

DESERT exposure

Arts & Leisure in Southern New Mexico



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October 2019
Volume 24 • Number 10





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NEW EXTERIOR PAINT and a wonderful location with large back yard + open space behind. Quiet cul-de-sac location, carport, storage, 3 BR, 1 BA – Lots of potential here for only \$120,000! MLS# 36292



BRICK BUNGALOW with generous fenced lot in Santa Clara. Nice front porch, big trees, back patio, storage/workshop. One bedroom, one bath + 2-room living area. Separate laundry room, Appliances included, and priced to sell at only \$69,500. MLS# 36502



CORNER HIGHWAY LOCATION on newly re-constructed Pinos Altos Rd. This 2.4 acre building site has lots of potential, including access to city utilities. Level building sites, easy access, good visibility, and priced to sell at only \$50,000. MLS# 36079



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Stop your land search and take a close look at this opportunity to own approximately 4.3 acres in Pinos Altos. This property is just across from Bear Creek Cabins and has a semi annual creek flowing through the property. MLS# 36350 **\$59,130**



Gila National Forest border of approximately 24 acres with Highway 35 frontage and Sapillo Creek flowing through the middle. Very well preserved property with electric lines going through property. Call today, these forest boundary properties don't last long. MLS# 36349. **\$99,000**



Sweet spot with wonderful mature shade trees and back porch with great views. Back yard is nice and private. Well taken care of home with an add-on Sun Room that creates extra living space. Double car garage with additional carport. Take a look! MLS# 36249 **\$110,000**



Bring the animals! 3Bd/1.75Ba site-built home on 3/4 acre near town. Large detached outbuilding could serve as a workshop/storage/barn/garage. Lot is partially fenced. Home has been upgraded with new laminate flooring in the living area, & new carpet in the family room. All appliances convey. Pellet stove, refrigerated air, and remodeled main bath are some of the upgrades. Come take a look! MLS# 36651 **\$150,000**



HEART OF THE HISTORIC DISTRICT! Residential duplex with two 1Bd/1Ba apartments which could be converted to commercial/office use. Hardwood floors, front covered porches, & bonus room in the rear. South unit has been re-painted, & has new gas heater, new refrig. & stove. MLS# 36512 **\$159,000**



Lots of potential in this log home on 19+ acres. Beautiful view, needs finishes. MLS# 36631. **\$195,000**



Spacious two story home with upgraded electrical, large combination family/living and dining room, and sun room or hobby room with lots of light. Two bedrooms and one full bath upstairs, and a lower level bedroom with 3/4bathroom downstairs. Built-ins throughout this home provide lots of extra storage, and there is a utility/storage/bonus room in the basement area as well. Easy to maintain backyard with privacy fencing. MLS #36681. **\$209,000**



Live in luxury in the Gila National Forest! Minutes from Lake Roberts with incredible views of the Gila Wilderness from the living room's wall of windows or from the full length deck. Loads of custom woodwork: vaulted aspen ceiling, custom birch and pecan cabinets, ash floor, built-in pecan bookcases, knotty pine ceiling in master. The perimeter of the yard is fenced w/ 3 access gates. So many amenities! MLS# 35831 **\$235,000**



3BD/2BA LIKE NEW HOME ON 10+ ACRES BORDERING NATIONAL FOREST. Newer roof, stucco, leach field & well. Exceptional location minutes from town but feels miles away. Storage buildings, water storage, fenced backyard, covered porches & uncovered patio. 2 car attached garage. Trees thinned & defensible space has been created 100' from the home. Great horse property & unrestricted land. Plenty of room to build additional structures. MLS# 36301. **\$329,500**



Architecturally designed fabulous Wind Canyon home has some of the most stunning views around. Features 3bedrooms, 2 baths, stained concrete floors, custom cabinets, extensive deck with 3 exits outside fireplace, metal roof, fireplace and pellet stove, and bright open floor plan. Will have brand new well and septic prior to closing. Lots of artistic touches. MLS# 36676 **\$340,000**



Very charming 2 bedroom, two bath country cabin on 15+ acres, solid construction and open concept floor plan. Passive solar with strategic windows placement to take full advantage of the Southwest New Mexico sunshine. Wood stove and in floor radiant heat make this a cozy home throughout the winter. The attached Trex deck is perched above Tularosa River and allows for some spectacular canyon views. Master suite has an attached sun room to allowing for some massive solar gain. This cabin home really lets you escape. Look for the video link. Not many opportunities like this, call today! MLS# 36697 **\$325,000**

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ABOUT THE COVER:

This month's cover reflects the work of artist H. Joe Waldrum which will be on a retrospective display at RioBravoFineArt Gallery in Truth or Consequences through Jan. 26, 2020. A reception and opening will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12 at the gallery, 110 N. Broadway Ave.

The works on the cover are, left, from the top, "El contrafuerte grande de la iglesia de Ranchos de Taos," "Las sombras al lado norte de la iglesia de San Francisco de Asís de Ranchos de Taos," "Bell tower at Corrales," and on the right, from the top, "La campana arriba de la morada de los cuatro de Abiquiú," "La sombra de la ventana hacia el oeste de la capilla de San Antonio de Chacón" and "La sombra elegante."

"H. Joe Waldrum epitomizes the high aesthetic and moral conviction of the artist/printer and elevates his oeuvre of graphic art to some of the finest images produced in the medium," said Las Cruces artist Roy van der Aa in a review of Waldrum's work.



BEEZWAX



BEEZWAX



RAISINGDAD • JIM AND HENRY DUCHENE

Six. Word. Horror. Stories.

So much to say in such little space

As I was writing this month's column, my father shuffled up behind me and peeked over my shoulder.

"What are you writing?" he wanted to know.

"Just a story, pop," I told him.

Every month I sit down to write this column, and every month he asks me what I'm writing. I don't know if he's forgetful or just doesn't pay attention to my answer. Probably a combination of both.

When my readers ask if he gets angry concerning these stories, I tell them no. For him to get angry, he'd first have to READ these biographical musings. If there's a choice between reading Raising-Dad or watching the very expensive premium baseball channel my wife and I pay for, well, let's just say I wouldn't make it to the literary World Series.

"Woo-wee!" he said, looking at my computer screen. "That sure is a lot of words."

"You think so?"

"Oh, yeah. A lot of words."

He stood behind me pretending to read.

"You know," he said, "Hemming-

way could write a story with just six words. That's all he needed."

I knew what my father was referring to. He was referring to a ten-dollar bet Ernest Hemmingway made with some other writers during lunch. The writers thought Hemmingway wouldn't be able to write a story in just six words. Hemmingway thought otherwise. Everybody anted up and the money was put in the middle of the table. After a bit, Hemmingway wrote six words on a napkin. After reading the six words, no one objected when he pocketed the cash.

The six words were: "For sale. Baby shoes. Never worn."

I've never read a sadder story, and, if I think about it for too long, my eyes will begin to tear up. There's a sorrowful place in my heart his story takes me to. A place I don't care to visit.

"I'm no Hemmingway, pop," I told my father.

He enthusiastically rubbed his nose in agreement.

Like I said, I'm no Hemmingway, but I thought it would be fun to try.

"For sale," I typed. "Baby shoes." And then finished with: "Don't ask."

Hmm... that was morbidly ambiguous.

But still, the ambiguity of the ending was appealing.

So I tried a second time... and immediately learned something about myself. I learned that I must have abandonment issues simmering somewhere deep inside of me, because the next six words I wrote were: "But mommy SAID she'd be back!"

You know the saying, "You don't want to go there?"

Well, I didn't want to go there.

Remembering that Stephen King's "It" sequel is coming out, I wrote: "Hi, I'm Pennywise. What's for dinner?" Thinking it over, I gave it a holiday touch. "Yes, Virginia, there IS a Pennywise."

After that, I began to have fun with it.

"Grinning, the clown locked the door."

"Halloween... it's so hard to choose."

"Grandpa was tough... and tasted awful."

Ugh, that one probably crossed a line or two. Cannibalism is nobody's idea of a good time. So I

wrote two more.

"This meat tastes funny. Where's grandma?"

"I have my father's eyes. Yummy."

Okay, enough of that.

I decided to go down a more traditional vein of horror.

"I heard you died."

"I did."

Or maybe something that would fit very well in The Twilight Zone.

"I'm dead? Sweet Jesus!"

"Guess again."

When I was younger, my love life occasionally took a turn into nightmare alley, so I speculated what it would be like to be dating in this day and age. I wrote: "Never said I was a woman."

Yeah... hmm.

"Did I mention? I have AIDS."

That's even worse.

Keep this to yourself, but my first marriage was a bit of a horror story. With trembling fingers, I tentatively typed: "Sex. Sex. Sex. Married. No sex."

And getting old is no fun. It comes with its own particular brand of horrors.

"Is that a lump I feel?"

When my beloved mother was alive, my elderly father used to have nightmares about someone breaking into his home. His main fear was that he wouldn't be able to protect her. That inspired me to write: "Who left the back door open?"

Gross is nice.

"Why do these dates have legs?"

The horror, as it turns out, is not in the words, but in where the words take you. There's nothing scarier than your own imagination.

Nothing, that is, except the horrors of the real world. That's what scares ME the most. Having children and grandchildren who are dearer to me than myself, I live in fear every day of my life. A six-word horror story I hope they never hear is:

"Look out! He's got a gun!"

Do zombies eat popcorn with their fingers?

No, they eat their fingers separately.

And then they have a good laugh over at RaisingMyFather.BlogSpot.com, JimDuchene.BlogSpot.com, & @JimDuchene

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EVERYDAY OBSERVATIONS
ABE VILLARREAL

Sitting up Straight
And other things Nana taught me

I remember once my Nana told me to sit up straight. Actually, she said it tons of times. I could hear her voice now – “enderezate.” She always sat up straight. It meant something to her.

There’s something interesting about growing up poor. You don’t have much, so you focus on what you do have. When you’re poor, it isn’t the material things that matter. Instead, you focus on the things you can afford. The free things like sitting up straight.

Nana Rafaela was born in the town of Cumpas, Sonora, Mexico. Like most places where poor people are born, it was an agricultural community in 1925. She was one of five kids, and her parents were born at the turn of the century.

I’m not sure how she ended up in the border town of Douglas, Arizona, but I’m glad she made it there. It’s where I was born and spent many summers at her home while both my parents worked.

Nana and Tata picked us after school and always had the chores ready. They made us clean the furniture, or the muebles as she called them. Nana’s sight wasn’t so good, and sometimes the muebles looked just as shiny as the day before, but we did it anyway.

I loved many things about Nana, and on the top of the list is how often she said “enderezate.” It meant something to her. When you are too poor to buy fancy gifts, you pass along essential virtues – like sitting up straight.

About a year before her death at the age of 89, I visited Nana Rafaela at an old folks’ home. She was sitting in a wheelchair,

holding a doll, and just as I approached her, she began to cry.

I hadn’t seen her in months, and after a couple of strokes, she was deteriorating, not able to feed herself or recognize anyone around her. I was in shock, and I began to cry. I cried more than I had ever cried before.

Later on, I realized why it hit me so hard. She couldn’t do for herself what she had been asking us to do all her life. She couldn’t sit up straight. The nearly 90-year-old woman, once an active, talkative, and passionate woman, was a person I didn’t recognize.

Life can be so unfair. Looking back at my summers and after-school visits, I think of Nana Rafaela is the matriarch of our family. She prayed for us constantly and gave us advice. She made caldo de queso and always had cookies somewhere stashed away just for the right moment.

She introduced us to many of our tias (aunts), who I’m not sure were really our tias, but to her everyone seemed like family. She took us to visit others, had us help her on her Wal-Mart runs, and always made us sit up straight.

I wouldn’t trade another enderezate moment for anything, and every time I catch myself slouching, I think of her.

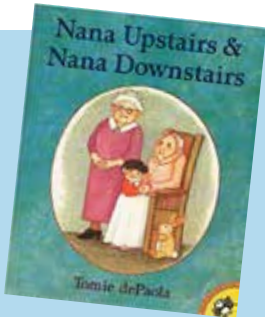
What a wonderful gift she left me.

Abe Villarreal writes about life and culture in southern New Mexico. He can be reached at abevillarreal@hotmail.com.



By the Book

In “Nana Upstairs & Nana Downstairs” Tommy is four years old, and he loves visiting the home of his grandmother, Nana Downstairs, and his great-grandmother, Nana Upstairs. But one day Tommy’s mother tells him Nana Upstairs won’t be there anymore, and Tommy must struggle with saying good-bye to someone he loves.



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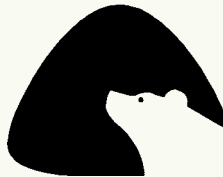
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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK • ELVA K. ÖSTERREICH

Hacking the Scammers

Send me money on a card or I will put you in jail

Randy Zavala of Las Cruces got a phone call from a number he didn't recognize one day. The voice he heard when he picked up the phone told him it was the Social Security office and they were contacting him because he was being investigated and there was a warrant out for him.

Zavala said he heard keyboards clacking in the background and voices. He asked a couple of questions of the caller and then told them, "I think you are a fraud."

Since Zavala had recently applied for Social Security, he initially thought the call might be legitimate. But he thought about it more and called the Social Security department to see what they had to say. He was told that the Department of Justice never operates that way. If there is an investigation, people get letters, not phone calls.

This kind of scam is not uncommon, with the onset of technology, scammers can use threats and bluffs to convince

the savviest citizen to question their own competencies. Even as organizations and individuals reach out to educate and uncover con artists, they come up with new formats and scripts.

YouTuber Kitboga, aka Granny Edna, makes it his business to uncover phone scammers and waste their time.

Man on phone: "Mam, you have to make a partial payment today, so I can cancel your warrant and then make a payment arrangement for the rest ... you have to make this payment by purchasing a financial card ... how much do you currently have in your bank account?"

Granny Edna: "Hun, I hardly have anything, most of it went to medical expenses and my daughter got into a terrible accident."

Man on phone: "I think you are not taking this matter into a serious case."

Granny Edna: "Let me pay you, I'm sure I could come up with at least \$100 today."

Man on phone: "\$100 dollars does not work mam, I am exe-

cuting your warrant, I'm sorry."

After two hours and 15 minutes on the phone with this IRS scammer:

"There were a couple of points during that call when I got really, really angry," Kitboga tells his audience. "I just wanted to break character and I just wanted to yell. There was a point, an hour and a half ago where I was fake crying. But of course, the guy doesn't know, and he is yelling at me not to cry. He is just screaming at me and saying do I want to go to jail, telling me my life is going to be over if don't get this card."

"How do you do that? I am almost tearing up because I am thinking about my grandparents and your grandparents and it's cruel and it's sick. We just spent two hours with that guy and that was two hours he wasn't talking to someone else ... I think that is still a win. The IRS does not call you and threaten you with jail time and tell you that you only have 24 hours to make a purchase."

According to the New Mexico Attorney General's website,

tax and Social Security scams are common.

"They even rig the caller ID to make your call look official," the site says. "They play on your fears, threatening to take your drivers license, or sue, or arrest of deport you and they want you to pay fast."

According to [ftc.gov/imposters](https://www.ftc.gov/imposters), the IRS's first contact will always be a letter in the mail not a phone call, email or text. They won't insist you pay with a prepaid debit card, wire transfer or cashier's check.

Area businesses that offer prepaid gift cards are aware of the problem as scammers often will send the subject to buy a prepaid card in order to give them money on line.

A local Walgreens manager said he has seen people come in for those cards although the instances are becoming less common.

"We have intercepted some that come in and want large amounts or multiples, because cards have limits," he said. "We are trained to be aware of that, also we do Western Union. We

ask questions like 'is this money for somebody you know?'"

The manager said if the customer is dead set on sending the money, but if they suspect there is fraudulent activity in the store, it will be turned over to the store's security officer.

Visit consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0076-phone-scams for more information about phone scammers and how they operate.

Elva K. Österreich is editor of Desert Exposure and would love to meet Desert



Exposure readers during her office hours in Silver City on Thursday, Oct. 24 at the Tranquilbuzz Café, located at the corner of Yankie and Texas streets. If that is not a good time, Elva will be glad to arrange another day to meet and you can always reach her at editor@desertexposure.com or by cell phone at 575-443-4408.

THE VIEW FROM HERE • WALT RUBEL

Sobfest

Why couldn't Patsy Cline ever be happy?

With Gretchen Wilson headlining the Country Music Festival this year on Oct. 12, it is obvious how much the image of women in country music has changed since I was a kid.

In her tragically brief career, Patsy Cline recorded three studio albums, one compilation album, six EPs, 24 singles and seven B sides. There were 59 songs in all, and none will ever be confused with "Walking on Sunshine" by Katrina and the Waves.

There were two songs that I'd consider upbeat in both lyrics and melody - "I Love You Honey" and "Got a Lot of Rhythm in My Soul." Both were released as singles, and neither made it to

an album.

There were also two songs about faith, "Dear God" and "That Wonderful Someone," and four about life: "True Love;" "Poor Man's Roses;" "If I Could See the World Through the Eyes of a Child;" and "Come On In, Sit Right Down and Make Yourself at Home."

The rest of her body of work is an absolute sobfest.

There are 32 songs about lost love: "In Care of the Blues;" "Don't Ever Leave Me Again;" "I Can't Forget You;" "Three Cigarettes in an Ashtray;" "Walkin' After Midnight;" "Fingerprints;" "I Fall to Pieces;" "The Wayward Wind;" "South of the Border;" "Seven Lonely Days;" "San Antonio Rose;" "Have You Ever Been

Lonely;" "She's Got You;" "Heartaches;" "That's Me Desire;" "Anytime;" "Half As Much;" "I Can't Help It If I'm Still in Love With You;" "Lonely Street;" "Stop the World and Let Me Off;" "Honky Tonk Merry Go Round;" "A Church, a Courtroom and Then Goodbye;" "Lovin' In Vain;" "Lovesick Blues;" "There He Goes;" "Who Can I Count On?" "You're Stronger Than Me;" "I've Loved and Lost Again;" "Yes, I Understand;" "Crazy Dreams;" "Leavin' On Your Mind;" and "Cry Not For Me."

Ten songs about unrequited love: "Hungry for Love;" "Then You'll Know;" "Crazy;" "Strange;" "You Were Only Fooling While I Was Falling in Love;" "Just Out of Reach;" "I Can See

an Angel;" "So Wrong;" "When I get Through With You;" "Imagine That;" and "Why Can't He Be You?"

Five songs about unfaithful love: "Too Many Secrets;" "Foolin' Round;" "Your Cheatin' Heart;" "Turn the Cards Slowly;" and "Hidin' Out."

Five songs about helpless love: "I Don't Wanna;" "I Love You So Much It Hurts;" "You Made Me Love You;" "You Belong to Me;" and "Today Tomorrow and Forever."

And one song about lost money, "Ain't No Wheels on This Ship."

I Asked my friend Kelly, who requests Patsy Cline about every other time you ask what he wants to hear, why she could never be happy. Those were tough times, he replied.

But in reality, by the 1950s and '60s we were coming out of tough times. A new music, rock 'n roll, celebrated what was new and happy. Country music seemed to cling to what was old and sad. When one of the foundational songs of the genre is "Man of Constant Sorrow," you're bound to have some weepy songs come after.

But it does seem like there was a difference based on gender. Men were allowed to swing

back and forth between heartbreak and drunken debauchery, Hank Williams wrote "I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry," but countered that with "Settin' the Woods on Fire."

Patsy Cline was stuck with only heartbreak.

I suspect that most country music fans back then were men, and kind of liked the idea of a woman weeping and waiting for her man to come back.

Well, that's all changed.

Gretchen Wilson introduced herself to the world with her 2004 CD and song "Here For the Party." The opening line is: "Well I'm an eight-ball shooting, double-fisted drinking, son of a gun."

Pleased to meet you.

There's no question that the message of Gretchen Wilson is a lot more appealing, and I'm looking forward to seeing her in concert. But, weepy or not, nothing compares to "Walking After Midnight."

Desert #40

Dumbfounder

by Dave Thomas

The following is a simple substitution cipher; one letter stands for another. Solution is by trial and error. Solution will appear in next month's *Desert Exposure*. Send full solution, or just the Secret Words, to nmsrdave@swcp.com, and be recognized!

TIPS: www.nmsr.org/secretword.htm and www.nmsr.org/cypher-how2.jpg

⊖ = Δ 'Δ = λ :⊕η⊔⊔

"MPJR XPJJFZ SDQCPON DH GIRMDTD ZIGOT ZWF JFDZPGMT, ZPC TWDFET, XPJJFZ XPGGFT, WDCFT POM MGFPQT DH NDIOV MPOSGT ZD P OFE VFOFGPZRDO." - NYDOOF JPOFJJR

Use the answer key below to track your clues, and reveal Secret Words!

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Previous Solution: "IT'S A GREAT PASTIME BECAUSE WE ALL LOVE ROCKS. WE LIKE TO GET THE KIDS INVOLVED." - JEANNINE WEINER OF THE GRANT COUNTY ROLLING STONES GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY

*Secret Words: "CRYSTAL GEOID FUN"

Congrats to #39 solvers : George Egert*, Will Adams*, Skip Howard*, Mike Arms* and Shorty Vaiza*!

Walt Rubel has been a journalist since 1982, working in Las Cruces since 2002. He can be reached at waltrubel@gmail.com.



JOURNEY TO THE PAST • DOUG DINWIDDIE

'Diamonds in the Rough'

Baseball symposium coming to Fort Bayard

A century ago, the sports world was shaken by scandal, the “fixing” of the World Series by members of the Chicago White Sox, who allegedly conspired with professional gamblers to lose to a much inferior Cincinnati Reds team in the Fall Classic.

Since then, books, movies and countless articles have examined the events leading up to and following the scandal. The effects on all professional sports are still felt today, with efforts to regulate wagering on the events still a major concern.

A much lesser known aspect of the so-called “Black Sox Scandal,” is what happened to the eight players banned from professional baseball as a result of it. It turns out that several of them came right here to the Southwest, and played for teams in the Copper League, which earned that organization a nickname: The Outlaw League. Some of them wore the uniform of the Fort Bayard Veterans.

The Fort Bayard Historic Preservation Society is hosting a three-day celebration of the

legacy of the sport of baseball to the Southwest. The story of the banned players and their participation in the Copper League is just one topic that will be explored by a panel of scholars, coaches and players.

The Symposium will “play ball” starting at 5:30 p.m. on Friday evening, Oct. 18, with an opening reception at the New Deal Theater, on the grounds of Fort Bayard National Historic Landmark, six miles east of Silver City. Activities will include a meet-and-greet with participants, and a chance to view photos and artifacts from local collections.

At 9 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 19, panel presentations will begin in the theater. Following a break, the presentations will continue from 12:30 until 2:30 p.m. Then, at 3 p.m. two teams will square off on the diamond at nearby Bataan Park. The game will be played according to 19th century rules and features a visiting squad of players from the Arizona Vintage Baseball League, taking on the Grant County Senior Olympics baseball team,

coached by well-known Senior Olympian Mario Quintana. On Saturday evening, the day’s activities will conclude with the screening of the critically acclaimed HBO movie “When it Was a Game,” at the New Deal Theater.

Events resume 9:30-10:30

a.m. on Sunday, Oct. 20, with a potluck brunch served at the theater. The baseball teams will then meet for an 11 a.m. rematch at Bataan Park. Following the final out, a closing ceremony will be held at the baseball field.

The Symposium is sponsored by the Fort Bayard Historic

Preservation Society, the Village of Santa Clara, the New Mexico Humanities Council and the Grant County Lodgers Tax. A full schedule of events can be seen at www.fortbayard.org. For more information, contact Doug Dinwiddie at 575-388-4862, or email beckydcpa@gmail.com.



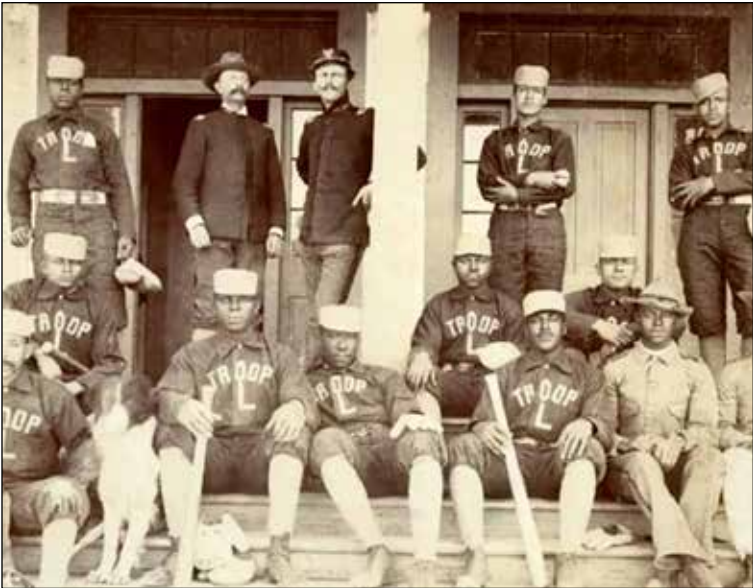


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The 10th Cavalry Buffalo Soldiers Team at Fort Bayard in the 1890s. (Courtesy Photos)



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TUMBLEWEEDS • KAREN RAY

Goatscaping? Are You Kidding Me? Naah!

Goatscaping, or the art of using goats to maintain property, has been around since Adam was knee high to a June bug. Goats are tough, notorious for eating pretty much anything and are relatively easy to manage.

Today goats are even showing up as humorous yoga class companions. Throughout the world they are put to work maintaining rural areas and are increasingly found in urban settings, munching away in hard to access locations.

Here in the Southwest goats have historically been used to clean and maintain canals and drains. Local farmers still relate stories of goat herds assisting with the annual acequia cleaning. Elephant Butte Irrigation District is testing this newly revitalized method of using old technology on the hoof to deal with the constant growth of unwanted trees and weeds in their water delivery and drain system.

This summer the district contracted with Jake Perrault and his Green Machine Goatscaping herd, for a few dozen four legged temporary employees. They began work in late July on the Park Drain pilot project near the western edge of New Mexico State University in Las Cruces. The drain is surrounded by community roads and businesses.

“Maintaining our drains is an ongoing issue,” said EBID’s District Engineer Zack Libbin. “It’s very challenging to keep all 600 miles of canals, laterals and drains maintained especially in this area right here near NMSU. We’re trying a different option that we hope will last longer.”

The busy location sets this drain up as a perfect candidate for alternative maintenance.

“We’re trying to find more environmentally friendly, green ways to keep these drains and canals maintained,” Libbin said. “Maybe going back to the old method will be a good solution.”

He hopes that utilizing goats will reduce equipment and employee costs while improving areas like this. Using the drain as a temporary goat bed and breakfast will help encourage grass to grow. He said their hooves working the ground can also help improve soil health and reduce erosion, creating a sustainable management environment.

“They are 24/7 eating machines,” Perrault said.

He began the Park Drain project with about 70 goats and installed appropriate fence to keep the animals contained and safe. Daily monitoring ensures they have fresh water and helps to determine when it’s time to remove a few animals or begin supplementing their feed as the vegetation is consumed.

Goatscaping advocates say the benefits of using goats as a landscaping maintenance tool include their ability to thoroughly digest non-beneficial weeds, trees and seeds, destroying their ability to germinate. Goats will eat entire younger trees, grinding up seeds, leaves and bark, then digging up the roots. They’ll even stand on the trees and knock them down so they can reach the remaining green canopy.

With a lifespan of 15-18 years and a gestation period of only 150 days, these compact ani-

mals are an efficient four-footed resource. Perrault runs a few mixed-breed sheep in with the goats and chooses animals that are hardy, not “whiny.”

“Over the years this herd has been designed to withstand any

GOATS

continued on page 10



The Green Machine Goat (and sheep) herd are ready to go. (Courtesy Photo)



Goats can be an efficient, hardy and provide a lasting solution to clogged public drainage areas. (Courtesy Photo)



Jake Perrault and his Green Machine Goatscaping herd get down to business. (Courtesy Photo)

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Elephant Butte Irrigation District Engineer Zack Libbin works with Jake Perrault's animals for a goat scaping project in Las Cruces. (Courtesy Photo)



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Goats have been used since the beginning of ditches to keep areas around waterways clear. (Photo courtesy of the New Mexico State University Archives)

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GOATS
continued from page 9

problem that most sheep and goats can get,” Perrault said. “My family originated here in the 1800s in the Mimbres Valley. My great-grandfather George Oliver Perrault came here as a sergeant with the U.S. Cavalry and operated one of the biggest ranches in the area.”

Deciding when to begin a goatscaping session depends on the moisture and temperature conditions. Perraut recommends turning them into an area early when the plants are small and weaker. He said a regimen of three successive cleanings has the potential to transform an area and allow grass to establish with minimal weed and tree invasion.

Woody vegetation is a problem on dams and in drains. The roots can create natural tunnels that water can then follow and erode within the bank or face of

a dam. Reduction of brush and trees also allows predators like hawks and coyotes easier access to their dinner, burrowing rodents which often cause tremendous damage to irrigation and flood control structures.

The animals are no strangers to rough ground and are not fazed by steep banks, concrete headwalls and overgrown trees. They treat these types of areas like their own personal playground and are in their perfect element. It's like goat parkour.

Libbin and his team at EBID are analyzing the effects of these temporary goat employees. If the process works well both here and on the next phase “we’ll see where else we’d like to try and implement it where it’s most appropriate.”

It looks like the goats may be on a call-back status as environmentally safe vegetation managers and soil improvers if they work hard and clean their plates.



A Las Cruces city park drain as it is finished being cleaned up by the goats. (Courtesy Photo)

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FANTASY EXPOSURE

ArtsFaire Flows Into 48th Year

The Las Cruces renaissance event returns

Step through the gates at Young Park in Las Cruces on Nov. 2 and 3 and find yourself transported back in time 500 years to an age of Kings and Queens, knights on horseback and fair ladies in waiting. Let yourself become immersed in days gone at the 48th Annual Renaissance ArtsFaire, hosted by the Doña Ana Arts Council.

The Renaissance ArtsFaire offers fine art and handcrafted items, delicious food (served by area non-profit organizations), a Children's Realm, entertainment on several stages, a beer and wine garden and the beloved Magellan the Dragon, who will be in his rightful place on the lake.

Queen Sherrie is on the throne in all her grandeur, and ready to lead a grand procession through the realm at one o'clock each day. She invites all subjects to join in the procession (who are dressed in costume, of course) and follow her as she makes her way to the Main Stage. There's plenty for the wee ones to do with a special Children's Realm featuring entertainment by Magician Chris Mitchell and bird of prey demonstrations by Hawk Qwest. The Crimson Bear Court is there for guests to visit with the knights and ladies and watch period dances and other unique entertainment. The Boy Scouts offer canoe rides to get an up-close view of Magellan as he roars.

The Order of Epona's joust-ers on horseback return for two shows daily giving faire visitors an opportunity to experience the entertainment of Renaissance royalty. Jousting takes place at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. on Saturday, and 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. on Sunday.

New this year will be Jeffrey the Juggler who will perform at the Main Stage each day and roam throughout the park. Also new this year will be Indian dancers at the Queen's Court, a food booth with pizza offerings, and new "foam fencing" in the Children's Realm.

Even though there is continuous entertainment on four stages, fans will be disappointed to learn that Robert the Ratcatcher has retired and will no longer be at the top of the hill with his "Ratapult." But while the Rata-pult machine and the ratcatcher costume are gone, Bob Diven is still around. He may make an appearance at the faire this year and will always be known and loved as the father of dragon Magellan.

Those who want to relax and sip an adult beverage or two can spend time in the Dragon's Eye Tavern and sample Lescombes wine and local craft beers from area breweries such as High Desert Brewery, Picacho Peak Brewery, Spotted Dog Brewery, and Bosque Brewing Company.

Avoid parking at Young Park by taking advantage of The Royal Carriage – a free park and ride running between the southwest



Costumes are encouraged, but not required at the Las Cruces Renaissance ArtsFaire Nov. 2 and 3. (Courtesy Photo)

corner of the Mesilla Valley Mall and Young Park every 15 minutes. There is limited accessible parking onsite and parking volunteers will be there maintaining order in their appointed realm.

The 48th Annual Renaissance ArtsFaire tickets are \$10 and children 12 and under entering for free. Advance tickets are \$15 for two adults at any Pic Quik store or on-line at daarts.org. VIP Pass are \$80 and include a two-person one day entry pass, access to the VIP tent at Queen Sherrie's court, complimentary refreshments and up-front views of jousting, photo ops with the Queen and Jousters, and up-close preferred parking for one vehicle.

More information and advance tickets can be found online at www.daarts.org or by calling 575-523-6403.



Magellan the Dragon hangs out in the duck pond at Young Park for the Renaissance ArtsFaire. (Courtesy photo by Emmitt Booher)

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The winning poster art entry selected by Chickie Beltran is a piece by Micah Jo Huerta, 12, titled "My Spirit Animal." It is 9-inches by 12inches and mediums are copic markers, highlighters, jelly roll and Crayola crayons. The poster was inspired by the movie Coco. (Courtesy Image)

IN HONOR OF THE DEAD

Dia de los Muertos

in Silver City

Street festival welcomes the living too

Planning for the 2019 Silver City Dia de los Muertos multi-day celebration is underway and applications are open for Food and Beverage vendors as well as Artisan vendors for the Oct. 27th Street Festival. Applications are available at Leyba and Ingalls Arts or online at the Dia de los Muertos facebook page. All food vendors must comply with the New Mexico Department of Health standards. Artisan booths must be selling Dia de los Muertos artwork or crafts. Contact Diana Ingalls Leyba at 575-388-5725 if you have questions.

The Oct. 27th Dia de los Muertos event brings food, arts and crafts, mariachi music, ofrendas

and activities for the young and old to downtown Silver City. A big parade is the highlight of the day with monsoon puppets, colorful attire, floats and much more.

The week continues with special art shows and concerts. Western New Mexico University, the Silver City Museum and the Silver City Library, as well as other organizations and businesses participate with their own events and activities.

On Saturday, Nov. 2 there will be a procession to sites of ofrendas throughout the downtown area. A traditional ending to the annual Dia de los Muertos.

For more information visit Silver City Dia de los Muertos Facebook page.



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SILVER CITY



The work of Steve McCluskey is highlighted at the Silver City Soul River Gallery in October.

• **Soul River Gallery**, 400 N. Bullard St., in Silver City features a large selection of original oil paintings and water colors by **Steve McCluskey**, a regional artist in October. The gallery, gift and home decor destination is open 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday. Info: 707-490-4367.



Paula Manning-Lewis's paintings are October's feature at Creative Hands Roadside Attraction Art Gallery.

• **Creative Hands Roadside Attraction Art Gallery** features the work of **Paula Manning-Lewis**. Manning-Lewis's paintings are vibrant and tran-

scendent in images and emotion. She will be featured during the Weekend at the Galleries in Silver City, debuting at her reception from 4 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 12. Creative Hands is located at 106 W Yankee St, Silver City. Info: 303-916-5045.



Light Art Space in Silver City has three exhibits in October recognizing the Southwest Print Fiesta.

• **Light Art Space**, located at 209 W. Broadway in Silver City's historic art district, is kicking off the fourth **Annual Southwest Print Fiesta** with a reception from 5 to 8 p.m., Friday, Oct. 11 with a night of exhibition openings and reception. Three Southwest Print Fiesta themed exhibitions are featured for the month: "**Obsession: A Juried Exhibition**" of hand-pulled prints; "**Pull: 5 Female Printmakers**" with artists Jo Anderson, Penny Batelli, Norma Galindo, Maria Lee and Glory Tacheenie-Campoy presenting a variety of techniques including mono-prints, etching, linocuts, letterpress and solar plate printing in two and three-dimensional forms. And, "**Ambros Lados International Print Exchange**," organized from both sides of the border and featuring 158 prints split be-

ARTS EXPOSURE

Arts Scene

Upcoming area art happenings

tween Mexico, the United States and with six from other countries, Australia, Canada, Cuba and Ireland. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, also 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sundays and by appointment. Info: lightartspace.com, email info@lightartspace.com or 520-240-7075.

ALAMOGORDO/ CLOUDCROFT

• **The Cloudfcroft Art Society Gallery Holiday Show** is open every Saturday October through December. Many artworks and crafts ranging from paintings in all media and fine art photography to framed and matted prints, cards, pottery, jewelry, baskets, glass, fiber art, gourds, carved wood, intarsia, jelly and painted tiles are on display and for sale. The gallery is open 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Saturday (look for the signs out front). The gallery can be found at the **Nivison Library**, in the old red brick schoolhouse, 90 Swallow Place in Cloudcroft.



The work of Lynda Brugman and four other Cloudcroft Art Society artists hang at Dreative Designs Custom Framing & Gallery in Alamogordo

• **Several Cloudcroft Art Society** artists are featured at **Creative Designs Custom Framing & Gallery**, 917 New York Ave. Alamogordo. Lyn Canham, Laurie Baker, Lynda Brugman, Janet Amtmann and Nancy Apprill are on display for the month of October. A reception will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 18. Info: 575-434-4420.

DEMING

• "**Members, Members,**" is the title of the October 2019 Exhibit at the Deming Art Center. DAC Membership will be the featured artists during the month of October. Expect a diverse body of work on display. The show will run Oct. 2 to 30, with an artist reception from 1 to 3 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 6. Also in October is the bi-annual Guatemalan Mercado from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Oct. 18 (Friday only this year). Deming Art Center is located at 100 S Gold St., Deming. Its hours are 10-4 a.m., Monday to Saturday. Info: 575-546-3663 or www.demingarts.org.

LAS CRUCES

• Las Cruces artist **Kathleen Deasy** is hosting an open studio day from noon to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 26. The studio is located at 625 Van Patten Ave, Las Cruces, four blocks west of Alameda and one block south of



Artist Kathleen Deasy opens her studio Oct. 26 in Las Cruces for visitors.

Picacho. Deasy is an oil painter who uses fabric, jute and other materials on her canvases. The figures she creates then become sculptural in nature. Info: 828-467-9060.



"Messages Old and New" is a Penny Duncklee watercolor at the Center For Spiritual Living Show opening Oct. 4 in Las Cruces.

• "**Spirit of the Art**" is an eclectic art exhibit by the **10 o'clock Artists**, who, a mixture of painters, sculptors, watercolor artists and mixed media assemblage artists who come together at 10 o'clock in the morning. This exhibit reflects each artist's interpretation of how they relate to the spirit of art in their work. It is held at the Center for Spiritual Living, 575 N. Main St. in Las Cruces. The show opens on Oct. 4 with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. as part of the First Friday Art Ramble. It runs through Oct. 30. Info: 575-523-4847.

• Colorful farm scenes decorate the **New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum's Arts Corridor** through Dec. 1. In "**Cultivating Color**" **Jeri Desrochers'** vibrant oil paintings capture the people and the landscapes of the Southwest's farm valleys. The Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum is at 4100 Dripping Springs Road. Info: 575-522-4100



The work of John Schooley and three others can be found at the new Trails End Gallery & Studios in Las Cruces.

• **Trails End Gallery & Studios**, 1732 N. Mesquite in the historic Mesquite Street district of Las Cruces is now open. In addition to the five room gallery there are seven studio spaces next door. Owner and artist **Gary Biel** is joined by **Robert Highsmith** and **John Schooley** who have their studios there. A four-person show featuring Highsmith, **Penny Simpson**, Schooley and **Patricia Black** continues until Nov. 15. The gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday to Friday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and by appointment. Info: 575-650-1556.

• **The Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery**, 2470-A Calle de Guadalupe, across from the historic Fountain Theatre, features two local artists for the month of October, **Jane Madrid** and **Kerry O'Neill**. Madrid has painted since the age of eight. Her main media of painting is oil and some acrylic. O'Neill's passion of art has also been since early childhood. She ended up teaching elementary art in the public schools. Needing to learn ceramics in order to teach her own students, she took a college level class on hand building. This whet her appetite for working with clay even more. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Info: 575-522-2933, www.mesilla-valleyfinearts.com.

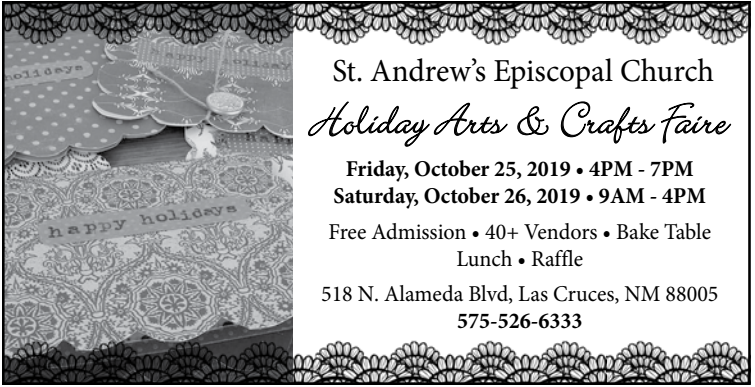
• The exhibit "**Charcoal and Steel**" continues through Oct. 18 at the **Tombaugh Gallery**. **Artist Michael Nail** shows his pencil and charcoal drawings, and artist **Mary Lou LaCasse** presents her steel sculptures. A second reception, with artists talks, will be held 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 4. The Tombaugh Gallery is located at 2000 S. Solano with regular gallery hours 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday.



Virginia Maria Romero is the featured October artist at Mesquite Art Gallery in Las Cruces.

• In October **Mesquite Art Gallery**, 340 N. Mesquite St. in Las Cruces, exhibits the work of artist **Virginia Maria Romero**. The opening reception is from 5 to 7 p.m. Oct. 4, during the Friday night Art Ramble. That evening there will be a special video presentation also. Romero describes her work as "a subconscious evolution to render form. The effort at once seamless and fluid, a comingling of pigment, touch, and spirit moves towards shape and purpose. The now recognizable images translate as symbols of new life steeped in mystery from which they were born." Gallery hours are 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday and Friday, and 2-5 p.m. Saturday. Info: 575-640-3502, www.mesquitegallery.com.

• **The Branigan Cultural Center** features "**Voices of Change: LGBTQ Activism**," a new exhibit that highlights the stories of LGBTQ individuals and organizations from southern New Mexico, as well as national and state landmark social justice events and legislation. There will also be artwork by regional LGBTQ artists and memorabilia that highlights and honors LGBTQ history in the region. The exhibit continues until Oct. 26. The museum is located at 501 N. Main St. and open from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through and 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Info: 575-541-2154.



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Holiday Arts & Crafts Faire

Friday, October 25, 2019 • 4PM - 7PM

Saturday, October 26, 2019 • 9AM - 4PM

Free Admission • 40+ Vendors • Bake Table

Lunch • Raffle

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OCTOBER 12 5-7PM

THROUGH NOVEMBER 7

ON STAGE • MIKE COOK

'God of Carnage'

Eventually, the gloves come off

A strong cast and director will introduce Yasmina Rez's play "God of Carnage" to audiences at Las Cruces Community Theatre (LCCT) during its performances through Oct. 13.

"I saw 'God of Carnage' in Los Angeles on its way to Broadway (it won 2009 Tonys for best play, actress and director) and was very taken with the characters – so beautifully flawed and truthful to their core," said Greg Thompson, a freelance writer, director, actor and instructor who is making his directorial debut in Las Cruces.

Thompson is on UTEP's dance and theatre adjunct faculty and is the founder of the stage and film studio Actorspace El Paso.

"I love when theatre so fearlessly and accurately holds the mirror up to society," Thompson said about the play. "When I was deciding if there was something I felt I could potentially add to LCCT's slate that would be challenging and rewarding for myself and my fellow artists, as well as sparking potentially rewarding conversations within the community, 'God of Carnage' came immediately to mind."

In the play, an altercation between two 11-year-old boys at a public park leaves one of them injured and brings their parents together to find a resolution.

"At first, diplomatic niceties are observed, but as the meeting progresses, and the rum flows, tensions emerge and the gloves come off, leaving the couples with more than just their liberal principles in tatters," according to Dramatists Play Service, which published the play.

The cast is comprised of veteran Las Cruces actors Darin Robert Cabot and Nora Brown, and El Paso actors Josh Martinez and Sarah Neely are making their acting debuts at LCCT.

Cabot and Brown were most recently seen together in "The Crucible" at LCCT. Brown was featured in Monika Mojica's original play "Weighing In" at Black Box Theatre this summer. Cabot is one of the co-founders of Doña Ana Repertory Theatre (DART) and teaches theatre and English at Centennial High School.

Martinez has a Bachelor of fine arts in theatre with an emphasis in acting and directing from Sul Ross State University. He has acted in many plays and musicals, including UTEP Dinner Theatre's production of "Mamma Mia" and El Paso Community College's production of "Closer than Ever." Martinez is a studio instructor at Actorspace El Paso.

Neely has a Bachelor of music degree in vocal performance from West Texas A&M University and a masters in the same field from the University of Texas-San Antonio.

She is a resident artist and education communicator with El Paso Opera, adjunct voice faculty at UTEP and NMSU, and a voice and piano teacher at Actorspace El Paso. She has performed recently in "Trouble in Tahiti," "Mamma Mia," "Die Fledermaus" and "Into the Woods."

Thompson played the formidable Professor Callahan in LCCT's 2018 production of "Legally Blonde."

Performances of "God of Carnage" are 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Oct. 4-5 and 11-12, and 2 p.m. Sundays, Sept. 29 and Oct. 6 and 13.

LCCT is located at 313 N. Main St.

Tickets are \$17 adults, \$14 seniors, students and military, \$10 each for groups of 10 or more and for children under age 12. Call 575-523-1200 or visit www.lcctnm.org.



Annette (Sarah Neely) resorts to using a spatula against Alan (Josh Martinez) in *God of Carnage*, now rehearsing at The Las Cruces Community Theatre. (Photos by Bob Diven)

SOUTHWEST PRINT ¡FIESTA!



OCTOBER 11-13, 2019
SILVER CITY, NM

Friday, October 11

Exhibitions Reception 5 pm - 8 pm

- Obsession - Juried Exhibition
- Pull: 5 Female Printmakers
- Ambos International Print Exchange

© LightArt Space, 209 W. Broadway

Saturday, October 12

10 am - 5 pm

- Artisan Marketplace
- Steamroller Printing

© Market & Bullard Sts. - Downtown Silver City

Sunday, October 13

10 am - 5 pm

- Artist Talk & Portfolio Review
- Workshops

© Silver City Museum Annex & various locations



For more information visit:
southwestprintfiesta.org



LIGHT ART SPACE

Weekend at the Galleries
October 11th - 14th

EXHIBITIONS

Obsession

Juror Valpuri Remling

Pull: 4 Female Printmakers

Ambros Lados

International Print Exchange

Evolution at Work: Mimi and Art Peterson

Painting and Sculpture

WORKSHOPS

October 13th

Photopolymer Gravure

Karen Hymer

Exquisite Corpse: Printmaking/book

Maria Lee & Jo Anderson

Reception

Friday, October 11th 5 - 8pm

209 W. Broadway, Silver City, NM
lightartspace.com

ARTS EXPOSURE

Reserve Gallery

New venue in Catron County

A new business opened July 4 in Reserve. Studio Verde, an art gallery, opened its doors to the public. Studio Verde proprietress, Joan Cartales, describes her gallery concept as a fun space to promote both local artists and personal growth through movement. Studio Verde primarily shows local artists from Catron County, although there are a few pieces that

have snuck in from Grant County.

Pieces in the gallery are in a variety of media, including paintings, leather work, bead work, hand woven rugs, felted pillows, gourds, wood, and metal. There is also a collection of vintage women's Western wear as well as some collectible cowboy artifacts from Mexico. The gallery usually receives new inventory weekly, so the stock

is constantly changing.

Also available in the studio are Tammy Marie's Scrumptious Soaps and Lotions made locally in Cliff. Tammy Marie's products are phthalate free and scented with essential oils. 100 percent natural. Testers are available to try before you buy.

After relocating to Reserve two years ago, Cartales said she was struck by the number people pro-

ducing distinctive art in the area. Having acquired the property at 60 Main Street, she is pursuing her vision of transforming Leota Lopez's Town Shop into a gallery dedicated to local artists and space for the exploration of movement.

Movement practices are currently via video. Meditation instruction is currently offered 4:30-5:15 p.m. Wednesdays. Beginning Yoga for Dummies is 5:30-6:30 p.m. Wednesdays. Beyond the Basics Yoga for Dummies is 5:30-6:30 p.m. Thursdays. Beginning Bellydance is offered 4 p.m. Sundays. Classes are donation-based and open to all.

Studio Verde's hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday,

Saturday and Sunday. Other times are available by appointment, call 505-699-6679. It is located at 60 Main Street, in Reserve, south of the courthouse in the heart of SODAD (South of Downtown Arts District) Studio Verde is the distinctive green building on the east side of Main Street. Visit www.studio-verdereservenm.wordpress.com.

The Village of Reserve is in the heart of Catron County in southwestern New Mexico. Far off the beaten path. A gem set amongst the Tularosa, Saliz, and San Francisco mountains at the edge of the Gila Wilderness in the Gila National Forest, Reserve offers fresh air, clean water and unparalleled views.

Trails End Gallery Sept 28, 5-8 pm



Robert Highsmith



Patricia Black



Penny Simpson

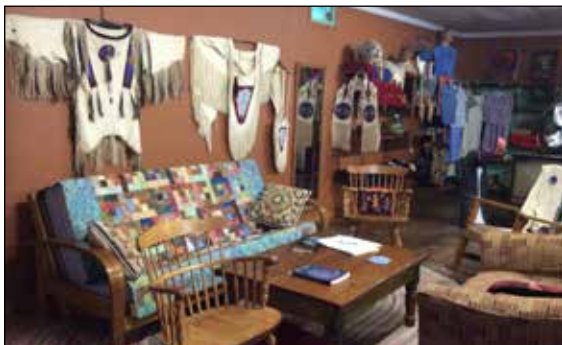


John Schooley

Please join us for the Grand Opening of the Trails End Gallery.



1732 N. Mesquite | Las Cruces, NM 88001
575.649.2951 or 575.650.1556 for information | www.trailsendgallery.co



The salon at Studio Verde features Native American style beadwork, a war shirt and a dance robe with matching bag. (Photos by Debra Nudson)

Calling Artists

• Agave Artists Gallery, 2250 Calle San Albino next to Josephina's in Mesilla, seeks artists for a new co-op gallery. There is space for 13 wall artists and 20 artists total, including jewelers. \$100 per month membership, with 90 percent of commissions paid to the artist. One day a month will be set aside for working in the gallery. Interested artists should contact Vickie Morrow, 602-615-1146 or vickiemorrow@msn.com; or Wendy Weir, 575 650-7543 or wendyweir8@gmail.com

• Barbershop singers wanted (Las Cruces): Startup male barbershop quartet is looking for an experienced tenor or lead singer. Our present tenor is relocating. Must be able to read music and be available to practice at least once a week. If you are interested, please call or email Chuck Riggs for an interview. Contact Chuck Riggs at chuck.riggs@mac.com or 575 521-1729.

• Book space available: Moon-

bow Alterations and Gift Shop, 225 E. Idaho No. 32, in Las Cruces has space available to display and sell local books that have been published any time. Info: 575-527-1411 or alicebdavenport@gmail.com.

• Las Cruces Space Festival invites elementary and middle school students to enter a contest designing a poster for the 2020 festival. The theme is "Life on Mars." Among the prerequisites: The poster must be the student's own original work, it must feature the words "Las Cruces Space Festival 2020," it must include at least one illustration and the final image must be on 8 1/2x11 paper only. Deadline is Dec. 5; visit lcspacefestival.com/Poster-Contest.

• St. Andrews Episcopal Church Arts & Crafts Fair seeks artists and crafters to participate in its Christmas Fair, 4-7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 25, and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26. For more details, contact Trish at 575-993-4928.

THE TIME IS NIGHT

Doña Ana Arts Council's
48TH ANNUAL
Renaissance ArtsFaire

November 2 & 3, 2019
Young Park
1905 E. Nevada Ave., Las Cruces
Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

- Shop for the Holidays with over 100 Arts & Crafts Vendors
- Jousting on Horseback and Sword Fighting
- Dragon's Eye Tavern Beer & Wine Garden
- Live Music, Entertainment, and Children's Realm
- Wide Variety of Delicious Food Selections

TICKETS

\$10 per adult, children 12 and under are **FREE!**

SAVE 25%

EASY PARKING and **FREE "ROYAL CARRIAGE"** shuttle bus from the SW corner of MV Mall.

ADVANCE TICKETS | \$15/TWO ADULTS
Available at all Pic Quik stores or online at DAArts.org.

Renaissance ArtsFaire is NEW MEXICO *true*

Weekend at the Galleries

Oct. 11-14, 2019



Lois Duffy



Kate Brown

ART

Reception
Sat. Oct. 12
3 -7pm

211-C N. Texas St.
Silver City
575-313-9631
www.loisduffy.com



We strongly recommend gallery patrons call locations before visiting as gallery hours are subject to change and do so often. Contact Desert Exposure at 575-680-1978 or editor@desertexposure.com to update listings. All area codes are 575 unless indicated otherwise.

Silver City
Alaska Mudhead Studio-Gallery, 371 Camino de Viento in Wind Canyon. By appointment, Letha Cress Wolfe, potter, 907-783-2780.
Anthony Howell Studio, 200 W. Market St. 574-2827. By appointment only.
[a]SP:“A”©E, 110 W. Seventh St., 538-3333, aspace.studiogallery@ gmail.com.
Barbara Nance Gallery & Stonewalker Studio, 105 Country Road, 534-0530. By appointment. Stone, steel, wood and paint. Sculpture path. www.barbaraNanceArt.com.
Blue Dome Gallery, 307 N. Texas, second location at 60 Bear Mountain Road, 534-8671. Open 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday to Saturday. www.bluedomegallery.com.
Borderlands Gallery, Stephan Hoglund Studios, 211 W Yankie St., Silver City. 218-370-1314. www.stephanhoglund.com.
The Cliffs Studio & Gallery, 205 N. Lyon St., corner of Yankie and Lyon streets, 520-622- 0251. By appointment.
Common Ground, 102 W. Kelly, 534-2087. Open 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, other times by prior arrangement. 575-534-2087.
Cow Trail Art Studio, 119 Cow Trail in Arenas Valley, 12-3 p.m. Monday, or by appointment, 706-533- 1897, www.victoriachick.com.
Creative Hands Roadside Attraction Art Gallery, 106 W Yankie, Silver City. 303-916-5045 Hours are 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Wednesday to Saturday, and 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday. By appointment at other times.
Elemental Artisans, by appointment only, 215-593-6738.
Finn’s Gallery, 300 N. Arizona St., 406-790-0573
Francis McCray Gallery, 1000 College Ave., WNMU, 538-6517. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday to Friday.
FringeArtz, 519 N. Bullard St. 678-457-3708. Hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday, sometimes Sunday.
The Glasserie Studio and Store, 106 E. College Ave., 590-0044. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday to Saturday.
Grant County Art Guild Gallery, 316 N. Bullard St. 10 a.m-5 p.m. Monday through Saturday; noon to 4 p.m. Sunday. GCAG.org.
Guadalupe’s, 505 N. Bullard, 535- 2624. Thursday to Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Leyba & Ingalls Arts, 315 N. Bullard St., 388-5725. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday to Saturday. Contemporary art ranging from realism to abstraction in a variety of media. www.LeybalngallsARTS.com, LeybalngallsART@zianet.com.
Light Art Space, 209 W. Broadway. 520-240-7075. Open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday to Saturday; 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday; and by appointment. Contemporary photography and other media. Workshops, exhibitions and events. info@lightartspace.com www.lightartspace.com.
Lloyd Studios, 306 W. Broadway St. 590-

1110. Sculpture, custom knives and swords. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Wednesday to Saturday and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday.
Lois Duffy Art Studio, 211C N. Texas, 534-0822. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday or by appointment. Original paintings, cards and prints. www.loisduffy.com, loisduffy@ signalpeak.net.
Lumiere Editions, 104 N. Texas St., 956-6369. Vintage and contemporary photography. Monday to Friday.
The Makery, 206 N. Bullard St. 590-1263. Freestyle weaving studio and school of fiber, book and paper arts, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Thursday to Monday, www.makersvc.com.
Manzanita Ridge, 107 N. Bullard St. 388-1158.
Mariah’s Copper Quail Gallery, 211-A Texas St., corner of Yankie and Texas streets, 388-2646. Fine arts and crafts.
Mimbres Regional Arts Council Gallery, Wells Fargo Bank Bldg., 1201 N. Pope St. 538-2505, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday to Sunday www.mimbresarts.org.
Molly Ramolla Gallery & Framing, 203 N. Bullard, 538- 5538. www.ramollaart.com.
Ol’ West Gallery & Mercantile, 104 W. Broadway, 388-1811/313-2595, 8:30 -10 a.m. Monday to Friday.
The Place at the Palace, at 201 N. Bullard St. 575-388-1368.
Seedboat Gallery, 214 W. Yankie St., 534- 1136. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday to Saturday or by appointment. info@seedboatgallery.com.
Soul River Gallery, 400 N. Bullard St. 303-888-1358; 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday and Wednesday and 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Thursday to Saturday.
Sterling Fine Art, 306 N. Bullard St. Silver City, 505-699-5005, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday to Saturday and 1-4 p.m. Sunday, or by appointment. Abstract to realism, workshops and lessons available. sterlingnm.com.
Studio Behind the Mountain, 23 Wagon Wheel Lane, 388- 3277. By appointment. www.jimpalmerbronze.com.
Studio Upstairs, 109 N. Bullard St., 574-2493. By appointment.
Szyzgy Tile Gallery, 106 N. Bullard St., 388-5472.
Tatiana Maria Gallery, 305 N. Bullard St. 388-4426.
Tree Spirit Gallery, on-line only at www.cogan-cogan.com. 303-888-1358.
21 Latigo Trail, 941-387-8589. Sculpture by Barbara Harrison. By appointment only.
Wild West Weaving, 211-D N. Texas, 313-1032, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday to Saturday, www.wildwestweaving.com.
Wind Canyon Studio, 11 Quail Run Road off Hwy. 180, mile marker 107, 574-2308, 619-933-8034. Louise Sackett, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday and Wednesday and by appointment.
Wynnegate Gallery, 1105 W. Market Street, 575-534-9717, noon – 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, also open for Red Dot Tour, artist showings and by appointment.
Yada Yada Yarn, 621 N. Bullard St. 388-3350.
Zoe’s Studio/Gallery, 305 N. Cooper St., 654-4910. By chance or appointment.

Mimbres
Chamomile Connection, 3918 U.S. Highway 35, 536-9845. Lynnae McConaha. By appointment.
Kate Brown Pottery and Tile, HC 15 Box 1335, San Lorenzo, 536-9935, katebrown@gilanel.com, www.katebrownpottery.com. By appointment.
Bayard
Kathryn Allen Clay Studio, 601 Erie St., 537-3332. By appointment.
Northern Grant County
Casitas de Gila, 50 Casita Flats Road, Gila, 535-4455. By appointment. gallery@ casitasdegila.com, www.galleryatthecasitas.com.
Deming
Deming Arts Center, 100 S. Gold St., 546-3663. Monday to Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Gold Street Gallery, 112-116 S. Gold St., 546-8200. Open noon-4 p.m. Monday to Saturday.
Orona Art Studio, 546-4650. By appointment. lyntheoilpainter@ gmail.com, www.lynorona.com.
Reader’s Cove Used Books & Gallery, 200 S. Copper, 544-2512. Monday to Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Photography by Daniel Gauss.
Studio LeMarbe, 4025 Chaparral SE, 544-7708. By appointment.
Columbus
Village of Columbus Library, 112 Broadway, 531-2612, 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday to Saturday.
Rodeo
Chiricahua Gallery, 5 Pine St., 557-2225. Open daily except Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Hillsboro
Barbara Massengill Gallery, 895-3377, open weekends and by appointment.
Mesilla
Doña Ana Arts Council Arts and Cultural Center, 1740 Calle de Mercado, Suites B and D, 523-6403, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday to Friday.
Galeri Azul, Old Mesilla Plaza, 523-8783. Monday to Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Galeria on the Plaza, 2310 Calle de Principal, 526-9771. Daily 10 am.-6 p.m.
Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery, 2470 Calle de Guadalupe, 522- 2933. Daily 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Ouida Touchön Studio, 2615 Calle de Guadalupe, 635-7899. By appointment. ouida@ouidatouchon.com, www.ouidatouchon.com.
The Potteries, 2260 Calle de Santiago, 524-0538, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday to Saturday; noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.
Rokoko, 1785 Avenida de Mercado, 405-8877.
Las Cruces
Big Picture Gallery, 2001 Lohman Ave, Suite 109, 647-0508. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Tuesday to Friday. 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday.

Blue Gate Gallery, 4901 Chagar (intersection of Valley Drive and Taylor Road, open by appointment, 523-2950.
Camino Real Book Store and Art Gallery, 314 South Tornillo St. 523-3988. Thursday to Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.
Cottonwood Gallery, 275 N. Main St. (Southwest Environmental Center), 522-5552. Monday to Friday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
Cutter Gallery, 2640 El Paseo, 541-0658. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday to Friday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday.
Justus Wright Galeria, 266 W. Court Ave., 526-6101, jud@delvalleprintinglc.com. 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday to Friday.
Las Cruces Arts Association, located in Cruces Creatives, 205 E. Lohman Ave. lascrucesarts.wixsite.com/arts.
Las Cruces Museum of Art, 491 N. Main St., 541-2137. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Tuesday to Friday; 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Saturday.
Mesquite Art Gallery, 340 N. Mesquite St., 640-3502. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Thursday to Friday; 2-5 p.m. Saturday.
M. Phillip’s Fine Art Gallery, 221 N. Main St., 525-1367.
New Dimension Art Works, 615 E. Piñon, 373-0043. By Appointment.
NMSU University Art Gallery, Williams Hall, University Ave. east of Solano, 646-2545, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday to Sunday.
Nopalito’s Galeria, 326 S. Mesquite, 8 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Friday to Sunday.
Quillin Stephens Gallery, behind downtown Coas Books, 312-1064. By appointment only.
Tombaugh Gallery, Unitarian Universalist Church, 2000 S. Solano, 522-7281. Wednesday to Friday 10 a.m.-2 p.m. or by appointment.
Unsettled Gallery & Studio, 905 N. Mesquite, 635-2285, noon-5 p.m. Wednesday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday to Friday; 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. Saturday, and by appointment.
Virginia Maria Romero Studio, 4636 Maxim Court, 644-0214. By appointment, agzromero@zianet.com, virginiamariaromero.com.
Ruidoso
Art Ruidoso Gallery, 808-1133, artruidoso.com, 615 Sudderth Drive, Ruidoso, 11a.m.-5 p.m., Thursday-Sunday.
The Adobe, 2905 Sudderth Drive, 257-5795, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Saturday.
DJ’s Jewelry, 618 Carrizo Canyon Road, 630-1514, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Specializing in turquoise, Native American traditional, New Mexican contemporary and estate jewelry.
Earth-N-Stone, 2117 Sudderth Drive, Suite 14, 257-2768, 808-1157.
Gazebo Potters, 2117 Sudderth Drive No. 7, 808-1157. Pottery classes, workshops, wheel time, kiln firing and works by local potters.
Josie’s Framery, 2917 Sudderth Drive, 257-4156. Framing, gallery representing regional artists and photographers.
LongCoat Fine Art, 2801 Sudderth Drive, Suite D., 257-9102, 10 a.m.-

5 p.m. Monday through Saturday Contemporary Masters and historical works of art.
Mountain Arts, 2530 Sudderth Drive, 257-9748, www.mountainartsgallery.com, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. daily.
Tanner Tradition, 624 Sudderth Drive., 257-8675. Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Quality Native American art and jewelry.
Thunder Horse Gallery, 200 Mechem Drive, Suite 1, 257-3989. info@thunderhorsegallery.com, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday to Saturday. Bronze sculpture by Rory Combs, Sarinova glass and fine art.
The White Dove, 2825 Sudderth Drive, No. A, 575-257-6609, 9:30 a.m-4 p.m. daily, Authentic Native American jewelry and artifacts.
Kenneth Wyatt Galleries of Ruidoso, 2205 Sudderth Drive, 257-1529, www.kennethwyatt.com. Fine art by the Wyatt family.

Ruidoso Downs
Pinon Pottery, MM. 26465 U.S. Hwy. 70, 937-0873, 937-1822, www.pinonpottery.com. Pottery by Vicki Conley and other area artists, fine art by Anita Keegan and Virgil Stephens.

Alamogordo
Creative Designs Custom Framing & Gallery, 575-434-4420, 917 New York Ave.
Patron’s Hall/Flickinger Center for Performing Arts, 575-434-2202, 1110 New York Ave.

Tularosa
Horse Feathers, 318 Granado St. 575-585-4407. Art, southwest furniture and decor.
The Merc, 316 Granado St. 505- 238-6469. Art gifts by regional artists, books.

Capitan
Heart of the Raven, 415 12th St., 937-7459, Functional and decorative pottery, classes.

Carrizozo
Malkerson Gallery 408, 408 12th St. in Carrizozo, 575-648-2598.
Tularosa Basin Gallery of Photography, 401 12th St. in Carrizozo, 575-937-1489, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday to Monday; noon to 5 p.m. on Sundays. Exclusive exhibit venue for the winners of New Mexico Magazine's photography contest and the largest photo gallery in the state.

Lincoln
Old Lincoln Gallery, 1068 Calle la Placita, across from the visitor's center in Lincoln, 653- 4045. Coffee bar featuring 45 New Mexico artists, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday

San Patricio
Hurd La Rinconada, NM 281 U.S. Hwy. 70, 653-4331, www.wyethartists.com. Monday through Saturday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Works by Peter Hurd, Henriette Wyeth, Andrew Wyeth, N.C. Wyeth and resident artist, Michael Hurd.

White Oaks
White Oaks Pottery, 445 Jicarilla Drive (three miles past White Oaks), 648-2985. Daily, 10 a.m-5 p.m. Porcelain pottery by Ivy Heymann.



Many thanks to the community businesses, nonprofits, supporters, presenters, and audiences who helped make the 2019 festival a great success!

ART EXPOSURE • ELVA K. ÖSTERREICH

Carrie Greer

The wax dares one to continue

In her own world of a workspace, artist Carrie Greer continues her long love affair with the format of wax which began in the 1970s with candles.

She has been contributing to gallery shows across Las Cruces for many years, one at Rokoko Gallery about eight years ago. So, when the gallery offered to feature her and fellow encaustic artist Janet Zibert in an exhibit, “She Waxes,” she was pleased to do it. Samples of her wax work will be featured through Oct. 26 at Rokoko, 1785 Avenida de Mercado.

Greer’s workspace is large, full of light and full of stuff, bins full of jeans, shelves full of paper rolls, and a big center table covered with two hot plates (turned on and very hot), wax in various forms, pigments, hand torches of various sizes and art work in progress. There is a television playing YouTube videos about encaustic projects and two rambunctious standard poodles bounding about the whole house.

“I’m usually in here listening to videos about encaustic,” she said. “It’s really busy. I have to have a lot of stimulation around.”

In an artist’s statement Greer wrote, “The wax calls to me as I enter into a journey with it, it invites me to places unknown. We set out on a loosely charted course. The destination becomes

If you go

WHAT: “She Waxes ‘Encaustic Explorations’” featuring artists Carrie Greer and Janet Zibert

WHERE: Rokoko Art Gallery, 1785 Avenida de Mercado, Las Cruces

WHEN: Exhibit continues through Oct. 26. Gallery hours noon-5 p.m. Saturdays.

COST: Free

visible as the flame has its way with the wax. Along the way it demands I choose a direction to use more heat, add color or to embellish with a shellac burn. These not-so-subtle additions morph into a final destination but there is no finality with wax – melt and begin again. An exhilarating journey with no absolute end. It dares one to continue.”

Greer’s latest wax adventure is encaustic bowls: “paper mâché, plaster, mix them together and bake and coat with wax. It’s hard to know when to stop.”

Her interest in the encaustic form – the building up of images with colored wax combined with a resin that hardens it and keeps it from melting – began in 2016 at a Las Cruces Art Association workshop with Georjeanna Feltha. But it was in 1976 as an Army wife at Fort Huachuca in Arizona when somebody down the block offered a batik class

“I loved it, so I started ba-



Artist Carrie Greer is most comfortable in her space surrounded by the accoutrement of her arts including Flo the repurposed denim batik snake, in the foreground. (Bulletin photo by Elva K. Österreich)

ting,” she said. “Wax is very versatile, buttery, surprising. You can’t always know what it’s going to do. Especially with a batik, but probably especially more with encaustic.”

Her Batik creations include Flo, a stuffed snake crafted of carefully batiked denim.

“That’s the interesting thing about batik,” Greer said. “When people see those, they think ‘oh well she just stuffed something.’ But there is a lot of work there. I take old jeans and wax and dye them. It’s repurposed denim

GREER

continued on page 17



Community members pitch in to create bowls for Empty Bowls at Syzygy Tile during the 2019 Clay Festival. (Courtesy Photos)

FOOD EXPOSURE • JUDY MENEFFEE

Empty Bowls

Community invited to lunch for a cause

Grant County Empty Bowl Community Luncheon will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26 at The Commons, 501 E. 13th St. Silver City. A donation of \$20 lets the guest choose a beautiful handmade bowl and fill it with restaurant and volunteer-made soups, bread and homemade cookies.

All funds raised are donated to The Commons for purchase of food for Grant County Food Pantries.

Tickets may be bought at the door, or pre-purchased at Tranquilbuzz, Jumping Cactus or The Commons. Pre-purchasing your ticket will allow you to bypass the ticket sales line the day of the luncheon.

In 1990 Empty Bowls began in Michigan, created by two artists to raise money for a local food pantry, and bring awareness of hunger in the area. Empty Bowls is now an international grass-roots organization.

Fifteen local professional artists have donated their custom bowls exhibiting philanthropy through the arts. The community has gotten involved with bowl



Ready for soup, Empty Bowls will fill on Oct. 26 to raise money for Grant County Food Pantries.

making also. At the Clay Festival in July, Syzygy Tile hosted a workshop where many bowls were made by folks of all ages, some working with clay for the first time. They gathered again during the Gila River Festival in September to glaze the bowls made earlier.

Syzygy then fired the bowls again to be ready for the luncheon. Children at the Recreation Center painted bowls this summer. This huge variety makes choosing your bowl at the luncheon exciting.

There will be a choice of restaurant donated vegetarian, chicken or chile soup, bread and delicious homemade cookies.

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ARTS EXPOSURE • ELVA K. ÖSTERREICH

Karen Zibert

The artist has to make the wax happy

Karen Zibert began her artwork with inks and watercolors, but something caught her attention four years ago while living in Albuquerque when she happened upon an exhibit at the Encaustic Art Institute in Santa Fe.

“Gee, that looks interesting,” Zibert thought, so she began investigating.

Zibert and a friend traveled to the Encaustic Art Institute for a day-long introductory class on wax. It wasn’t an instant love affair, but she did “get lucky” when her first piece was accepted into a show in Albuquerque.

Zibert’s encaustic work is featured through Oct. 26 at Rokoko Art Gallery in Mesilla along with the work of Carrie Green for a show called “She Waxes.” The reception is Saturday, Sept. 14.

The practice of encaustic wax dates at least to biblical days, when the ancients painted death-mask portraits of people.

“It’s just one of those things you just have to try it and make all the mistakes and a mess and all that stuff,” Zibert said. “And that’s what I did. I also learned most of my things from YouTube – watching other people and trying to soak everything up. Picking out the things I don’t like and things I do like and trying them myself.”



Ready to hang, Karen Zibert’s encaustic artwork is lined up in her living room.

Learning that the artform uses beeswax, Zibert said her husband, Jack, thought it would melt with the heat. But encaustic is a term for heating and fusing the wax, so it is mixed with a hardening medium, Damar resin. It does not melt easily.

Karen buys beeswax sheets from a friend in Albuquerque who raises bees and mixes the resin in. This results in a yellowish substance which she colors with pigments, or crayon. She often replicates her own original artwork from earlier by printing it and affixing it to wood, then building layers of



Encaustic artist Karen Zibert looks around her own workspace at her Las Cruces home.

colored wax on top.

“I’m not real good at abstract,” she said, “but sometimes I will try some freeform.”

Encaustic wax “is a little bit like watercolor in that it is not too controllable,” she said. “You just don’t know exactly what you will get.”

In fact, sometimes the wax just doesn’t quite agree with the artist’s ideas. “So, you make it happy,” Zibert said.

She’s not above taking other people’s “wonderful art” and using it because “I think that is saying ‘Hey, I really like what you have done so I am just doing my thing with it.’”

Two years ago, the couple moved to Las Cruces, where Karen also paints pets on consignment. On a wall in her workspace is the original encaustic piece that earned a show spot in Albuquerque. The work is a pale honeycomb with a bee, all in wax. Her desk space holds her hot wax and potters and dental tools she uses to work the wax. There’s a set of pan pastels with which she finishes most of her works.

“I still love working with ink and stipple,” Zibert said. “Then I watercolor after, over the ink. So I still do my ink. But wax is my focus.”



Using torches and various other methods, Greer’s pieces often become mixed-media art rather than pure encaustic art. (Bulletin photo by Elva K. Österreich)

GREER

continued from page 16

that’s batiked, then you have to remove the wax and the dye. When a batik is done, it’s all wax so you have to iron it all out with newspapers and then take it to the cleaners to get the rest out. I am really passionate about encaustic right now, but I love doing the batik.”





She sometimes incorporates her repurposed denim batik style into large rag quilts.





“I have been saving my kids’ jeans,” she said. “I made them king-sized quilts with all their old jeans, and they love it. I haven’t got all of them done yet for all my kids. I still have one child to do then I’ll start on my grandkids.”












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Greeting cards, jewelry, dish towels all join wall art during the Oct. 26 Las Cruces Art Market. (Courtesy Photos)

ARTS EXPOSURE

Art Market

Event features 15 artists

The one-day-only Art Market is from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 26, at Cafe de Mesilla, 2190 Avenida de Mesilla in Mesilla.

More than 15 artists from the Las Cruces Arts Association (LCAA) and their friends will be showing and selling a variety of items they have created. Shop for jewelry, ornaments, small paintings and art prints, stationery items, and other hand-crafted items just in time for giving for the holidays.

The Cafe de Mesilla is a coffee and gift shop located in a classic

adobe building on Historic Old Highway 28. The Art Market will occupy the outdoor patio surrounding the cafe. The cafe will be open during the event to purchase food and beverages.

LCAA is the oldest art group in Las Cruces, organized in the early 1960s. All artists and art enthusiasts are welcome to attend the monthly meetings, the third Sunday of each month at 1:30 p.m, Cruces Creatives, 205 E Lohman Ave, Las Cruces.

For more information contact, Jan Minow, jemlilfish@yahoo.com or 530-559-2765.

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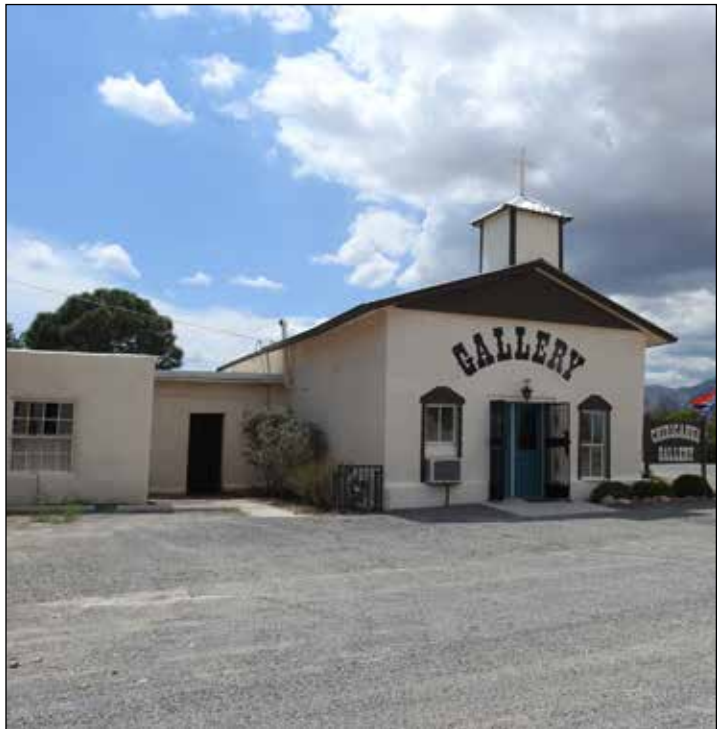
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ON STAGE

Cowboy Poetry in Rodeo

Art gallery celebrates long tradition

From 7 – 9 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 5, the Chiricahua Gallery is sponsoring Cowboy Poetry in Rodeo. Eight performers join for a two-hour program of poetry, storytelling and music.

“What I love about cowboy poetry is the heart felt stories, the truth and honesty shared,” Mary Abbott, from Rodeo, and the gallery’s cultural events chair writes. “Ranching and the cowboy way of life is portrayed by different artists, painting the oral picture. If you laugh, chuckle, smile or cry, then we have done our job. We are all like family and offer the gifts of our stories.”

The event will be held at the Rodeo Community Center, located at 16 Hickory Street in Rodeo. Admission is free. The Chiricahua Gallery, located at 5 Pine Street in Rodeo, will be open until 6 p.m.

The Chiricahua Gallery is a not-for-profit 501(C)(3) cooperative art gallery. Its mission includes enriching the cultural

and educational opportunities for the residents of Rodeo, Portal, Arizona and surrounding areas through cultural programs, scholarships and art workshops.

The gallery, managed and operated by an all-volunteer staff, has strong community support with over 40 Showing Artists and draws returning visitors from across the country and around the world.

The gallery’s adobe building was built in 1910 and served as a saloon and brothel for many years and then as a general store. A church took over the building in the 1930s, and it served the religious needs of the community for over 40 years before declining attendance and much needed maintenance resulted in the church being taken over by the local historical society, which arranged for the transfer of ownership to the Chiricahua Gallery. The gallery is now a designated New Mexico Historic and Cultural Site.

ON STAGE • CAROLYN DITTMER

Worldwide Wonders

Annual Turquoise and Silver Tea shines in Alamogordo

When former Miss New Mexico, Sarina Turnbull Paul received her yearly call asking her to be mistress of ceremonies for the Flickinger Center Guild’s 17th Annual Turquoise and Silver Tea, she asked the theme so that she could dress accordingly.

In the past, themes such as Denim and Diamonds were easy for her, but this year’s Worldwide Wonders, is taking a bit more thought. Paul is up to the challenge because she and radio personality, James “Double J” White are again hosting an event they feel strongly about.

“Double J and I are huge supporters of the Flickinger Center and the mission of the Guild to support the endeavors of the Flickinger, and love being invited back annually to host this unique and special event,” said Paul.

The Tea will be held at the Tays Event Center, 2235 N. Scenic Drive, Alamogordo, on October 20 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Doors open at 1 p.m. so that guests may view silent auction items, take commemorative pictures at the photo booth, and find their seating.

Guests may wear whatever they wish, but some do take advantage of the festive themes.

“I heard that one of our guild members is planning to wear a salwar kameez,” said Sue Hawley, Guild President Lee Selden’s assistant for this year’s Tea.

A salwar kameez is a long tunic worn over a pair of baggy trousers in countries such as Afghanistan, Pakistan, and India.

The annual runway fashion show is a worldwide wonder. Historically, French designer, Paul Poiret and British couturier, Lucile are credited with initiating the type of seasonal fashion presentations like the one featured at the Guild’s Tea. Area merchants will display their fall and winter collections.

Light refreshments, donat-



Karri Duke and Emily Hanson, twin sisters who have been belly dancing for over 40 years, perform traditional Middle Eastern dance, Arabic, Raks Sharqi, for the Oct. 20 Turquoise and Silver Tea at the Tays Special Events Center in Alamogordo.

ed by Mountain View Catering include fruit, sandwiches, and petits fours, served in the tradition of a British High Tea. John Montagu, the Fourth Earl of Sandwich had the idea of placing meat and other fillings between two slices of bread. Petit four is French for small ovens and came from a time when bakers had large hot ovens to bake bread. Pastry baking time was called baking “á petit four” and was when the oven slowly cooled.

Tea is served from silver tea services by the Alamogordo High School ROTC, who also help with cleanup and dishwashing.

“They are super kids; they really are,” said Selden “and the guy that is in charge of the ROTC is right in there washing with them!”

Three Rivers, a local trio that plays original Texas style acoustic country music will provide musical entertainment along with Another Chance, a group of local men who love to sing Gospel music.

Karri Duke and Emily Hanson, twin sisters who have been belly dancing for over 40 years, will perform traditional Middle Eastern dance.

“Our style is Arabic, Raks Sharqi, and we both studied with the same instructor, Una, who is still dancing and teaching to this day at (age) 73,” said Duke.

“We perform to traditional music and today’s modern middle eastern music. Our costuming for the tea is known as an Oriental Egyptian Saidi dress.

This is the only fundraising event the guild does each year and the proceeds from ticket sales, silent auction items, and buy-it-now items provide purchases of much needed equipment for the Flickinger Theater as well as Patron’s Hall which also supports the theater.

“This year we will have a total of 480 tickets and when those are gone, we will be sold out since we have no more space in the Tays (Event Center),” Selden said.

“Never in a million years would I ever think that in three years’ time, we would fill the Tays to capacity. But that is what will happen this year.”

Tickets are \$15 and are available at the Flickinger Center, 1110 N New York Ave., Alamogordo, online at <http://flickingercenter.com/>, from Flickinger Guild members, and at the door. For more information call the Flickinger Center 575-437-2202.



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ARTS EXPOSURE • DURRAE JOHANEK

Mural, Mural on the Wall

Truth or Consequences: hot springs and cool murals

To say Truth or Consequences (T or C) is a bit quirky is an understatement. Even its name raises eyebrows and induces smiles. However, a large part of its “quirk” comes from the murals that adorn building walls, businesses and outbuildings. From the interstate you can’t miss the mural on the town’s water tower but scattered throughout this berg are at last count — and growing — 48 other pieces of public art that range from spiritual to Native American to historical, as well as just plain whimsical. For the statistic minded, that comes to one mural per roughly 123 residents.

On an easy walk through Old Town and its fringes, I found a nearly full-sized bison; small flowers adorning a hot springs walkway; a gigantic roadrunner; and ristras, to name a few.

Although murals are usually outdoors, inside the old post office is a huge work painted directly onto the wall, the Internet’s definition of a mural. This is a WPA New Deal project painted by Boris Deutsch in 1940, possibly the oldest mural in T or C.

But to stretch the definition a bit, the nearby visitor center as well as the Rocket Inn have images painted on wood that are attached to their outside walls, and the Bank of the Southwest has a “mural” made of tiles. Add some residents’ creative fences and backyards, and the public art list grows.

Regional as well as out-of-state artists have created the works that grace the walls of



Delmas Howe’s flowers grace the T or C Civic Center. Eight flowers, some as large as 8 by 12 feet, brighten up the building.



A nearly full-sized bison was created by David Larcom, who also painted ristras, flowers, Mimbres animals, and pelicans throughout town.

this historic mining town. Local Delmas Howe’s huge flowers on the civic center have turned a rather ordinary building into a must-see for out-of-towners.

The entrance to the Grapevine Bistro on Broadway is surrounded by Native Americans on horseback, courtesy of Peter Bowles, of Great Britain. Patrons to the bistro often take photos of its wall, then turn around and photograph the colorful anonymous piece across the street at Ingo’s Art Café.

Bowles also painted “Millie’s Doll,” a two-story kachina doll on the 303 Gallery. One of T or C’s newest murals is a bison and pelicans on Sea Properties, by David Larcom of Salida, Colorado. You also can’t miss his roadrunner on the Ace Motel. Next to the Dust Gallery is a work by Ricardo Chavarria of Anthony; its op-art quality is mesmerizing.

In an alley off Broadway, Grace Bryan has created a tropical beach wall, just right for relaxing next to in the heat of summer.

Mary Kinner Walker has left her mark all over town, from street art license plate cars to a

garden shed at the library. She was instrumental in organizing local kids to paint the Studio de la Luz building, whose wall spans nearly a block. Down the street is the Marcia McCoy studio, a pastel green building with Walker’s dancing blue turtles across the top, homage to near-by Turtleback Mountain.

On Austin Street nothing says New Mexico like the wall signed by Will Rannels, 1996. Its depictions of the desert and its flora and fauna have held up under the intense New Mexico sun. But sun isn’t the murals’ worst enemy: over the years, some business owners have painted over the works of art that were on their shops. Today, fortunately, most have an appreciation of the history and talent that have gone into these works of public art and have left them in place.

Other standouts in town are anonymous creations, including one of my favorites, the gold-panner that covers the side of the Postal Express building. Faded colors show its age, but it still clearly depicts the area’s heritage.

On the other end of town sits a small abandoned building with a mural advertising the Hillsboro Bar-B-Q—it took a few glances for me to realize it wasn’t a functioning restaurant. Along the Rio Grande, Riverbend Hot Springs could open its own mural museum—it has that many—and not to be missed is the wall-size memorial titled “Not Forgotten” at the New Mexico State Veterans Home.

T or C is a destination site for hot-springers, who come to relax in one of the many thermal waters. But when their fingers



Mary Kinner Walker supervised young artists as they worked on the block-long Studio de la Luz building.

begin to wrinkle, they can take to the streets to continue to soak up the atmosphere of this awesome town. And whether

colorful, historical, or realistic, anonymous or signed, you never know when or where another piece of quirk will pop up.

ARTS EXPOSURE

RioBravoFineArt Waldrum retrospective glows

October will see the beginning for the H. Joe Waldrum Retrospective at RioBravoFineArt, Inc. Gallery in Truth or Consequences. Some eighty pieces of work from the H. Joe Waldrum Trust will be on display for the retrospective. The public opening is from 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12, Art Hop Night in Truth or Consequences. The retrospective runs through January 26, 2020.

The retrospective will showcase the large number of linocuts, aquatints, and paintings from the famous northern New Mexico church series and window series done by Waldrum and held by the Trust. In addition to the more widely known works by Waldrum, there will also be early studies and SX70 Polaroids on display. The studies and the SX70 Polaroids will provide a rare glimpse into the creative process of a truly talented artist.

Two studies in the retrospective involve simple grid works defined by lines and colored squares – experiments with the simplest of shapes enhanced by color. Other studies are for the window series and for his triptych paintings.

For Waldrum, the window paintings were a means to explore the interaction of colors; the triptych paintings were a means to study the concept of back ground, middle ground, fore ground. All of these studies might be labeled as “geometric abstractionism.”

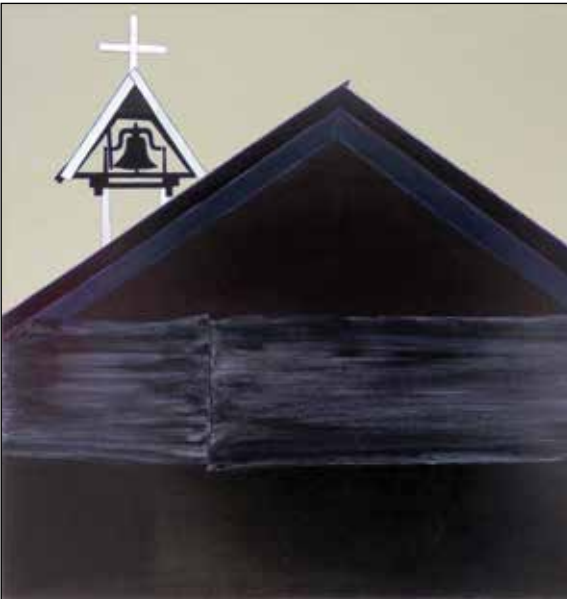
These studies in the realm of the abstract obviously influenced Waldrum’s more representational work, especially in the works of the northern New Mexico churches. Waldrum seems to seek out the underlying abstract qualities of an object – a church building, an architectural detail – as a way to captivate the viewer and draw the viewer into the work.

The retrospective is curated by Eduardo Alicea, who is the trustee for the H. Joe Waldrum Trust. Alicea worked with Waldrum as his assistant for four years. He assisted Waldrum in the preparation of some of his final paintings. He has important insight into what Waldrum wanted to achieve as an artist.

Alicea is also the Director, as president, of RioBravoFineArt, Inc. Gallery.



“Millie’s Doll” was named after Mildred Buhler, the 303 Gallery owner’s grandmother, who carved the kachina doll.



“Dark Tin,” by H. Joe Waldrum, 1984 acrylic on linen, 45-inches by 45-inches.

GRAND OPENING OCT. 5

FINE ART FIBER ART FUNCTIONAL ART

ZIA GALLERY

415 Broadway - Truth or Consequences

Saturday October 5 — 10 a.m - 9 p.m.

ON THE STREETS • ELVA K. ÖSTERREICH

T or C Goes Meteoric

Film festival brings arts, music, film into alignment

New Mexico is invited to Meteoric Truth or Consequences Oct. 18, 19 and 20 for a desert carnival for the mind including films, art, sound, ideas and revelry. Rev- elry.

One of the Meteoric event organizers, Kyle Cunningham, said he is excited to be bring- ing new ways of storytelling to Truth or Consequences.

Cunningham is working with local artists and filmmakers as well as some of his friends from New York to bring a truly eclec- tic event to New Mexico.

“We are gathering a group of artists to create this new event,” he said. “It’s a film/art weekend. We are exploring art with storytelling in new ways, incorporating virtual reality and film and more.”

Cunningham is a painter, filmmaker, stone sculptor, pho- tographer and internet guru.

“It’s a broader idea,” he said. “My friends from New York are more focused on film and the technology. We are working together because we want to break out of the idea that each medium is separate.

After running a cooperative art space gallery in T or C for eight years, Cunningham said he thinks art is the most import- ant thing, infusing everything.

“T or C is just a unique space,” he said. “People have a

magical experience. Two local musicians have started record- ing studios. We are getting the brewery involved and the shop owners.”

The festival is still welcom- ing people who would like to participate with interesting art projects, installations. Festival organizers are finding spaces for participation. Cunningham himself is working on a big art installation of a project he has been working on for years.

“We want to connect to peo- ple,” he said. “We are just trying to foster this wider and more integrated approach to T or C, doing more interesting things. I really want to see a giant flam- ing meteorite. I want people who want to come and make something.”

There will be films shown ev- ery day during the festival in the day time, he said. There is a Fri- day night potluck party planned with an aerial performer doing silks. On Saturday night there will be an art walk but much bigger than usual.

Visit the website at www.meteoric.world for information or to register to participate with art projects and festival film tickets.

The Spaceport Visitor’s Center will be filled with film screenings, virtual reality ex- periences, and art installations made and curated by a very

special group of visiting artists from around the world.

The Pirate Potluck and Per- formances is from 6 to 9 p.m. Bring a dish to share, enjoy music performances curated by Cosmic Turtle Sound Studios. Hear songs from local musi- cians – share a song yourself! Arrr, pirate attire encouraged.

On Saturday from 6 to 9 p.m. the town sparks to life with the first ever Meteoric Light and Sound Carnivale. Costumes cel- ebrating light and sound are en- couraged as the guests become works of art and explore a mul- titude of amazing installations all throughout the downtown.

The T or C Brewing Co. will feature live music both Friday and Saturday nights. And there will be late night parties as well.

There will also be morning movement classes and morning and happy hour tours of record- ing studios, artist retreats and more.

Everything is free except for a Sunday lunch which is \$10. Registration is required.

“For me it’s been exciting watching people get excited about it,” Cunningham said. “Yes, we are starting a little bit late but if we had a year’s worth of submissions it would be too much. As a tv show this is like the pilot. The whole thing is great big ball of bright light that is T or C.

Films and discussions at the Spaceport America Visitor Center

Saturday Workshops

On Saturday, Oct. 19, the fes- tival features the launch of the new Austin Arts Community. Head over in the afternoon for a variety of film workshops. Meet New Mexico Film VIPs. Catch the premiere of “Taos Shorts” at 7p.m. And a delightful movie that just played at Borderscene in Las Cruces, “A Boy Called Sailboat” which starts at 8 p.m.

“Gambling, Gods and LSD”

Directed by Peter Mettler. Cana- da/Switzerland / 2002 / 180 min- utes

“Gambling, Gods and LSD” will change the way you see the world. A filmmaker’s quest for transcen- dence becomes a three-hour trip across countries and cultures, be- tween people, over time.

“Collective: Unconscious”

Directed by Lily Baldwin, Nuotama Bodomo, Daniel Pat- rick Carbone, Josephine Decker, Lauren Wolkstein. USA / 2016 / 1h 17min

“Collective: Unconscious” is a collaborative feature in which five of independent film’s most adventurous and acclaimed film- makers join forces to adapt each other’s dreams for the screen.

“The Great Silence”

Directed by Allora & Calza- dilla in collaboration with Ted Chiang.

Puerto Rico / 2016 / 17 mins

The silent, subtitled, inner monologue of a parrot on the brink of extinction, reflecting on voice, silence, extraterrestrial life and human folly. The film is focused around the Arecibo Ob- servatory, which captures and transmits radio waves from and into outer space – and whose site is also home to the critically en- dangered Puerto Rican parrots.

“Welcoming”

A site-specific participatory vid- eo art installation by Lauren Mc- Carthy that explores anticipation, expectation, and presence togeth- er in an unknown future.

“Untitled TorC”

A work in progress virtual reality experience created by Hannah Jayanti and Alexander Porter that explores place & memory using footage captured in TorC.

“The Hard Up”

Directed by Tamir Rawlings USA/2019/120 minutes

A “South-Western” shot in Truth or Consequences follow- ing a chaotic group of charac- ters and their misadventures. The Hard Up is a desert-epic about missing dogs and persons, inconvenient ex-lovers, petty crimes and prenatal yoga.

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STEPPING BACK IN TIME

Trinity Site Open House

Visiting the birthplace of the atomic bomb

White Sands Missile Range will open Trinity Site to the public for the second of two annual open houses, Oct. 5. Trinity Site is where the world's first atomic bomb was tested at 5:29:45 a.m. Mountain War Time July 16, 1945.

The open house is free, and no reservations are required. At the site visitors can take a quarter-mile walk to ground zero where a small obelisk marks the exact spot where the bomb was detonated. Historical photos are mounted on the fence surrounding the area.

While at the site, visitors can also ride a missile range shuttle bus two miles from ground zero to the Schmidt/McDonald Ranch House. The ranch house is where the scientists assembled the plutonium core of the bomb. Visitors will also be able to experience what life was like for a ranch family in the early 1940s.

There are two ways to get to Trinity Site, one is to enter White Sands Missile Range through its Stallion Range

Center gate. Stallion gate is five miles south of U.S. Highway 380. The turn-off is 12 miles east of San Antonio, New Mexico, and 53 miles west of Carrizozo, New Mexico. The Stallion Gate is open from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Visitors arriving at the gate between those hours will be allowed to drive unescorted the 17 miles to Trinity Site. The road is paved and marked. The site closes promptly at 3:30 p.m.

The other way is to drive with an escorted caravan which leaves at 8 a.m. from the Tularosa High School athletics field parking lot in Tularosa. Those who choose to caravan in can either join the caravan to return to Tularosa or exit at the Stallion Gate on their own time.

The New Mexico Museum of Space History in Alamogordo offers a guided bus tour (which travels with the caravan) out to the site which includes brown bag lunch and a tour of the museum as well. For more information about the tour call 575-437-2849.



Visitors to the Trinity Site are greeted by what is left of Jumbo, built to contain the 13 pounds of plutonium if the bomb failed to detonate. Jumbo was never needed so, in an attempt that it be destroyed, eight 500-pound bombs were set off inside, they succeeded only in blowing off its ends. (Photo by Elva K. Österreich)



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November Deadlines

Tues., Oct. 15, noon: Space reservation and ad copy due	Wed., Oct. 16, noon: All stories and notices for the editorial section		
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2019 Writing Contest

Desert Exposure continues its annual writing contest with growing pride and extended reach with submissions from across the pond (ocean) from people who harbor a love for this beautiful corner of the world. Many of the 2019 submissions were directly focused on the requirement of “... will be judged on quality and how well they express some aspect of life in southern New Mexico.” They were all a pleasure to read and the judges had a difficult time choosing between many of the submissions.

Contest winners are determined by points which are accrued according to how the judges rank each piece. This year’s grand prize, “Prowler” by Susan A. Rivera of Las Cruces, certainly reflects the feelings of many who reside in this glorious collection

of deserts and mountains we enjoy and relax in. Contest honorable mentions in the prose division are “Brenda’s Song,” by Jim Humphreys and “Returning to Hillsboro From the Beach,” by Carol Borsello. Each capturing a different but very southern New Mexico attitude. The two poems ultimately chosen are “El Norte,” by G. Timothy Gordon, and “What Coyote Did to Me,” by Alethea Eason, both reflecting different sides of life here, perhaps touching a bit on things that are always somewhere in the backs of our minds. But these are not the only pieces received that touched on our varied lives here, so many submissions pinpointed our world. We would like to thank all who entered sharing their hearts, ideas and passions with us.



SUSAN A. RIVERA

Prowler

Tom wiped the last of the fine bone china used only once a year, which he considered silly because why bother then. He placed the translucent, gold-rimmed cup among its sisters and dropped the linen dish towel to the battered old Formica counter. The fabulous porcelain plates, cups, saucers clashed against it. The stuff pointed out their “social status,” deliberately. “People shouldn’t receive such things unless they have the lifestyle to support them,” he murmured bitterly at the stacked wonders, now inert and sparkling. Anyway, there’ll be a layer of desert dust on those expensive dishes in an hour. Then he shut off the lights and went out on the back porch, screened, much more useful than china.

Peggy was out front trying desperately to separate from their company. He could hear the strain in her voice as she thanked them for coming. Why did she insist on this every year? She said it was necessary, that someone had to remember them, and so on. He always thought she was trying to talk herself into those beliefs each year, and maybe she was.

Peggy’s folks had been killed in a monstrous car crash out on Interstate 10 when she and Ellen were 12 and 9. They’d been barely middle-class, living rurally out here in western New Mexico near Deming. The girls had been taken in by struggling and loving relatives. What was Peggy trying to keep alive he wondered. He was already missing their usual quiet porch-sitting, waiting for the desert air to cool, waiting for the night sounds to commence, and knew that this evening would be dominated by the dinner’s events. His mind, resenting the automatic nature of itself, replayed the tape of tonight’s dinner.

Ellen, the one who always started the picking, jibed at him, “Why must you keep my sister here in the boondocks?”

Peggy had answered, a bit too cheerfully he thought, “This isn’t the boondocks, Ellen; this is my idea of heaven. In case you hadn’t noticed we have a city of 100,000 ten miles down the road.”

Then snarky, old me couldn’t resist, “Why Ellen? Do you want to spend more time with you sister? You never call.”

Mike had cut me off, “Ellen’s busy. Besides, we could make you a nice deal on a



brand-new house in a cozy subdivision I’ve just opened.” After that, they simply sat and sipped their cold coffee. Of course, Ellen wouldn’t let it die and finally almost shouted, “What’s the matter, Tom? Afraid of mortgage commitment?”

Peggy saw me blanch I really could have smacked Ellen and barked back at her, “That’s right, Ellen. We own this place free and clear. It’s a wonderful feeling. You should try it.”

To which Ellen had yipped, “Why do you always have to settle?”

To which Peggy had snapped, “Why isn’t there ever enough for you?”

Tom had to admit to feeling less of a man, to bristling each time Peggy came to his defense. Mike had droned on and on about all the “amenities” at his developments over near Phoenix. Tom was certain that even Ellen tuned him out as she sat there beaming through her successful husband, probably redesigning their kitchen in fantasy. “God,” he blurted, “They’ve gotten into my head again.” He didn’t need to defend either of them or their lifestyle.

Out in the yard the sound of Peggy’s voice drifted to him. He felt the music in her “good-bye” wash over him and was suddenly in wonder that Peggy had chosen him, her “talented mechanic,” to live with. She loved the desert, the space, an emptiness that somehow filled her, and had talked him into this old adobe, which sat in the middle of a small pecan grove about ten miles west of Las Cruces. They’d spent the last eight years remodeling it to their pain and delight. Theirs was a simple life; they had enough and plenty of peace and quiet. Ellen had given them the ornate china as a housewarming gift.

He heard an engine fire, and steps returning, a door closing, and then, “Well that was uncomfortable once again,” from his darling wife, who tried so hard he had to love her a little more each year. She slumped into the comfy chair next to his and reached out her hand to him. They sat this way waiting for “their owl”, a great horned, to commence its soft call. It had perched atop one of the Afghan pines out in their sandy yard pretty regularly. They’d gotten into the habit about three weeks ago and simply couldn’t stop.

It was wonderful really, sitting in the dark, waiting for the silent night killer to begin its warning salvos for all creatures to hear. What fair play. And the best part was that

the little beings it feasted on wouldn’t hear it coming, so silent its winged pounce would be. The busy unending quest for food would end. There was respite in that, simply ceasing without notice, without tremble. They’d gone to bed each night these past few weeks in peace because of the quick and wasteless order of the hunting. Sometimes the owl would hoo-hoo around 3 a.m. for no reason, except for owl singing, if that’s what it could be called. He thought of it more as a lullaby.

But Tom knew this night would be filled with a redressing of the evening’s events. He waited for Peggy to begin. The Bruce’s dog across the field barked its usual strangled night watchman’s yelp. A slight breeze wafted chili scent through the air. Why the hell don’t they loosen that dog’s collar? Oh well, he sighed to himself, it won’t last but a few minutes. Then the nasty yellow, three-legged, feral cat caught an unsuspecting enemy out near the shed. Their fights, vicious and prolonged, raised the hair on Tom’s forearms. But these fights were real and true, not like the dinner they’d just hosted. He heard Peggy shift, and then she pulled her hand away. He heard even the deep breath she took and braced himself for the usual recanting. But she surprised him.

“You know,” she stood and stretched, placing her wonderful hands, hands that worked, and made food, and cleaned clothes, and caressed him, across the small of her back, “I’m not doing this again. I’m done.” Peggy turned to him, and although he couldn’t see definition in her face, he knew she was smiling.

“What brought this on?” “Oh, it’s boring and exhausting. I’m sick of the disdain they have for our little desert retreat. And,” Peggy kissed him lightly on the forehead, “time is running out. Want some tea?” Yes, yes, he did want tea.

They went to bed around 1:00, nestling into each other, belying the bed’s king size. Tom got up first, as usual. Peggy heard him in the kitchen setting out plates, then took in the alluring scent of percolating coffee. This morning she took her time. A vision of the waste in Ellen’s face floated up from last evening’s dinner. Ellen had condemned her wordlessly while eating the light-as-clouds, lemon mousse Peggy had made. She didn’t want to see it again. Wasn’t subjecting her husband to Mike’s utter horror and scorn at the state of their financial affairs.

When last evening’s judging barbs began their inevitable replay in her mind, she shook her head hard till they rattled off to some area of her brain she considered her personal garbage can. Peggy suddenly envisioned those memories as tasty, but rotting morsels, tossed into the trash out back, food for a hun-

gry rodent. Perhaps their efficient owl would snatch the creature up, digest it, and drop the desiccated remains at the foot of the pine it dominated from. But she knew it wouldn’t be such an easy discard. She’d have to work at it; the dead would persist; her desire to hang on would be strong. It would take time. Peggy smiled at herself in the bathroom mirror, a smile of shaky resolve.

She stepped into the kitchen just as Tom poured her first cup of coffee for the day. He handed it straight at her, and she took it, cupping it carefully so as not to spill. Her coffee swirled inside one of the fancy bone china cups from last night. Peggy outright grinned and nodded “yes” at Tom’s gleeful eyes.

“We deserve beauty. The ‘poor’ especially need beauty,” he said, “And...it would be nice if there weren’t a single one of these left before we die.”



Honorable Mention

ALETHEA EASON

What Coyote Did to Me

Coyote stripped me until my body shone under the moon’s liquid aurora. The sacred heart of the earth became insane with glory and the madness danced down to my delighted bones. The night scented tides rose in my blood, red-coral, floral flushed with fatal joy. Coyote made me raise my fist, led me toward a traitorous path, unkempt, insane, blemished, and impolite, a naked animal painted with moonlight.

JIM HUMPHREYS

Brenda's Song

“He’s a Great Pearlene, Doc. Best damn sheepdog in the world. I paid five thousand for him. I can see most of my pastures from the upper deck of my house. Got one pasture that borders a big arroyo. The coyotes love it. Lots of space to hide out. I lost twenty lambs in that pasture last year to those varmints. This dog’s gonna change that.”

I had to think about it for a minute. I hadn’t seen the dog, but I suspected what my client had bought was a Great Pyreneese, a dog that was originally bred in the high mountains between France and Spain to protect sheep from the wolves.

I looked into the back of Mr. Davis’ stock trailer. Lying on a bed of straw was what looked like a young dog, just shy of a year of age and growing fast. I estimated he already weighed over a hundred pounds. Except for the edges of his eyelids, his nose and lips, which were black as coal, he was snowy white. His hair was long, thick and straight. He had a huge head and beautiful eyes, brown and sad.

“I’m gonna leave him with you for a week, Doc. I have to take a load of ewes to Dallas. I’ll pick him up on the way home. I need you to check him over, give him any shots he needs. He’s not mean, won’t give you any trouble. He leads pretty good on a



Honorable Mention

leash, but here’s the deal, Doc. I don’t want anybody lovin’ on this dog. No petting or hugging. If you socialize this dog, you’ll ruin him. Just feed and water him and leave him alone.”

Carl Davis was a third-generation sheep rancher—and a real grouch. He was a short man, maybe five-five with a scraggly beard, long tangled grey hair and a pot-belly. His shirt was never tucked in and his boots desperately needed new soles. He owned a ranch about 25 miles directly west of town. His wife had divorced him. He had two sons and a daughter, none of whom had the slightest interest in ranching. Carl’s ranch foreman, Clay Summers, once told me, “They didn’t want to grow up to be like their ol’ man.”

I had several clients who owned a Great Pyreneese. They were all gentle giants, great fam-

ily dogs, but not worth what Mr. Davis had paid for his. “I didn’t realize these dogs were so expensive, Mr. Davis.”

“That’s because you’re used to seeing silver dollars. I bought a gold coin. These damn US breeders have ruined these dogs. Turned them into pets. Something for their kids to crawl all over, hug and kiss. I had this dog shipped from Barcelona, Spain. He’s guaranteed to kill any coyote, wolf or mountain lion that gets anywhere close to his flock.

It was then that I noticed Brenda on my right side. Brenda had worked for us for the past three years and was about to start her senior year in high school. Tall and thin with long brown hair, she was a natural athlete, the star of both the volleyball and basketball teams. She was one of the best high school students we had ever hired, hard-working and afraid of nothing. I attributed her courage to a tough childhood. Her parents were killed in a car accident when she was ten years old. Her grandparents gave her a new home, a small farm on the west edge of town, filled with love, discipline and purpose. She thrived.

I looked at her and said, “Brenda, you think you can find a run for Mr. Davis’ dog?”

“No!” yelled Mr. Davis. “He needs to stay out here in a horse stall. He gets no special treatment. Is that understood?” he

snarled at Brenda.

Without so much as a hint of feeling intimidated, Brenda looked at him and smiled. She stepped into the trailer, put a leash around the dog’s neck and led him to a clean horse stall.

“I don’t like that man,” whispered Brenda, as Mr. Davis drove away. “That stall is really hard dirt, Dr. Humphreys. Can I put a blanket in there with him?”

“Well, we’re not supposed to.....” She looked at me with pitifully sad eyes. “Okay, Brenda. Put a blanket in there with him.”

The rest of the week was different than most. It was Brenda’s last week of summer vacation. She was working full time and our paths typically crossed at least a dozen times a day. But, not this week. Each time I asked a staff member, “Where’s Brenda?” the answer always seemed to be the same.

“Uh, not sure. I think she’s out back.” I didn’t want to check up on her for fear I might find her huddled up in a corner of the horse stall with Mr. Davis’ dog.

On Friday afternoon, once again, I asked our receptionist, Roseann, “Have you seen Brenda?”

“I think she took Placido for a walk.”

“Placido? Who’s Placido?”

Roseann’s face instantly turned bright red, like a face does when the person behind it suddenly realizes he or she has unintentionally released a deep, dark secret. “Uh, that’s what Brenda named Mr. Davis’ dog.”

“She’s did what? She named Mr. Davis’ dog? Placido?”

“Yeah, Dr. Humphreys. You know, Placido. Like Placido Domingo. He’s a Spanish tenor.”

“I know who Placido Domingo is, Roseann.”

“Brenda thought the name fit him well. After all, they’re both Spaniards, they both have gorgeous eyes and it just so happens that Placido Domingo is Brenda’s grandmother’s favorite singer.”

“Oh yeah? Well, something tells me that Mr. Davis is not a music lover.”

She smiled sheepishly. “Placido is.”

“Whatta ya mean?”

She whispered, “Brenda sings a lullaby to him every evening before she leaves. Don’t tell her I told you.”

I took a deep breath and closed my eyes, imagining my potential fate. “Oh, my goodness. If that dog goes home and decides that letting his coyote buddies serenade him is a lot more fun than chasing them off, Mr. Davis will have all of our hides.” I yelled down the hallway, “Chris! Go find Brenda and tell her to put that dog back in his stall—now!” I slipped into my office and closed the door.

It was Brenda’s turn to feed and clean that weekend. I could always count on her to make sure every animal was fed, had plenty of water, that the clinic

was spotless and didn’t smell bad. Sunday morning, I drove to the office early. I was sitting at the reception desk studying next week’s schedule when I saw her drive into the parking lot. She got out of her pickup and looked through the glass entrance door, suddenly realizing that I had arrived ahead of her. No doubt, she hadn’t expected that and the look on her face revealed a disturbing story. I stood up and met her at the door. “Okay,” I said. “Where is he?”

Slowly, she walked to the passenger side of the pickup and opened the door. Out stepped Placido. It took all I had to keep my cool. “Brenda! Really?”

I could see the tears about to fall. “I’m so sorry, Dr. Humphreys. I knew he was going to the ranch tomorrow. I figured if he was destined to live in an open field, exposed to cold, rain and snow with no one to talk to except a bunch of stupid sheep, he deserved one night in a comfortable home. We sat on the front porch for hours while I played my guitar and sang songs for him. He slept at the foot of my bed.”

Whether it was intentional or not, she did a first-rate job of melting my heart. “What did your grandparents have to say?”

“They loved him. I told them it was just one night, but I didn’t tell them the whole story. Please don’t fire me.”

“Nobody’s going to fire you, Brenda.” I chuckled. “Even if I wanted to, and I don’t, I can’t afford to fire you. I expect you to come back here some day and buy this practice. Have you completely forgotten what Mr. Davis asked of us?”

“No, sir. He said I was to leave him alone.”

“Exactly. Somehow, I don’t think that included sleeping at the foot of your bed.”

She allowed herself a devilish grin. “I won’t tell anyone if you don’t.”

“Fair enough. Put him up and don’t you dare take him out again until Mr. Davis gets back.”

“Yes sir.”

The following day marked the start of the new school year. Brenda rushed back to the clinic after her last class. She wanted to be there to say goodbye. I watched as she led Placido into Mr. Davis’ stock trailer. It took every bit of her strength not to kneel next to him and hug him. Struggling desperately to hold back tears, she walked quickly out of the trailer and into the clinic.

I knew her heart was broken but I also knew that she would be all right. Soon, student council meetings, volleyball practice and homework would keep her busy.

It was mid-April of the following year. I was in the farm and ranch store buying some dripline for a new group of trees

BRENDA’S SONG
continued on page 27



Chyna by José Montoya

Voices of Change: LGBTQ Activism

Voices of Change highlights stories of LGBTQ individuals, organizations, landmark events, and social justice from southern New Mexico and west Texas.

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BRENDA’S SONG

continued from page 26

I had planted when I heard his voice. “Hey, Doc.”

I turned to see Clay Summers, Carl Davis’ ranch foreman. “Hello, Clay,” I said, reaching to shake his hand. “How the heck are you, Man?”

“Been busy, Doc. We just barely finished fixing fence line when the ewes started lambing. How have you been?”

“Doing well, Clay. Speaking of lambing, how has Placi...uh, Mr. Davis’ new dog worked out?”

Clay smiled. “You know what, Doc? In all the years I’ve I worked for that old man, he’s made lots of bad decisions, but buying that dog was not one of them. That’s the greatest guard dog I’ve ever seen. He hadn’t been in the field for two weeks before a coyote got a bit too close. Poor beast was either awfully bold or awfully stupid. That dog ran him down and killed him on the spot.”

“You’re kiddin’ me.”

“That’s only half the story, Doc. There’s a big tall berm in the middle of that pasture. It used to be part of a dam that was built to catch the monsoon rains.” He laughed. “Back in the day when it used to rain. That dog dragged that coyote to the top of that berm for the whole world to see. The blood trail was over 100 feet long. It was almost like he was making a statement. Letting everybody know that there was a new sheriff in town and they best not mess with his sheep. Damnedest thing I ever saw. We haven’t lost a single lamb this season. Hey, I better go, Doc. Good to see you.”

“Good to see you too, Clay. Give

my best to Mr. Davis.”

I considered telling Brenda about my conversation with Clay but decided that old wound didn’t need to be reopened.

It was three weeks later that we heard the tragic news on the radio. Local rancher, Carl Davis had been killed in a freak accident on his ranch. Details were sketchy.

Two weeks after we received that news, Roseann stepped into my office. “Clay Summers is up front. He came to town to pay some ranch bills. Sounds like he’s moving. He wants to say goodbye.”

“Ask him to come on back, Roseann.” In the blink of an eye, a tired, sad ranch foreman stood at the door to my office.

“Come on in and have a seat, Clay.” He sat down and took a slow deep breath, as if it were the first he had been allowed in some time. “I can’t stay long, Doc. Just wanted to thank you for everything you’ve done for us.” We sat for 30 minutes while he gave me all the details of the accident and the future plans for the ranch. “I’ve got a job offer up north I’m gonna look at.”

We stood. “I wish you all the best, Clay. Keep in touch.” We shook hands and he walked away.

At the end of the day, the entire staff, all dying of curiosity, gathered in my office and I relayed Clay’s story. Mr. Davis had been checking his pastures on his 4-wheeler ATV. He caught a steep hill at a bad angle. The machine rolled over on top of him, killing him instantly.

None of his children wanted anything to do with the ranch and so, the bank was in the process of putting it up for sale. Carl’s neighbor had decided to buy all the sheep. Clay

and his men had spent the last week gathering and shipping.

I looked at Brenda. “The last pasture they gathered was Placido’s. Apparently, he stood guard the entire time to make sure nobody was left behind. When he was satisfied that all of his flock were penned, he disappeared.”

“What do you mean, he disappeared,” asked Brenda.

“Well, according to Mr. Summers, as they were loading the sheep onto trucks, one of his guys noticed Placido walking back across the pasture. Clay assumed he wasn’t going anywhere so he didn’t give it a second thought. That was two days ago. He hasn’t been back since. Clay put the word out to the neighbors. Nobody’s seen him.”

“How the hell can you not see a giant-sized snow-white dog walking across open land?” asked Roseann.

“Why would he do that?” asked Brenda.

“I don’t know,” I said. “Maybe he just figured his job was done.”

I was finishing some medical records when Brenda stepped into my office. She had been crying. “Dr. Humphreys?”

“Come in and sit down, Brenda.”

“What’s he going to do, Dr. Humphreys? Where’s he going to go? Who’s going to take care of him?”

I sighed. “I suspect he’s going to be just fine, Brenda. He’s a tough dog. He reminds me a lot of someone else I know. Don’t you worry. He’ll find a new family. Just like you did.” I paused for a bit and handed her a Kleenex to blow her nose. “Tell you what, Brenda. The last time he was seen, he was headed due East. Maybe you should leave the porch light on tonight. You never know.”



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punched-up in dust and grit among steerage weed and creosote,
Hill Country transplants from deep loam and topsoil earth,
azalea, dogwood, firethorn shrub, green, white, red glow,
come forth from elsewhere as spirits in a hush, as do compesinos
venida a menos, eyeing food truck gorditas, chapulas, border cops,
el norte, weathered by wind, sand, sun, owning nothing ni de aqui,
ni de alla, here or there, neither cachet of bluer-than-blue
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THE STARRY DOME • BY BERT STEVENS

Lyra, the Lyre

Orpheus the charming

Almost overhead as it gets dark, you can find a bright star with a small trapezoid of fainter stars south of it. This is the constellation Lyra, the Lyre, and the bright star is the Alpha star of this constellation, Vega. Vega is the fifth brightest star in the sky, shining at magnitude +0.0.

The lyre this constellation represents was owned by the Greek musician, Orpheus. He was able to play the lyre so beautifully that he could charm even inanimate objects. The lyre had been made by Hermes and given to Apollo to placate him for cattle that Hermes had stolen from Apollo. The lyre was passed down from Apollo to Orpheus, his son by the nymph Calliope. Orpheus sailed with Jason and the Argonauts where he charmed the Sirens with his music, preventing them from tempting the other Argonauts to abandon ship.

Orpheus married the nymph Eurydice. When the couple was attacked by his half-brother Aristaeus, Eurydice attempted to flee, but she stepped on a snake which bit her. Her death cast her into the Underworld. Orpheus entered the Underworld to retrieve her, charming Hades, god of the Underworld, with his lyre. Hades relented on the condition that Orpheus not look back to see if Eurydice was following him. They had almost made it out when Orpheus turned around, sending Eurydice back to the Un-

Calendar of Events – October 2019 (MST)		
05	10:47 a.m.	First Quarter Moon with Saturn nearby
13	3:08 p.m.	Full Moon
19	10 p.m.	Mercury greatest distance east of the Sun (25 degrees)
21	6:39 a.m.	Last Quarter Moon
27	9:38 p.m.	New Moon
31	2 p.m.	Mercury stands still

derworld.

The grieving Orpheus decided not to wed, even though he was besieged by offers from many women. One story has him killed by all the women he rejected. Another is that he failed to make a sacrifice to Dionysus. Enraged, Dionysus sent his followers to tear Orpheus apart. In either case, Zeus put the lyre in the sky while Orpheus's bones were buried by the Muses.

The bright star Vega is only 25 light-years away from us. With a mass 2.1 times our Sun, it is 40 times brighter. It is a white star of spectral class A0, just a 10th of the age of our Sun. Since it is more massive than our Sun, it is burning hydrogen at a much higher rate, accounting for the much higher luminosity. It will run out of hydrogen in its core in about 450 million years. It will then go through a red giant phase and eventually become a white dwarf.

When it was measured with precision instruments, it was discovered that Vega was 1.42 times larger than would be expected for this type of star. Further observations have shown that we

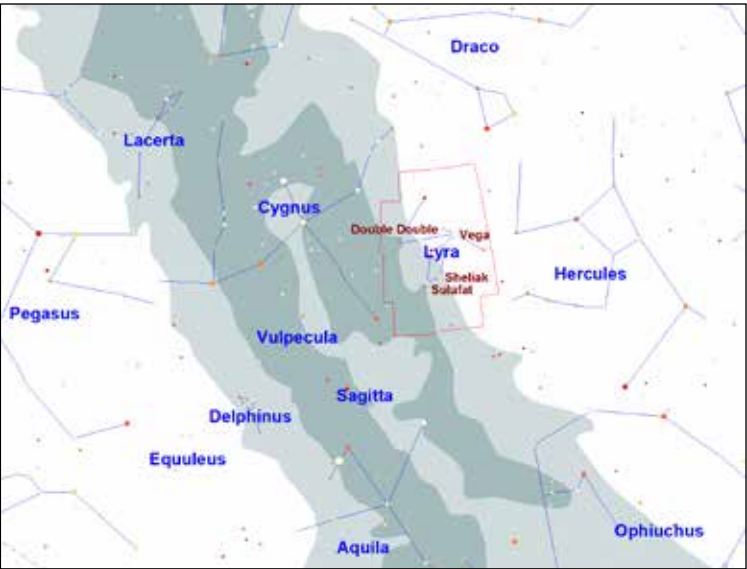
are looking almost straight down on Vega's pole. Vega is spinning very fast, making a turn in just 16 and a half hours, causing the equator to bulge outward from the centrifugal force. Since we are looking down on the star the equatorial bulge makes the star appear bigger than expected.

Another interesting star in Lyra is Sheliak (Beta Lyrae). Altogether, there are seven stars in this system, but the brightest pair (called Beta Lyrae Aa) is a double star composed of two B-class (blue) stars that are so close together that each is pulled into an egg shaped. The originally more massive star in this system aged faster and became a red giant first. As is expanded into its giant phase, the gas near its companion was pulled away, transferring it to the less massive star.

The less massive star absorbed most of the larger star's material, making the less massive star now the more massive star. The material does not drop directly onto the now more massive star but orbits it first in an accretion disc surrounding the star. Some of the material is also blown outward in a jet along the pole of the star. Just like Vega, we are looking down the pole of this star.

The jet coming from the pole blocks our view of the now more massive star, making it appear much dimmer than its actual brightness. It is thought that some of the gas being transferred to the formerly less massive star leaks out and forms a beautiful spiral of gas drifting away from the pair of stars. At a distance of 960 light-years, if the spiral actually exists, it is too small and faint for us to see.

A pretty star system in Lyra is Epsilon Lyrae, the Double-Double, about 162 light-years away. This multiple-star system may



Facing south and looking overhead, the constellation Lyra is just to the west of overhead. In addition to the first magnitude star Vega in Lyra, two other first magnitude stars in the same area, Altair and Deneb form an asterism known as the Summer Triangle. This small constellation contains the Ring Nebula (M57), the outer atmosphere of the central star that had drifted out into space.

have as many as ten components, but the four brightest stars form two close double star pairs. The two pairs are widely separated by 3.5 minutes-of-arc. The two stars of the northernmost pair are 2.6 seconds-of-arc apart with magnitudes of 4.7 and 6.2. The southern pair are 2.3 seconds-of-arc apart and magnitudes 5.1 and 5.5. This presents a beautiful pairing even in a small telescope.

The Planets for October 2019

Four of the five bright planets are in the evening sky this month. Venus and Mercury are low on the west-southwestern horizon as it gets dark. The ecliptic is at a low angle on the western horizon this month, so it is hard for the planets to rise high in the sky. For most of the month Venus and Mercury will be in the same relative positions as they move from central Virgo to eastern Libra. Venus finally gets higher than Mercury on Oct. 30 since Mercury had turned back toward the Sun after reaching its maximum distance from the Sun on Oct. 19.

At midmonth, Venus is just four degrees above the horizon at twilight while Mercury is just two degrees higher and to its left. Venus glows at magnitude -3.9 with a disc that is 96 percent illuminated and 10.3 seconds-of-arc across. At the same time, Mercury is magnitude -0.1 with a sixty-nine percent illuminated disc that is 6.2 seconds-of-arc across.

They both set around 7:30 p.m.

Shining at magnitude -2.0, Jupiter is moving slowly eastward in southeastern Ophiuchus. It is 26 degrees above the southwestern sky as it gets dark, setting around 9:45 p.m. The King of the Gods disc is 34.5 seconds-of-arc across at midmonth.

The Ringed Planet is 24 degrees east of Jupiter, moving eastward in east-central Sagittarius. It shines at magnitude +0.5. Telescopically, the Rings are tilted down at 25.1 degrees with the northern face showing and they are 37.1 seconds-of-arc across. Saturn's disc is 16.3 seconds-of-arc across.

Mars reappears from behind the Sun this month. At the beginning of the month, it will be hard to find just a few degrees above the eastern horizon as it starts to get light. It will climb a little higher each day and by the end of the month it will be 12 degrees above the east-southeastern horizon as it gets light after having risen at 5:45 a.m. At that time, it will be magnitude +1.8 with a disc that is a tiny 3.7 seconds-of-arc across. So, it is time to celebrate the Red Planet's return and to "keep watching the sky"!

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



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PUBLISHER'S NOTEBOOK • RICHARD COLTHARP

The Lady turns 80

Mesilla dining landmark has entertained generations

When you live in this magical place known as southern New Mexico, it's easy to take some of that magic for granted.

However, if you have visitors come in from out of town, you get to see our part of the world through a fresh set of eyes.

We all have our go-to places we want to show off to our friends and family.

For me, the places are broken into different categories.

You have the geological wonders: White Sands National Monument, City of Rocks State Park, the Gila Wilderness, Carlsbad Caverns, the Organ Mountains, the Lincoln National Forest, Valley of Fires State Park and more.

You have the historical sites: the Gila Cliff Dwellings, Fort Bayard, the Lincoln Historic Site, the Branigan Cultural Center, Oliver Lee State Park, Old Mesilla, the New Mexico Muse-

um of Space History and more.

You have a lot of unique retail centers, including Ruidoso, Cloudcroft, Mesilla, Downtown Silver City, the Las Cruces Farmers and Crafts Market and more. We each have our favorite places among those centers. As a book guy, I love all the cool bookstores in our region. Book-loving friends are amazed

COLTHARP
continued on page 29

continued from page 30

at the volume and variety when I take them to Las Cruces' COAS Books. They're amazed for different reasons when I take them to other spots such as the two in Truth or Consequences (Xochi's Bookstore and Gallery, and Black Cat Books & Coffee), O'Keefe in Silver City or Mesilla Book Center on the Plaza.

Then you have the great “experience” restaurants in our region. For me these include Adobe Deli outside of Deming, the Buckhorn Saloon and Pinos Altos Opera House outside of Silver City, Chope’s in La Mesa, the Double Eagle in Mesilla, Sparky’s in Hatch, the dueling green chile cheeseburger havens in San Antonio — the Owl and the newly re-opened Buckhorn — and one that’s destined to become one, the Rad Retrocade in downtown Las Cruces.

Of course, the granddaddy (or, more accurately, the abuela) of them all just may be La

Posta de Mesilla, which opened on the Mesilla Plaza in 1939.

When I moved to Alamogordo in 1995, and my parents came to visit from Oklahoma, the roles were reversed. Instead of me recommending places for them, my mom was adamant we go to La Posta.

"I remember going to La Posta when I was a kid," she said. "We have to go there!"

My mom grew up in Fort Worth, Texas, but her aunt and uncle, Florence and A.B. Cox, and their daughters, my mom's cousins, lived in Las Cruces. Her summer visits, in the late 1940s and early 1950s, to the Cox ranch and to their Las Cruces home included trips to Mesilla for lunch or dinner at La Posta.

So, when mom learned I lived only an hour or so away, it became my obligation as a dutiful son to make sure she renewed her La Posta fix on any trip to New Mexico.

On my first visits in the 1990s, my oldest daughter, Jes-

sica, was still a little kid, and enthralled by the parrots. My youngest daughter, Avalon, had the same wide-eyed and smiling reactions when she came along in the 2000s.

I was just as intrigued by the piranhas, although I have never had my burning question answered: How does piranha taste? I suspect, with some green chile, not bad.

My tri-generational experience is not uncommon. If you've lived in southern New Mexico for a while, you've probably had a similar experience. In fact, La Posta itself is multi-generational.

The restaurant was purchased in 1996 by Tom Hutchinson and his wife, Jerean Camuñez, who is a great niece of Katy Griggs Camuñez, La Posta's founder.

Katy was just 25 when she started selling chile dishes in the little joint on the Old Butterfield Stagecoach Line.

The restaurant is celebrating its 80th birthday this year in fine fashion, recognizing La Posta's

birth along with many other things that happened in 1939, including the release of two of America's favorite movies: "Gone With the Wind" and the "Wizard of Oz," which for you trivia buffs, were both directed by the same man, George Cukor.

Over the years, much has changed at La Posta, but more has stayed the same. Under the Hutchinsons' tenure, a hallmark has been the decorations. Jerean takes great joy in curating and guiding the artifacts and colors that adorn the adobe walls. During the holidays, the restaurant takes on an even more vibrant persona. Live music is now often heard in the courtyard.

Of course, the heart of any restaurant has to be the food, and many of the current dishes don't stray too far from the ones Katy served 80 years ago. What she called tostadas and chile, we now call chips and salsa, and La Posta has some of my favorite. I love to doctor

the salsa with some fresh lemon juice. I'm also partial to their red chile con carne and their green chile cheeseburgers.

I'm also a big fan of La Posta's tequileria, which has as many as a hundred tequilas behind the bar. I prefer my agave spirits unadorned, but many La Posta regulars go strictly for one of the many specialty margaritas.

La Posta's many patrons all have many favorite aspects about the restaurant, but each time I go, I feel a little as if I have my mom's spirit in tow.

Here's to you, Mom. And here's to La Posta de Mesilla. Feliz Cumpleaños!

Richard Coltharp is publisher of Desert Exposure and the Las Cruces Bulletin. He has lived in two stops along the historic Butterfield Trail: Fort Smith, Arkansas, and Las Cruces, New Mexico. He can be reached at richard@lascrucesbulletin.com.

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SOUTH TO THE BORDER • MORGAN SMITH

Checking on Friends

Walls, bulls and shelters

“Where is everyone?” I asked the two young women at the migrant shelter in Deming. The armory was full of neatly arrayed cots, but they were all empty. Other than a few occasional Brazilians, this superbly organized and staffed facility has been abandoned by the Customs and Border Patrol (CBP). In mid-May, the CBP simply dumped several hundred migrants there leaving their care in the hands of the residents of this small town of about 14,000. The response, however, was been extraordinary. Managed by officials from the city and the fire department as well as numerous volunteers, Deming has provided these migrants with a unique level of care. It’s tragic to hear the President complain about the need for more facilities and to know that the care in the federal facilities is awful when a superb program like Deming’s has been largely abandoned.

The next stop on this monthly trip from Santa Fe to the border was Visión en Acción, a privately-run mental asylum with some 120 patients located about 15 miles south and east of the Santa Teresa crossing.

Visión en Acción had accumulated a huge stack of wood that it intended to package and sell as firewood this winter. It receives almost no government support, must continuously scramble for money, and selling firewood can be quite profitable. Unfortunately, an electrical shortage set this woodpile on fire several nights earlier and the fire raged for hours. Miraculously, none of the mental patients were hurt and none of the buildings damaged.

The Wall

Since the beginning of the surge in migrants seeking asylum, I’ve spent a great deal of time studying the border walls – or lack thereof – particularly in the Anapra-Sunland Park area. It’s a much more nuanced issue than either Democrats or Republicans would have you believe. Sadly, no one is addressing the question of how to control our borders in a way that is both effective and humane. There are some laughs, however.

For example, kids living in Anapra next to the wall love to rush over when people drive by on the Sunland Park side and ask for money to photograph them as they peek through the bars into the U.S. On this occasion, however, the oldest boy in this little group decided to make some extra money and said he’d climb the wall for a dollar. Sure enough, up he went like a monkey. So much for the effectiveness of that huge wall.

The Award

In an earlier article, I wrote about the monthly medical clinic in Juárez put together by the El Paso non-profit, Siguiendo los Pasos de Jesus (SPJ). It’s headed up by El Paso pediatrician, Dr. Carlos Gutierrez who also testified before Congress in Washington in July about the lack of care for migrant



Jane Fuller, director of SPG and Dr. Carlos Gutierrez work with a patient. (Photos by Morgan Smith)



Volunteers at the Deming shelter create a large banner with the states identified so the asylum seekers can see where they might be going.



Bullfighter El Zapata awaits his turn in the Juarez ring.

children who are being held in federal custody and the fact that he and other El Paso pediatricians had offered their services free of charge and had been rejected.

He was at the clinic in Juárez on this trip and I learned that he has been nominated by the National Hispanic Health Foundation (NHHF) to receive the Hispanic Health Leadership Award at their Awards Gala in Los Angeles on Nov. 21, a fitting award for this doctor who has done so much for his community.

La Nueva Central

This large cafeteria-style Juárez restaurant near the Cathedral was founded in 1958 and is a “barometer” on the mood in downtown Juárez and the sense of security that enables families to be out on the streets and enjoying themselves. On Saturday afternoon, it was absolutely packed with perhaps 20 or 30 people waiting in line for seats. The food is excellent and always a bargain. About \$5 for an “agua mineral” and the tacos de pollo. That whole downtown area was teeming with families, a sign of peace in that area of the city.

The Bullfight

Bullfights here are another measure of the sense of security in

Juárez. Will people be able to come out in the evening to enjoy themselves without fear of violence? The crowd in the Plaza de Toros Alberto Balderas on Saturday evening seemed to be saying “yes.”

Two of the matadors were popular, experienced and very skillful – Uriel Moreno known as El Zapata is now 45 years old, still athletic and agile and was the star earning two ears on his second bull.

The always enthusiastic Antonio Garcia, known as El Chihuahua had a tough night but did place the banderillas while seated in a plastic chair with the bull charging at him, a feat that seemed suicidal to those of us in the audience.

Most interesting was Juárez native, Gustavo Garcia who we met in this same plaza on Easter Sunday. That afternoon, he was wearing a suit and working the crowd in support of his next bullfight. He even had several men circle the ring with a large banner announcing this bullfight. What made that memorable is that he didn’t have an actual date for the bullfight. But here he was on Aug. 24 looking both fearful and determined. He did end up being awarded one ear which was probably less than he had hoped for. More important, he survived.

Returning to the bridge after the bullfight the famous Kentucky Club on Avenida Juárez was packed, and there were mariachis everywhere. It was a scene of tranquility and enjoyment that the people of Juárez deserve.

Morgan Smith makes monthly trips to the border to document conditions there and assist several humanitarian organizations. He can be reached at Morgan-smith@comcast.net.



VISITING HISTORY

Smokey BearLIVE

Take a virtual tour to the forest

Teachers, students and the general public are invited to register now at www.smokeybearlive.org to take part in SmokeyBearLIVE, a virtual field trip live from Capitan – Smokey Bear’s birthplace. This event is a distance learning adventure to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Smokey Bear wildfire prevention campaign. Visit <https://Smokey-BearLIVE.org> to register to take part in the virtual field trip

and download lesson plans and other resources about Smokey Bear and wildfire prevention. There will be two webcasts about Smokey Bear including a pretaped video, “Smokey Bear LIVE: Only You Can Prevent Wildfires,” that will be web-streamed at <https://Smokey-BearLIVE.org> beginning Oct. 6, in conjunction with National Fire Prevention Week. Participants can learn about Smokey’s history as a national icon, the bear cub that was

found and became the living symbol of Smokey, and Smokey Bear’s fire prevention message. On Nov.7, New Mexico PBS, KRWG, and KENW in conjunction with the USDA Forest Service and the Prince William Network, will produce the LIVE webcast from Smokey Bear’s birthplace in Capitan. The webcast will take place from the area where Smokey Bear was found as an injured cub and returned to be buried. This is an interactive pro-

gram in which students and others can send in questions about Smokey, wildfire prevention, firefighting in the past and now, how to prevent wildfires and more to scientific experts who will answer the questions during the webcast. The Smokey Bear campaign began in 1944 as part of the war effort to protect forested land from being burned by unwanted human-caused wildfires, so this is the 75th anniversary of the Smokey Bear icon.

In 1950 an injured bear cub became the living symbol of Smokey and spent his life promoting fire prevention from the National Zoo in Washington, D.C. During this distance learning adventure, participants learn how natural resource managers and communication specialists have worked together to promote Smokey’s message to significantly reduce the number of wildfire and protect lives and property for millions of people.

THE NATURAL WORLD • LAURIE FORD

Wildlife Services

The federal government’s own private predator control program

Don’t be too quick to breathe a sigh of relief that trapping for sport may soon be banned on our public lands. The federal government’s own predator control program, Wildlife Services, an agency with minimal oversight and even less transparency, is still free to litter the land with leg-hold-traps and deadly cyanide bombs set off by a simple sniff and nudge of the nose. When an animal wanders onto private property, landowners can take matters into their own hands and destroy the animal if it is causing any damage, such as nibbling on a tomato plant, or posing a threat simply with their presence. Or, they have the option to call Wildlife Services, who will remove the animal, most often by destroying them. According to the agency’s own data in 2018, 2.6 million animals were killed, of which more than half were native species posing no threat – not to mention domestic pets that fell prey to the lethal tools used by this agency. Despite much public outcry, including that from residents who had dogs injured or killed by the traps and poisons, Grant County has renewed its 18-year-old



contract with Wildlife Services to dispose of problem animals. This came after the county had received its one and only accountability report from the agency in 2017. Working under the Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services is in direct conflict with the Department of Interior whose main objective is to keep our public lands safe and healthy. When you consider less than 10 percent of livestock losses are due to predators, and the amount of actual wildlife-human conflict is extremely rare, is it really necessary to spend millions of taxpayer dollars to decimate select animal populations – often to the extent that they become an endangered species and millions more must

be spent to build the population back up again? As our wildlife continues to encroach on our private property, greater tolerance could not only help preserve select species but will save millions of dollars in the long run. Laurie Ford moved to New Mexico 15 years ago. Photography and horses have always been her passion. For the past five years she has been travelling around the west, camping in wild horse areas to observe and photograph the animals in their natural environment.



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TABLE TALK • VIVIAN SAVITT

Eating Out in Silver City

An array of fall choices new and old

Three Silver City eating establishments — a food truck serving Texas barbecue, a curry house featuring Nepalese and Thai style dishes, and a long-established Chinese restaurant celebrating two decades of Cantonese specialties — are all commandeered by interesting, hardworking people who are also enthusiastic cooks.



Gui Ping Lee's kitchen where she prepares Cantonese food at her Chinese Palace Restaurant celebrating its 20th anniversary. (Photos by Vivian Savitt)

Chinese Palace

Over the many years that I have championed her vegetable egg foo young, I visualized Gui Ping Lee. of the Chinese Palace, as a chubby eminence arduously preparing the food of Guangdong province, her birth place in South China. Although indeed a hard worker, Ping — as it turns out — is lissome, youthful and twinkly. She is also health conscious and runs at Fox Field toggled in a New Balance hoodie.

This exercise routine meshes with her approach to food preparation at the Palace: “it is how I cook for myself,” Ping said.

Vegetables are chopped fresh every morning and the sauces prepared from scratch. Salt and oil are kept to a minimum. Even the soy sauce accompanying to-go orders — you know, those cellophane, panda-stamped packets — tastes low sodium.

Although a waitress assists her in the dining area, Ping is a one-woman show in the kitchen handling all aspects of food preparation alone.

Jake Politte of the greatly missed cafe, 1zero6, describes Ping as “a passionate cook with moxie. From the viewpoint of a cook like myself, her beef chow fun is better than San Francisco’s China Town.”

Recently widowed and the mother of three grown children, the youngest an NMSU student, Ping is proud of the Palace’s legacy. Her late husband taught her to cook, and his family formerly owned the building.

While Ping bustles around the Palace’s ample kitchen facing “the beautiful mountains outside my window,” she proclaims that many of her customers are “like family” and she “loves cooking for them — they’re awesome.”

During get-togethers with her own family — “my very awe-

some kids” — Ping recharges. Her other restaurant holiday occurs when she visits her mother in China.

*Chinese Palace 1010 Hwy. 180 E.
Monday - Friday, 11 a.m. – 9 p.m.
Call: 575-538-9300*



Tank Ojha (center), owner/cook of Lemongrass, has brought South East Asian specialties to town assisted by Jamal Green (left) and Stephen Persaud.

Lemongrass

Fetching a curry to-go on a chilly day is infinitely appealing. The thought takes me back to those working-class Glasgow and London neighborhoods where carry-out cafes are stark in decor and small in size, but the punch of the curry is colossal.

So, for me, Lemongrass — tucked away at the Hub Plaza—is an exciting addition to our sterling little town. While its atmosphere (white-walls, good natural light) is no-frills — the dishes served are pungent with South East Asian spices melded with coconut milk, vegetables and, of course, lemongrass.

Note that the red or green decision at Lemongrass implies which chilis are used in the curry. A yellow Thai curry called panang is also served.

Owner and cook Tank Ojha is Nepalese and has a long-standing interest in cooking. He is also a research professor on the geoscience faculty, University of Arizona in Tucson. In order to get Lemongrass underway, he has taken a semester off.

At the restaurant, Ojha is committed to using “the best ingredients.” This includes fresh tomatoes for the curry, basmati rice, olive oil, mushrooms and white meat chicken for the non-vegetarian dishes.

Selections on the luncheon buffet may include mushroom curry with onions, water chestnuts and bamboo shoots; a palak saag of chopped spinach; rice with dahl as well as two chicken curries. Ginger, turmeric and coriander seed flavor many of the dishes.

Assisting Ojha in the restaurant are Stephen Persaud, a Silver City resident, and Jamal Green who recently relocated from Atlanta. Both are vegetarians.

“Kids love the food too,” Persaud said. “We aim to be a community service — preparing healthy meals with good energy.

Our dinner meal is plated,” he continued, “and served from 5 to 7:30 p.m.”

*Lemongrass 601 N. Bullard at the Hub Plaza
Tuesday – Saturday: 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. and 5 - 7:30 p.m.
Call: 575-388-1427*



Starting the brisket at Iron Door BBQ, a food truck, where owner Cruz Townsend and pit master Allen Townsend run the show.

Iron Door BBQ

Allen Townsend’s quest toward becoming a pit master began when he and his wife, Cruz, moved to Silver City in 2006. Sausage was his first smoking feat, and he was encouraged by the reaction it received from friends and family.

Over time, Townsend sought to expand his repertoire — researching the Internet, reading books and traveling to famous barbecue spots. His guru became Aaron Franklin, the acclaimed Austin, Texas pit master — considered the most famous one in the country — as well as a James Beard award-winner. Eventually Townsend purchased plans to build a larger smoker and built it with help from friends.

Barbecue lovers with bona fides — Texans like myself — rejoice in Townsend’s presentation of Central Texas style barbecue. This means that the brisket requires low temperature and slow smoking over mesquite and pecan wood. Vinegar and sauces are never used, only a rub of salt and pepper.

Cruz Townsend owns the Iron Door food truck and helps Allen tend the 375-gallon smoker with its hefty iron door. As pit master, Allen also hand slices and trims all the meat choices including pork, chicken and ribs.

“I’ve been self-employed and pleasing clients for most of my life,” Allen said. He formerly lived and worked in both Tucson and the White Mountains area. “And Cruz comes from a large family who ranched in Nogales, Mexico, and is equally hardworking. She helps me manage two professions, the insurance agency as well as the long hours that good barbecue requires.”

As a team, they begin smoking brisket on Wednesday, keeping the pecan and mesquite wood burning at a low heat until the brisket absorbs the smoke flavor.

Customers waiting around the

Red or Green? is Desert Exposure's guide to dining in southwest New Mexico. We are in the process of updating and modifying these listings. We are asking restaurants to pay a small fee for listing their information. Restaurant advertisers already on contract with Desert Exposure receive a free listing. For other establishments, listings with essential information will be \$36 a year and expanded listings, up to 10 lines, will be \$48 a year. To get an updated listing in Red or Green?, contact Pam Rossi at

pam@lascrucesbulletin.com or 575-635-6614. 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. 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, 1740-A Calle de Mercado, Las Cruces, NM 88005, or email editor@desertexposure.com. Bon appétit!



GRANT COUNTY
Silver City
ADOBE SPRINGS CAFÉ, 1617 Silver Heights Blvd., 538-3665. Breakfast items, burgers, sandwiches: Sunday B L, all week B L D.
CACTUS JACKS, 1307 N. Pope St. 538-5042. Gluten-free, healthy groceries, grill fast foods and beverages. Monday to Friday B L D, Saturday and Sunday L.

CAFÉ OSO AZUL AT BEAR MOUNTAIN LODGE, 60 Bear Mountain Ranch Road, 538-2538. B L, special D by reservation only.

CHINESE PALACE, 1010 Highway 180E, 538-9300. Chinese: Monday to Friday L D.
COURTYARD CAFÉ, Gila Regional Medical Center, 538-4094. American: B L.

DIANE'S RESTAURANT, 510 N. Bullard St., 538-8722. Fine dining (D), steaks, seafood, pasta, sandwiches (L), salads: Tuesday to Saturday L D, Sunday D only (family-style), weekend brunch.

DIANE'S BAKERY & DELI, The Hub, Suite A, Bullard St., 534-9229. Artisan breads, pastries, sandwiches, deli: Monday to Saturday B L early D, Sunday L.

DON JUAN'S BURRITOS, 418 Silver Heights Blvd., 538-5440. Mexican: B L.
DRIFTER PANCAKE HOUSE, 711 Silver Heights Blvd., 538-2916. Breakfast, American: B L, breakfast served throughout.
EL GALLO PINTO, 901 N. Hudson St., 597-4559. Mexican: Tuesday, Wednesday and Sunday B L Thursday to Saturday B L D.
FORREST'S PIZZA, 601 N. Bullard St. Unit J. 388-1225. Tuesday to

Friday L D. Slices until 7 p.m.
FRY HOUSE, 601 N. Bullard St. Suite C. 388-1964. Seven days L, Sunday L, D.
GIL-A BEANS, 1304 N. Bennett St. Coffeeshop. Monday to Saturday 8 a.m.-noon.
GOLDEN STAR, 1602 Silver Heights Blvd., 388-2323. Chinese: L D.
GRANDMA'S CAFÉ, 900 Silver Heights Blvd., 388-2627. American, Mexican: B L.
GRINDER MILL, 403 W. College Ave., 538-3366. Mexican: B L D.

HONEEBEEGOODS "Making Life A Little Sweeter," 116 N. Bullard. 714-515-0832. Specialty Bakery and more! BLD. Honeebegoods.com. T-F 8 to 6, SAT 8 to 8, SUN 8 -4:30.

JALISCO CAFÉ, 100 S. Bullard St., 388-2060. Mexican. Monday to Saturday L D Sunday B.
JAVALINA COFFEE HOUSE, 117 Market St., 388-1350. Coffeeshop.
JUMPING CACTUS, 503 N. Bullard St. Coffeeshop, baked goods, sandwiches, wraps: B L.
KOUNTRY KITCHEN, 1700 Mountain View Road, 388-4512. Mexican: Tuesday to Saturday B L D.
LA COCINA RESTAURANT, 201 W. College Ave., 388-8687. Mexican: L D.
LA FAMILIA, 503 N. Hudson St., 388-4600. Mexican: Tuesday to Sunday B L D.
LA MEXICANA, Hwy. 180E and Memory Lane, 534-0142. Mexican and American: B L.

LITTLE TOAD CREEK BREWERY & DISTILLERY, 200 N. Bullard St., 956-6144. Burgers, wings, salads, fish, pasta, craft beers and cocktails: Monday to Sunday L D.

MEXICO VIEJO, Hwy. 90 and Broadway Mexican food stand: 956-3361. Monday to Saturday B L early D.

MI CASITA, 2340 Bosworth Dr., 538-5533. New Mexican cuisine: Monday to Thursday L, Friday L D.
MILLIE'S BAKE HOUSE, 602 N. Bullard St., 597-2253. Soup, salads, sandwiches, baked goods: Tuesday to Saturday B, L.
NANCY'S SILVER CAFÉ, 514 N. Bullard St., 388-3480. Mexican: Monday to Saturday B L D.
PRETTY SWEET EMPORIUM, 312 N. Bullard St., 388-8600. Dessert, ice cream: Monday to Saturday.
Q'S SOUTHERN BISTRO AND BREWERY, 101 E. College Ave., 534-4401. American, steaks, barbecue, brewpub: Tuesday to Saturday L D.

REVEL, 304 N. Bullard, 388-4920. Elevated comfort food. Weekdays LD, weekends BD, closed Wednesdays.

SILVER BOWLING CENTER CAFÉ, 2020 Memory Lane, 538-3612. American, Mexican, hamburgers: Daily L D.

SUNRISE ESPRESSO, 1530 N. Hudson, 388-2027. Coffee shop: Monday to Saturday B L, early D.

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Las Cruces

Oct 4 - Dallas Burrow - 8pm

Oct 5 - Pride Downtown - After Party at the Toad

Oct 6 - Nicole Osborn - 5pm

Oct 11 - Orlando Madrid - 7pm

Oct 18 - Frontera Bugalu - 8pm

Oct 19 - Oktoaderfest - 2pm

Oct 20 - Chris Smith-Excarcega - 5pm

Oct 25 - The Casual Fridays - 8pm

Oct 26 - Zombie Walk - DJ Night - 7pm

Oct 27 - Alison Reynolds - 5pm

Oct 31 - DJ, Opening Band, and Sister Black Lagoon - 7pm

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Silver City

Oct 1 - Nightblooms and Dixie Pearl - 8pm

Oct 4 - Cast No Stones - 8pm

Oct 5 - Alvee - 8pm

Oct 6 - Captain Kias - 1pm

Oct 11 - Trouble in the Wind - 8pm

Oct 12 - Rucci and Larrubia - 8pm

Oct 13 - Amos Torres & Friends - 1pm

Oct 18 - Captain's Hat - 8pm

Oct 19 - Pint and a Half - 8pm

Oct 20 - Sunday Brunch - - 1pm

Oct 25 - The Last Tycoon - 8pm

Oct 26 - Curtis McMurtry - 8pm

Oct 27 - Chicarrones - 1pm

Nov 1 - The Casual Fridays - Halloween Party - 8pm

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TAPAS TREE, 601 N. Bullard St. in The Hub. 597-8272. Monday to Thursday L, Friday and Saturday L D (closes at 4 p.m.).

TASTE OF VEGAS, 303 E. 13th St., 534-9404. Daily L.

VICKI'S EATERY, 315 N. Texas, 388-5430. www.vickiseatery.com. Saturday-Sunday breakfast; Monday-Saturday lunch; and Friday-Saturday dinner.

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

TRANQUILBUZZ CAFÉ, 112 W. Yankee St. Coffee shop, coffee,

home-made pastries and ice cream, fresh fruit smoothies.

Cliff

Tammy's Café, U.S. Highway 180, Cliff, 575-535-4500. Visit Tammy's Café on Facebook. RVs/Big Rigs welcome, Mexican/American food. Gluten free and vegetarian by request. Thursday to Saturday LD, Sunday L. "Bring home cooking to your table"

DOÑA ANA COUNTY Las Cruces & Mesilla ABRAHAM'S BANK TOWER RESTAURANT, 500 S. Main St. 434, 523-5911. American: Monday to Friday B L.
ANDELE'S DOG HOUSE, 1983 Calle

del Norte, 526-1271. Mexican plus hot dogs, burgers, quesadillas: B L D.
ANDELE RESTAURANTE, 1950 Calle del Norte, 526-9631. Mexican: Monday B L, Tuesday to Sunday B L D.
AQUA REEF, 141 N. Roadrunner Parkway, 522-7333. Asian, sushi: LD.
THE BEAN, 2011 Avenida de Mesilla, 527-5155. Coffeehouse.
A BITE OF BELGIUM, 741 N. Alameda St. No. 16, 527-2483, www.abiteofbelgium.com. Belgium and American food: Daily B L.
BOBA CAFÉ, 1900 S. Espina, Ste. 8, 647-5900. Sandwiches, salads, casual fare, espresso: Monday to Saturday L D.
BRAVO'S CAFÉ, 3205 S. Main St., 526-8604. Mexican: Tuesday to Sunday B L.
BURGER NOOK, 1204 E. Madrid

Ave., 523-9806. Outstanding green-chile cheeseburgers. Tuesday to Saturday L D.
BURRITOS VICTORIA, 1295 El Paseo Road, 541-5534. Burritos: B L D. Now serving beer.
CAFÉ DON FELIX, 2290 Calle de Parian, 652-3007. Mexican, street tacos, mini-burgers: Wednesday to Saturday L D, Sunday brunch only 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
CARRILLO'S, 330 S. Church, 523-9913. Mexican, American: Monday to Saturday L D.
CHACHI'S RESTAURANT, 2460 S. Locust St.-A, 522-7322. Mexican: B L D.
CHILITOS, 2405 S. Valley Dr., 526-4184. Mexican: Monday to Saturday B L D.
CHILITOS, 3850 Foothills Rd. Ste. 10, 532-0141. Mexican: B L D.

DAY'S HAMBURGERS, Water and Las Cruces streets, 523-8665. Burgers: Monday to Saturday L D.
PECAN GRILL & BREWERY, 500 S. Telshor Blvd., 521-1099. Pecan-smoked meats, sandwiches, steaks, seafood, craft beers: L D.
DELICIAS DEL MAR, 1401 El Paseo, 524-2396. Mexican, seafood: B L D.
DICK'S CAFÉ, 2305 S. Valley Dr., 524-1360. Mexican, burgers: Sunday B L, Monday to Saturday B L D.
DION'S PIZZA, 3950 E. Lohman, 521-3434. Pizza: L D.
DOUBLE EAGLE, 2355 Calle De Guadalupe, 523-6700. Southwestern, steaks, seafood: L D, Sun. champagne brunch buffet.
EL SOMBRERO PATIO CAFÉ, 363 S. Espina St., 524-9911. Mexican: L D.
ENRIQUE'S MEXICAN FOOD, 830 W. Picacho, 647-0240. Mexican: B L D.
FARLEY'S, 3499 Foothills Rd., 522-0466. Pizza, burgers, American, Mexican: L D.
FIDENCIO'S, 800 S. Telshor, 532-5624. Mexican: B L D.
THE GAME BAR & GRILL, 2605 S. Espina, 524-GAME. Sports bar and grill: L D.
THE GAME II: EXTRA INNINGS SPORTS BAR & GRILL, 4131 Northrise Drive, 373-4263, Live music on weekends. American, Southwest, now serving weekend brunch 10 a.m. Saturdays and Sundays: L D
GARDUÑO'S, 705 S. Telshor (Hotel Encanto), 532-4277. Mexican: B L D.
GO BURGER DRIVE-IN, Home of the Texas Size Burrito, 1008 E. Lohman Ave. , Las Cruces, NM 88005, 575-524-9251. Monday - Saturday, 7 a.m. - 3 p.m. Specializing in Relleno Burritos and Other Mexican Food
GOLDEN STAR CHINESE FAST FOOD, 1420 El Paseo, 523-2828. Chinese: L D.
GRANDY'S COUNTRY COOKING, 1345 El Paseo Rd., 526-4803. American: B L D.
HABANERO'S 600 E. Amador Ave., 524-1829. Fresh Mexican: B L D.
HACIENDA DE MESILLA, 1803 Avenida de Mesilla, 652-4953. Steaks, barbecue, seafood, sandwiches, salads, pasta: L D.

HIGH DESERT BREWING COMPANY, 1201 W. Hadley Ave., 525-6752. Brew pub: L D.

TABLE TALK
continued from page 32

food truck for their orders seem poised in anticipation. They are a diverse, chatty crowd of neighborhood regulars, construction workers and HMS physicians, among others.

Ribs are available on Friday and Saturday until the supply runs out — as is the case with all the items. You can, however, call ahead for pickup.

The Townsend's future plans include building an outdoor patio with a ramada where customers can sit and eat at their leisure. Smoked sausage will soon be added to the menu, and for the holidays the couple will take special orders for smoked turkey and spiral-sliced ham.
Iron Door BBQ 1123 N. Pope St. Adjacent to Townsend Insurance Agency
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SUNDAYS
Archaeology Society — First Sunday of every month, field trip. 536-3092, whudson43@yahoo.com.

MONDAYS
AARP Widowed and Single Persons of Grant County — 10:30 a.m., second Monday, Cross Point Assembly of God Church. All singles welcome. Contact Sally, 537-3643.
Al-Anon family group, New Hope — 12:05 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, corner of 20th and Swan Streets, Silver City. Open meeting. Contact: 313-7891.
Grant County Federated Republican Women — 11:30 a.m., Third Monday at Silver Bowling Center on Memory Lane. 313-7997.
Meditation for Beginners — 5:30 p.m., Lotus Center, 211 W. Broadway. Jeff, 956-6647. www.lotuscentersc.org.
Silver City Squares — Dancing 6:30-8:30 p.m., Methodist Church Santa Rita Street entrance. Kay, 956-7186 or Linda 590-1499.
Silver Chorale — 7-9 p.m. rehearsal, First Presbyterian Church, corner 20th and Swan streets, Silver City. New members welcome. Contact Anne, 288-6939.
Southwest New Mexico ACLU — noon, first Monday (except September when it's the second Monday), Little Toad Creek, 200 N. Bullard St. in Silver City. Bob Garrett, 575-590-4809.

TUESDAYS
Alzheimer's/Dementia Support — 1:30 p.m., First Tuesday, Senior Center. Margaret, 388-4539.
Bayard Historic Mine Tour — 9:30 a.m., Second Tuesday, meet at Bayard City Hall, 800 Central Ave. \$5 fee covers two-hour bus tour of historic mines plus literature and map. Call 537-3327 for reservation.
Figure/Model Drawing — 4-6 p.m. Contact Sam, 388-5583. First Tuesday, 6 p.m. at the headquarters, next to the Chevron/Snappy Mart in

WEDNESDAYS
ACA Meeting (Adult Children of Alcoholics and Dysfunctional Families) — 6:30-7:45 p.m. meets every Wednesday at the New Church of the Southwest Desert, 714 N. Bullard St. Athena, 575-590-8300.
Al-Anon family group — 6 p.m., Arenas

Arenas Valley. Dan Larson, 654-4884.
Gilawriters — 1:00-3 p.m., Visitors Center at Hudson and Broadway in Silver City. Contact Trish Heck, trish.heck@gmail.com or call 534-0207.
Multiple Sclerosis Support Group — 11:30 a.m., first Tuesday at a local restaurant; email for this month's location: huseworld@yahoo.com.
PFLAG Silver City — First Tuesday, 7 p.m., at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 3845 N. Swan. Confidential support for LGBTQ persons and their families. 575-590-8797.
Republican Party of Grant County — 6 p.m., second Monday, 3 Rio de Arenas Road (the old Wrangler restaurant).
Slow Flow Yoga — 11:30 a.m.- 12:45 p.m., Lotus Center, 211 W. Broadway, Becky Glenn, 404-234-5331.
Southwest New Mexico Quilters Guild — 9:30 a.m., first Tuesday, Grant County Extension Office, 2610 N. Silver Street, North entrance. Newcomers and visitors are welcome. 388-8161.
Westerners Corral — 6:20 p.m., meets on the third Tuesday of every even numbered month throughout the year, except for December; when the meeting is held on the second Tuesday. For more information email Jody Bailey-Hall at: Jody_bailey88045@yahoo.com or call 575 342-2621 and leave a message.

THURSDAYS
Blooming Lotus Meditation — 5:30 p.m., Lotus Center, 211 W. Broadway. 313-7417, geofarm@pobox.com.
De-stressing Meditations — Noon-12:45 p.m., New Church of the SW Desert, 1302 Bennett St. 313-4087.
Grant County Rolling Stones Gem and Mineral Society — 6 p.m., second Thursday, 2045 Memory Lane, Silver City. Anita, 907-830-0631.
Historic Mining District & Tourism Meeting — 10 a.m., second Thursday, Bayard Community Center, 290 Hurley Ave., Bayard. 537-3327.
Little Artist Club — 10:30-11:30 a.m., Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Avenue. Free creative fun for children ages 0-5. No registration necessary. 538-3672 or ref@silvercitymail.com.
TOPS — 5 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, 1915 Swan, 538-9447.
Vinyasa Flow Yoga — 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Lotus Center at 211 W. Broadway, Becky Glenn, 404-234-5331.
WildWorks Youth Space — 4 p.m. For children ages 10+ Space for youth to hang out, experiment, create and more. Free, no registration necessary. Silver City Public Library, 515 W.

Valley Church of Christ, 5 Race Track Road, Arenas Valley (the old radio station). Contact: 313-7891.
Archaeology Society — 6 p.m., third Wednesday every month, October-April at 2045 Memory Lane, Silver City; May-September meetings begin with a pot-luck dinner at 6 p.m. at Roundup Lodge in San Lorenzo-Mimbres, convening for business at 7 p.m. Visit www.gcasnm.org, or email webmaster@gcasnm.org, or call 536-3092 for details.
Babytime Sing & Play — 1 p.m., Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Avenue. Stories, songs, rhymes and movement for infants 0-12 months and their caregivers. Free, no registration necessary. 538-3672 or ref@silvercitymail.com.
Back Country Horsemen — 6 p.m., second Wednesday, WNMU Watts Hall, opposite CVS Pharmacy, Hwy. 180. Subject to change. 574-2888.
A Course in Miracles — 7:15 p.m., 600 N. Hudson. Information, 534-9172 or 534-1869.
Future Engineers — 4-5 p.m. Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Avenue. Free creative construction fun with Lego, K'NEX, and Strawbees! For children ages 6-12, no registration necessary. 538-3672 or ref@silvercitymail.com.
Gin Rummy — 1 p.m. at Tranquilbuzz, corner of Yankee and Texas Streets in Silver City.
Grant County Democratic Party — 5:30 p.m., potluck; 6:20 p.m., meeting, second Wednesday, Sen. Howie Morales building, 3060 E. Hwy. 180. 654-6060.
Ladies Golf Association — 8 a.m. tee time, Silver City Golf Course.
Prostate Cancer Support Group — 6:30 p.m., third Wednesday, Gila

College Avenue, 538-3672 or ref@silvercitymail.com.
Yoga class — Free class taught by Colleen Stinar. 1-2 p.m. Episcopal Church fellowship hall, Seventh and Texas. 574-5451.

FRIDAYS
Overeaters Anonymous — 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church. 654-2067.
Silver City Woman's Club — 10:30 a.m., second Friday, 411 Silver Heights Blvd. Monthly meeting, lunch is at noon. Lucinda, 313-4591.
Women's Al-Anon Meeting: Women Embracing Recovery — 5:30 p.m., La Clinica Health and Birth Center, 3201 Ridge Loop, Silver City. Contact:313-7891.

SATURDAYS
Alcoholics Anonymous "Black Chip" — 11 a.m.-noon, First United Methodist Church.
Evening Prayer in the Eastern Orthodox Tradition — 5 p.m., Theotokos Retreat Center, 5202 Hwy. 152, Santa Clara. 537-4839.
Kids Bike Ride — 10 a.m., Bikeworks, 815 E. 10th St. Dave Baker, 388-1444.
Narcotics Anonymous — 6 p.m., New 180 Club, 1661 Hwy. 180 E.
Spinning Group — 1-3 p.m., First Saturday, Yada Yada Yarn, 614 N. Bullard. 388-3350.
Vinyasa Flow Yoga — 10-11:30 a.m., Lotus Center, 211 W. Broadway. All levels. Becky Glenn, 404-234-5331.

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

CYCLES OF LIFE • FR. GABRIELE ROCHELLE

Explore Cycling Without Age

Take someone with you when you cycle

Color me nuts, perhaps especially at my age when most people no longer ride bikes daily as I do for both commuting and recreation, but I am as enthusiastic as a kid about a cycling program I recently caught wind of called Cycling Without Age. The program got a couple paragraphs notice in this month's AARP Bulletin and I immediately went to the web site and began devouring information.

Cycling Without Age was started in 2012 by a young man named Ole Kassow in Copenhagen, Denmark,

one of the great cities of bikes. He got the idea to take elderly people, some of whom were lacking mobility, on bike rides. He began with a rented rickshaw and a ride for one elderly gentleman he used to see on his daily cycle commute to work. Since then the cycles have become more and more technologically upscale. Since then, also, the program has expanded to almost 30 different countries. In the United States, there are 57 chapters in 21 states, but yet none in New Mexico. I'd like to see a chapter come into existence here.

The tricycles do not come cheap. They are high quality machines made of the best quality materials; most of them are made in Denmark, which makes sense since that's where the program began and where the leaders of the program have been able to tweak both the direction and the tools for the endeavor. Fundraising is usually essential to get started.

The advantages of this program may be obvious in terms of the

CYCLES OF LIFE
continued on page 37

Victor A. Nwachuku, M.D.
Obstetrics and Gynecology

Michelle Diaz, M.D.
Obstetrics and Gynecology

Gail Stamler, C.N.M.

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HIGH PLACES • GABRIELE TEICH

Rock Hunters Paradise

Heading to Hatch for minerals

What attracts people to quartz and crystals? With a dozen hikers in our group we would probably get a dozen different answers. But scrutinized they would all be variations of one theme: beauty. One person might be drawn to the different colors, another to the smooth edged shapes and

yet another is fascinated by the striations formed by the various layers. Whatever your personal reasons and preferences, pretty rocks are a great reason to get out into nature. So if you intend to do this hike, I recommend bringing an empty backpack and maybe some old towels or t-shirts (to keep the rocks from

rubbing against each other). Take the Hatch exit off I-10 and then turn immediately towards the mountains, not into town. The pavement ends almost immediately, but the gravel is well enough maintained even for a regular non-all-wheel-drive car. Turn left at the first Y in the road and follow it up towards the mountains.

My friend Dave once pointed out the ancient “submarine” on the left of the road and claimed it was proof of a much wetter past in this area. It looked more like a rusty, old water tank if you ask me.

Stay to the left when the road splits again and park your vehicle where the road ends in a circle shortly thereafter. There is no real obvious trail, but you can make your way down the slope to the right into the canyon without problems.

For the hike follow the canyon up as far as you like, then loop around and drop back into the same canyon on the way back. There is a great variety of pretty rocks all along the way but my friends who had done this hike several times before warned me: Do not start to pick them up too



Old mines can be carefully explored for glittering treasures. (Photos by Gabriele Teich)

early. You end up just dropping them later, as they get better the further you are up the canyon.

Four of our group split off once we were past the old mines, about a mile into the canyon and we made our way up the slope on the right. On top we found a treasure trove of quartz, rhyolite and a different form of crystal Susy calls “skeleton crystals.” They have thin straight walls extruding from a center in various directions in a vaguely skeletal form. Those thin walls are covered with little crystals. Amazing indeed!

One more reason to check this canyon out: We spotted a herd of big horn sheep on top of the canyon and one little one was so fascinated by our group, he stayed on gazing down at us while his family headed off to higher ground.

We returned to the cars three hours later, huffing and puffing with aching shoulders and heavy

packs. Any slight stumble reminds you of your shifted center of gravity: You tend to fall backwards rather than forwards.

The scale at home told me I had collected twenty pounds of rocks.

As nice as a gleaming field quartz in sunshine looks, we were grateful for the overcast sky on that hot July day. There is no shade to speak of on the whole trail. So, visit prepared with hats, sunscreen and lots of water.

Of German origin, Gabriele Teich has called Las Cruces her home for more than 20 years — and loved every minute of it, hiking the mountains in the immediate surrounding area and all over this beautiful state.





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TALKING HORSES • SCOTT THOMSON

Living the Dream

Take the time to get it right

You’ve come to the Southwest and want to live the Western lifestyle. What’s next? For many people, buying a horse. Maybe it’s always been a dream, or maybe it’s just getting back to something you used to love doing before life intervened.

When asked for my counsel on buying a horse, there are many things I try to think about in an effort to balance emotion and reality in the process. Matching a person to the right horse is a lot of art but just as much “science,” or at least common sense, especially if your goal is to have someone both enjoy these magnificent creatures and be as safe as possible.

I always start with some words from one of my early mentors. First, understanding that riding is the only recreational activity where we put our safety and well-being in the hands of another species, one that happens to be a flight animal, doesn’t speak our language or share our view of the world. It’s a major, life-changing decision so take the time to do it right.

Second, you will never find such a potentially dangerous activity where so many people over-estimate their knowledge and abilities. It’s as if the Wild West image that is part of our culture somehow gave us all the natural ability to ride and handle horses. No education, training, practice or conditioning necessary, just hop on and ride because it’s in our blood and DNA.

If you want to take this step, here are a just few of the things I ask people to think about when looking to buy a horse:

Get an honest, unbiased appraisal of your riding and physical abilities from someone who knows horses, knows you and has actually seen you ride. Not your best friend who will just tell you what you want to hear but a really good horse person. Forget you rode when you were

a teenager. You’re older now, less flexible, probably more fearful and have more responsibilities. This step can force a rider to admit that regardless of what you did years ago, you’re now just a beginner again.

Spend some time in the saddle. Go on some guided pack trips or trail rides. Take some lessons to see how your body feels and what hurts after your years not riding.

Define your riding goals. Do you just want to ride around an arena a few hours a week, go on long trail rides, pack into the wilderness, compete at some level, or just have a horse for the joy of having one?

Look at where and how your horse will live. Consider what’s best for the health and basic nature of the horse – living in a herd, having a buddy, room to move around. Will you be able to provide a situation that satisfies their basic needs?

Look at your likely riding partners – how skilled are they, what do they do with their horses, what kinds of horses do they ride. The last thing you want is to end up with a horse that is totally mismatched with those of your riding friends. If they’re all riding spirited breeds that really move out and you’re on a slow steady horse, there may be a lot of frustration for the horses and the riders. Someone will always be speeding up or slowing down, and frequently someone will be forced to ride above their ability, a very dangerous situation.

Think about how much time you are willing to spend to make the horse “your” horse. By nature, a horse lives in the moment so his behavior today is based as much on what you do with him as his prior experiences. The horse will perform to the level of your skills. I’m not saying prior training is irrelevant, but prior training does not guarantee anything in a horse.

Breed generalizations are just that. Nurture (early handling & training) may have as much to do with a horse’s personality and behavior as nature (breeding). If you love a certain breed, look at several prospects within that breed for the personality that fits you.

Beware of universal “truths” like Buy a kid’s horse as they’re safe and calm; if you’re older, buy a gaited horse because they’re more comfortable and easier to ride; buy an older seasoned horse because they know everything and will take care of you. Pretty much all bunk. The only universal truth with horses is that no matter how old, how well trained or what breed, they’re still horses and that’s all they know how to be.

Investigate competitive use. Horses are athletes and competitive activity can leave a horse with physical and mental damage that might not show up for years. If it does, it can lead to behavioral changes and vet bills. Get a pre-purchase vet check if you’re in love with a prospect but know or suspect the horse has had a competitive career.

About a year ago I decided it was time to bring a new horse back into my life. Despite being a professional in this business, I put myself through the same process that I would suggest to any horse buyer. It was especially important for me as I saw this horse as my last one, and I wanted to do everything possible to get it right. I even took the time to develop a long list of questions (which I’m happy to share with any reader) that I would send to any seller that had an interesting looking horse.

If I heard too many “I don’t know” or a reluctance to answer any or all of the questions, I simply said thank you and moved on to the next option. Taking the time to be this thorough in my process saved me

a ton of time and lots of dollars, and ultimately helped me zero in on a great prospect. As a trainer, I know how long it takes to make any horse your own horse, but at least I knew in this case that a disciplined approach and a candid assessment of my goals led to a horse that was the perfect starting point for my next horse journey.

Get some qualified advice from someone with no vested interest in your decision other than your wellbeing. Look at and ride as many prospects as possible and learn some basic skills and techniques before you buy a horse to help you look for and evaluate critical characteristics you want in a horse. Don’t let anybody else make this decision for you. This will be your

horse and your relationship. If it doesn’t feel right, it probably won’t be.

The wonderful thing about horses is that no matter how old they are or what they have done, they’re always willing to learn. With knowledge, patience and skill, you can make a smart decision and find the horse that’s right for you, and a horse that you can truly make your own.

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



CYCLES OF LIFE

continued from page 35

health benefits for seniors who – as Ole Kassow says – want to feel the wind in their hair again, smell the flowers, and see the birds. They are obvious for the pilots who get exercise along with their service to the community. What may not be immediately obvious is the community-building potential of the program and the relationships that develop between the pilots of the tricycles and their patrons, most of whom are from local retirement villages. This program bridges the gaps in ages between the pilots and the patrons and helps build deeper understanding across age, culture, and background. One of the chapters in England has a young pilot who is only 20 and his testimony to the impact this program has had on his life is really quite poignant.

Velo Cruces is the local advocacy committee for cycling in the Mesilla Valley and the sponsor of the HUB Community Bike Shop which seeks to serve the homeless, veterans, and underprivileged children. The HUB is open Thursday mornings and Saturday mornings. Velo Cruces will discuss Cycling Without Age at a future board meeting to see about potential involvement. Meanwhile, the USA national director has been contacted and is aware of budding interest in our area.

I want to point you to the web site, CyclingWithoutAge.Org. Spend some time on this web site, if you think you even remotely have the heart for such a program, and watch the short videos about the program and the TED Den-

mark talk by the founder, Ole Kassow (don’t worry; it’s in English). It’s only 15 minutes long, less than it takes you to drink that hot cup of coffee in the morning. If you think you’d like to explore the possibility of beginning a chapter in the Mesilla Valley, I invite you to contact me via my email below. Think about it.

Fr. Gabriel Rochelle is pastor of St Anthony of the Desert Orthodox Mission, Las Cruces, an avid cyclist and chairman of the Hub (community bike shop of Las Cruces) steering committee. Email at: gabrielcroch@aol.com.




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BODY, MIND, SPIRIT • LISA JIMENEZ

Global Recycling Crisis Hits Home

Costs, changes, putting small town programs out of business

Silver City’s curbside recycling program ended as of July 1, and now garbage trucks are picking up both green and blue garbage and recycling carts. Only cardboard will be accepted at recycling collection bins located at the Grant County Administration Center and in the Beall’s parking lot. Aluminum, tin and other scrap metal will continue to be accepted at the town landfill.

At a May meeting of the Silver City Town Council, Town Manager Alex Brown explained that the town’s recycling contractor, Southwest Solid Waste Authority (SWSWA), notified town officials that its landfill operator, Friedman Recycling of El Paso, was increasing its processing fees to \$45 per ton – tripling the \$15 per-ton-fee the town had been paying, effectively scrapping recycling in Silver City, a program which advocates and town officials worked hard to create.

Silver City was paying SWSWA nearly \$211,000 annually for recycling collection downtown, pro-

cessing and transportation. Given that local landfill “tipping” fees are \$48 per ton locally, the SWSWA contract is no longer cost effective, said Brown.

Friedman’s fee increase is due, at least in part, to contamination of potential recyclable materials, explained Dora Gonzalez, business operations officer at SWSWA. Gonzalez attended a recent recycling workshop at which a Friedman representative reported that a recent load sent from Silver City was 60 percent contaminated. There’s been at least one report of a resident tossing motor oil into a recycling cart.

Contamination concerns have been at the core of critics’ complaints about single stream recycling, while supporters were hopeful that it would make recycling easier for consumers and therefore increase recycling overall. Silver City’s “pay-as-you-throw” garbage collection program in which residents’ waste disposal fees are based on the size of their garbage bin was designed to encourage recycling, the fee for which was

“free,” and included in total waste collection fees. Proceeds from the sale of recyclable materials also supported the program, that is until China and other countries started refusing many types of previously recyclable materials.

When China’s ban on some 24 types of plastic took effect last year, regional recycling distribution centers suddenly had no place to sell their materials, forcing them to shift increased costs to their customers, including local governments. Since 2017, China has banned more than 50 types of plastics, paper, scrap metals and other materials, causing a major disruption in the \$5 billion U.S. recycling industry, and forcing many recycling centers to close.

“The hard truth is that we can no longer afford to send waste that used to be considered recyclable to El Paso, just so that they can dump it in their landfill,” Brown said. “It’s a very difficult situation, but one that is being faced by local governments all over the country. The United States simply hasn’t invested in developing a viable market for these materials, and now that China and other countries aren’t accepting them, there’s nowhere for them to go.”

Cardboard is one exception

to the otherwise bleak recycling market, and Brown said the town will continue to recycle as much cardboard as possible. With regard to plastics, the recycling problem has been exacerbated in part by federal policies which reward petroleum manufacturers for continued investment in plastics technology, making it cheaper to purchase “virgin” plastics versus recycled, which are often rendered less attractive from a manufacturing perspective, due in part to cross contamination with other waste.

The complexities of recycling under current market conditions are exacerbated by squeaky-tight municipal budgets, especially for small communities like Silver City. Other, larger New Mexico municipalities have found ways to generate funds to continue recycling, educate consumers about what can and cannot be recycled, and even check carts for contamination and tag them as such, all to deliver a saleable product to Friedman. In Santa Fe, for instance, which also bans the use of plastic shopping bags as does Silver City, shoppers who forget their bags pay 10 cents for each paper bag that’s used, and proceeds fund consumer education programs, explained Sarah Pierpont, executive director of the

New Mexico Recycling Coalition.

“My hope is that New Mexicans will one day equate recycling to utilities such as electricity - a service which needs to be paid for,” Pierpont said. “Recycling is a service which costs money, and if residents want and expect a certain standard or quality of life, they need to be willing to pay for it.”

Brown said he plans to work with Coalition staff to help educate consumers about reducing consumption of non-recyclable materials, a theme that community advocates have expanded upon to encourage residents to reduce their consumption overall. Brown said he also hopes to identify economic development funds to encourage local entrepreneurs to develop ways to turn recyclables into remanufactured products.

“Without markets for our recyclables, the best thing that we can do locally is reduce our waste,” continued Brown. “We can do this as a local government, and we encourage residents to do the same. It’s time that we look carefully at not only how much we consume, but also how the items that we buy are packaged. If we reduce our waste, we’ll all save money in garbage collection costs and landfill fees.”

DESERT DIARY

The Horror of Desert Exposure

By Jim Duchene

D is for Demons
They live down below
E is for Edgar
As in Allan or Poe
S is for Spirits
With malicious intent
E is for Evil
Man”s eternal torment
R is for Ramses
He called Moses a chump
T is for Tombstone
Bet you”d thought I”d say
Trump

E is for Eerie
You should say your farewells
X is for the dimension
Where the unknown there dwells
P is for Potion
A witch”s foul brew
O is for Odiferous
One sniff, you”ll say “Ew!”
S is for Shysie
A silent vampire
U is for Undead
You don”t quite expire
R is for Rotting
A dead man fondue
And E is for End
Which this poem must now do

Talking dog

Gee Richard is back at it. A guy is driving around the back woods of Montana and he sees a sign in front of a broken-down shanty-style house: “Talking Dog for Sale.” He rings the bell and the owner appears and tells him the dog

is in the backyard.

The guy goes into the backyard and sees a nice-looking Labrador retriever sitting there.

”You talk?” he asks.

”Yep,” the Lab replies.

After the guy recovers from the shock of hearing a dog talk, he says “So, what’s your story?” The Lab looks up and says, “Well, I discovered that I could talk when I was pretty young. I wanted to help the government, so.. I told the CIA.

In no time at all they had me jetting from country to country, sitting in rooms with spies and world leaders, because no one figured a dog would be eavesdropping.

“I was one of their most valuable spies for eight years running. But the jetting around really tired me out, and I knew I wasn’t getting any younger so I decided to settle down.

I signed up for a job at the airport to do some undercover security, wandering near suspicious characters and listening in.

I uncovered some incredible dealings and was awarded a batch of medals.

Igotmarried,hadamessofpuppies, and now I’m just retired.” The guy is amazed.

He goes back in and asks the owner what he wants for the dog.

“Ten dollars,” the guy says.

“Ten dollars? This dog is amazing! Why on earth are you selling him so cheap?”

“Because he’s a Bullshitter. He’s never been out of the yard

Gentle Reminders

Jokes that can be told in church from GeeRichard

Two boys were walking home from Sunday school after hearing a strong preaching on the devil.

One said to the other, “What do you think about all this Satan stuff?”

The other boy replied, “Well, you know how Santa Claus turned out. It’s probably just your Dad.”

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?”

A little girl, dressed in her Sunday best, was running as fast as she could, trying not to be late for Bible class.

As she ran, she prayed, “Dear Lord, please don’t let me be late! Dear Lord, please don’t let me be late!”

While she was running and praying, she tripped on a curb and fell, getting her clothes dirty and tearing her dress.

She got up, brushed herself off, and started running again.

As she ran, she once again began to pray, “Dear Lord, please don’t let me be late, but please Don’t shove me either!”

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What's Going On in October

Desert Exposure would like to include your special events, from any southern New Mexico community, in our listing. Please submit your event title, time, location and contact information to editor@desertexposure.com; Desert Exposure 1740-A Calle de Mercado, Las Cruces, NM 88005; or call Elva at 575-680-1978.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1
Silver City/Grant County Southwest Festival of the Written Word — All day at various venues. Info: www.swwordfiesta.org.
Alina Kiryayeva in concert — 7 p.m. at the WNMU Fine Arts Theater. Kiryayeva is a classical concert pianist and chamber musician from the Ukraine and presented by the Grant County Community Concert Association. Cost: \$20. Info: 575-538-5862.
Live Music: Nightblooms and Dixie Pearl — 8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N. Bullard St. Downtown Silver City. Info: 575-313-1266.

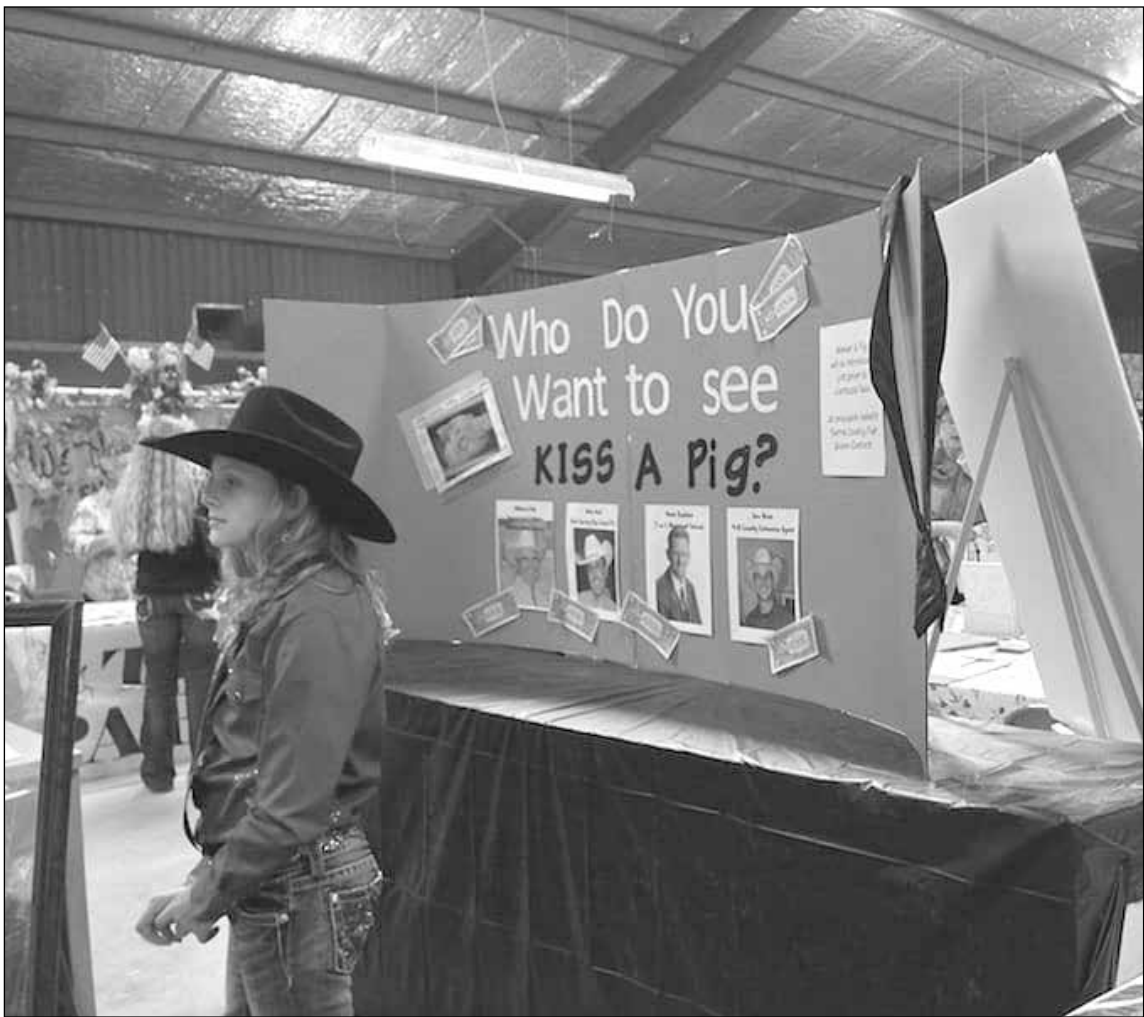
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2
Silver City/Grant County Southwest Festival of the Written Word — All day at various venues. Info: www.swwordfiesta.org.
Silver City Farmer's Market — 9 a.m.-noon at the Ace Hardware Parking Lot, 3025 U.S. Highway 180 E., Silver City. Info: silvercityfarmersmarket@gmail.com.
Where Do We Stand With Respect to the Health Security Plan and What's Next? — noon-1 p.m. in the ABC Room of the Global Resource Center on the corner of 12 and Kentucky streets in Silver City. Brown bag lunch with Dr. Neil Apple, Gayle Simmons and Carolyn Smith presenting. Info: 575-538-6835.
The Silver City Photography Club — 7 p.m., at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 3845 N. Swan Street in Silver City. Sueki Woodward presents "visual poetry." October's subject is "Images made this past summer." Cost: Free. Info: gmfoyhee@gmail.com.

Truth or Consequences/Sierra County
Sierra County Fair — 4:30 p.m. at the Sierra County Fairgrounds, 2953 S Broadway in Truth or Consequences. Cost: Free. Info: 575-894-2375.

Deming/ Columbus/Luna County Southwestern New Mexico State Fair — 5-9 p.m. at the Southwestern New Mexico State Fair Grounds, 4300 Raymond Reed Blvd. Info: 575-546-2674.

Las Cruces/Dña Ana County Dña Ana Photography Club — 6:30 p.m. at Cruces Creatives, 205 E. Lohman in Las Cruces. Seth Madell, Dale Taylor and Debbie Hands present interpretations of images and thoughts on how and why they accomplished their edits. Cost: Free. Info: daphotoclub.org.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3
Silver City/Grant County New Mexico Outdoor Economic Conference — 8 a.m. Grant County Conference Center, 3031 U.S. Highway 180 E. in Silver City. Conference includes an evening reception at the San Vicente Creek



The Kiss a Pig booth and much more can be found at the Sierra County Fair Oct. 2-6.

River Walk Park and a choice of complimentary outdoor tours in the region. Info: www.outdooreconomicsnm.com.
Southwest Festival of the Written Word — All day at various venues. Info: www.swwordfiesta.org.
Fort Bayard Film Series: "Baseball" a Film by Ken Burns — 7 p.m. at the Santa Clara Armory. Cost: free. Info: 575-388-4862.

Deming/ Columbus/Luna County Southwestern New Mexico State Fair — 5-9 p.m. at the Southwestern New Mexico State Fair Grounds, 4300 Raymond Reed Blvd. Info: 575-546-2674.

Truth or Consequences/Sierra County
Sierra County Fair — 9 a.m.-8 p.m. at the Sierra County Fairgrounds, 2953 S Broadway in Truth or Consequences. Cost: Free. Info: 575-894-2375.
Sierra Twirlers Square Dance — 5:30-8 p.m. at the Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm in T or C. Main stream and plus dancing. Info: 505-804-3842.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4
Silver City/Grant County Southwest Festival of the Written Word — All day at various venues. Info: www.swwordfiesta.org.
Word Feast poets laureate reading — 2-3 p.m. at the Bayard Public Library, 1112 Central Ave. in Bayard. Eve West Bessier, Beate Sigridaughter, Jack Crocker, Elise Stuart and Bonnie Buckley Maldonado will be reading. Info: www.swwordfiesta.org.
New Mexico Outdoor Economic Conference — 8 a.m. Grant County Conference Center, 3031 U.S. Highway 180 E. in Silver City. Conference includes an evening reception at the San Vicente Creek River Walk Park and a choice of complimentary outdoor tours in the region. Info: www.outdooreconomicsnm.com.
Live Music: Cast No Stones — 8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N.

Bullard St. Downtown Silver City. Info: 575-313-1266.

Deming/ Columbus/Luna County Southwestern New Mexico State Fair — 5-11 p.m. at the Southwestern New Mexico State Fair Grounds, 4300 Raymond Reed Blvd. Info: 575-546-2674.

Truth or Consequences/Sierra County
Sierra County Fair — 9 a.m.-8 p.m. at the Sierra County Fairgrounds, 2953 S Broadway in Truth or Consequences. Cost: Free. Info: 575-894-2375.

Alamogordo/Otero County Trinity Site Reception and Speaker — 6-7 p.m. at the New Mexico Museum of Space History, 3198 State Route 2001, First Floor. Cost \$35. Info: www.nmspacemuseum.org.

Socorro/Socorro County Socorrofest — 6-10 p.m. at the Socorro Historic Plaza. Multiple bands on multiple stages providing a variety of music. Info: socorrofest.com.

Las Cruces/Dña Ana County Mesilla Jazz Happening — 6-8 p.m. across the town of Mesilla at multiple area restaurant venues. Info: www.mvjazzblues.net.
"God of Carnage" — 7:30 p.m. at Las Cruces Community Theatre, 313 N. Main St. in Las Cruces. A play by Yasmina Reza features a playground altercation between 11-year-old boys resulting in tension between parents that grows and grows. Info: 575-523-1200.
Live Music: Dallas Burrow — 8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 119 N. Main St. in downtown Las Cruces. Info: 575-313-1266.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5
Silver City/Grant County Southwest Festival of the Written Word — All day at various venues. Info: www.swwordfiesta.org.
Silver City Farmer's Market — 9

a.m.-noon in Historic Downtown Silver City at Eighth Street between Bullard Street and the Big Ditch. Info: silvercityfarmersmarket@gmail.com.

gmail.com.
Pedalista and Cyclovia-Silver Style — 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Gough Park in Silver City. Bike fun for the family including games, contests, prizes, food and music brought by Healthy Kids Health Communities Grant County. Info: 575-313-3371.
Live Music: Alvee — 8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N. Bullard St. Downtown Silver City. Info: 575-313-1266.

Deming/ Columbus/Luna County Crafts and Farmers Market — 7 a.m.-noon at La Plazita Park, corner of Broadway and Highway 11 in Columbus. Info: 575-531-2663.
Southwestern New Mexico State Fair — 3-11 p.m. at the Southwestern New Mexico State Fair Grounds, 4300 Raymond Reed Blvd. Info: 575-546-2674.
Cowboy Poetry in Rodeo — 7-9 p.m. at the Rodeo Community Center, 16 Hickory St. in Rodeo. Presented by the Chiricahua Gallery eight performers read their stories and poems. Info: 575-557-3232.

Alamogordo/Otero County Trinity Site Tour — Caravan leaves at 8 a.m., drivers must be lined up by 7:30 a.m. starts at Tularosa High School in the athletics field parking lot behind the school, 1305 8th St. in Tularosa. Visit the site of the first atomic bomb detonation. Cost: Free. Info: 575-678-1134.



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Alamogordo Farmer's Market — 8:30 a.m. at 1991 White Sands Blvd., the north end of Alameda Park, next to the Toy Train Depot in Alamogordo. Info: 575-682-3323.
Amber Skies Community Craft Fair — 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at 2001 Amber Skies Ave. Community Clubhouse. Info: 830-992-0922.
Oliver Lee Ranch House Tour — 10-11 a.m. at Oliver Lee Memorial State Park, about 12 miles south of Alamogordo, take U.S. Highway 54 about 8 miles and turn east on Dog Canyon Road for 4 miles. Meet at the visitor center to check in. Info: 575-437-8284.

Alamogordo MOPS Touch a Truck — 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Christ Community Church, 2960 N. Scenic Drive, in Alamogordo. Hands on opportunity for the whole family to explore a variety of vehicles from fire trucks, tractors ad tow trucks. Cost: \$3 for a child or \$10 for a whole family. Info: 575-642-3681.

Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County
Sierra County Farmers' Market — 8:30 a.m.-noon at Ralph Edwards Park, Riverside and Cedar,

Truth or Consequences. Info: 575-894-9375.
Sierra County Fair — 9 a.m.-8 p.m. at the Sierra County Fairgrounds, 2953 S Broadway in Truth or Consequences. Cost: Free. Info: 575-894-2375.
Zia Gallery Grand Opening — 10 a.m.-9p.m., 415 Broadway in T or C. New gallery features fiber arts and paintings for opening exhibits. Info: ziagallerynm.com.
Old Time Fiddlers Dance — 7-9 p.m. New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St., Truth or Consequences. \$4 Info: 575-744-9137.

Las Cruces/Doña Ana County Farmers Arts and Crafts Market — 8 a.m.-1 p.m. At the Plaza of Las Cruces, Info: 575-805-6055.
Mesilla Valley Maze Fall Festival — 11 a.m.-7 p.m. at 3855 W. Picacho in Las Cruces. Info: www.mesillavalleymaze.com.
Mesilla Jazz Happening — 1-7 p.m. at Plaza de Mesilla in the town of Mesilla. Info: www.mvjazzblues.net.
"God of Carnage" — 7:30 p.m. at Las Cruces Community Theatre, 313 N. Main St. in Las Cruces. A

play by Yasmina Reza features a playground altercation between 11-year-old boys resulting in tension between parents that grows and grows. Info: 575-523-1200.
Live Music: Pride Downtown After Party — 8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 119 N. Main St. in downtown Las Cruces. Info: 575-313-1266.

Socorro/Socorro County Socorrofest — noon-1 a.m. at the Socorro Historic Plaza. Multiple bands on multiple stages providing a variety of music. Info: socorrofest.com.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County Aspenfest Parade — 10 a.m. through Ruidoso's Midtown. Info: 575-257-7395.
Chicago Tribute: Brass Transit — 7 p.m. at the Spencer Theater for Performing Arts, 108 Spencer Road in Alto. Cost: \$39-\$69. Info: 575-336-4800.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6
Silver City/Grant County Southwest Festival of the Written Word — All day at various venues. Info: www.swwordfiesta.org.
Captain Klas Sunday Brunch — 1 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N. Bullard St. Downtown Silver City. Info: 575-313-1266.

Deming/ Columbus/Luna County Southwestern New Mexico State Fair — 3-8 p.m. at the Southwestern New Mexico State Fair Grounds, 4300 Raymond Reed Blvd. Info: 575-546-2674.

Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County
Sierra County Fair — 9 a.m. at the Sierra County Fairgrounds, 2953 S Broadway in Truth or Consequences. Cost: Free. Info: 575-894-2375.

Las Cruces/Doña Ana County Mesilla Valley Maze Fall Festival — 11 a.m.-7 p.m. at 3855 W. Picacho in Las Cruces. Info: www.

mesillavalleymaze.com.
Mesilla Jazz Happening — 1-7 p.m. at Plaza de Mesilla in the town of Mesilla. Info: www.mvjazzblues.net.
"God of Carnage" — 2 p.m. at Las Cruces Community Theatre, 313 N. Main St. in Las Cruces. A play by Yasmina Reza features a playground altercation between 11-year-old boys resulting in tension between parents that grows and grows. Info: 575-523-1200.
Live Music: Nicole Osborn — 5 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 119 N. Main St. in downtown Las Cruces. Info: 575-313-1266.

Alamogordo/Otero County Oliver Lee Ranch House Tour — 10-11 a.m. at Oliver Lee Memorial State Park, about 12 miles south of Alamogordo, take U.S. Highway 54 about 8 miles and turn east on Dog Canyon Road for 4 miles. Meet at the visitor center to check in. Info: 575-437-8284.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8
Silver City/Grant County Arts & Military Roundtable — 9 a.m. at Ft. Bayard Historic Theater at Fort Bayard. New Mexico Arts and the Mimbres Region Arts Council host a round table discussion for veterans, their family members, community leaders and arts organizations. Info: www.mimbresarts.org.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9
Silver City/Grant County Silver City Farmer's Market — 9 a.m.-noon at the Ace Hardware Parking Lot, 3025 U.S. Highway 180 E., Silver City. Info: silvercityfarmersmarket@gmail.com.
An Update on the Air Force Proposal to conduct F-16 Training Over the Gila Region — noon-1 p.m. in the ABC Room of the Global Resource Center on the corner of 12 and Kentucky streets in Silver City. Brown bag lunch with Susan Beck presenting. Info: 575-538-6835.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10
Silver City/Grant County Arts lecture with clay artist Heidi Loewen — 6:30 p.m. at WNMU Parotti Hall followed by reception at 7:30 p.m. at the McCray Gallery. Edwina and Charles Women in the arts lecture and exhibit opening with clay artist. Info: www.heidiloewen.com.
Fort Bayard Film Series: "Eight Men Out" — 7 p.m. at the Santa Clara Armory. Cost: free. Info: 575-388-4862.

Deming/ Columbus/Luna County Columbus Historical Society potluck — 5 p.m. at the American Legion hall in Columbus. Info: 575-531-2612.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County 30th Annual Cowboy Symposium — All day at the Ruidoso Downs Race Track. Includes lots of live entertainment, a Western expo, chuckwagon cookoff. Features Bob Wills' Texas Playboys, Asleep at the Wheel, Texas Jamm Band and much more. Cost: \$20. Info: www.cowboysymposium.org.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11
Silver City/Grant County Red Dot arts celebration — All day at a variety of Silver City locations. Brochures are available at the galleries and at the visitor center, 201 N. Hudson St. Info: www.silvercityart.com.
Southwest Print Fiesta — 5-8 p.m. at Light Art Space, 209 W. Broadway in Downtown Silver City. Reception kicks off event. Info: www.southwestprintfiesta.org.
A Cultural History of Hummingbirds — 7 p.m. in Harlan Hall, Room 219, at WNMU, corner of 12th and Alabama streets. The speaker, Noah Comet is a certified master naturalist, avid outdoorsman and nature writer. Info: swn-maudubon@gmail.com.
Live Music: Trouble in the Wind — 8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N.




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Dali Ballet Company is only one of the many groups with floats featured in the Aspencade Parade in Ruidoso on Oct. 5. (Courtesy Photo)

Bullard St. Downtown Silver City.
Info: 575-313-1266.

Las Cruces/Doña Ana County Las Cruces Country Music Festival — 5 p.m. gates open at the Hadley Sports Complex, 1463 E. Hadley Ave. in Las Cruces. Info: lascrucescountrymusic.com.
“God of Carnage” — 7:30 p.m. at Las Cruces Community Theatre, 313 N. Main St. in Las Cruces. A play by Yasmina Reza features a playground altercation between 11-year-old boys resulting in tension between parents that grows and grows. Info: 575-523-1200.
Live Music: Orlando Madrid — 7 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 119 N. Main St. in downtown Las Cruces. Info: 575-313-1266.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County 30th Annual Cowboy Symposium — All day at the Ruidoso Downs Race Track. Includes lots of live entertainment, a Western expo, chuckwagon cookoff. Features Bob Wills’ Texas Playboys, Asleep at the Wheel, Texas Jamm Band and much more. Cost: \$20. Info: www.cowboysymposium.org.

Columbus/Luna County Crafts and Farmers Market — 7 a.m.-noon at La Plazita Park, corner of Broadway and Highway 11 in Columbus. Info: 575-531-2663.
Socorro/ Socorro County NMRA Finals Rodeo — 1 p.m. at the Socorro Soccer and Rodeo Complex, 1 Rodeo Drive in Socorro. Info: 505-366-4929.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12
Silver City/Grant County Silver City Farmer’s Market — 9 a.m.-noon in Historic Downtown Silver City at Eighth Street between Bullard Street and the Big Ditch. Info: silvercityfarmersmarket@gmail.com.
Southwest Print Fiesta Artisan Market — 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on Market Street between the Big Ditch and Texas Street. Info: www.southwestprintfiesta.org.
Nashville duo Mare Wakefield and Nomad — 7 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Silver City, 3845 N. Swan St. just north of the PNM building. Cost: \$10. Info: www.marewakefield.com.
Live Music: Rucci and Larrubia — 8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N. Bullard St. Downtown Silver City. Info: 575-313-1266.
Columbus/Luna County

Crafts and Farmers Market — 7 a.m.-noon at La Plazita Park, corner of Broadway and Highway 11 in Columbus. Info: 575-531-2663.
Columbus Animal Scavenger Hunt Ride — 9:30 a.m.-11 p.m. at Mototech LLC, 820 E. Spruce St. Deming. Info: 575-343-0850.

Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County Sierra County Farmers’ Market — 8:30 a.m.-noon at Ralph Edwards Park, Riverside and Cedar, Truth or Consequences. Info: 575-894-9375.
Second Saturday Art Hop — 6-9 p.m. in Downtown T or C along Main, Broadway, Foch, and Austin streets. Galleries, studios, shops and restaurants open late for exploration. Info: promotion@torc-mainstreet.org.
Old Time Fiddlers Dance — 7-9 p.m. New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St., Truth or Consequences. \$4 Info: 575-744-9137.

Alamogordo/Otero County Alamogordo Farmer’s Market — 8:30 a.m. at 1991 White Sands Blvd., the north end of Alameda Park, next to the Toy Train Depot in Alamogordo. Info: 575-682-3323.
Oliver Lee Ranch House Tour — 10-11 a.m. at Oliver Lee Memorial State Park, about 12 miles south of Alamogordo, take U.S. Highway 54 about 8 miles and turn east on Dog Canyon Road for 4 miles. Meet at the visitor center to check in. Info: 575-437-8284.
Tularosa Wine & Art Festival — noon-9 p.m. at 800 Third St. in Tularosa. Live music, art and wine tasting. Info: tularosawinefestival.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Farmers Arts and Crafts Market — 8 a.m.-1 p.m. At the Plaza of Las Cruces, Info: 575-805-6055.
Toss No Mas cleanup — 8 a.m. to noon across Las Cruces. Keep Ls Cruces Beautiful has a centralized location for information, supplies and locations identified at Young Park, 1905 Nevada Ave. Volunteers treated to a free lunch at the park at noon. Info: 575-528-4506.
Las Cruces Country Music Festival — 4 p.m. gates open at the Hadley Sports Complex, 1463 E. Hadley Ave. in Las Cruces. Info: lascrucescountrymusic.com.
“God of Carnage” — 7:30 p.m. at Las Cruces Community Theatre, 313 N. Main St. in Las Cruces. A

play by Yasmina Reza features a playground altercation between 11-year-old boys resulting in tension between parents that grows and grows. Info: 575-523-1200.

Socorro/Socorro County NMRA Finals Rodeo — 9 a.m. at the Socorro Soccer and Rodeo Complex, 1 Rodeo Drive in Socorro. Info: 505-366-4929.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County 30th Annual Cowboy Symposium — All day at the Ruidoso Downs Race Track. Includes lots of live entertainment, a Western expo, chuckwagon cookoff. Features Bob Wills’ Texas Playboys, Asleep at the Wheel, Texas Jamm Band and much more. Cost: \$20. Info: www.cowboysymposium.org.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13
Silver City/Grant County Southwest Print Fiesta — All Day at the Silver City Museum Annex. Visiting artist Valpuri Remling, master printer at the Tamarind Institute speaks and later offers portfolio critiques. Other workshops continue throughout the day. Info: www.southwestprintfiesta.org.
Sunday Brunch: Amos Torres & Friends — 1 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N. Bullard St. Downtown Silver City. Info: 575-313-1266.

Alamogordo/Otero County Oliver Lee Ranch House Tour — 10-11 a.m. at Oliver Lee Memorial State Park, about 12 miles south of Alamogordo, take U.S. Highway 54 about 8 miles and turn east on Dog Canyon Road for 4 miles. Meet at the visitor center to check in. Info: 575-437-8284.
Tularosa Wine & Art Festival — noon-6 p.m. at 800 Third St. in Tularosa. Live music, art and wine tasting. Info: tularosawinefestival.com.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County 30th Annual Cowboy Symposium — All morning at the Ruidoso Downs Race Track. Includes lots of live entertainment, a Western expo, chuckwagon cookoff. Features Bob Wills’ Texas Playboys, Asleep at the Wheel, Texas Jamm Band and much more. Cost: Free. Info: www.cowboysymposium.org.

Las Cruces/Doña Ana County Las Cruces Country Music Festival — 11 a.m. gates open at the Hadley Sports Complex, 1463

E. Hadley Ave. in Las Cruces. Info: lascrucescountrymusic.com.
“God of Carnage” — 2 p.m. at Las Cruces Community Theatre, 313 N. Main St. in Las Cruces. A play by Yasmina Reza features a playground altercation between 11-year-old boys resulting in tension between parents that grows and grows. Info: 575-523-1200.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14
Silver City/Grant County Widowed and Single Persons of Grant County — 10:30 a.m. at Cross Point Church, 11600 U.S. Highway 180 E. The entertainment is guitarist Sherman Nelson. Info: 575-537-3643.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16
Silver City/Grant County Silver City Farmer’s Market — 9 a.m.-noon at the Ace Hardware Parking Lot, 3025 U.S. Highway

180 E., Silver City. Info: silvercity-farmersmarket@gmail.com.
Are We Alone in the Universe? — noon-1 p.m. in the ABC Room of the Global Resource Center on the corner of 12 and Kentucky streets in Silver City. Brown bag lunch with astronomer Gary Emerson presenting. Info: 575-538-6835.

Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County Chile Challenge 4-Wheel Trail Event — All day at Caballo Lake State Park, Highway 187, Caballo. An opportunity for four-wheel drive vehicle operators of all experience levels to drive trails supervised, nationally recognized, 4-wheeling event. Info: Chilechallenge.org.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17
Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County Chile Challenge 4-Wheel Trail Event — All day at Caballo Lake

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The town of Mesilla hosts the 19th annual Mesilla Jazz Happening Oct. 4 through 6. (Courtesy Photo)

State Park, Highway 187, Caballo. An opportunity for four-wheel drive vehicle operators of all experience levels to drive trails supervised, nationally recognized, 4-wheeling event. Info: Chilechallenge.org.
Sierra Twirlers Square Dance — 5:30-8 p.m. at the Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm in T or C. Main stream and plus dancing. Info: 505-804-3842.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18
Silver City/Grant County
Diamonds in the Rough: A celebration of Baseball's Legacy at Fort Bayard — 5:30 p.m. at Historic Fort Bayard. An original performance kicks off three days celebrating the legacy of baseball in the Southwest with panels, movies and performances. Info: www.fortbayard.org.
Gila Native Plant Society program — 7 p.m. at Western New Mexico University's Harlan Hall, Room 219. The presentation is by Melanie Gisler of the Institute of Applied Ecology. Cost: Free. Info: www.hilanps.org.
Live Music: Captain's Hat — 8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N. Bullard St. Downtown Silver City. Info: 575-313-1266.

Columbus/Luna County
Crafts and Farmers Market — 7 a.m.-noon at La Plazita Park, corner of Broadway and Highway 11 in Columbus. Info: 575-531-2663.

Truth or Consequences/Sierra County
Chile Challenge 4-Wheel Trail Event — All day at Caballo Lake State Park, Highway 187, Caballo. An opportunity for four-wheel drive vehicle operators of all experience levels to drive trails supervised, nationally recognized, 4-wheeling event. Info: Chilechallenge.org.

Las Cruces/Doña Ana County
Contra Dance — 7:30-10:30 p.m. at the Mesilla Community center, 2251 Calle de Santiago in Mesilla. Rus Bradburd and Dennis Daily of Las Cruces are the band and Carol Fugagli of Silver City is calling. Cost: \$6. Info: www.snmmds.org.
Live Music: Frontera Bugalu — 8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 119 N. Main St. in downtown Las Cruces. Info: 575-313-1266.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County
Oktoberfest — 5-11 p.m. at the Ruidoso Convention Center, 111 Sierra Blanca Drive in Ruidoso. Eat, drink and be merry all for charity and education scholarships. Info: 575-257-6171.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19
Silver City/Grant County
Silver City Farmer's Market — 9 a.m.-noon in Historic Downtown Silver City at Eighth Street between Bullard Street and the Big Ditch. Info: silvercityfarmersmarket@gmail.com.
Diamonds in the Rough: A celebration of Baseball's Legacy at Fort Bayard — 9 a.m. at Historic Fort Bayard. Three days celebrating the legacy of baseball in the Southwest with panels, movies and performances. Info: www.fortbayard.org.
Live Music: Pint and a Half — 8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N. Bullard St. Downtown Silver City. Info: 575-313-1266.

Deming/ Columbus/Luna County
Crafts and Farmers Market — 7 a.m.-noon at La Plazita Park, corner of Broadway and Highway 11 in



The Emerson Trio, playing piano, cello and violin, are featured at the Silver City Light Hall on Oct. 29. (Courtesy Photo)

Columbus. Info: 575-531-2663.
MainStreet Market — 8-11 a.m. at 700 S. Silver Ave. in Deming. Info: 575-546-2674.
Stars-N-Parks — 7:40 p.m. at Rockhound State Park. Viewing the sky with Mike Nuss presenter. Info: www.nmparks.com.

Alamogordo/Otero County
Alamogordo Farmer's Market — 8:30 a.m. at 1991 White Sands Blvd., the north end of Alameda Park, next to the Toy Train Depot in Alamogordo. Info: 575-682-3323.
Oliver Lee Ranch House Tour — 10-11 a.m. at Oliver Lee Memorial State Park, about 12 miles south of Alamogordo, take U.S. Highway 54 about 8 miles and turn east on Dog Canyon Road for 4 miles. Meet at the visitor center to check in. Info: 575-437-8284.

Truth or Consequences/Sierra County
Chile Challenge 4-Wheel Trail Event — All day at Caballo Lake State Park, Highway 187, Caballo. An opportunity for four-wheel drive vehicle operators of all experience levels to drive trails supervised, nationally recognized, 4-wheeling event. Info: Chilechallenge.org.
Sierra County Farmers' Market — 8:30 a.m.-noon at Ralph Edwards Park, Riverside and Cedar, Truth or Consequences. Info: 575-894-9375.
"In the Park" Classic Car Show — 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Cedar Cove RV Park, 48 Cedar Cove Road, Highway 195 at Yapple, Elephant Butte. Info: 575-744-4472.
Old Time Fiddlers Dance — 7-9 p.m. New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St., Truth or Consequences. \$4 Info: 575-744-9137.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
Farmers Arts and Crafts Market — 8 a.m.-1 p.m. At the Plaza of Las Cruces. Info: 575-805-6055.
Octoaderfest party and live music on the Plaza de Las Cruces — 8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 119 N. Main St. in downtown Las Cruces. Info: 575-313-1266.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County
Oktoberfest — noon-11 p.m. at the Ruidoso Convention Center, 111 Sierra Blanca Drive in Ruidoso. Eat, drink and be merry all for

charity and education scholarships. Info: 575-257-6171.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20
Silver City/Grant County
Diamonds in the Rough: A celebration of Baseball's Legacy at Fort Bayard — 9:30 a.m. at Historic Fort Bayard. Brunch and baseball games close three days of celebrating the legacy of baseball in the Southwest with panels, movies and performances. Info: www.fortbayard.org.

Sunday Brunch — 1 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N. Bullard St. Downtown Silver City. Info: 575-313-1266.

Alamogordo/Otero County
Oliver Lee Ranch House Tour — 10-11 a.m. at Oliver Lee Memorial State Park, about 12 miles south of Alamogordo, take U.S. Highway 54 about 8 miles and turn east on Dog Canyon Road for 4 miles. Meet at the visitor center to check in. Info: 575-437-8284.

Turquoise and Silver Tea — 2-4 p.m. at the Tays Special Events Center, 2235 N. Scenic Drive. Annual Flickinger Center Fundraiser offering lovely treats, beverages, entertainment and company. Cost: \$15. Info: 575-437-2202.

Las Cruces/Doña Ana County
Live Music: Chris Smith Excargaga — 5 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 119 N. Main St. in downtown Las Cruces. Info: 575-313-1266.
Dave Borrego Band — 7 p.m. at First Christian Church, 1808 El Paseo in Las Cruces. A Mesilla Valley Jazz & Blues Society event. Cost: \$10. Info: 575-640-8752.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23
Silver City/Grant County
Silver City Farmers' Market — 9 a.m.-noon in the Ace Hardware Parking Lot, 3025 U.S. Highway 180 E, Silver City. Info: silvercityfarmersmarket@gmail.com.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24
Silver City/Grant County
Fort Bayard Film Series: "The Pride of the Yankees" — 7 p.m. at the Santa Clara Armory. Cost: free. Info: 575-388-4862.

Truth or Consequences/Sierra

County
Sierra Twirlers Square Dance — 5:30-8 p.m. at the Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm in T or C. Main stream and plus dancing. Info: 505-804-3842.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25
Silver City/Grant County
Live Music: The Last Tycoon — 8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N. Bullard St. Downtown Silver City. Info: 575-313-1266.

Deming/ Columbus/Luna County
Crafts and Farmers Market — 7 a.m.-noon at La Plazita Park, corner of Broadway and Highway 11 in Columbus. Info: 575-531-2663.

Las Cruces/Doña Ana County
Live Music: The Casual Fridays — 8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 119 N. Main St. in downtown Las Cruces. Info: 575-313-1266.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26
Silver City/Grant and Catron Counties
Silver City Farmer's Market — 9 a.m.-noon in Historic Downtown Silver City at Eighth Street between Bullard Street and the Big Ditch. Info: silvercityfarmersmarket@gmail.com.

Empty Bowls — 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Commons, 501 E 13th Street in Silver City. Food pantry fundraiser. Get a bowl full of soup with bread and dessert and keep the locally made ceramic bowl. Cost: \$20. Info: tvccgrantcounty.org.
Stars-N-Parks — 7:30 p.m. at City of Rocks State Park. Viewing the sky with Mike Nuss presenter. Info: www.nmparks.com.
Live Music: Curtis McMurtry — 8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N. Bullard St. Downtown Silver City. Info: 575-313-1266.

Deming/ Columbus/Luna County
Crafts and Farmers Market — 7 a.m.-noon at La Plazita Park, corner of Broadway and Highway 11 in Columbus. Info: 575-531-2663.
Day of the Dead art show — Daily at the Columbus Village Library, 112 W. Broadway through Nov. 9. Info: 575-531-2612.

Truth or Consequences/Sierra County
Sierra County Farmers' Market

— 8:30 a.m.-noon at Ralph Edwards Park, Riverside and Cedar, Truth or Consequences. Info: 575-894-9375.

Alamogordo/Otero County
Alamogordo Farmer's Market — 8:30 a.m. at 1991 White Sands Blvd., the north end of Alameda Park, next to the Toy Train Depot in Alamogordo. Info: 575-682-3323.
Zoo Boo 2019 — 9 a.m.-noon at Alameda Park Zoo, 1021 N. White Sands Blvd. Trick or treat, games, costume contest, vendors and more. Info: 575-439-4290.
Oliver Lee Ranch House Tour — 10-11 a.m. at Oliver Lee Memorial State Park, about 12 miles south of Alamogordo, take U.S. Highway 54 about 8 miles and turn east on Dog Canyon Road for 4 miles. Meet at the visitor center to check in. Info: 575-437-8284.
Burning of the Bull — 2-11:55 p.m. at the Otero County Fairgrounds, 401 Fairgrounds Road in Alamogordo. Pyrotechnic and music event includes chili cook off, adult beverages, live music, arts and crafts, a cornhole tournament and much more. Info: 575-434-0788.
Halloween on Granado Street — 4-8 p.m. on Granado Street in Tularosa. Costume contests, pet parade, trunk-or-treat, haunted house and ghosts telling ghost stories. Info: tularosaartsandhistory@gmail.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
Farmers Arts and Crafts Market — 8 a.m.-1 p.m. At the Plaza of Las Cruces. Info: 575-805-6055.
Art Market — 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at Café de Mesilla, 2190 U.S. Highway 28, Avenida de Mesilla. More than 15 artists from the Las Cruces Arts Association and their friends showing and selling a variety of items they have created. Info: 530-559-2765.
Mesilla Valley Maze Fall Festival — 11 a.m.-7 p.m. at 3855 W. Picacho in Las Cruces. Info: www.mesillavalleymaze.com.
Zombie Walk, DJ Night — 7 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 119 N. Main St. in downtown Las Cruces. Info: 575-313-1266.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County
REZA, Edge of Illusion — 7 p.m. at the Spencer Theater for Performing Arts, 108 Spencer Road in Alto. Cost: \$39-\$59. Info: 575-336-4800.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27
Silver City/Grant County
Sunday Brunch music: Chicarones — 1 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N. Bullard St. Downtown Silver City. Info: 575-313-1266.
Dias de los Muertos street festival — All day in downtown Silver City. Food, arts and crafts and mariachi music. Info: 575-388-5725.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
Mesilla Valley Maze Fall Festival — 11 a.m.-7 p.m. at 3855 W. Picacho in Las Cruces. Info: www.mesillavalleymaze.com.

Alamogordo/Otero County
Oliver Lee Ranch House Tour — 10-11 a.m. at Oliver Lee Memorial State Park, about 12 miles south of Alamogordo, take U.S. Highway 54 about 8 miles and turn east on Dog Canyon Road for 4 miles. Meet at the visitor center to check in. Info: 575-437-8284.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29

Silver City/Grant County Classical: The Emerson Trio — 7 p.m. at WNMU's Light Hall Theater in Silver City. A piano, cello and violin trio play compositions by Clara Schumann, Robert Schumann and Amy Beach. Cost: \$15. Info: 575-538-6273.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30

Silver City/Grant County Silver City Farmer's Market — 9 a.m.-noon at the Ace Hardware Parking Lot, 3025 U.S. Highway 180 E., Silver City. Info: silvercityfarmersmarket@gmail.com.
Fort Bayard Film Series: "Field of Dreams" — 7 p.m. at the Santa Clara Armory. Cost: free. Info: 575-388-4862.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31

Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County Sierra Twirlers Square Dance — 5:30-8 p.m. at the Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm in T or C. Main stream and plus dancing. Info: 505-804-3842.

Las Cruces/Dña Ana County DF, Opening Band and Sister Black Lagoon — 7 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 119 N. Main St. in downtown Las Cruces. Info: 575-313-1266.



On Oct. 16 astronomer Gary Emerson addresses the question of "Are We Alone in the Universe?" at a Silver City brown bag luncheon. (Courtesy Photo)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1 Halloween Party with the Casual Fridays — 8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N. Bullard St. Downtown Silver City. Info: 575-313-1266.

Deming/ Columbus/Luna County Crafts and Farmers Market — 7 a.m.-noon at La Plazita Park, cor-

ner of Broadway and Highway 11 in Columbus. Info: 575-531-2663.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2 Silver City/Grant County Silver City Farmer's Market — 9 a.m.-noon in Historic Downtown Silver City at Eighth Street between Bullard Street and the Big Ditch. Info: silvercityfarmersmarket@

gmail.com.
Dias de los Muertos Ofrenda Procession — Across Silver City. Info: 575-388-5725.

Deming/ Columbus/Luna County Crafts and Farmers Market — 7 a.m.-noon at La Plazita Park, corner of Broadway and Highway 11 in Columbus. Info: 575-531-2663.
Día de los Muertos Art Festival — 9 a.m.-9 p.m. at the Luna County Courthouse Par, 700 S. Silver Ave. Deming. Child centered art festival with cultural projects for families. Info: www.ddmartfest.com.

Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County Sierra County Farmers' Market — 8:30 a.m.-noon at Ralph Edwards Park, Riverside and Cedar, Truth or Consequences. Info: 575-894-9375.

Old Time Fiddlers Dance — 7-9 p.m., New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St., Truth or Consequences. \$4 Info: 575-744-9137.

Alamogordo/Cloudcroft/ Otero County Alamogordo Farmer's Market — 8:30 a.m. at 1991 White Sands Blvd., the north end of Alameda Park, next to the Toy Train Depot in Alamogordo. Info: 575-682-3323.
Oliver Lee Ranch House Tour — 10-11 a.m. at Oliver Lee Memorial State Park, about 12 miles south of Alamogordo, take U.S. Highway 54 about 8 miles and turn east on Dog Canyon Road for 4 miles. Meet at the visitor center to check in. Info: 575-437-8284.
Día de los Muertos — 3-8 p.m. downtown Alamogordo, the 800-900 blocks of New York Avenue. Traditional Day of the Dead community celebration. Cost: Free. Info: 575-446-3612.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Farmers Arts and Crafts Market — 8 a.m.-1 p.m. At the Plaza of Las Cruces. Info: 575-805-6055.
Renaissance ArtsFair — 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Young Park in Las Cruces. Jousting, royalty, children's activities, vendors, arts and crafts and more. Cost: \$10. Info: 575-523-6403.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3 Alamogordo/Otero County Oliver Lee Ranch House Tour — 10-11 a.m. at Oliver Lee Memorial State Park, about 12 miles south of Alamogordo, take U.S. Highway 54 about 8 miles and turn east on Dog Canyon Road for 4 miles. Meet at the visitor center to check in. Info: 575-437-8284.

IN THE FIELD • MIKE COOK

Outdoors was my Disneyland

New NMWF coordinator takes to the wild

Deming native Ray Trejo makes a lot of trips throughout the region as the southern New Mexico coordinator for the New Mexico Wildlife Federation (NMWF). "My Disneyland forever was going outdoors and hunting and fishing," said Trejo, who remembers those adventures with his uncles and grandfather from a very young age. At some point years ago, Trejo heard about NMWF. He got involved with the organization about a dozen years ago, is a past president and is now the full-time southern coordinator. Working for NMWF, he said, is "where my passion and my paycheck come together. It's my reward for following my dream." NMWF "is the best-kept secret," Trejo said. With an overall goal of "inspiring New Mexicans to conserve public landscapes, watersheds and wildlife for our children's future," according to NMWF's website, Trejo said education is one of the organization's most important functions. He brings 26 years with Deming Public Schools as a classroom teacher and an administrator to his NMWF job. "We could change a lot of our culture by getting kids outside," Trejo said, including a lot less violence. He is an especially strong advocate for providing outdoor opportunities for underprivileged children. Protecting public lands and ensuring the public's access to those lands, including streams, now and in the future is important to Trejo, including providing more hunting opportunities and a more equitable tag (license) allocation, principally for antelope and elk



Ray Trejo

hunting and particularly benefiting "blue-collar sportsmen and women" across the state, he said. "The wildlife does not belong to any individual," Trejo said. "It belongs to the public in this state." "We are advocates of outdoor recreation fighting for public lands," he said. "We make our stand and we defend it." Trejo "did a lot of work" leading up to the designation of nearly 500,000 acres as the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument, he said. He has opposed the border wall between the United States and Mexico because of its impact on wildlife corridors and supports science-based wildlife management. Author and conservationist Aldo Leopold and other sportsmen created NMWF in 1914 as the New Mexico Game Protective Association, according to the NMWF website. The nonprofit later changed its name to the New Mexico Wildlife Federation is

now "the largest, oldest and most effective sportsmen's organization in our state, working on behalf of sportsmen," according to its website. Its accomplishments include helping to protect more than two million acres of public land in New Mexico, rebuilding depleted game populations, giving a voice to New Mexico sportsmen and women, advocating for sound wildlife management, insuring quality places in the state to hunt and fish and fighting for New Mexicans' permanent access to public lands. Trejo attended Western New Mexico University in Silver City where he earned a bachelor's degree in education, a master's degree in teaching and a second master's in educational leadership, according to the NMWF website. He lives in Deming with his wife Teri, three horses, one mule, his Jack Russell terrier and three bird dogs. For more information, visit nmwildlife.org.

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ARTS EXPOSURE

Follow the Red Dot

Silver City weekend celebrates art

Time to shine up the galleries, hang up the banners and roll out new artworks. The galleries plan all year for special shows to introduce new artists as well as long time Silver City artists.

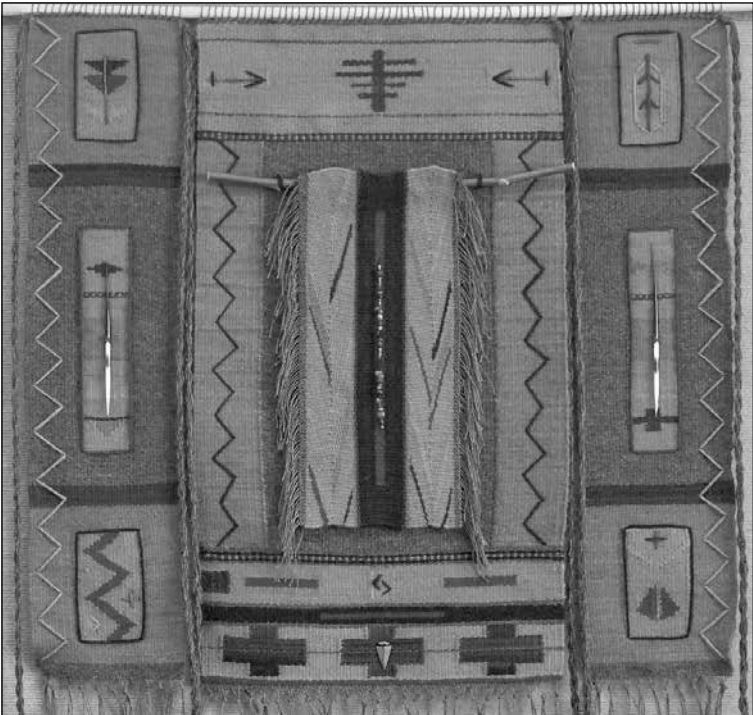
The past year has brought many changes with new artists moving in and new galleries opening for the first time. Many out of town visitors return every year for this event to find affordable art unique to Silver City. This year several workshops will be offered to those that want to experience art as well as to purchase and enjoy.

The Weekend at the Galleries runs from Oct. 11 to 14. A schedule of events can be found on line at www.silvercityart.com. You can also pick up a brochure at any of the galleries or the Visitor Center at 201 N Hudson St. For more information, call 575 538-5555.



A red dot leads the way to the Silver City Red Dot Weekend at the Galleries Oct. 11 to 14.

Off the wall



On Oct. 12 tapestry artist Donna Foley will be giving an artist talk during Silver City's Weekend at the Galleries event. The talk focuses on getting a complete palette from natural dyes. Foley is the author of "Local Color - Dyeplants of the Gila" and exhibits her naturally-dyed tapestries throughout the Southwest. The talk will be at 4:30 p.m. at Wild West Weaving Gallery on Texas St. Call 575-263-3830 for more information.

'Do You See What I See?'

The Individual Artists of the Silver City Art Association invites the public to their opening reception for the 2019 Indie Artist Show, "Do You See What I See?"

The opening reception will be from 5-7 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 12 at the Geisler Gallery, aka Common Ground. There will be refreshments plus some special surprises.

This show brings out a full range of the best of local art, including sculptures, fine art, folk art and applied art. Geisler is also planning "Monday night at the Movies" to appear outside the gallery, showing of featured artists' work.

The 2019 SCAA Indie Artist Show is part of the annual Weekend at the Galleries and hours for the show are 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12; 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 13, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, Oct. 14.

The show will also be available for viewing during regular hours Geisler Gallery hours through Saturday, Nov. 9.



Paula Geisler, owner of the Geisler Gallery, aka Common Ground, admires last year's People's Choice award winning entry "The Raven" by Ann Alexander.

Copper Quail features activities all weekend

Mariah's Copper Quail Gallery has an extensive schedule of events planned for the annual Silver City Artists Association Red Dot Weekend at the Galleries.

On Saturday, Oct. 12 the Mint Chip Creamery at 3 p.m. serves ice cream; an artists' reception for three featured guest artists – painter Egle Urbonaviciute, printmaker Fred Barazza and mixed media artist Marcia Heifner – is from 4 to 7 p.m.; and live music from vocalist Angelica Geli Padilla begins at 5 p.m. on the patio.

On Sunday, Oct. 13 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. a gourd demo from resident artist Pat Black will be featured. Mariah's Copper Qual is located at 211A N. Texas St. in historic downtown Silver City and is currently open seven days a week. For more information visit our Facebook page @mariahscqg. Info: 575-388-2646.



Angelica Geli Padilla

Kate Brown



Lifetime Silver City potter Kate Brown is the invited guest artist at Lois Duffy Art for the Weekend at the Galleries, at 211C N. Texas St. She is a master of slip-decorated terra cotta functional dinnerware, serving pieces and decorative tile. Kate has made many thousands of pots that now have an intimate place in daily lives and celebrations. Lois Duffy will be exhibiting her latest large acrylic paintings including unique 3-D cube constructions. Meet the artists and enjoy refreshments at the opening reception from 3 to 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12.

TRACKING

Telescope Finds New Home

After 71 years, WSMR provides site for piece of history

White Sands Missile Range recently gained a significant piece of history. After 71 years in the Lincoln National Forest at Mule Peak Instrumentation Site, an extremely unusual tracking telescope has found a new home.

In August 1947, the U.S. Forest Service granted a special-use permit to White Sands Proving Grounds. The permit authorized the Army to use Mule Peak at Lincoln National Forest for installing experimental instruments, as well as installing shelters and constructing an access road in support of obtaining ballistic measurements on guided missile testing.

In 1948, Telescope IV, commonly referred to as T-4, was shipped from the Ballistic Research Laboratory at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Maryland, to Mule Peak located at about 7,000 feet and not too far from Alamogordo. T-4 was one of five newly developed tracking telescopes belonging to astronomer Clyde Tombaugh's Optical Measurements Branch at WSMR.

The T-4 was used to track most missile tests fired from WSMR, beginning with the V-2 rocket. The T-1 through T-4 telescopes were built upon air defense anti-aircraft gun mounts. The T-4 telescope uses a 90mm M2 gun mount, with the barrel of the gun still present, although capped. Only one of its kind was ever built.

The T-4 telescope has not been used since the 1960s, although the crew shelter and other structures were utilized into the 1980s. Bill Godby, archaeologist with the Garrison Cultural Resources Program, spearheaded efforts to have the telescope removed and brought back to the White Sands Missile Range Museum as an outdoor display to be created recognizing Clyde Tombaugh and his efforts. Tombaugh worked at WSMR from 1946 to 1955 and taught astronomy at New Mexico State University from 1955 until his retirement in 1973. He discovered Pluto in 1930, the first object to be discovered in what would



Admiring Telescope IV after its journey from Mule Peak to White Sands Missile Range are (left to right) retired WSMR employees Joe Marlin and Glenn Moore, alongside WSMR Archeologist Bill Godby. (Photo courtesy Gina Palombit/U.S. Army)

later be identified as the Kuiper belt. In 1980 he was inducted into the International Space Hall of Fame.

"Removing the T-4 and getting it back to the WSMR Museum has been on the top of my wish list for more than five years, after I learned of its historical importance," Godby said.

The Mule Peak Instrumentation Site was identified as a National Register of Historic Places eligible Historic District in 2015. The removal of the telescope for preservation is part of an agreement between the U.S. Army Garrison at WSMR and the New Mexico Historic Preservation Division to offset the upcoming demolition of the remaining structures at Mule Peak.

The project had serious challenges to bring it to fruition, including an extremely rough access road and having to use a large crane and a flatbed with adequate ground clearance.

"Initially we thought our biggest problem in getting the telescope would be road access, but we found out that wasn't the case," said Godby.

An in-house effort to remove the T-4 in August 2018 proved unsuccessful when it was discovered that the telescope weighed 10,000 pounds more than anticipated, requiring a larger crane and specialized rigging. Greene Crane

and Rigging from Alamogordo was contracted for the job, and John Greene and his experienced crew successfully extracted the T-4 on June 7 with a 75-ton crane. The T-4 was delivered to WSMR six days later.

Fortunately, WSMR Museum Archives volunteers were onsite, including Joe Marlin, who recalled working at Mule Peak back in the 1950s. He had not seen T-4 since those days, and the pleasant reunion brought a big smile to his face. The future home of the T-4 will be the WSMR Museum Missile Park where it will reside as a permanent display. Godby will be coordinating a refurbishment of the T-4 to include minor surface repairs, repainting, and designing interpretive signage to include historic photos and descriptions of Tombaugh's efforts in developing tracking telescopes. Godby estimates a completion date of



A 75-ton crane extracts Telescope IV from its resting place since 1948. The building roof has been rolled back to expose it, as it is on rails. (Photo courtesy U.S. Army)

about one year. The effort will be one of several that have involved cooperation between the WSMR Museum and the Environmental Division's Cultural Resources Program.

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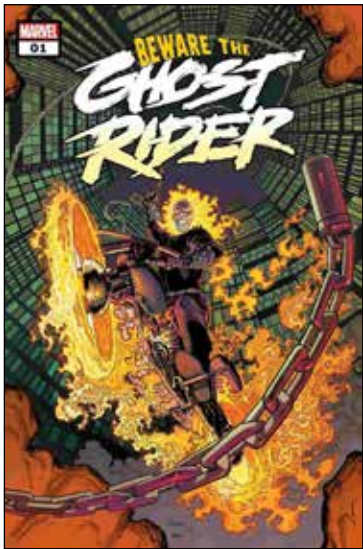
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Ghostly Hero

Ghost Rider returns in two incarnations

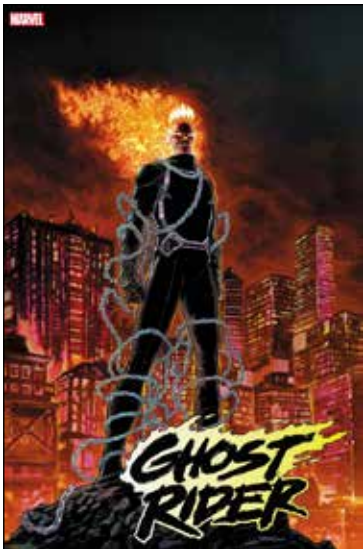
People have been fascinated with the character of Ghost Rider ever since his first appearance in Marvel Spotlight On #5 (1972). Who could blame them? He has a cool flaming skull head, rides a kickass motorcycle and has an awesome studded leather jacket. Marvel tried to push him into the lime-light with two self-titled movies, but the character didn't seem to catch on. They are giving Ghost Rider another big push with a Hulu series "Marvel's Ghost Rider" and his own comic book, "Ghost Rider." Both will be written so you can pick them up with no prior knowledge of the character or mythology surrounding him, but it's always better to know so here we go.

Ghost Rider is the name given to many people throughout history. These people embody the Spirit of Vengeance (except Robbie Reyes, I'll get to that later). The Spirit of Vengeance works for Mephisto and its sole purpose is to exact vengeance upon the guilty. As I mentioned, there have been Ghost Riders all the way back to prehistoric time (Avengers of 1,000,000 BC story-line). There are far too many to cover them all in one article. I



will delve into the ones associated with the comic book (Johnny Blaze and Danny Ketch) and the Hulu series (Robbie Reyes).

Johnny's path to becoming Ghost Rider started when he learned his surrogate father was stricken with life-threatening cancer. Blaze turned to the occult to save him. His studies led him to a spell which supposedly could summon Satan himself. Johnny was unaware that he had, in fact, summoned Mephisto. Desperate to save his father, he sold his soul to Mephisto in return for the cancer to be cured. Mephisto came to claim



his prize but was unable to when Johnny's girlfriend proclaimed her love for him, which drove Mephisto away with the purity of her emotion.

Mephisto is not one to give up easily. He bonded Blaze to him with the demon Zarathos as an act of revenge for not being able to obtain his soul. This transformed him into a Ghost Rider. While Johnny still had his soul, he was forced to punish the wicked and evil upon Mephisto's demands. Blaze was not completely lost in the transformation however and would also help the innocent when they were in

danger.

Danny Ketch gained Ghost Rider status as a result of fleeing from gangsters who attacked him and his sister. He hid in a junkyard where he found a motorcycle with a glowing gas cap. When he touched the gas cap, he was transformed into the Ghost Rider. This Ghost Rider was nearly identical to the previous, although his costume was now a black leather biker jacket with spiked shoulder-pads, grey leather pants, and a mystic chain he wore across his chest, which responded to his mental commands and served as his primary melee weapon. His new motorcycle resembled a futuristic machine and the front of it could lower to serve as a battering ram.

To make things a little weirder, we learn that Johnny and Danny are actually brothers. This comes into play in the upcoming Ghost Rider comic book as Johnny takes over Hell and Danny ends up working under him as Ghost Rider on Earth. You can imagine there is just a bit of sibling rivalry taking place. The comic book is due to hit the shelves sometime in October.

There is a new Hulu series set to air in 2020 called "Marvel's Ghost Rider." This series centers on the newest Ghost Rider, Robbie Reyes. This is a spin-off from the Marvel's "SHIELD" TV series. As I mentioned above, Robbie Reyes is NOT a Spirit of Vengeance. Robbie "borrows"

a 1969 Dodge Charger that is possessed by the spirit of his evil satanic serial killer uncle, Eli Morrow. Robbie and Eli fight for dominance over Robbie's body. Robbie agrees to permanently bond with Eli and sate Eli's thirst for murder, but only by killing people with evil souls. Robbie has exhibited some of the same powers as other Ghost Riders such as the penance stare and ability to bond with his vehicle. The big difference is Robbie is sharing his body with a serial killer entity rather than a demon out to exact revenge.

There are a ton more people who have carried the mantle of Ghost Rider. These three are just the ones that will be showcased by Marvel soon. If you are looking to get more steeped in Ghost Rider lore, I suggest any of the stories written by Warren Ellis, Garth Ennis or more recently Jason Aaron. Ghost Rider is a really cool character with a lot of evil vs good dichotomies. I can't wait to see him get his moment in the spotlight.

Troy Stegner owns Zia Comics and Games at 125 N. Main St. in Las Cruces.

He also runs Las Cruces Comic Con and El Paso Comic Con. You can contact him at ziacomics@gmail.com or through www.ziacomics.com or youtube.com/ziacomics.



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ON THE GROUND

Print Fiesta

Celebrating all things printed

Mimbres Region Arts Council (MRAC) will be hosting the Annual Southwest Print Fiesta, a regional artisan print festival.

Now in its fourth year, the Southwest Print Fiesta is a celebration of all things printed. It runs Oct. 11 to 13, and features a variety of work created by print-makers from all over New Mexico, as well Colorado, Texas and Arizona.

The fiesta kicks off with the opening of three separate exhibitions showcasing artists from both the United States and Mexico. A reception will be held from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 11 at Light Art Space, 209 W. Broadway, in downtown Silver City.

From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 12 an Artisan Marketplace pops up on Market Street between the Big Ditch and Texas Street. Print art of all kinds will be available, printmaking demonstrations and free print-making activities are available for all ages. Artisan booths offer fine art prints, letterpress creations and more for sale.

The steamroller (think steamroller without the steam) starts up at 11 a.m., and every hour on the hour a large-scale hand-carved artist block will be inked and placed on Market Street. Once inked, the steamroller will roll over the blocks to create large artist prints.



Featured at the Southwest Print Fiesta, a steamroller in Silver City rolls ink onto print blocks creating giant works of art. (Courtesy Photo)

On Sunday, October 13, visiting artist, Valpuri Remling, master printer at the Tamarind Institute will be speaking at the Silver City Museum Annex, and later offering portfolio critiques. There will also be workshops and printmaking activities offered to those interested in learning new techniques in print-making and letterpress.

For more information, visit www.southwestprintfiesta.org or call 575-538-2505. The Mimbres Region Arts Council is located in the Wells Fargo Bank building, 1201 Pope St. in Silver City.



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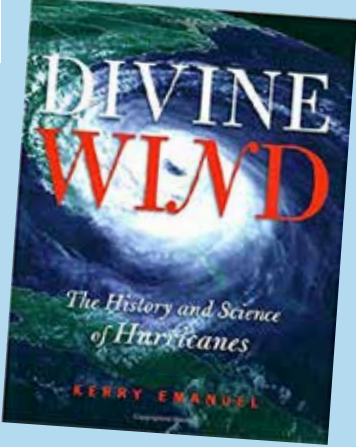
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By the Book

In "Divine Wind," Kerry Emanuel, one of the world's leading authorities on hurricanes, gives us an engaging account of these awe-inspiring meteorological events, revealing how hurricanes and typhoons have literally altered human history, thwarting military incursions and changing the course of explorations.





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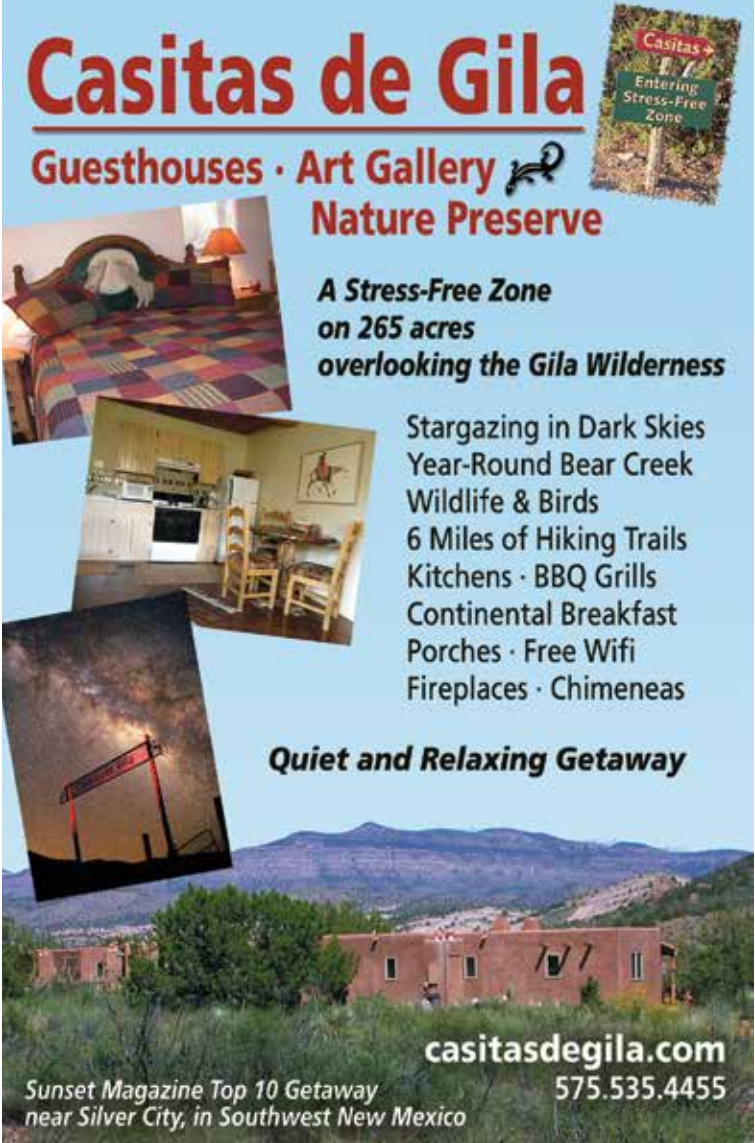
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Dr. Zeljka Fuchs-Stone and Dr. Dave Raymond aboard a research flight in the Caribbean during a past expedition. (NMT Photo)

NEW MEXICO TECH

Answers Blowin' in the Wind?

Desert dwellers venture into the eye of hurricane research

New Mexico Tech (NMT) professors are launching an innovative field campaign to study tropical convection and the genesis of hurricanes.

The Organization of Tropical East Pacific Convection, or OTREC, is an National Science Foundation (NSF)-funded project based at NMT that studies convection to gain better understanding of physics and improve global weather and climate models.

Dr. Zeljka Fuchs-Stone and Dr. Dave Raymond will lead the two-month-long field study. The team includes scientists from several other universities and government agencies in the United States, Costa Rica and Colombia.

"We will fly in stormy weather and calm weather," Fuchs-Stone said. "We want to take measure-

ments when the storm is developing, but also right before as well as soon after."

Fuchs-Stone said that convection, when air rises or falls due to temperature differences, is one of the driving forces behind storm formation and weather. Studying convection helps scientists understand the physics of storms better and improves global weather and climate models.

"With these data profiles from different cases we hope to be able to figure out what's different between instances that lead to hurricanes and those that don't," Fuchs-Stone said.

Eric DeWeaver, the NSF program manager for OTREC, said, "Hurricanes are clearly a big concern for the U.S. and an important research area for NSF. But it's not enough to understand hurricanes. We also

want to understand how tropical convection forms, organizes and develops to the point where it can spawn hurricanes. The OTREC campaign is a great way to get at these questions and I think we're going to learn a lot from it."

The field phase of the project OTREC was from Aug. 5 and lasts Sept. 30. Dozens of scientists and students from the U.S. – including four NMT students – were be stationed in Costa Rica to gather data by using the NCAR/NSF Gulfstream V aircraft to deploy over 600 drop sondes. These instruments measure temperature, humidity, pressure and wind from the plane to the ocean. The team also used NCAR's downward-pointing W-band radar. Additional radiosondes were launched from the ground from locations in Costa Rica and Colombia.

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THE BOOK

Bookish Questions Answered

“What does a book really mean? Why do people collect books?”

“I had always imagined Paradise as a kind of a library.”
– Jorge Luis Borges

Casa Camino Real Bookstore in Las Cruces is hosting an Oct. 18 and 19 event called “The Book,” which will focus on the physical manifestation and wonder that is The Book. Participants will delve into the history of the book as well as how to care for and preserve their own collections. In addition, participants will be able to bring that special book from their collection to be evaluated in an “Antiques Roadshow” type of evaluation session.

The event will include three renowned book experts: antiquarian book dealer John Randall, the former owner of the legendary independent bookstore, “Salt of the Earth,” in Albuquerque; Bill Fisher a San Antonio, Texas lawyer whose personal collection includes first editions and rare books by Pablo Neruda, Octavio Paz, Gabriel García Márquez, Juan Rulfo, Josefina Niggli and many other classical Latino/as and Elizabeth Martínez, professor at DePaul University in Chicago, author of “Josefina Niggli, Mexican-American Writer: A Critical Biography.”

A dinner, panel, and engaging

presentations by each participant will kick off the weekend from 7-9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 18 at La Posta de Mesilla. Booklovers will be offered seven dinner choices with a drink and dessert. The cost of this event by itself is \$30 and includes a gift book.

Bill Fisher will present an engaging overview of his extraordinary collection and a discussion of book collection in general, followed by Elizabeth Martínez who will talk about her work on the Niggli book, followed by John Randall who will speak about book collecting. A question-and-answer period will follow.

From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 19, Randall will lead a workshop – “The Care and Evaluation of Out of Print Books” – at Casa Camino Real (CCR), 314 S. Tornillo St. The all-inclusive fee for both events, including dinner, is \$85 with a Book Lovers Special of \$75 if reservations are made before Oct. 7. Some scholarships are available.

If you can’t make the event and would like to sponsor a scholarship for a student interested in the book profession, an English or art major or an elder book lover, contact Casa Camino Real. Scholarships are \$75.

For more information and to make a reservation, contact Denise Chávez at 575-523-3988 or

comezon09@comcast.net.

“It is rare to have three such important figures in the book-collection world in one place,” Chávez said. “CCR is honored to host Bill Fisher, Elizabeth Martínez and John Randall in conversation and in a dinner presentation with slides from Fisher’s collection.”



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AG DAY

NMSU Agriculture

Event is prelude to Aggie Homecoming football game

On Saturday, Oct. 5 The New Mexico Department of Agriculture and New Mexico State University College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences are teaming up to host AG Day for the seventh consecutive year.

The family friendly street fair will be held prior to the NMSU vs. Liberty Flames Homecoming football game. AG Day is from 2 to 6 p.m. in the Pan American Center south parking lot adjacent to Aggie Memorial Stadium on the NMSU campus, and admission is free. This year's AG Day is sponsored by New Mexico Farm & Livestock Bureau and Farm Bureau Financial Services.

Kickoff for the football game is at 6 p.m.

Aggie fans can expect over 50 booths representing numerous NMSU groups, as well as businesses and organizations from New Mexico's agriculture community, at AG Day. The event will feature farm animals, educational exhibits, games, prizes, live music and samples of New Mexico-made food.

A highlight of the event is a performance by musician Della Bustamante from 3 to 6 p.m.

"This year's AG Day is sure to bring a wide variety of fun games, great food, amazing music, and plenty of opportunities for kids and adults to learn about New Mexico's agriculture industry," said New Mexico Secretary of Agriculture Jeff Witte. "I invite all Aggie fans to join us at AG Day, Celebrate NMSU's homecoming, and cheer on our Aggie football team to victory!"

Aggie fans are also encouraged to attend the NMSU Homecoming parade prior to AG Day from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. along University Avenue. The event is free for all attendees.


Aggie football tickets may be purchased in advance for \$10 when you mention "AG Day." For ticket information, call 575-646-1420.

For more information about AG Day, email bbanks@nmda.nmsu.edu, call 575-646-1864 or visit www.nmda.nmsu.edu. Like us on Facebook www.facebook.com/NMDeptAg and follow us on Twitter and Instagram @NMDeptAg.



Aggie fans can expect over 50 booths representing numerous NMSU groups, as well as businesses and organizations from New Mexico's agriculture community, at AG Day. The event will feature farm animals, educational exhibits, games, prizes, live music and samples of New Mexico-made food. (Photo courtesy NMDA)

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BIG COUNTRY

Las Cruces Country Music Festival

October event draws big names, fun times

The seventh annual Las Cruces Country Music Festival returns to the City of Crosses October 11, through Oct. 13, with a star-studded lineup and another legendary weekend of country fun.

The festival kicks off on Friday, Oct. 11 with Main Stage acts: Big & Rich with Cowboy Troy, Casey Donahew, and Frank Ray. The Friday night trio has accounted for dozens of country hits and awards including Big & Rich's "Save A Horse (Ride a Cowboy)," "Lost in This Moment," "Wild West Show," "That's Why I Pray," "Holy Water" and many more. Donahew's hits include "White Trash Story," "Double Wide Dream," and "One Star Flag" among many others. Former Las Cruces police officer and recent USA Network Real Country contestant Frank Ray is coming home. Ray's Texas Country chart hits have included "Every Time You Run" and "The Drive."

On Saturday, Oct. 12, the festivities continue with country stars Gretchen Wilson, Ronnie Milsap, and Jessie G. Gretchen Wilson, a Grammy Award-winning recipient, has charted country hits like "Redneck Woman," "Here for the Party," "All Jacked Up" and several others. Milsap, a six-time Grammy Awards winner and Country Music Hall of Fame inductee, had success in the 1970s and 1980s and is recognized as an influential "crossover" artist incorporating sounds of R&B, pop, and rock into his country music. Milsap had an impressive 31 No. 1 hits on Country radio from 1973 to 1989.

Milsap's hits include "It Was Almost Like a Song," "Lost in the Fifties Tonight," "Stranger in my House," and an ode to the area from where he hails "Smokey Mountain Range."

Sunday, Oct. 13, will feature regional artists, as well as a performance by Stephanie Urbina Jones and the Honky Ton Mariachis. Urbina Jones was the first female artist to perform with Mariachis on the Grand Ole Opry. Her country-meets-mariachi-meets-Latin hits have included "I Wanna Dance with You," "Walking After Midnight," and "He Reminds Me of Texas." Urbina Jones has also received wide acclaim for a phenomenal rendition of Dolly Parton's hit "Jolene".

On the festival's Second Stage, local and regional favorites will keep the music going in between acts. In addition to all the great music, the festival will feature activities for the entire family including food and drinks, vendors, and a free kids' area.

The festival will be at the Hadley Sports Complex for the second year in a row. Gates open at 5 p.m. on Friday, 4 p.m. on Saturday and 11 a.m. Sunday.

Tickets are on sale online at www.LasCrucesCountryMusic.com.



Frankie Ballard performs on the main stage during the 2018 Las Cruces County Music Festival. (Photos by Steve MacIntyre)

com and in person at Visit Las Cruces, 336 S. Main St. Single day passes for Friday or Saturday are \$40, Sunday single-day passes cost \$10, and weekend

passes are \$80. Kids 12-years old and younger get in free with general admission. Also, VIP passes are \$150, which include a Thursday night VIP party and VIP seat-

ing on Friday and Saturday. Kids 3-years old and younger get in free with VIP passes. Prices will go up at the gate, so the public is urged to buy their tickets early.

Members of the military, senior citizens, City employees, and students are offered a \$5 discount on day passes, and \$10 off weekend passes when they purchase tickets at the Visit Las Cruces office. The discount is limited to one per person with a valid ID.

Acts are subject to change. For information, visit www.LasCrucesCountryMusic.com or call 575-541-2444.



Beau and Taylor Allen dance to the music of Rick Trevino Sunday afternoon at the 2018 Las Cruces County Music Festival.



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AMAZING

Maze Leads Astray

More than just a field of corn

A long-time family favorite, the Mesilla Valley Maze offers hayrides, giant slides, a bountiful pumpkin patch and a traditional corn maze. The Mesilla Valley Maze is open to the public from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. every weekend through Oct. 27 at 3855 West Picacho in Las Cruces.

“We’ve brought back all the traditional favorites this year, plus some exciting new features,” said Anna Lyles, owner of the maze. “2019 marks our 21st year of operation, and our entire staff is ready to go, showing families a great time while teaching the kids a bit about farms and

food production.”

The Lyles Family created the maze years ago to provide a traditional family experience to the area, and to also show children how important agriculture is to their lives. Private school field trips are conducted at the maze to help emphasize the connection between farms and the food on children’s plates. The maze has slowly grown over the years to become an annual tradition for area children, teachers, and parents.

“Agriculture-based education has been an important part of the operation ever since I started it,” said Lyles. “Farming is our family tradition, and it’s something that every generation should understand and enjoy.”

Anna and her husband Steve manage the family’s 2,000-acre farming operation, which includes the 45-acre Mesilla Valley Maze.

Adult admission is \$12, chil-



The Mesilla Valley Maze has more than just corn on hand for visitors. (Courtesy Photos)

dren under 12 are \$10, and two and under are free. \$2 military discount with ID. Visit www.mesillavalleymaze.com.

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Sat. Oct. 19
9:00 - 11:30 am Panel Presentations by baseball scholars, coaches and players

11:30 - 12:30 pm Lunch Break

12:30 - 2:30 pm Second Panel presentations by scholars, coaches, and players

3:00 - 5:00 pm Vintage Baseball Game #1 at Bataan Park, 1-mile south of Fort Bayard NH Landmark

7:00 - 8:30 pm Showing of Documentary Film in New Deal Theater

Sunday, Oct. 20
9:30-10:30 am Potluck Brunch at New Deal Theater
11:00 am - 1 pm Vintage Baseball Game #2 at Bataan Park
1:15 pm Closing Ceremony at Bataan Park







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LIVING ON WHEELS • SHEILA SOWDER

Dogs, Dogs and More Dogs!

Some advice on smooth traveling

I must preface this by admitting that I have never been a dog owner, and don't plan to become one. But when one of our regulars came into the office here at Rose Valley and said, "I swear, every RV in my row has a dog in it except mine!" I began wondering. Why make RVing more difficult and inconvenient by dragging a dog along? I mean, the kids are finally gone, so why make life more complicated?

I can almost understand part-time RVers. It's their house dog and, unless they have someone to leave it with, they have no choice. The same can be said for full-timers who have this dog left over from their stationary days — abandoning it just doesn't seem right. But why do people acquire a dog on the road? Or replace one that has gone to doggy heaven?

I started my research by asking non-dog owners "why not?"

"I don't want to take care of it" won hands down. However, I did get a few surprise responses.

"My parrot doesn't like anything strange in the bus."

"When I was a kid, my dog got killed by a car, and I can't handle the grief of losing another one."

Several RVers mentioned their belief that dogs, especially larger dogs, need lots of room to run, which they don't have in most RV parks.

The "whys" were trickier. "For protection," said one single RVer, and when I looked down at her chihuahua doubtfully, she said, "She barks and scares burglars away."

Oh, yeah, like most self-respecting burglars can't tell the difference between a chihuahua's bark and that of a German shepherd.

Another woman said, "I like taking care of someone."

Most of the single RVers said their dogs were for company.

"I'm lonely, and also, dog parks are a good place to meet people,



RVing with their dogs is more convenient for Gary and Linda Wee, and more fun for Storm and Breeze, because of this doggy door and ramp, which was built by Gary. (Photo by Sheila Sowder)

much friendlier than bars," one guy explained.

"The Neanderthals were buried with their dogs," a terrier owner told me, although the vote is still out on that. Some experts say nope, Neanderthals weren't doggy people, others say most likely they ate dogs for dinner, and anthropologist Pat Shipman theorizes that dogs were instrumental in the extinction of their species — the humans trained wolf dogs to help them corner the food supply and starve out the pet-deprived Neanderthals.

The couples I talked to almost unanimously said, "We've always had dogs."

Yeah, but isn't it a hassle? Always rushing back to the RV to walk or feed him. Looking for a new vet or groomer when you travel. What about all the plac-

es you'd like to see, only they don't allow dogs? Strangely, no one gave me a straight answer to these questions; they usually shrugged and murmured something like "Oh, we manage."

I googled "RVing with dogs." And, oh my, dog people love to give advice, considering the many books written on the subject. Even Woodall's, one of the Bibles of the RVing world, publishes "Camping and RVing with Dogs." Probably because an unofficial estimate is that over half of RVers have pets, mainly dogs.

Some RV parks don't accept dogs. Some limit the number per

RV or the size and breed. On the other hand, some RV parks go all out to accommodate them. Dog runs, doggie bathhouses, dog-walking service, pet sitting, obedience training and agility classes. Hey, they're treated better than us humans!

When you're planning an RV jaunt, either a short-term trip or a new lifestyle, consider your dog's personality. That might sound a little touchy-feely to non-dog owners, but it makes sense. Get him used to the rig BEFORE you start traveling. Turn on the engine for a couple of minutes to see how he copes. Try him out on short trips and reward him for good behavior. And bring along a familiar portable kennel as a safe haven. One writer recommends getting your dog used to peeing on grass before the first trip. I thought all dogs pee on grass. Except desert dogs. Or frozen tundra dogs.

The following tips sound reasonable even to me:

- Stick to one kind of food and make sure it's easy to find or take plenty along.
- Give him purified water for his digestion — and yours too, by the way.
- Store food in sealable bins to deter rodents.
- Feed him at the same time every day.
- Check for geographically centered diseases and parasites.
- Google veterinarian reviews before using a new one.
- Load "Dog park finder app" on your Apple products.
- Stick to routine as much as possible.
- Keep him inside the RV and, preferably, in his portable kennel when you're gone, TV or radio on, blinds down.

- Invest in a portable dog pen to set up on your site.
- Choose an RV with minimal fabric and carpeting.
- Ask your RV neighbors if the dog barks when alone. If yes, consider a bark control collar.
- Travel with the following: proof of vaccinations, license tag, ID tag; color photo of dog, sturdy leashes, medications, waste bags, old towel for those wet walks, doggy first aid kit.
- Finally, on Amazon.com, I discovered an entire retail industry of products specifically made for dogs on the road. Loading ramps, pet door covers, harnesses, dog teepees, pet mats, kennels and crates. You can buy a remote dog camera for spying on your dog when you're away, with two-way audio so you can talk to each other, and a treat-tossing feature for his good behavior. How about a Scout High Performance Tactical Military Backpack, or a Happy Camper dog dress for the highest canine fashion?

All of this sounds much more complicated than just tossing Fido in your RV and taking off. But a little research and some minor adjustments are probably worth the time if the result is a smoother, more peaceful journey. And a dog that doesn't need therapy.

Sheila and husband, Jimmy, have lived at Rose Valley RV Ranch in Silver City since 2012, following five years of wandering from Maine to California. She can be contacted at sk Sowder@aol.com.



SKY WATCHING • MIKE COOK

Autumn Falls

Full moons rise

The long, hot summer is drawing to a close, at least according to the calendar and meteorologists.

The 2019 autumnal equinox occurred at 1:50 a.m. MDT Monday, Sept. 23, and autumn will continue through Sunday, Dec. 22. And the harvest moon is coming even sooner.

In the Northern Hemisphere's astronomical calendar, "the start and end dates of autumn are based on the changing position of Earth in relation to the sun," according to www.calendarpedia.com.

"The length of the astronomical seasons varies between 89 and 93 days, while the length of the meteorological seasons is less variable and is fixed at 90 days for winter in a non-leap

year (91 days in a leap year), 92 days for spring and summer and 91 days for autumn," the website said.

That's because meteorologists define seasons "based on climatic conditions and the annual temperature cycle," according to the website, and they require a more exact definition of "a season's timing and length." For them, autumn begins Sept. 1 and ends Nov. 30.

"On the day of an equinox, the geometric center of the Sun's disk crosses the equator, and this point is above the horizon for 12 hours everywhere on the Earth," according to aa.usno.navy.mil.


Because it is the closest one to the autumnal equinox, the September 2019 full moon,

which occurred at 10:33 a.m. MDT Saturday, Sept. 14, is the harvest moon.

The October full moon, the hunter's moon, will occur at 3:08 p.m. MDT Sunday, Oct. 13.

The moon has played a major role in marking the seasons and the time for planting and harvesting for millennia. Originally, a month was the period from one new moon until the next. In fact, "month" comes from the word for moon: "from root 'me' — 'to measure' in reference to the moon's phases as an ancient and universal measure of time," according to www.etymonline.com.

Daylight Saving Time, by the way, will end at 2 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 3. It returns at 2 a.m. Sunday, March 8, 2020.



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32 YEARS IN SILVER CITY • SUSAN GOLIGHTLY

More on Forgiveness

Seeing freedom in letting anger go

I received a lot of feedback on my last article on forgiveness. People came up to me and said “how could I forgive such a person? Was I exonerating him for what he had done?”

A little recap. Last month I wrote about my stepfather, Tobie, and how when I was a young (6-13 years old), he used to beat me often with a belt. I can only surmise it was because I didn’t act like how a boy should act. I played with dolls, played “house” with the neighborhood girls, cried easily, and, in general, I just didn’t act like a boy.

Later, when I was older, I learned to fake it. However, faking being a boy and later a man caused me to suppress my emotions and feelings. It has taken me a lifetime to overcome the damage done to me when I was a child. I did not ask to be born a transgender person, and my stepfather did not know how to raise a girl in the body of a boy.

So, back to forgiveness.

Corrie Ten Boom was born in a working-class family in Amsterdam. She later wrote the book “The Hiding Place,” telling about how she and her family hid Jews and disabled people from the Nazis. Her family eventually was caught and imprisoned. She and her sister, Betsie, were sent to the infamous Ravensbrück concentration camp where her sister died. Corrie Ten Boom traveled and spoke about her experience in Nazi Germany. She tells the story of how she was able to forgive the prison guard who contributed to the horrible suffering of the prisoners.

I heard that story many years ago, and at the time I did not understand how someone could forgive a person like that. I have come to understand that, but for the grace of God, I could have been that guard. We have all been damaged in this broken world. Some people get damaged more than others, but then, how do you measure damage? Inside me exists all the people of the world — all their fears and all their desires, any one of them could come forth and become “me.” All it takes is the right circumstances of pain, fear, despair

and hopelessness.

Forgiveness has become a shallow word in our society. I think very few people understand true forgiveness. Forgiveness is the second most important thing that Jesus taught. The first was love. I think the Bible interpreters got some things wrong. Well, actually, I think they got a lot of things wrong. Jesus said, “Love others as you love yourself.” I think they (the interpreters) got it backwards. I think it should say, “Love yourself as you love others.” And, in the same way, we should forgive ourselves as we forgive others. We rarely really forgive ourselves, and we often don’t understand loving ourselves. How can we love ourselves, if we are judging ourselves? As the Bible says, judge others as you would have them judge you. Unfortunately, we often judge others in the same way we judge ourselves — which is often harsh and unforgiving.

Forgiveness is letting go of our judgment. When we hold something against someone, we are judging them. I held anger and judgment against Tobie. I needed to set Tobie free, and I needed to set myself free from Tobie. Tobie did those harsh and fearful acts many years ago, but I carried that experience with me for many years after. As Krishnamurti would say, I was bound by my anger and judgment I had for Tobie. Being bound by our fears and hatreds, or even our loves and desires, become part of who we are and how we see ourselves. It causes us to see “through a glass darkly.” I carried Tobie with me for many years. I needed to let him go so I could begin to see me. If we truly love someone, we must be willing to set him or her free. If we truly love ourselves, we must be willing to set ourselves free.

It says in the Bible, (Mark 11:25, a loose paraphrase) when you are praying or meditating, if you hold anything against anyone, go first and forgive them. So that you can surrender to your Lord with a clean heart, that you may experience forgiveness.

Susan Golightly just turned 76 years old. She still stays active riding her bicycles and is currently building a storage shed in her yard. Susan’s hold both a BA and an MA from WNMU. Both times she was valedictorian. The first time as a man and the second time as a woman.



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Women in the Arts
ARTIST HEIDI LOEWEN
6:30 p.m. Lecture Parotti Hall
7:30 p.m Opening McCray Gallery
FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Tuesday, Oct 29

The Emerson Trio
Piano, Cello and Violin
7:00 p.m. | WNMU Light Hall Theater
TICKETS \$15 | Season Pass \$60

Thursday, Nov 7

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CHARLIE MECKEL
4:30 p.m. McCray Gallery
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Thursday, Nov 14

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