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LOCAL NEWS AND ENTERTAINMENT SINCE 1969 • WWW.LASCRUCESBULLETIN.COM • FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 2014

VOLUME 46 • NUMBER 2

Session goals set Local leaders detail requests

By **Todd G. Dickson**
Las Cruces Bulletin

Local officials presented their top priorities to area lawmakers Thursday, Jan. 9, at the Las Cruces Convention Center as a way to present a unified lobbying effort when the 30-day session starts Tuesday, Jan. 21.

Made up of representatives from main governmental and education bodies, the Doña Ana County Legislative Coalition has a list that starts with capital appropriations. Topping that list is a request for \$6.9 million to pave the southern road to Spaceport America. Currently, the New Mexico Spaceport Authority has \$8.1 million for the road, which is expected to cost \$15 million for a basic surfacing with some route improvement, such as elevated crossings and arroyos.

Next is \$21.3 million to improve facilities at New Mexico State University's College of Engineering and College of Education, as well as replacing aging campus gas and electrical systems.

Similarly, Doña Ana Community College is asking for \$2 million for repairs, replacement and maintenance.

The City of Las Cruces is asking for \$1.2 million to help with road improvements and \$3 million for training of public safety officers. The city also wants \$1 million to improve traffic signal synchronization.

County government is asking for \$2.1 million to complete roadwork to the Santa Teresa Airport and \$3.5 million for emergency and hazardous materials facilities in Santa Teresa.

Las Cruces Public Schools is pushing that the state needs to adequately fund school operations, which the district contends has not been done over the

See **Legislature** on page A10



Third-graders
Anthony
Mercado,
Jazmeen
Richardson,
Natalie
Boylston
and Jasmine
Nevarez lead
their school
mates in a
rush through
Valley View
Elementary
School
doors,
elated to be
back on the
first day of
school.

Las Cruces
Bulletin photo by
Rafael Torres

Deadly home assault results in five arrests Owner frets over inquiry

By **Todd G. Dickson**
Las Cruces Bulletin

Three men and two women have been arrested in connection with a New Year's Day home invasion that resulted in one of the invaders being killed and the home owner using social media to prepare a legal defense fund.

According to the Doña Ana County Sheriff's Department, four men and two women arrived at the residence of Joe Torrez, on the 600 block of King James

Avenue. According to investigators, the group had gone to the residence to settle an argument at a New Year's Eve party.

What happened next is described by police and the District Attorney's Office as a home invasion in which the 27-year-old Torrez, a mixed martial arts fighter, fought off the group. The body of Sal Garces, 25, was found in the street and his death is believed to have been the result of blunt force trauma and stab wounds.

See **Invasion** on page A3

Gus Macker hopes to remain in Las Cruces Club won't host 3-on-3 tourney

By **Todd G. Dickson**
Las Cruces Bulletin

The owner of the national Gus Macker 3-on-3 company said he will decide soon if the recreational basketball tournament can remain in Las Cruces after its longtime host organization bowed out.

The challenge, said owner Scott McNeal, is finding another local partnering organization or business to help put it on as the Las Cruces tournament because it is the first in the schedule,

tentatively set for the first weekend in April.

For the past four years, the Las Cruces Boys & Girls Club was the local group helping to put on the tournament as a fundraiser, which was held at the City of Las Cruces' Hadley Sports Complex. Previously, the local Gus Macker organizer was the Hispano Chamber of Commerce de Las Cruces.

Boys & Girls Club Executive Director Ashley Echavarría said

See **Gus Macker** on page A3

NEXT WEEK

Council considers SunZia debate

White Sands Missile Range to brief Las Cruces city officials Monday, Jan. 13, on its objections to a larger transmission line crossing its northern call-up zone.



\$1



DEFINING
SUSTAINABLE
PRINTING

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BUSINESS

Spaceport inspires chamber Gala



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Invasion

Continued from page A1

Arrested on charges related to the incident are Leonard Calvillo, 22, Raymond Garces, 19, Nathan Avalos, 20, Cylver Pearl Betancourt, 18, and Rachel Carrillo, 19.

The two women are being held on charges of aggravated burglary (battery), and one count each of conspiracy to commit aggravated burglary. They are being held on \$10,000 secured bonds.

Avalos is charged with aggravated residential burglary, two counts of conspiracy to commit a third-degree felony and criminal damage to property. He's being held at the Doña Ana County Detention Center on a \$25,000 cash-only bond.

Calvillo is charged with aggravated battery causing great bodily harm, conspiracy to commit aggravated battery, aggravated burglary, conspiracy to commit aggravated burglary and criminal damage to property.

Investigators said Calvillo was on probation at the time. As a result, his probation has been revoked and he is being held without bond at the Doña Ana County Detention Center.

Garces, who was on an ankle monitor at the time of his arrest, is charged with conspiracy to commit aggravated battery, conspiracy to commit aggravated burglary and criminal damage to property. He is being held at the Doña Ana County Detention Center on a \$10,000 secured bond.

After a press conference led by District Attorney Mark D'Antonio Tuesday, Jan. 7, C.J. McElhinney, Torrez's attorney, said he was encouraged that the investigation has become more focused on the group that forced their way into the home of Torrez, who had his fiancée, young son and three other young women at the home when the invasion took place.

McElhinney said he had Torrez discontinue answering questions by investigators when the line of questioning seemed to be more about his client than the attackers. McElhinney said Torrez suffered only minor cuts and bruises in the attack, "which was remarkable considering

the odds he was facing."

After cutting off cooperation with investigators, a Facebook page was set up to seek support and donations as Torrez fretted about facing possible charges himself.

"Mr. Torrez is now prepared to fight for his freedom against what would be an unjust charge," according to press release about the Facebook page that McElhinney distributed at the press conference.

"I want to dispel the rumors," D'Antonio said at the press conference, "that Mr. Torrez is facing any charges."

D'Antonio said he could not comment on the specifics of the incident that was still being investigated, but noted that state court precedents define reasonable self-defense as more multi-faceted than whether a person was killed in the home or outside of it. Considerations include questions of appropriate use of force and

whether the person had fear of great bodily harm, he said.

"There is still a lot of analysis that needs to be done," D'Antonio said. "When you think about these things, you have to take in the totality of factors."

Investigating the incident could take weeks until a clear picture emerges of what happened at about 2 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 1, he said.

For McElhinney, what happened is simple: "It is the right of every American to protect themselves and his family when confronted with deadly force; that's what my client did."

Torrez only knew one of the six people who forced their way into his home that morning, McElhinney said.

The Facebook page, which was put online Sunday, Jan. 5, has received thousands of "likes," McElhinney said, and donations are coming in from all over the world.



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Todd Dickson

Doña Ana County District Attorney Mark D'Antonio speaks about the New Year's Day home invasion incident at a press conference Tuesday, Jan. 7, in the County Commission Chambers. Standing behind D'Antonio is Lt. Joseph Reynaud of the Doña Ana County Sheriff's Office.

Gus Macker

Continued from page A1

that despite the popularity of the tournament – it attracted nearly 500 teams last year – it didn't raise a lot of money and required a large amount of work. After last year's tournament, the club's board decided to no longer continue coordinating the weekend-long event.

"The decision was really about the return on investment in terms of putting on an event of that capacity," Echavarria said.

There are a lot of costs related to the tournament, such as hiring referees, printing T-shirts and renting facilities and tents, she said. The only way the Boys & Girls Club ever was able to make money off the tournament, she said, was through sponsorships. She said the club's other events – The Lou and Mary Henson breakfast and its annual golf tournament – were far more successful in raising money for the club, which provides after-school activities and tutoring for low-income children.

Since the news broke about the Las Cruces tournament not yet listed on the official Gus Macker schedule, McNeal said he has received some inquiries about possibly picking up the ball. One inquiry was from Adams Radio, which recently acquired the Radio of Las Cruces stations. McNeal

said the Las Cruces Convention & Visitors Bureau is keenly interested in having a 3-on-3 tournament be held in the city because of the out-of-town visitors it attracts.

The positive part of the Gus Macker's popularity in Las Cruces, McNeal said, is there doesn't need to be a lot of out-reach in order to get people to form teams and sign up, which keeps the pre-tournament promotion costs down. The Gus Macker tournaments depend on a lot of word-of-mouth support with teams coming back every year, he said. If there is a disruption, then that could doom the tournament for the future, he said. That's why McNeal said he also is weighing the option of having his company keep the Las Cruces tournament going for this year in anticipation of finding a future community partner by the following year.

"I want people there to know that we still love Las Cruces and we still want to do our tournament there," said McNeal, whose Gus Macker company is based in Michigan.

Gus Macker tournaments began 41 years ago and have grown in locations and popularity since, he said. The organization's first Gus Macker in New Mexico was held in 1987 in Roswell, he said, and a Gus Macker tournament has been held each year in Las Cruces since 1995.

McNeal added more tournament dates will be announced through his website, www.macker.com.

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Opinions



From the publisher

BY RICHARD COLTHARP

Barbie dolls, iPads and grit Students respond to challenges in meaningful ways

There was a time when, if a high school student was found butchering a doll, the kid would be sent to the principal's office, counselors would be called in and there would be widespread freak-out. At Arrowhead Park Early College High School, however, that's part of a great success story.

As part of a school project, ninth graders amputated the legs of Barbie dolls, then designed functioning prosthetics to replace the legs. Students used AutoCAD Inventor, an engineering and design software. Such engaging education is just one reason APECHS, now in its fourth year of existence, has reported zero dropouts.

Jennifer Amis, principal at APECHS; Gema Salcedo, who leads the early college high school in the Gadsden Independent School District; and Kathie Davis, principal at Rio Grande Preparatory Institute, spoke Tuesday, Jan. 7, at the monthly Business in the Borderplex Forum presented by the Mesilla Valley Economic Development Alliance.

All three schools are doing amazing things not only educating students, but also preparing them for the work force in southern New Mexico.

The first APECHS graduating class, 107 strong, will walk across the stage in May. Eighty-nine of them are on track to earn at least one college associate's degree at the same time. In fact, because of the quirks of scheduling, they'll actually receive their college degrees before their high school degrees (by a week). Thirty of the graduates will have enough credits to enter New Mexico State University as college seniors.

They've earned those college hours thanks to the cooperative dual credit program among Las Cruces Public Schools, Doña Ana Community College and NMSU.

Southern (educational) exposure

The dual-credit program is also available to juniors in the other Las Cruces high schools and has made a big difference for the emerging Gadsden Early College High School in southern Doña Ana County.

Salcedo enthusiastically and justifiably raved about her school, which started 2012 with 19 freshmen – the "Mighty 19," she calls them. They are sophomores now, and this year 48 freshmen have joined them. When those students from the Gadsden ECHS walk across the street to the DACC campus in Anthony, Salcedo said, more than half of them are the first in their family to attend a post-secondary institution.

The Gadsden ECHS students are equipped with iPads and headed in the direction of the school's goal: to help them be college ready and career ready.

'Grit Then Glory'

Kathie Davis, principal at Rio Grande Preparatory Institute (formerly San Andres High School), works with students on a second, third or last chance at getting a diploma.

"These are kids whose mean age is 17 or 18, but academically, they're high school freshmen," Davis said. So one of the biggest skills she works to teach them is the ability to stick with it. It's hard work, hence the school's motto, "Grit Then Glory."

"These are kids who either hate school or have no interest in it," Davis said.

To keep them interested, the kids have a stake in their learning.

In the morning, they take core classes, but at an accelerated, summer school pace.

In the afternoon, they're calling the shots, with student driven curricula that include internships and industry certification.

In the professional world, they quickly learn the importance of basics such as being on time. RGPI augments that with supplementary courses, including a communication class, teaching them skills they may never have been exposed to. Davis' goals for her students are simple but critical: Get a diploma, get a certification, get a job.

At all three schools, the efforts are working. Kids are staying in school, learning more, and we're all the better for it.



Letters to the Editor

Library access for homeless Las Cruces

Please explain the indefensible lack of reason in regards to access to books by the "homeless" at Branigan Memorial Library, a practice adding insult to injury – injury being one of a number of reasons people don't have a roof over their heads.

The U.S. is "home" to us all. Denying self-education to people who are down-and-out, as they study a book for a possibly final, life-saving opportunity, contradicts justice, opportunity and lack of prejudice – among other ideas we boast our nation was founded upon.

Denial of self-education at public libraries exposes the advertisement to the world that we are a great nation as a lie.

I gladly pay taxes to fund opportunities for those other – "fortunate" to sleep safely wherever they must or choose, to have adequate nutrition (the table is not the food) and enjoy independence – often more than we who feel we must care for a home, pay taxes to a broken political system and spoil offspring in whom

we neglect taking the time to instill humane values.

Our public libraries must be off limits to tampering by a government selfish for more income from people who can't afford it in order to pay those employed by an administration that denies the downtrodden while shelving thousands of books of no redeeming value.

Those books could be sold to more than cover the cost of the occasional book lost for lack of an address that taxes the few who lack the income or will to support a system that mindlessly imposes on them false judgment and name-calling.

Pat Holguin

Future bright for Hispanic chamber

2013 arrived as quickly as it departed. It was a year full of change, new direction, and positive growth for the Las Cruces Hispanic Chamber of Commerce – breaking away from the actions of the past.

See **Letters** on page A5

The Las Cruces Bulletin invites readers to submit letters, preferably by email to editor@lascrucesbulletin.com. They can be sent in by fax at 575-526-4621. Letters also can be mailed or dropped off at 840 N. Telshor Blvd., Suite E, 88011. Letters should not exceed 200 words and must include the writer's name, address and telephone number for verification. Anonymous letters will not be published. Letters may be edited for length or content.

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- 2012 "Business of the Year" Las Cruces Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- 2011 "General Excellence" Award New Mexico Press Association
- 2010 "Community Arts Award" Doña Ana Arts Council
- 2009 "Small Business of the Year" Las Cruces Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- 2008 "Spirit of Service Award" New Mexico State University Foundation
- 2007 "VIVA Award" N.M. Association of Commerce and Industry

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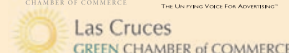
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BaxterBlack

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE



The ultimate in passenger discomfort

I fly a lot of miles on a lot of airlines. My best estimate is that I have boarded more than 2,500 different flights over the years. That's more than the average pilot.

I recommend it. There are those who do not like to use airlines. They say it is crowded and uncomfortable.

That is true, however, it is the safest, usually the cheapest, quickest way to get somewhere. You just can't expect them to treat you like a customer at Ruth's Chris Steakhouse.

However, as airlines merge with themselves to increase their destinations, while increasing their competition, you can watch their steady but stealthy progress to wring you out of your last buck.

If you are fortunate enough to fly in big jet planes ... anything that starts with a "seven", you are ahead of the game. They have room in the overhead for your stuff. You could actually sit in the middle seat between two average humans and be semi-comfortable.

On these bigger jets, people checked their baggage. Then King Midas, Scrooge and Cinderella's ugly sister realized that some people actually enjoyed flying.

"We can't have that!" cried the Wicked Witch of the Turbulence. So they started charging to check a bag, \$25-\$50 each way.

I never check my bag.

This forced travelers to try and put all their baggage in the roomy overhead space - a design flaw the airlines realized too late.

I predict soon they will start charging for all bags put anywhere. It will follow with a charge for your ID, the change in your pocket, your shoes and the book or newspaper you bring on board. There will then become a surcharge on thick socks, hats, coats and laptops.

I don't have a laptop.

Eventually seats will become optional. Most will ride in the baggage section, but, I don't care, I will take all the abuse they throw at me.

It will get worse. The more mergers, the tighter the seating, the less selection. I can envision a flight attendant with rubber gloves and an eyedropper walking down the aisle feeding those passengers who sit up straight, tip their heads back like baby robins, and are given exactly three ounces of a choice of red, yellow or green flavored chemical, but you can't stop me from flying.

I have 350,000 flight miles on one of the big airlines, but since I didn't make the cut this year I am assigned the seat across from the toilet with blue water and board in Zone 14.

You can't intimidate me.

I have watched the boarding procedure change over the years with no obvious logic.

They used to allow those who sat furthest back to board first. Now it appears that they select seats by drawing numbers like a bingo game.

It makes you wince to watch the process. The dainty, the frightened, the linebacker coming down the aisle, the homeless person pushing a shopping cart, the person who is bringing her harp on board, the multitude trying to stuff turkey dinners, a cavalry saddle and a 12-foot fly rod into the overhead.

They could take a lesson from any cattle hauler. He loads the ones getting off last in the front of the trailer next to the cab. Duh.

Too complicated I guess.

I'll sit anywhere. Give me the middle seat between two sumo wrestlers.

I understand they are considering allowing cell phone service during the flight. I can predict multiple felonies, frenzied savaging, wall climbing and at least one WWE raw rassing attack every time a tinging dinging ringtone chimes in.

I say put the cell phone users and smokers together in the baggage section.

I don't care, just let me on.

Black may be contacted through his website at www.baxterblack.com

Letters

Continued from page A4

There were many notable accomplishments, positions and changes made by the board of directors of the chamber. The board took action on many issues such as opposing a minimum wage increase, opposing city development impact fees, opposing the proposed national monument legislative land grab, voting to not support the Affordable Care Act (aka Obamacare) and health exchange marketing for the NMHIX, while supporting the Organ Mountain National Monument proposal by Congressman Steve Pearce, promoting many pro-business/economic development initiatives and rebranding the chamber.

While these were board actions, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the majority of our board members who have embraced a new and positive direction for the chamber by recognizing we can become a much stronger organization that legitimately supports business, economic development and growth, while opposing issues and legislation that will hurt businesses, the local economy and create overreaching government.

I would like to specifically thank the following board members for their unwavering trust, dedication and work in improving this organization in meeting the goals for much

needed change: Richard Aguilar, Katy Petermeier, Susan McGonnell, Curtis Rosemond, Belia Alvarez and DeRick Franco. Each one of you has contributed greatly in recognizing the need for improvement in effectively supporting our business community. Thank you.

While the chamber will have a new president in 2014, it is anticipated the organization will continue to move forward in supporting our businesses, issues that promote and not hurt business and provide quality services and resources for our membership.

It will be important for the chamber to keep pressing on in support of the aforementioned while not regressing backwards and returning to the ways of the past (Moving forward).

The chamber will support our membership while fighting hard for business and economic development success in the Mesilla Valley.

I would like to thank the vast number of supporters I have had throughout the year

in realizing the vision we set out with in January 2013.

To the misguided and very vocal, yet few opponents of the board's positions and change, I wish you the best in 2014 and may you obtain an understanding of how important economic development and growth is to our region.

Kirk Clifton

Outgoing Las Cruces Hispanic Chamber of Commerce president

“ It is anticipated the organization will continue to move forward. ”

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- Farm & Ranch Museum
 - Anastasya Griffith
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 - Keith Hettinga
 - Horse N Hound
 - Hubbard's Music
 - Las Cruces Guns
 - Mesilla Valley Kitchen
 - Mimbres Valley Brewing
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Mil Gracias!

Coming Up

Discover dinosaurs at LC museum

The Museum of Nature & Science, 411 N. Main St., hosts Dinosaurs A to Z at 3 p.m. each Friday. Families can learn about dinosaurs and other prehistoric creatures. Each dinosaur discussion is accompanied by a hands-on craft related to the week's dinosaur.

This program is free to the public and registration is not required. Anyone needing an accommodation for a disability to enable full participation in these events may contact the museum 48 hours before the event.

For more information, visit www.las-cruces.org/museums or call 522-3120.

Archaeological society meets

The Doña Ana Archaeological Society will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 14, at the Good Samaritan Society-Las Cruces Village, 3011 Buena Vida Circle, in the auditorium. Society member Bernie McCune will present "Archaeology and Culture of Japan - An Introduction."

McCune will explore Japanese archaeology from the beginning to the present, with general findings to date, and will lead a brief discussion of prehistoric cultural development of Japan based on these archaeological findings. McCune will also discuss several interesting excavation sites in Japan. The meeting is free and open to the public.

For more information, call 524-9497.

Trauma group will help veterans

A trauma recovery and growth group for eligible veterans will meet from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. each Saturday, beginning Feb. 1 at the Las Cruces Veterans Readjustment Counseling

Center, 230 S. Water St.

Initial intake and screening with a vet center provider is required prior to attending the group. Schedule an appointment by calling 523-9826. A DD 214 showing combat service is necessary to establish eligibility. Active duty service members may call to inquire about required documentation.

Veterans unable to attend a group session may call 523-9826, leave a message at 915-497-6496 or email pamela.pierce4@va.gov.

Saturday individual and family appointments are available.

All Vet Center services are prepaid through military service.

No co-pays or fees apply.

For more information, call 523-9826.

Animals are the topic at MONAS

The Museum of Nature & Science, 411 N. Main St., hosts Animal Encounters each Saturday at 1 p.m.

Visitors can learn about animals that can be encountered in our desert area. The program is for people of all ages. The hands-on series is free and registration is not required.

Animal Encounters explores six types of animals in our desert region: mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish and arthropods. Each week is a different type of animal and the program includes live animals from the museum's collection whenever possible.

Anyone needing an accommodation for a disability to enable full participation in these events may contact the museum 48 hours before the event.

For more information, visit www.las-cruces.org/museums or call 522-3120.

Shelter seeks photographers

Animal Services Center of the Mesilla Valley (ASCMV) is calling on professional photographers to volunteer a few hours a week and their equipment to help save an animal's life.

ASCMV is asking for professional photographers who are 18 years of age or older and have their own modern photography equipment.

Those interested can call the volunteer coordinator at 382-0018 to get more information on orientation and training on ASCMV rules, regulations and safety procedures. Photographers must provide their own memory card, which will be left at the shelter to upload and process pictures.

A photography team will be assembled after Sunday, Jan. 5, and will be asked to volunteer from 2 to 4 p.m. Thursdays. Background checks are required for all volunteers at ASCMV.

For more information, call 382-0018.

Senior games kick off and registration at Trails West

The Doña Ana County Senior Games kick off and registration will be from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15, at Trails West Senior Community, 1450 Avenida de Mesilla, in the community clubhouse.

Attendees will have the opportunity to visit with event managers, DACSO board members and office staff and obtain assistance with the registration process. Light refreshments will be served.

The Dee Harris and J. Mack Adams awards for 2013 will be presented to the honorees at 11 a.m.

Registration forms may also be requested by contacting dacso@outlook.com. Forms must be filled out and mailed with proper payment to: DACSO, 205 W. Boutz Road, Building 6, Las Cruces NM 88005-3262.

Registration can also be completed from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday at the DACSO office at 205 West Boutz Road, Building 6.

All registration must be completed at least two weeks before the scheduled events.

For more information, contact dacso@outlook.com.

Embroiders guild meets

Las Cruces Chapter of the Embroiderers' Guild of America, a national organization of stitchers of cross stitch, needlepoint, crewel and more, meets twice a month at the Village at Northrise, 2880 N. Roadrunner Parkway, in the Hallmark Building. Meetings are held at 1 p.m. the second Saturday and the fourth Wednesday of each month. Visitors are welcome.

For more information call 522-4684.

Open house at LC Academy

The Las Cruces Academy, 1755 Avenida de Mercado, invites the public to visit the school on Tuesday, Jan. 14. From 8:30 to 10 a.m., visitors can watch classes in Chinese, Singapore math, and English, talk with teachers and view the facilities. From 5:30 to 7 p.m. visitors may speak with teachers and view the classrooms.

LCA is a private school serving academically advanced students; classes are small, teachers are well-qualified and LCA strives to provide a stimulating, supportive environment.

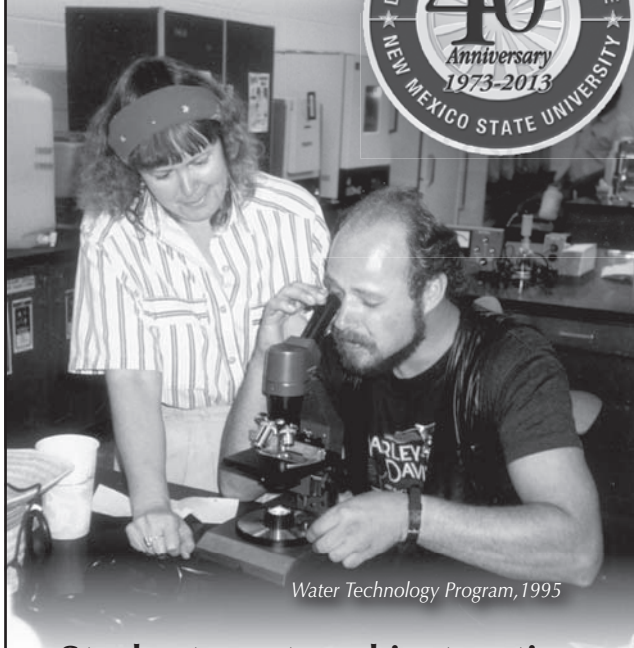
Current openings are early kindergarten through grade six.

For more information, visit lascrucesacademy.org or call Lou Ellen Kay at 521-9384.

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Coming Up

Biggest Loser Run/Walk

The Biggest Loser Run/Walk Las Cruces will be at the Meerschiedt Sports Complex, Sunday, Jan. 26.

A half marathon will start at 9 a.m. and the 5K kid's fun run will begin at 11 a.m.

Participants will be timed and will receive downloadable race photos. Finishers will receive a medal and a Tech T-Shirt. There will be course entertainment and a live post-race concert.

For more information or to register, visit www.biggestloser-runwalk.com.

Free foreclosure workshop

Tierra del Sol Housing Corp., 210 E. Idaho Ave, will host a free foreclosure legal workshop from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11. An attorney and housing counselor will be on-site for free consultations.

For more information or to make reservations, call 768-6123.

Model railroaders meet

Division 7 of the Road Runner Division, of the Rocky Mountain Region - National Model Railroad Association, will meet 1:30 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 11, at the Las Cruces Railroad Museum, 351 N. Mesilla St. The meeting is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Eric Hansmann at eric@hansmanns.org.

Battle of the Clubs Tennis Tournament Feb. 7-9

The 15th Annual Battle of the Clubs Team Tennis Tournament will be held on Feb. 7-9, at the New Mexico State University Tennis Complex.

This annual event is the premier team tennis tournament sponsored by the Picacho Hills Tennis Association. It draws players from all of southern New Mexico and the greater El Paso area and beyond.

The event will kick off with a dinner for all entrants catered by PHCC at 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 7.

Team Tennis matches will be played on Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 8-9. Individual trophies will be awarded to winning teams. All entrants will enjoy a tournament souvenir, continental breakfasts and box lunches both Saturday and Sunday.

The entry fee for a team of eight (four men and four women) is \$400. Additional team members may enter for \$50 each. The entry fee also includes the cost of the kick-off dinner.

Entries and fees are due on or before Friday, Jan. 24. NTRP ratings apply.

For entry forms and additional information, contact Emery or Jamie Borsodi at picachohillstennis@gmail.com or 647-9906.

Spelling Bee is Jan. 17

The 2014 Las Cruces Public Schools District Spelling Bee will be from 9 to 11 a.m., Friday, Jan. 17, in the LCPS Performing Arts Center at Oñate High School.

Students from 20 elementary and middle schools will participate.

New Mexico State University professor of linguistics Mark Waltermire will again serve as the word pronouncer. Judges will be retired LCPS District Librarian Margo Lamb, LCPS professional development specialists Stacey Somppi and Mary Sloan, and interim Coordinator for Secondary Instruction Taryn Fogle.

For more information, contact Mary Sloan at 527-9613 or msloan@lcp.k12.nm.us.

Lunch & Learn at library

Lunch & Learn will be from noon to 1 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 16, at Branigan Memorial Library, 200 E. Picacho Ave., in the Roadrunner Room.

Stephanie Walker, a vegetable specialist with the New Mexico State University Extension Service, will present "Growing Tomatoes in Southern New Mexico" and discuss techniques and tips for successfully growing tomatoes. The presentation is free to the public. Attendees are encouraged to bring their lunch. No food is provided.

For more information, contact 647-4394 or slh303@yahoo.com.

Educational retirees meet

The Las Cruces Association of Educational Retirees will meet from 11:15 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 14, at the New Mexico State University Golf Course, 3000 Herb Wimberly Drive in the restaurant ballroom.

Sherry Gaines will speak about 1920-50 vintage clothing. Secret members will be modeling. All levels of educational retirees are welcome. The cost of the luncheon is \$11.50.

For reservations or information, call Gale Wiley at 522-2893.

German Club holds meeting

Friends of the German Language (Freunde der Deutschen Sprache) meet at 7 p.m. the third Thursday of each month

during the school year at New Mexico State University, Breland Hall, Room 173B.

On Jan. 16, the club will welcome old and new members as well as visitors and show a recent German feature film with English subtitles.

For more information, call Heike at 522-5393.

Visibility ride set Monday, Jan. 13

A Share the Road Las Cruces Visibility Ride, will begin at 7:15 a.m. Monday, Jan. 13, at the Las Cruces Railroad Museum, 351 N. Mesilla St., and will end at 7:40 p.m. at Starbucks, 985 E. University Ave.

The rides help build awareness that bicyclists and motorists can share the road safely and that commuting to work on a bicycle is a viable transportation choice. The ride is lead by League of American Bicyclists certified instructors, and bicyclists who wish to learn tips for better commuting skills are invited to participate.

All bicyclists are asked wear helmets and follow the rules of the road. Anyone interested may join the group for coffee if they can't make the ride.

Lake Lucero tour Jan. 26

White Sands National Monument will host a guided Lake Lucero tour at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 26.

The tour fee is \$3 per adult (16 years and older), \$1.50 for children and America the Beautiful, Senior and Access pass holders. Reservations can be made in advance at www.nps.gov/whsa. All tour reservations must be made through the website.

For more information, call 479-6124.

Progress Club card party

The annual GFWC Progress Club card party will be at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 18, at St. Paul's Methodist Church, 225 W. Griggs Ave. Tickets are \$10 and include lunch.

Card playing will be from 1 to 4 p.m. Guests may enjoy door prizes and raffles.

For more information, call Inge Peter at 522-5474.

GOP women meet

The Doña Ana County Federated Republican Women will meet at 11:30 a.m. Friday, Jan. 24, at the Good Samaritan Society-Las Cruces Village, 3011 Buena Vida Circle.

Lunch is \$10 and reservations are required by noon, Monday, Jan. 20.

For more information, call Caren Lulich at 373-0828.

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CrimeStoppers



Hit-and-run driver who struck deputy sought

Las Cruces Crime Stoppers is offering a reward of \$1,000 for information that helps identify the driver who struck a Doña Ana County Sheriff's deputy.

At around 11:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 4, Doña Ana County Sheriff's Office deputies were dispatched to the report of a noise disturbance on Quail Drive in Santa Teresa. The first-arriving deputies found the noise coming from a large party held in a home on the 5800 block of Quail Drive.

As partygoers fled the area, the driver of a Dodge pickup struck a deputy who was trying to stop the vehicle. The deputy was not seriously injured and the pickup was last seen heading west on Casas Lindas Drive.

The Dodge pickup was described as blue in color and has a slight body lift. The pickup was occupied by the driver and possibly as many as three passengers. All four occupants of the pickup were believed to be juveniles.

Anyone with information that can help identify the driver or the location of the pickup is asked to contact Las Cruces Crime Stoppers at 800-222-TIPS (8477) or send a tip via text message to CRIMES (274637), keyword LCTIPS.

The Crime Stoppers number and text messaging services are operational 24 hours a day and you do not have to give your name to collect a reward.

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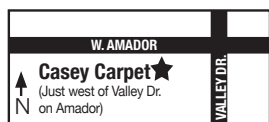
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West Mesa fire station to open

Ribbon cutting slated for airport firehouse

The public is invited to attend the official opening of Fire Station 7, the city's new \$2 million facility at the Las Cruces International Airport on the West Mesa.

The ribbon cutting ceremony takes place at 11 a.m., Friday, Jan. 17, at 1050 Crawford Blvd. Refreshments will be provided after the ceremony.

The fire station serves District 7 which covers Las Cruces, west of the Rio Grande. The station operates with four firefighters per shift and Fire Engine No. 7. The new station's crew is responsible for fire hose and nozzle repairs and testing for the department. Crews will assist in live fire training, which will take place at the adjacent Public Safety Training Facility.

In addition, Station 7 provides aircraft-related services. It is home to the Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) team that provides standby and response to aircraft related incidents.



The Las Cruces Fire Station 7 next to the Las Cruces International Airport will officially open 11 a.m. Friday, Jan 17, with a ribbon cutting ceremony. The public is invited.

Blasting off into the new year at the FLARE monthly rocket launch

Photos by Todd Dickson

Jim Basler attaches ignition wires to the engine of his new Estes Super Alpha model rocket before its maiden flight Saturday, Jan. 4, at the monthly Fellowship of Las Cruces Area Rocketry Enthusiasts (FLARE) launch. The group has a launch area in the Waterfalls Park on the East Mesa, a large clearing for stormwater capture that makes for safe flying. At far right, Basler's rocket lifts off the launch pad, and, below, successfully parachutes back down to the ground.



Throughout the morning there was a steady stream of new and experienced model rocket builders launching their rockets. For more information about FLARE, contact Thomas Kindig at thomas@flare-rocketry.com or 201-3336.



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Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Todd Dickson

Las Cruces City Manager City Manager Robert Garza talks to legislators and local officials at a pre-Legislature briefing Thursday, Jan. 9, at the Las Cruces Convention Center.

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Legislature

Continued from page A1

past several years. The district also wants the Legislature to fund joint efforts of the public schools working with higher education to develop school turnaround programs.

An important issue to both city and county government is what the Legislature may do about the planned phasing out of hold harmless payments from the state to make up for gross receipts tax (GRT) losses when food and medicine were removed from GRT in 2008.

The coalition also supports continued funding of dual-credit courses. It wants to see an adjustment in how taxes are paid on property donated to a public entity, as well as tort claim reforms on irrigation property used for recreation. The coalition is urging lawmakers to take a closer look at teen substance abuse.

Anti-donation concerns

Lawmakers are also bringing their own legislation, including one pre-filed by state Rep. Nathan Cote, D-Organ, that seeks to add flexibility to how the state constitution's anti-donation law is interpreted. Overly rigid interpretations are causing a slew of difficulties, Cote said, from governments buying land for service expansion to the uses of government facilities by nonprofit civic organizations.

Cote said he still wants the anti-donation clause to be a tool to keep government services from overly benefitting an individual private business. But there are already a number of exemptions to the anti-donation clause, he said, such as governments offering rent-free property

to new businesses that provide high-paying jobs. Cote said his resolution basically calls for allowing more flexibility so long as there is a unanimous vote by the governing authority and a greater public good is to be gained.

Papen predictions

Senate Pro Tem Mary Kay Papen said she hopes the Legislature can have a productive short session committed primarily to the budget. Gov. Susana Martinez has introduced her budget, which is not far off from the Legislative Finance Committee's budget.

There is dispute, however, in where Martinez wants to put the money, especially for education. In Martinez's budget, new money would go to programs – called "below the line" spending – while the LFC wants to see increase funding for general operations – called "above the line" spending.

While Papen hopes for a productive session, there are unresolved issues between the Legislature and the governor, she said, such as the mental health services takeover.

Also getting attention is overtime hours of state employees. Personnel figures show the state paid out nearly \$36.7 million in overtime, representing nearly 1.6 million hours. Three years earlier, the cost of roughly 1 million in overtime hours was \$24.4 million.

Rep. Luciano "Lucky" Varela, D-Santa Fe, told The Albuquerque Journal he is concerned about the trend. He questions why some state agencies have not been using the full amount of money appropriated to them by the Legislature for filling vacant jobs. State Personnel Director Gene Moser says the rise in overtime cost and usage is attributable to an aging work force and a spike in retirements, according to the Journal.

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Dixon finds rewards in swimming



Barbara Boxleitner
Keeping up

Rachel Dixon's swimming career has been far more rewarding than she could have imagined.

The Las Cruces High School graduate is a senior captain for the University of Nevada-Las Vegas.

"I feel grateful," Dixon said. "I kind of knew what I wanted, but I didn't realize what it could turn out to be."

She received an All-America honorable mention recognition as a sophomore after setting a school record in the 50-yard freestyle at the NCAA Championships.

Her performance was remarkable, because she was a long shot to reach nationals.

After her freshman season, Dixon said she and a teammate decided that qualifying for nationals was their priority. Her teammate



DIXON

qualified during the fall, but Dixon's last chance was at the spring conference meet.

Eventually, she became an at-large selection to the NCAA Championships.

"I was right on the bubble," she said. "I ended up getting invited after someone had something happen."

"That (her record swim) was a surprise," she said. "No one expected me to swim so well. I was on top of the world."

Dixon has excelled in the 50 and 100 freestyle as well as freestyle and medley relays. She has been the anchor for the 200 medley relay.

"I love the 200 medley relay," she said. "I swim so much faster because it's so exciting."

The sprints and relay legs suit her. The 6-foot Dixon is the tallest on the women's roster, so her length is beneficial. Head coach Jim Reitz cited "her quickness, her reaction time, her clean entry and her ability to get out on the start" as reasons for her success.

Her dedication to training is an example for teammates, he said, though she's had to learn her limitations.

"She's a sprinter. She does a lot of very high-intensity work," he said. "She's tough enough to hurt herself. We're always right on the edge to get her recovered."

See **Dixon** on page A12

Aggies host Idaho Vandals

Coach Menzies wary of taking teams lightly

By **Jim Hilley**
Las Cruces Bulletin

With the Western Athletic Conference weakened by conference re-alignments, many pundits are tossing around the possibility that the New Mexico State University Aggies (12-5 overall, 1-0 WAC) will make a clean sweep in conference basketball in 2014.

NMSU coach Marvin Menzies doesn't want such talk to distract his team.

"Our guys are aware of it," Menzies said. "Hopefully, we can use it to remain focused and keep our concentration at a high level so we are not upset."

Menzies said the speculation does have an upside, however.

"I am happy that they are talking about the Aggies, but I am not overly concerned with the chatter," he said. "I think we challenge ourselves that way every year, so it's not really new for us."

With impressive road wins at Hawai'i, UTEP, Drake and New Mexico under the Aggies' belt, it's easy to foresee a lot of success for the Aggies in the WAC this season, but Menzies is quick to point out every game is different.

As an example, the Idaho Vandals (6-10, 0-2), NMSU's opponent Saturday, Jan. 11, dropped their first two conference home games, 80-74 to UMKC on Jan. 2 and 57-55 to Chicago State on Jan. 4, but Menzies said his team isn't taking them lightly.

"We lost our first two conference games last year and then we went and won eight or nine in a row," he said. "One game does not a season make. We have to approach these games mutually exclusive of each other."

Menzies said he remains wary of the amount of talent the Vandals bring to Las Cruces.

"We know what they have and what they are capable of. Connor Hill (13.4 points per game) and Stephen Madison (17.6 ppg), they've got first-team conference kids on the roster," he said. "It's a matter of making sure that we are ready to play."

"Idaho is a very talented team that is still finding themselves. They have a lot of new players that are still getting their chemistry together and learning that system," Menzies said.

"They are a team that will be playing much



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Christopher Belarde
Junior guard D.K. Eldridge has started all 17 games for the New Mexico State Aggies this season and is averaging 11 points and 4.7 rebounds per game.

better basketball as the conference evolves and they always give us a really good game, based on their knowledge of us as well as the coach

Don Verlin doing a fantastic job. He's one of the more experienced coaches in the conference and he is very capable of getting his team ready to play on any given night."

Sophomore center Sim Bhullar's status was still uncertain as of Tuesday, Jan. 7, Menzies said. Bhullar was held out of the Aggies' game at Grand Canyon

University, Saturday, Jan. 4, with a bruised foot.

"It's improving daily and we'll see on game day whether we want to play him or not," he said. "His feet have been pretty good. He just got it stepped on."

The NMSU coach said it is normal for the players to be a little beat up this time of year.

"They are all bumped up and bruised this time of year," he said. "If you have a kid that is not bumped and bruised, then he just got eligible. They all have little aches and pains but they are all good to go."

The Aggies host Idaho at 6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11, before heading on the road for games at 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 16 at Chicago State and at 6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 18 at UM-Kansas City.

The Aggies' next home game after Idaho will be at 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 25, when NMSU hosts Texas-Pan American.

“ If you have a kid that is not bumped and bruised then he just got eligible. ”

MARVIN MENZIES,
NMSU basketball coach

Dixon

Continued from page A11

Her contributions in and out of the water have cultivated the caliber of student athlete the program wants, he said.

"Her value to the team goes far beyond points," he said. "She's a great leader."

Dixon said she's been able to thrive because of the quality of the people in the program.

"UNLV has a really, really unique culture," she said. "Values are first. Before anything else, we're like this family. There's such a sense of belonging. Being able to be in that has made everything come naturally. I still wish I could have more years."

Send updates about area athletes to Barbara Boxleitner at bkle3@aol.com.

Locklin returns to NMSU football

Former Aggie stand out hired as defensive line coach

New Mexico State head football coach Doug Martin announced Monday, Jan. 6, former Aggie football player and NMSU alum Kerry Locklin has been hired as the team's defensive line coach.

"It was really important to bring a New Mexico State alum back to the program and hire somebody that wants to be here and has a lot of strong feelings about this university and the football program," Martin said. "Coupled with Kerry's experience at places such as Fresno State will help us build this program in the right direction and it's something we really look forward to."

Locklin was a tight end at NMSU for four years, where he was named an All-America honorable mention by both the

Associated Press and the United Press International. He was also named a two-time All-Missouri Valley Conference selection and two-time academic all-conference honoree in his time with the Aggies.

Locklin said coming back to NMSU was a great opportunity. "First I want to thank God for what I consider a true blessing to be able to come back to my alma mater and coach football," Locklin said. "I have great memories from my playing days here at NMSU. I thank coach Martin for giving me an opportunity to fulfill a dream of mine. I feel in my heart that we have a great opportunity to do amazing things here in Las Cruces."

"New Mexico State has great facilities, but it's the people inside those facilities that make a great program and I feel that Martin has assembled a good coaching staff that, along with the right type of players, can turn this program into a winner."

The Locklin name has a long history at NMSU, starting with Kerry's father, Billy Ray Locklin, who played for the Aggies from 1956-59, followed by Kerry's older brother Ray in 1976-79. Kim Locklin, the youngest of the three brothers, played for NMSU from 1981-84.

More recently, Kerry Locklin was with the Sacramento Mountain Lions of the UFL (2012) and the San Jose SaberCats of the AFL (2012) as a defensive line coach. He also spent one season at Fresno City College in 2011 and with the Orlando Tuskers in 2010, serving as the defensive line coach for both teams.

Locklin was with the N.Y. Jets in the National Football League for the majority of the 2009 season. The Jets ranked first in the NFL in points allowed per game at 14.7, and posted 32 sacks.

The New Mexico State alum began his coaching career at Western New Mexico University in 1988 as a running backs coach. He spent 1989 as a graduate assistant at the University of Utah. From 1990-93, Locklin was the running backs coach at Morehead State, where he worked under current Jets head coach Rex Ryan. He then moved to the professional level with the Shreveport Pirates of the Canadian Football League, where he spent 1994 as an assistant head coach.

A native of Las Cruces, Locklin became the defensive line coach at Eastern Michigan in 1995, a post he held for five seasons for the Eagles. The next nine seasons (2000-08) of his career were spent with the Fresno State Bulldogs, where under his guidance, 11 defensive linemen earned All-WAC honors and the Bulldogs appeared in eight bowl games. Two WAC Defensive Players of the Year thrived under Locklin during his tenure, in Garrett McIntyre and Alan Harper.

After his collegiate career, Locklin was drafted by the Los Angeles Rams in the sixth round of the 1982 NFL draft. He spent three seasons in the NFL, two with the Rams and one with the Denver Broncos. He concluded his professional career by playing two more years in the United States Football League with the Arizona Wranglers.

Locklin received his bachelor's degree from NMSU in physical education and social studies in 1982, then earned a master's degree in curriculum and instruction in 1985. He is currently pursuing his doctorate degree in sports psychology from the University of Utah.

Locklin and his wife, Kelly, have one daughter, Tishelle, and two sons Tymon and Torry.



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AGGIE UP



Newly hired defensive line coach Kerry Locklin was a tight end for the Aggies from 1978 to 1981.

Onthegreen

A few things I'm tired of

These things can go out with 2013



Charlie Blanchard
Golf Doctor

It's early in the New Year and time for me to get some things off my chest. Heaven knows I've had more Pollyannaish stories than most golf writers, so let's let off some steam.

Not that anything really will change. Yet, I think it's worth letting you know what's going on anyway.

I'm tired of all the objections by municipal and county authorities to putting plainly visible pavement markings on roads where golf carts cross the street between holes, and going to and from places on the golf course. There will be an accident.

With so many senior citizens using golf carts and crossing busy streets such as Via Norte and Golf Club Road, it's as if civic officials ignore those senior needs. If those were school crossings, you can bet there would be multiple pavement paintings, large obvious metal signs, flashing lights and even crossing guards, and it should be that way – protecting children from speeding motorists.

So, are seniors unimportant? There are no obvious, distinct and unmistakable markings or speed-bumps anywhere warning motorists to slow down. Something is going to happen.

I hope the city and county can afford the millions that it will cost them – and us – when those accident lawsuits are decided. They couldn't afford the \$15 million was awarded to the homeless guy who was mistreated in a local jail.

If the city and the state want the taxes provided by the fairly large and upscale golfing communities in our town, in my view, they have the responsibility to provide safe passage across streets that drivers speed along, apparently not caring who gets in the way.

I'm tired of Fred Thompson pushing "reverse" mortgages. The one thing, other than your equity, you won't have by "living large" is money to provide for your children and grandchildren.

I'm tired of hoodies, cargo shorts, flat brims, slow play, slow greens, apps, Cialis/Levitra/Viagra ads, Black Friday, teenagers who don't grasp World War II and four-day-old cups.

I'm tired of Warrior Golf's "free" clubs. There is no free lunch, and no free clubs.

The Golf Writers Association of America

(of which I am not a member because they've never invited me) named Adam Scott Player of the Year over Tiger Woods, despite the five wins Tiger had in 2013.

I was bothered by the apparent snub, which was because Scott "likes us (the writers) back," a dig at Tiger's well-known disdain for media types that are after every dirt and flaw they can find. When you're No. 1 in the world, I guess there are a lot of "haters."

I'm irked by the PC police trying to change the names of colleges, and now even professional sports mascot names, just because they think they're somehow offensive. The offensive idea has been termed "hostile and abusive" by the NCAA, at least since the 1990s, leading to at least 30 name changes from a variety of colleges, big and small, who nearly all had some reference to Native American people in the mascot or nickname references.

Most of the names were changed from "Redskins" or "Redmen" or "Indians." You can look it up on Wikipedia to get a complete list.

Stanford, a hotbed of wealthy and supposed "advanced" thinking, changed from the Indians to the Cardinal. Miami University (Ohio) and Seattle University changed to the Redhawks from the Redskins and Chieftans, respectively.

The University of North Dakota, which for more than 80 years went under the nickname "Fighting Sioux," was strong-armed and threatened with sports sanctions (by NCAA chiefs), if they did not retire that name, which they did.

It was a contentious public battle ultimately decided by voters. Interestingly, many of the Sioux tribe people thought the name honored them and wanted to keep it.

I'm weary of "favorites" in major golf tournaments. I suppose you can really eliminate about half the field from being in contention in a tournament like the U.S. Open, since most won't make the cut anyway. When was

the last time a club pro won the PGA Championship in the modern era?

But otherwise, it's annoying to have the TV "experts" focus all their attention on their chosen favorites. They need to come up with better stories than that. Maybe a family story, maybe overcoming injuries, maybe devotion to a special charity.

I'm fed up with helmet stickers. Like Florida State and Ohio State, to name a couple.

When I was a kid who played sports every day, one thing I learned was that if you did your job, that's pretty much what was expected. No dancing around like an idiot, no air-fist pounding, no cut-throat gestures. Has sportsmanship been completely lost?

Scholarship football players are expected to block, to tackle, to throw passes, catch passes, intercept passes and kick the ball properly and accurately. That's your job when you're on the team. The special reward is there when the team, yes "team," wins.

Are the stickers intended to "motivate" these coddled athletes? If so, what would coaching legends Knute Rockne and Vince Lombardi say?

I'm also irritated by college coaches and other folks calling these (over 16) behemoth athletes "kids." These are grown men, often more than 350 pounds; many are bad-boys and some are felons, sometimes even in high school.

Sure they make bone-head mistakes, do stupid things on and off the field and lose their heads, but they're not kids.

I'm also tired of Johnny Football. He's not a kid, and he made illicit money just like Cam Newton and Reggie Bush. By the way, are big-time college football and basketball coaches paid too much?

“When millions of dollars, a major title or a career are on the line, there are no easy putts.”

While I'm on college sports and football, I'm totally upset by college presidents and regents who always blame the coach for their school losers. Go find out how Boise State, Mount Union (Ohio), Wisconsin Whitewater and North Dakota State, which just won its third straight FCS Championship, win (almost) all their games.

If you're a perennial loser don't schedule a Nebraska or a Texas. Duh.

Someone please step up and tell us that the buck stops here. If you can't do that, then drop football. Or, what I favor, bring back men's swimming and wrestling, which were dropped (with Title IX so that losing football could take the field) at a lot of colleges.

I'm exasperated by Johnny Miller, NBC golf analyst, calling something an "easy shot" or an "easy putt." Bear in mind Miller's pro career essentially ended when he acquired the yips. I like Johnny Miller, I find him astute and intelligent, and has a golden legacy as a golfer. He needs a TV announcing coach. When millions of dollars, a major title or a career are on the line, there are no easy putts.

I'm really annoyed by promises of "20 yards more" or even "four yards more." Gadgets, goofy tees and practice devices have offered more yards for dozens of years, but they never pan out.

Why? Because they're bogus, and I've tried 'em all.

The only sure way to mega-more yards is a greased, nonconforming driver, an airport runway or an illegal ball. The real answer is to work out at the gym, get a golf coach and swing with authority.

Dr. Charlie Blanchard is a licensed psychologist specializing in sports and leadership who works with PGA professionals and young golfers to enhance their performance. He partners with coach Herb Wimberly as the principal instructors at Performance Golf Schools. Contact Blanchard at sports@lascrucbulletin.com.



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H I G H S C H O O L

SportsSchedule

Centennial High School

Saturday, Jan. 11..... Girls Basketballat Mayfield High School.....2 p.m.
 Boys Basketball Valencia High School2 p.m.
 Jan. 17-18 Wrestlingat Joe Vivian Tournament..... TBA
 Friday, Jan. 17..... Girls Basketballat Manzano High School.....5:30 p.m.
 Boys Basketballat Manzano High School.....7 p.m.



Las Cruces High School

Friday, Jan. 10..... Wrestlingat Oñate High School.....6 p.m.
 Boys Basketballat Hanks High School7:15 p.m.
 Jan. 10-11 Swimmingat APS Mini Swimming/Diving Meet..... TBA
 Saturday, Jan. 11..... Girls Basketball Hobbs High School3 p.m.
 Tuesday, Jan. 14..... Boys Basketball Faith Academy7 p.m.
 Jan. 17-18 Swimmingat Albuquerque Acad. Swimming Diving Meet TBA
 Wrestlingat Joe Vivian Tournament..... TBA
 Friday, Jan. 17..... Boys Basketball Eldorado High School.....5:30 p.m.
 Girls Basketball Eldorado High School.....7 p.m.



Mayfield High School

Friday, Jan. 10..... Wrestlingat Gadsden High School6 p.m.
 Saturday, Jan. 11..... Girls Basketball Centennial High School.....2 p.m.
 Boys Basketballat Hobbs High School3 p.m.
 Jan. 17-18 Wrestlingat Joe Vivian Tournament..... TBA
 Friday, Jan 17..... Boys Basketball Volcano Vista High School5:30 p.m.
 Girls Basketball Volcano Vista High School7 p.m.



Oñate High School

Friday, Jan. 10..... Wrestlingat Las Cruces High School.....6 p.m.
 Saturday, Jan. 11..... Boys Basketballat Clovis High School.....5:30 p.m.
 Tuesday, Jan. 14..... Girls Basketball Silver High School.....7 p.m.
 Jan. 17-18 Wrestlingat Joe Vivian Tournament..... TBA
 Friday, Jan. 17..... Boys Basketballat Atrisco Heritage Academy5:30 p.m.
 Girls Basketballat Atrisco Heritage Academy7 p.m.



Mesilla Valley Christian Schools

Friday, Jan. 10..... Boys Basketballat Hot Springs High School6:30 p.m.
 Saturday, Jan. 11..... Boys Basketballat Deming High School..... TBA
 Tuesday, Jan. 14..... Boys Basketball Chaparral High School7 p.m.
 Jan. 16-18 Boys Basketballat Dexter Tournament TBA



Runner makes home in LC

Gruca still among world's elite at age 43

By **Lawrence Joy**
 For the Las Cruces Bulletin

Dorota Gruca has been a professional distance runner for more than 20 years, running races all over the world. Gruca has lived and trained in Las Cruces since 2009, but she grew up in a small rural village in Poland.

From 5Ks to marathons, local events to national championships, the 2005 Marathon World Championships and the 2008 Olympics Marathon, road races and on the track, she has competed at all levels. Gruca ran and won many races along the way and now, at age 43, continues to be one of the leading female runners in the world today, competing in the Masters category (40 and older).

On her 40th birthday, in 2010, Gruca won the Zappos.com Las Vegas Rock'N'Roll Marathon, her second marathon win in six weeks after winning the 2010 Poland National Championship. Since then, she has won or placed 2nd in the female Masters division, or placed top two Overall in more than 25 races in Poland and the United States.

Gruca has two-year Masters win streaks (2012-13) at the Carlsbad 5000, Bloomington 12K, Freihofers Run for Women 5K and Philadelphia R'N'R Half Marathon, plus 2nd place Masters finishes at the Peachtree 10K Road Race. She placed second overall two years in a row at P.F. Chang's Rock'N'Roll Phoenix Half-Marathon, improving by 2 minutes in 2013 (1:15:56) over her 2012 time.

In 2013, Gruca added Masters wins at the Crescent City Classic 10K in March and



Las Cruces runner Dorota Gruca crosses the finish line at the Carlsbad 5000, April 7, 2013, more than 40 seconds ahead of her nearest competitor.

Photo by PhotoRun

Crim Festival of Races 10 Mile in August 2013. On Oct. 20, 2013, a cold, dark, rainy morning for the Detroit Marathon and International Half Marathon, Gruca completed 13.1 miles through 2 countries in 1:18:30 to win first place overall.

"I just wanted to run marathon race pace today, and I won," Gruca said.

That marathon race pace continued through the San Antonio R'N'R Half Marathon in November 2013 for second-place overall, followed by the California International Marathon in Sacramento, Calif., on Dec. 8, 2013, for first place Masters in 2:43:38, her first marathon in 3 years, qualifying for the Boston Marathon.

Gruca is a founder and board member of the Las Cruces Running Club, a non-profit organization dedicated to encouraging and promoting running activities as well

as producing running events in Las Cruces.

In 2011, Gruca became a USA Track and Field certified coach, and in 2012 a New Mexico Activities Association coach.

"I was so hungry for success, and so fast when I was young," Gruca said.

"Now I get to train and run for fun."

As she continues her weekly training miles and maintains her racing speed at age 43, Gruca is winning in the classroom, in Las Cruces and in running events around the world.

Gruca has held the records for the fastest 10K run in Poland by a female Polish runner, winning the Poland National Championship in 31:52:17, along with the fastest marathon female time in Mexico running 2:28:49 in Mazatlan, since 2004.

NMSU women visit Idaho

Aggies get win over GCU Antelopes

New Mexico State Aggie women's basketball is on their first Western Athletic Conference road trip of the season after breaking seven-game losing streak by defeating Grand Canyon University 66-63 Saturday, Jan. 4.

NMSU played at Seattle University Thursday, Jan. 9, and visits the University of Idaho at 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11.

The win over Grand Canyon is the first for the Aggies in more than a month. Two Aggies collected double-doubles and three rebounded in double figures.

NMSU had three score in double figures and three collect double-figure rebounds. Freshman Brianna Freeman set a career-high with 16 points and 10 rebounds for her

first double-double as an Aggie. Sophomore Sasha Weber also saw a double-double with 10 boards and 12 points on the night. Junior Danesia Williamson had 23 points in the game – her second highest scoring game this season.

Defensively, freshman Tyler Ellis led NMSU with 11 rebounds.

"I think the kids really did well. They executed down the stretch, hit free throws, made some bonehead mistakes still, but we came back and managed the game well and made plays," NMSU coach Mark Trakh said.

The women will host Chicago State at 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 16 and UM-Kansas City at 6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 18, in the Pan American Center.

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

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REYNA LUJAN
 is a 15-year-old sophomore at OHS. She is on the Oñate Silverette dance team and on the Knight's Pom team. Lujan works hard and is helpful to

other members of the team. She attends all practices and displays a positive attitude at all times. Lujan's coach, Stephanie Norman, said she is overjoyed with the effort Lujan puts into her dancing and couldn't be more proud to have her as part of the Silverettes. Lujan is an excellent student, with a 4.0 GPA and her interests outside of school, dance and pom include singing and spending time with her family and friends.



SALENA COMEAU
 is a 17-year-old senior at OHS. She is a member of the Knight's cheerleading team. Comeau is an amazing athlete who strives to be the best for herself

and her team. She puts the team first and has a lot of heart and dedication. Comeau is a great role model for other athletes, as well as for future Oñate cheerleaders. She wants to continue cheerleading after high school and be an instructor for the University Cheerleading Association. She is a dedicated student, with a 3.50 GPA. Outside of school and cheerleading, Comeau enjoys spending time with family and friends.

AggieInsider

Friday fun for fans

Get the scoop at Coaches Luncheon



Pistol Pete
Pete's
Ponderings

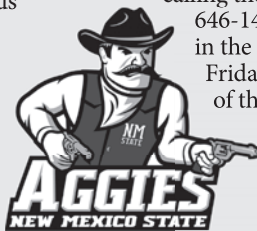
The most important part of any season is underway for Aggie basketball. Ole Pete is talkin' about "conference season" and the men's team is continuing play this weekend.

The game starts at 6 p.m. this weekend, so finish the chores early and get to the Pan Am in time for tip off.

Now, Pete wants to give you the low down on that Saturday game, but there is another event Friday you need to know about. All fans need to head to M FIVE on Avenida de Mesilla at noon to get a much better briefing from the head man himself, Marvin Menzies.

You don't have to have any special credentials or standing in the community, you just need to bring some questions and an appetite for good food and basketball. This Friday is the continuation of the tradition of Aggie coaches speaking before a home game at the Coaches Luncheon. It's a fun event that has prizes and a chance to hear all about what coach Menzies is planning for this game and the rest of the season.

Ole Pete recommends these luncheons for the casual fan or the Aggie booster who knows everything about the team, from Sim Bhullar's shoe size to how many bolts hold the Pan Am parquet in



place. Menzies always has a good story and a good bit of information on the next opponent.

Pete will give you the basics about Saturday's game now, but encourages you to come by Friday.

The opponent is the Idaho Vandals and this will be their final visit to the Pan Am for the foreseeable future.

There is a special start time for this game with tip off coming at 6 p.m.. Pete sees this as a chance to start the victory celebration a little earlier as well.

Idaho has the best "lock-down" long-range shooter in the league in Connor Hill. He and Aggie Kevin Aronis have been the hottest three point shooters in the WAC to date. Idaho has more than Hill in their arsenal. A young man named Steven Madison has earned conference Player of the Week honors this year and averages in double figures.

Idaho is an opponent that has been as pesky as a "shoo-fly" around a stallion and they are likely to get just as frisky this weekend.

In case you are new to town, let Pete give you some reminders on how to get the best tickets in the Pan Am. Tickets for all of these games and any NM State sports event are available at the Pan Am box office or online or by simply calling those friendly folks at 646-1420. Just your interest in the program is needed for Friday, so take advantage of the chance to hear all about the season and "Aggie Up" at 6 p.m. Saturday night.

Stay informed about the Aggies

Plethora of information available from NMSU Athletics



Tyler Dunkel
Assistant Athletic
Director/Media
Relations

My office always fields questions from fans about how they can stay connected with their favorite New Mexico State sports teams. In fact, some of the most loyal fans here in Las Cruces, the state of New Mexico or even around the country have no idea about the resources we offer to keep you informed.

I wanted to take this opportunity to share a few different ways to stay up to date with your favorite teams. The departmental website at nmstatesports.com is the fan's one-stop shop for anything NM State Aggies. Daily releases, including previews and summaries of contests for each of the 17 sports at NM State, are all posted on the website.

The site also includes feature stories, access to media guides, rosters, schedules and bios on student-athletes and coaches, while giving fans the opportunity to listen to live radio broadcasts and view live video events. Live stats for seven of our sports are also available. This function of the site gives fans a play-by-play of the game, with statistical information and, of course, the running score.

Fans can also view information on AggieVision, the department's

television production team, and the Aggie Athletic Club, our fundraising group.

For those of you who are frequent visitors to the site, look for our new redesign coming soon.

Social media has become a huge source for news as most of you can probably see just by watching ESPN. Twitter and Facebook are two areas of social media we use in athletics.

The official Twitter account of NM State Athletics is @nmstateaggies and fans can follow us and enjoy things such as breaking news or in-game updates in volleyball, football, basketball, soccer, softball and baseball.

A goal of the staff in 2014 is to do more behind-the-scenes pictures, giving fans an inside look at what you don't see, for example, locker room shots, game day pregame meals and traveling on the airplane or on the bus.

Also, our interaction with fans will be more involved.

Facebook is run out of our marketing department and fans can like us at NMSU Athletics. Our marketing group does a great job of keeping fans up-to-date with promotions and special events happening at athletic events.

All of these media avenues are available on your computer, but for those of you that are on the go, your smart phone is the way to go. Athletics has a free downloadable app for the iPhone and the Android that is connected to the department

website. Also, fans can follow live events on Twitter like I do when I'm not able to make the game.

I think Aggie fans are really in for a special year in 2014. Do you know where you will get all your Aggie news from? Are you ready to stay up-to-date? Visit us at nmstatesports.com or follow us on twitter (@nmstateaggies) and on Facebook (NMSU Athletics) for all your information about Aggie Athletics. Aggie Up!

Upcoming

Saturday, January 11

Men's Basketball
Idaho
Las Cruces
6 p.m.

Women's Basketball

Idaho
Moscow, Idaho
3 p.m.

Thursday, January 16

Men's Basketball
Chicago State
Chicago
6 p.m.

Women's Basketball

Chicago State
Las Cruces
6 p.m.

Aggie student-athlete spotlight



Kevin Aronis
Senior guard
Men's basketball

Senior guard Kevin Aronis marked a career-high 20 points in an 84-62 win at Grand Canyon University to help give NM State its first WAC win of the year Saturday, Jan. 4. He went 7-of-10 from the field and

6-of-8 from behind the 3-point arc, including 5-of-6 from behind the 3-point line in the first half. Aronis' 15 first-half points helped give the Aggies a 45-31 lead at the break. The six treys he made against the 'Lopes ties a career-high as he also marked six against Northern New Mexico on Dec. 21, 2012.



Brianna Freeman
Freshman forward
Women's basketball

Brianna Freeman, a freshman from Killeen, Texas, earned her first double-double of the season in the Aggies first win of WAC play over Grand Canyon Saturday, Jan. 4. Freeman had 16 points and

10 rebounds during the win, which were both career-high numbers for the freshman. She shot 6-of-13 from the floor and had two blocks and two steals in the game.



Dorottya Lennert
Sophomore-butterfly
Swimming and diving

Dorottya Lennert led NM State during its three-way meet versus PAC-12 members Oregon State and No. 13 Arizona on Friday, Jan. 3. Swimming against the Beavers, Wildcats and WAC member Northern

Arizona, Lennert had a second, third and fourth-place finish. She finished with a time of 2:10.43 during the 200 individual medley to touch the wall in second. Lennert also had a third-place finish in the 200 butterfly and a fourth-place finish in the 100 butterfly. Her time of 2:05.92 in the 200 fly and 57.03 in the 100 fly are good enough for 11th and 12th-best in the WAC this season, respectively.



In the news

City manager receives rave reviews

Las Cruces City Manager Robert Garza completed his third year as city manager Wednesday, Jan. 1, and has received a unanimous "excellent" rating from the Las Cruces City Council for his performance as the city's chief executive officer.



GARZA

Garza became city manager Jan. 1, 2011. He undergoes two-annual City Council reviews. January reviews consist solely of the terms of his employment contract. July reviews are strictly performance-based.

Mayor Ken Miyagishima said Garza's performance continues to be outstanding since his last performance review held July 1, 2013.

"Robert's leadership and guidance have stabilized the city's financial status despite slow economic recovery and decisions made at the legislative level," Miyagishima said. "Robert and his staff have kept spending flat and managed to hold the number of full-time employees to 1,338 for the past two years."

Garza will receive a 4 percent pay increase that is a combination of a cost-of-living increase and a performance-based raise, bringing his annual salary to \$172,910.

City Council will ratify the changes to Garza's contract at its meeting Monday, Jan. 21. Garza's employment contract continues through Dec. 31, 2016.

The city manager is the sole employee of the City Council. All other city employees report to the city manager. Currently, Garza oversees an adopted fiscal year 2013-2014 budget of more than \$280 million.

Perea seeks re-election

Judge Conrad Perea has announced his intention to seek re-election to the Doña Ana County Magistrate Court, Division II.

Perea has held this position since October 2010 and previously served as a Magistrate Court judge from 1999 to 2001. He is currently assigned to both the Las Cruces Court and the Anthony Circuit Court.

Perea is one of two judges who oversees the Doña Ana DWI Drug Court Program and is also a core instructor and teacher for the University of New Mexico's Judicial Education Center, providing instruction and training to judges and court staff throughout New Mexico.

Perea believes that the function of the Magistrate Court system in New Mexico requires competent, capable and hardworking judges to deliver judicial services to its citizens. Perea states that he has proven that he has and will continue to deliver these services.

Census training offered

The New Mexico Economic Development Department (NMEDD), in partnership with the U.S. Census Bureau-Denver Regional Office, will host a training to assist small business owners, consultants, Small Business Development Training Centers, chambers of commerce, local economic development organizations and any agency that targets small businesses and economic development. The Census Bureau measures the American economy and population for government and business decision-making.

"Using Census Data for Business Planning and Market Analysis" will offer hands-on

training designed to teach individuals to use Census Bureau economic and demographic data. Participants will access census data to study business competition, site location, prepare a business plan, demographics of their trade area, review their local economy and analyze where people work and where workers live in their community.

NMEDD is the lead agency for the State Data Center program. Through an agreement with the Census Bureau, NMEDD is building out the State Data Center and assists New Mexico's smallest communities with training and accessing data.

Space is limited, therefore preregistration is required, by emailing christine.logan@state.nm.us.

The training will be offered from 8:30 a.m. to noon, Thursday, Jan. 16, at the Doña Ana Community College's Workforce Development Center, 2345 Nevada Ave.

Observatory Open House set

The New Mexico State University Department of Astronomy will hold an Observatory Open House at the NMSU campus observatory Friday, Jan. 10, starting at 7 p.m. Astronomy personnel on hand will be Bernie McNamara and graduate assistants Nick Ule, Lauren Kahre and Kathryn Steakley.

Objects to be observed are the moon, the planet Jupiter, the Orion Nebula (M42), the Triangulum Galaxy (M33) and many more celestial objects.

Admission is free and children are especially welcome to attend.

For more information, call the NMSU Astronomy Department at 646-4438.

Transportation grants respond to flooding

U.S. Sens. Tom Udall and Martin Heinrich and U.S. Reps. Steve Pearce, Ben Ray Lujan, and Michelle Lujan Grisham announced the New Mexico Department of Transportation will receive a \$1.6 million grant for repair and reconstruction of roads around the state damaged in last year's floods.

The grant funds will be used to restore major highways and roads on federal lands that were damaged by severe flooding in September. The record-breaking rain and storms caused damage in about two-thirds of the state.

In October, at the urging of the congressional delegation, President Barack Obama declared a major disaster for the state of New Mexico and Santa Clara Pueblo for the severe storms and flooding that occurred from Sept. 9-22. This funding is being made available as a result of the delegation's request for emergency relief. It will help restore essential traffic, minimize the extent of damage, protect remaining facilities and complete other permanent repairs necessary to restore roads and highways to their pre-flooding conditions.

The Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration authorized the funds through an emergency relief program, which may award funds to a state after the president or governor issues a formal emergency declaration and if the state requests emergency relief for repairs to its eligible highways.

21 Aggies named Academic All-WAC

The New Mexico State University athletics department announced Wednesday, Jan. 8, that 21 student-athletes from men's and

women's cross country, soccer and volleyball were named Academic All-WAC honorees for the fall semester.

"We are extremely proud of the accomplishments that our student-athletes have made in the classroom," NMSU Athletics Director McKinley Boston said.

The NMSU soccer team landed seven student-athletes on the list, followed by the volleyball and women's cross country each with six, while men's cross country added two honorees. The students are:

Men's cross country

Jason Saiz and Christopher Silva

Women's cross country

Christina Barela, Sarabel Bojorquez, Diana Hawk, Lizbeth Mata, Gael Sanchez and Victoria Trujillo

Soccer

Alexys Brownell, Mary Kate Koziol, Bree Luhrsen, Samantha Sandoval, Jessica Schutter, Olivia Sierra and Layla Todd

Volleyball

Ciara Brown, Taylor Livoti, Lauren Loerch, Bradley Nash, Jordan Reifsteck and Stephanie Ziegler

"As we always do, we try and put out a great product on the soccer field, but as equally important is that we try to be successful in the classroom and our athletes do a great job of balancing both," interim head women's soccer coach Freddy Delgado said.

"We are really proud of the effort and drive of these six student-athletes, not just in the gym but in the classroom," head volleyball coach Mike Jordan said.

"It's always nice to see the fruition of our athletes' hard work in the classroom come at the end of the season," assistant track and field/cross country coach Chris Huff said.

'An Evening with Styx' finalists announced

After a panel of six judges listened to, scored and ranked 27 submissions from local, regional and national bands and musicians, four finalists have been chosen to move on to the second and final round of judging – a live performance – on Friday, Jan. 10, vying for an opening spot for 1970s and '80s rock legend Styx.

The top-four highest-scoring groups are: Decade of the Dead Arcade (Las Cruces), BOFUS (Las Cruces), Amber St. Yves (Santa Fe) and Flat Blak (Las Cruces).

The bands' next challenge will be a live performance at 8:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 10, at Hurricane Alley, 1490 Missouri Ave.

Indie rockers Decade of the Dead Arcade, composed of Andrew Martinez, Manny Rodriguez, Ricardo Sifuentes and Luke Dumke, hails from Las Cruces. BOFUS, also based in Las Cruces, is Steve Valenzuela, Oliver Charity, Scott Guthrie, Jason Reed and Myki Box.

Amber St. Yves, out of Santa Fe, is Carlo Armendariz, JJ Oviedo, Neil Jones and Dave Vigil. The band's Facebook page describes their sound as "rock with hints and flavors of pop, hard rock, hip-hop and electronica."

Las Cruces rockers Flat Blak – Travis Manning, Rob Allen and Leslie Skaggs – round out the evening's finalists.

Doors will open at Hurricane Alley for Friday night's performance at 8 p.m., and performances from the four finalists will begin at 9 p.m. Each band will play for roughly 45 minutes, and cover will be \$3.

Performances will be judged according to a set of criteria – stage presence, crowd response, live sound and originality – and

ranked on a numerical scale. The highest-scoring act will win the honor of opening for Styx at "An Evening with Styx," slated for 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 15, at the Pan American Center, 1810 E. University Ave.

As an added bonus, the winning band will also play a solo performance at Hurricane Alley following "An Evening with Styx" at a concert after-party Wednesday night.

Doors for "An Evening with Styx" open at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and \$35, and are still available at the Pan American Ticket Office and Ticketmaster outlets, online at www.ticketmaster.com or by calling 800-745-3000. For more information, call the Pan Am Ticket Office at 646-1420.

HTC to meet Jan. 17

This month's High Tech Consortium (HTC) of Southern New Mexico membership meeting will be from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Jan. 17, at the Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces.

This month's speaker will be Cathy Swain, the executive director of the Hub of Human Innovation and director of the clean energy incubator program for the University of Texas at El Paso. She is a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) with broad experience through many market cycles and career achievements that bridge financial, academic, and economic development institutions, most recently with a broad network and understanding of the university/community ecosystem for innovation through research commercialization.

Previously, Swain served as assistant vice chancellor for commercial development in the University of Texas System Office of Research and Technology Transfer. As the key contact person for University of Texas commercialization activities systemwide, she launched and managed the Texas Ignition Fund that resulted in 23 startups in less than two years.

HTC membership meetings are open to the public and free. Anyone interested in growing technology in southern New Mexico is encouraged to attend. For more information, call Terry Jack at 575-522-3868.

Station switches to county music

Adams Radio of Las Cruces recently announced the return of classic county music to the airwaves of Las Cruces and southern New Mexico with KSNM 570 becoming Classic Country 570.

"This exciting format change will fill a void our listeners have experienced for quite some time," said Veronica Test, market manager.

"I really think everyone will enjoy this time-tested format on 570 AM," said Ernesto Garcia, operations manager.

Classic Country 570 is the only station in southern New Mexico and West Texas to feature the biggest country songs and artists from the 1970s, '80s and '90s. The station will feature core artists such as George Strait, Johnny Cash, Willie Nelson, Reba McEntire, Kenny Rogers, Dolly Parton, Garth Brooks, Alan Jackson and many more.

Classic Country 570 will continue to be home for the NFL, high school sports from the Bulldawg, Trojan, Hawk and Knight Radio Network, as well as New Mexico State University's men's and women's sports.

Classic Country 570 will continue to be Southern New Mexico's news outlet, with local and national news at the top of every hour featuring award-winning KSNM newsmen Jack Nixon. Classic Country 570 will also feature "Let's Talk Las Cruces" daily at noon.

Looking Back

This week in the history of the Mesilla Valley



Jim Hilley
Reflections

100 years ago

1914

• M.E. Pitchkey, of Roswell, purchased the People's Drug Store and was moving to Las Cruces to operate it. The former operator, Dr. Koelle, and his family were moving to Roswell.

• A new fruitgrowers association was being organized, with the primary purpose of handling cantaloupes in the valley.

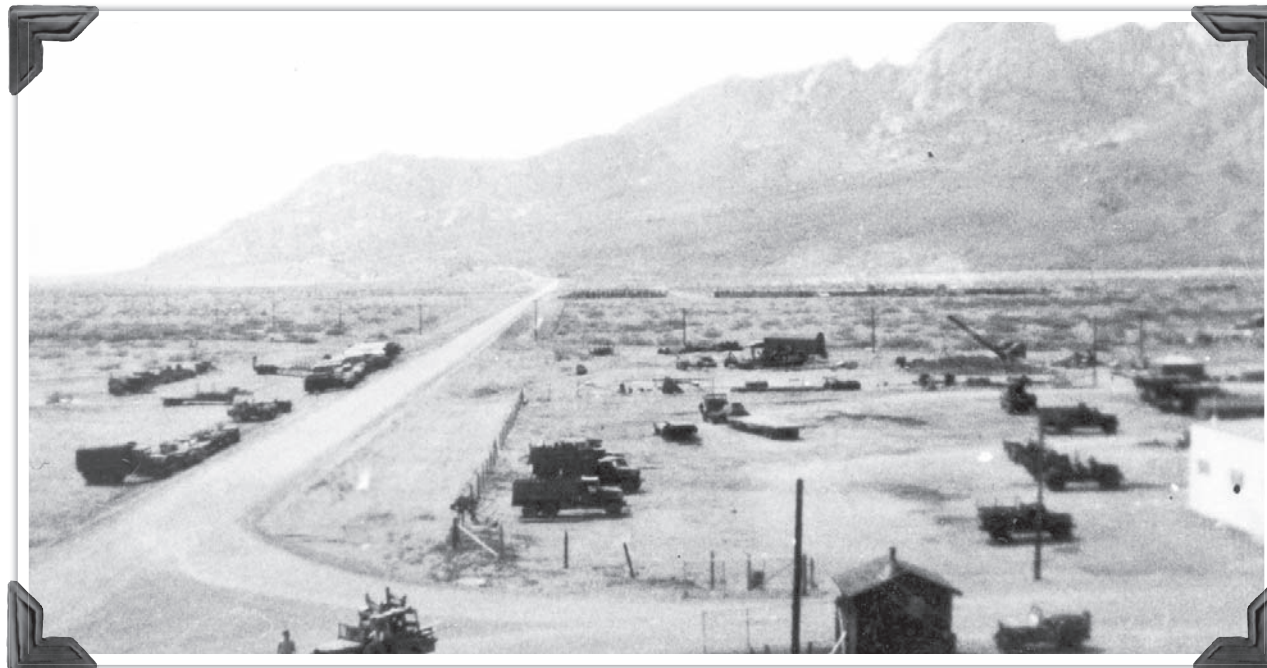
• Otto Kuch, German consul to the state of Chihuahua, rented a cottage on the Paseo.

75 years ago

1939

• A committee of three – Herbert Manasse, G.H. Hamill and P.R. Burn – was charged with raising funds to build a swimming pool at the Las Cruces Country Club.

• Claude Dove, associate professor of education at the New Mexico State college, was granted leave of absence to act as visiting professor to the University of Colorado at Boulder, in the field of educational psychology.



This photo shows Headquarters Avenue on White Sands Missile Range in 1946.

New Mexico State University Library Rio Grande Historical Collections photo

• The state college float won first prize in the Pageant of Legends Sun Carnival Parade in El Paso, earning a \$50 prize. The theme of the float was "The Legend of King Midas."

50 years ago

1964

• The local boys' club boxing team was set to host boxers from El Paso, Roswell, Carlsbad and possibly Lordsburg at the Las Cruces Coliseum. The local team would feature Al Ramirez, the defending New Mexico Open

champion and Jimmy Archuleta, a two-time state champion.

• Sgt. First Class Ronald Fielder retired from the Army after 22 years. Fielder said he would continue to reside in Las Cruces in order to study education at New Mexico State University.

25 years ago

1989

• Cartoonist Matt Groening was the featured

speaker at an exhibit of 10 cartoonists' work at NMSU. Groening was known for his "Life in Hell" comic strip, which appeared in the Round Up student newspaper.

• Innovative Systems on Boutz Road offered a "fully compatible 8088 computer," with 512K RAM, a 4.77/8Mhz Turbo Motherboard, a 14 inch monochrome monitor and dual 5-1/4 inch floppy drives for \$795.

Information gathered from New Mexico State University Library's Microform Area and Archives and Special Collections.

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or archives@lib.nmsu.edu

Senior Activities

INFORMATION ABOUT SENIOR PROGRAMS

Programs at Munson Senior Center, 975 S. Mesquite St., are for those age 50 and older. Membership is free and is required to participate in classes and activities.

The center offers a variety of classes at beginning, intermediate and advanced levels. Membership cards are available in the Resource Center from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For more information, call 528-3000.

YOGA CLASSES AT AQUATIC CENTER

Yoga encourages proper body alignment and brings balance, strength and calmness. Classes are from 8:15 to 9:15 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the Las Cruces Regional Aquatic Center, 1401 E. Hadley Ave.

Cost is \$2, or \$1 for registered Senior Programs members.

THE VOYAGERS TRAVEL CLUB

The Voyagers Travel Club trips currently being booked:

- **Palomas, Deming and Luna County Museum** Feb. 24. Cost is \$22.
- **Silver City Chocolate Fantasia.** Feb. 7-8. Cost is \$140 double, \$189 single..
- **"Meet the Irish"** Spend

St. Patrick's Day in Ireland. March 16-25. Cost is \$3,408 double.

- **San Francisco, Napa Valley and Monterey** June 2-6. Cost is \$2,200 single, \$1,730 double. \$600 deposit.
- **Oregon Explorer:** Sept. 7-15. Cost is \$3,000 per person, double. Call for single rate.
- **Adriatic and Western Mediterranean Cruise:** 18 days. Oct. 25. From \$1,889 per person. For more information, call Helen Glover at 805-4920.

ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION AQUATIC PROGRAM

The Arthritis Foundation Aquatic Program is from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at the Las Cruces Regional Aquatic Center, 1401 E. Hadley Ave.

Participants must be age 60 or older and Senior Programs members. \$1 suggested donation.

SENIOR CIRCLE YOGA CLASSES

MountainView Regional Medical Center, 4311 E. Lohman Ave., offers classes targeted to the senior market. Senior Circle yoga classes are for ages 50 and older are \$15 per year or \$2 per class.

- **Gentle yoga sessions – with and without chairs:** 10:30 to 11:30

a.m. Mondays and Fridays at Encantada Park, 1000 Coyote Trail.

- **Stretch yoga – gentle:** 8:30 a.m. Wednesdays at MountainView Regional Medical Center, 4311 E. Lohman Ave., in the Marketing & Women's Resource Room 404.
- **Laughter and gentle yoga:** 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Thursdays in the Golden Mesa Activity Room, 151 N. Roadrunner Parkway. Guided by Blissful Beth. For more information, call 522-0011 or 640-7614.

AEROBICS AT MEERSCHIEDT

Move to the music through a variety of exercises designed to increase muscular strength, range of movement and activity. Classes are from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at Meerscheidt Recreation Center, 1600 E. Hadley Ave. Cost is \$2, or \$1 for registered Senior Programs members.

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

The Alzheimer's Association, New Mexico Chapter has the following support group meetings each month:

- 11:30 a.m. each Thursday at Sunset Grill, 1274 Golf Club Road. For more information, call Jan at 522-7133.
- 6 p.m. the second Tuesday

of each month at Arbors of Del Rey, 3731 Del Rey Blvd. Respite care available during meeting. For more information, call Tony or Michael at 382-5200.

- 6 p.m. the third Thursday of each month at the Village at Northrise, 2884 N. Roadrunner Parkway, in the Desert Willow Building. For more information, call Bonnie at 556-6117. The Alzheimer's Association – New Mexico Chapter has offices at 1121 Mall Drive, Suite C. For more information, call 800-272-3900 or 647-3868.

BINGO AT MUNSON EACH WEDNESDAY

Free bingo is offered from 1 to 2 p.m. each Wednesday at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St. The game is open to all registered members of Senior Programs. Players have a chance to win a prize and have fun with friends and neighbors.

For more information, call 528-3000.

BINGO HELD AT AMERICAN LEGION

Bingo will be held at 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays at American Legion Post 10, 1185 E. Madrid Ave. Doors open at 3:30 p.m., first game is at 6:30 p.m. Food and sodas will be available.

A coverall blackout pays \$1,000 to a single winner. For more information, call 526-9139.

THE THURSDAY BRIDGE CLUB

The Thursday Bridge Club meets for lunch and bridge at 11 a.m. the first and third Thursday of each month at the Saratoga Room, 1763 E. University Ave.

For more information, call Judy at 373-9309, or Ann at 522-7240.

THE NETWORK VOLUNTEER CENTER

The Network Volunteer Center connects individuals 18 and older to volunteer positions at more than 25 Las Cruces agencies and organizations.

Individuals 55 or older may be enrolled in the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) and receive free, supplemental volunteer insurance while on the job. For more information, contact 528-3035 or thenetwork@las-cruces.org.

CARD AND TABLE GAMES

Anyone age 50 or older is welcome to play bridge, pinochle, canasta, Hands N Feet, chess and Mah Jongg. Call 528-3000 for times and locations.

AARP MEETS EACH MONTH

AARP meetings are held at 2 p.m. the third Wednesday of each month, except July and August, at the Munson

Center, 975 S. Mesquite St. Meetings offer people 50 and older interesting guest speakers, light refreshments and a chance to socialize.

For more information, call Elsa Baker at 525-3990.

ZUMBA GOLD AT MUNSON CENTER

Zumba Gold modifies Zumba moves and pacing to suit the needs of active older participants.

Classes are from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St.

Cost is \$2, or \$1 for Senior Programs members.

SWINGING DANCERS

The Swinging Dancers will host a dance from 7 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11, at Court Youth Center, 402 W. Court Ave. Mark Coker will perform.

Couples, singles and guests are always welcome. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Admission is \$6.

For more information, call 649-5306.

SOCIAL DANCERS

Sangria Band will perform from 7 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1, at Court Youth Center, 402 W. Court Ave. The dance is sponsored by the Las Cruces Social Dancers. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$6 per person.

For more information, call 532-9225.



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Neighbors We've Lost

OBITUARIES

ALVIN EUGENE KEATON

November 28, 1931 to December 16, 2013

In loving memory of a man who believed in playing fair and fought for that principle, who had a great sense of humor, who never passed up an opportunity to make a pun and who was gifted with an ability to avoid being caught up in the chaff and instead go directly to the heart of a matter. He devoted his life to drawing out these qualities in his friends and students. He retired as a Professor Emeritus of Philosophy from New Mexico State University in 1998, after 30 years. He also served as Chairman of the Doña Ana County Commission from January 1987 to December 1988.



social worker for West Virginia Rehabilitation, a laboratory technician at M.D. Anderson Cancer Research Hospital in Houston, a mortuary assistant in Miami, a guidance counselor in Denver. In 1960, he was a graduate assistant in Psychology at Arizona State University, where he met and married Mary Laurene Wender. For the next two years, he taught science at Arizona private schools before entering a graduate program at

the University of Oklahoma, where he had previously held a National Science Foundation Fellowship. He taught at Kansas State College of Pittsburg, The University of Oklahoma, Highlands University, The College of William and Mary before settling at New Mexico State University, where he taught Philosophy from 1972 to 1998.

Survivors include his wife, Laurie Keaton; three sisters, Deanna Tebo of Bridgeville, Delaware, Patricia Honeywill of Sevierville, Tennessee, and Linda Leeber of Stevensville, Maryland; three nieces and four nephews; and his many friends and former students.

Contributions in his memory may be sent to the Alzheimer's Association at www.act.alz.org/goto/AlKeaton.

DEATH NOTICES

ASHBY

Treaver "T.C." Ashby Jr., passed away on January 1, 2014 at La Posada Mesilla Valley Hospice. Services are pending with Getz Funeral Home.

POWELL

Sherry Lynn Powell, 62, of Las Cruces, New Mexico, entered eternal life on Monday, December 30, 2013 at La Posada-Mesilla Valley Hospice. Services are pending with Baca's Funeral Chapels of Las Cruces, 575-527-2222.

ULLOA

Martina Ulloa, 71, of Las Cruces, New Mexico, died Tuesday, December 24, 2013 at her home. Services are pending with Baca's Funeral Chapel of Las Cruces.

MENDOZA

Victorina "Vickie" Mendoza, 87, of Las Cruces, New Mexico, entered eternal life Sunday, December 29, 2013 at La Posada - Mesilla Valley Hospice surrounded by her loving family. Services have been held. She has been entrusted to Baca's Funeral Chapels of Las Cruces, 575-527-2222.

KRISTINA CATHRYN VIRAMONTES

April 20, 2000 to December 26, 2013

Kristina Cathryn Viramontes, 13, born April 20, 2000 to Ernest and Emily Viramontes went home with the Angels on Thursday, December 26, 2013.

Kristina was not defined by her disability or her medical issues, but rather by her spirit, her unconditional love, and her beautiful heart. She loved music, ladybugs and being around her family especially, her sister Camryn. Kristina was a student at Mesa Middle School and loved being a "Rattler". She was an honorary Rattler cheerleader and wore her uniform proudly. Kristina was a girl who could not talk, walk or respond as we do, but she inspired and touched the hearts of everyone who met her.

She is survived by her parents Ernest and Emily, her sister Camryn, Grandpa Joe Montoya and Irene Valles, Grandma Flora Viramontes, aunts and uncles, Joe and Christina Montoya, Godfather Rick and Tencha Viramontes, Monchie and Jennifer Viramontes, Bobby and JoAnne Viramontes, Olga Viramontes and Steve Ludington, and Anna Viramontes; her cousins, Melanie, Dominick, Dimitri, Damian, Danielle, Chris and Jacob Viramontes, Pablo, Sierra and River Ludington, Jamie, Samantha and Marcus Montoya; her Godmother, Janice Garcia, her classmates at Mesa Middle School and many other extended family and friends; her teachers, Chris Anderson, Sharon Chambers and Michelle Brady; her caregivers,



Raychel Treece and Alice Apodaca, as well as her therapists and nurses from Mountain Shadows Home Health Care. Kristina was preceded in death by her maternal grandmother, Katherine Montoya, and her paternal grandfather, Pablo Viramontes.

In honor of Kristina, please wear pink or purple so she can be surrounded by the colors she loved best. In lieu of flowers, gifts

can be made to the LCPS Foundation in honor of: Kristina Cathryn Viramontes, Special Education Fund, P.O. Box 16214, Las Cruces, NM 88004.

Visitation for Kristina was at 10 a.m. Thursday, January 2, 2014 at Immaculate Heart of Mary Cathedral, 1240 S. Espina Street where the Prayer Vigil was at 11 a.m.. The Holy Mass of Resurrection was celebrated immediately thereafter with Bishop Ricardo Ramirez, Celebrant. At the request of her parents, Kristina will be cremated and inurnment of remains will be held at a later date.

Serving as casket bearers weree Dominick, Chris, Melanie and Danielle Viramontes, Pablo Ludington and Marcus Montoya. Honorary bearers will be other family members.

The Viramontes Family has entrusted their loved one to the care of Baca's Funeral Chapels and Sunset Crematory, 300 Boutz Road, Las Cruces. 527-2222 For online condolences log on to www.bacasfuneralchapelslascruc.com

ALEMAN

Alfredo Q. Aleman, 55, of Tortugas, New Mexico, entered eternal life Tuesday, December 22, 2013 at Memorial Medical Center. Services have been held. Service arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Baca's Funeral Chapels, 300 E. Boutz Road, Las Cruces, 575-527-2222. For online condolences, log on to www.bacasfuneralchapelslascruc.com.

RODRIGUEZ

Alejandro "Alex" S. Rodriguez, 82, of Mesquite, New Mexico, entered eternal life Friday, January 3, 2014 at Memorial Medical Center. Services have been held. Arrangements have been entrusted to Baca's Funeral Chapels of Las Cruces, 575-527-2222. For online condolences, log on to www.bacasfuneralchapelslascruc.com.

GARCES

Sal R. Garces, 25, of Las Cruces, New Mexico, passed away on Wednesday, January 1, 2014. Services have been held. Service arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Baca's funeral Chapels and Sunset Crematory of Las Cruces, 575-527-2222. For online condolences, log on to www.bacasfuneralchapelslascruc.com.

QUIRGOA

Raymundo Medina Quirgoa, 75, of Las Cruces, New Mexico, entered eternal life to be with his heavenly Father on Tuesday, December 24, 2013 at his home surrounded by his loving family. Services have been held. Raymundo has been entrusted to Baca's Funeral Chapels of Las Cruces and Sunset Crematory, 575-527-2222.

ALVAREZ

Luis B. Alvarez, 56, of Truth or Consequences, New Mexico, entered eternal life Sunday, December 22, 2013 at Sierra Health Care Center. Services have been held. The Alvarez Family has entrusted their loved one to the care of Baca's Funeral Chapels 300 E. Boutz Road Las Cruces, 575-527-2222. For online condolences, log on to www.bacasfuneralchapelslascruc.com.

LOZOYA

Jesus G. Lozoya Sr., 76, of Las Cruces entered eternal life on Thursday, December 26, 2013 at his home. Services have been held. Jesus has been entrusted to Baca's Funeral Chapels of Las Cruces and Sunset Crematory, 575-527-2222. For online condolences, log on to www.bacasfuneralchapelslascruc.com.



Go to www.lascrucesbulletin.com and click on the Daily Bulletin and Obituaries for current information.

The Las Cruces Bulletin will publish paid obituaries, which may include up to two photographs. Brief death notices are published at no charge. Memorials and remembrances are also available. For more information, call Hugh Osteen at the Las Cruces Bulletin, 575-680-1977, or email obits@lascrucesbulletin.com.

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Who needs social media?

Carrie Hamblen
Going green



To love or not to love social media: That is the question.

It seems almost every part of our lives is inundated with social media. From keeping up with far away relatives to online work meetings, information gathering, travel plans and advertising, we are becoming more heavily dependent on the Internet than ever before to meet our various needs.

For many, it's very easy to embrace all that social media has to offer. For others, it's a scary landscape that is more hassle than it's worth.

I find myself standing a little in both worlds. However, I have found from a business perspective, if businesses want to grow or be sustainable, they need to do more than just dip their toes in the social media waters. They need to embrace it.

It won't hurt, I promise. It may take a little of your time. You may find out more about yourself and others than you care to know, but, it will be worth it.

There are various definitions of social media. According to the website WhatIs.com, "Social media is the collective of online communications channels dedicated to community-based input, interaction, content-sharing and collaboration." Some of the more prominent social media sites are Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, Pinterest and Wikipedia. With each site comes a host of positives and negatives, so I encourage you to explore before launching into the social mediasphere.

For me, the personal side of embracing social media is that I get to connect with relatives and long-lost friends as well as keep up with new friends. I see nifty craft projects that use recycled goods that I would like to learn how to make. I learn about new places and keep up to date on pop culture. I follow legislation on issues that are important to me personally. The list goes on and on.

See **Social media** on page B2

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Chamber reaches for the stars

Spaceport-inspired gala set for Jan. 17

Bulletin Staff Report

The Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce annual awards program and gala Friday, Jan. 17, is designed to start a conversation about down-to-earth business opportunities emerging with the opening of Spaceport America later this year.

In keeping with the theme for the evening, "Reach for the Stars," astronaut Michael Lopez-Alegria, president of Commercial Spaceflight Federation, will give the keynote address.

Registration will start at 5:30 p.m., followed by a VIP reception at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m. at the Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave.

"Given the new year and what's coming our



LOPEZ-ALEGRIA

way, this is the perfect opportunity to get people ready to take advantage of opportunities we're going to have when the spaceport opens some time in 2014," said Greater Chamber CEO Bill Allen.

Allen said that with the spaceport coming on line, the organization's leaders decided it was important to "do whatever we can to support all the possibilities coming our way."

The chamber is upping its game to help businesses understand what will be expected of them, Allen said, and Lopez-Alegria understands those opportunities.

The Chamber Choice Awards & Gala is the major event in which the chamber inducts new officers and board members, thanks outgoing board members and honors businesses

and community members for their service in the past year. In 2014, incoming board chair Michael Beckett will welcome incoming board members and recognize outgoing board members for their service.

Awards will be presented to businesses and volunteers in the following categories: citizen of the year, business of the year, small business of the year, nonprofit of the year, volunteer of the year and Conquistador of the year.

The chamber will present Crystal Apple Awards for the teacher, administrator and rookie teacher of the year. The firefighter of the year and police officer of the year, selected by the City of Las Cruces, will be honored. Tickets are \$75 for members, \$150 for nonmembers.

For information about sponsorship opportunities or tickets to the event, contact Troy Tudor, chamber vice president of development, at 524-1968 or ttudor@lascruces.org.

Want a lift?

Heated garage caters to do-it-yourselfers

By **Alta LeCompte**
Las Cruces Bulletin

A good idea is worth holding onto for a long time – until the right opportunity comes along.

In the case of John Hernandez's idea for a do-it-yourself auto repair facility, the right time was 25 years later.

Hernandez, with Frank Casaus, recently opened U-Fix-It Auto Center at 311 N. Compress Road.

Their facility is equipped with six lifts where do-it-yourselfers can work on their cars. Customers can bring their own parts or buy from U-Fix-It.

In addition to stocking an inventory of parts, the garage can quickly get anything that's needed, thanks to U-Fix-It's location in the heart of the industrial supply district and close to auto dealers.

Technicians on duty can service the cars or help customers get their vehicles onto the lift and advise customers making their own repairs.

Inspired by the military

Between leaving the service in the late 1980s and 2013, life moved forward while Hernandez's dream stayed still.

Hernandez said he discovered the business model he now is pursuing when he was a Marine stationed at Camp Pendleton.

"I worked on my car outside a lot," he said. "One of the soldiers told me the military had a facility where we could work on our cars."

"That's a great idea," he said at the time, thinking the concept would translate well into



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Alta LeCompte

Frank Casaus and John Hernandez opened U-Fix-It Auto Center in late 2013, a garage with six lifts do-it-yourselfers can use to work on their vehicles. For the less handy, U-Fix-It technicians can provide a range of services, including oil changes, brake work and tire replacement.

civilian life.

The work he's done outside on cars "in the dirt and cold weather" just reinforced his belief in the need for a warm, dry and well-equipped place to work on cars.

After leaving the service, Hernandez returned to his native Deming and pursued a

career managing warehouses there and in Arizona. In 1992, he moved to Las Cruces where he is principal with JR Hernandez Construction.

A chance meeting with fellow veteran Casaus led to the auto repair venture.

See **Fix** on page B2

Social media

Continued from page B1

The business side of social media has relatively similar benefits. But, I have found that when it comes to creating more foot traffic for your business, which can turn into more dollars, the more active you are on social media sites, the more your business will be on the minds of your customers or clients.

The Las Cruces Green Chamber of Commerce uses Facebook, Twitter and a service called Constant Contact, popular for emailing large groups of people and customizing messages.

On Facebook, we create events, such

as our newly named Green Drinks mixers or our First Friday talks, calls to action, information that increases awareness about movements in the renewable energy field or sustainable business, and more.

Recently, with the increased activity surrounding the Organ Mountains Desert Peaks National Monument, we have become more active on twitter (@GreenChamberLC1), sharing brief messages about the economic benefits of a national monument in Doña Ana County. We have a great group of followers who share the same passions about open spaces, job creation, sustainable communities and the need to support our local businesses.

Admittedly, monitoring these social

media sites takes time and energy, something many small businesses don't have. However, there are ways to use your time wisely and make the most of your social media activity. There are tools and shortcuts that can be taken to get your business out in the social media world without taking up a bunch of valuable time. It's worth the initial investment to produce some great returns.

Don't be intimidated by the horror stories you hear. For your business, it's the new trend for building a customer base, increasing your business presence and maintaining relationships with customers. But, you need to be informed, be smart and be creative.

Don't be afraid to ask questions or ask for help. The Las Cruces Green Chamber is

here to assist you in increasing your local business. In the coming months, we will be launching some exciting new programs that will help business communicators from beginners to professionals get the best out of social media. The Green Chamber wants you to be part of the local movement in Las Cruces.

Think Local, Shop Local, Give Local. Find us on Facebook at Las Cruces Green Chamber of Commerce and keep up to date on what we are doing next for our local businesses.

Carrie Hamblen is executive director of the Las Cruces Green Chamber of Commerce. For more information, visit www.nmgreenchamber.com.

Details

U-Fix-It Auto Center LLC

Address

311 N. Compress Road

Hours

- 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday
- Sundays by appointment

Phone

647-8682



Vehicles are elevated for work by their owners and U-Fix-It technicians.

Fix

Continued from page B1

Casaus, a graduate of Las Cruces High School, left the area and spent 40 years in industrial sales in California.

He returned to the City of the Crosses seven years ago, ostensibly to retire.

"I tried to quit," he said.

Aid and comfort included

"A lot of people, like apartment dwellers, don't have access to a garage where they can work on cars," Casaus said. "Many don't have access to a lift."

Another feature many customers appreciate is they can walk right up to their vehicle that's being fixed by a technician, see what's being done and ask questions, Hernandez said.

U-Fix-It also picks ups and delivers vehicles.

“ A lot of people ... don't have access to a garage where they can work on cars. ”

FRANK CASAU, U-Fix-It co-owner



Technicians Joseph Chrisman and Richard Lopez confer on a repair.

Getting out the word

The duo has found one of the best ways of generating business is to leave flyers at auto parts stores, whose owners and managers are delighted they've brought U-Fix-It to town.



Q: I see lots of advertisements for the New Mexico Health Connections. Who are they?

A: They are a new non-profit health insurance plan. They offer policies for individuals on or off the exchange. They also are offering small group coverage for employers with fewer than 50 employees. 'NCompass Group is contracted with New Mexico Health Connections and we are including them in our comparisons for our clients. For more information please contact one of our health insurance specialists at 575-647-0009.

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"I don't know if you've ever noticed, but a lot of auto parts stores, including Auto Zone, have signs that say, 'No working on cars' in their parking lots," Casaus said.

Leaving flyers on campus at New Mexico State University also has generated business, he said. Members of car clubs, too, have welcomed the new business.

Casaus said as far as they know theirs is the only business of its kind in New Mexico or Texas, although the concept has been introduced and similar businesses are growing in Washington, Arizona and California.

U-Fix-It services include oil changes, tire installation, radiator flushes, brakes and other mechanical and diagnostic services.

"We price everything less," Hernandez said.

"Since we're a new company, we have been lower on pricing," Casaus added.



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Programs for Domestic Violence Victims & Offenders

Save the date

FRI. 1/10

3 p.m. Merrill Lynch Las Cruces ribbon cutting, 425 S. Telshor Blvd., marks the 100th anniversary of Merrill Lynch. The public is invited. For more information, call the Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce at 524-1968.

FRI. 1/17

6 to 9 p.m. Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce Reach for the Stars Awards & Gala, Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E.

University Ave. For more information, call the chamber at 524-1968.

THU. 1/23

5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours, M Five, 901 Avenida de Mesilla. For more information, call the chamber at 524-1968.

6 to 7:30 p.m. Staff Misconduct and Workplace Violence: Detection and Prevention Workshop, Doña Ana Community

College Workforce Center, 2345 E. Nevada Ave. Cost: Free to Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce members. For more information, call the chamber at 524-1968.

SAT. 2/1-MON. 2/3

Las Cruces Day in Santa Fe. Early bird registration closes Jan. 10. For reservations at the Eldorado Hotel & Spa in Santa Fe, call 800-955-4455 or the resort at 505-988-4455 or email www.eldoradohotel.com. Mention Las Cruces Day in Santa Fe to receive group rate.

SAT. 3/8-SUN. 3/9

Home & Garden Show at the Las Cruces Convention Center.

Early bird registration for booths and sponsorships until 5 p.m. Jan. 17. Final payment deadline 5 p.m., Feb. 14. For more information, contact the LCHBA 526-6126 or office@lchba.com.

If you have business events or meetings you'd like to publicize in the Las Cruces Bulletin Business section, email them to business@lascrucesbulletin.com or call the Bulletin business desk at 524-8061.

Snow tapers off

Runoff outlook still hopeful

By **Marvin Tessneer**
Las Cruces Bulletin

The mountain snow storms are slacking off, up-setting the spring runoff outlook, monitoring agencies report.

"The northern areas are looking the best, but most averages are down," state climatologist David DuBois said. "It depends what basin you're

looking at. The snowfall has been down, but we're looking for it to get better."

The latest snow pack averages by percent are: Upper Rio Grande in Colorado, 109; Sangre de Cristo, 107; Cimarron River, 97; Pecos River, 92; Chama River, 83, and Jemez River, 84.

The Climate Prediction Center calls for a 40 percent chance of less than normal

precipitation for January, February and March for most of New Mexico.

"But it's still too early to make a runoff prediction for the irrigators," DuBois said.

Reservoir storage also is down, and farmers would welcome a good storage to push the water into the system for planting. The latest figures are: Elephant Butte, 267,900 acre-feet or 12 percent of capacity, and Caballo, 39,500 acre-feet.

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Building Las Cruces



Valley Pizza

Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Alta LeCompte

The shop at 3100 Picacho Ave. is the site of renovations in preparation to again serve pizza in far west Las Cruces. Stephen Lenegal, owner of Valley Pizza, is moving his business from 1970 N. Valley Drive.

Briefs

Sisbarro opens outlet

Sisbarro's AutoOutlet has been added to the Sisbarro Dealership's line-up of new and used car sales operations and is open for business at 125 W. Boutz Road.

The AutoOutlet shares space with Sisbarro's Luxury Motors operation at the same address and will feature a unique inventory composed of aging inventory, trade-ins and rental returns awaiting shipment to auto auctions, according to Dan Sisbarro, Sisbarro Dealerships general manager.

"When you sell as many pre-owned vehicles as The Sisbarro Dealerships sell, you have situations where not every trade-in, for instance, remains in inventory for resale," Sisbarro said. "So, before we send these cars and trucks to auctions where other dealers buy and resell them, our outlet offers customers a last chance to purchase."

With the addition of the outlet operation, Sisbarro owns and operates a total of nine operations in Las Cruces, Deming and Sunland Park. Inventory for the outlet lot will come from all Sisbarro locations on a daily basis.

"Just like any other outlet-type operation, our day-to-day inventory is going to turnover quickly," Sisbarro said. "A car that's here today may be gone tomorrow, so we are going to make it very simple customers to buy. Each vehicle will be marked with its outlet price so no negotiation will be necessary."

AARP presents reverse mortgage seminar

Bill Morrison, state volunteer for AARP New Mexico, will speak on the topic "Reverse Mortgage: Is It Right for Me?" from 10 to 11 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 14, at Sage Café, 6121 Reynolds Drive on the East Mesa.

A reverse mortgage is a home loan that enables senior homeowners to convert equity to cash or monthly payments.

Morrison will discuss the legal requirements for reverse mortgages, cautions

regarding industry practices and alternatives to reverse mortgages. The seminar is geared to helping attendees determine whether this financial product or another option is right for them.

Sage Café is a community center reached from the Porter Drive exit off Highway 70.

For more information, contact Jerry Gunderson at 526-9471 or jgunderson1@comcast.net.

Astronaut to speak at chamber gala

Astronaut Michael López-Alegría, president of the Commercial Spaceflight Federation, will be the keynote speaker for the Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce 2014 Chamber Choice Awards & Gala Reach for the Stars Friday, Jan. 17, at the Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave.

Dinner at 7 p.m. will follow a 6 p.m. cocktail hour.

Cost is \$75 for members, \$150 for non-members. For more information, call the chamber at 524-1968.

Museum issues RFP for caterer

The New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum is issuing a Request For Proposal (RFP) for a catering service provider at the museum, with the contract beginning on July 1.

The vendor will operate the food services facility and kitchen for the purpose of catering events ranging from 20 people to more than 500. The vendor will provide its own food stock, tables, linens and other such goods necessary to cater events. The vendor also will be expected to provide full service, including the initial consultations, booking, set-up, and break-down of any events.

For more information or to submit proposals, contact Edwina Roman at the museum at 522-4100, or email edwina.roman@state.nm.us.

Chamber presents small business workshop

David Levine and Hank DiMatteo will conduct a workshop, Staff Misconduct and Workplace Violence: Detection and Prevention, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 23, at the Doña Ana Community College Workforce Center, 2345 E. Nevada Ave.

This workshop is aimed at exposing the participants to the issues and incidents of staff misconduct and workplace violence. The need for overt and undercover investigations within the workplace will be discussed. The various social, environmental and political causation factors as well as the implementation of specific skills and procedures will be explored.

The workshop will feature discussion of the psychological profiles of at-risk employees as well as the emotional impact workplace violence has on the victim. Legal considerations resulting from violence and misconduct in the workplace will be brought to light. Case studies of workplace violence, theft, drugs and other crimes will be discussed.

The curriculum is directed towards hands-on classroom activities and assignments in resolving conflicts within the workplace. Participants will learn methods and procedures in which employee misconduct and potential workplace violence situations can be identified and prevented.

The workshop is free to members of the Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce.

For more information, call 524-1968.

JTIP aids Santa Teresa employer

The New Mexico Development Department's Job Training Incentive Program (JTIP) Board approved \$399,721.52 in funding at its December meeting for 24 new jobs and Step-Up training for 24 current employees in

New Mexico to receive new skills.

The funding was awarded to six companies with an average wage of \$23.30 for the newly created jobs.

Among the December recipients was Southwest Steel Coil Inc. in Santa Teresa.

Formed in 2000, Southwest Steel Coil is a subsidiary of Calstrip Industries and serves as a regional metal service center.

Southwest Steel Coil provides commercial and forming steels in custom sizes, with approximately 85 to 90 percent of its processed metal being exported to manufacturing sites in Ciudad Juárez.

The company was recently selected as Exporter of the Year for the region, which includes Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Arkansas and New Mexico.

"JTIP and Step-Up provide companies the opportunity to train New Mexico workers, whether currently employed or new hires, for newly created, well-paying positions," said Economic Development Secretary Jon Barela. "Investing in our work force through JTIP is a wonderful tool for economic development and for New Mexicans."

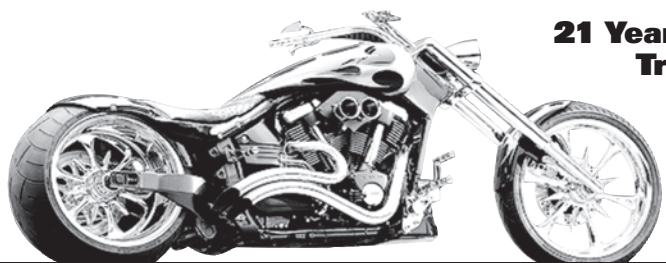
JTIP reimburses companies for a portion of training costs associated with job creation. The program provides for classroom or on-the-job training, reimbursing an expanding or relocating business for up to 75 percent of a trainee's wages for as long as six months. The amount of the award depends on the number and complexity of jobs, the wages paid, and the business location.

To qualify, new or expanding companies must either create a product in New Mexico or provide a non-retail service with 50 percent of the company's customer or revenue base outside of the state. The eligible jobs must be full-time and year-round. The trainee must be a new hire to the company and have been a New Mexico resident for at least one year at any time prior to being hired.

For more information on JTIP, visit www.gonm.biz.

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Las Cruces wait their turn to have documents shredded during Citizens Bank's community shred day Jan. 18, 2013, at the bank's Main Street location.

Shred day event set

2013 project yielded 11,000 pounds of paper

Bulletin Staff Report

Citizens Bank of Las Cruces will host its second annual free Community Shred Day from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 15, at the main office, 505 S. Main St.

Shredding will be done on-site by American Document Services.

At the 2013 event, more than 11,000 pounds of paper were shredded. Grant Buck, marketing officer, said the bank hopes to exceed that total this year.

With the threat of identity theft on the rise, proper disposal of vital personal information is a great way to start the new year. Victims spend an average of \$1,200 and 140 hours recovering from identity theft.

"Citizens Bank is pleased to offer this service free of charge," Buck said. "Bring your old checkbooks, statements, personal documents, credit cards and other personal information to have them shredded on-site."

The on-site truck will accept staples and paper clips, but it cannot accept large binder clips and notebooks.

The shredding process begins with loading documents and statements into a large shred bin. The bin is then lifted and the contents are emptied into the bed of the truck, where it is shredded and safely stored until it is transported to the American Document Services warehouse. The shredded contents are baled and later whitewashed and recycled into napkins and paper towels.

Public, private jobs growth surges

Seven companies giving Doña Ana a serious look



Davin Lopez
MVEDA on the move

The Mesilla Valley Economic Development Alliance (MVEDA) has enjoyed a very strong first half of our fiscal year and we are well on our way to meeting a number of our fiscal year metrics in a variety of categories.

For the FY ending June 30, 2014, MVEDA has met close to 96 percent of our year-end goals in the job creation category and we are ahead of schedule in several other economic impact categories, including completed projects, 55.6 percent of year end goal; payroll generated, 72.6 percent; and business retention expansion support, 46.7 percent.

In addition we remain very bullish about the upcoming calendar year, as we have never had as many projects at one time entering the final stages of decision making with Doña Ana County remaining a finalist.

MVEDA is working with seven projects, totaling more than 1,100 potential new jobs.

Our region is one of two communities left in the search. Of course, in our line of business, even when the list is narrowed down to two communities, our chances are still 50/50 at best. However, we are working with the New Mexico Partnership and the Border Industrial Association to push these projects across the finish line.

The proposed projects, identified by "code" names to protect their anonymity, include:

- Project Royal, a metal fabrication distribution center seeking a site for a 30,000-square-foot facility in Santa Teresa
- Project Bert, an industrial mechanical services firm that would employ 50 to 80 people in Santa Teresa
- Project Distant, a work-from-home call center company that would hire up to 250 people throughout the county
- Project Moscow, a financial back office service center that would hire up to 500 people in Las Cruces
- Project Jump Street, a manufacturer that would employ upwards of 200 people.
- Project Duct Tape, an adhesives manufacturer for the automobile industry that

- would employ 50 people in Las Cruces
- Project Garnet, a company that would process industrial minerals in southern Doña Ana County

There also is encouraging news from the latest New Mexico Labor Market Review, published by the Department of Workforce Solutions.

According to that report, private sector employment trends grew both "over month" and "over year" in Doña Ana County, and the report specifically referred to the Las Cruces as having done the best in the state to "weather the recession."

An excerpt follows.
"Over the month (September-October), total nonfarm employment in the Las Cruces MSA had a gain of 1,100 jobs, or 1.6 percent. Total private employment grew by 1.0 percent, representing an increase of 500 jobs, and the public sector registered a 600-job increase, or 2.9 percent. The goods-producing industries were up 100 jobs, whereas the private service-providing industries were up 400 jobs. Six industries gained jobs, one lost jobs and five were unchanged.

Of the gaining industries, manufacturing, up 3.4 percent; retail trade, up 1.4 percent;

transportation, warehousing and utilities, up 5.3 percent; and leisure and hospitality, up 1.4 percent, all added 100 jobs between September and October. Professional and business services added 200 jobs, representing an over-the-month increase of 2.9 percent.

Miscellaneous other services fell by 100 jobs, while the remaining private-sector industries had no change over the month. Gains in state government are typical at this time of year; it added 600 jobs between September and October. Likewise, local government registered 100 more jobs over-the-month. Federal government lost 100 jobs.

Over the year (October 2012-October 2013), total nonfarm employment was unchanged in the Las Cruces MSA. Private-sector industries added a total of 300 jobs, a 0.6 percent increase in their employment level. In contrast, the public sector was down 300 jobs, or 1.4 percent. Federal government was down 300 jobs. The goods-producing industries were down 100 jobs, whereas the private service-providing industries were up 400 jobs."

As the report confirms, nonfarm payroll employment for Las Cruces has remained steady over the past several years, even when considering past economic challenges.

Davin Lopez is president and CEO of the Mesilla Valley Economic Development Alliance.

Merrill Lynch marks centennial

Local office joins national celebration

By **Alta LeCompte**
Las Cruces Bulletin

The Merrill Lynch Las Cruces Branch has invited its clients and the community to celebrate the national firm's centennial at a ribbon cutting 3 p.m. Friday, Jan. 10 at 425 S. Telshor Blvd.

"We want to emphasize our ties to the community, and I can't think of a better way to do that," said Paul Bridgers of the Bridgers Group, one of three groups that make up the local branch with 14 associates. The branch was established in 1988.

Bridgers said since the 1950s the theme in investing and wealth management has been bringing Wall Street to

Main Street.

Merrill Lynch, founder of the national firm, began his business career early in the 20th century.

"At times when most people, even if they believed it didn't state it, Merrill Lynch said the interests of our clients come first," Bridgers said. "Not many people said that during the 19 teens."

Lynch in 1940 created a brokerage firm based on the mass retailing model. He launched a marketing campaign to explain what it did and published instructions on how to read financial statements.

He set up a signature outlet in New York's Grand Central Station, where a kiosk in the middle of the station's concourse was seen daily by thousands of passersby, according to a new biography, "Catching Lightning in a Bottle: How Merrill Lynch Revolutionised the Financial World," by Winthrop Smith Jr.

Lynch set up tents at agricultural fairs and converted buses into traveling "stockmobiles."

Bridgers said in the 1950s Lynch began taking advantage of mobile technology, parking

their own buses "in the parking lot of the local Piggly Wiggly" to reach potential investors.

Merrill Lynch still courts prospective investors, but the business model has evolved. As the number and variety of investment vehicles in the marketplace has grown exponentially, the focus of the firm has shifted.

The firm now offers a full range of investment products, including stocks, bonds, mutual funds, exchange traded funds, annuities and managed accounts.

In the Bridgers Group, a team of two client associates and two financial advisers with an average of more than 25 years working with Merrill Lynch helps investors "navigate the noise," Bridgers said.

"It's the age of the client," he said. "Wealth management has evolved into: 'What are your concerns and goals. Our sweet spot is helping people address their concerns and goals.'"

He said visiting a financial adviser is similar to visiting a doctor.

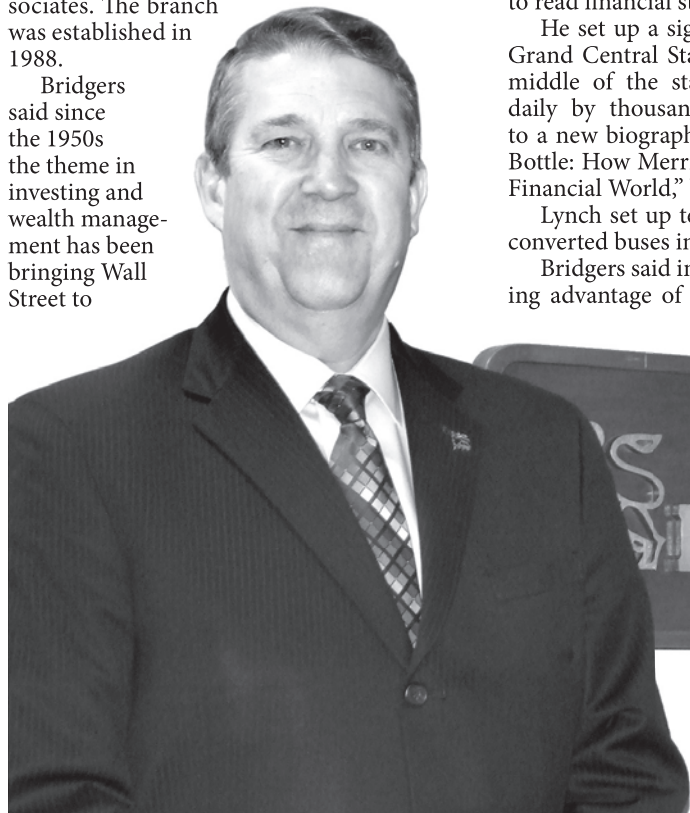
"Instead of doing a physical exam, we have to do a comprehensive financial exam to find out what retirement plans and other savings the client has. Then we fine-tune it."

Although wealth management may sound to some like an elitist term irrelevant for those who work for a paycheck, Bridgers said the opposite is true.

"Wealth doesn't just happen, it's something people build," Bridgers said. "We all have two choices - to hope the government takes care of us when we retire or to do some serious, focused building for the future."

Bridgers joined the firm in 1996 after a 20-year career as a teacher and swimming coach.

"Advising is like coaching," he said. "As a coach you help people become a better athlete; through teaching, a better person. As an adviser, you help them better address their financial concerns and goals."



Paul Bridgers and the Las Cruces Branch plan a ribbon cutting Friday, Jan. 10, in observance of the Merrill Lynch centennial.

Details

Merrill Lynch Las Cruces Branch

Address

425 S. Telshor Blvd.

Phone

522-6931

Hours

8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Monday through Friday

He chose to affiliate with Merrill Lynch in part because of its name recognition and iconic symbol, the bull.

"One of the earliest commercials I remember is the bull in the china shop," he said.

Bridgers became the leader of the Las Cruces branch in 2009, shortly after turmoil struck the financial world.

Involvement with subprime mortgages had threatened Merrill Lynch's survival.

"We can identify with our clients," Bridgers said. "In 2008 when our clients were worried, we got purchased by Bank of America. The question for us was how our culture and identity would be redefined. Every other entity they brought in was rolled into their corporate moniker."

He said the concerns were real, but dissipated as the transition occurred.

Bank of America preserved the Merrill Lynch identity and autonomy, but branded it as the bank's wealth management arm.

The relationship has been mutually beneficial, with wealth management generating income for the bank and the bank referring clients to the investing firm.

Bridgers said that as Merrill Lynch celebrates its centennial he is optimistic about the future of investing and wealth building in Las Cruces.

"The average person finally feels that things are getting better," he said.

LEGAL NOTICES

Las Cruces Bulletin - your legal publication for Las Cruces and Doña Ana County, New Mexico

Legal Notice

"NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to Section 73-13-4 NMSA, the Board of Directors of Elephant Butte Irrigation District (District) will consider a Resolution to transfer water rights appurtenant to lands within the District which are not suitable for irrigation or capable of being properly irrigated to other lands within the District, if in the Hoard's judgement the land may be profitably irrigated and advantageously irrigated. The request is made by Sammie Singh who requests that the Board suspend a total of 0.67 acres of water rights from lands located in Section 9, Twp. 25S, Range 2E NMPM., and being a part of USRS Map 18-67A and transfer them to lands owned by DOSE FARMS LLC located in Section 9, Twp. 25S, Range 2E, NMPM, being a part of USRS Map 18-66A1A TR 1, B2 The place of the hearing is the offices of the District located at 530 S. Melendres, Las Cruces, New Mexico, and the date of the hearing is February 12, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. Protest or protests from any person or persons interested may be heard at the hearing. At the end of the hearing, the Board of Directors shall take formal action upon the Resolution. Any protestant or Protestant's may appeal the decision of the Board directly to District Court within 10 days of the adoption or rejection of the Resolution."

Date: 01/10, 2014

STATE OF NEW MEXICO COUNTY OF DOÑA ANA THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Case No. D-307-CV-2013-00236

BOKF, N.A., A NATIONAL BANKING ASSOCIATION D/B/A BANK OF OKLAHOMA, AS SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST BY MERGER TO THE BANK OF ALBUQUER-

QUE, N.A., Plaintiff,

v.

SARAH GOSS AKA SARAH J. GOSS AND THE UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF SARAH GOSS AKA SARAH J. GOSS, IF ANY, Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned Special Master will on January 14, 2014 at 11:00 AM, Front entrance to the Doña Ana County District Court, 201 W. Picacho, Las Cruces, NM, sell and convey to the highest bidder for cash all the right, title, and interest of the above-named defendants in and to the following described real estate located in said County and State:

Lot numbered 6 in Block numbered G of Desert Breeze Subdivision, Las Cruces, Doña Ana County, New Mexico, as the same is shown and designated on the plat of said Desert Breeze Subdivision, filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Doña Ana County, New Mexico on July 26, 2006 in plat book 21, folio 714-717.

The address of the real property is 5726 Pecan Lane, Las Cruces, NM 88012. Plaintiff does not represent or warrant that the stated street address is the street address of the described property; if the street address does not match the legal description, then the property being sold herein is the property more particularly described above, not the property located at the street address; any prospective purchaser at the sale is given notice that it should verify the location and address of the property being sold. Said sale will be made pursuant to the judgment entered on October 17, 2013 in the above entitled and numbered cause, which was a suit to foreclose a mortgage held by the above Plaintiff and wherein Plaintiff was adjudged to have a lien against the above-described real estate in the sum of

\$129,942.13 plus interest from July 2, 2013 to the date of sale at the rate of 5.850% per annum, the costs of sale, including the Special Master's fee, publication costs, and Plaintiff's costs expended for taxes, insurance, and keeping the property in good repair. Plaintiff has the right to bid at such sale and submit its bid verbally or in writing. The Plaintiff may apply all or any part of its judgment to the purchase price in lieu of cash.

At the date and time stated above, the Special Master may postpone the sale to such later date and time as the Special Master may specify.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that this sale may be subject to a bankruptcy filing, a pay off, a reinstatement or any other condition that would cause the cancellation of this sale. Further, if any of these conditions exist, at the time of sale, this sale will be null and void, the successful bidder's funds shall be returned, and the Special Master and the mortgagee giving this notice shall not be liable to the successful bidder for any damages.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the real property and improvements concerned with herein will be sold subject to any and all patent reservations, easements, all recorded and unrecorded liens not foreclosed herein, and all recorded and unrecorded special assessments and taxes that may be due. Plaintiff and its attorneys disclaim all responsibility for, and the purchaser at the sale takes the property subject to, the valuation of the property by the County Assessor as real or personal property, affixture of any mobile or manufactured home to the land, deactivation of title to a mobile or manufactured home on the property, if any,

environmental contamination on the property, if any, and zoning violations concerning the property, if any.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the purchaser at such sale shall take title to the above-described real property subject to rights of redemption.

Jeffrey Lake
Special Master
Southwest Support Group
5011 Indian School
Road NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110
505-767-9444

NM12-03870_FC01

Dates: 12/20, 12/27, 2013 and 01/03, 01/10, 2014

COUNTY CONTINUES TO SEEK APPLICANTS FOR LOCAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD SEATS

Doña Ana County Labor Management Relations Board management and labor representatives are still seeking applicants for both the management and neutral board member positions. This extends the same request that was to close on December 16, 2013; however, the application process has been extended in order to solicit more applications. Previously received applications do not need to be resubmitted.

The Doña Ana County Labor Relations Board is a three-member board of volunteers whose members enforce provisions of the Doña Ana County Labor-Management Relations Ordinance and the Board's Labor-Management Relations Rules and Regulations through the imposition of appropriate administrative remedies.

Matters that historically have come before the labor management relations board include designation of ap-

propriate bargaining units, the selection, certification and decertification of exclusive representatives and the filing, hearing, and determination of complaints of prohibited practices.

One member representing management and one member representing labor are appointed by the Board of County Commissioners and the two appointees recommend the third neutral member appointed by the Board of County Commissioners for one-year appointments. During the term of appointment, no Board member shall hold or seek any other political office or public employment or be an employee of a union, an organization representing public employees or a public employer.

Applications will be accepted through 5 p.m., Tuesday, January 21, 2014.

Applications should consist of a letter of interest, a current resume and three letters of reference. Application packets should be mailed or delivered to the Doña Ana County Human Resources Department, 845 N. Motel Blvd., Las Cruces, NM 88007 Attention: HR Department. Application packets also can be faxed to (575) 525-5888.

For more information, call (575) 647-7210.

Residents calling from outside the Las Cruces area may call toll-free at 1-877-827-7200 and request extension 7210.

Dates: 01/03, 01/10, 01/17, 2014

IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT STATE OF NEW MEXICO COUNTY OF DOÑA ANA

No. D-307-PB-2013-103

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: VICTOR ERNESTO FLORES, Deceased.

NOTICE OF HEARING BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS OF VICTOR ERNESTO FLORES, DECEASED, AND ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS WHO HAVE OR CLAIM ANY INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF VICTOR ERNESTO FLORES, DECEASED, OR IN THE MATTER BEING LITIGATED IN THE HEREINAFTER MENTIONED HEARING.

Hearing on the Petition filed by the undersigned Personal Representative, which Petition provides for the adjudication of intestacy, determination of heirship, and appointment of personal representative, will be held at the District Court of Doña Ana County, Judge 201 W. Picacho Ave., Las Cruces, New Mexico, on February 3, 2014, at 1:15 p.m. MST.

Pursuant to 45-1-401 NMSA 1978, notice of the time and place of hearing on said Petition is hereby given you by publication, once each week, for two consecutive weeks.

Witness our hands and the seal of this Court.

DATED: December 3, 2013

JAY GOODMAN & ASSOCIATES

/s/ Marna N. Trammell
Marna N. Trammell
Attorney for Petitioner
2019 Galisteo Street
Suite C3
Santa Fe, NM 87505
(505) 989-8117

Dates: 01/03, 01/10, 2014

NOTICE is hereby given that on September 17, 2013 Claude and Camilla Gomez, PO Box 262, Mesilla, NM 88046 filed application numbered LRG-3358-POD2, OSE file number LRG-3358-13, with the State Engineer for Permit to Use Supplemental Well to supplement ground water within the Lower Rio Grande Basin, Doña Ana County, by using well LRG-3358-POD2, proposed to be drilled under separate application, to a depth of approximately 200 ft. below ground surface with 18" casing, located within the NE¼ NW¼ of projected Section 01, T24S, R01 E, NMPM, at approximately X: 1,472,012 Y: 456,846.6 N.M. State Plane (NAD83) feet, on land owned by David Maese Et Al Trustees to be supplemental to wells LRG-3358, on land owned by Alvarez Farms, Ltd., located at X: 1,472,473 Y: 457,070 N.M. State Plane (NAD83) feet and LRG-3404, on land owned by Elvira Alvarez located at X: 1,471,266 Y: 457,700 N.M. State Plane (NAD83) feet, for the continued diversion of up to 12.285 acre/feet per annum of shallow groundwater combined with surface water from the Elephant Butte Irrigation District, or an amount to be determined by the Third Judicial District Court, for the irrigation of 2.73 acres of land owned by the applicants and located in Pt. NW ¼ of said Section 01. Wells LRG-3358, LRG-3404 and proposed location of well

LRG-3358-POD2 are located approximately 1,880 ft. northeast, 2,400 ft. northwest and 1,550 ft. north, respectively, of the intersection of Snow Rd. and Nieve Ln., approximately 1.4 miles south of Mesilla, NM.

Any person, firm or corporation or other entity having standing to file objections or protests shall do so in writing (objection must be legible, signed and include the writer's complete name, phone number and mailing address). The objection to the approval of the application must be based on: (1) Impairment; if impairment, you must specifically identify your water rights; and/or (2) Public Welfare/Conservation of Water; if public welfare or conservation of water within the state of New Mexico, you must show how you will be substantially and specifically affected. The written protest must be filed, in triplicate, with the State Engineer, 1680 Hickory Loop, Suite J, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005, within ten (10) days after the date of the last publication of this Notice. Facsimiles (faxes) will be accepted as a valid protest as long as the hard copy is hand delivered or mailed and postmarked within 24-hours of the facsimile. Mailing postmark will be used to validate the 24-hour period. Protests can be faxed to the Office of the State Engineer, 575-524-6160. If no valid Protest or objection is filed, the State Engineer will evaluate the application in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 72 NMSA 1978.

Dates: 01/10, 01/17, 01/24, 2014



INVITATION BID/REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)/REQUEST FOR QUOTE (RFQ)

Description	Number	Pre-Bid/Pre-Proposal Meeting	Opening
Street Light Poles and Accessories Price Agreement	13-14-376	None	January 22, 2014 2:00 pm

Please use this link to access all City of Las Cruces solicitations: <https://www.newmexicobidsystem.com/Registration.asp?ID=1757>

Sealed bids/proposals will be received by the City of Las Cruces Purchasing Section, at 700 N. Main, 3rd Floor, Room 3134.

Unless otherwise noted above, copies of solicitation documents may be inspected or obtained at City Hall, 700 N. Main St, Room 3134, Las Cruces, NM. Additional information/clarification regarding solicitations may be obtained by contacting the City Purchasing Section at (575) 541-2525 or by email to bidclerk@las-cruces.org

Dates 1/10/14



PUBLIC AUCTION

The City of Las Cruces (City) uses an online auction service to dispose of obsolete, unusable, or surplus equipment, furnishings, vehicles and supplies.

The public is invited to view and bid on items by accessing PublicSurplus.com through a link on the City's webpage las-cruces.org. All sales are final.

For more information, please contact the City of Las Cruces Property Transfer & Disposal Coordinator at 575-541-2683, 575-541-2590 or auction@las-cruces.org

Dates 1/3 - 12/26, 2014



SOUTH CENTRAL SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

The South Central Solid Waste Authority uses a web-based auction service to dispose of obsolete or surplus equipment. As items are available they will be posted to publicsurplus.com where the public is invited to view or submit bids using this online auction service.

For more information please contact the South Central Solid Waste Authority at 575-528-3709 or email scswa.prop@las-cruces.org

Dates 1/3/14 - 12/26/14

Cleaning up the cotton at Mesa Farmers Cooperative Inc. Gin

Photos by Alta LeCompte

Pablo Garcia helps an arriving delivery of recently harvested pima cotton onto a conveyor belt that will move it into the Mesa Farmers Cooperative Inc. gin for cleaning as the season comes to a close Friday, Dec. 27. It is the only gin serving farmers in a 100-mile radius.



Cotton arriving at the Mesa Farmers Cooperative Inc. in Vado is loaded onto a conveyor belt. Alfonso Iglesias unwraps pima cotton as it arrives at the gin.



Cleaned, dry cotton exits here to be wrapped for shipment.



Raw fibers enter the gin.



Cleaned and dry, the cotton nears the end of its journey through the gin.

2013-14 NEW MEXICO STATE MEN'S BASKETBALL
BACK TO BACK WAC CHAMPIONS

FLEX PLAN
 The Flex Plan allows you to pick and choose which games to attend and how many people you want to bring with you. You pay for 10 tickets, but you receive 12 vouchers good for any game. Bring the number of vouchers that you want to use for a particular game to the ticket office and redeem them for the best available seats in your pricing area for a particular game.

LOWER BOWL: (Sections 104, 105, 127, 128)	UPPER BOWL: (Sections 101, 103)
\$230	\$190
	\$80

CALL THE PAN AM 575-646-1420 TO PURCHASE TICKETS TODAY!

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LAS CRUCES DAY IN SANTA FE

FEBRUARY 1-3, 2014

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WWW.LCDSF.COM

NMSU's Chile Pepper Institute goes from red to green

NuMex Sandia Select set for introduction spring 2014

Green means go for researchers at New Mexico State University's Chile Pepper Institute.

They are nearly ready to release NuMex Sandia Select, a new Sandia variety that allows the traditionally red chile pepper to be used as a green chile.

"Growers were wanting a Sandia variety that was better for green use," said Danise Coon, an agricultural research scientist at the Chile Pepper Institute. "But we needed something with a



New Mexico State University photo

Researchers at NMSU's Chile Pepper Institute are preparing to release NuMex Sandia Select, a new Sandia variety that allows the traditionally red chile pepper to be used as a green chile.

thicker wall and a longer, straighter pod."

The chile pepper breeding program at NMSU began in the early 1900s with agriculturalist Fabian Garcia. Today, it works with New Mexico chile growers to help them produce what they need for the state. Sandia peppers are grown around the Mesilla Valley and up into Hatch.

Like most New Mexico chiles, Sandias start out as green in the field. Unfortunately, Sandias are usually shorter and have thinner fruit walls when compared to their relatives normally used for green chile, such as NuMex Heritage Big Jim and NuMex Joe E. Parker. That's why growers in the region traditionally allow Sandia peppers to ripen into red chiles before they are harvested. Then the pods are processed and used in

red chile powder and in chile flakes.

Nearly a decade ago, the Chile Pepper Institute began to see if researchers could select for plant traits that would make Sandia useful as a green chile. The process started with 15 different chile lines. Each was evaluated for taste, yield, disease resistance, pod structure and other plant habits. Each year, a few of the most desirable lines were kept. Then, in 2011, a winner emerged: NuMex Sandia Select. The new variety has a long, straight pod and a firm fruit wall and is perfect for use as a green chile.

This spring, Sandia Select seeds will be available to growers through Biad Chili Co. and the Chile Pepper Institute. Next fall, frozen Sandia Select chile also will be available through Biad. For more information about the Chile Pepper Institute, visit www.chilepepperinstitute.org.

Shooting competition to benefit 4-H

Out-of-town teams invited to participate

By **Marvin Tessneer**
Las Cruces Bulletin

The Doña Ana County Extension office will hold a Fun Shoot fundraiser at 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 8 on the Butterfield Shooting Range.

Friday, Jan. 31, is the registration deadline.

The event will support all 4-H Clubs in Doña Ana County, 4-H Agent Eva Madrid said.

The Butterfield Shooting Range is located 12 miles west of Las Cruces on I-10 at exit 127, by Corralitos Road.

The Extension conducts 4-H shooting sports events for 4-H members. The disciplines include: novice and junior archery and rifle; senior archery, rifle, shot gun, pistol and muzzle-loader.

"We conduct two county shooting sports contests in the spring, which serve as qualifying contests for senior members to attend the state 4-H shooting sports contests in May and those novice and junior members who will represent the county at the Southwest District shooting sports contests in June," Madrid said.

She said the Fun Shoot will be good practice for 4-H members.

"But we hope people from other counties will also come and compete in the Fun Shoot," Madrid said.

The entry fee will be \$250 per team of five. Prizes will be awarded and lunch will be provided. For more information or to register, call the Extension office at 525-6649.

2014 Chamber Choice Awards & Gala

Join the Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce as we "Reach for the Stars" at the 2014 Chamber Choice Awards & Gala. The event will be held Friday, January 17, 2014, at the Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave.

*Keynote Speaker: Astronaut Michael López-Alegría
President, Commercial Spaceflight Federation*

Cocktail Hour: 6 pm - 7 pm
Dinner: 7 pm - 9 pm



Tickets are now available for purchase at a cost of \$75 for members or \$150 for non-members. Register at lascruces.org or call the Chamber at 524-1968

Classifieds

unrecorded liens not foreclosed herein, and all recorded and unrecorded special assessments and taxes that may be due. Wells Fargo Bank, NA and its attorneys disclaim all responsibility for, and the purchaser at the sale takes the property subject to, the valuation of the property by the County Assessor as real or personal property, affixture of any mobile or manufactured home on the property, if any, environmental contamination on the property, if any, and zoning violations concerning the property, if any.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the purchaser at such sale shall take title to the above described real property subject to a one (1) month right of redemption.

PROSPECTIVE PURCHASERS AT SALE ARE ADVISED TO MAKE THEIR OWN EXAMINATION OF THE TITLE AND THE CONDITION OF THE PROPERTY AND TO CONSULT THEIR OWN ATTORNEY BEFORE BIDDING.

By: Jeffrey Lake,
Special Master
SOUTHWEST SUPPORT
GROUP, LLC

5011 Indian School Road NE, Suite 500A
Albuquerque, NM 87110
(505) 767-9444

1 NM-13-560692-JUD
IDSPub #0059853

Dates: 12/20, 12/27, 2013
and 1/3, 1/10, 2014

Help Wanted Full-Time

Lot Attendant/Detailer & Paint Preper needed full time: Mon-Fri. Apply in Person at Bodyworks, 124 Westgate St. 575-541-5772

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Help Wanted Part-Time



LOOKING FOR CERTIFIED FITNESS INSTRUCTORS

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Fair Acres: 2bd \$425 per month plus 1 month security. Water and trash included. No smoking, no pets. Available Feb. 1st. Call 575-647-5849

Condo Rentals

For Rent: over 1300 Sq.ft.- 2 bedroom/2Bath, Ceramic Tile. "Extra Clean" Storage room. "No Pets" 575-524-4507

Commercial Rentals

1700 N. Main St. This location is Perfect for a daycare! Large open space with 4 rooms, 4 restrooms and health dept. approved kitchen, 5280 sq. ft. Call 575-526-8116

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Office Space with Retail Area.
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Large Open Retail Space with Second Room, 2 Restrooms and Break Room.
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Mountain Music

2330 S. Valley Dr.
523-0603

Acoustic Open Mic
Wed. 7-10 p.m.
Cattleman's Steak House

New & Used Musical Instruments

Fender strat 50's Fat pickups	\$400
Fender strat American parts	\$450
Fender snakeskin hot rod deluxe amp	\$450
Fender cyber champ amp	\$230
Fender squire strat	\$ 75
Fender starcaster strat	\$ 75
New satin finish 4/4 violin, case, bow	\$300
Used trombone	\$175
Vintage German 3/4 violin	\$165
Five used Peace drums only	\$500
Boss GT-6 floor effects pedal	\$175
Schecter Hellraiser electric guitar	\$460
Ibanez artcore model	\$460
Fender squire P-bass	\$150
Vintage keyed accordion	\$200
National electric P-90 resonator guitar	\$460
Pair 2x15 horn PA cabinets	\$500
Yamaha 24 channel mixer w/case	\$575
Peavey bandit 65 1x12 amp	\$150
New acoustic bass guitar	\$319
Used fretless bass	\$160
Half Price Strings Sets Everyday!	

Mon. - Sat. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sun. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.



Las Cruces BRIDAL & SPECIAL EVENTS SHOWCASE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 2014
11 A.M. - 4 P.M.

LAS CRUCES CONVENTION CENTER

Helping Hands Event Planning, the Las Cruces Convention Center & the Las Cruces Bulletin have the perfect showcase for:

**WEDDINGS › QUINCEAÑERAS
ANNIVERSARIES › GALAS
ANNUAL BANQUETS › SPECIAL EVENTS**

To participate or for more information about the Las Cruces Bridal & Special Events Showcase, call Helping Hands at 522-1232.

To place an ad in Perfect Southwest Weddings 2014-2015 call the Las Cruces Bulletin at 524-8061.





WWW.LASCRUCESBRIDALSHOWCASE.COM



Life is Good in Las Cruces

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 2014

C1

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Grappling with hunger
C9

HOMES & SW LIVING



A home in the country
C13

HEALTH & WELL BEING



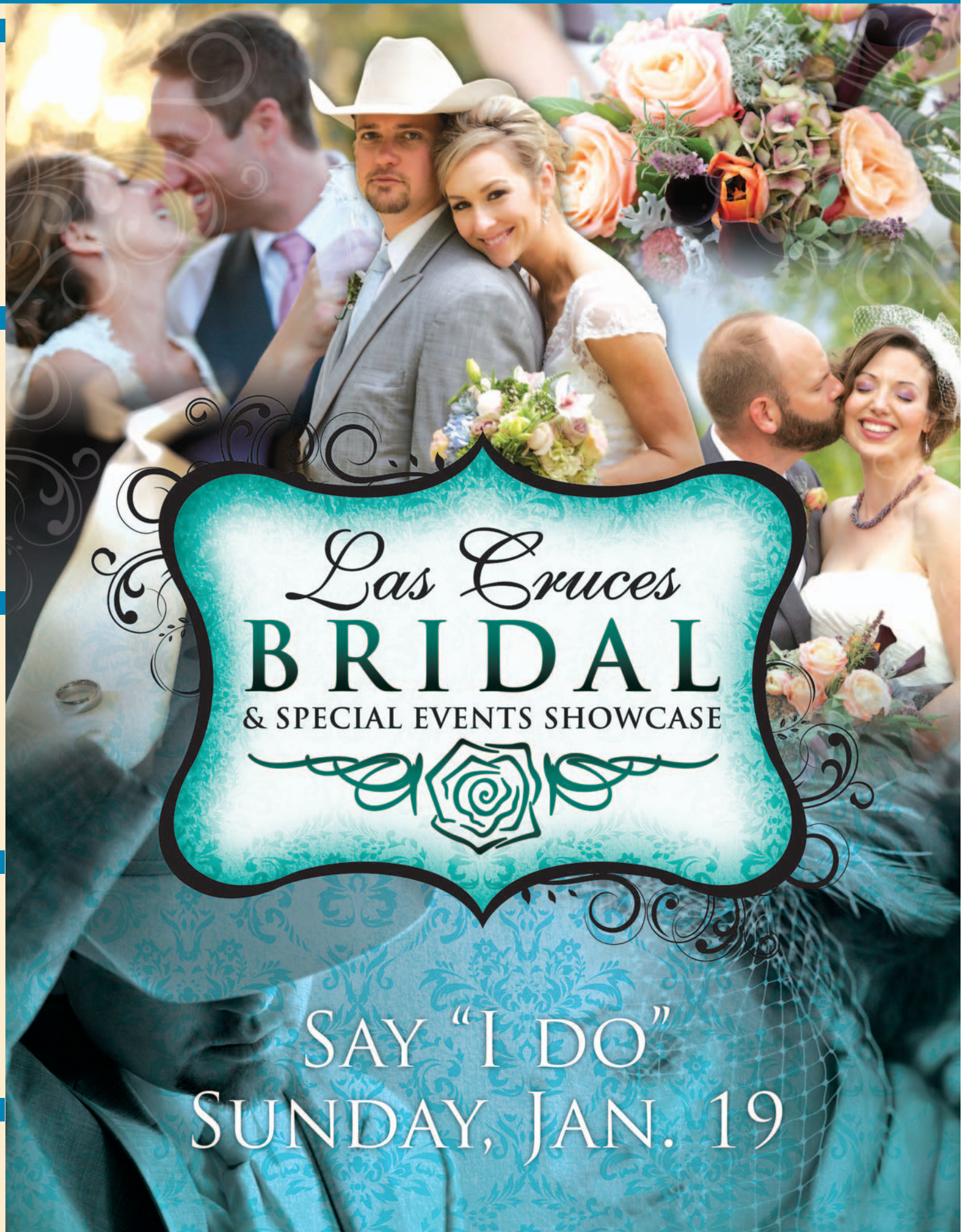
A new place to play
C21

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NEXT WEEK

100 Trees in the Heart of Las Cruces
Next phase of planting underway in January.



Las Cruces
BRIDAL
& SPECIAL EVENTS SHOWCASE


SAY "I DO"
SUNDAY, JAN. 19

Need help with your big day?

Bridal & Special Events Showcase is a one-stop shop for all your needs

By **Beth Sitzler**
Las Cruces Bulletin

For the fourth year, the Las Cruces Convention Center will be transformed into a wedding wonderland for the annual Las Cruces Bridal & Special Events Showcase from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 19.

The Las Cruces Bridal & Special Events Showcase – the brainchild of Helping Hands Event Planning LLC, Las Cruces Convention Center and the Las Cruces Bulletin – is a one-stop shop for anyone planning a wedding, quinceañera or other special event.

“It’s the perfect opportunity to showcase Las Cruces businesses,” said Helping Hands Event Planning Event & Marketing Manager Amanda Collier.

The first showcase, held in 2010, occupied just the exhibit hall of the convention center. Now, because of its popularity, the showcase will encompass the entire facility, with approximately 80 vendors from Las Cruces and El Paso filling the space.

“(Last year) we had roughly 300 to 350 brides and quinceañera parties register,” said Collier, adding that each registered participant also brought an entourage with them. “We had probably 600 to 700 attendees.”

Collier said just about every service needed for that special day will be featured during the showcase, including caterers, bakeries, photographers, videographers, rental companies, dress boutiques, spas and makeup consultants.

One such vendor will be St. Clair Winery, which will feature

both its DH Lescombes line of wines and its bistro in Mesilla at the showcase booth.

“There are such event possibilities at (the bistro), from bridal showers to rehearsal dinners,” said St. Clair Winery Marketing Director Lori Paulson. “One of our wines, the Imperial Kir, is the quintessential wedding wine, in my opinion. It’s a crowd-pleasing wine.”

Paulson said the winery wanted to take part in the bridal showcase because of how many people attend the event.

“We’re excited. It’s good for us to be out in the public,” she said. “We’re going to hopefully have tastings of our product. There are so many options of wine.”

Collier said other vendors will have interactive booths for participants to enjoy, such as a photo booth, tabletop displays and rental items.

“It’s going to be fun and interactive. Some of the vendors are going to do giveaways and there are going to be door prizes all day,” she said.

Along with door prizes and vendors, the bridal showcase will feature fashion shows by Renee’s Bridal and Men’s Wearhouse at various times throughout the day. Everything from formal wear and wedding gowns to quinceañera and bridesmaids dresses will be featured during the fashion show.

“It’s the hit of the showcase,” Collier said.

“The fashion show will feature the latest trends and ideas.”

Also returning this year is the Groom’s Room, an area especially designed for grooms and dads to kick back and relax. Collier said the room – featuring Ashley Furniture Home Store,

PTA Limo and New Mexico State University Golf Course – will include food, a cash bar and a putting green as well as other activities.

“They get in for free with admission to the showcase,” she said.

While the showcase is designed to be fun, its overall goal is to be a resource for attendees.

“The attendees really love it,” Collier said. “I think it’s very helpful. They can get ideas and resources. It’s a better way to see what everyone has to offer in one place.”

“Every year, I look for those smiling faces coming into the door. It’s great to hear about their special day. They’re so excited.”

With admission, participants will receive a bridal bag, which contains coupons, business cards and brochures.

“So even if they don’t make it to each booth, there is still something from everyone,” Collier said.

Tickets are \$7 at the door and \$5 in advance at the Helping Hands Event Planning office, 300 N. Main St., or www.lascrucesbridalshowcase.com.

Admission is free for anyone who brings a gently used prom, bridesmaid or special events dress for the Cinderella Project, which provides free prom dresses to area teenagers.

“We’ve done this every year,” Collier said. “We’ve donated more than 200 dresses in four years.”

For more information, call Helping Hands Event Planning at 522-1232 or visit www.lascrucesbridalshowcase.com or the Las Cruces Bridal & Special Events Showcase Facebook page.

“It’s the perfect opportunity to showcase Las Cruces businesses.”

AMANDA COLLIER,
event & marketing
manager, Helping Hands
Event Planning

Details

Las Cruces Bridal & Special Events Showcase

When

11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Sunday, Jan. 19

Where

Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave.

Cost

\$7 at the door
\$5 in advance

Tickets

Helping Hands Event Planning at 522-1232 or visit www.lascrucesbridalshowcase.com or the Las Cruces Bridal & Special Events Showcase Facebook page



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ACADEMY FOR
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January 14, 16, 21 & 23
**Islam & the West: Cultural Contacts,
Conflicts & Exchanges**
presented by **Dr. Margaret Malamud**
Professor of History, NMSU

Coffee: 10:00-10:30 a.m.

Program: 10:30-Noon

Location: Good Samaritan Auditorium
3011 Buena Vida Circle

Fee: \$4 per day - members,
\$5 per day - non-members

For more information

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Featured artist: *Linda Marlena Carr*

The many faces of Linda Carr

Gallery owner is only one job of this Jane-of-all-trades

By **Zak Hansen**
Las Cruces Bulletin

Las Cruces artist Linda Marlena Carr wears many hats – so many, in fact, it can be hard to imagine how she fits it all into one day, let alone one life.

In her time, Carr is a jeweler, a sewer and weaver, a card-maker, a musician, a singer and music educator – teaching lessons in reading music and playing the soprano recorder, – a tie-dyer, a psychic and tarot card reader and, since November 2012, she's donned the cap of gallery owner with the opening of Creative Harmony Gallery and Gifts, a small but cozy gallery she runs from her home space at 220 N. Campo St.

Carr, who first moved to the Land of Enchantment at 15, traveling with her mother from Minnesota, has been an on-and-off New Mexico dweller for much of her life. The lure of the Land of Enchantment is strong for Carr.

"I've lived all over New Mexico, from the larger cities down to the country, wilderness areas," she said. "I went to Austin for a few years, but I missed New Mexico and had to come back. I went to Tennessee a few years, missed New Mexico and came back. I went to Colorado for six months, missed New Mexico and came back."

Before her return to the Mesilla Valley, Carr spent 14 years up north in Santa Fe, but left due to a variety of factors.

"It's expensive, cold and less friendly," she said, and in Las Cruces, she said she's found the opposite.

"The weather is great here and the people are great here. It's everything Santa Fe wasn't to me," she said.

She's been back in Las Cruces for 13 years, during which time she sold her creative wares at the Farmers and Crafts Market of Las Cruces.

As the economy shifted and the farmers market changed hands, Carr said she found it difficult to continue her presence there, and decided to strike out on her own, searching high and low for the perfect space, one she could reside in but could also be used as a small gallery and boutique.

A friend of Carr's, artist Wendy Weir, who currently has work on the walls of Creative Harmony along with Linda Hagen, operated Aralia Gallery in the same complex where Carr's current gallery stands. When a vacancy opened, Carr jumped at the opportunity, and Creative Harmony Gallery and Gifts

was born.

From the small gallery space facing Downtown Las Cruces, Carr sells her own wares, including tie-dyed shirts, blouses and scarves, hand-made greeting cards and jewelry, small pieces from other local artists, imported goods from the Americas including small boxes and weavings, and the walls of the space are filled with small exhibitions of the works of local fine artists.

Breaking with the traditional gallery format, Carr said she's enjoyed the balance of offering both high-value works of art and smaller, more affordable trinkets and gifts made with the same quality and commitment to detail.

While economic issues have put many artists in a precarious position, Carr said she's confident the market will pick up, owing largely to the work and commitment of those devoted to the arts.

"It's been picking up a lot Downtown, so I've just got to be patient," she said. "As far as the arts, there's a lot of support and interest, and so many talented, wonderful people."

In time and with work, Carr said she

is confident Las Cruces could make it on the map of country-wide arts communities, a title often unfairly reserved for those communities in the northern part of the state.

"With time, that's all going to change," she said.

Stepping into Carr's small, homey gallery, one can almost feel the positive energy, which should come as little surprise given her other vocation as a psychic and tarot reader. She holds sessions at Creative Harmony, and bi-monthly at Mountain View Market co-op, 1300 El Paseo Road. Carr's next session at the co-op will be from 2 to 5 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 16.

Overall, though, Carr said she's appreciated the freedom and autonomy her current life has allowed her.

"I'm very glad to be independent and I plan to stay that way," she said. "I've waited many years with this plan in mind, and it took many years before I was able to start it."

"I want to do it the way I feel. Especially being psychic, I have to feel my way through things, and if someone is an obstacle, telling me what I should do, I can always tell."

For January, Creative Harmony Gallery and Gifts is hosting artists Linda Hagen and Wendy Weir. In February, Hagen's work will come down, and an exhibition of multi-media artist Georjeanna Feltha will open Friday, Feb. 7. For more information, call 312-3040.

“There’s a lot of support and interest, and so many talented, wonderful people.”

LINDA MARLENA CARR,
artist and gallery owner

Details

Creative Harmony Gallery and Gifts

Address
220 N. Campo St.

Hours
Noon to 5 p.m.
Tuesday through Saturday

Phone
312-3040






UPCOMING EVENTS

FRI JAN 10	1030 A.M.
Rhythm Roundup – Music & Movement ages 2-5	Branigan Library
FRI JAN 10	1 P.M.
Lecture by Karen Feder on Beads & Jewelry	Branigan Cultural Center
FRI JAN 10	3 P.M.
Dinosaurs A to Z	LC Museum of Nature & Science
FRI JAN 10	3 P.M.
Fantastic Fridays	Branigan Library
SAT JAN 11	1030 A.M.
Storytellers of Las Cruces	COAS Bookstore
SAT JAN 11	11 A.M.
Saturday Morning Family Story & Art Journeys	Branigan Cultural Center
SAT JAN 11	1 P.M.
Animal Encounters	LC Museum of Nature & Science
SAT JAN 11	2 P.M.
Video Game Football Tournament	Branigan Library
SUN JAN 12	130 P.M.
Second Sunday Scrabble	Branigan Cultural Center
TUE JAN 14	1030 A.M.
Read to Me – Storytime ages 3 & Up	Branigan Library
TUE JAN 14	1 P.M.
Southwest Reading Connections	LC Museum of Nature & Science
WED+THU JAN 15+16	10 A.M.
Toddler Time! Stories for kids 1-3	Branigan Library
WED JAN 15	1 P.M.
Mah-Jongg Fun Wednesday	Branigan Library
WED JAN 15	2 P.M.
Cultural Connections Book Club	Branigan Cultural Center
THU JAN 16	Noon
Lunch & Learn	Branigan Library
THU JAN 16	3 P.M.
High Tea with Nancy Ann Warner	Branigan Cultural Center
SUN JAN 19	6 P.M.
Karla Bonoff	Rio Grande Theatre



ONGOING EVENTS:

- Downtown Art RAMBLE
1st Friday of the Month 5-7pm
- Las Cruces Farmers & Crafts Market
Wed. and Sat. Morn.

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Galleries & Openings

LAST CHANCE

AA STUDIOS presents Isadora Stowe's "transportation series," a body of work inspired by modes of movement and immobility, seeking to create a dialogue about the larger meaning of transitions visual, physical and mental. The exhibit will be open from 1 to 5 p.m. Friday, Jan. 10, 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11, and 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 12.

Aa Studios is located at 2645 Doña Ana Road. Gallery showings are by appointment. For more information, call 541-9770.

ONGOING

CREATIVE HARMONY GALLERY AND GIFTS presents the work of artists Linda Hagen and Mark Heying for the month of January. The exhibit will remain on display through the end of the month.

Creative Harmony Gallery and Gifts is located at 220 N. Campo St. Gallery hours are noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and by appointment. For more information, call 312-3040.

M. PHILLIP'S GALLERY has acquired some incredible new art glass, including a monumental piece by Rick Satava, as well as a new shipment of amber and other jewelry.

M. Phillip's Gallery is located at 221 N. Main St. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call 525-1367.

MESILLA VALLEY FINE ARTS GALLERY features artists Meredith Loring and Bob Zolto for the month of January. Loring combines her lifelong love of fabric and needlecraft with her vision of developing objects and materials to be reborn into new forms. Zolto's unique transformation of his subject matter into eye-catching photography has won him national recognition.

Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery is located at 2470A Calle de Guadalupe in Mesilla. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Sunday. For more information, call 522-2933.

MOUNTAIN GALLERY has selected Susan Rivera as its featured artist for the month of January. The exhibit will remain on display through the end of the month.

Mountain Gallery is located at 138 W. Mountain Ave. Gallery hours are noon to 4 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. For more information, visit www.lascrucesarts.org.

QUILLIN STUDIO AND GALLERY is highlighting the work of its four permanent artists for the month of

January: Aline Fister, jeweler; Michael Stephens, digital artist; Jay Savage, photographer; and Sally Quillin, painter.

Quillin Studio and Gallery is located at 317 N. Main St. Gallery hours are 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday and Saturday. For more information, call 312-1064.

MESQUITE ART GALLERY presents "It's a Man's World," an exhibit of oils, woodcuts, prints, etchings and photographs by male artists collected over the years by gallery owner Mel Stone. The exhibit will remain on display through the month of January.

Mesquite Art Gallery is located at 340 N. Mesquite St. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call 541-1126.

ADOBE PATIO GALLERY presents a newly discovered set of historic photos of the Mesilla Valley. Likely taken in the 1890s, this unique set of 12 photographs illustrates a trip through the Mesilla Valley, each capturing a precious glimpse of the valley, the architecture, the people and how they lived. The exhibit will remain on display through the month of January.

Adobe Patio Gallery is located at 1765 Calle de Mercado. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. For more information, call 532-9310.

LAS CRUCES MUSEUM OF ART presents "Green," a multimedia installation by Marietta Patricia Leis, inspired by her time as an artist-in-residence in Thailand, "Extended Passage of Time," panoramic photographs of White Sands National Monument by Gunnar Plake, "Metamorphosis," a post-humorous exhibition of Gail Factor's large-scale oil paintings and "Tejido Fronterizo/Border Tapestry," works in various mediums by members of the Southern New Mexico Border Artists. All four exhibits will remain on display through Saturday, Jan. 25.

The Las Cruces Museum of Art is located at 491 N. Main St. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. For more information, call 541-2137.

BRANIGAN CULTURAL CENTER presents "Toys and Dolls: The Warner Collection," a celebration of the toys and dolls from the permanent collection, "Adorning the World: The Intersection of Jewelry and Culture," an interpretive presentation of tribal jewelry by artist Karen Feder and "Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War," a traveling exhibit examining how President Lincoln used the Constitution to confront three intertwined crises of the Civil War – the secession of Southern states, slavery and wartime civil liberties.

All three exhibits will remain on display through Saturday, Jan. 25.

Branigan Cultural Center is located at 501 N. Main St. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. For more information, call 541-2154.

WEST END ART DEPOT presents "Dynamic Institution," an exhibit of work from 14 New Mexico State University graduate art students from diverse backgrounds, featuring artworks ranging from the poetic to the polemic. The exhibit will remain on display through Tuesday, Jan. 28.

West End Art Depot is located at 401 N. Mesilla St. Gallery hours are 4 to 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday, noon to 4 p.m. Sunday and 6 to 8 p.m. Monday. For more information, visit www.wead.org.

NEW MEXICO FARM & RANCH HERITAGE MUSEUM presents "Heart of the Home: The Art of Patricia Burnett," which opens with a reception from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 16, and will remain on display in the museum's Arts

Corridor through April.

The museum also presents "The Cowboy Way: Drawings by Robert 'Shoofly' Shufelt," a compilation of 50 to 60 lithographs from the renowned cowboy artist. The exhibit will remain on long-term display in the museum's Heritage Gallery.

The New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum is located at 4100 Dripping Springs Road. Museum hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for seniors and \$2 for children ages 5 to 17. Children 4 and younger, museum friends members and military veterans receive free admission. For more information, call 522-4100.

LAS CRUCES PUBLIC SCHOOLS ADMINISTRATION BUILDING is now exhibiting works of art by sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade students in the lobby gallery. The art, which is in a variety of media, will remain on display through Feb. 21.

The Las Cruces Public Schools administration building is located at 505 S. Main St., Loretto Towne Centre, Suite 249. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, contact Cynthia Smith at cysmith@lcp.s.k12.nm.us.

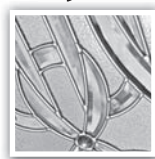
DEADLINE FOR ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Items for the Arts & Entertainment section are due the Friday before it will be published. Entries must include: name of event, time, date, location with address, a short description, cost and contact information. Entries and questions may be emailed to arts@lascrucesbulletin.com.

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EventsCalendar

FRI. 1/10

5 to 8 p.m. Open mic, New Mexico State University Barnes & Noble, University Avenue and Jordan Road. Poetry readers and musicians alternate. Organized by David Rodriguez. Free. Call 646-4431.

7 p.m. Live music with Anthony Pacheco, Amaro Winery, 402 S. Melendres St. No cover. Call 527-5310.

8 p.m. Battle of the Bands, Hurricane Alley, 1490 E. Missouri Ave. The top three contenders after a month of judging will take the stage to wow the crowd in the hopes of sharing the stage with hard rock legend Styx for a Wednesday, Jan. 15, performance at the Pan American Center. Cover \$3. Call 541-2444.

SAT. 1/11

6:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Big Daddy's Flea Market, 5580 Bataan Memorial East. Indoor and outdoor vendors on 20 acres. A wide variety of items will be available. Call 382-9404.

8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces, Main Street Downtown. Featuring a wide variety of arts and crafts, food, fresh produce and unique fine art. Free. Email fcmarket@las-cruces.org.

9 a.m. to noon, Mountain

View Market Co-op Farm volunteer days, Mountain View Market Farm, 2653 Snow Road. Interested in organic farming and local food production? Want to find out more about vermiculture, composting, laying hens, season extension and crop planning in our region? Come and volunteer at the Mountain View Market farm in Mesilla. Free. Call 523-0436 for directions.

10:30 a.m. Storytellers of Las Cruces, COAS Bookstores, 1101 S. Solano Drive and 317 S. Main St. This week, Douglas Jackson will be the storyteller at the Downtown location and Judith Ames will be the storyteller at the Solano location. COAS will give coupons for free books to all children who attend. Free. Call 524-8471.

5 to 6 p.m. Learn to play Middle Eastern rhythms, My Place Jewell, 132-B Wyatt Drive. No drum required but must call ahead for loaner drum. Cost \$2 per lesson. Call 693-1616.

7 p.m. New Mexico State Aggie Basketball vs. Idaho, Pan American Center. Tickets \$8 to \$31. Call 646-1420.

SUN. 1/12

6:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Big Daddy's Flea Market, 5580 Bataan Memorial East. Indoor and outdoor vendors on 20 acres. A wide variety of items will be available. Call 382-9404.

10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday Farmers Market, Tractor Supply Co., 1440 W. Picacho Ave. This is a true farmers market with produce and food as the primary items, along with some arts and crafts. Free. Call 993-6521.

TUE. 1/14

1 to 3:30 p.m. Beginning to Advanced Drawing and Painting, My Place Jewell, 132-B Wyatt Drive. Open to students of all skill levels. Taught by art educator Wayne Carl Huber. Special rates for high school students. Call 647-5684.

5 to 6 p.m. Belly Dance Club, My Place Jewell, 132-B Wyatt Drive. Join one of the longest-running dance groups in the area. Open to ages 11 and older. Great low impact exercise. Cost \$2 per lesson. Call 639-1616.

6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Argentine Tango de Las Cruces, 2251 Calle de Santiago, Mesilla. Daniel Haverporth will teach a class from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m., dances from 7:15 to 9:30 p.m. Cost \$5, NMSU students free with ID. Call 620-0377.

WED. 1/15

8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces, Main Street Downtown. Featuring a wide variety of arts and crafts, food, fresh produce and unique fine art. Free. Email fcmarket@las-cruces.org.

8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Mountain View Market Co-op Farm volunteer days, Mountain View Market Farm, 2653 Snow Road. Interested in organic farming and local food production? Want to find out more about vermiculture, composting, laying hens, season extension and crop planning in our region? Come and volunteer at the Mountain View Market farm in Mesilla. Free. Call 523-0436 for directions.

1 to 3:30 p.m. Life Drawing and Open Studio, My Place Jewell, 132-B Wyatt Drive. Gesture drawing and detail portraiture taught by art educator Wayne Carl Huber. Special rates for high school students. Call 647-5684.

7:30 p.m. "An Evening With Styx," Pan American Center, 1810 E. University Ave. 1970s and '80s Chicago hard-rock legend Styx ("Lady," "Come Sail Away," "Mr. Roboto") will headline. Opening act will be selected by a Battle of the Bands-style competition. Tickets \$25 and \$35. Call 646-1420.

THU. 1/16

1 to 3:30 p.m. Intermediate to Advanced Painting. My Place Jewell, 132-B Wyatt Drive. Watercolor, acrylic and water-soluble oil painting classes taught by art educator Wayne Carl Huber. Open enrollment starting any Thursday. Cost \$50 for four, two and a half hour sessions. Special rates for high school students. Call 647-5684.

5 to 6 p.m. Belly Dance Club, My Place Jewell, 132-B Wyatt Drive. Join one of the

longest-running dance groups in the area. Open to ages 11 and older. Great low impact exercise. Cost \$2 per lesson. Call 639-1616.

7 p.m. New Mexico State Aggie Basketball vs. Chicago State, Pan American Center. Tickets \$8 to \$31. Call 646-1420.

7 p.m. Big Band Dance Club, Court Youth Center, 402 W. Court Ave. The Big Band Dance Club invites you to join us to dance ballroom, country, swing and Latin styles. This week, music will be provided by the Ron Thielman 7-piece Band. Beginner's group dance lesson begins at 7 p.m., dances from 8 to 10 p.m. Cost \$7 members, \$9 nonmembers. Call 526-6504.

FRI. 1/17

5 to 8 p.m. Open mic, New Mexico State University Barnes & Noble, University Avenue and Jordan Road. Poetry readers and musicians alternate. Organized by David Rodriguez. Free. Call 646-4431.

7 p.m. Live music with Soulshine, Amaro Winery, 402 S. Melendres St. No cover. Call 527-5310.

7:30 to 10:30 p.m. Contra Dance, Mesilla Community Center, 2251 Calle de Santiago. The Southern New Mexico Music and Dance Society, a nonprofit organization that sponsors dances and music jams, will hold a contra dance featuring The Muletones playing old-time traditional tunes. Lessons begin at 7:30 p.m. Cost \$6, youth discount \$1. Call 522-1691.

SAT. 1/18

6:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Big Daddy's Flea Market, 5580 Bataan Memorial East. Indoor and outdoor vendors on 20 acres. A wide variety of items will be available. Call 382-9404.

8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces, Main Street Downtown. Featuring a wide variety of arts and crafts, food, fresh produce and unique fine art. Free. Email fcmarket@las-cruces.org.

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5 to 6 p.m. Learn to play Middle Eastern rhythms, My Place Jewell, 132-B Wyatt Drive. No drum required but must call ahead for loaner drum. Cost \$2 per lesson. Call 693-1616.

Sudoku

Complete the grids below so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively. It is a game of logic, not math, and there is only one solution per puzzle. Have fun and exercise the gray matter. Tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

BEGINNER

	9	4			5	1		
8	2			3				7
	5			1	2			4
	6	3	5					8
9			3		1			6
1					4	2	9	
	8		1	7				2
7				5			3	4
		2	9			7	6	

CHALLENGER

	7			4	6			
		4			3			7
		8				1	3	
1	3							
4				6				2
							9	8
	9	3				5		
6			7			8		
			5	1				2

EXPERT

			4					7
				9				6
			6		5			8
	3	9			1			4
4	5						9	3
6			4			8	2	
	1		7		4			
3					9			
2							4	

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

BEGINNER

9	6	1	4	5	7	2	3	8
7	5	2	1	3	8	9	4	6
8	4	3	9	2	6	5	7	1
2	7	9	6	4	5	1	8	3
5	1	6	7	8	3	4	2	9
3	8	4	2	9	1	7	6	5
6	9	7	3	1	2	8	5	4
1	3	5	8	7	4	6	9	2
4	2	8	5	6	9	3	1	7

CHALLENGER

5	6	7	4	1	3	8	2	9
4	9	2	6	7	8	1	5	3
3	1	8	9	5	2	4	7	6
9	3	6	1	2	7	5	4	8
8	4	1	3	9	5	7	6	2
7	2	5	8	4	6	3	9	1
2	7	9	5	8	1	6	3	4
6	8	4	7	3	9	2	1	5
1	5	3	2	6	4	9	8	7

EXPERT

3	9	5	8	7	2	1	4	6
1	4	6	5	9	3	7	8	2
8	2	7	1	4	6	5	9	3
2	3	4	7	5	1	9	6	8
9	6	1	3	8	4	2	7	5
5	7	8	6	2	9	4	3	1
6	5	2	9	3	7	8	1	4
4	1	9	2	6	8	3	5	7
7	8	3	4	1	5	6	2	9

RestaurantGuide

Mucha lucha! Luchador Food Truck is here to body-slam your hunger

By **Zak Hansen**
Las Cruces Bulletin

Anyone who knows me knows I'm a big fan of the food truck.

The mobile eateries, hugely popular in many cities across the U.S. and internationally, but only recently gaining a wheelhold in Las Cruces, are the pinnacle of simple dining. Stripped of the trappings and troubles of a bricks-and-mortar store, food trucks live or die by food and food alone. There is no ambiance, no candlelit tables, no pushy maître d's and no overly complicated misadventures in molecular gastronomy to distract – just good food, fast and on the go.

Living in Las Cruces and educated at New Mexico State University, Otilio Reyes and Ivan Saenz have melded their life-long loves of two things – Mexican wrestling and the taco stands of childhoods spent in Mexico – into a successful venture with the Luchador Food Truck, entering into a tag-team match against Las Cruces' taco cravings, body-slamming them through a card table from a step-ladder and pinning them for

a three-count.

To some, Saenz and Reyes are already familiar faces, dishing up their city-renowned tacos and tortas from their daily spot in front of Las Cruces City Hall and twice-weekly appearances at the Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces, but many in the Mesilla Valley haven't yet caught the phenomenon.

The Luchador Food Truck, a strawberry-red 1963 Ford Vanette emblazoned with the masked faces and bright costumes of iconic Mexican wrestlers, is hard to miss.

After a stint living in Houston, Saenz said the duo "wanted to bring something new back to Las Cruces.

"In Houston, and in a lot of other cities, food trucks are really big, and we wanted to start our own thing here, so we came up with the Luchador Food Truck," Saenz said.

The food is quintessentially Mexican, the kind you find at tiny roadside stands throughout the country – the best kind of Mexican food, in my opinion.

Reyes and Saenz share this affinity for the simplest of their home cuisine.

"Four years ago, we took a tour of Mexico, three weeks of driving, all the way down to Acapulco and all over," Saenz said. "Everywhere we went, every city we stopped in, the best food we had would be from a roadside taco stand, or fish tacos on the beach."

The menu reflects Reyes' and Saenz's love of this style of food, and each item's name, their love of lucha libre.

Tacos, tortas, burgers and quesadillas are all available from the Luchador Food Truck, with names to match their masked counterparts.

The Lucha Tacos de Asada, the truck's signature-style tacos, come with thin-sliced sirloin steak on corn tortillas with cilantro, onion and salsa. It doesn't get much more authentic than that.

There's the El Santo Torta, filled with carne asada, chorizo, avocado, cheese, lettuce and tomato, named for "The Saint" of Mexican lucha libre. The Rocky Star burger is topped with bacon, cheese, lettuce and tomato and named for another famous luchador.

There are some names that may be more familiar to Americanized audiences unfamiliar with Mexican wrestling, too. The Rock burger, for instance, is a Hawaiian-inspired burger topped with pineapple, ham and all the trimmings, named for former WWF star and current box-office monolith Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson. The Ultimate Warrior Torta – dubbed



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Zak Hansen

Luchador Food Truck owners Otilio Reyes and Ivan Saenz pose in front of their 1963 Ford Vanette.

after a childhood favorite of my own – has carne asada, ham, chorizo, brisket, cheese, lettuce and tomato, and is sure to finish off your hunger with a spinning spinebuster, a gorilla press drop into a running splash. If you don't know that reference, what did you do with your childhood?

Since the Luchador Food Truck is a fully mobile operation, you never know where you may find Saenz and Reyes selling their top-quality tacos and tortas, but through the miracle of social media, hungry Las Cruces can find out exactly where they'll be each day via Facebook (www.facebook.com/luchadorfoodtruck), Twitter (@luchadorft) and Instagram (@luchadorft), or by calling Saenz at 650-2078.

Recently, Reyes and Saenz have used their food truck to fight hunger in the Mesilla Valley, all the more appropriate given that "luchador" translates to "fighter." Partnering with Casa de Peregrinos emergency food pantry for the monthly "Lucha for Hope," donating and distributing their food to those in need, especially those who rely on the services of the Mesilla Valley Community of Hope campus and residents of Hope Village tent city. The next Lucha for Hope event will be Monday, Jan. 20.

Details

Luchador Food Truck

Phone
650-2078

Contact

Facebook: www.facebook.com/luchadorfoodtruck
Twitter: @luchadorft
Instagram: @luchadorft

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<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">Metropolitan Specials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New York Sloppy Joe Briescutto Pennsylvania Dutch Muffletta <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">Fresh off the Grill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Philly Cheese Steak Southwestern Steak Pizza Steak Grilled Vegetable 	<p style="font-weight: bold; color: red; font-size: small;">Gluten Free Items Available!</p>
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NMSU graduate designs Jeff Dunham lottery scratchers

Tickets benefit lottery scholarship

Holli Fillmore, a graduate of New Mexico State University, created scratcher lottery tickets that benefit the Legislative Lottery Scholarship, a scholarship that once helped put her through college.

Fillmore is a graphic designer with the New Mexico Lottery, where she recently designed the four scratchers based on Jeff Dunham's "Disorderly Conduct" stand-up comedy tour.

"Each ticket is a significant amount of work," Fillmore said. "It's a challenge to create an image on a tiny canvas and make it to where it can grab the attention of people in a crowded store."

Highlighting four of Dunham's biggest personalities, Fillmore said she had to hone in on which characters she felt best represented

his stand-up.

With Walter as her favorite puppet, it was imperative she include him, along with his sweater vest and bow tie as key scratch-off areas. The three remaining scratchers include Peanut, Achmed and Jose Jalapeño.

"The graphic designers get more work than they know what to do with," said Linda Hamlin, communication manager for NM Lottery. "There are a lot of requirements that go into creating the artwork for scratchers, among the other tasks they have."

Fillmore's process begins with her sketchbook, gathering visual assets and turning to the Internet to fuel some creative ideas.

"Everything starts as pictures in your mind and then you flush it out on the computer,"

Fillmore said.

This process is something that has resonated with Fillmore since her tenure at Doña Ana Community College and New Mexico State University, where she gained hands-on experience on a broad range of projects in graphic design.

Her most memorable project included a portfolio book to exemplify logo, typeface, heading text and other details for a fictional company.

Feeding her creativity since she was a child, Fillmore grew up in an artistic home environment in Hobbs, N.M. Raised by a screen printer and an artist, it isn't coincidental she developed an interest in design.

"My parents enjoy getting to brag that their daughter has created something which is distributed across the entire state," Fillmore said.

While Fillmore's creations reach more than

1,100 stores throughout the state, her real accomplishment has been able to provide students with the very scholarship that helped put her through school.

"The Legislative Lottery Scholarship is really the most important part of what we do here," Fillmore said. "It represents opportunity and a brighter future."

Each year, 30 percent of gross revenues from the NM Lottery go toward the Lottery Tuition Fund. Since 1997, more than 18,800 NMSU students have benefited from the scholarship.

"It makes New Mexico a better place for all of us and encourages people to stay here," Fillmore said.

"This ticket is going to bring a lot of luck to someone, but this ticket is also going to bring a lot of luck to a student," Hamlin said.

Holli Fillmore, a New Mexico State University graduate and graphic designer with the New Mexico Lottery, designed a series of four scratcher lottery tickets based on comedian and ventriloquist Jeff Dunham's "Disorderly Conduct" stand-up tour.

New Mexico State University Photo



Call to Artists

ARTFORMS EXTENDS CALL TO ARTISTS DEADLINE

ArtForms Artists Association of New Mexico invites regional artists to show at the Las Cruces Convention Center Friday and Saturday, Feb. 8-9, as part of For the Love of Art Month 2014. Original art will be presented; therefore, no resale, imports, kits or commercial objects will be accepted. The deadline for application is Thursday, Jan. 30. Costs vary for members and nonmembers of ArtForms. Application is available at www.artformsmn.org, or contact Cherie Gamboa at artformsfloa@gmail.com or 527-0020.

SENIOR PROGRAMS CALLS FOR ARTISTS

City of Las Cruces Senior Programs is seeking an artist or artists to paint a mural on the Eastside Community Center, 310 N. Tornillo St. The work media is paint and the work surface is the exterior wall on the Tornillo Street side of the building. The wall is approximately 30 feet wide by 8 feet tall. The theme should reflect "On the Camino Real."

Entries require the following: preliminary sketch; cover letter describing proposal; 10 to 20 digital images on CD or DVD of artist's work, in JPEG format with image size set to 300 dpi resolution; and an artist resume including biography, educational background and exhibition record.

Entries must be received by 4 p.m. Friday, Jan. 31. A committee of Senior Programs members and staff will review submissions and make its selection the week of Feb. 3. The winning artist or artists will be notified

during the week of Feb. 10. Work on the mural may commence immediately. Work is to be completed by April 30.

The city will provide paint. Artist will be responsible for providing their own equipment and supplies. The mural will become the property of the City of Las Cruces. Artist(s) will work on volunteer basis and will not be compensated for time and effort, but Senior Programs will promote the winning artist and mural to the public in recognition of his or her completed work.

Submissions of entries are to be made at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St., Las Cruces, N.M. 88001, attention: Lori Grumet, administrator. Entries not selected can be picked up during the week of Feb. 10, and no later than 4 p.m. Friday, Feb. 14.

ROKOKO GALLERY SEEKS ARTISTS

Rokoko Art Gallery in Mesilla seeks artists for solo or group shows in a rental exhibit space on a monthly basis. For prospectus and details, contact Mitch or Ame at alarokokomag@aol.com or call 405-8877.

FINE ART AND ARTISTS WANTED

The Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery, located at 2470-A Calle de Guadalupe, across from the Fountain Theatre, has openings for fine artists to display their work. For more information, stop in to the gallery. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Sunday. Call 522-2933 or visit www.mesillavalleryfinearts.com.

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AtTheMovies

Actividad paranormal

Call it trash or basura; 'The Marked Ones' is garbage

Review by **Zak Hansen**
Las Cruces Bulletin

There may be no more influential film to contemporary horror cinema than "The Blair Witch Project."

That film – great the first time, middling at best from there on out – established the found-footage style as the cinematography du jour for countless films that followed, with largely disappointing results.

While there are standouts – the Spanish zombie flicks "REC" and "REC 2" and 2012's teens-with-powers movie "Chronicle" among the best – the genre has become worn, tired and formulaic, not to mention jerky and unpleasant.

There is no greater evidence of this, perhaps, than the seemingly inexplicable but rampant success of the "Paranormal Activity" canon, which, to many, stands as the perfect example of diminishing returns. Critically dismissed but wildly popular, the franchise has spawned scores of imitators, but each consecutive film in the series feels like exactly that: a copy of a copy of a copy.

The fifth film – and first unnumbered – in the franchise, "Paranormal Activity: The Marked Ones," swaps the upscale suburbs

for the California barrio and scared white people with scared Latinos, but beyond that, offers nothing we haven't seen hundreds of times before. You can call garbage "basura," but it's still garbage.

The movie starts promisingly enough: In Oxnard, Calif., the recently matriculated Jesse (Andrew Jacobs) receives a hand-held camera for graduation, and over the course of the next few days, he and his boneheaded friend Hector film themselves in all manner of no-ambition time-killing.

Living beneath Jesse in his family's walk-up apartment is Anna, rumored to be a bruja around the

neighborhood. Strange wails, moans and shrieks emanate from her apartment, so naturally, our heroes are bound to investigate.

Things move beyond harmless, though, when a classmate of Jesse's, Oscar, kills Anna, and the boys, full of grim – and stoned – curiosity, enter her apartment, only to find the obvious makings of a spook story: creepy religious artifacts, black magic ritual residue, notebooks scrawled in foreign tongues and even a picture of Jesse.

The next morning, Jesse awakes to an inexplicable bite mark on his forearm, and it's not long before strange things start happening. In a confrontation with some local thugs, Jesse exhibits superhuman strength. From there, several of the film's best scenes show Hector and him testing his new abilities.

Of course, things are not what they seem, and soon, Oscar returns, distraught with eyes as black as ebony, to warn Jesse that what has happened to him will soon happen to Jesse.

And it does, in obvious fashion. Once the film moves into the promised horror



PARANORMAL ACTIVITY: THE MARKED ONES

Rated: **R**
Running Time: **84 minutes**

Starring: **Andrew Jacobs,
Jorge Diaz**

Director: **Christopher Landon**

territory, it falters.

All the familiar found-footage elements are here – spooky basements, spooky children with spooky eyes, spooky plastic sheeting hanging through the spooky basements, spooky sheets on top of spooky furniture – as well as some inexplicable forays into portals and time-travel, even some heavy-handed attempts to tie this spinoff in with the rest of the franchise.

There's a plenty of jumps and shocks in "The Marked Ones," but zero surprises. The camera takes a slow sweep of a room, and on its return trip, one of two things happens: Something inexplicably and conspicuously disappears, or something loudly appears with a shriek and a thud. It's as rote as rote can be. For a film with the word "paranormal" in the title, there's nothing out of the ordinary.

Perhaps most problematic of all is the insistence of filmmakers in this particular genre – not just "The Marked Ones" director Christopher

Landon – in refusing to deal with the inevitable continuity problems that arise with the found-footage style. While a few have deftly side-stepped the problem, most refuse to answer the question: When faced with impending supernatural peril, why are you still holding the camera? As your friend is mercilessly beaten by local hoods, – or, you know, as a longtime friend is possessed and chasing you through a witches' coven – why do you keep filming? Either these guys take a serious commitment to the documentary style, or they're absolutely bereft of common sense.

While it's refreshing to see a horror film attempt to usher in a largely overlooked and underrepresented segment of the population – and, to "The Marked Ones" credit, doing so while avoiding shameless, unabashed stereotype – the movie unfortunately isn't very good. A clunker with an accent is still a clunker.

A film that fell from the sky

Las Cruces' Rod McCall brings 'Jim' to life

Review by **Jeff Berg**
For the Las Cruces Bulletin

Rod McCall has been an instructor at New Mexico State University's Creative Media Institute (CMI) almost since its inception. His role there is complemented by his continued passion to make feature films, a goal that he has again recently achieved.

"Jim" is the title of McCall's newest work, made with support from CMI, various filmmaking pros from around the area and the community in general.

Shot in just two and a half weeks, McCall said the work is in the editing process in Los Angeles and hopes it will be ready soon so he can enter it in film festivals.

"It's coming together well now, but it was a tough shoot and we all called in some 'favors,'" McCall said.

"The story is an old script that I wrote a few years ago. I had just finished a film and the producer of that picture put up some more

money for another, but it never really happened.

"Jim" is a fable," McCall continued, "like a cross between 'The Last Picture Show' and 'The Man Who Fell to Earth.'"

"The Last Picture Show" is a famed movie directed by Peter Bogdanovich about the lives of a handful of young people in a small, dying, Texas town, and "The Man Who Fell to Earth" features musician David Bowie as a visitor from space who comes to Earth to look for water, only to find that Earth's creatures are not quite what he expected. Some of this film was shot in New Mexico.

In McCall's film, the title character Jim falls from the sky in a cardboard box, landing in an orchard, closely followed by a suitcase.

"He affects all the people in the small border town where he ends up," McCall said. "It becomes a movie about the meaning of the word 'alien.' There is a redneck

type that sees Jim in the street who thinks he is an illegal alien – and there are three women that Jim befriends. His presence helps to change all of their lives."

Gabriel Chavira, who had never acted before, plays Jim. Chavira, who lives in Ciudad Juárez, was "discovered," somewhat by accident, by McCall.

"In one of my storyboard classes (McCall is an instructor in storyboarding), one of the groups of students had a group photo on the storyboard that (Chavira) was in," the director said. "I gasped at that shot of him and knew I wanted to cast him.

"One of the students got in touch with him and I met with him and Dave Edwards (the longtime former Las Cruces-based actor and raconteur who also has a role in "Jim") and we talked for an hour and a half.

"He came on board and commuted every day from Juárez. He was really easy to work with, but

his part was very difficult, since he has no dialogue, which sounds a lot easier than it really is."

Aside from Edwards, another familiar filmmaker to Las Cruces residents, Mark Steffen, also has a role in the film. The entire picture was shot locally, with Mesilla, La Mesa and San Miguel, the latter two south of Mesilla on Highway 28, standing in as the fictional town of Percy, N.M.

"I love making movies in New Mexico and always make New Mexico a 'character' in the films," McCall said.

Indeed, almost all of McCall's other features, including "Paper Hearts," "Lewis and Clark and George" and the more recent festival favorite "Becoming Eduardo" all have been shot in New Mexico. The first two features premiered at the Sundance festival, while "Eduardo" has received numerous awards from festivals around the country.

"We had a lot of community support as well," McCall said. "An-dele (Restaurant) catered the film for free, we got cars from Car Connection, and Chope's Bar was very helpful as well. ... Everyone who read the script loved it and found it magical, and said they would work



Photo by Sterling Trantham

Gabriel Chavira stars as the title character in Las Cruces filmmaker Rod McCall's "Jim," shot in two and a half weeks in and around the Las Cruces area with the help of NMSU CMI students and other local film professionals.

for nothing" – as did McCall.

"We're anxious to hit the festival circuit with 'Jim,'" he said. "I think it will do really well in Europe, where audiences seem to love small-town America quirkiness and simple stories such as this one."

Check the great teaser trailer at www.blowinghat.com/jim.html



At The Movies

New on DVD Tuesday, Jan. 14

Carrie

Rated: R
Genre: Horror
Starring: Chloe Grace Moretz, Julianne Moore
Director: Kimberly Peirce

Enough Said

Rated: PG-13
Genre: Comedy, drama
Starring: James Gandolfini, Julia Louis-Dreyfus
Director: Nicole Holofcener

Lee Daniels' The Butler

Rated: PG-13
Genre: Drama
Starring: Forest Whitaker, Oprah Winfrey
Director: Lee Daniels

You're Next

Rated: R
Genre: Horror
Starring: Sharni Vinson, Nick Tucci
Director: Adam Wingard

Top-grossing Jan. 3-5

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Frozen (Week No. 7)
\$19,575,525 | 6 Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (Week No. 3)
\$10,633,959 |
| 2 Paranormal Activity: The Marked Ones (Week No. 1)
\$18,343,611 | 7 Saving Mr. Banks (Week No. 4)
\$8,694,891 |
| 3 The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (Week No. 4)
\$15,675,220 | 8 The Secret Life of Walter Mitty (Week No. 2)
\$8,001,717 |
| 4 The Wolf of Wall Street (Week No. 2)
\$13,230,353 | 9 The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (Week No. 7)
\$7,051,309 |
| 5 American Hustle (Week No. 4)
\$12,404,207 | 10 Grudge Match (Week No. 2)
\$5,325,423 |

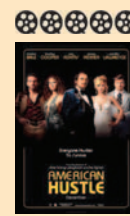
Picking the Flicks

Movie information from www.rottentomatoes.com. Movie reel based on a 5-point scale.



American Hustle

Rated: R
Plot Overview: A con man is forced to work for a wild FBI agent and they are pushed into a world of Jersey powerbrokers and mafia.
Starring: Christian Bale, Jennifer Lawrence
Director: David O. Russell



Paranormal Activity: The Marked Ones

Rated: R
Plot Overview: A young man is pursued by mysterious forces as his family and friends try to save his life.
Starring: Andrew Jacobs, Molly Ephraim
Director: Christopher Landon



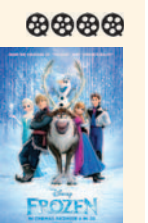
Saving Mr. Banks

Rated: PG-13
Plot Overview: Author P.L. Travers reflects on her difficult childhood while meeting with filmmaker Walt Disney.
Starring: Emma Thompson, Tom Hanks
Director: John Lee Hancock



Frozen

Rated: PG
Plot Overview: After her kingdom is trapped in an eternal winter, Anna must find her sister, Elsa the Snow Queen, and break her icy spell.
Starring: Kristen Bell, Idina Menzel (voices)
Directors: Chris Buck, Jennifer Lee



Grudge Match

Rated: PG-13
Plot Overview: Two retired boxers return to the ring to settle a long-standing rivalry.
Starring: Sylvester Stallone, Robert DeNiro
Director: Peter Segal



The Wolf of Wall Street

Rated: R
Plot Overview: Based on the true story of Jordan Belfort, a wealthy criminal stockbroker, and his rise and inevitable fall.
Starring: Leonardo DiCaprio, Jonah Hill
Director: Martin Scorsese



The Secret Life of Walter Mitty

Rated: PG
Plot Overview: A day-dreamer escapes his anonymous life into a world of fantasy.
Starring: Ben Stiller, Sean Penn
Director: Ben Stiller



47 Ronin

Rated: PG-13
Plot Overview: A band of 47 outcast samurai seeks vengeance on the overlord who killed their master and banished their people.
Starring: Keanu Reeves, Hiroyuki Sanada
Director: Carl Rinsch



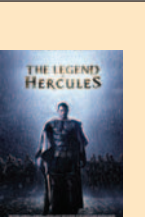
Anchorman 2

Rated: PG-13
Plot Overview: With the 1970s behind him, San Diego's top rated newsman, Ron Burgundy, returns to take New York's first 24-hour news channel by storm.
Starring: Will Ferrell, Paul Rudd
Director: Adam McKay



The Legend of Hercules

Rated: PG-13
Plot Overview: Betrayed by the king and sold into slavery, the mythical hero must fight his back into his kingdom.
Starring: Kellan Lutz, Gaia Weiss
Director: Renny Harlin
OPENS FRIDAY, JAN. 10



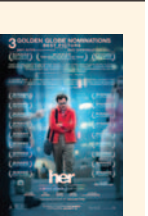
Lone Survivor

Rated: R
Plot Overview: Four Navy SEALs are tasked with a capture-or-kill mission against a Taliban leader.
Starring: Mark Wahlberg, Taylor Kitsch
Director: Peter Berg
OPENS FRIDAY, JAN. 10



Her

Rated: R
Plot Overview: A writer begins a relationship with a new operating system.
Starring: Joaquin Phoenix, Amy Adams
Director: Spike Jonze
OPENS FRIDAY, JAN. 10



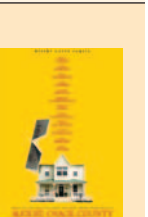
Inside Llewyn Davis

Rated: R
Plot Overview: A week in the life of a struggling folk singer in 1961 Greenwich Village.
Starring: Oscar Isaac, Carey Mulligan
Directors: Joel and Ethan Coen
OPENS FRIDAY, JAN. 10



August: Osage County

Rated: R
Plot Overview: A family crisis brings the women of the Weston family back to Oklahoma and the dysfunctional life they were raised in.
Starring: Meryl Streep, Julia Roberts
Director: John Wells
OPENS FRIDAY, JAN. 10



SHOW TIMES GOOD FRI. 01/10 THRU THUR. 01/17 LIKE US ON facebook CINEPORT 10 Ch Pad CAFE		STARTING FRI 1/17: JACK RYAN RIDE ALONG DEVIL'S DUE NUT JOB HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM ALL OF US AT ALLEN THEATRES	
GRUDGE MATCH DAILY 11:30 2:45 6:05 9:30 (PG13)		THE HOBBIT THE DESOLATION OF SMAUG SHOWING IN 2D DAILY 11:15 2:40 6:05 9:30 (PG13)	
THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MITTY IN DOLBY ATMOS DAILY 11:40 2:15 4:50 7:25 10:00 (PG)		AMERICAN HUSTLE DAILY 3:00 6:45 9:45 SAT-SUN 12:00 (R)	
47 RONIN SHOWING IN 3D DAILY 2:00 7:25 NO PASS OF ANY KIND		LONE SURVIVOR BASED ON TRUE ACTS OF COURAGE DAILY 3:45 6:45 9:40 SAT-SUN 12:45 (R) NO PASS OR DISCOUNT	
THE WOLF OF WALL STREET DAILY 11:30 3:30 7:15 (R)		her DAILY 3:10 6:10 9:10 SAT-SUN 11:55 (R) NO PASS OR DISCOUNT	
FROZEN SHOWING IN 3D DAILY 11:25 4:35 10:00 (PG) \$2 UPCHARGE NO PASS OF ANY KIND		Disney FROZEN SHOWING IN 2D DAILY 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00 SAT-SUN 12:00 (PG)	
THE LEGEND OF HERCULES SHOWING IN 2D DAILY 2:00 7:25 (PG13) NO PASS OR DISCOUNT		Disney a Madea Christmas DAILY 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30 SAT-SUN 11:30 (PG13)	
THE MARKED ONES SHOWING IN 2D DAILY 11:20 4:40 10:05 (PG13)		Disney SAVING MR. BANKS WHERE HER BOOK ENDED, THEIR STORY BEGAN. DAILY 3:30 6:30 9:30 SAT-SUN 12:30 (PG13)	
THE LEGEND OF HERCULES SHOWING IN 3D DAILY 2:15 7:15 (PG13) \$2 UPCHARGE NO PASS OF ANY KIND		INSIDE LLEWYN DAVIS DAILY 2:05 4:35 7:05 9:40 SAT-SUN 11:35 (R) NO PASS OR DISCOUNT	
ANCHORMAN 2 THE LEGEND CONTINUES DAILY 11:20 2:00 4:40 7:20 10:00 (PG13)		August: OSAGE COUNTY DAILY 3:00 6:30 9:30 SAT-SUN 12:15 (R) NO PASS OR DISCOUNT	
HUMP DAY Film Club WED. 01/15 2:00 & 7:00 CINEPORT 10 ALL SEATS \$5.00 LET THE FIRE BURN		VIDEO4 1005 S. EL PASO ALL SEATS ALL TIMES \$3.00	



Southwestern touches, such as faux vigas and an arched Santa Fe-inspired gateway welcome visitors to 8035 Harvest Moon Court.

A house in the country

All the comforts of home can be found a short drive away, in the south valley

By **David Salcido**
 Las Cruces Bulletin

For some, home is where the heart is. For others, it's where you hang your hat. For still others, home is derived from a complex checklist of expectations meeting needs and desires that make up an overall picture of comfort and style acceptable to the prospective homeowner.

Whether that means living in the heart of the community or escaping the hustle and bustle of city living and rush hour traffic that can double the commute time from 10 to 20 minutes, there's something for everyone in the Mesilla Valley. In fact, there aren't many cities

left that offer metropolitan amenities such as national grocery and restaurant chains, award-winning museums, art galleries, theaters and a thriving social scene, within easy driving distance of wide open spaces and areas for contemplative isolation.

A home that exemplifies this frontier philosophy can be found south of Las Cruces, where Main Street becomes state Highway 478, just off Richardson Road and past Sunland Nurseries, at 8035 Harvest Moon Court; far enough to be enveloped by the quiet and measured rural agriculture that is the lifeblood of the area, but still close enough to catch the latest blockbuster film at the cineplex.

Built in 2000 by Vista del Valle Inc. and

owned by only one family, the three-bedroom, three-and-a-half-bathroom, 2,909-square-foot house sits nestled amongst pecan orchards and horse pastures, on 3.17 acres, fully enclosed and "horse ready" with 125 mature, producing pecan trees.

A circular drive enters from the west end of the property and opens up to a west-facing, Southwest-themed hacienda with an arched, Santa Fe-inspired gateway leading into a small porch area lined by ocotillos.

Inside, the design is a bit more transitional, blending traditional Southwestern elements, such as arched doorways and tile floors, with the contemporary simplicity of open space. A small entryway opens up into a large living room with an antique wood stove, which belonged to the original owner's mother, in the back corner. A circular tile backsplash surrounds the stove, playing off the subtle neutral colors of the Italian porcelain tilework that

makes up the floor space throughout most of the house.

To the left of the living room is a long, well-lit hallway with an overhead skylight leading back to a full guest bathroom. Doorways open into a small, tiled office area and a carpeted guest bedroom to the left and a wood-floored master bedroom and large coat closet to the right.

Both the guest and master bedrooms feature walk-in closets with plenty of shelf space and skylights to let in the natural light. The master bedroom also features a large master bath with tiled shower, linen closet and Jack and Jill sinks. The guest bathroom features another tiled shower and skylight.

Continued on following page

Details

Featured home
 8035 Harvest Moon Court

Square footage
 2,909

Acres
 3.17

Bedrooms
 Three

Bathrooms
 Three and a half

Price
 \$489,000

Special features
 Bright and airy, with an open floor plan and tiled throughout with Italian porcelain, the living room features an antique wood stove, while the house itself has both a sunroom and a screened in porch.

Contact
 Mary Noble at 649-4525 or
 marynoble@steinborn.com

An open floor plan gives the living room a light and airy feel, while showcasing the Italian porcelain tile work, which runs throughout the house.





The large kitchen features a pass-through into the sunroom and a wrap-around bar facing into the breakfast nook.



The sunroom on the south end of the house features a pass-through into the kitchen, which can also double as a bar.

Continued from previous page

All bedrooms, as well as the main rooms of the house have ceiling fans, though the house itself comes equipped with refrigerated air.

To the right of the entryway, and just off the living room, is a small open room that can serve as a small dining room, sitting room, sewing room, music room or even a library. This room, in turn, opens into the west end of the large kitchen with a built-in pantry closet carved from blonde pecan wood.

The kitchen itself is bright and cheery, lined with ready appliances, including a new dishwasher and ample cabinets and drawers, custom made from the same pecan as the pantry. To the east is a breakfast nook with windows looking out into the pecan orchard and the Organ Mountains beyond. To the south is a pass-through above the sink looking out into a sunporch, which doubles as a dining area, with a tiled bar wrapping

around into the breakfast nook.

To the north of the breakfast nook, on the east side of the living room, is a doorway leading out into a screened-in, tiled porch, complete with ceiling fan and recessed display area, offering a panoramic view of the orchards and mountains.

Across from the doorway into the dining area, next to the pantry, is the entrance to a large laundry room containing a utility sink and a large storage closet. Beyond that, to the west, is a three-fourths bathroom with tiled shower and a large carpeted room that can serve as a bedroom, den or playroom.

To the left of the laundry room is a doorway leading out into a two-car garage that is vastly different from most. Open on two sides, with cement floors and a rolling door facing the front of the house, the garage has plenty of room to serve its vehicular purpose, but can also be used as a large covered party patio, perfect for large-scale entertaining. A small pump room sits off the garage, in

the southwest corner.

Just beyond the garage and south-east of the house is an added bonus – a 1,500-square-foot barn that can double as a second garage or a large workshop. Vented for a heater or wood stove and completely insulated, the barn contains a small half bath in the back, with a 10-by-10 foot room with an east-facing window in the opposite corner that can double as a storage unit or a small bedroom. Heavy duty shelving lines two sides of the barn, while mature pine trees line the exterior wall to the west.

Behind the barn is located the well for irrigation of the property, with a concrete-lined ditch to carry water to the pecan orchard beyond.

Perfect for sitting back and enjoying a life less stressful or entertaining friends and family, the inviting atmosphere of this south valley home is ready-made for hearts, hats or the habitual needs of those with checklists to satisfy. All the comforts of home, without the hustle and bustle.



The back side of the garage is open on two sides, allowing the area to be used as a covered patio.



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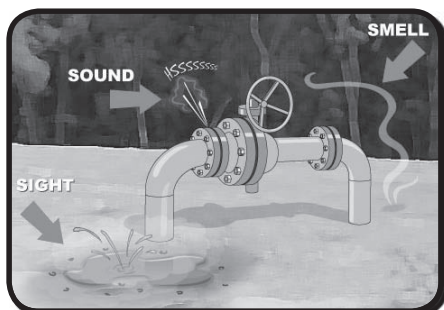
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Cauliflower Crust Pizza puts a new twist on an old favorite that's low in fat and high in protein.

Cauliflower power

2014 food trends call the often overlooked vegetable the 'new meat'

Sunny Conley
Chile Knights



2014 food trend predictions have been hitting the culinary newsfeeds the past few weeks. Mexican food has topped the list for several years and this trend continues into the New Year. Huffington Post reports, "High-end Mexican chefs will take their skills stateside, opening upscale, fine-dining restaurants serving high-end Mexican fare, both traditional and experimental." Hot and spicy continues to remain trendy.

"Cobb salads will still be popular," Huffington Post also predicts, "but forget typical toppings like bacon and chicken breast, and think crispy avocados, jerk chicken and Scotch bonnet peppers."

I look forward to sampling a hot (literally) salt-free Japanese spice that also hit the list – Shichimi Togarashi, a blend of seven different spices that often includes chili powder, orange or tangerine peel, black and white sesame seeds and seaweed. According to HuffPost blogger and nutritionist Kristin Kirkpatrick, Shichimi Togarashi tastes especially superb on fish, chicken and noodles. Furthermore, it may play an important role in reducing high blood pressure and heart disease. I'm not certain how readily available this spice is, but if it's a staple in most grocery stores, I'll give it a try and share recipes in a future column.

Then there's "new meat" on the horizon. Niki Bezzant, editor of Healthy Food Guide, expects that 2014 will be the year of the vegetable – the "new meat." Topping the veggie list is cauliflower, which is very low in saturated fat and cholesterol and a good source of protein. Cauliflower isn't just for steaming. Try it mashed, grilled, broiled, "riced" (grated), or tossed with various herbs, sauces, vinegars and oils. Avocado oil is expected to be a popular "oil of choice" this year.

Check out the recipes I share for spicy buffalo cauliflower "wings" and cauliflower pizza crust. Healthy and good for you offerings are a great start for the new year!

Spicy Buffalo Cauliflower 'Wings'

1 cup water
1 cup all purpose flour
2 teaspoons garlic powder
6 1/2 cups (about 22 ounces) cauliflower florets
3/4 cup favorite hot sauce
1 tablespoon unsalted butter, melted

Preheat the oven to 450 degrees. Lightly spray a large non-stick baking sheet with oil. Combine the water, flour and garlic powder in a bowl and stir until well mixed.

Coat the cauliflower pieces with the flour mixture and place on the baking sheet; bake for 20 minutes.

While the cauliflower is baking, combine

the hot sauce and butter in a small bowl.

Pour the hot sauce mixture over the baked cauliflower and continue baking for an additional 5 minutes. Serve with your favorite low-calorie blue cheese dressing if desired. Makes 6 servings. (Adapted from skinnytaste.com.)

Cauliflower Crust Pizza

1 cup cooked cauliflower, riced
1 cup mozzarella cheese, shredded
1 egg, beaten
1 teaspoon dried oregano
1 teaspoon cayenne powder
1/2 teaspoon crushed garlic
1/2 teaspoon garlic salt
Olive oil (optional)

To "Rice" the Cauliflower:

Take 1 large head of fresh cauliflower, remove stems and leaves, and chop the florets into chunks. Add to food processor and pulse until it looks like grain. Do not over-do pulse or you will puree it. (If you don't have a food processor, you can grate the whole head with a cheese grater). Place the riced cauliflower into a microwave safe bowl and microwave for 8 minutes (some microwaves are more powerful than others, so you may need to reduce this cooking time). There is no need to add water, as the natural moisture in the cauliflower is enough.

One large head should produce approximately 3 cups of riced cauliflower. The remainder can be used to make additional pizza crusts immediately, or can be stored in the refrigerator for up to one week.

To Make the Pizza Crust:

Preheat oven to 450 degrees. Spray a cookie sheet with non-stick cooking spray.

In a medium bowl, stir together 1 cup cauliflower, egg and mozzarella. Add oregano, crushed garlic, cayenne pepper and garlic salt; stir. Transfer to the cookie sheet, and

“High-end Mexican chefs will take their skills stateside, opening upscale, fine-dining restaurants serving high-end Mexican fare, both traditional and experimental.”

Huffington Post

using your hands, pat out into a 9-inch round. Optional: Brush olive oil over top of mixture to help with browning.

Bake at 450 degrees for 15 minutes.

Remove from oven. To the crust, add favorite sauce, toppings and cheese. Place under a broiler at high heat just until cheese is melted, approximately 3-4 minutes. (Serves 2.)

*Note: Pizza toppings need to be precooked, since you are only broiling for a few minutes. (Adapted from *The Lighter Side*)*

Sunny Conley, a former Las Cruces, is an award-winning cookbook author and food columnist. If you have a chile recipe or idea to share, contact Sunny at sunny.conley@gmail.com.

Digs!

[digz] origin: American Slang. n. residence, lodging, home, apartment, office or workplace. As in: They just moved into their new digs.

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BrainGames



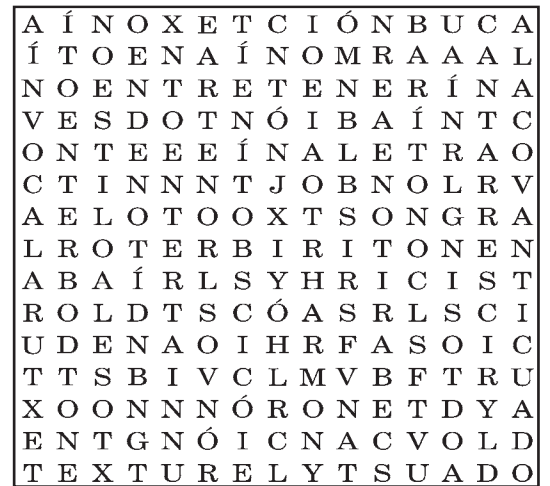
Word Salsa

Circle these English words and their Spanish equivalents that appear in the grid horizontally, vertically, diagonally and backward. Encierre estas palabras en inglés y sus equivalentes en español que aparecen al revés, horizontal, vertical y diagonalmente.

BARBERSHOP QUARTET

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| ENGLISH | SPANISH |
| BARITONE | BARÍTONO |
| BASS | BAJO |
| HARMONY | ARMONÍA |
| LYRICS | LETRA |
| OLD-FASHIONED | ANTICUADO |
| SONG | CANCIÓN |
| STYLE | ESTILO |
| TENOR | TENOR |
| TEXTURE | TEXTURA |
| TO ENTERTAIN | ENTRETENER |
| TO SING | CANTAR |
| VOCAL | VOCAL |

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Crossword Puzzles

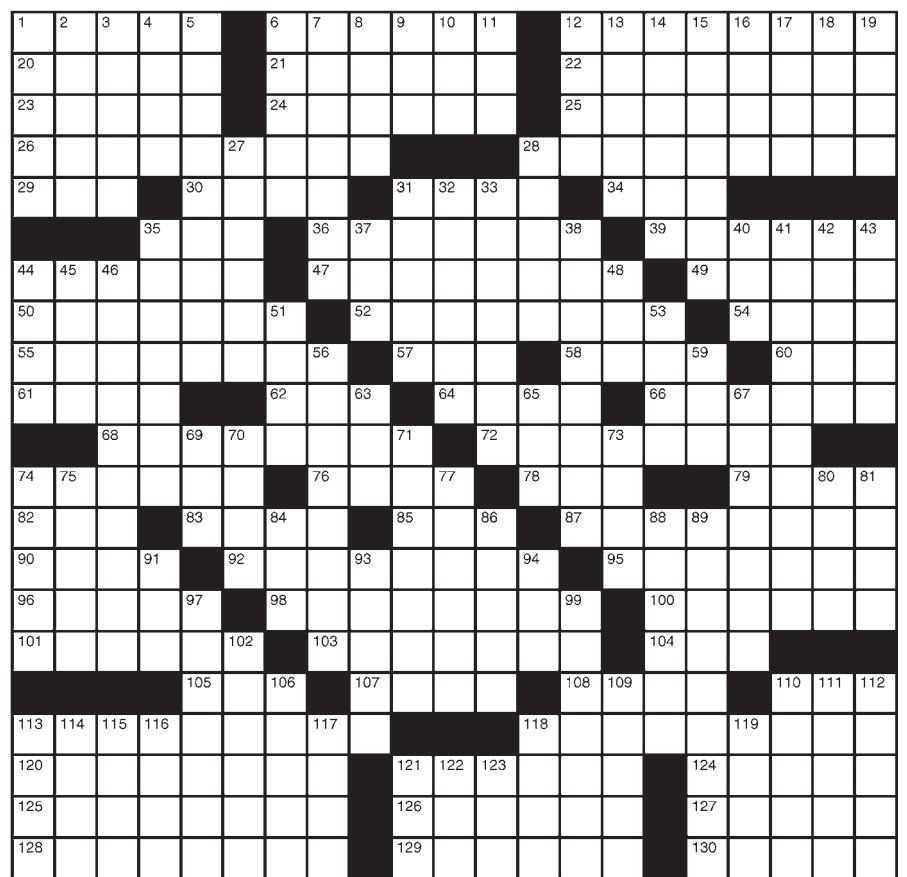
Diagramless, 21 x 21

Like a regular crossword but with an added challenge. Sleuths must also create the diagram and figure out where the numbers and black squares go.

- ACROSS**
- Low-cut shoes
 - Parasol's relative
 - Aromatic tree
 - Farrow of "Rosemary's Baby"
 - Ape
 - Sidekick
 - Arlo Guthrie hit, "___ Restaurant"
 - NBC classic
 - Blue-striped target
 - Wallach of "The Magnificent Seven"
 - Small taxi
 - Cacophony
 - Bet
 - Dr. Leary's journey?
 - Prevent
 - Fell back
 - Careful examiner
 - Choreographer Ruth
 - One who revokes
 - Glutted
 - Methane gas
 - Atlantic game fish
 - Altar vow
 - Tartan
 - Artoo Detoo, e.g.
 - Cravat
 - Checkers and pawns
 - Bicker
 - Prepare to drive a golf ball
 - Writer Beattie
 - Ames and Asner
 - English county
 - Shed
 - Actor William's family
 - Velocity detector
 - Sea north of Norway
 - Blockhead
 - Murle or Fred
 - Simon and Garfunkel hit, "___ Robinson"
 - Make a lap
 - Soft powders
 - Strongboxes
 - Up until now
 - 20th letter
 - Gritty
 - Spud
 - Sluggers' stat
 - Trampled on
 - Find the middle again
 - Studies again
 - Robert and Shelley
 - Lucifer
 - Busch Gardens thrills
 - Modifies
 - Passes gossip
 - Very beginnings
 - Despoiler
 - Sketcher's need
 - Broncobusters' show
 - Dillon and McCoy
- DOWN**
- Tree-root parasite
 - Brief, heated altercation
 - Cutlass and scimitar
 - Type of chart
 - Baseball bobble
 - Easter flowers
 - City in the Texas panhandle
 - Former name of Hagatna, Guam
 - Negatively charged atoms
 - Greek dramatist
 - Carnaby Street blue?
 - Overdecorated idols?
 - Fr. holy woman
 - Lady's beau
 - Delhi dress
 - Fam. member
 - Afghani currency
 - Twists of fate
 - Type of gazelle
 - Cancel out
 - Infamous box?
 - Nothing
 - Raise up
 - Liberates
 - Weekend cowboy's whereabouts
 - Gerbil
 - Grieg and Munch
 - Apartment dwellers
 - Loads, as cargo
 - Tommyrot!
 - As yet
 - "The Maltese Falcon" co-star
 - Used a strainer
 - Person at the wheel
 - Glorifies
 - Given out in portions
 - Periwinkles' cousins
 - Mutineers
 - Gets out of bed
 - Ta-ta!
 - Most safe
 - Turncoat
 - Modifies
 - Carouse
 - 2000 candidate Ralph
 - Inc. in Ipswich
 - "Malcolm X" director
 - Sell-out letters
 - Valuable stone
 - Time to remember
 - "King" Cole

SQUEEZE PLAY

- ACROSS**
- American leader
 - Massive ref. work
 - Zodiac sign
 - Author of "The Fountainhead"
 - Units of conductance
 - Deface
 - Heated martini?
 - Call the two of them?
 - Gave more than asked
 - Jargon
 - Course taken
 - Completely full
 - Spicy cuisine
 - Pay a call on
 - Luge riders
 - Partner of Charybdis
 - Vote in
- DOWN**
- Clothes lines?
 - Grain rot
 - Commerce
 - Writer Morrison
 - Ape of Sumatra
 - Killed
 - Type of shoe
 - Medley
 - Spanish river
 - Lion's lair
 - Draft letters
 - Crimson Tide, to fans
 - Grace closings
 - Repugnant
 - Dick ___, aka Robin
 - Writer Lardner
 - Ray of "God's Little Acre"
 - Begged
 - d'oeuvres
 - Strike out
 - Brightly red
 - Seattle hoopster
 - Guitarist Segovia
 - Superabundant
 - Stately dances
 - Way cool!
 - Deep blue
 - Outer edge
 - Cowardly fuzz?
 - Actress Anouk
 - Falling ice
 - Eur. nation
 - Writer Wiesel
 - Specific greeting card message?
 - Fa-la link
 - "SportsCenter" stn.
 - Tra followers
 - J.R.'s missis
 - San Francisco hill
 - Tongue-clucking sound
 - Hep dude
 - Manned a cash register
 - Mythical bird
 - Short distance
 - Brazilian woman's title
 - "Mod Squad" character
 - Syrupy drink
 - University of Maine loca-
 - tion
 - Pay a brief visit
 - Sleuth's lead
 - Permits to
 - Bad dog
 - Worked undercover
 - Larva's covering
 - On ice
 - Advanced deg.
 - Future oak
 - Pc.
 - Copter port
 - Colloquial intensifier
 - Partial refund
 - Wickerwork willow
 - Book before Joel
 - Cursor mover
 - 111 Top room
 - 112 Fictional Butler
 - 113 "Bonanza" role
 - 114 Roundish shape
 - 115 Beret filler
 - 116 Crossword pattern
 - 117 Bookie's numbers
 - 118 Swimming hole
 - 119 Seethe
 - 121 IBM units
 - 122 Rainbow shape
 - 123 Author of "The Daughter of Time"

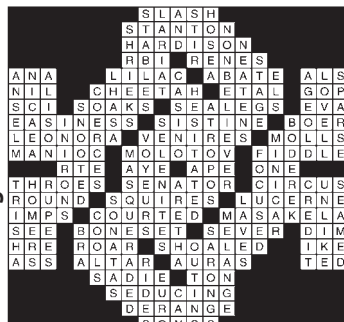


LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

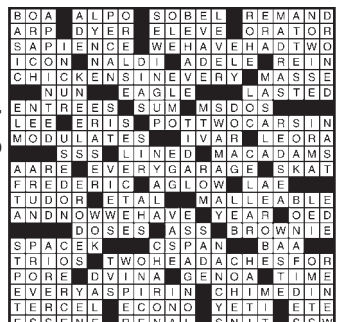
Word Salsa



Diagramless



Doubling Up



CRYPTOGRAM


P A R L T E Z L E K P J P Q U W I
 R B E C R L U L C , C B L Q R L
 T E Z L E K P A L W I R B E C R L
 U P J L .

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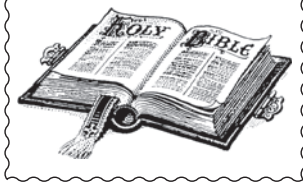
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Bulletin

welcomes submissions of local church events and activities.

Counting down to the end times

Local author to sign copies of new book at COAS bookstore

By **David Salcido**
Las Cruces Bulletin

It took two years of writing and 43 years of bible study for Meyer Stahl, pastor of Southern New Mexico Church of God, to realize his first book, "World War 3, Coming Soon!" Published by West Bow Press, a division of Thomas Nelson, which is itself a subsidiary of Harper Collins, Stahl's 80-page book is a wake-up call to modern Christians about the approaching end times, through an understanding of the symbolism in the Book of Revelations.

"It's about World War III, which according to the Bible is coming up," Stahl said. "I've studied the Bible for 43 years and found what is called the keys to the Book of Revelations. The Book of Revelations is full of symbolism – horses of

different colors, a woman riding a beast, seven heads, 10 horns – stuff like that. What I've done is I've looked into other books, like the Book of Daniel and the Book of Matthew. They explain a whole lot. When you put them all back together, you understand much better, by lining up all the scriptures on a certain subject."

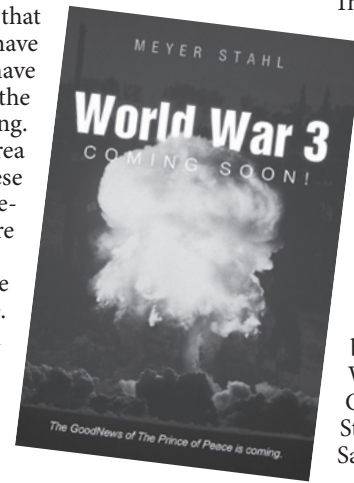
What Stahl is hoping to get across to his readers is two-fold. The first, obviously, is a warning about the coming world war. To do so, he draws on his own experiences as a child at the beginning of the second world war.

"I was 7 years old when the Japanese invaded Pearl Harbor," he said. "Now, suppose that somebody had been fishing in a boat around the Midway Islands and saw the Japanese fleet heading for Pearl Harbor. They could have radioed in and warned them. Wouldn't it be nice

to know about something like that before it happens? We would have been on our toes and wouldn't have been hit so bad. So, now I'm the fisherman and this is my warning. We have crazies like North Korea and Iran and Pakistan and these other countries controlling nuclear weapons. Who's to say they're not going to use them?"

His second reason should be familiar to Christians everywhere.

"What better way to preach the gospel into the world as a witness," he asks simply, "than to write a book that can go out into the various countries of the world with the gospel in it?"



Citing Matthew 24, which reads, "For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be," Stahl said his book is a warning. Not just a spiritual warning, but a physical one, as well.

"These are absolutely physical warnings," he said. "Jesus Christ gave them and people didn't pay attention to them. This is a book designed to wake us up and realize it's all true. These things are going to happen. We don't know when, we can't put a date on it, but it's going to happen eventually. Christ said it and I believe it."

Meyer Stahl will do a book signing for "World War 3, Coming Soon!" at COAS Books, 317 N. Main St., from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Jan. 18.

Church Listings

ANNUAL PET BLESSING

St. Anthony of the Desert Orthodox Mission, 518 N. Alameda Blvd., will hold the annual blessing of pets at 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11, in the chapel parking lot on the corner of Alameda Boulevard and Hadley Avenue. All animals are welcome. Bring your humans. Treats will be provided by Better Life Pet Foods. For more information, call 524-1071.

MOVIES AT TEMPLE BETH EL

Temple Beth El, 3980 Sonoma Springs Ave., invites the public to watch three DVDs about "the Yiddish Mark Twain" called "The World of Sholom Aleichem," at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 12. Based on the writer whose stories inspired "Fiddler on the Roof," the movies will be presented by Eve and Alan Palanker in full period costume. Some of the actors included in the films are Zero Mostel,

Nancy Walker, Jack Gilford and Gertrude Berg. Popcorn and drinks will be served. There is no charge for this event. For more information, call 521-1925.

INTRODUCTION TO THE PSALMS

St. Anthony of the Desert Orthodox Mission, 518 N. Alameda Blvd., invites all to an introductory night on the Psalms by Father Gabriel Rochelle, long-term seminary professor of Biblical studies and pastor, at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 13. This class is open to anyone interested, with handouts and refreshments. Come and learn about Hebrew poetry, the structure of the Psalms, interpretation and insights. Park in the lot on the corner of Hadley Avenue and Alameda Boulevard and come in the side door behind the chapel.

with a synthesis of new thought for today's challenges of life with the ancient wisdom of this Hindu work, which pre-dates the Hebrew Christian Bible by half a millennium. For information, call 650-7344.

SATURDAY VESPERS

St. Anthony of the Desert Orthodox Mission, located at the Kendrick Chapel at 518 N. Alameda Blvd., invites visitors and inquirers to Vespers at 5 p.m. on Saturdays. This evening service of prayer and praise is a good introduction to the Biblical foundation and spirituality of Eastern Orthodox Christianity and includes a sermon, occasionally with discussion afterward. For more information, visit <http://stanthonylc.org>.

SATURDAY EVENING SERVICE AT MISSION LUTHERAN

Mission Lutheran Church, 2752 Roadrunner Parkway, invites the community to its 6 p.m. worship service on Saturdays. The church also offers an English service at 9 a.m. and Spanish service at 10:30 a.m. Sundays.

MASCULINE SPIRITUALITY

Men are invited to gather from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Sundays at Wellspring Church, 140 Taylor Road, to discuss "Spiritual Issues and the Male Persona." All are welcome for coffee, camaraderie and gut-level topics for guys in search of a path that works. For more information, call 647-2560.

OPEN SPIRITUAL GROUP

The Association for Research and Enlightenment (ARE) Edgar Cayce Studies and General Spiritual Group hold group meetings from 10 a.m. to noon the first Sunday of each month. The meetings are hosted by local chapter leader Linda Aragon and are open to the public. Anyone seeking spiritual study, knowledge and awareness is encouraged to attend. For more information and location, call Aragon at 382-6400.

GOOD NEWS THRIFT STORE

The Good News Thrift Store, 144 Wyatt Drive, is now accepting donations, which are tax deductible. Free pick up is available. The store, which helps women after they leave prison, is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. For more information, call 649-2922.



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Interested in being on our worship services page?
Call 524-8061 for details.

Healthy Happenings



T'AI CHI CHIH AT MOUNTAINVIEW

T'ai Chi Chih sessions taught by Rose J. Alvarez-Diosdado are from 9 to 10 a.m. Mondays and Tuesdays, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Mondays and from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. Tuesdays at MountainView Medical Plaza, 4351 E. Lohman Ave., Suite 404. Classes are free to Senior Circle and Healthy Women members, or \$2 for non-members.

Free classes are also available to Senior Circle and Healthy Women members from 11 a.m. to noon Wednesdays at Encantada Park, 1000 Coyote Trail.

For more information, contact 312-8320 or rositaad4@gmail.com.

TOPS MEETING CHAPTER 381

Take Off Pounds Sensibly Chapter 381 is open to new members of all ages at its Thursday morning meetings, which start with a private weigh-in from 10 to 10:30 a.m. Weigh-ins are followed by group discussions of weight loss, dietary help and nutrition. The group meets at Trails West Senior Community Clubhouse, 1450 Avenida de Mesilla, in the main room.

For more information, call 523-6240.

ART OF RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP

Art of Recovery, a support

group for adults in recovery from mental illness, meets from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays at The Bridge, 2511 Chaparral St.

The group matches those in need of support with volunteers to help build bonds, share experiences and create arts and crafts to sell in a supportive environment.

For more information, contact Kathy or David at 522-6404 or bridge@nmsu.edu.

TOPS MEETING CHAPTER 219

Take Off Pounds Sensibly Chapter 219 meets from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Thursdays. This support group assists members in achieving and maintaining healthy weight-loss goals.

For location information, call Doris Fields at 524-7461.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

If you drink, that's your business. If you want to stop drinking and can't, that's ours.

For more information including a schedule of meetings, call 527-1803.

BRAIN INJURY GROUP MEETS EACH FRIDAY

The Brain Injury Group meets from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. each Friday at the Mesilla Valley Public Housing Authority, 926 S. San Pedro St. Each meeting features games, movies, artwork, music, books, puzzles, coffee and conversation.

For more information, call Dolores Garcia at 805-1301.

CO-DEPENDENTS ANONYMOUS

Adult Children of Alcoholics/Co-Dependents Anonymous meets at 10:30 a.m. Saturdays at the Arid Club, 334 W. Griggs Ave. The one-hour meetings are intended to help those raised in alcoholic or dysfunctional family situations deal with their issues and move on to a healthier, happier life through a 12-step program. For more information, call 647-5684.

FYI HOSTS NEEDLE EXCHANGE

The Families & Youth Inc. Needle Exchange Program, located at 1190 Foster Road, seeks to reduce HIV and Hepatitis C by decreasing the circulation of unclean syringes and helps drug users overcome addiction by providing free information on available drug-treatment services.

The office is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. The service is confidential and no appointments are needed.

For more information, call Belle at 522-4004.

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

The Alzheimer's Association New Mexico Chapter has the following support group meetings each month:

- 11:30 a.m. each Thursday at Sunset Grill, 1274 Golf Club Road. For more information, call Jan at 522-7133 or Michael at 382-5200.

- 6 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month at Arbors of Del Rey, 3731 Del Rey Blvd. Respite care available during meeting. For more information, call Tony or Michael at 382-5200.

- 6 p.m. the third Thursday of each month at the Village at Northrise, 2884 N. Roadrunner Parkway, in the Desert Willow Building. For more information, call Bonnie at 556-6117.

The Alzheimer's Association New Mexico Chapter has offices at 1121 Mall Drive, Suite C.

For more information on Alzheimer's disease and the Alzheimer's Association, call the organization's 24-hour hotline at 800-272-3900.

GUIDED, SIMPLE HATHA YOGA

Guided, simple Hatha Yoga classes are held at 9:30 a.m. Tuesdays at Peace Lutheran Church, 1701 Missouri Ave. Classes are taught by Blissful Beth, a certified instructor. The class is gentle and non-competitive. Donations are accepted. Attendees are asked to bring a mat or blanket.

For more information, call 522-0011 or 640-7614.

YOGA CLASSES

Karen Nichols is offering 90-minute yoga classes for adults and teens at 6:15 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays at My Place Jewel, 132-B Wyatt Drive. Donations in excess of space rental benefit Jardin de los Niños. Participants should bring a yoga mat and any

props they may need. Classes are suitable for all levels of experience.

For more information, call Nichols at 882-4943 or email karen_f_n@yahoo.com.

YOGA CLASSES AT UU METHODIST

Olivia Solomon is offering yoga classes for all levels from 9 to 10 a.m. Tuesdays and from 8:45 to 9:45 a.m. Thursdays at the University United Methodist Church, 2000 S. Locust St.

For more information, call Solomon at 522-5350 or email wildyoga@yahoo.com.

HATHA YOGA AT PEACE LUTHERAN

Hatha Yoga classes for beginners are held at 5:30 p.m. Mondays and noon Fridays at Peace Lutheran Church, 1701 Missouri Ave. Classes are taught by Shoshana, a certified instructor. The class is gentle and non-competitive. Donations are accepted. Attendees are asked to bring a mat or blanket. For more information, call 522-7119.

DANCERCIZE CLASSES

Dancercize classes take place from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at Peace Lutheran Church, 1701 Missouri Ave. Cost is a \$2 to \$5 contribution. Bring a mat and water.

For more information, call Sherri at 640-2903.

BELLY DANCE YOGA

Suhaila offers a new yoga experience geared to stretching and toning muscles. Suitable for all levels of experience from 5 to 6 p.m. Fridays at My Place Jewel, 132-B Wyatt Drive. Cost is \$5.

For more information, email mail4jewell@yahoo.com or call 621-2746.

T'AI CHI CHIH

Instructor Rose Alvarez-Diosdado will teach T'ai Chi Chih: Joy Thru Movement classes at 8:30 a.m. the second and fourth Thursday of each month at Sagecrest Park, 601 N. Roadrunner Parkway. For more information, call 312-8320.

CANCER CARE SUPPORT GROUP

A Cancer Care support group meets from 6:30 to 8 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month at Morningstar United Methodist Church, 2941 Morningstar Drive. Cancer survivors, those currently being treated and anyone in the community whose life has been touched by cancer are invited to attend.

For more information,

call Betty Harris at 524-3994, Jackie Sledge at 915-525-2575, University United Methodist Church at 522-8220 or Morningstar United Methodist Church at 521-3770.

TRANSPLANT SUPPORT GROUP

The Southern New Mexico Transplant Support Group (TRIO) meets from 6:30 to 8 p.m. the second Thursday of the month at MountainView Regional Medical Center, 4311 E. Lohman Ave., in the conference room located on the right side at the entrance to the cafeteria.

For more information, call Susan at 496-2627.

GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN

A Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Group is held from 10 a.m. to noon the second Tuesday of the month at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St. Grandparents raising grandchildren on a full-time basis are asked to join.

For more information, call 528-3301.

COMPASSION & CHOICES MEETING

Compassion & Choices will meet from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 19, at Branigan Memorial Library, 200 E. Picacho Ave., in the Roadrunner Room. Guest speaker will be Julie A. Stanton, admissions supervisor at Mesilla Valley Hospice. For more information, contact contact Judith Scott at 527-8432 or jnaomiscott@comcast.net.

BIGGEST LOSER RUN/WALK

The Biggest Loser RunWalk Las Cruces will be at the Meerschiedt Sports Complex, Sunday, Jan. 26.

A half marathon will start at 9 a.m. and the 5K kid's fun run will begin at 11 a.m.

Participants will be timed and will receive downloadable race photos. Finishers will receive a medal and a Tech T-Shirt. There will be course entertainment and a live post-race concert.

For more information or to register, visit www.biggestloserrunwalk.com.

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

The Breast Cancer Support Group of the Community Foundation of Southern New Mexico meets from 10 to 11:30 a.m. on the fourth Saturday of each month at Memorial Medical Center, 2450 S. Telshor Blvd, in Annex A.

For more information, call 524 4373.

Home Sales Scoreboard

LAS CRUCES AREA

	This Week	Last Week	Same Week Last Year
Closed Sales New Homes	2	6	0

Closed Sales Existing Homes	11	11	10
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Pending Home Sales (All)	148	136	136
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	This Week	Last Week	Same Week Last Year
Average Days on Market (All)	126	161	112

*"Homes" include detached single-family homes, townhomes and condominiums

	This Week	Last Week	Same Week Last Year
Median Price New	\$217,000	\$240,754	N/A

Median Price Existing	\$116,000	\$170,000	\$141,500
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	This Week	Last Week	Same Week Last Year
Total Homes on Market (All)	960	995	1,009

Real Estate Agents	374	374	375
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Source: Las Cruces Multiple Listing Service (MLS)* for the period 12/30/2013 to 01/05/2014

* MLS is wholly owned by the Las Cruces Association of Realtors

** Unknown per LCAR

The power of reading



Rorie Measure
The Reading Solution

That engrossing novel you can't put down is changing your brain. Researchers are discovering what actually happens when a reader encounters the imagination of an author on the printed page.

A study at Emory University reveals biological traces of the sensations we experience while reading.

"Stories shape our lives and in some cases help define a person," said neuroscientist Gregory Berns, lead author of the study and the director of Emory's Center for Neuropolicy. "We want to understand how stories get into your brain, and what they do to it."

Actual biological responses occur in the bodies of readers. Researchers identify specific brain networks associated with reading and measure actual changes in the brain occurring during and after reading a gripping novel. Findings indicate that heightened connectivity and neurological changes mimic those of muscle memory. Changes occur in the left temporal cortex, the area associated with language reception, which is the principle sensory motor region of the brain.

Each night of the study, subjects read a section of the novel, "Pompeii," by Robert Harris. Each morning, functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) scans were done and neurological changes were noted. After reading the entire book, the subjects' brains were scanned for an additional five days. Neurological changes remained after finishing the book.

"Even though the participants were not actually reading the novel while they were in the scanner, they retained this heightened connectivity," Berns said.

"We call that a 'shadow activity,' almost like a muscle memory. It remains an open question how long these neural changes might last. But the fact that we're detecting them over a few days for a randomly assigned novel suggests that your favorite novels could certainly have a bigger and longer-lasting effect on the biology of your brain.

"We already knew that good stories can put you in someone else's shoes in a figurative sense. Now we're seeing that something may also be happening biologically. Neurons of this region have been associated with tricking the mind into thinking it is doing something it is not, a phenomenon known as grounded cognition – for example, just thinking about running can activate the neurons associated with the physical act of running.

"The neural changes that we found associated with physical sensation and

See **Reading** on page C22

Details

My Kids' Café Indoor Playground

Address

532 N. Telshor Blvd., Suite H

Phone

449-4161

Hours

9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday
10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday (afternoon by reservation)
Sunday by reservation
Closed Monday

Cost (per day)

\$9, 1 to 9 years old
\$7, 6 months to 1 year old

Website

www.mykidscafe.fun.com



Las Cruces Bulletin photos by Rachel Christiansen

Kyndal Bagwell, 3, picks up groceries from the farmers market at the My Kids' Café indoor playground, 532 N. Telshor Blvd., Suite H Tuesday, Jan. 7.

My Kids' Café first of its kind in LC

Fun allowed at indoor playground

By **Rachel Christiansen**
Las Cruces Bulletin

The best part about being a kid is the ability to play for hours on end, letting imagination and creativity whisk the day away without a worry in the world.

Options for the little ones to play are limited, however, especially when the winter weather has settled in.

Las Cruces Mayra Torres-Posadas noticed on her travels to the East Coast that indoor playgrounds were plentiful, making them an easy stop for her and her children.

Now the owner of My Kids' Café, the first indoor playground in Las Cruces, she expressed wishes for the business to grow and learn, just as her children will.

"My Kids' Café is an indoor playground for kids to use their imagination, social skills and just have fun," said Business Manager Martha Flores.

The facility at 532 N. Telshor Blvd., Suite H, contains more than 4,000 square feet of activities and themed areas for a variety of, well, fun.

An art room, Lego room, reading nook, toddler area, sensory room, dress-up room, family room and a large play area are all there for use via a daily pass.

Because this is a place for supervised fun, parents have to stay with their kids, but there's stuff for them to do, too – important stuff such as coffee, WiFi and snacks.

Each play room has chairs and a desktop so parents can sit and play on their computers if



Beau Bagwell, 5, takes his fire chief duty seriously as he pretends to spray his friends from the fire station play house at My Kids' Café.

water colors aren't their thing.

"My favorite thing is seeing the kids have fun," Flores said. "It's not a 'no-don't-touch-that' environment, everything is here for children."

The snack bar offers healthy snacks, such as veggies and fruit, as well as some sweet-tooth choices. And, of course, coffee and tea for the adults.

Liz Joiner drove in from Alamogordo to set up a play date with her sister, and said there's not a place like this where she lives.

"There's a lot of variety – the 10-year-old is happy, so are the 6 and 4-year old," Joiner said. "We came for a play date, we'll go to lunch and come back to wear them out before going home."

Aimed at children from 0-9 years old, the

activities are suited to meet a wide range of different interests.

A child could go from painting the next Mona Lisa in the art room – protective clothing offered, of course – to reading a book with mom in the reading nook or just playing with some rice or bubble wrap in the sensory room.

"We enjoy giving tours to get the public in here to see what we're about and understand the indoor playground concept," Flores said.

Did I mention there is also coffee?

They may ask you to take off your shoes when you go in for a tour, but it's for the safety and cleanliness of the facility. It also helps make it feel like home.

"Seeing the kids laugh here, the joy and their smiles – it's priceless," Flores said.

Take a chill pill

Don't stress while planning the Big Day

By Rachel Christiansen
Las Cruces Bulletin

When the annual Las Cruces Bridal & Special Events Showcase rolls to town Sunday, Jan. 19, it's about the time those who have an upcoming wedding are reminded just how much work it really takes.

Between the venue, invitations, dress, cake, music, catering, flowers and picking a wedding party, it's easy to get worked up into such a frenzy and forget which way is up.

No one wins when faced with a stressed-out, worked-up and anxiety-ridden bride – no one.

"It's usually the last week before the big

event that I'll see the anxiety ramp up with brides," said Roxanne Kidd, owner of Elegant Events & Invitations LC.

Especially if you have chosen to "do-it-yourself" for the big day, as many couples do in the Mesilla Valley.

"I've noticed, in this area, a lot of brides like to, and find it part of the process, to make their own favors and plan out most of the activities and decorations," Kidd said.

Even couples who have the time to plan their wedding six to 12 months or more can begin to see some worry lines appear the week before the big day.

Remember that scheduling some "me" time can work wonders on one's emotional well-being.

"It's good to have a spa day that week, or to go get a massage," Kidd said.

Scheduling some alone time, or even a relaxing day with the wedding party, could be just what everyone needs to get back into the right frame of mind.

Also, remember not to sweat the small stuff. "At the end of the day, the biggest thing is that they're married and that they have each other," Kidd said. "Nobody is going to notice the difference that the party favors were supposed to have an extra bow. Sometimes, those little details aren't worth stressing over."

Letting others' opinions seep into decisions can also affect one's mood, hence it may be best to let Aunt Betsie know you won't need her grandmother's petticoat.



Reserving a spa day the week before a couple's big day can have a tremendous impact on one's psyche to reduce the stress levels.

Details

Tips to reduce stress

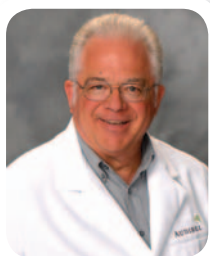
- Schedule a spa day or massage for yourself or with the wedding party
- Don't sweat the small stuff
- Don't heed everyone else's opinions
- Have a schedule, but be flexible – some things were meant to be
- Remain a united team with your soon-to-be wed partner
- Don't let the details get to you

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Reading

Continued from page 21

movement systems suggest that reading a novel can transport you into the body of the protagonist."

These findings were published by the journal Brain Connectivity.

I invite readers to share your stories of life changing books. What did you read that had a mighty impact on you?

This week's pick for family reading, "Abuela" by Arthur Dorros, challenges the imagination and explores the ways we see the world.

Richly colorful illustrations by Elisa Kleven provide visual appeal as a young girl and her grandmother rise above their crowded city to get a whole new perspective.

Parent Literacy Workshops

New classes for parents of 3 and 4 year olds are forming now. Next week, First Teacher workshops start on Wednesday, Jan. 15, at Conlee Elementary School and

Thursday, Jan. 16, at Jornada Elementary School. There is still time to register.

In Chaparral, the Winter Session of READY! For Kindergarten will be presented at the Dolores Wright Community Center. Project Director Ida Garcia announced that parent classes will be taught by Rosa Ramirez and Alicia Villarreal. Leaders of the children's activities are Minerva Espinoza, Carmen Espinoza and Isabel Rodriguez.

The Children's Reading Foundation of Doña Ana County (CRF-DA) is a community-driven, countywide project that promotes the message "Read with a child every day" and focuses on improving literacy throughout Doña Ana County. The column will promote literacy by offering ideas for family activities, featuring community projects, and exploring local resources that help your children succeed. Rorie Measure serves on the Board of Directors of CRF-DA as director of public awareness. She is a reading specialist and trains teachers. Measure taught in Las Cruces Public Schools and the Gadsden Independent School Districts. Contact Measure at roriecrf@gmail.com.

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Health Briefs

AAUW-Las Cruces branch meeting scheduled

The Las Cruces Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) will begin 2014 with a program about "Opportunities for Women at Doña Ana Community College."

The guest speaker will be Rosa De La Torre-Burmeister. The meeting will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 11, in the Roadrunner Room of the Branigan Memorial Library. The meeting is open to the public.

De La Torre-Burmeister is director of Career Services for DACC, providing direction, supervision and leadership for the office. A native of the Juárez, Mexico, she holds a master's degree in Educational Management and Development from New Mexico State University and has more than 20 years combined experience in academia and industry.

The mission of AAUW is to advance equality for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. For more information about the Las Cruces Branch, contact Bonnie Eisenberg at mizbons@comcast.net or visit www.lascruces-nm.aauw.net.

Running club hosts Super Sunday Road Race

Las Cruces Running Club is producing and sponsoring the Super Sunday Road Race featuring a 5K and 5 Mile Road Race plus 1 Mile FunRun at 8 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 2, at Centennial High School, 1950 S. Sonoma Ranch Blvd.

"This is a closed-street, secure course and the best running race value in the area," said Las Cruces Running Club President Lawrence Joy. "Las Cruces Running Club has produced The Whole Enchilada Fiesta 5K Road Race and The Official Las Cruces Thanksgiving Day Turkey Trot with great success the last two years and this is our second Super Sunday race."

The feature event at 9 a.m. is the 5K and 5 Mile Road Race. Las Cruces Running Club is partnered with the City of Las Cruces Parks and Recreation to promote running activities, so

January is ...

Cervical Health Awareness • Birth Defects Prevention • Family Fit Lifestyle • Financial Wellness • Glaucoma Awareness • Healthy Weight Awareness • Mental Wellness • Personal Self-Defense Awareness • Poverty in America Awareness • Slavery and Human Trafficking Awareness • Stalking Awareness • Thyroid Awareness • Volunteer Blood Donor • Winter Sports TBI Awareness

Week
6-12 National Folic Acid Awareness
27-31 National Drug Facts

Day
24 Women's Healthy Weight
25 Find a dentist

Source: www.healthfinder.gov, www.nellis.af.mil

Acupuncture supported by community



Staff and supporters of Crossroads Supported Acupuncture (CCSA) gathered for a New Year's Eve celebration Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2013. On Jan. 1, CCSA reopened its doors as a nonprofit organization, providing low-cost, sliding-scale health treatments to the community.

Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Zak Hansen

all runners under 12 are free to run the 1 Mile FunRun. LCRC is providing a family/group rate for four or more people who register together. For more information or to register, visit www.lascrucesrunningclub.com.

Biggest Loser Run/Walk scheduled

The Biggest Loser Run/Walk Las Cruces will be held at the Meerschiedt Sports Complex Sunday, Jan. 26.

A half marathon will start at 9 a.m. and the 5K kid's fun run will begin at 11 a.m.

Participants will be timed and will receive downloadable race photos. Finishers will receive a medal and a T-shirt. There will be course entertainment and a live post-race concert by Season 5 contestant Dan Evans.

For more information or to register, visit www.biggestloserrunwalk.com

Send us your health briefs

The Las Cruces Bulletin encourages local nonprofit and health organizations to send brief notices, along with a photo and caption to health@lascrucesbulletin.com.

January is National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month

January is National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, since Dec. 30, 2011, when President Barack Obama "called upon the citizens of the United States to recognize the vital role we can play in ending modern day slavery and to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities."

A group of concerned community members and New Mexico State University students will hold a Human Trafficking Awareness event from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11, at the Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces. A showing of the movie "Trade," sponsored by Alpha Phi Sigma, will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 31, at the Corbett Student Union Center, Senate Chambers, Room 302. Both events are free and open to the public.

Due to the sensitive nature of the issue of human trafficking, it is strongly recommended that children not be present for the showing of "Trade."

For additional information about both events, contact Rosa Silva via email at rosasilva74@yahoo.com.

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