Market to pick up some fresh salmon for dinner. As she shopped for salmon and some salad greens to go with it, a vision of the man who sat underneath her window each night popped into her head.

That evening the rain started to fall as she was putting the violin back inside its case. She looked down on the sidewalk and saw the white-haired man gathering his belongings and getting wet in the process. Wanda ran downstairs and tapped him on the arm.

"Would you like to come upstairs and wait out the storm? I hate for you to get soaked walking home tonight." She was out of breath from running down two flights of stairs.

"I don't like to impose." The man kept walking away. "I don't like to be a bother. I'll be all right. I don't live far."

"Please come up. I know you listen to my music every night. I thought maybe we could visit for a little while. I'll make you some tea." Wanda was breaking her own rule of never, ever, under any circumstances, inviting a stranger into her apartment.

The man kept walking. Then he stopped and turned around to face Wanda. The rain began to fall harder, sharp, cold drops pelting them as they stood on the sidewalk.

Zeke Santa Maria stared for a few minutes at Wanda, trying to make up his mind. Then he shrugged and began to walk back toward her.

"If you're sure...."

Wanda was sure.

They climbed the stairs together. She gave him a towel to dry his hair. Although his hair was white, he was not as old as she had imagined. She tried to read what was written on his face. Hardship had left its mark on him. Intense blue eyes against tan skin looked out on the world with patience and kindness. Sitting next to him on the sofa, Wanda couldn't shake the feeling that they had met before, although she couldn't remember where or when.

They fell into easy conversation, talking first about the rain and how good it was that the heat wave was finally broken. Then they went on to talk about Wanda's music. When Wanda asked Zeke what his hobbies were, he told her about his wood carvings. She wondered if she might be able to see them sometime.

"If you want, I could bring some of them next I come." Zeke lifted his thin shoulders and cocked his head to one side, his blue eyes watching Wanda's reaction.

"I would like that very much, Mr. Santa Maria. Please do bring some of them with you next time you come over." Wanda helped Zeke gather his belongings while those words, "Next time you come over," settled comfortably in her mind. The last time she had looked forward to spending time with another person was long in the past. It seemed an awful thing

to say, but it was the truth. Poor Blanche, thank God

she didn't have to know. There was no one to blame.

The diagnosis was the thief, shrinking Blanche's

world down to a cramped little room in a nursing

home ward.

Zeke said his good nights and slipped out the door. Wanda moved to the window and waited for him to reappear on the sidewalk. A big yellow cat sat underneath the streetlight, the same one-eyed cat she had seen hanging around the dumpster in the alley behind the apartment building. Zeke stopped underneath the light, reached down to pet the cat's scarred head, then continued on his way. Inside the circle of light underneath the street lamp, the cat sat still, watching Zeke as he moved away. Suddenly it sprang into action, breaking into a run until it caught up with Zeke. After that it was content to follow along a few paces behind him. At the end of the block they turned the corner and disappeared.

Wanda sat on the window ledge watching the neighborhood kids, up past their bedtimes, splashing and playing in the puddles of rainwater. The night air was cool and damp. A soft breeze carried the intoxicating aroma of wet desert through the open window, bringing with it the promise of a good night's sleep.

V.J. Moore is a native New Mexican and a long-time resident of Silver City who says, "The desert country of the Southwest is my favorite place to be."



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BORDERLINES • MARJORIE LILLY

## Be Our Guest

Expanding the guest worker program may be one way out of the immigration bind.

The system's broke, as they say.

The immigration system on the Mexican border has been broken for decades. The primary issue is the tragic absurdity of Mexicans and other Latin Americans passing through hell and high water just to get to jobs picking peaches or potatoes or laboring in construction or forestry.

Thousands of illegal immigrants have died wandering sunstruck through the hellish heat of deserts. Others have died crossing the high water of the Rio Grande. The main issue is broken people.

To rightists the system is broken because the southern border became so porous to undocumented immigrants that it was almost meaningless. To them, a state of law is better than a lack of law. So some want to shut out every avenue toward legality for undocumented workers.

The Republicans' loss of the last presidential election has forced them to face the issues that concern Latinos in the US, and one of their most important issues is immigration reform.

But at this moment whether any reform will happen at all is still up in the air. Which side of this issue will prevail? Can some kind of compromise be reached? At this moment no one really knows.

The path to citizenship for workers without papers is one of the most controversial issues.

Anybody has to factor into their opinions how hard Mexican immigrants work and how much they've contributed to our economy—some maybe for 25 years, since the amnesty of 1987 and 1988.

Picking in the fields in New Mexico is extremely hard work. Workers try to pick every chile they can to earn every penny they can. They get no breaks or lunch hours. A lot of pickers fall asleep almost immediately after getting home, I've been told.

Many fieldworkers get on busses in El Paso at 1 a.m. to travel to Deming, Hatchita or Lordsburg and don't get back till late afternoon.

I've known a couple of workers in the food processors who have held two full-time jobs simultaneously for a few months, and they say they're not alone. They sleep for just one or two hours in a 24-hour period. It's truly phenomenal.

Working so hard for so little pay ought to confer some rights on a person.

One new idea that's being debated is the so-called "blue card." This can be given to experienced undocumented fieldworkers for a fee of \$400. It will protect them and their family from deportation while they continue to work in the fields for three more years.

They can then apply for the green card, or permanent resident status and possibly to citizenship. This is an important program to support.

The H2A guest worker program has been heavily criticized by farmworker advocates because farmworkers have been more restricted in this program than they are when they work independently in the fields. They are restricted to one employer, for example, making it hard to complain about work conditions for fear of deportation. Some people have called it "slavery." Others think that's an exaggeration.

Farmworker organizations have documented extreme cases of abuse, such as Jamaican workers who got transported to the US and then exploited so badly that they returned with almost no money. The Farmworker Justice Fund (FJF) opposes expanding the guest worker program.

But the position of the FJF leaves a really crucial issue untouched: How are workers going to get across the border without risking their lives?

Eward R. Murrow's documentary "Harvest of Shame" in 1960, about the bracero workers, exposed the hard living and working conditions

of the Mexican workers. It was important in bringing the Bracero Program to a stop in 1964.

But ironically, what Mexicans remember about the Bracero Program is that it got them across the border safely.

"That was a good program!" said a former farm-worker at the Border Agricultural Workers Center in El Paso a few years ago. "They had an office in my town [Sain Alto, Zacatecas] where you could get papers to cross the border." Center director Carlos Marentes said this attitude is common.

Chuck Barrett, who lives in Hillsboro, worked for years for both the United Farm Workers and the Farm Labor Organizing Committee. He's now the director of his own development organization called Amanecer that supports the Mexican organization Small Farmers Network of Mexico (RCPP) in 227 indigenous communities.

Barrett says that out of those communities, there are over 1,000 men who are eager to cross the border and be part of the H2A guest worker program in the US with the assistance of these organizations. "Peer pressure in these towns is enormous," he says.

"They are so glad to get away from the chaos and destruction and death" that are part of the undocumented migrants' experience, Barrett adds. He supports the expansion of the guest worker program, but only as an evil less than that of undocumented border-crossing RCPP and Amanecer also help the workers avoid the widespread corruption of the Mexican recruiting companies through which workers usually get guest worker status.

There are shortcomings to the guest worker program. Social Security or unemployment benefits for workers aren't even on the table right now. Guest workers don't get a path to citizenship. But if this program gets the expansion that is proposed, it may get liberalized.

They are already talking about letting guest workers work for more than one employer and for more than 10 months at a time. In general, the whole program may be made more flexible for both worker and employer.

There are even a lot of agricultural employers who are working toward a more liberal immigration reform. Barrett works with Mike Gempler, the executive director of the Washington Growers League and former president of the National Council of Agricultural Employers.

Gempler is working night and day to get growers to support immigration reform. Barrett describes him as saying to politicians, "Please, please, please, please, if you pass it, we will support you."

The over 1.5 million deportations under the Obama administration have hit US growers hard. Some say they've lost millions or even billions of dollars because of them. Farmers in Georgia and Alabama, where legislatures imposed extreme laws opposing illegal immigrants in 2011, have lost crops or cut back on planting.

A lot of growers would like stronger and more flexible guest worker programs to harvest their crops.

If some kind of immigration reform is to be passed at all, will it be enough to break the back of the broken system?

Only time will tell, but widespread expansion of the guest worker program may be the closest possibility for satisfying both sides of the immigration debate and making it safe for Mexicans to get to work.

*Borderlines columnist Marjorie Lilly lives in Deming.*





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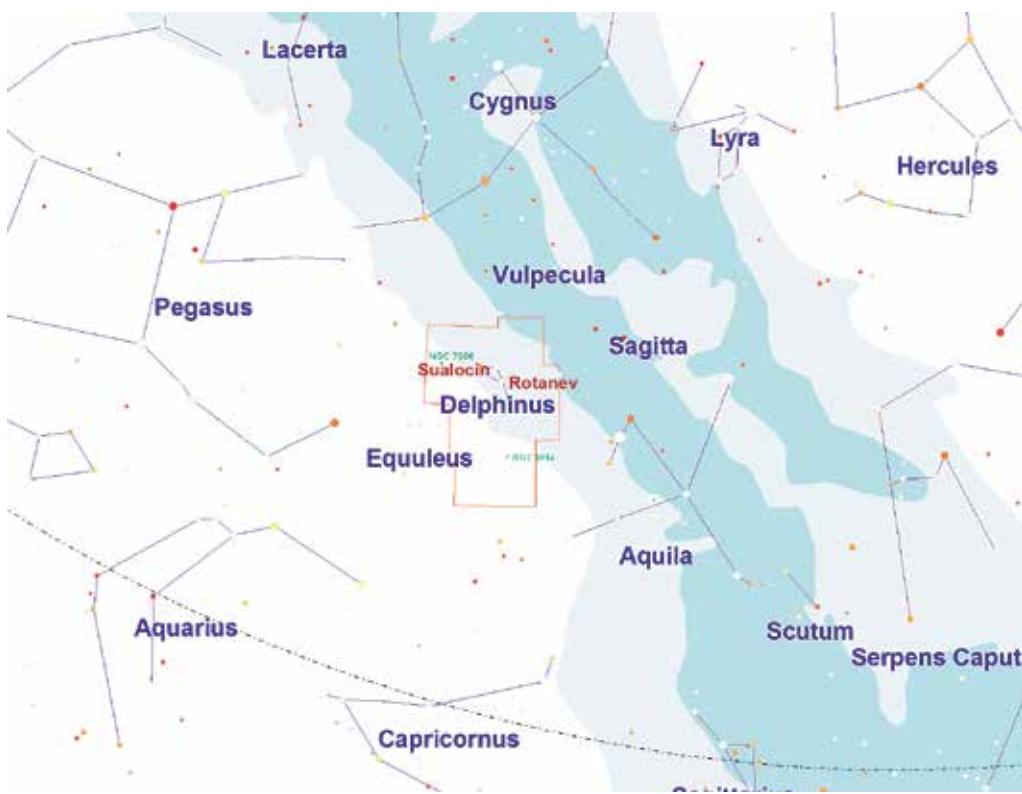
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THE STARRY DOME • BERT STEVENS

# Delphinus, the Dolphin

Plus the planets for October.



Three-quarters of the way up in the southern sky you can find the lopsided diamond of Delphinus, the Dolphin. This constellation is on the eastern edge of the Milky Way. There are two bright globular star clusters, NGC 7006 and NGC 6934. NGC 7006 is one of the most distant globular clusters that still orbit the Milky Way galaxy.

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

**J**ust east of the first-magnitude star Altair you can find the constellation of Delphinus, the Dolphin. This small constellation (ranked 69th out of the 88 official constellations in size) is highlighted by a small lopsided diamond of third- and fourth-magnitude stars with a fifth star to the southwest. This diamond-shaped asterism is also known as Job's Coffin.

Delphinus is Greek for dolphin, but which dolphin does it represent? There are a number of stories, but one relates to the Greek poet and singer Arión of Lesbos. In the myth, Arión was in Sicily competing against other singers, a contest he won handily with his splendid voice. On the return journey, the sailors, who were jealous of the prizes he had won, turned on him and gave him the choice of suicide and being buried on land or being thrown into the sea to drown.

Arión asked to sing a dirge as a final wish. The sailors granted his wish, but in the middle of the dirge, Arión threw himself into the sea. A dolphin that had been captivated by the dirge saved him and took him to Corinth. Arión failed to return the dolphin to the sea and it died. He told his sad story to Periander, the tyrant of Corinth, who had the dolphin buried and a monument constructed for it.

Bad weather forced Arión's former shipmates to Corinth. Periander had Arión hide in the monument. When Periander asked the sailors what happened to Arión, they said he had died and been buried. Periander ordered them to swear to this in front of the monument of the dolphin. When the sailors swore to his death, Arión appeared from the monument. The sailors were dumbstruck. Periander had them crucified for their actions and deceit. Apollo put both Arión and the dolphin in the sky, but only the constellation of the dolphin, Delphinus, survives.

While it is unclear if Arión is real or mythological, there are multiple versions of this story in Greek literature. There are also bronze coins of Methymna of Lesbos with Arión and the dolphin from the reign of Severus Alexander around 460 BC. There are also many pieces of art depicting Arión and his adventures.

Delphinus has two bright globular clusters, NGC 6934 and NGC 7006. Both of these globular clusters

are outliers in our Milky Way Galactic System. NGC 6934 is 41,000 light-years away from the center of the Milky Way, one and a half times the distance we are from the galactic center. This globular was discovered by William Herschel on Sept. 24, 1785. It is 8.4 minutes-of-arc across and shines at magnitude 8.4.

Slightly smaller at 6.3 minutes-of-arc across, NGC 7006 is also somewhat fainter at magnitude 10.6. This object was also discovered by Herschel, but over a year earlier, on August 21, 1784. The actual brightness of these two globular clusters is about the same as seen from a fixed distance away. Why is NGC 7006 almost eight times fainter?

The reason is simple: It is two and a half times farther away from us. This puts NGC 7006 at a distance of 125,000 light-years from the core of the Milky Way. This is five times the distance from the Sun to the galactic core, making this one of the most distant Milky Way globular clusters. This is 5% of the distance to the Andromeda Galaxy.

A globular cluster is an ancient group of stars that are bound together by their mutual gravity. They date back to the time that our galaxy was still a spherical cloud of gas. As clumps of gas located randomly throughout the cloud started to collapse to form globular clusters of stars, they were above, below and within what would become the flat disc of our galaxy. Later, as the gas and dust collapsed into the flat disc of our galaxy, the globular clusters were left orbiting our galaxy, traveling above, below and through the plane of the Milky Way. Since they are usually far from other stars, their gravity has pulled them together into the tight, globular clusters we see today.

## Watch the Skies

(times MDT)

- Oct. 4, 6:34 p.m.—New Moon
- Oct. 9, 4 a.m.—Mercury farthest east of the Sun (25 degrees)
- Oct. 11, 5:02 p.m.—First Quarter Moon
- Oct. 14, 4 p.m.—Mars 1.0 degrees north of Regulus
- Oct. 16, 9 a.m.—Venus 1.6 degrees north of Antares
- Oct. 18, 5:38 p.m.—Full Moon
- Oct. 26, 5:40 p.m.—Last Quarter Moon

## The Planets for October

**M**ercury is low on our west-southwestern horizon at the beginning of the month. This appearance is very difficult to see, since it will not get far above the horizon due to the low tilt of the ecliptic at this time of year. Mercury itself is not helping, as its orbit takes it southward relative to the ecliptic as well, increasing the effect. On Oct. 1, the Messenger of the Gods will be 72% illuminated and 6.0 seconds-of-arc across. It will be magnitude -0.0 and set by 7:45 p.m. Mercury moves from Virgo into Libra, where it ends the month.

Just six degrees above Mercury at the beginning of the month, you can find **Saturn** making its last appearance in our evening sky this year. Saturn is in Libra, moving slowly eastward, but it will be hard to find as it gets dark, only 13 degrees up in the west-southwest and setting by 8:30 p.m. The Rings are 35.0 seconds-of-arc across and tilted down 19.2 degrees with the northern face showing. The disc is 15.5 seconds-of-arc across and Saturn glows at magnitude +0.7. Both Mercury and Saturn will be too close to the Sun to see by the third week of October.

**Venus** starts the month in Libra, moving quickly into Scorpius, passing two degrees north of Antares on Oct. 16. It clips a corner of Ophiuchus and then goes back into Scorpius. If finally ends the month in Ophiuchus, having moved eastward the entire time. At midmonth it is magnitude -4.3 with a disc that is 57% illuminated and 21.1 seconds-of-arc across. The Goddess of Love can be found 18 degrees above the southwestern horizon as it gets dark, setting by 8:50 p.m.

**Jupiter** is moving slowly eastward in eastern Gemini. It rises just before midnight and is visible the rest of the night. The King of the Gods' disc is 39.2 seconds-of-arc across and it shines at magnitude -2.3.

**Mars** is glowing ruddily at magnitude 1.6 with a disc that is 4.6 seconds-of-arc across at midmonth. The God of War rises in the east at 3 a.m. It is moving eastward through Leo, passing one degree north of Regulus on Oct. 14. This is an opportunity to contrast the red color of Mars with the blue color of Regulus, a 1.3-magnitude spectral class B7 star. So take a peek at this pairing and "keep watching the sky"! ☺

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



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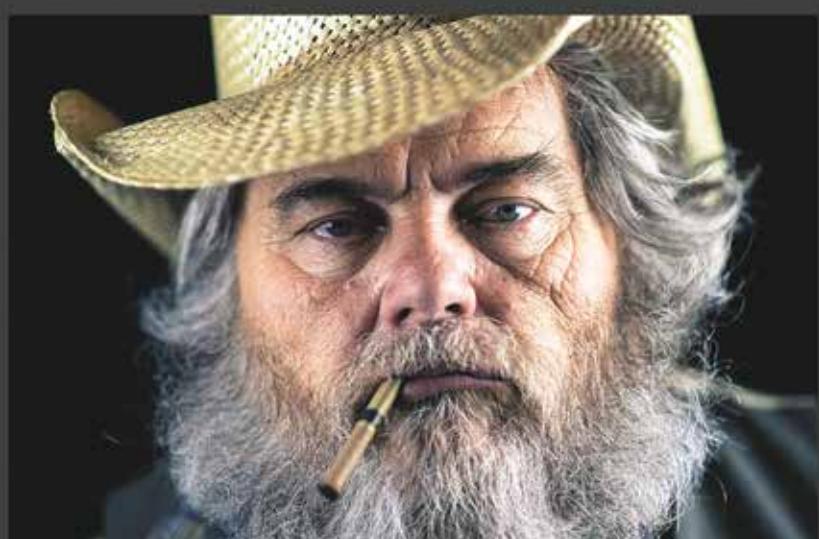
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BODY, MIND &amp; SPIRIT • SIRI DHARMA

# The Hard Art of Dying

How hospice can help.

**Editor's note:** Oct. 12 is World Hospice and Palliative Care Day, and November is National Hospice/Palliative Care Month.

**H**ow do you start the conversation? The conversation about death... and dying. Because it can't be avoided: I will die, you will die, all of us will come face to face with death at some point in our lives.

I've been trying for a couple of years to talk to my children about my eventual demise and they will have none of it. Their response is, "We had a hard enough time losing our dad; we are not ready to lose you." I don't want to have an argument. But I am ready to talk about it, plan for it, and be prepared for it. I'm fortunate. I work in hospice and my work has afforded me an intimate view of death and the dying process.

Unfortunately, our society has developed very negative connotations about death; somehow it became "scary," not "sacred"; a "lost battle," not a "life well and fully lived." We're devoured by the "jaws of death" instead of "entering into the final sleep." The "Grim Reaper" takes us. We "lose" our life rather than having a "strong finish." It's time to deal with the fear, because death is natural, it's inevitable. It's OK.

And help is available.

**H**ospice is not a new idea. Centuries ago they were places of respite for travelers, wayfarer/care stations for the sick and injured. In the last 50 years there has been a resurgence of the idea and today hospice means "care of the dying."

As medical technology evolved, dying people were brought to hospitals where they were inundated with medical procedures to keep them alive until the last possible moment. Then they were put in an isolated corner of the hospital to die alone. The reliance on technology prevailed over the fact that people had been dying quite well in their homes for hundreds of years. Today, hospice takes dying back home, or to specific hospice facilities.

Hospice care focuses on a patient and his/her family's needs during the final months/weeks/days/hours and minutes of life—when care has shifted to comfort, rather than curative treatment. Hospice doesn't change the outcome; it simply works to normalize and ease the situation for the patient and family. Palliative care, or comfort care, is the methodology.

This "comfort care" is provided by an interdisciplinary team consisting of the patient's primary care provider, the team's medical director, registered nurses, licensed social workers, certified bereavement counselors, ordained chaplains, and trained volunteers. Certified nursing assistants (CNAs) and paid homemakers are also available to help the family. This team looks at each individual situation and decides on an appropriate "plan of care" that emphasizes managing any pain and discomfort, while creating an optimal (home) environment for care giving.

Hospice services are fully covered by Medicare, Medicaid and most insurance plans. I work with Gila Regional Medical Center (GRMC)'s Hospice Program, which serves Grant, Hidalgo, and parts of Catron counties. GRMC is a regional, non-profit, sole provider hospital striving to be "patient-centered" as opposed to simply disease-focused.

Doctors are trained to keep people alive *at all cost*—that being the operative phrase, "at all cost." The medical community was created to cure, fix and do everything possible to keep people alive. This can be a huge problem (and make dying very uncomfortable) when a disease process goes beyond the curing stage—and it does. I believe we have to learn how to look that fact in the face. Diseases can be cured; they can go into remis-



sion, and that's worth fighting for. But there comes a time for every single person on the planet when the end of one's life arrives, and this is where hospice is invaluable. Hospice offers a raft to meet the turbulence of that time.

All the services available via hospice help facilitate this time of life—a time when we must shift our thinking, move into a different place, open to another perspective, whatever it takes, to make peace with the inevitability of leaving this Earth.

**T**he hospice process is straightforward. When a referral comes to our office (and most often these come from family or friends), a hospice nurse will come to wherever the patient is to evaluate the situation. There are certain criteria in terms of disease diagnoses and so on that must be met. Then your doctor must certify that, if the disease follows its natural trajectory, you have approximately six months to live. (Because death rarely happens on cue, it has become common in hospice to see patients live longer.)

The entire hospice team deals with the psychological and social issues that can accompany the death process. Social workers help find resources; volunteers offer respite and companionship;

chaplains are available to offer spiritual comfort. In my observation, and in the trainings I give, the care and concern for the caregivers is as necessary as managing the medications, or other medical aspects afflicting the patient.

There are still a lot of myths about hospice floating around—myths that need dispelling so that more families can avail themselves of these services when the time comes. One such myth is: *Death is the worst thing that can happen*. The truth? There are many things worse than death, such as alienation from those we love; physical, emotional and spiritual pain; abandonment by friends and family; the fear of being a burden and the fear of being helpless. Another myth is: *My physician will let me know if my loved one is dying*. The truth? Over 90% of physicians have opted, at one time or another, to NOT talk about dying to their patients AND over 50% of physicians never do. This means that the burden rests with you to learn what the end of life might look like and what options are available.

I hope you come to the conclusion that you and your family need to have this conversation—the conversation about how you want to die. Put your wishes down on paper—the plan can always be changed—sign, date and give a copy to your physician. If you don't let people know what you want at the end of your life, things may happen that you don't want. ☺

*Former Desert Exposure columnist Siri Dharma has lived in, and loved, Grant County for 15 years. For more information about GRMC Hospice Services, call (575) 574-4934.*



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BODY, MIND &amp; SPIRIT • JOHN CATSIS

## Diary of a Caregiver

When his wife's ailing parents moved in, everything changed.  
Third of four parts.

**Editor's note:** When Silver City author John Catsis' in-laws, Harry and Vera, moved from San Antonio, Texas, so Catsis and his wife could care for them, he began keeping a diary. Begun in our August issue, the story continues here.

**August 6, 2012**

I was cleaning around my desk this morning when I spotted two plastic lilies I had purchased in Tucson. I'd forgotten to give the flowers to Vera.

She and Connie were lying on her bed, talking, when I walked in. "Here, these are for you," I said.

"Well, at least one person remembered my wedding anniversary," she replied.

"You bet," I replied, lying. "Nothing but the best for my favorite mother-in-law. And this flower is from Connie." I displayed a third stem holding little red buds of some sort. Connie was now off the hook.

Returning to my desk, I checked a special calendar containing all important dates of our extended family. Sure enough, August 6, 1944, was Harry and Vera's wedding date.

I found Harry on our deck, enjoying his morning wine in the mild weather. "Harry, do you know what day this is?" I asked.

"Monday."

"Monday what?"

"The sixth."

"What month?"

"September, I think."

"Actually it's August. August 6. Anything significant about this day?"

Harry thought for a moment, staring at the hummingbird getting its fill at our feeder. "I think I got married on this day."

"Yep, you sure did," I replied. Frankly, I was surprised he'd remembered. "Happy anniversary."

**August 8, 2012**

Harry is beginning to get out of bed more frequently. This morning, he made the walk from his room to the dining room without his walker. I was having a bowl of cereal.

"I was dreaming about flying again," Harry said, settling into a dining room chair. "Except I was confused by some of the controls."

"Avionics has changed a lot over the years," I said.

He nodded.

"You'd have to take a flight physical again," I said. "Do you think you could pass?"

"I don't see why not."

That's Harry. Always the optimist.

Later that morning, it was time to escort Harry to the doctor. Instead of requiring a wheelchair to reach our car, Harry used his walker. And upon arriving at the doctor's office, he left the walker in the car, and walked instead with Connie on one arm and a cane in the other.

"Avionics has changed a lot over the years," I said.

He nodded.

"You'd have to take a flight physical again," I said.

"Do you think you could pass?"

"I don't see why not."

That's Harry. Always the optimist.

Despite this evidence, Vera was not convinced. In fact, she continued to shudder at the idea of a mouse in her room. She complained about something being knocked off her desk the night before. I believed it was simply an item placed too close to the edge of the desktop, and the air movement from the nearby window air conditioner had caused the fall.

But to placate Vera we baited several mouse traps and placed them in strategic areas of the bedroom. They never attracted any unwanted visitors.



er. The doctor determined that Harry had shown such improvement that he discontinued further physical and occupational therapy treatments. Back home Vera brightened when she learned the news.

Vera was still in a good mood as she accompanied Connie to town on a shopping trip. This was the first time she had left the compound in three months.

**August 14, 2012**

Connie was preparing dinner when she heard a squeal from her parents' suite. It was Vera. "There's a mouse on my bed," she exclaimed. "It's dead."

I got a plastic grocery sack and followed Connie to Vera's bedroom. "Where on the bed?" I asked.

"Not on the bed," Vera corrected. "It's in the corner."

Hands encased in latex gloves, Connie got on her knees to examine the corner where Vera had pointed. "It's a leaf," Connie announced, posing much as a hunter would with a trophy deer. "A dead leaf."

Despite this evidence, Vera was not convinced. In fact, she continued to shudder at the idea of a mouse in her room. She complained about something being knocked off her desk the night before. I believed it was simply an item placed too close to the edge of the desktop, and the air movement from the nearby window air conditioner had caused the fall.

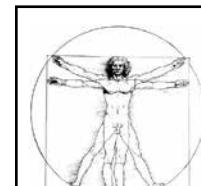
But to placate Vera we baited several mouse traps and placed them in strategic areas of the bedroom. They never attracted any unwanted visitors.

**August 22, 2012**

It had been quiet during the past week. Harry had discontinued his morning walks to strengthen his legs. It was probably because he and

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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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Vera would not be returning to San Antonio before October. I guess he subconsciously thought, "why bother?"

### August 30, 2012

**F**or the first time in perhaps six months, both my in-laws left the house and traveled into town together. They did so to meet with the attorney, where they signed updated wills, living wills and power-of-attorney documents. The lawyer spent nearly two hours with Harry and Vera, carefully explaining in simple language what each section of each document covered.

That evening, Vera complained about the fuzziness of her television set. Her eyes were acting up again. Shortly after moving to Silver City she began to complain about double vision. We convinced her to see an ophthalmologist. The doctor determined she needed two different operations. If they were to be conducted here, the mid-October San Antonio trip would have to be delayed.

### Sept. 2, 2012

**M**inutes after handing Vera the day's mail I heard a loud shout from her room. It sounded more like a cry of anguish. When I checked on her, she was clutching a letter tightly in her left fist. "This is wrong. This is wrong," she cried out. She was holding the monthly water bill for their vacant San Antonio home. It was for \$943. After Connie managed to calm her down, she called her sister and asked her to check for any leaks. She found none. Later, Vera's nephew also inspected the home and the water meter, which showed no movement. While there were several suspicions, Vera figured there was only one logical explanation—thievery.

### Sept. 18, 2012

**C**onnie and I were having a conversation in my office this evening. It's possible we may have been a bit loud. When Harry hears people talking, he often comes to our side of the house to learn, as he puts it, "what the excitement is all about." He was without a cane or walker. I invited him to watch the evening news with me. He accepted, sitting on my computer chair. When the news program ended, Harry started to get up to return to his room. "Do you need any help?" I asked.

"No, no," he replied. "I can do it." As he rose, the chair started rolling backwards on its five casters. A TV tray table was between me and Harry, and I was unable to get around in time to stop what I knew was not going to be a pleasant conclusion. It wasn't.

Harry slid off the chair backwards and struck the wooden floor. I was sure he had bumped his head, but he hadn't. He appeared stunned, although he did not complain about injuring his head. Instead, he said his back hurt.

I immediately called for Connie's help. Using a kitchen step stool for support, we were able to get him up on his knees, and then standing. That's when he looked into my eyes and implored, "Don't let me play golf." I stifled a smile and promised I would not. He returned slowly to bed, this time using his walker.

I apologized to Vera, saying it was my fault I did not catch Harry in time to prevent the fall. I offered her a box of donuts I had purchased that afternoon.

Vera grabbed two donuts and retired to her room. In some ways I know my mother-in-law better than Connie does, but I promised not to purchase any more non-nutritious desserts.

### Sept. 28, 2012

**H**arry was starting to wet his bed. Even though he wore adult diapers, they were not being changed frequently enough. So now Connie had to clean him and empty the bedside toilet more often than usual. Vera would grab the wet bedding and put it in the laundry. Fortunately, the mattress had a waterproof cover.

On this day Connie and Vera also had to give Harry a bath. I can't imagine a daughter doing this, but she did. Fortunately, we had built a large three-by-six-foot walk-in shower that accommodated a stool. The floor was even with the rest of the bathroom, making wheelchair use easy. Two sturdy grab bars also helped. We'd designed this bathroom for us someday, not thinking it would be used sooner rather than later.

### Oct. 9, 2012

**C**onnie took her mom to the ophthalmologist to smooth out scar tissue on her right lens. The procedure improved sharpness, but the double vision problem was still there. The doctor said that calls for a second procedure later.

Meanwhile, Vera now insists she needs to be in San Antonio in November, so she can have Thanksgiving dinner at her home. If that happens I'm sure there won't be too many family members attending. Connie and I might be the only guests.

### Oct. 11, 2012

**T**oday is Harry's birthday. He has made it to 89. We celebrated with a party on our deck where Connie served a fancy chocolate cake. The plan was for me to take him into town for a haircut, which he had been asking about. Then, Connie planned to take him to the golf course. He probably wouldn't get out of the car once there, but we agreed our hearts were in the right place. He could at least see a golf course.

Neither happened. The "party" tired him out so much he had to go to bed the rest of the day. He'd also forgotten about his request for a haircut.

### Oct. 13, 2012

**A**nother strange night for Harry. Early this evening Vera reported that Harry had once again dreamed of a crowd of people in his room. He thought it was reality. As a result, Harry escaped from his bed and joined Vera in hers.

Later, Harry told Connie about an incident from his military past and of all the people he thought he had killed. "When I was in Korea," he told her, "I scouted targets, reported them to our bombers, and then got out of the way." Connie told her dad it was war time, and that he did what he was told to do, but it still bothered him.

### Oct. 15, 2010

**I** was having lunch on our deck when I noticed Vera and Harry moving down their ramp. Harry was using his walker. Vera was right behind him.

"Where are they going?" I thought. As it turned BODY, MIND & SPIRIT continued on next page

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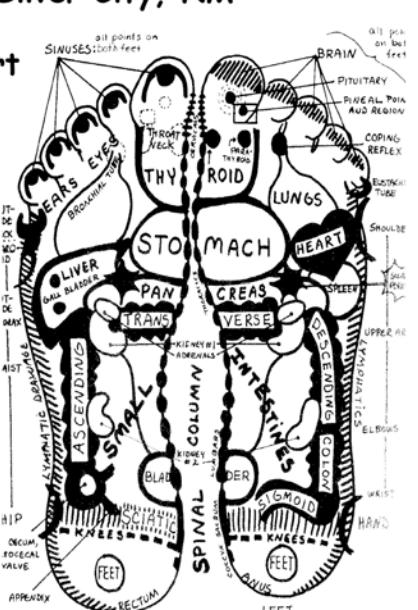
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**BODY, MIND & SPIRIT** continued

out, nowhere. They turned around and moved back up the ramp.

"Now, we're going to do that every day," I heard Vera tell Harry.

I guess they're getting into shape for their return to San Antonio. It's only a month away.

**Oct. 20, 2012**

It's been relatively quiet this week. Harry and Vera have not repeated their exercise program down and up the ramp. In fact, Harry seems to have spent virtually every waking hour in bed. It's sad to see how this once energetic and vital man has become what he is today. Even his conversations are limited to repetitive comments such as "Don't get lost," or "I stink" (because he believes he has not bathed, which is not true).

But the one comment he utters most frequently refers to his sex life: "I haven't had any sex in 20 years." Now that he remembers... except for the other day. We were all in his room when he made that comment for the umpteenth time. "But dear," Vera replied, "we just had sex this morning."

Vera rarely cracks a joke, and she never, ever says anything as clever as what she just uttered. Which made the expression on Harry's face so adorable. He looked at her, as if trying to recall, and perhaps appreciate, the fictitious event of that morning. No one let on that this was only a creative fabrication. I've got to give Vera credit. It was a priceless moment.

Later, I learned Connie prompted her mom to make the comment. So, I'm still correct about Vera. She has no sense of humor.

Since it's Saturday, I'll be watching college football much of the day. Connie knows how much I enjoy this. She gives me space during these seasonal Saturdays.

That afternoon, while I was engrossed in a game, Harry came into my room to visit. "I'm watching Northwestern," I said.

Harry sat silently on his walker seat for a moment. "Where is Northwestern?"

That seemed strange, as I know he has visited the school. "Your daughter went there," I replied.

He stared blankly, as if trying to remember. "Monica," I said. "Evanston, Illinois, just north of Chicago."

I muted the TV and changed the subject to his flying days. One thing he could remember was that he had 18,000 hours of flying time. He constantly reminds everyone of this. He can also recall details about the planes he flew most frequently. "When I got out of the military," he offered, "I flew a C-146 in China for an airline that was started after the war. But most of the smaller Chinese pilots couldn't handle the plane. It wasn't until they got the C-147."

"What? Did they make the pedals longer?"

"I don't remember. But I do remember having to wear an oxygen mask. It wasn't until we got the Convair 580 that it was pressurized, and we didn't need it. We could fly up to 30,000 feet."



After the game ended, I found Connie working outside the back door. As I stood on the steps I suddenly lost all feeling in my right leg. I reached for the grab bar only to realize my right hand also had gone numb. Unable to support myself, I slumped on to the upper step. Using my left hand I was able to pull myself inside the door, where Connie was waiting with her dad's wheelchair. "Now you'll be a caregiver to everyone here," I said, trying to be nonchalant. While I wasn't particularly scared, I was irritated at the inability of my body to perform standard functions. Connie tried to present a calm persona, and she did a good job, but I knew better. Later, she admitted the incident had frightened her.

Connie wheeled me back to my office recliner, where the sensations began to subside. Half an hour later, I was back to normal. When I could move on my own I retreated to my computer where I Googled "numbness on right side of body." I learned it could be many things. The most likely was a mini-stroke.

I retreated to my computer where I Googled "numbness on right side of body."

**Oct. 22, 2012**

Every Monday my friend, E Brooks Garner, and I would visit on the phone and usually talk about football. This time I led off with a description of my Saturday episode. He sounded concerned, and pumped me for more details. That's when he told me about his mother.

"She had the same kind of incident the day before Thanksgiving in 1987," Brooks related. "She said she would see a doctor the following Monday. She never made it to that day."

Well, wasn't that a pleasant thing to say to your former Oklahoma State University journalism colleague? I saw a doc on Monday and he told me to start taking full-strength aspirin. ☺

*John Catsis moved to Silver City in 2007 after a long career in broadcast journalism. He recently published his first novel, Fulltimers—The Adventures of Lou and Martha, available at the Silver City Museum gift shop and at KOA.*

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BODY, MIND &amp; SPIRIT • MARTHA EVERETT

# Natural Answers to Diabetes

Adding healing foods, while removing unhealthy choices from your diet, can help reverse this all-too-common condition.

**L**et's get the cold, hard statistics out of the way first.

According to the 2011 National Diabetes Fact Sheet, released Jan. 26, 2011, 25.8 million children and adults in the United States have type 1 (juvenile) or type 2 diabetes. This is about 8.3% of the total population. That staggering figure includes a projected 7 million undiagnosed persons who have the disease. According to the same source, there are currently another 79 million people living with pre-diabetes, meaning their blood sugar or A1C levels are not high enough to diagnose them with the disease, but they are at risk.

In the decade between 1998 and 2008, the number of Americans with diabetes rose from 5 million up to 25 million—a 500% increase.

About 5% of these diagnosed persons have type 1 diabetes, where the body does not produce insulin, a hormone needed to convert sugars, starches and other food into energy needed for daily life. That leaves about 24.5 million people in the US with type 2 diabetes, which typically appears in adulthood. The treatment of both types of this disease is done by insulin injections, oral medication or both. The latest cost projection of the disease from the diabetes.org website, updated March 6, 2013, show:

- \$245 billion in total costs of diagnosed diabetes in the United States in 2012

- \$176 billion for direct medical costs
- \$69 billion in reduced productivity.

After adjusting for population age and sex differences, average medical expenditures among people with diagnosed diabetes were 2.3 times higher than what expenditures would be in the absence of diabetes.

That's a lot to swallow and it's what we have been swallowing that is the direct source of this epidemic. The increase and prevalence of the diabetes epidemic in this country can be seen alongside with the growing popularity of processed foods, milled flour, juice and soda pop. This disease scarcely existed before the 1900s.

The typical American diet, heavy in refined grains/carbs and sugar, saturates the blood with so much sugar (glucose) that the pancreas frantically produces too much insulin, as it tries to keep up with the rise in blood-sugar levels. Over time, the body becomes resistant to the elevated amounts of insulin

in the system and type 2 diabetes develops. Glucose (sugar) cannot pass through the cell wall to sustain normal cell function without insulin. There is new research showing that the wrong kinds of fats can cause a resistance to insulin in the cell wall as well. Insulin is like a key that fits into the cell receptors' lock, but if that key won't turn in the cell wall, no glucose passes through.

Diabetes is a disease that is preventable and reversible if people with it are willing to return to a natural diet, full of fresh foods that can naturally reverse this resistance.

**I**n September 2011, my mother, like so many overweight women over the age of 65, was formally diagnosed with type 2 diabetes. She was prescribed an oral medication by her doctor, which seems to be the general practice for her weight, activity level and type of diabetes. She was directed to attend a Living with Diabetes class series and there, she learned how to take her blood-sugar levels and order supplies. She was given some dietary advice, yet there was never any discussion about how she could reverse the disease. Most of the diabetic cookbooks and recipes she acquired still had high starch content pasta dishes and breads, as well as having fruit in the recipes.

This didn't make sense to me. When I searched on the website of the American Diabetes Association (diabetes.org), a main source of western medicine advice on diabetes, their main dietary advice was using the plate method, where you divide your dinner plate into sections and one-quarter of your dinner plate would be for starchy carbs. It also recommends adding a piece of fruit or half-cup of fruit salad to each meal. This is the information that is predominantly available for diabetics when it comes to dietary advice. For me, it is still too much sugar in the form of fruits and starch. You may be able to manage living with diabetes with this method, but it is not going to be reversed.

*Conquering Any Disease* is a comprehensive book written by my Qigong teacher, Jeff Primack. This book goes beyond just healthy eating. He shares information of many foods that have been proven to reverse diseases such as asthma, diabetes and can-

BODY, MIND & SPIRIT continued on next page



Bitter melon can be an important dietary tool against diabetes.

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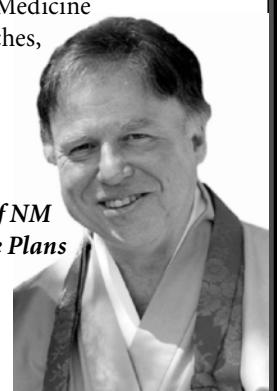
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- In addition to getting the flu shot, preventative steps like staying away from sick people and washing your hands reduce the spread of germs
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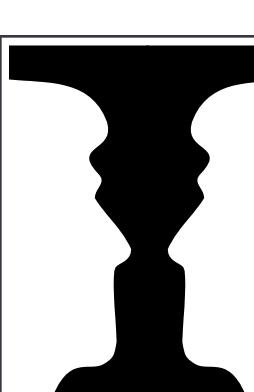


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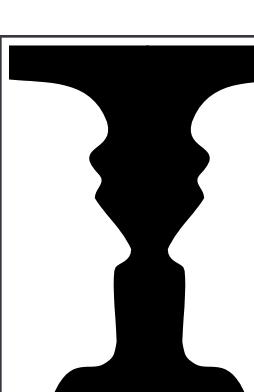


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**BODY, MIND & SPIRIT** continued

cer. The main principle of all the protocols in this book is to allow the body to heal itself through the consumption of high-phytochemical foods. If you give your body the right foods, it will repair itself, by boosting your natural immune system for helping reverse cancer or balancing your blood sugar and insulin resistance for diabetes. Paired with removing all the harmful foods from one's diet, a person can reverse a life-threatening disease.

The diabetes protocol is very strict, but not impossible to do if you are really ready to take charge of your health. The only carbohydrates allowed are from beans and vegetables. There is no fruit allowed but lime and açai berry. You must increase insulin-like foods into your diet; the bitter melon is the most effective.

Bitter melon, also known as Balsam pear, balamina (Spanish), ku gua or foo gwa (Chinese) and assorossie (French), is a unique and bitter ingredient that is not yet well-known in the United States. It is the edible fruit of the plant *Momordica charantia*; it contains the insulin-like phytochemicals charatin and polypeptide-P that lower blood sugar and help insulin uptake. This was shown in a 2011 study in the *Journal of Nutritional Biochemistry*. Bitter melon was also shown in a 1962 study in the *Journal of the University of Bombay* to repair the beta cells of the pancreas, thereby reversing type 1 diabetes over time. This scientific evidence is why it is the most important diabetes-reversing food in the *Conquering Any Disease* protocol.

A few other foods may also help. A 2010 study in the *Mini Reviews of Medicinal Chemistry* showed that raw Swiss chard contains syringic acid, an enzyme that helps inhibit the breaking down of carbs into sugars and helps balance blood sugar. The cucumber was shown in a 2007 study in India to bal-

ance blood sugar. A 1982 study in *Yakugaku Zasshi*, the journal of the Pharmaceutical Society of Japan, showed cinnamon stimulates the insulin receptors and increases the cells' ability to use glucose.

In my advanced food healing certification course last year, I heard a testimonial of one gentleman who had average blood sugar levels over 400, which is dangerous and can lead to blurred vision, blindness, heart disease and the myriad of complications that occur from diabetes. He started making high-phytochemical smoothies with bitter melon, and saw a dramatic decrease in his blood sugar over time. Doctors started reducing his medications. He had not completely reversed his diabetes at the time of the course, yet he was well on his way to living without the disease.

While I am not a doctor or a dietitian, I have been witness to so many stories from people who have changed their lives by reversing major diseases with healing foods and following the protocols from *Conquering Any Disease*. It is inspiring and exciting to hear, with the rising costs of health care and medicines, that the answers could be found, fresh and inexpensive, at your local farmers market. \*

**Martha K. Everett** is a Licensed Massage Therapist, Qigong Practitioner and a certified Advanced Food Healing Practitioner with Supreme Science Qigong. She is holding a class, "Food Healing: Focus Diabetes," on Saturday, Oct. 19, from 2:30-5 p.m. for \$25 at the Integrative Health and Wellness Center at the corner of 6th and Pinos Altos Streets in Silver City. There are three scholarship positions available for this class. Samples of recipes and smoothies with bitter melon will be enjoyed. To register or ask questions, contact her at (575) 388-2098 or see [www.abundancetherapeutics.com](http://www.abundancetherapeutics.com).

**BODY, MIND & SPIRIT • MICHELLE SCHOFFRO COOK****Brain Boosters**

Discover foods, spices, nutrients and activities that can help keep a good head on your shoulders.

The average brain weighs only three pounds but contains more than 100 billion neurons connected to each other by synapses. Synapses are comparable to telephone wires connecting communities, allowing them to communicate. Yet every phone line and wire in the world along with the trillions of messages communicated every day still do not compare to the complexity or the volume of activity processed by a single human brain.

**Why Memory Declines Over Time**

When we think of brain potential, we most often think of geniuses such as Albert Einstein or Beethoven. But a baby's brain potential far exceeds any adult's for its vast information-processing network. An infant's brain has about 1,000 trillion connections between brain cells by the time she is eight months old. By the time she is 10 years old, she will have only half that number, and our synapses continue to change as we age.

When it comes to the brain, the adage "use it or lose it" is apt. The number of connections in the brain constantly changes in response to environmental feedback from sights, sounds, tastes, smells and physical touch. Some connections grow stronger through learning and experience, while others weaken over time. When connections in the brain are not used or not used often, the brain eliminates them to focus on those that are used more frequently. That's the equivalent of telephone wires and poles being dismantled because they haven't been used in a while, and it's what the brain does every second of every day.

By supporting your brain with the right foods, herbs and supplements, you can strengthen this organ's capacity to function properly and to keep the synapses intact. By boosting your memory and challenging your brain function through learning, lifestyle choices and memory exercises, you help keep the synapses in your brain connected and working well. Here are some of the best natural options to help you build a better brain.



Apparently Popeye was building brain power along with muscles when he ate spinach.

**Brain-Boosting Foods**

**R**eplace white foods: Research at the Veterans Affairs Puget Sound Health Care System in Seattle found a link between refined carbohydrates, such as white bread and white rice, and Alzheimer's disease. Replacing these foods with whole grains, beans and vegetables resulted in lower levels of brain inflammation and better problem-solving abilities.

**T**ea up: In a study published in the *American Journal of Epidemiology*, researchers found that people who drank two or more cups of tea daily were less likely to develop the brain disorder Parkinson's disease. Black and green tea (especially green) contain potent antioxidants with 20 times the power to protect against free radicals, including those in the brain, than vitamin E. Green tea also lowers the risk of blood clots and clumping linked to stroke.

**T**ake a coffee break: Research in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* found that drinking coffee regularly may counteract the age-related degenerative processes in the brain that lead to lower amounts of the brain hormone dopamine. Lower

**BODY, MIND & SPIRIT** continued after next page

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## BODY, MIND & SPIRIT continued

levels of this hormone have been cited as a key factor in developing Parkinson's disease.

**Buy into blueberries:** Blueberries contain a group of plant nutrients called proanthocyanidins that give them their characteristic blue color. Proanthocyanidins have the unique capacity to protect both the watery and fatty parts of the brain against damage by environmental toxins, decreasing damaging free radicals between and within brain cells, according to J. Robert Hatherill in his book *The Brain Gate*. Research has also found that compounds in blueberries may reverse some age-related memory loss and motor skill decline.

**Stock up on spinach:** Apparently Popeye was building brain power along with muscles when he ate spinach. In a study published in the *Journal of Neuroscience*, middle-aged rats were fed diets with added spinach, strawberry extract or vitamin E for nine months. Spinach proved the most potent in protecting brain cells against aging.

**Go for grapes:** Resveratrol is a plant nutrient found in grapes, grape juice and red wine. It protects the brain against Alzheimer's disease by mopping up free radicals before they can cause brain damage. And while people may prefer to hear that red wine is the best source, the alcohol in wine can still be damaging to brain cells. Red or purple grapes are the best options to obtain resveratrol.

**Give your brain an oil change:** The brain is 60% fat and requires healthy fats to reduce inflammation (inflammation has been linked to most brain disorders). Omega-3 fatty acids such as those found in salmon, walnuts, hemp seeds, flax seeds and flax seed oil quell inflammation and boost memory. Choose wild over farmed salmon—high levels of mercury have been found in farmed salmon, which may have adverse effects on the brain. Choose cold-pressed seed or nut oils for cooking, as omega-3s are vulnerable to damage from heat.

**Remember your tomatoes:** Tomatoes don't just make great pasta sauce; they also boost memory, according to research into the antioxidant lycopene. Research from the "Nun Study," a study on nuns aged 77 to 99 funded by the National Institute on Aging, shows that those who consumed lycopene in their daily diets had sharper memories than those who didn't. Lycopene is also found in watermelons, guava and pink grapefruit. Evidence suggests that lycopene is best absorbed when consumed with some fat, so eating it as food is likely more effective than as a supplement. And, unlike some nutrients that are damaged by cooking, lycopene is more readily available from cooked tomatoes than fresh ones.

### Ingenious Herbs and Spices

**Tune up with turmeric:** If you've ever eaten curry, you're already familiar with turmeric. The spice that adds yellow color and distinct flavor to many curries is also a potent brain protector. Research at the Alzheimer's Disease Research Center at the University of California-Los Angeles has shown that its active ingredient, curcumin, protects the brain against inflammation and amyloid plaques—both linked to brain diseases including Alzheimer's.

Enjoy freshly grated or powdered turmeric in soups, stews and, of course, curry dishes. You can also mix a tablespoon with water and honey and drink it to take advantage of turmeric's anti-inflammatory and brain-protecting properties. Supplements usually go by the name of the active ingredient, curcumin. If you choose a supplement, 1,500 milligrams of standardized curcumin is a commonly recommended daily dose to help protect the brain. Curcumin is often absorbed by the body more efficiently when eaten as a food than when taken as a supplement.

**Put periwinkle to use:** Periwinkle is more than just a pretty flower—it may also protect against brain disease. Research shows that its active ingredient, vincopetine, helps transport oxygen to the brain so it can function optimally. In a study published in the journal *International Clinical Psychopharmacology*, researchers tested 165 people with mild to moderate dementia. After 16 weeks, participants taking vincopetine supplements daily had a 21% improvement in memory while the placebo group had only a 7% improvement.

Vincopetine boosts circulation to the brain, improves the brain's ability to absorb nutrients, and



Proanthocyanidins in blueberries have the unique capacity to protect both the watery and fatty parts of the brain against damage by environmental toxins.

thins blood, making it a good choice to help prevent stroke and memory loss. Experts typically suggest supplement dosages up to 10 milligrams daily, but check with your doctor if you are taking any blood-thinning medications.

**Get wise with sage:** After learning about the brain benefits of sage, you'll probably want to use this herb for a lot more than Thanksgiving dinner. Numerous studies show sage's effectiveness in improving memory function. According to researcher Nicola Tildesley, the herb works by preventing the breakdown of the neurotransmitter acetylcholine—a brain chemical that ensures healthy communication between brain cells. Acetylcholine is essential for healthy memory and mood.

The German Ministry of Health is currently considering adding sage as a treatment for Alzheimer's disease to its Commission E Monographs, which give the approved uses, contraindications, side effects and other essential information for the responsible use of herbs and plant medicines, according to the German government's expert Commission E.

While there are various species of sage, the one most commonly used in memory studies is *Salvia lavandulifolia*, or Spanish sage. Sage is most commonly available as a dried herb, which can be used for cooking or for tea (one teaspoon per cup of hot water steeped for 10 to 15 minutes), or as an essential oil. Because oil constituents vary by brand, follow package directions.

### Brain Exercises and Lifestyle Choices

**Break out of a rut:** If you're a creature of habit (most of us are), then it may be time to break out of that rut. Doing new activities helps the brain strengthen or build new connections between neurons. Simply taking a different route home from work, cooking something different for dinner, visiting or talking with new people, going to a museum or gallery, or taking a class to learn new things can keep your mind strong. Taking photos, going dancing or learning new words every day might be just what your brain needs to strengthen different pathways and boost your memory.

**Get to bed earlier:** According to a joint study by scientists at Boston College and the University of Notre Dame, getting to bed earlier to ensure a full eight hours of sleep per night improves the brain's ability to think creatively. The researchers indicate that sleep helps the brain file memories and reconfigure them in a way that produces new insights.

**Cycle and stretch:** A new study from the University of Hamburg in Germany found that riding a bike for one to two hours weekly resulted in a noticeable improvement in long-term memory after six months. The same study found that those people who did stretching exercises for the same duration each week boosted their short-term memory.

**Grasp the sparrow's tail:** This suggestion doesn't refer to wildlife, but the tai chi exercise. Actually, any tai chi exercise will do when it comes to boosting brain power. Tai chi reduces stress and strengthens the part of the brain involved with motor function and balance. Lyvonne Carreiro and her colleagues at the University of Florida found that people suffering from Parkinson's disease who attended tai chi classes for an hour a week for 12 weeks were less likely to experience worsening of their condition or a loss of motor function.

### Mind-Maximizing Brain Nutrients

**W**hile many nutrients are essential for brain health, this list includes some of the most important ones:

**• Alpha Lipoic Acid (ALA):** A potent antioxidant in its own right, ALA also works by recycling other antioxidants such as vitamins C and E to ensure they last longer. Most healthy adults make enough ALA. It's found in red meat, organ meats and yeast, and is also available as a supplement.

**• B-complex vitamins (niacin, B6, B9 and B12):** All B vitamins help brain cells communicate with each other by assisting with the production of neurotransmitters such as serotonin and dopamine. Studies even link B12 supplementation with decreased memory-related symptoms. Good food sources of B vitamins include green leafy vegetables, eggs, chicken, citrus, nuts and bananas. You can also take a B-complex vitamin supplement.

**• Coenzyme Q10 (CoQ10):** An important nutrient needed by every cell in the body including brain cells, CoQ10 aids the energy centers of brain cells so the brain has sufficient energy to perform its tasks. Good sources of CoQ10 include oily fish such as salmon and tuna, organ meats and whole grains.

**• Magnesium:** Multiple studies have found mag-

nesium to be critical in the maintenance of normal brain activity, including memory function. Good sources include nuts, beans and whole grains.

**• Vitamin C:** A powerful antioxidant, vitamin C works by eliminating free radicals before they can cause brain damage. Excellent sources of vitamin C include broccoli, peppers, dark leafy greens, Brussels sprouts, cauliflower and citrus fruits.

**• Vitamin E:** The *New England Journal of Medicine* reported that vitamin E is effective in slowing the progression of Alzheimer's disease. Its effectiveness could be linked to its ability to protect the brain from free-radical damage. Top sources include sunflower seeds, nuts, greens and peanut butter.

*Excerpted from Mother Earth Living. To read more articles from Mother Earth Living, visit [www.MotherEarthLiving.com](http://www.MotherEarthLiving.com) or call (800) 340-5846 to subscribe. Copyright 2013 by Ogden Publications Inc.*

### BODY, MIND & SPIRIT

## Grant County Weekly Events

Support groups, classes and more.

### Sundays

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

**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.

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

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

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

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

**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,

Church of Harmony, 609 Arizona St. Lori Zitzmann.

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

**KUNDALINI YOGA**—5:30 p.m. A Daily Practice, 104 N. Texas, 388-2425.

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

**TOPS**—5 p.m. 1st Presbyterian Church, 1915 Swan, 538-9447.

**WOMEN'S CANCER SUPPORT GROUP**—1st Thurs. 6-7 p.m. GRMC Conference Room, 1313 E. 32nd St. 388-1198, ext. 10.

**VINYASA FLOW YOGA**—11:30 a.m. First Church of Harmony, 609 Arizona St. Becky Glenn, (404) 234-5331.

**YOGA CLASS**—Free class taught by Colleen Stinar. 1-2 p.m. Episcopal Church fellowship hall, 7th and Texas.

**Fridays**  
**KUNDALINI YOGA**—Noon. A Daily Practice, 104 N. Texas St.

**OVERTREATERS 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, 590-2166.

**NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS**—6 p.m. New 180 Club, 1661 Hwy. 180 E.

**SADHANA MORNING PRAYER, MEDITATION, YOGA**—Last Sat. 5-7 a.m. A Daily Practice, 104 N. Texas, 388-2425.

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

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

**HATHA YOGA**—5:30 p.m. First

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The Religious Society of Friends

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for Worship**  
**Sundays 10-11 a.m.**

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

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Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Silver City

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In the tradition of Thich Nhat Hanh

### Mindfulness!

Living each moment in full awareness of breath, thought and feelings.

Meets most every Saturday  
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(575)519-9232

*Diane's*  
"Taste The Difference"

**Oct 26th**

**Jack O'lantern Contest**  
**Classic & Modern**

1st Prize - \$100  
2nd Prize - \$50 Gift Certificate  
3rd Prize - 7" Chocolate Cake  
All Entries to be Displayed through Holiday

**Nov 1st**  
**Halloween Costume Contest**  
**Single & Group**

1st Prize - \$100  
2nd Prize - \$50 Gift Certificate  
3rd Prize - 7" Chocolate Cake

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life's a banquet

**Beer Tasting** - October 12th, Noon-9  
75 beers \$20

**Oktoberfest**

**Experimental Tasting Dinner** - Oct 26th, 6 pm  
Reservations required

Open Tue-Sat at 11 am 543-0337 Dinners served Tue-Sat

**Beginning October 6th the  
Silver City Food Co-op  
is opening on Sundays!**  
11am-5pm



**October Community Forum**  
is a class about ROOTS:  
Why they are good to eat and good for you  
Try different root dishes and take home recipes  
The forum is presented twice,  
Tuesday October 8th and Thursday October 10th,  
from noon to 1pm  
in the Co-op Community Room  
All Community Forums are  
FREE & OPEN to EVERYONE  
520 N. Bullard Street  
575-388-2343 • [www.silverycityfoodcoop.com](http://www.silverycityfoodcoop.com)



## Southwest New Mexico's best restaurant guide.

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

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

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

### GRANT COUNTY Silver City

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

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

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

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

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

**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 fare... 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.\*

**EAT YOUR HEART OUT BARBECUE**, 800 W. Market, 313-9005. Barbecue (eat in or take out), catering: L.\*

**EL GALLO PINTO**, 901 N. Hudson St., 597-4559. See review in this issue. Mexican: Mon.-Sat. B L D, Sun. B L.

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

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

**GRINDER MILL**, 403 W. College Ave.,

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

538-3366. Mexican: B L D.\*

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

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

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

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

**LA MEXICANA**, Hwy. 180E and Memory Lane, 534-0142. "Carrying on the legacy of unpretentious but tasty and authentic Mexican food established many years ago at the family's restaurant in Chihuahua." (April 2013) Mexican and American: B L, closed Tues. Lion's Den, 208 W. Yankie, 654-0353. Coffeeshop.

**MASA Y MAS TORTILLERIA**, Suite C-The Hub Plaza, (505) 670-8775. Tortillas, tacos, chimichangas, burritos, enchiladas, menudo, tamales and more.

Mexican: Mon.-Sat. B L D.\*

**MEXICO VIEJO**, Hwy. 90 and Broadway. "A remarkably extensive menu for a small roadside food vending stand, and the dishes are not what one normally finds in other Mexican restaurants." (July 2013) Mexican food stand: Mon.-Sat. B L Dearly D.

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

**NANCY'S SILVER CAFÉ**, 514 N. Bullard St., 388-3480. Mexican: Mon.-Sat. B L D.

**THE PARLOR AT DIANE'S**, 510 N. Bullard St., 538-8722. "Always evolving, always interesting, Diane's has it all." (Sept. 2013) Burgers, sandwiches, homemade pizzas, paninis: Tues.-Sun. L D.

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

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

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

**SILVER BOWLING CENTER CAFÉ**, 2020 Memory Lane, 538-3612. American, Mexican, hamburgers: L D.\*

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

**SUNRISE ESPRESSO**, 1212 E. 32nd St., 534-9565. Coffeeshop, bakery: Mon.-

Fri. B L, early D, Sat. B L only.\*

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

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

**VICKI'S EATERY**, 315 N. Texas, 388-5430. "Serving hearty breakfasts, sandwiches both cold and grilled, wraps and salads that satisfy in a homey yet sophisticated way. Don't miss the German potato salad." (Dec. 2009)

American: Mon.-Sat. B L. Sun. B.\*

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

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

**Bayard**

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

**LITTLE NISHA'S**, 1101 Tom Foy Blvd., 537-3526. Mexican: Wed.-Sun. B L D.

**LOS COMPAS**, 1203 Tom Foy Blvd., 654-4109. Sonoran-style Mexican, hot dogs, portas, 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.

**SUGAR SHACK**, 1102 Tom Foy Blvd., 537-0500. Mexican: Sun.-Fri. B L.

**Cliff**

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

**Hurley**

**GATEWAY GRILL**, 2705 Hwy. 180E, 537-5001. "From Friday Steak Night to everyday American and Mexican food, worth hitting Hwy. 180 for." (December 2011) American and Mexican: Sun.-Thur. B L, Fri.-Sat. B L D.\*

**Lake Roberts**

**LITTLE TOAD CREEK INN & TAVERN**, 1122 Hwy. 35, 536-9649. "Rustic

gourmet... designed to appeal to the eyes as well as the taste buds. And this is true of the items on the brunch menu, as well as those on the very different dinner menu." (June 2012). Steaks, sandwiches, American: Thurs.-Fri. D, Sat.-Sun. brunch and D. Tavern with soups, sandwiches, Scotch eggs: Daily L D.

**SPIRIT CANYON LODGE & CAFÉ**, 684 Hwy. 35, 536-9459. "For the German sampler, café customers can choose two meat options from a revolving selection that may include on any given day three or four of the following: bratwurst, roast pork, schnitzel (a thin breaded and fried pork chop), sauerbraten (marinated roast of beef), stuffed cabbage leaves, or roladen (rolled beef with a sausage and onion filling)." (July 2011) German specialties, American lunch and dinner entrées: Saturday midday D.

**Mimbres**

**ELK X-ING CAFÉ**, (352) 212-0448. Home-style meals, sandwiches and desserts: B L.

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

**Pinos Altos**

**BUCKHORN SALOON AND OPERA HOUSE**, Main Street, 538-9911. 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.

**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.\*

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

**BREAK AN EGG**, 201 S. Solano Dr., 647-3000. Breakfasts, burgers, salads, sandwiches: B L.

**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.

**CATTLEMEN'S STEAKHOUSE**, 2375 Bataan Memorial Hwy., 382-9051. Steakhouse: D.

**DE LA VEGA'S PECAN GRILL & BREWERY**, 500 S. Telshor Blvd., 521-1099. Pecan-smoked meats, sandwiches, steaks, seafood, craft beers: L D.

**DELICIA'S DEL MAR**, 1401 El Paseo, 524-2396. Mexican, seafood: B L D.

**DG'S UNIVERSITY DELI**, 1305 E. University Ave., 522-8409. Deli: B L D.\*

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

**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.

**GRANDY'S COUNTRY COOKING**, 1345 El Paseo Rd., 526-4803. American: B L D.

**GUACAMOLE'S BAR AND GRILL**, 3995 W. Picacho Ave., 525-9115. Burgers, pizza, salads, sandwiches, Hawaiian appetizers: L D.

**HIEBERT'S FINE FOODS**, 525 E. Madrid Ave. #7, 524-0451. Mexican, American: B L D.

**HIGH DESERT BREWING COMPANY**, 1201 W. Hadley Ave., 525-6752. Brew pub: L D.\*

**INTERNATIONAL DELIGHTS**, 1245 El Paseo Rd., 647-5956. Greek and International: B L D.

**JAPANESE KITCHEN**, 141 Roadrunner Parkway, 521-3555. Japanese: L D.

**J.C. TORTAS**, 1196 W. Picacho Ave., 647-1408. Mexican: L D.

**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. 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 RESTAURANTE 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.

**LORRENZO'S PAN AM**, 1753 E. University Ave., 521-3505. Italian, pizza: L D.

**LOS COMPAS CAFÉ**, 6335 Bataan Memorial W., 382-2025. Mexican: B L D.

**LOS COMPAS CAFÉ**, 603 S. Nearez 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.\*

**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.

**MU 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: L D.

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

**PAISANO CAFÉ**, 1740 Calle de Mer-

cado, 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.

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

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

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

**Q's**, 1300 Avenida De Mesilla, 571-4350. Brewhouse with steak and pasta: L D.

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

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

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

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

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

**SAINZ 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 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\*

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

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

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

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

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

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

**SUNSET GRILL**, 1274 Golf Club Road (Sonoma Ranch Golf Course clubhouse), 521-182

A Fund Raiser to Benefit Bridge Community

## 3rd Annual Pie/Cake Auction

with entertainment by Jericho  
Sunday, October 20

at 4-6 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church  
1900 Swan St., Silver City, NM

Bring a pie/cake to be auctioned. Plan to buy one to take home or share with friends at the auction.

For more information, please call 575-538-5754

**Bridge Community** is a project to bring a continuum of care senior living facility to Silver City.



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ESPRESSO  
10TH  
ANNIVERSARY**

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

Sunrise Espresso is celebrating its 10 year Anniversary of serving the highest quality coffee to all the good people of Silver City. To celebrate, for the month of October, mention this ad and receive 10% off the cost of your order.

**Now with two convenient locations to serve you!**

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

**Silver City's PREMIER Drive-Up Espresso Bar!**

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Mon.-Fri. 6am to 4pm • Sat. 7am to 2pm

**New Second Location:** 1212 E. 32nd St. • Silver City, NM  
Mon.-Fri. 6:30 am to 2pm • FREE WiFi

**RED OR GREEN? • PEGGY PLATONOS**

## Seeking the Sizzle

El Gallo Pinto, Silver City's newest Mexican restaurant, has big plans.

**E**l Gallo Pinto, Silver City's newest Mexican restaurant, opened without fanfare in late August, with only a banner to announce the event. The banner read: "OPEN... not kidding."

Well, the building renovation had been going on for considerably longer than a year, and people were obviously eager to see what the final result would be, because crowds materialized almost instantly. And they have continued to come.

"It's hard to find a table at lunchtime," says Silver City resident Manuel Aragon, who owns and operates Manny's Barber Shop on 14th Street. "I'm a customer to all the restaurants in town, and this is already my third time here. It's been good—very good. And the prices are very reasonable."

Breakfast dishes are served all day, along with all the other traditional Mexican favorites like burritos (with a long list of filling options), tacos, tostadas, enchiladas, chimichangas, tamales, flautas, chile Colorado or verde, carne adobada, carnitas, chile rellenos and steak picado. On weekends, menudo is available, too.

El Gallo Pinto owner Simon Ortiz says of the restaurant's almost instantaneous success, "I call it a testament to hard work. I hope what we're doing will satisfy both Hispanic and non-Hispanic palates."

Ortiz credits Juan Martin Alvarado with developing tasty versions of the traditional Mexican dishes on the menu. Alvarado brings a great deal of experience to the new establishment, having served for many years as cook at the popular Sugar Shack in Bayard.

Apparently El Gallo Pinto's first customers have approved of the food, because they keep returning. And all of this early success has been taking place even before the introduction of what is expected to be the restaurant's main attraction—charbroiled marinated chicken cooked on a large grill visible to customers as they give their order at the service counter.

**E**l Gallo Pinto is the first venture into the food business for Ortiz, who has long been a local insurance agent, and he is determined to make this restaurant something special for Silver City residents. "I wanted to create a Mexican restaurant that is colorful and unique," he says. "I love grilled chicken myself, and I can remember the first time I walked into El Pollo Loco in Los Angeles and saw their big grill right out there where customers could see it, with all those big, juicy pieces of chicken sizzling on it. It made my mouth water and my stomach rumble. I couldn't wait to order some. And that's the kind of experience I want to provide for people in Silver City."

Folks will have to wait a bit longer to enjoy that experience at El Gallo Pinto, but Ortiz hopes to fire up the grill in the not-too-distant future, in conjunction with the unveiling of a very big, very colorful sign and a formal Grand Opening.

"The grill will open up a lot of possibilities, in addition to the chicken—carne asada, steaks, maybe even high quality, flavorful Longoniza sausage made by friends from Guadalajara," Ortiz says.

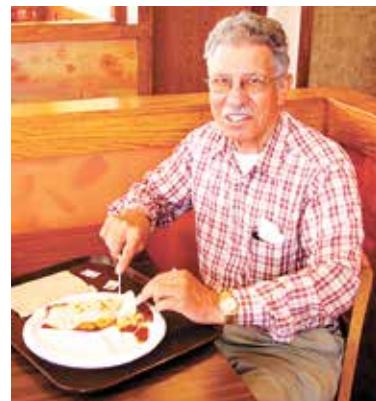
By the time the Grand Opening takes place at El Gallo Pinto, customers will also be able to see a



El Gallo Pinto owner Simon Ortiz and his wife, Sandra, stand to the left of the grill that will soon be sizzling with marinated chicken and perhaps steaks and special Longoniza sausages. Pictured to the right of the grill is Juan Martin Alvarado, who is in charge of the kitchen operation. (Photos by Peggy Platonos)

vertical grill in action there, featuring a Tijuana-style specialty known as carne al pastor. This is served taco-style in Tijuana. "Mostly you find it on push-carts along the streets there, rarely in restaurants," Ortiz explains. "It's very thin strips of marinated pork wrapped around a spit and barbecued upright. As the meat is shaved off, it falls onto a sizzling hot grill at the base of the spit, and is then transferred to a corn tortilla. Very tasty, and fun to watch."

It's basically because of this particular dish that Ortiz is applying for a wine and beer license for the restaurant. "Tacos al pastor go hand-in-hand with beer," Ortiz says, adding that he plans to feature Mexican beers when the license comes through.



Customer Manuel Aragon enjoys a Chunky Red Burrito during his third visit to El Gallo Pinto.

**I**n case you're curious about the name, Ortiz translates it as "the painted, or colorful, rooster" and says he chose it because "I did not want a common name and I did not want a common sign, just as I did not want a common interior environment or common food." The restaurant's logo features a vibrant, feisty-looking, very colorful rooster that is going to look striking on the eight-foot fully lighted sign currently in the process of being created for the front of the building.

As an interesting footnote, El Gallo Pinto is also the name of a traditional Nicaraguan dish that features black beans and rice, with no chicken component whatsoever. Simon's wife, Sandra, is Nicaragua-born. El Gallo Pinto restaurant is located at the corner of North Hudson and College Street in Silver City, and is open seven days a week. Dine-in hours are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday. There is a drive-through window that is open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. weekdays, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturdays and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sundays.

For more information about the restaurant, call (575) 597-4559. ☀

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

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**DINING GUIDE**  
continued**LUNA COUNTY****Deming**

**ADOBÉ DELÍ**, 3970 Lewis Flats Road SE, 546-0361. Bar, deli, steaks: L D.\*

**BELSHORE RESTAURANT**, 1030 E. Pine St., 546-6289. Mexican, American: Tues.-Sun. B L.

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

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

**CHINA RESTAURANT**, 110 E. Pine St., 546-4146. Chinese: L D.

**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.\*

**IRMA'S**, 123 S. Silver Ave., 544-4580. Mexican, American, seafood: B L D.

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

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

**MIMBRES VALLEY BREWING CO.**, 200 S. Gold, 544-BREW. Craft beer, burgers, wings, paninis: Mon.-Sat. L D.

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

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

**PRIME RIB GRILL (INSIDE HOLIDAY 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.

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

**Columbus**  
**PATIO CAFÉ**, 23 Broadway, 531-2495. Burgers, American: B L.\*

**HIDALGO COUNTY**

**Lordsburg**  
**EL CHARRO RESTAURANT**, 209 S. P Blvd., 542-3400. Mexican: B L D.

**FIDENCIO'S**, 604 E. Motel Dr., 542-8989. Mexican: B L early D.

**KRANBERRY'S FAMILY RESTAURANT**, 1405 Main St., 542-9400. Mexican, American: B L D.

**MAMA ROSA'S PIZZA**, 1312 Main St., 542-8400. Pizza, subs, calzones, salads, chicken wings, cheeseburgers, shrimp baskets: L D.

**RAMONA'S CAFÉ**, 904 E. Motel Dr., 542-3030. "Lordsburg's quiet Mexican food treasure offers some unusual takes on traditional recipes." (December 2012) Mexican, American: Tues.-Fri. B L D, Sun. B mid-day D.

**Animas**  
**PANTHER TRACKS CAFÉ**, Hwy. 338, 548-2444. Burgers, Mexican, American: Mon.-Fri. B L D

**Rodeo**  
**RODEO STORE AND CAFÉ**, 195 Hwy. 80, 557-2295. Coffeeshop food: Mon.-Sat. B L.

**RODEO TAVERN**, 557-2229. Shrimp, fried chicken, steaks, burgers, seafood: Weds.-Sat. D.

**CATRON COUNTY**

**Reserve**  
**ADOBÉ 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.

**UNCLE BILL'S BAR**, 230 N. Main St., 533-6369. Pizza: Mon.-Sat. L D.

**Glenwood**  
**ALMA GRILL**, Hwy. 180, 539-2233. Breakfast, sandwiches, burgers, Mexi-

# Table Talk

**I**t's a busy fall at **Shevek & Co. Restaurant** in downtown Silver City. On Oct. 5 at 11 a.m., Chef Shevek offers a Greek cooking class. His French cooking class, also featuring a complete dinner, will be repeated on Nov. 9 at 11 a.m. due to popular demand. For both, pre-registration is required and the class is limited to eight students. Call 534-9168 or email contact@silver-eats.com; see thekissmethodgourmet.com/classes.html for more information. On Nov. 1 at 6:30 p.m., Shevek & Co. will offer a tasting dinner featuring six Day of the Dead- and Halloween-themed beers paired with Mediterranean foods. Reservations strongly recommended; see details at silver-eats.com/events.html. 602 N. Bullard St.

**Tre Rosat** is no longer open on Sundays for brunch, which is now served only on Saturdays. 304 N. Bullard St., 654-4919.

The **Silver City Food Co-Op** is now open on Sundays, beginning Oct. 6. Hours are 11 a.m.-5 p.m. 520 N. Bullard St., 388-2343, www.silverycityfood-coop.com.

**Eat Your Heart Out** is going barbecue, with the Oct. 7 opening of **Eat Your Heart Out Barbecue**, featuring classics like brisket and pulled pork, green chile chicken sandwiches and even a "BBQ Pork Sundae." Hours for eat-in or take-out are Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. The popular catering business will also continue at the same location, 800 W. Market in Silver City. 313-9005, guardianvib@aol.com, cateringonmarket.com.

**Billy's** is celebrating Oktoberfest with German beers all month. Bike nights will be Oct. 10 and Nov. 7 with Bloxstarz, 2138 Hwy. 180E, 388-1367.

**Curious Kumquat** is also boosting beer this month, with a tasting Oct. 12, 12-9 p.m. Then on Oct. 26 at 6 p.m., the next Experimental Tasting Dinner is on tap; reservations required. College at Bullard, 543-0337.

**Diane's** is getting into Halloween in a big way, with a Jack O'Lantern Contest (both classic and modern entries encouraged) on Oct. 26 and a Halloween Costume Contest (both single and group) on Nov. 1. Prizes range from cash to chocolate cake. 510 N. Bullard, 388-1255.

The **Silver City Masonic Lodge** will be sponsoring a Chili Challenge to find the best homemade chili in the area. It's now looking for contestants and judges. The actual challenge will be held Sunday, Nov. 10, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the lodge, 11 Ridge Road. Call 654-5102 for details.

Near Lake Roberts, **Spirit Canyon Lodge** will be open on Saturdays this fall and winter from 12-3 p.m., serving German food and a full menu. 684 Hwy. 35, 536-9459, www.spiritleycano.com.

In Las Cruces, the invasion of chain eateries continues, with **Famous Dave's** barbecue reportedly planning to open a location there. On the other hand, the **Fox's Pizza Den** franchise at 1340 E. Lohman has closed. \*

*Send restaurant news and listings changes to updates@red-or-green.com.*

can: Sun.-Weds., Fri.-Sat. B L.

**GOLDEN GIRLS CAFÉ**, Hwy. 180, 539-2457. "Dig into an honest taste of the local scene and a down-home breakfast you'll surely wish your mama had made."

The specials listed up on the whiteboard all come with biscuits and gravy, and the ample menu has all the usual suspects—omelets, pancakes, French toast and, of course, breakfast burritos—clueing you into the rib-sticking satisfaction ahead." (Nov. 2007) Breakfast: B.

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

**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. \*

  
**The Café Oso Azul at The Lodge**  
**October News**  
from The Lodge  
and  
Blue Dome Gallery



**Saturday, October 5th at 6:00**

Mimbres Regional Arts Council Fundraiser

The event will be a celebration of Harry Benjamin. Dress festively. Lots of wonderful food and drink plus an auction of Harry's painting,



**Trivia Night every Wednesday**  
at The Lodge

New time for October 7:00

Fun, Food, and Drink. No reservations necessary.

**Big News for the Gallery**  
Mid-October

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## OCTOBER FILMS

Oct. 4-10 *La Camioneta*  
 Oct. 11-17 *Blue Jasmine*  
 Oct. 18-24 *The Hunt* [no matinee 10/19]  
 Oct. 19 *Smuggled*—SPECIAL EVENT at 1:30pm  
 Cost: \$6; MVFS Members \$5  
 Special guest documentary filmmaker Ramon Hamilton, who will lead a Q&A after the screening.  
**Museum Hours**  
*Spider Baby*—SPECIAL EVENT at 10:00pm  
 Annual "Almost Midnight Halloween Movie." Cost: \$2  
 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla • www.mesillavalleyfilm.org • (575) 524-8287  
 Shows nightly at 7:30- Sunday Matinee at 2:30.  
 The Fountain Theatre—featuring the best independent, foreign and alternative films in the Southwest. Home of the Mesilla Valley Film Society since 1989!

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Mesilla Valley  
Film SocietyOct. 25-31  
Oct. 31

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 Thu 10/10 Bourbon Legend  
 Sat 10/12 Jefferson Jones Bluegrass  
 Thu 10/17 Tiffany Christopher  
 Sat 10/19 There Is No Mountain (Portland)  
 Thu 10/24 Jeremiah Sammartano (LA)  
 Sat 10/26 Liv (Dallas)  
 Thu 10/31 Shady Rest Band (Austin)

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## 40 DAYS & 40 NIGHTS

# What's Going on in October

Plus a look ahead into early November.

### OCTOBER

#### T U E S D A Y

**1 Silver City/Grant County**  
**GILA FARMERS' MARKET**—Tuesdays and Saturdays. 3-6 p.m. 414 Hwy. 211, 535-2729.

#### Las Cruces/Mesilla

**ARGENTINE TANGO DE LAS CRUCES**—Tuesdays, 6:30-9:30 p.m. \$5, NMSU students free with ID. 2251 Calle de Santiago, 620-0377.

**EVERY OTHER TUESDAY**—Blues Messiah. Neo-classic rock. 6:30 p.m. Free. Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Downtown Mall, 523-6403, www.riograndetheatre.com.

#### W E D N E S D A Y

#### 2 Silver City/Grant County

**WILL LUNCH AND LEARN**—The public is invited free of charge to Western Institute for Lifelong Learning's (WILL) noon lecture series. This session features Craig Freas, talking about "Steelhead Backroads: Spring Fly Fishing for Steelhead Trout in Northern British Columbia." 12 p.m. Free. WNMU Global Resource Center, 12th & Kentucky, 538-6835, will-learning.com, info@will-learning.com.

#### Las Cruces/Mesilla

**NMSU SWIMMING AND DIVING**—4 p.m. NMSU Swimming and Diving Complex.

**SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO STATE FAIR & RODEO**—State Fair has something for everyone; a midway, an auction, food, music, livestock shows and a cowboy rode. Southern New Mexico State Fairgrounds, 524-8603, snmstatefairgrounds.net.

#### T H U R S D A Y

#### 3 Silver City/Grant County

**BROWN BAG PROGRAM**—Railroads of Southwestern New Mexico: Silver City, Pinos Altos & Mogollon RR. 24 with Joe Gill. 12-1 p.m. Silver City Museum Annex, 302 W. Broadway, 538-5921, silvercitymuseum.org.

**MIMBRES FARMERS' MARKET**—Thursdays. 3:30-5:30 p.m. 14 Hwy. 35, 574-7674.

#### Las Cruces/Mesilla

**BIG BAND DANCE CLUB**—Sangria, live music. 7-10 p.m. Free. Court Youth Center, 402 W. Court St., 526-6500.

**DAN LAMBERT**—From El Paso. Live music. High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

**RASCAL FLATTS**—The Band Perry. Featuring Cassadee Pope from "The Voice." 7:30 p.m. \$49.50 and up. Pan Am Center, 646-1420, panam.nmsu.edu.

**SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO STATE FAIR & RODEO**—Through Oct. 6. Southern New Mexico State Fairgrounds, 524-8603, snmstatefairgrounds.net.

**SPIRITUAL PSYCHIC TAROT READINGS**—Linda Marlena Carr. 2-5 p.m. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436.

#### F R I D A Y

#### 4 Silver City/Grant County

**SOUTHWEST NEW MEXICO AUDUBON SOCIETY**—Monthly meeting. Tom Shelley presents on Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Mined Lands Reclamation/Wildlife Habitat in Grant County. 7 p.m. WNMU Harlan Hall.

#### Las Cruces/Mesilla

**DOWNTOWN RAMBLE**—Main Street Downtown Ramble through galleries, shops, businesses and restaurants. Art openings, exhibits, music, entertainment, open mic opportunities, shopping, refreshments and more. 5-7 p.m.

**LA CAMIONETA**—Through Oct. 10.

Every day dozens of decommissioned school buses leave the United States on a southward migration that carries them to Guatemala, where they are repaired, repainted and resurrected as the brightly colored camionetas that bring the vast majority of Guatemalans to work each day. Since 2006, nearly 1,000 camioneta drivers and fare-collectors have been murdered for either refusing or being unable to pay the extortion money demanded by local Guatemalan gangs. 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.

**LUNCETIME YOGA**—Fridays. 12 p.m. \$12. Downtown Desert Yoga, 126 S. Downtown Main St.

**PORTALS OF THE HEART AND MIND**—

Artist reception. A group of women artists explore and give thanks to the experiences of their life's journey and the many transitions that have enriched their art and how they live their lives. The collective work is done in oil, acrylic, pastel, mixed media, clay and fiber. 5-7 p.m. Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Downtown Mall, 523-6403, www.riograndetheatre.com.

**PROJECT POSTCARD**—Opening reception. Original, postcard-sized works of arts. NMSU Gallery, DW Williams Hall, University Ave, 646-5423, artglyr@nmsu.edu.

**RED**—Through Oct. 13. Famed Painter Mark Rothko has just landed the biggest commission in the history of modern art, but now faces the challenge of creating work that lives up to its promise and price tag. 7:30 p.m. NMSU Center for the Arts, 1000 E. University Ave., 646-4515, nmsutheatre.com.

**RGT LIVE!**—Open Mic. 7-9 p.m. Free. Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Downtown Mall, 523-6403, www.riograndetheatre.com.

**SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO STATE FAIR & RODEO**—Through Oct. 6. Southern New Mexico State Fairgrounds, 524-8603, snmstatefairgrounds.net.

**THE COLOR OF PIE TOWN**—Exhibit opening. Thirty-seven of Russell Lee's iconic color photographs of Pie Town, NM, will be on display. Lee captured life in this small Catron County town in 1940. At the time Lee was a 36-year-old photographer for the Historical Section of the US Farm Security Administration (FSA). Lee photographed every facet of life in Pie Town, which reminded him of an old frontier town. Lee's photographs were published in October 1941 in a camera-magazine article entitled "Life on the American Frontier—1941 Style." They helped establish Lee's career as a documentary photographer. Neither Lee nor Pie Town would ever be the same. Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road, 522-4100, www.nmfarmandranchmuseum.org.

**WHOLE ENCHILADA SOFTBALL INVITATIONAL**—Through Oct. 6. Three men's and three women's divisions. USSA Slow Pitch Softball Tournament. Hadley Athletic Complex.

**S A T U R D A Y**  
**5 Silver City/Grant County**  
**8TH ANNUAL MIMBRES VALLEY HARVEST FESTIVAL**—Mimbres Valley stories and poetry, kids' activities, farmers' market, arts and crafts fair, locally prepared food, greenhouse tours and workshops, raffle. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Free health fair and water testing, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Free. San Lorenzo School, Hwy. 35, 536-9337, mimbresharvestfest.com.

**COMMUNITY ARTS AND CRAFTS STREET FAIR/MARKET**—Saturdays. Local handmade artwork. Live music, artists, food, entertainment. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. 703 N. Bullard, 313-6468.

**COMPLETE DINNER: GREECE**—Class limited to eight students. Pre-registration required. 11 a.m. Shevek & Co., 602 N. Bullard St., 534-9168, contact@silvercats.com.

**WNMU FOOTBALL VS. COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES**—Homecoming. 1:30 p.m. wnmumustangs.com.

**GILA FARMERS' MARKET**—Tuesdays and Saturdays. 1-4 p.m. 414 Hwy. 211, 535-2729.

**GILA MONSTER GRAN FONDO**—Challenge yourself and pick one of four distances to ride your bicycle in the beauty of the Gila National Forest along the iconic Tour of the Gila "Gila Monster" course. The timed rides will have rest stations along the way, roving sag wagons, and will end in Pinos Altos where a fiesta will be happening. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. \$50. 590-0203, tourofthegila.com.

**HARRY BENJAMIN ART AUCTION**—Auctioning "Palisades at Little Cherry Creek." Includes bidding privileges, hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. Benefits Mimbres Region Arts Council. 6 p.m. \$40. Bear Mountain Lodge. 538-2505, www.mimbresarts.org.

**OCTOBER FIESTA**—Loose Blues Band, family activities, food, arts and crafts for sale. Benefits volunteer fire department. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Main Street, Pinos Altos (575) 574-8394.

**SILVER CITY FARMERS' MARKET**—Saturdays. 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Mainstreet Plaza, N. Bullard at 7th St., 654-4104.

**STARS-N-PARKS**—Venus is low in the west. Neptune and Uranus are in the east. The Sagittarius Milky Way is past

the meridian. The fall constellations are rising. M31 is available for observation. 7:55 p.m. City of Rocks State Park, astro-npo.org.

**THE PRINCESS BRIDE**—Cult Classic Film Series. 5:30 p.m. Silco Theater, 311 N. Bullard St., 534-9005, www.silcotheater.com.

**TOY EXPRESS**—Grand opening. A seasonal toy shop by Guadalupe Montessori School. Featuring new and gently used high-quality toys and games. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. GMS Toy Express, 110 W. Broadway, 388-3343.

#### Las Cruces/Mesilla

**CULTURAL BAZAAR**—The focus will be on the many diverse cultures represented in our neighborhoods. Multi-cultural celebration. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main St., 541-2154, www.las-cruces.org/museums.

**MESILLA JAZZ HAPPENING**—Through Oct. 6. Swinging into historic Old Mesilla at the Mercado Plaza and on the Historic Plaza. The Plazas will host free live jazz music at two venues. A special Wine Garden at each venue featuring eight New Mexico wineries will provide wine tasting. Horse-drawn wagons will offer free transportation between the Mercado and the historic plaza. Old Mesilla Plaza, 526-2620, mesillanm.gov/tourism.

**NMSU VOLLEYBALL VS. IDAHO**—12 p.m. Pan Am Center, 646-1420, panam.nmsu.edu.

**RAY TARANTINO**—From Nashville. Live music. High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

**RED**—See Oct. 4. Through Oct. 13. 7:30 p.m. NMSU Center for the Arts, 1000 E. University Ave., 646-4515, nmsutheatre.com.

**SHELLEY BLACK'S SOLO EXHIBITION**—Exhibit through Oct. 26. Artist's reception. 6-8 p.m. Adobe Patio Gallery, 1765 Avenida de Mercado, 640-8328, adobepatiogallery.com.

**SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO STATE FAIR & RODEO**—Through Oct. 6. Southern New Mexico State Fairgrounds, 524-8603, snmstatefairgrounds.net.

**VERMICULTURE WORKSHOP**—MVM Farm Manager Lori Garton. Vermiculture is the process of composting with worms. Learn to recycle kitchen waste and create your own vermicast. In addition, you'll learn to create a safe, healthy habitat for your worms. Pre-registration required. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. \$20, \$15 members. MVM Farm, 2653 Snow Road, 523-0436.

**GUIDED HIKES**—Saturdays and Sundays. Journey through the park on a ranger-led hike. Explore the Bosque; learn about native wildlife and plants. Wear comfortable shoes, bring water and sun protection. Binoculars are always a bonus. 2:30 p.m. Park entrance fee. Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park, 5000 Calle de Norte, 523-4398.

**BIRD WALKS**—Saturdays. With members of local Audubon Society and park volunteers. No reservations needed. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring or borrow park binoculars. 7:30 a.m. Park entrance fee. Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park, 5000 Calle de Norte, 523-4398.

#### Chloride

**MONTE CRISTO BIRTHDAY BASH**—On the New Mexico Fiber Arts Trail, home to the works of approximately 30 local artisans. See Arts Exposure section. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monte Cristo Gift Shop and Gallery, 743-0493, montecristogallery@windstream.net.

#### Radium Springs

**MUSIC IN THE STARS**—Enjoy an evening of music by local talents followed by a night of stargazing with the park's new observatory. Park rangers and volunteers from the Astronomical Society of Las Cruces will be on hand to guide you through the universe. 6:30-10:30 p.m. Park entrance fee. Leasburg Dam State Park, 12712 State Park Road, 524-4068, emrnd.state.nm.us.

#### SUNDAY

**Las Cruces / Mesilla**  
**6 BONES OF NEW MEXICO**—Deming sculptor Diana LeMarbe and Las Cruces photographer Mel Stone joint exhibit. Opening reception. 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Tombaugh Gallery, Unitarian-Universalist Church, 2000 S. Solano.

**RIO GRANDE RAMBLERS**—Mostly original tunes in the folk music tradition. 6 p.m. Park entrance fee. Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park, 5000 Calle de Norte, 523-4398.



Heroes, Oct. 11-27 at the Black Box Theatre in Las Cruces, tells of three old men plotting their escape from an old soldiers' home.

**NMSU VOLLEYBALL VS. SEATTLE**  
U—12 p.m. Pan Am Center, 646-1420, panam.nmsu.edu.

**NMSU WOMEN'S SOCCER VS GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY**—1 p.m. NMSU Soccer Fields.

**RED**—See Oct. 4. Through Oct. 13. 2 p.m. NMSU Center for the Arts, 1000 E. University Ave., 646-4515, nmsutheatre.com.

**SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO STATE FAIR & RODEO**—Southern New Mexico State Fairgrounds, 524-8603, snmstatefairgrounds.net.

**SUNDAY GROWERS' MARKET**—Sundays. Featuring fresh produce, locally roasted coffee, water-wise desert plants, sustainable crafts and more. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436.

**GUIDED HIKES**—Saturdays and Sundays. Journey through the park on a ranger-led hike. Explore the Bosque; learn about native wildlife and plants. Wear comfortable shoes, bring water and sun protections. Binoculars are always a bonus. 2:30 p.m. Park entrance fee. Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park, 5000 Calle de Norte, 523-4398.

**MONDAY**  
**7 Las Cruces / Mesilla**  
**DOWNTOWN CHARRETTE KICK-OFF**—A charrette is a focused and intensive set of planning and design exercises. The result of a charrette is a well-vetted set of recommended goals, policies and implementation priorities. Some charrette discussion topics will include revisiting downtown plans, economic development, urban design and plaza and callecitas. 6 p.m. Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Downtown Mall, 523-6403, www.riograndetheatre.com.

**TUESDAY**  
**8 Silver City/Grant County**  
**GILA FARMERS' MARKET**—Tuesdays and Saturdays. 3-6 p.m. 414 Hwy. 211, 535-2729.

**Roots**—Also Oct. 10. Root dishes and recipes. 12-1 p.m. Free. Silver City Co-Op Community Room, 520 N. Bullard St., 388-2343, silvercityfoodcoop.com.

**WNMU VOLLEYBALL VS. UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO-COLORADO SPRINGS**—7 p.m. wnmumustangs.com.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**

**BIG BAND DANCE CLUB**—CDs. Mike D'Arcy DJ. 7-10 p.m. \$9, \$7 members. Court Youth Center, 402 W. Court St., 526-6504.

**BOURBON LEGEND**—Live music. High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

**HISTORY NOTES: COTTONWOOD**

**PUEBLO**—This presentation focuses on the NMSU Archaeological Field School's current research at Cottonwood Pueblo, one of the largest El Paso Phase villages in the Jornada Mogollon region. The site was first documented in the 1930s by Herbert Yeo and is located approximately 20 miles of north of Las

### Las Cruces / Mesilla

#### ARGENTINE TANGO DE LAS CRUCES

Tuesdays, 6:30-9:30 p.m. \$5, NMSU students free with ID. 2251 Calle de Santiago, 620-0377.

#### NMSU AGGIE WOMEN'S GOLF TEAM

Through Oct. 10. "Give Em Five" Invitational.

#### Deming SOUTHWEST NEW MEXICO FAIR

Through Oct. 13. Deming Fair Grounds, Country Club Road, 546-5255.

#### WEDNES - DAY

#### 9 Silver City/ Grant County WILL LUNCH AND LEARN

Jim Kelly on "Real Legends Behind Some Fictional Ones."

12 p.m. Free. WNMU Global Resource Center, 12th & Kentucky, 538-6835, will-learning.com, info@will-learning.com.

#### Las Cruces/Mesilla

**FILM LAS CRUCES**—Trailers for locally made films are screened alongside short films by student filmmakers, followed by Q&A sessions with the filmmakers and industry news as it pertains to our area. 7 p.m. Free. Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Downtown Mall, 523-6403, www.riograndetheatre.com.

**THURSDAY**  
**10 Silver City/Grant County**

**DANNY REYES**—MRAC Artist Lecture Series. Jazz studies professor.

History of Jazz. 6:30 p.m. Free. WNMU Parrott Hall, 538-2505, mimbresarts.org.

**GRANT COUNTY ROLLING STONES**

**GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY**—"Gold Panning" by David Rinch. Bring serviceware and a dish to share. Potluck. 6 p.m. Senior Center, Victoria St. 534-1393, rollingstonesgms.blogspot.com.

**MIMBRES FARMERS' MARKET**—Thursdays. 3:30-5:30 p.m. 14 Hwy. 35, 574-7674.

**ROOTS**—See Oct. 8. 12-1 p.m. Free. Silver City Co-Op Community Room, 520 N. Bullard St., 388-2343, silvercityfoodcoop.com.

**WNMU VOLLEYBALL VS. UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO-COLORADO SPRINGS**—7 p.m. wnmumustangs.com.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**

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Cruces on the western flanks of the San Andres Mountains. The site holds great potential for revealing information about environmental change in late prehistory, movements of different ethnic groups and the rise of new religious movements. 1-2 p.m. Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main St., 541-2154, www.las-cruces.org/museums.

**RED**—See Oct. 4. Through Oct. 13. 7:30 p.m. NMSU Center for the Arts, 1000 E. University Ave., 646-4515, nmsutheatre.com.

**WOMEN MARKED FOR HISTORY**—Authors Phil Archuleta and Rosanne Roberts Archuleta will present their book, which celebrates New Mexico's history-making women. This book is a culmination of four years of exploration into the lives of women who contributed to the people and communities of New Mexico. They excelled in many fields, including community and government, education, military, business, healing arts and medicine, entertainment, cultural preservation and the arts. The husband-and-wife team will sign copies of their book after their presentation. 7 p.m. \$2. Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road, 522-4100, www.nmfarmandranchmuseum.org.

**Deming SOUTHWEST NEW MEXICO FAIR**—Through Oct. 13. Deming Fair Grounds, Country Club Road, 546-5255.

**FRIDAY**  
**11 Silver City/Grant County**

**RED DOT GALLERY WEEKEND**—

Through Oct. 14. A free weekend of gallery browsing, special art openings, demonstrations, food, music, children's exhibits and more, based on the theme "Countries Around the World." Mural tour; meet at Leyba & Ingalls Arts at 3:30 p.m. Seedboat Gallery presents art and a narrative slide show by Paula Wittner, 6-8 p.m. See story in Arts Exposure section. Downtown Silver City. 313-9631, www.silvercitygalleries.com.

**WNMU VOLLEYBALL VS. REGIS UNIVERSITY**—7 p.m. wnmumustangs.com.

**WILL COMMUNITY PROGRAM**—Gail Rubin's "Laughing in the Face of Death: Funeral Planning for Those Who Don't Plan to Die." Rubin assures us that just as talking about sex won't make you pregnant, talking about funerals won't make you dead—and those who love you will benefit from the conversation. 7 p.m. Free. WNMU Global Resource Center, 12th & Kentucky, 538-6835, will-learning.com, info@will-learning.com.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**

**BLUE JASMINE**—Through Oct. 17.

A New York socialite, deeply troubled and in denial, arrives in San Francisco to impose upon her sister. She looks a million, but isn't bringing money, peace, or love.... Director: Woody Allen. Stars: Cate Blanchett, Alec Baldwin, Peter Sarsgaard. 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.

**DOWNTOWN CHARRETTE CLOSING & PUBLIC COMMENT**—6:30 p.m. Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Downtown Mall, 523-6403, www.riograndetheatre.com.

**HEROES**—Through Oct. 27. By Gerard Sibleyras. The play tells of three old men plotting their escape from an old soldiers' home. 8 p.m. \$12, \$10

**EVENTS** continued on next page

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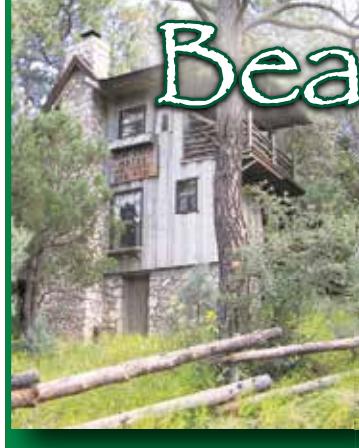
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**La Esperanza**  
Vineyard & Winery

Come and participate in the First Annual *La Esperanza Art and Wine Extravaganza*. 10 Very Talented Artists will participate on Saturday, October 19 from 11am-6pm.

Music at 1:00pm and 3:00pm by The Deming High After-School Latin Dance Program, 'Cielo'. 2:00pm and 4:00pm Jessica Juarez of Deming will sing. 5:00 to 6:00pm music by Andrew Dahl-Bredine.

Acosta Farms will sell Quesadillas, fajitas, nachos, hotdogs.

Please visit our website for more information. David & Esperanza Gurule owners/vintners 505 259-9523 • 505 238-6252 [www.laesperanzavineyardandwinery.com](http://www.laesperanzavineyardandwinery.com)

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Silver City, NM 88061  
575-388-5485

**Baxter Black, cowboy humorist**  
Live at the WNMU Fine Arts Theater,  
**October 12, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.**  
Special guest appearance by "Madam Millie"

**A fundraiser for the Silver City Museum's exhibits and programs.**

Tickets are available at the Silver City Museum and Alotta Gelato for \$25, \$35, \$65 (Meet Baxter Black). For telephone sales and information call **575-538-5921**.

**Viva NEW MEXICO RESTAURANT PROGRAM**

**Sponsored by:**

**HMS HIDALGO MEDICAL SERVICES** **La Vida DIABETES RESOURCE CENTER**

Look for the red heart menu items- your guide to diabetes and heart friendly selections.

**Viva New Mexico Restaurant Program-**encouraging diners to select more health conscious meals when eating out.

- Silver City -**
- Adobe Springs Café**
- Billy's BBQ**
- Diane's Restaurant**
- Grinder Mill**
- Kountry Kitchen**
- Peace Meal Cooperative**
- Shevek's & Co.**
- Silverado**
- The Jalisco Café**
- The Red Barn**
- Tre Rosat Café**
- Vicki's Eatery**
- Wrangler's Bar & Grill**
- Bayard-**
- Little Nisha's**
- M and A Bayard Café**
- Hurley-**
- Gateway Grill**
- Mimbres-**
- Elks Xing Café**
- Lordsburg-**
- El Charro**
- Fidencios**
- Ramona's Café**
- Rodeo-**
- Rodeo Café**

**THE TO DO LIST**  
Scaring up fun.

**T**he leaves may be falling in northern climes, but the calendar here is far from cooling off.

A busy month kicks off with the eighth annual **Mimbres Valley Harvest Festival** on Oct. 5 at San Lorenzo School. Sample local fare, shop a farmers market and arts and crafts fair, and enjoy live music by Bayou Seco and other area favorites. A free health fair will offer water-quality testing and health screenings.



Baxter Black

That's also the date for the annual **October Fiesta** on Main Street in Pinos Altos, celebrating the area's gold-mining heritage and benefiting the Pinos Altos Volunteer Fire Rescue. Chefs from the fire department will be cooking bratwurst and all the fixings, with entertainment by the Loose Blues Band.

Cyclists can warm up for the fun at the **Gila Monster Gran Fondo**, also Oct. 5. Four distance choices await along the iconic Tour of the Gila "Gila Monster" course through the Gila National Forest, winding up in Pinos Altos at the fiesta.

October also means, believe it or not, that the holidays are right around the corner. You can start your shopping early at **Toy Express**, a seasonal toy shop by Guadalupe Montessori School featuring new and gently used high-quality toys and games. Benefiting the school, the shop will hold its Grand Opening Celebration on **Oct. 5** from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at 110 W. Broadway.

**T**he Artist Lecture Series from the Mimbres Region Arts Council and WILL picks up again on Oct. 10 with **Danny Reyes**, whose chosen medium is music—specifically jazz, which he teaches at WNMU. WILL (that's the Western Institute for Lifelong Learning, for the uninitiated) also rolls out weekly **Lunch & Learn** presentations, Wednesdays starting **Oct. 2** at WNMU's Global Resource Center, and a talk by **Gail Rubin**, "Laughing in the Face of Death," on **Oct. 11** at 7 p.m.

On Oct. 12, cowboy humor takes center stage with **Baxter Black**, appearing in a fundraiser for the Silver City Museum at the WNMU Fine Arts Center Theatre.

Later that week, on Oct. 15, the Grant County Community Concert Association kicks off its new season with the classic

rock and roll music of **The Diamonds**. Then, at the Rio Grande Theatre in Las Cruces, seven-time International Bluegrass-winning bass player **Missy Raines** and her band, The New Hip, perform with local favorites The Hard Road Trio on Oct. 17. And the music continues on Oct. 18 with **Kris Delmhorst and Jeffrey Foucault** in Pinos Altos as part of MRAC's Indie/Folk Series.

MRAC turns classical on Oct. 25 when it brings the **Las Cruces Symphony** to town, featuring Grammy-nominated violinist Philippe Quint at the WNMU Fine Arts Center Theatre.

For one more treat before trick-or-treating time, head to Pancho Villa State Park in Columbus on Oct. 26 for **Pancho's Eighth Annual Car Show**. You can enjoy all things on wheels along with music and food enough to get you through to that Halloween candy. \*



The Diamonds

#### EVENTS continued

students and seniors over 65. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, no-strings.org.

**RED**—See Oct. 4. Through Oct. 13. 7:30 p.m. NMSU Center for the Arts, 1000 E. University Ave., 646-4515, nmsutheatre.com.

**Deming**  
**SOUTHWEST NEW MEXICO FAIR**—Through Oct. 13. Deming Fair Grounds, Country Club, 546-5255.

**SATURDAY**  
**12 Silver City/Grant County**  
**BAXTER BLACK**—Popular cowboy poet and humorist. Madam Millie, too. Fundraiser for Silver City Museum. 6:30 p.m. \$25. WNMU Fine Arts Center Theatre.

**BIG DITCH CRICKETS COMMUNITY DANCE**—7-10 p.m. Old Elks Lodge, 315 N. Texas St.

**COMMUNITY ARTS AND CRAFTS STREET FAIR/MARKET**—Saturdays. Local handmade artwork. Live music, artists, food, entertainment. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. 703 N. Bullard, 313-6468.

**CRAFT CLASS**—Dream catcher. Limited to 10 crafters. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. \$5. Silver City Museum, 312 W. Broadway, 538-5921, [www.silvercitymuseum.org](http://www.silvercitymuseum.org).

**ESTHER JAMISON DEMONSTRATION**—Portrait demonstration. Refreshments, live music. 2-6:30 p.m. Tatiana Maria Gallery, Bullard.

**GILA FARMERS' MARKET**—Tuesdays and Saturdays. 1-4 p.m. 414 Hwy. 211, 535-2729.

**FIDDLING FRIENDS AND BIG DITCH CRICKETS**—Live music. 12:15-2 p.m. Yada Yada Yarn.

**RED DOT GALLERY WEEKEND**—Through Oct. 14. Gallery Walk from 11 a.m.-7 p.m. and gallery openings beginning at 3 p.m. Meet the artists and enjoy music and food from different countries, along with surprise events. See story in Arts Exposure

section. Downtown Silver City. 313-9631, [www.silvercitygalleries.com](http://www.silvercitygalleries.com).

**SILVER CITY FARMERS' MARKET**—Saturdays. Harvest Pie Contest. 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Mainstreet Plaza, N. Bullard at 7th St., 654-4104.

**WMNU VOLLEYBALL VS. METRO STATE UNIVERSITY**—7 p.m. [wnmumus-tangs.com](http://wnmumus-tangs.com).

**INTENSIVE TILE-MAKING CLASS**—9 a.m.-5 p.m. Kate Brown Pottery & Tile, Mimbres, 536-9935, [katebrown@gilanet.com](mailto:katebrown@gilanet.com).

**Las Cruces/Mesilla 4TH ANNUAL CRUISIN' FOR CRITTERS MOTORCYCLE RALLY**—10 a.m.-6 p.m. \$15 per rider, \$12 per person at the door for after-party only at Blue Moon Bar. Las Cruces Motor Sports, 2125 S. Valley Dr. 621-4942.

**DIA DE LOS MUERTOS POTTERS' GUILD EXHIBIT**—Opening celebration. 4-6 p.m. Mesquite Art Gallery, 304 N. Mesquite St., 524-1146.

**HEROES**—See Oct. 11. Through Oct. 27. 8 p.m. \$12, \$10 students and seniors over 65. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, no-strings.org.

**JEFFERSON JONES**—Bluegrass. Live music. High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

**LOS LEONES DE MESILLA CAR SHOW**—10 a.m.-3 p.m. Free. Old Mesilla Plaza, 524-3262, [mesillanm.gov/tourism](http://mesillanm.gov/tourism).

**RED**—See Oct. 4. Through Oct. 13. 7:30 p.m. NMSU Center for the Arts, 1000 E. University Ave., 646-4515, [nmsutheatre.com](http://nmsutheatre.com).

**Deming HOLY FAMILY FALL FESTIVAL**—8 a.m. Holy Family Church Hall, 615 S. Copper, 544-2195.

**SOUTHWEST NEW MEXICO FAIR**—Through Oct. 13. Deming Fair Grounds, Country Club, 546-5255.

**SUNDAY**  
**13 Silver City/Grant County**  
**RED DOT GALLERY WEEKEND**—

Through Oct. 14. Gallery walk from 11 a.m.-4 p.m., followed by a raffle drawing at 4 p.m. at Seedboat Gallery. Raffle tickets are free with each purchase of art during the weekend, before the raffle, and prizes will be on view at Seedboat. See story in Arts Exposure section. Downtown. 313-9631, [www.silvercitygalleries.com](http://www.silvercitygalleries.com).

**ADVANCED TILE WORKSHOP**—9 a.m.-5 p.m. Kate Brown Pottery & Tile, Mimbres, 536-9935, [katebrown@gilanet.com](mailto:katebrown@gilanet.com).

#### Las Cruces/Mesilla

**BROADWAY ROCKS: A CHORAL REVUE**—Also Oct. 20. Re-creating some of the greatest hits of the last 20 years. 2:30 p.m. \$10. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, [www.no-strings.org](http://www.no-strings.org).

**MARIACHI SUNDAYS ON THE PLAZA**—4-6 p.m. Free. Old Mesilla Plaza, 525-1735, [lascrucemesilla.org](http://lascrucemesilla.org).

**RED**—See Oct. 4. 2 p.m. NMSU Center for the Arts, 1000 E. University Ave., 646-4515, [nmsutheatre.com](http://nmsutheatre.com).

**SUNDAY GROWERS' MARKET**—Sundays. Featuring fresh produce, locally roasted coffee, water-wise desert plants, sustainable crafts and more. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436.

**Deming SOUTHWEST NEW MEXICO FAIR**—Deming Fair Grounds, Country Club Road, 546-5255.

**MONDAY**  
**14 COLUMBUS DAY**  
**Silver City/Grant County**  
**RED DOT GALLERY WEEKEND**—

Gallery walk, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., and mural tour meeting at Leyba & Ingalls Arts at 2 p.m. At 1 p.m. at the Hub, prizes will be awarded for works in a children's art exhibit on view all weekend in downtown storefronts. See story in Arts Exposure section. Downtown Silver City. 313-9631, [www.silvercitygalleries.com](http://www.silvercitygalleries.com).

**WIDOWED PERSONS SERVICE**—Gor-

don Mitchell talking about reverse mortgage. 11 a.m. \$10 includes lunch. Glad Tidings Church, 537-3643.

## TUESDAY 15 Silver City/Grant County

**GILA FARMERS' MARKET**—Tuesdays and Saturdays. 3-6 p.m. 414 Hwy. 211, 535-2729.

**THE DIAMONDS**—Rock and roll. Grant County Community Concert Association. 7:30 p.m. \$20, \$5 students to age 17. WNMU Fine Arts Center Theater, 538-5862, gcconcerts.org.

### Las Cruces/Mesilla

**EVERY OTHER TUESDAY**—O & Co. Traditional and contemporary bluegrass. 6:30 p.m. Free. Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Downtown Mall, 523-6403, www.riograndetheatre.com.

**ARGENTINE TANGO DE LAS CRUCES**—Tuesdays. 6:30-9:30 p.m. \$5, NMSU students free with ID. 2251 Calle de Santiago, 620-0377.

## WEDNESDAY 16 Silver City/Grant County

**WILL LUNCH AND LEARN**—This session features Frost McGahey and highlights Shakespeare's sonnets, with readings. 12 p.m. Free. WNMU Global Resource Center, 12th & Kentucky, 538-6835, will-learning.com, info@will-learning.com.

### Las Cruces/Mesilla

**INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM FOR PERSONAL AND COMMERCIAL SPACE-FLIGHT**—Conference. 7 a.m. Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road, 522-4100, www.nmfarmandranchmuseum.org.

## THURSDAY 17 Silver City/Grant County

**MIMBRES FARMERS' MARKET**—Thursdays. 3:30-5:30 p.m. 14 Hwy. 35, 574-7674.

### Las Cruces/Mesilla

**BIG BAND DANCE CLUB**—Jim Helder Septet. Live music. 7-10 p.m. \$7. Court Youth Center, 402 W. Court St., 526-6504.

**EAT SMART LIVE WELL**—Ways you can boost your immune system through natural supplements and by eating right. 5-6 p.m. Free, \$3 non-members. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436.

**MISSY RAINES & THE NEW HIP**—With the Hard Road Trio. Both straight-ahead bluegrass and more progressive forms of music. 7-9 p.m. \$15-\$20. Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Downtown Mall, 523-6403, www.riograndetheatre.com.

**SPIRITUAL PSYCHIC TAROT READINGS AND CREATIVE HARMONY**—Linda Marlena Carr. 2-5 p.m. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436.

**TIFFANY CHRISTOPHER**—Live music. High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

**VEGAN SUPPORT GROUP**—7-8 p.m. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436.

## FRIDAY 18 Silver City/Grant County

**GILA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY**—Patrick Alexander will give a presentation on "Gypsophilia: An Introduction to Gypsum and the Plants That Call It Home." Alexander will talk about what it is, where it is and why it has weird plants on it and introduce a few of the plants found only on gypsum, including a new species discovered about a month ago. 7 p.m. Free. WNMU Harlan Hall, gilans.org.

**KRIS DELMHORST & JEFFREY FOUCault**—Delmhurst is a talented musical artist who always manages to balance the gravity of her musical roots with an original, fresh, expressiveness. Foucault has released a number of critically acclaimed albums, and played with Greg Brown, Gillian Welch, Todd Snider, Chris Smither and Rosanne Cash. MRAC Indie/Folk Series. 7:30 p.m. \$20. Buckhorn Opera House, Pinos Altos, www.mimbresarts.org.

### Las Cruces/Mesilla

**EMPTY BOWLS**—The Potters' Guild of Las Cruces makes over 1,000 bowls, local restaurants donate soup, and ticket-holders enjoy a soup lunch and take home a handmade pottery bowl. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. \$18, \$15 in advance. St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 225 W. Griggs, 524-1146, 525-3831, www.pottersgildlc.com, www.elcaldito.com.

**HEROES**—See Oct. 11. Through Oct. 27. 8 p.m. \$12, \$10 students and seniors over 65. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, no-strings.org.

### NMASA MONSTER BALL GIRLS

**FASTPITCH SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT**—Through Oct. 20. 10U-18U/ Maag Park.

**THE HUNT**—Through Oct. 24. A

teacher lives a lonely life, all the while struggling over his son's custody. His life slowly gets better as he finds love and receives good news from his son, but his new luck is about to be brutally shattered by an innocent little lie. Director: Thomas Vinterberg. Stars: Mads Mikkelsen, Thomas Bo Larsen, Annika Wedderkopp. 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.

### White Sands

**FULL MOON BIKE RIDE**—Take a leisurely bike ride through the monument. No cars allowed in the monument during the event. Reservations required. 8 p.m. \$2.50-\$5. White Sands National Monument, 679-2599 ext. 230, 479-6124 ext. 236, www.nps.gov/whsa.

## SATURDAY 19 Silver City/Grant County

**SILVER CITY FARMERS' MARKET**—Saturdays. Music by Big Ditch Crickets & The Irish Group of County Grant 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Mainstreet Plaza, N. Bullard at 7th St., 654-4104.

**COMMUNITY ARTS AND CRAFTS STREET FAIR/MARKET**—Saturdays. Local handmade artwork. Live music, artists, food, entertainment. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. 703 N. Bullard, 313-6468.

**WNMU FOOTBALL VS. WESTERN STATE COLORADO UNIVERSITY**—12 p.m. wnmumustangs.com.

**GILA FARMERS' MARKET**—Tuesdays and Saturdays. 1-4 p.m. 414 Hwy. 211, 535-2729.

**GRANT COUNTY ROLLING STONES GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY**—Field trip to Pie Town. 388-2010.

**PEO PURSE AND SILENT AUCTIONS**—Fundraiser for PEO Foundation Scholarship. 12-4 p.m. \$10. First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, 1915 N. Swan St., 534-9371.

**PSA TESTING**—9 a.m.-2 p.m. Free. GRMC Lab, 1313 E. 32nd St., 388-1198 ext. 10.

**ART AND WINE**—Local artists, musicians perform throughout the day. Food by Acosta Farm. Wines from La Esperanza. 1-6 p.m. La Esperanza Vineyard and Winery, 100 DellaO in Sherman, Mimbres, (505) 259-9523, (505) 238 6252.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**CROSSROAD CITY DERBY**—Roller derby. Home team bout—Red Robin. 6 p.m. \$8-\$10. Meerschedit Center Complex, 1605 E. Hadley, 528-1246, crossroadscityderbydolls.com.

**DESERT BABY-WEARERS**—10 a.m.-12 p.m. Free. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436.

**HEROES**—See Oct. 11. Through Oct. 27. 8 p.m. \$12, \$10 students and seniors over 65. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, no-strings.org.

**LAS CRUCES TOSS NO MAS**—Join good people doing great things by beautifying our neighborhoods, parks and schools. 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Dream Center, 1400 N. 6th St., 528-4508, las-cruces.org/KLCB.

**NMSU AGGIES FOOTBALL VS. RICE**—Tough Enough To Wear Pink Night. 6 p.m. \$13-\$30. NMSU Aggies Memorial Stadium, 646-1420, 532-2060.

**NMSU MEN'S BASKETBALL CRIMSON AND WHITE GAME**—Pan-Am Center.

**SMUGGLED**—With special guest documentary filmmaker Ramon Hamilton, who will lead a Q&A after the screening. The story of a nine-year-old boy and his mother as the couple are smuggled into the US in a compartment underneath a tour bus. Unfortunately, the journey doesn't go as planned and a new destiny awaits Miguel and his mother. English/Spanish with English subtitles. 1:30 p.m. \$6, \$5 MVFS members. Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, 524-8287, mesillavalleyfilm.org.

**THERE IS NO MOUNTAIN**—From Portland. Live music. High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

**Deming**  
**TUMBLEWEED ROB & THE SOUTHWESTERN JUNCTION**—2-4 p.m. Morgan Hall, 110 E. Pine.

**White Sands**  
**FULL MOON NIGHTS**—Listen to music, learn about the monument, and enjoy the beauty of moonlit dunes. 6:30 p.m. \$3. White Sands National Monument, 679-2599 ext. 230, 479-6124 ext. 236, www.nps.gov/whsa.

**SUNDAY  
20 Silver City/Grant County**  
**3RD ANNUAL PIE/CAKE AUCTION**—Benefits Bridge Community. Entertainment by Jericho. 4-6 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, 1900 Swan St. 538-5754.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**BROADWAY ROCKS: A CHORAL**

**REVUE**—See Oct. 13. 7 p.m. \$10. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, www.no-strings.org.

**COMPASSION & CHOICES**—1:30-3 p.m. Thomas Branigan Memorial Library, Roadrunner Room, Second Floor. 527-8432, jnaomiscott@comcast.net.

**HEROES**—See Oct. 11. Through Oct. 27. 2:30 p.m. \$12, \$10 students and seniors over 65. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, no-strings.org.

**MARK COURTNEY, CROSSED ROOTS AND EDDY HARRISON**—6-8 p.m. \$5 park entrance fee. Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park, 5000 Calle de Norte, 523-4398.

**SUNDAY GROWERS' MARKET**—Sundays. Featuring fresh produce, locally roasted coffee, water-wise desert plants, sustainable crafts and more. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436.

### Deming

**85TH ANNUAL KLOBASE & BBQ**—Traditional klobase, BBQ, potato salad, beans and coleslaw with homemade desserts and refreshments available, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Hourly prize drawings, raffle, door prizes, bingo 12-5 p.m. \$8 per plate. Courthouse Park, 700 S. Silver, 546-9783.

### Hillsboro

**TUMBLEWEED ROB AND THE SOUTHWEST JUNCTION**—Acoustic roots music. 3-5 p.m. \$5 donation. Hillsboro Community Center, Elenora Street.

## TUESDAY 22 Silver City/Grant County

**22 GILA FARMERS' MARKET**—Tuesdays and Saturdays. 3-6 p.m. 414 Hwy. 211, 535-2729.

**TOWN AND COUNTRY GARDEN**  
**CLUB**—Nancy Owen Lewis will present the program, "Chasing the Cure in New Mexico: The Lungers and their Legacy." Refreshments served. 1 p.m. Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 388-1705.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**ARGENTINE TANGO DE LAS CRUCES**

Tuesdays, 6:30-9:30 p.m. \$5, NMSU students free with ID. 2251 Calle de Santiago, 620-0377.

**NMSU MEN'S GOLF**—Herb Wimberley Intercollegiate Tournament.

## WEDNESDAY 23 Silver City/Grant County

**23 WILL LUNCH AND LEARN**—Great Issues of Our Time: Who's Better, Dogs or Cats? Presenters are Dr. Lawrence (Black Larry) McDaniel, retired veterinarian and wilderness legend, and Victoria York, volunteer and board member at the High Desert Humane Society and Animal Shelter for the last 12 years, and cat lover and advocate extraordinaire. 12 p.m.

Refreshments served. 1 p.m. Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 388-1705. **HEROES**—See Oct. 11. Through Oct. 27. 8 p.m. \$12, \$10 students and seniors over 65. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, no-strings.org.

**WEDNESDAY**  
**23 Silver City/Grant County**

**23 MIMBRES FARMERS' MARKET**—Thursdays. 3:30-5:30 p.m. 14 Hwy. 35, 574-7674.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**BIG BAND DANCE CLUB**—CDs. Mike D'Arcy DJ. 7-10 p.m. \$9, \$7 members. Court Youth Center, 402 W. Court St., 526-6504.

**EAT SMART LIVE WELL**—Cooking class featuring easy and delicious ways to boost your immune system, including how to create your own fire cider tincture. 5-6 p.m. Free, \$3 non-members. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436.

**HEROES**—See Oct. 11. Through Oct. 27. 7 p.m. \$8. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223,

no-strings.org.

**WEDNESDAY**  
**23 Silver City/Grant County**

**23 GHOST CRAWL**—Storytelling class taught by WNMU associate professor

**SATURDAY  
26 Silver City/Grant County**

**26 GHOST CRAWL**—Storytelling class taught by WNMU associate professor



For Empty Bowls, Oct. 18, the Potters' Guild of Las Cruces makes over 1,000 bowls, local restaurants donate soup, and ticket-holders enjoy a soup lunch and take home a handmade pottery bowl.

no-strings.org.

**JEREMIAH SAMMARTANO**—From Los Angeles. Live music. High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

**NMSU VOLLEYBALL VS. GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY**—7 p.m. Pan Am Center, 646-1420, panam.nmsu.edu.

**FRIDAY**  
**25 Silver City/Grant County**

**25 LAS CRUCES SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**—MRAC Performance Series.

Focusing on classics by Brahms and Tchaikovsky. The featured soloist will be award-winning violinist Philippe Quint. \$25. WNMU Fine Arts Center Theatre, 538-2505, lacrussessymphony.com, mimbresarts.org.

**NON-PROFIT RESOURCE CONFERENCE**—9 a.m.-3 p.m. Free. RSVP.

Business & Conference Center, 3031 Hwy. 180 E., www.research.net/s/SWRnonprofit.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**

**ARTISTS OF THE PAST**—Through Oct. 26. This unique living history experience transports visitors of all ages to a

**EVENTS** continued**NMSU AGGIES FOOTBALL VS.**

**ABILENE CHRISTIAN**—Homecoming and Senior Day. \$13-30. NMSU Aggies Memorial Stadium, 646-1420, 532-2060, nmstatesports.com.

**NMSU VOLLEYBALL VS. TEXAS PAN AMERICAN**—3 p.m. Pan Am Center, 646-1420, panam.nmsu.edu.**PHILIPPE QUINT, VIOLIN, CLASSICS**

**Two**—Also Oct. 27. Las Cruces Symphony. 7:30 p.m. NMSU Atkinson Hall, 1075 North Horseshoe, 646-2421.

**Columbus**

**PANCHO'S 8TH ANNUAL CAR SHOW**—Cars, motorcycles, food, music. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. \$20-\$25 per show vehicle. Pancho Villa State Park, S. Columbus Road, 531-2711, nmparks.com.

**Deming**

**COMMUNITY-WIDE GARAGE SALE**—8 a.m.-1 p.m. Courthouse Park, 700 S. Silver, 546-2674.

**RANDY HUSTON, DEANNA MCCALL AND JIM JONES**—Singers and cowboy poetry. 2 p.m. Morgan Hall, 110 E. Pine.

**PSYCHIC FAIRE**—11 a.m.-4 p.m. 4815 Silver City Hwy. NW, jackasjunctionpublishing.com.

**Portal**

**OKTOBERFEST**—This year's event will feature home-style German foods at the café, a bake sale with assorted cakes, pies, breads; a colorful community bazaar, music, and silent auction with more than 60 items and 12 specialty theme baskets. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Myrtle Kraft Portal Library, (520) 558-0096.

**White Sands**

**SUNRISE PHOTOGRAPHY**—Join a ranger for an early program focused on amateur photography. Reservations are required two weeks in advance of the hike. 6:15 a.m. \$3. White Sands National Monument, 679-2599 ext. 230, 479-6124 ext. 236, www.nps.gov/whsa.

**SUNDAY**

**27 Silver City/Grant County POETRY READING**—Bonnie Maldonado. 2-3 p.m. Silver City Museum, 312 W. Broadway, 538-5921, www.silverbrycmuseum.org.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**

**HEROES**—See Oct. 11. 2:30 p.m. \$12, \$10 students and seniors over 65. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, no-strings.org.

**NMSU WOMEN'S SOCCER VS.**

**IDAHO**—1 p.m. NMSU Soccer Fields.

**PHILIPPE QUINT, VIOLIN, CLASSICS**

**Two**—Las Cruces Symphony. 3 p.m. NMSU Atkinson Hall, 1075 North Horseshoe, 646-2421.

**SUNDAY GROWERS' MARKET**—Sundays. Featuring fresh produce, locally roasted coffee, water-wise desert plants, sustainable crafts and more. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436.

**White Sands**

**LAKE LUCERO TOUR**—Hike with a ranger to the source of the sands and learn about the formation of the dunes.

10 a.m. \$3, \$1.50 children. White Sands National Monument, 679-2599 ext. 230, 479-6124 ext. 236, www.nps.gov/whsa.

**TUESDAY**  
**29 Silver City/Grant County GILA FARMERS' MARKET**—Tuesdays and Saturdays. 3-6 p.m. 414 Hwy. 211, 535-2729.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**ARGENTINE TANGO DE LAS CRUCES**—Tuesdays. 6:30-9:30 p.m. \$5, NMSU students free with ID. 2251 Calle de Santiago, 620-0377.

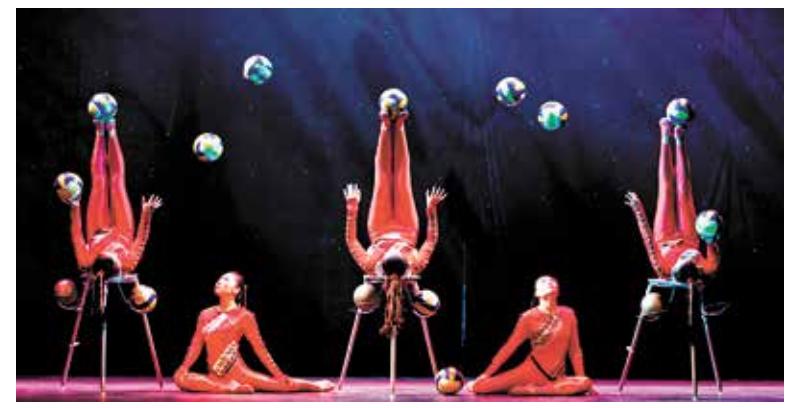
**EVERY OTHER TUESDAY**—24/7 Blues Band. 6 p.m. Free. Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Downtown Mall, 523-6403,

eats.com.  
**WNMU VOLLEYBALL VS. CSU-PUEBLO**—7 p.m. wnmumustangs.com.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**DIA DE LOS MUERTOS**—Through Nov. 3. Celebrate the Day of the Dead with lots of music and food. Join the candlelight procession as the dead are remembered. Homemade altars are on display and a giant piñata is broken open. 2-7 p.m. Old Mesilla Plaza, 524-3262, mesillanm.gov/tourism.

**NMSU WOMEN'S SOCCER VS. UTAH VALLEY**—3 p.m. NMSU Soccer Fields.

**SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS**—Through Nov. 3. Men's and Women's Division. Harty Softball Complex, Paz Park, Maag Park.



The Golden Dragon Chinese Acrobats come to Silver City Nov. 8.

www.riograndetheatre.com.

**NMSU MEN'S BASKETBALL VS. WESTERN NEW MEXICO**—Pan Am Center, 646-1420, panam.nmsu.edu.

**THURSDAY HALLOWEEN**  
**31 Silver City/Grant County MIMBRES FARMERS' MARKET**—Thursdays. 3:30-5:30 p.m. 14 Hwy. 35, 574-7674.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**BIG BAND DANCE CLUB**—R. Thielman Band, live music. Halloween party. Prize for best costume. Finger-food. 7-10 p.m. \$9, \$7 members. Court Youth Center, 402 W. Court St., 526-6504.

**SHADY REST BAND**—From Austin. Live music. High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

**SPIDER BABY**—Annual "Almost Midnight Halloween Movie." Weirdo family who has a regressive gene, which, as they grow older, causes them to become more and more like monsters. 10 p.m. \$2. Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, 524-8287, mesillavalley-film.org.

**Deming**  
**TRUNK OR TREAT**—5-8 p.m. First United Methodist Church, 1020 S. Granite, 546-2971.

**NOVEMBER FRIDAY**  
**1 Silver City/Grant County TASTING DINNER**—Six Day of the Dead- and Halloween-themed beers paired with Mediterranean foods. 6:30 p.m. Shevok & Co. Restaurant, 602 N. Bullard St., 534-9168, contact@silver-

**MEXICO HIGHLANDS UNIVERSITY**—7 p.m. wnmumustangs.com.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**COMPOSTING WORKSHOP**—MVM Farm Manager Lori Garton will demonstrate how you can use free or low-cost resources to supply your soil with more nutrition, beneficial microbiology, water holding capacity and organic matter. You'll learn how to build and maintain a compost heap the right way to reap the many benefits of on-site composting. Registration required. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. \$20, \$15 members. Mountain View Market Farm, 2635 Snow Road, Mesilla, 523-0436.

**DIA DE LOS MUERTOS**—See Nov. 1. Through Nov. 3. 12-7 p.m. Old Mesilla Plaza, 524-3262, mesillanm.gov/tourism.

**HIGH SCHOOL BAND COMPETITION**—\$15. NMSU Aggies Memorial Stadium, 646-1420, 532-2060, nmstatesports.com.

**NMSU SWIMMING AND DIVING VS. NORTHERN COLORADO**—11:30 a.m.

**RENAISSANCE ARTSFaire**—Through Nov. 3. Spend a weekend with kings and queens at the annual Renaissance ArtsFaire. Local, state and regional artisans gather to participate in a juried art show and exhibition. Arts and crafts are for sale accompanied by live theater, dancing, music and food, and all presented with a Renaissance theme.

10 a.m.-5 p.m. Young Park, 1905 E. Nevada Ave. las-cruces-arts.org.

**GUIDED HIKES**—Saturdays and

Sundays. Journey through the park on a ranger-led hike. Explore the Bosque; learn about native wildlife and plants.

2:30 p.m. Park entrance fee. Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park, 5000 Calle de Norte, 523-4398.

**BIRD WALKS**—Saturdays. With members of local Audubon Society and park volunteers. No reservations needed.

Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring or borrow park binoculars. 7:30 a.m. Park entrance fee. Mesilla Valley

Bosque State Park, 5000 Calle de Norte, 523-4398.

**DIA DE LOS MUERTOS**—Enjoy music, food, arts, crafts and children's activities that tell the story of this celebration. Feel free to participate in the public altars located throughout the district by leaving prayers or mementos for those no longer with us, or set up your own altar in the spaces provided in the street. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Yankie/Texas Arts District.

**FIDDLING FRIENDS**—12:15-1 p.m. Alofta Gelato.

**STARS-N-PARKS**—Venus is low in the west. Neptune and Uranus are in the east. The Sagittarius Milky Way is past the meridian. The fall constellations are rising. M31 is available for observation. 7:25 p.m. City of Rocks State Park, astro-npo.org.

**WNMU FOOTBALL VS. CHADRON STATE COLLEGE**—12 p.m. wnmumustangs.com.

**GUATEMALAN MERCADO**—The sale will feature an extensive selection of handmade weavings created by Guatemalan artisans and offered for sale by Sonia and Curt Porter, longtime vendors of Guatemalan textiles. 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. MRAC/Wells Fargo Bank Gallery, 1201 N Pope St., mimbresarts.org.

**WNMU VOLLEYBALL VS. NEW MEXICO**—See Nov. 1. 12-5 p.m. Old Mesilla Plaza, 524-3262, mesillanm.gov/tourism.

**NMSU WOMEN'S SOCCER VS. BAKERSFIELD**—1 p.m. NMSU Soccer Fields.

**RENAISSANCE ARTSFaire**—See Nov. 2. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. las-cruces-arts.org.

Young Park, 1905 E. Nevada Ave.

**GUIDED HIKES**—Saturdays and

Sundays 2:30 p.m. Park entrance fee. Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park, 5000 Calle de Norte, 523-4398.

**BEFORE YOU GO:**

Note that events listings are subject to change and to human error! Please confirm all dates, times and locations.

**SUNDAY DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS**

**3 Las Cruces / Mesilla**

**DIA DE LOS MUERTOS**—See Nov. 1. 12-5 p.m. Old Mesilla Plaza, 524-3262, mesillanm.gov/tourism.

**NMSU WOMEN'S SOCCER VS. BAKERSFIELD**—1 p.m. NMSU Soccer Fields.

**RENAISSANCE ARTSFaire**—See Nov. 2. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. las-cruces-arts.org.

Young Park, 1905 E. Nevada Ave.

**GUIDED HIKES**—Saturdays and

Sundays 2:30 p.m. Park entrance fee. Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park, 5000 Calle de Norte, 523-4398.

**WEDNESDAY**

**6 Silver City/Grant County**

**ANTHONY KEARNS**—Ireland's finest tenor. 7:30 p.m. \$20, \$5 students to age

17. WNMU Fine Arts Center Theater, 538-5862, gcconcerts.org.

**THURSDAY**

**7 Las Cruces / Mesilla**

**NMSU VOLLEYBALL VS UMKC**—7 p.m. Pan Am Center.

**FRIDAY**

**8 Silver City/Grant County**

**GOLDEN DRAGON CHINESE ACROBATS FROM CHINA**—MRAC Performance Series. The Golden Dragon Acrobats represent the best of a time-honored tradition that began more than 25 centuries ago. World-renowned impresario Danny Chang and choreographer Angela Chang combine award-winning acrobatics, traditional dance, spectacular costumes, ancient and contemporary music and theatrical techniques to present a show of breathtaking skill and spellbinding beauty. 7 p.m. WNMU Fine Arts Center Theatre. mimbresart.com.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla****INTO THE MIND**—Adventure Art

Series. This is story of rising to the ultimate challenge, having the courage to risk fatal exposure and the perseverance demanded on the quest for achievement. 6:30 p.m. \$8. Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Downtown Mall, 523-6403, www.riograndetheatre.com.

**WAC WOMENS' SOCCER TOURNAMENT**

—Though Nov. 10. NMSU soccer fields

**SATURDAY**

**9 Silver City/Grant County**

**COMPLETE DINNER: FRANCE**—Cooking class limited to eight. Pre-registration required. 11 a.m. Shevok & Co., 602 N. Bullard St., 534-9168, contact@silver-eats.com.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla****NMSU AGGIES FOOTBALL VS.**

**BOSTON COLLEGE**—\$13-30. NMSU Aggies Memorial Stadium, 646-1420, 532-2060, nmstatesports.com.

**NMSU VOLLEYBALL VS. CHICAGO STATE**—7 p.m.

**VETERAN'S DAY PARADE**—City of Las Cruces. 9 a.m. Downtown Main Street.

**Deming**

**PSYCHIC FAIRE**—11 a.m.-4 p.m. 4815 Silver City Hwy. NW, jackasjunctionpublishing.com. \*

Send events info by the 20th of the month to:

events@

desertexpo-

sure.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.



HENRY LIGHTCAP's JOURNAL • HENRY LIGHTCAP

## The Expat Files

The truth is out there, right here in the Land of Enchantment.

**W**hen somebody can't see the greater picture due to their point of view being blocked by the objects right in front of them, we say that they "can't see the forest for the trees." As far as Lightcap's Book of Practical Idioms goes, this one is far more sensible than most. (For example, if I have my cake, I'm damned well going to eat it, too.) It was precisely this phrase that came to mind while I was unwinding with a tumbler of single malt and an online blog I like to read from an expatriated New Mexican I know who now lives in Dante's first circle of Hell—or, as it's more commonly known, California.

I consider myself a genuine Son of the Sage, a sun-blasted critter of the desert who revels in all the subtle enchantments these lands have to offer. I have been sunburned, frostbitten, sand blasted, saturated and mesmerized by New Mexico, and I wouldn't have it any other way. I grew up on a small farm raising pigs, chickens and cattle, with a garden that needed nonstop weeding. I am drawn to the shade of a cottonwood tree in summer like a moth to flame, and the warmth of a south-facing adobe wall in winter. Roasting green chile, driving around in decrepit pickup trucks, tipping longnecks in dimly lit saloons, and cooking food outdoors is all part and parcel of the New Mexico experience, and I've been doing it so long, it's become second nature.

My friend grew up in New Mexico, but her path has led her over the horizon. She frequently blogs about the challenge of employing a rural sensibility in an urban environment. She is bamboozled by a place where people walk fast and look down at the sidewalks, and where bell curves and video conferences are all the rage. As an alternative to what would surely be rampant alcoholism, she instead purges her angst on her blog, and pines mightily for the simplicities of the land right outside my window. I can't say I blame her one tiny bit.

Fond recollections of "carpe mañana" are a common theme among the New Mexican refugees I stay in touch with. Every month, I see a new form of melancholia on Facebook from these sad souls: fondness for the cloud-dappled mesas and granite mountain formations, the crackling perfume of a desert thunderstorm, the tawny glow of luminarias in a December night, the spicy comfort of a bowl of posole on a winter's afternoon. The wide-open spaces and unique cultures that formed this state, and the rich tradition of non-conformity and downright social subversion that seems to apply to every aspect of life here is, for better or worse, unmatched anywhere else.

**S**o it's important to reflect on the things that are easy for us here to take for granted. Sometimes, I am surprised to find myself sitting on my back porch, watching the clouds being gilded by the flaring sun as it sets and the birds circling overhead, cartwheeling after errant insects. The smells of dust and fields and inexplicable wood smoke eddy about, and somewhere off in the distance, faint strains of mariachi brass might waver around, lending a timeless soundtrack to a thousand starry desert nights and hidden Mexican diners. I'm certain my friends in Chicago and San Francisco don't get to roll the windows down and smell irrigated alfalfa fields on their way home from work like I do, or can say they might have a beer with their neighbor this weekend, sitting on a tailgate and talking about all the stuff we haven't done yet.

To honor my expatriated friends, the ones who are no longer in our area code and yet still exhibit the complexion of those kissed by the desert sun, with sand in their craw that undoubtedly came from a dry arroyo, I promise to appreciate all that you left behind. I promise to keep my pace slow and deliberate, and to use my turn signal only in case of dire

emergency. I promise to eat chile as long as I have teeth and an esophagus lined in cast iron. I swear to keep a cowboy hat handy for shade, never for fashion. I will eschew the outdoors only during the dust storms of spring, and I will observe Dia de los Muertos to remember those who have gone before. I will fill lunch sacks with dirt and candles each Christmas Eve. I will shake hands with everybody who offers theirs, and I will help out where I can.

But most of all, I intend to live and die right here, in the godforsaken wastelands of New Mexico. It's the least I can do for my friends. ☽

*Henry Lightcap is staying right where he is, in Las Cruces.*



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# Breaking Good

Remember when heroes didn't cook meth?

**A**pparently I'm the last person in America who has never watched an episode of "Breaking Bad," the Albuquerque-filmed television series about a chemistry teacher turned meth dealer whose final episode aired on Sept. 29 to the sort of hoopla formerly reserved for royal babies and Kardashian couplings. I'm staring at the cover of the Sept. 13

issue of *Entertainment Weekly*, which features series stars Aaron Paul and Bryan Cranston, photographed right here in the Land of Enchantment. The actors are covered in blood and, I guess, meth. What am I missing here?

Judging by the rhapsodic coverage of the *Albuquerque Journal* and the various "Breaking Bad" tours bringing rapturous fans to Albuquerque, I guess quite a lot. Reading the onslaught of stories in the *Journal*, you'd think the Second Coming was being staged somewhere off Menaul Boulevard. If aliens had landed at Balloon Fiesta Park and announced their intention to turn the UNM campus into their HQ for an invasion of Earth, that news would be on page 8B if the *Journal* had anything to report about "Breaking Bad" instead.

I know, I know, it's an excellent program. My daughter says we should watch it. People compare it to "The Sopranos" and "Boardwalk Empire." It's won Emmy Awards. It was filmed right here in New Mexico, for gosh sakes!

**P**art of my reluctance to jump on the "Breaking Bad" bandwagon, I confess, is that this final season is, I think, the show's fifth. (Not watching it, I'm not really devoting a lot of brain cells to keeping count.) While "binging" on TV shows, catching up on whole seasons in a couple of popcorn-fueled nights, is all the rage, that's yet another entertainment trend I'm not "down with" (as I gather pop-culture cognoscenti say these days, don't they?). We've "binge-viewed" a few series, but our binging typically peters out after a few episodes, even of shows we're quite fond of.

It's probably because I'm a child of the original

TV generation, when we had only three networks (and in our small town it was more like two and a half, as the CBS station also showed ABC fare for awhile). Series ran 39 weeks a season, followed by summer reruns. If you weren't home at the right time to catch "Dragnet" or (heaven forbid) "Batman," you missed it—and maybe, just maybe it would later be viewable in reruns. (You'd have to religiously consult *TV Guide*—a magazine printed on actual paper, Gutenberg-style, since these were the Dark Ages—to know.) The new fall shows premiered all pretty much within the same week, not spread out through the autumn like cream cheese on a bagel. (We didn't have bagels, either. This was the frontier, remember.)

As technology and new channels have changed television, I've happily embraced it all. We were early adopters of VCRs and TiVo, ESPN and the SciFi Channel (now, annoyingly, "Syfy"). We argued with my sister-in-law about VHS versus Betamax. (Can I just say a very belated, "Ha-ha!" as to who was right one THAT one?) We signed up for Netflix so long ago that we still got FOUR DVDs at a time, grandfathered in, while the rest of you had to settle for three. We got DirecTV so we could get the local (that is, Albuquerque) channels in HD on our early-adopter plasma TV, which cost about eight times as much as they do now.

But catching up on a series we failed to get in on at the start, like "Breaking Bad," still goes against the grain. Watch a dozen or more episodes in a single stretch? That's not how we were brought up to experience television. It's sacrilegious enough to watch "taped" (as I still think of shows on our DVR) programs on the "wrong" night, though we do it. Variety, though, was the essence of television as we grew up: First you laughed at "The Munsters," then thrilled to "Mission: Impossible," and then watched "The Carol Burnett Show." Nobody would "binge" on 39 episodes of "The Munsters" all in a row, even if such a mind-numbing feat had been possible.

Then there's the sheer time commitment, even now that some series' "seasons" are a mere 13 episodes or so. (That used to be the run of a FAILED show that got cancelled, back in the day when we joked about how the way to end the Vietnam War in just 13 weeks was to put it in bottom-rated ABC.) Who has the time to binge on four seasons of any show? When do these people sleep? And now football is on!

**M**y other hesitation about "Breaking Bad" also probably stems from childhood, when I grew up rooting for real heroes like the men from U.N.C.L.E., Sheriff Matt Dillon, Captain James T. Kirk and, of course, Batman and Robin. I have a hard time enjoying the "anti-heroes" that are

so in vogue these days.

Truth be told, we watched "The Sopranos" but were not big fans. We started viewing "Boardwalk Empire," about Prohibition-era bootleggers, but our interest flagged. So a show about meth dealers? Not so much.

I don't mind complicated heroes, people with what psychologists might call "issues." Heck, my favorite heroes as a kid were the Marvel guys-in-tights like Spider-Man, who suffered as much from personal angst as they did from the attacks of supervillains. Peter Parker might hang up his Spider-Man costume every few months and vow to live a normal life like any other, non-radioactive-spider-bitten teenager, but you knew that when the chips were down and Aunt May's life was on the line, he'd don the duds and save the day. "With great power comes great responsibility," after all.

Tony Soprano? He couldn't even be counted on not to have Aunt May rubbed out.

Even the "anti-heroes" of my youth, like the Hulk, were mostly just misunderstood. He might be a ragging monster on his bad days, but never forget that Bruce Banner became the Hulk in the first place (also in New Mexico!) by saving a teen who'd wandered onto a gamma-bomb testing ground.

Would Nucky Thompson (Steve Buscemi) from "Boardwalk Empire" have done that? Not unless there was a buck in it for him.

**N**ot having experienced "Breaking Bad" except through the incessant articles in the *Albuquerque Journal* ("Bryan Cranston Sneezes! Will Allergies Interrupt Shooting?") and *Entertainment Weekly*, I can't say how ex-chemistry teacher Walter White would handle such situations. Is there a hero inside the anti-hero? (He did apparently start cooking meth to provide for his family when he thought he was dying of cancer.)

If Bryan Cranston really does get cast as Lex Luthor in the Superman/Batman movie, as has been rumored, I'll catch up with him then—and root against him, of course. In the meantime, I'll just keep thinking of him as the goofy dad in "Malcolm in the Middle," who never got splattered with blood and meth.

And the *Journal* will have to find some other pop-culture topic to obsess about. Let's hope it's news that the *Avengers* sequel will be partly filmed here again—all heroes, no "anti-." ☀

*When the new "Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D." isn't on, David A. Fryxell edits Desert Exposure.*

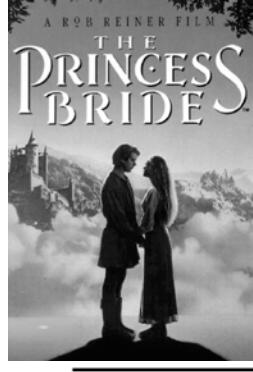


Above: The Albuquerque-filmed show goes out on the cover of *Entertainment Weekly*. Above right: Actual headlines from just one week of the *Albuquerque Journal*.

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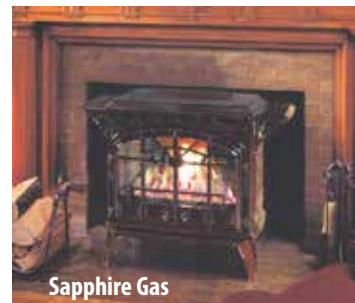
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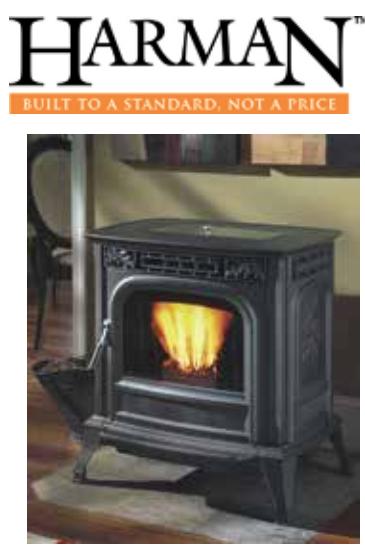
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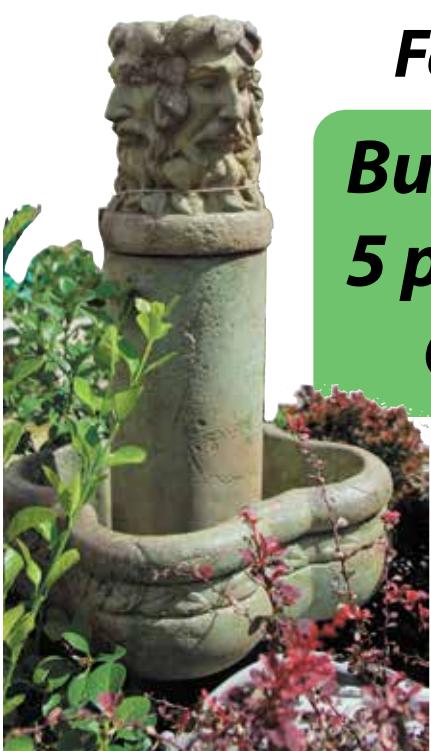
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## Silver City Properties

Patrick Conlin, Broker/Owner

**MLS 30504 • \$250,000**

Home with a view - storage for "toys - 8+ acres - all this only minutes from downtown. Stucco exterior and a metal roof make it a low maintenance. The living room has a huge picture window overlooking Silver City. Spacious kitchen has a breakfast bar. Master bedroom has 2 baths and a closet with cedar insert. Back yard has raised beds for some great gardening and a few fruit trees. Extra large garage has 3 single bays and 1 double bay with access below the floor to one of the bays, plus a closed in RV storage. Garage is plumbed for a bathroom. Additional two storage buildings on the property.

**MLS 30395 • \$300,000**

National forest boundary with direct access! This 3bd/3ba home on 10.3 acres boasts a dramatic living area with vaulted ceilings, fireplace, open floor plan. Large master suite with deluxe bath and attached office or hobby room. 2nd story deck & covered patio, fenced dog area. Extra large workshop, fully insulated with heat, 1/2 bathroom and office. RV pad with full hook ups. This is a great horse property with separate fenced area for the animals & a loafing shed.

**MLS 30474 • \$349,000**

Custom home on 1/2 acre minutes to downtown & all city utilities! Passive solar design with views, energy efficient, sun room. Metal roof, color concrete floors, custom finishes. Andersen windows, Syzygy tile work, concrete & paperstone counters, raised garden beds. Home is plumbed for a future active solar system. Adjacent 1/2 acre lot to the south is also available.

**MLS 30510 • \$42,500**

Gorgeous rural-like land only a few minutes from town. Property has excellent building sites, taking advantage of the spectacular views. Very treed and very private feel.

**MLS 30456 • \$205,000**

Classic mid-century style contemporary home located in the downtown/university neighborhood. Beamed ceilings, updated kitchen and furnace, newer roof, pellet stove, built-ins. Front office addition features clerestory windows & has its own 3/4 bath. Attached carport with storage, low maintenance yard. Private backyard with patio and seasonal stream. Double lot continues all the way to Kelly St. And includes vehicle access from the back. Prime location!

**MLS 30499 • \$104,900**

Centrally located 3bd/2ba on oversized 0.41 acre lot in town with all city utilities. Attractive curb appeal with covered entry, brick exterior & curved driveway to attached 2 car garage. Competitively priced!

**MLS 30447 • \$39,000**

1bd/1ba plus bonus room on 0.25 acre corner lot in Hurley. Front covered porch, fenced yard, rear alley access. Garage is insulated and has electric. Home is rented for \$485/month until 12/04/2013.

**MLS 30458 • \$225,000**

7 year old like new 3bd/2ba home in Silver Acres on 3/4 acre. Oversized garage, excellent view off your private covered back patio. Vaulted ceilings, open floor plan, gas fireplace, refrig. Air, all kitchen appliances convey.

**MLS 30498 • \$79,900**

Well-maintained 3bd/2ba manufactured home on 0.83 acre. Excellent views, end of the road, private. Close to town, large rooms with vaulted ceilings, oversized kitchen, split floor plan.

## Here's what people are saying about River Ranch Market...



Hazel Schultz says,  
 "Mom puts River Ranch Market  
 sausage on my pizza. I love it!"

Todd Sinti loads up  
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 breakfast sausage  
 from Dana Carlsen.

"I can't be without  
 this sausage! This is  
 the best breakfast in  
 Silver City. I add  
 onions and tomato  
 sauce and eat it right  
 out of the skillet!"



Rachel Bighley and owner Ceci McNicoll:  
 "I was floored by the quality and  
 research of the products offered at  
 River Ranch Market. It is like walking  
 into my own kitchen!"



Teresa Dahl-Bredin of  
 Little Toad Creek Inn and  
 Tavern with Ceci, says:  
 "We featured River  
 Ranch Market ground  
 beef during FarmFest.  
 Our diners loved it and  
 asked us to keep it on our  
 menu. We now have a  
 variety of their products  
 on our menu."



300 S. Bullard • 575-597-6328  
 Historic Downtown Silver City, NM  
 HOURS: Wed-Sat 8-6



CERTIFIED  
 American  
 Grassfed  
 Association

River Ranch Market is a member of SlowFoodUSA.org  
 Slow food is an idea, a way of living and a way of eating.