



**NMSU Fall  
Commencement  
held**  
Page A16

# THE LAS CRUCES Bulletin

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## Recall debate heats up

By **Todd G. Dickson**  
and **Brook Stockberger**  
Las Cruces Bulletin

A group of Las Cruces city residents held a press conference Tuesday, Dec. 16, to support three city councillors being targeted for recall, which they say is being driven by people who don't even live in the city.

"It is being run by an out-of-state organizer using paid canvassers and financed by a small group of people living outside the city," said George Griffin, who spoke for the residents. "It's a deceitful attempt to manipulate the city election process."

Griffen lives in District 4, which is represented by Nathan Small, one of the city councillors targeted for

SEE **RECALL**, PAGE A8



*Magical Menorah*

On the third day of Chanukah (Hanukkah), the lighting of a large menorah on the Mesilla Plaza Wednesday, Dec. 17, has become an annual holiday season event along with other traditions and activities. In addition to recalling the religious origins of the Chanukah, also called the Festival of Lights, the event included musical entertainment. For more photos from the event, see page A24.

LAS CRUCES BULLETIN PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER BELARDE

## Candidates file to run for area school boards

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

Six people will vie for one of two openings on Las Cruces school board by the end of Tuesday, Dec. 16, the day for declaring candidacy in board of education races to be held Feb. 3, 2015.

The most crowded field to get on the unpaid, elected board providing policy guidance to Las Cruces Public Schools was in District 4, which had been represented by Bonnie Votaw since 2007 and who decided

to not run for re-election.

Four filed for Votaw's open seat and, in order of ballot position, they are Paul Garcia, Paul Blevins, Maury Castro and Troy Tudor.

Ballot positions were determined by the drawing of playing cards in the Doña Ana County Clerk's office at the end of the filing day. Blevins and Garcia were the only two candidates to arrive in person to draw the playing cards for themselves, leaving County Clerk Lynn Ellins to

SEE **SCHOOL**, PAGE A7

## Las Cruces student shares stage with Moscow Ballet

By **Marissa Bond**  
Las Cruces Bulletin

On Tuesday, Dec. 23, 9-year-old Eva Bulla will have an experience unlike any of her fourth-grade peers: She will put on her ballet slippers and share a stage with the Moscow Ballet during its performance of the "Great Russian Nutcracker" at the Plaza Theatre in El Paso.

Her journey to the stage began when her mother, Veronica Bulla, wanted to surprise her daughter with tickets to see the ballet.

"We decided that as a sur-

prise we would go and see the Nutcracker. So I went to their website and they had a tab up there that said 'Audition in Your City,'" she said. "I found out they were doing auditions in El Paso in September. So I asked her if she wanted to audition and she was very excited about it."

Eva has been dancing for three years, and is currently a student of the Verdi Academy of Dance, 1685 S. Don Roser Drive. She has also been a gymnast, is learning

SEE **BALLET**, PAGE A11

### NEXT WEEK

#### 2014 in review

The debate on raising the minimum wage, the Republican take-over the state House and Virgin Galactic's test flight crash made the past year memorable.



\$1



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### LIFE IS GOOD IN LAS CRUCES

**The inaugural Las Cruces Chile Drop is ready to ring the new year Downtown**



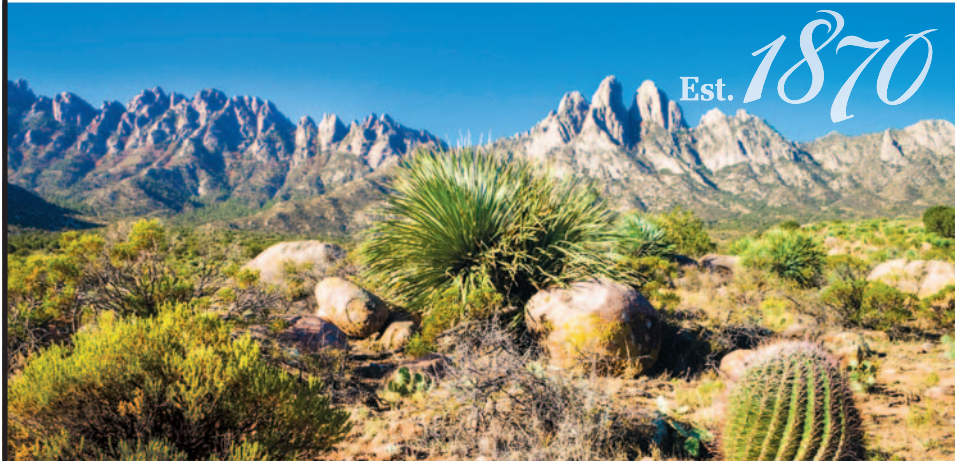
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## VISIT santa!

Visits with Santa are free through December 24th near the Cineport 10 entrance. All children receive a lollipop and coloring book. Remember Santa takes an afternoon break to feed the reindeer.

Photo packages available. No personal cameras or recording devices allowed on Santa set.



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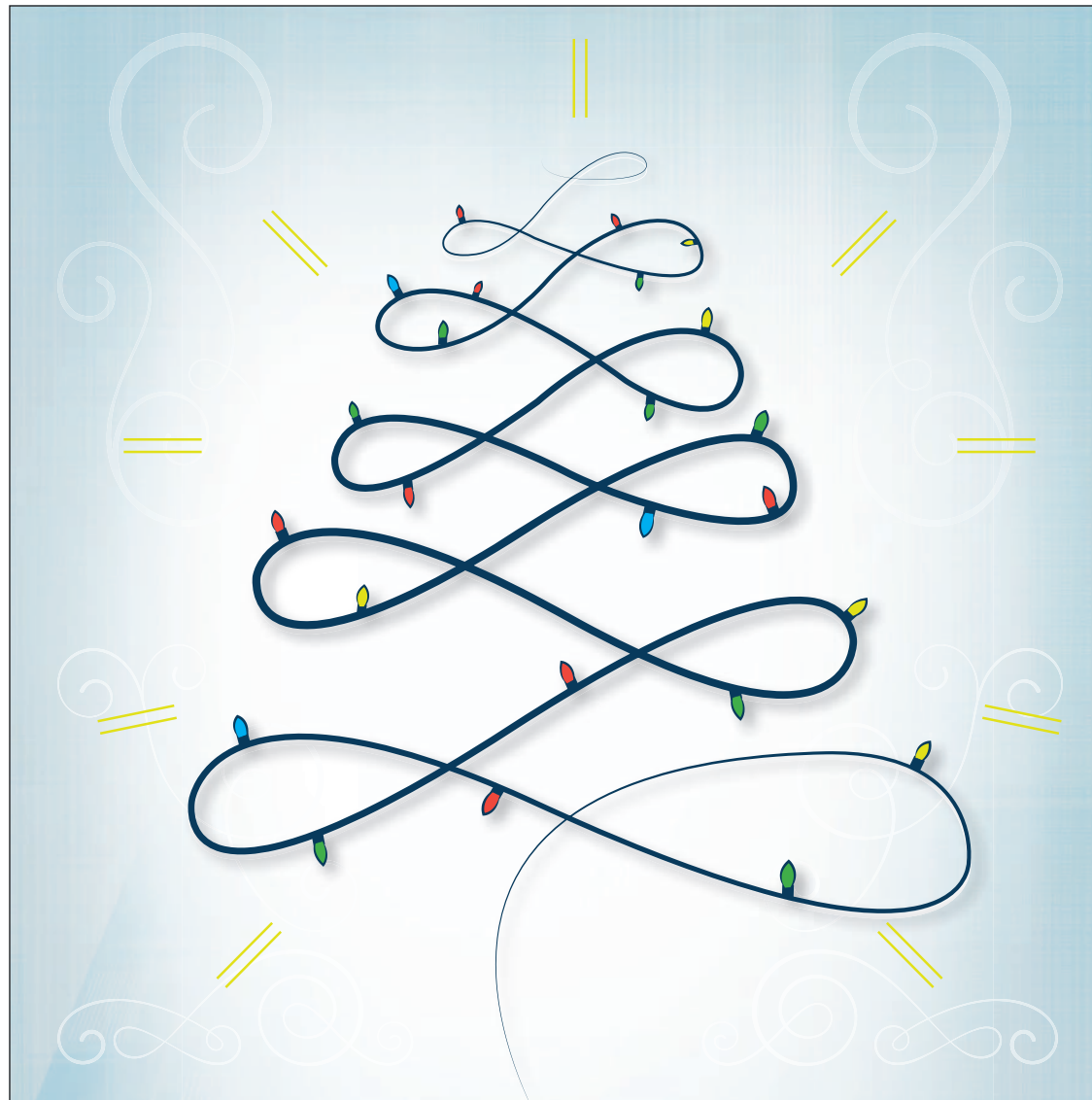
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# Opinions



## From the publisher

BY RICHARD COLTHARP

### Home for Christmas, not homepage

The other day, I heard an advertisement for a company's expanded wireless Internet capacity.

"With the family coming home for the holidays," the advertisement said, "Now you can all be online at the same time."

That's what Christmas is all about, Charlie Brown.

Imagine the scene.

Fireplace crackling. Christmas tree lit up. The smell of coffee and pumpkin pie. Everyone dressed festively. Nat Cole singing about kids from one to 92. Everyone's eyes glued to their laptop, smartphone, tablet, etc. Kids and adults who don't appreciate the classic holiday tunes wearing their Beats headphones or ear buds.

Maybe we should update those tunes:

*"Children texting near an open fire*

*Jack Frost Tweeting on your phone*

*Yuletide memes on your Facebook page*

*And folks dressed up in eBay clothes.*

*Instagram shows a turkey and some*

*Mistletoe; it's not yours but it's all right.*

*Tiny tots with their eyes all aglow,*

*No, wait, they're just fried by iPad light."*

There's actually a new term for people paying more attention to their electronic companions than to their flesh-and-blood ones. Technoference: When technology interferes with your personal relationships.

We all talk about this. We all talk about "the kids," and how they're constantly texting. We adults are just as bad.

"Oh, I need to check Facebook."

"Let's do a selfie."

"I'm going to Instagram this."

"Let's Google that Spam recipe."

Actually, that last one can be somewhat helpful. As everyone's planning the Christmas dinner, and deciding what they will contribute, technology can be helpful. Your iPod or phone can be a good source of holiday music.

The advent of Skype and Facetime has given us ways to see our old friends and new relatives even when we're thousands of miles away. Technology can be helpful. A blessing, even.

Work that once prevented people from making trips to see loved ones can now often be done remotely, allowing those visits to occur.

This holiday season, make a point to control the technology for your benefit instead of letting it control you.

Make a plan. Put the phones in a corner. Give them a timeout.

Some families have a tradition of guests removing their shoes when they enter the house. Why not do the same with cellphones for your holiday gatherings? Have a box near the front door for people to check them in.

You can go back every hour or so and check with the babysitter.

The world made it a few million years without personal electronic devices. It can probably go on a few hours more, even if you set yours aside.

This Christmas, call your friends and loved ones you can't be with this year. Then put the phone down and spend the rest of the day with the ones who are there. No texting from across the room.



### Letters to the editor

#### The real Grinch

After years of sending our jobs to China and blowing up the Middle East to maximize profits for Wall Street, it appears that the Grinch stole our banksters' and oil corporations' Christmas.

Russia opened up a pipeline in Eastern Siberia that ends in China and it is full of oil. Our slave plantation is buying oil from someone as ruthless as Wall Street and causing our oil prices to drop due to surplus supplies.

Those dependent on autos for transportation are getting a nice visit from the oil Santa with lower prices.

Be sure to send a thank you card to Saint Putin for giving Wall Street such a nice bird!

Charles Clements

#### Cat's Meow thanks

The Cat's Meow Adoption Center (CMAC) wants to thank the Bulletin and our community for making our grand opening Nov. 15 an exciting launch. Many people came to meet our group and interact with the kittens and cats. People kindly added cash donations for operations.

Two happy, healthy cats, named Max and Serenity, were adopted to the same home, a happy solution for companionship and play.

Everyone is welcome to visit us at 2211 N. Mesquite St. (just south of the corner of Madrid Avenue and Mesquite) or call 386-6938, to learn more about cats, volunteer to socialize them and to adopt a new BFF – "Beautiful Feline Friend" – or two.

Thanks for helping us provide quality care and furr-ever homes,

Jake Sims

CMAC board member, corporate sponsor

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.

## THE LAS CRUCES Bulletin

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2008 "Spirit of Service Award" New Mexico State University Foundation

2007 "VIVA Award" N.M. Association of Commerce and Industry

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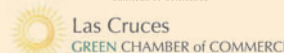
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# Doña Ana County 'Your Partner in Progress'



## For minor crimes, file your report online

Victims of certain crimes that happen within Doña Ana County can now file a report with the Doña Ana County Sheriff's Office using a new online system.

The Citizen's Online Police Reporting System can take temporary reports for lost property, vandalism, theft or larceny, telephone harassment or vandalism to a motor vehicle. Once a victim fills out the online form, a temporary police report can then be downloaded and printed free of charge. A sheriff's deputy will then follow up with the victim to ask additional questions and be-

**The system is not designed to take the place of calling 911 during emergencies, but there are hopes that it will ease call volumes to the Mesilla Valley Regional Dispatch Authority.**



gin the investigation process, where applicable.

After answering a few brief questions, the system will then take victims through a series of additional questions to complete the criminal report. If the answers do not match the criteria of an online report, the victim will be prompted to call the Me-

silla Valley Regional Dispatch Authority.

The system is not designed to take the place of calling 911 in serious emergencies, but there are hopes that it will ease the call volume to the Mesilla Valley Regional Dispatch Authority.

Anyone can access the Citizen's Online Police Reporting System at any time by visiting [www.donaanacounty.org/sheriff](http://www.donaanacounty.org/sheriff) and then following the Citizen's Online Police Reporting System link on the right-hand side of the page. The process takes only a few minutes.

  
**Happy Holidays**  
**to all residents**  
**of Doña Ana County**  
  
**From the**  
**Elected Officials,**  
**Management Team**  
**and Staff**  
**of Doña Ana County!**  
  
**May Your Days Be**  
**Merry and Bright!**  


## 'Tis the season to exercise fire safety at home

The Doña Ana County Fire and Emergency Services Department offers the following tips and strategies to avoid fire losses during the winter season.

### Christmas Tree Fire Prevention and Safety

- \* Keep trees securely upright in a stand to ensure that it will not accidentally tip over or be knocked over by children, pets, or over-enthusiastic dancing adults.
- \* Keep your tree away from any and all heat sources.

This includes electrical outlets, radiators, space heaters, and fireplaces.

- \* Make sure natural trees are well watered.

- \* If you have purchased an artificial tree, please make sure it is labeled "fire retardant".

- \* Unplug lights before leaving home or going to bed.

- \* Avoid using real candles on a tree, especially if it is not artificial. Real Christmas trees contain a lot of natural oils that are very flammable, especially if the tree is dry.

- \* Use a maximum of three strands of tree lights on a single extension cord.

- \* Dispose of your tree at an appropriate recycling center promptly after the holiday season. Your community may also offer pick-up services from your home—this is also a good option.

### Holiday Lighting and Fire Safety

- \* Unplug indoor/outdoor lighting before going to bed.

- \* Never leave any candles unattended. It only takes a moment to light and blowout a candle. It also only takes a moment for a spark from a candle to turn into a big fire.

- \* Avoid using live candles on windowsills and mantles.

- \* Do not let pets or children chew on strands of lights

meant for the tree or home décor.

- \* Make sure the cords used for lights and other decorations are not frayed. If they are, it is time to get rid of them. It is easier to buy a new strand of lights than to try to restore your home after a fire.

- \* Do not run electrical wires under rugs.

- \* Make sure all candles are in sturdy holders that will not tip over and are placed away from furniture and other home accessories.

- \* Trim candle wicks to a ¼-inch in height.

### Fireplace & Woodstove Fire Prevention

- \* Always have a professional inspect your fireplace annually, and use a screen in front of your fireplace while it is burning.

- \* After the holidays are over, do not try to get rid of your Christmas tree, wreaths, or leftover wrapping paper by burning them in a fireplace or stove.

### Additional Fire Prevention and Fire Safety Tips

- \* Keep all items three-feet away from radiators, baseboard heaters, and space heaters.

- \* Exercise caution if using a space heater in a bedroom. Never place a heater next to a bed, especially a child's bed, as blankets could ignite. Place the heater in a place where a sleepy person getting up in the middle of the night will not trip over it and get burned or have a bad fall.

- \* Keep a list of emergency contacts handy, including the number for your home or renter's insurance company and a fire restoration specialist should the unthinkable happen.

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# Come now to the aid of our oil patch

**Michael Swickard**  
*In My Opinion*



Now is the time for all New Mexicans to come to the aid of our oil patch. The New Mexico oil patch has sustained us in New Mexico for decades, both in products we use and as the prime financial support of our public education system. Unfortunately, with the global drop in prices, our oil patch is going into a hard time.

New Mexico has been politically pushed to fund green-energy projects, which do not have the generation density to be cost-effective and useful. Our oil patch has long funded the public schools; the green-energy projects fund the politicians. We need public schools more than we need politicians. We will eventually abandon all of the green projects when we run out of money we wish to spend on politics.

However, the oil patch is the real deal for New Mexico. Therefore, in this price drop, we New Mexicans need to recognize the opportunities an oil price war provides our state. When the New Mexico oil patch prospers, so do all New Mexicans.

The price of oil fluctuates because of supply and demand. As more global oil comes on the market, the bid price goes down. More important is when more oil suddenly floods the market. Often, this reflects the desire of some oil producers to gain market share globally. Some oil sheiks want to run the U.S. out of the oil market for both

business and political reasons.

Their cost of oil production is much lower than ours. They have no Environmental Protection Agency or environmentalists. Therefore, they produce and distribute oil with no environmental regulation costs.

Talk to anyone in the oil patch in New Mexico about how much of what they do is to comply with the state and federal regulations. The Arab oil producing nations have a big price advantage.

This war for market share has happened before, and therein is a lesson: Congressman Steve Pearce had a company in the oil patch when oil prices declined to the point the patch essentially shut down. That is where we are headed, so we need to take a page from Pearce's playbook.

Pearce and wife Cynthia had a well service business with dozens of employees when an oil-price fluctuation stalled production in New Mexico and West Texas. They went against conventional wisdom and kept all of their employees on the payroll unlike other companies who quickly trimmed their workforce because there was no work.

Those workers who were let go went on unemployment and then drifted into other lines of work. Steve and Cynthia's workers kept busy working in the company. They based their extraordinary risk on their personal faith and their sense of the value of their workers.

Early on, they decided to go to the very ends of their savings. It was close. Within a couple months of when they

would have to shutter the company, the oil patch suddenly lurched to life because prices shot up. Their crew was ready and able to work the first day those services were needed. For that giant bet on the future, there was quite a reward for Steve and Cynthia, as the only company ready the first day the oil patch revived.

New Mexico needs to go against the wave of oil production closures. Rather than slow down their oil patch, companies need to drill more, pump more, build more pipelines and expand distribution channels. Much like when tornados and floods and fires happen, New Mexico needs to come to the oil patch with low-interest loans and grants so that companies can survive.

New Mexico's government needs to suspend onerous oil patch rules and flood the oil patch with funding for power development for wells, new roads and pipeline construction. We New Mexicans need to be at the forefront of the next boom by getting the state ready now. Keep the companies engaged and keep the workers on the jobs.

The future of our public schools and much of our state's economy hangs in the balance. For the public schools, there is nowhere else to make this money. Come now to the aid of our oil patch and we all will prosper together.

*Michael Swickard may be contacted at michael@swickard.com.*

## Letter to the editor

### El Caldito appreciation

El Caldito Board of Directors would like to thank the many businesses, families and individuals who gave us what we needed to make Thanksgiving special. Ann Palermo and Teresa Phillips sum it up in these words:

"There is something very special about Thanksgiving at El Caldito. So much sharing – donations from all segments of the greater Las Cruces community, individuals signing up to prepare, serve or clean up that traditional Thanksgiving feast served to everyone who walks through the doors.

"Teresa Phillips and I had each played small roles in previous years, so when Donna Wood approached us to co-chair this year's dinner, we somewhat naively said, "Sure," not really knowing all that was involved. Fortunately there is a lot of 'institutional knowledge' to draw on to ensure that everything runs smoothly.

"One hundred individuals volunteered their time and talents during the week. Some were 'old timers' contacted and signed up for specific tasks – cooking turkeys, carving turkeys, making gravy and stuffing, serving desserts, preparing drinks and greeting volunteers as

they walk through the doors.

"Some agreed to try new responsibilities – charring vegetables preparation, making mashed potatoes, preparing salad and relishes. Some came as teams – to carve turkeys, fill spaces on the serving lines, working in the dining room and pitching in for the all-important cleanup crew. Some showed up Wednesday afternoon and Thanksgiving morning simply saying, 'What can I do to help?' and then going to work wherever they were needed.

"What was so wonderful to see was how quickly these separate groups became teams, all playing toward one goal – treating all our guests to a memorable meal.

"Thanks to everyone for your individual and collective contributions.

"Sure, we were really tired at the end of the afternoon, but it was a very satisfying kind of tired. A special thanks to the 'Gabes' who were on hand most of the day for moral support and to answer questions we didn't know to ask before we needed an immediate answer. Another special thanks to Donna for never being more than a 'text away.'"

*Donna Wood  
El Caldito Soup Kitchen*

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# BaxterBlack

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE



## Cowboy Christmas Carol

This is the story of Tiny Slim Crachett, a genuine reprobate Who squandered his money and wasted his love until it was almost too late. He was just your typical cowboy, honest, brave and sincere And he lay on his bunk one Christmas Eve night belching up nachos and beer

When a vision appeared at the foot of his bed. He stared at the apparition; "Must be that microwave pizza I ate," he blinked and shifted position. "I ain't no pizza you commonbred fool! Your brain's as dull as your knife. I am the ghost of Christmas past, and cowboy...This is your life!"

The scruffy old ghost looked down at the cowboy, "I'm here for a couple of things; To find some reason to salvage your soul and, in doin' so, earn me my wings. "I've jotted some notes from the big tally book regarding your skipping on bail. It says that your mother posted the bond. Is it true that she went to jail?"

"Well," said the cowboy, "it was just for a year. I had to move in with my aunt! But I got her a job when she made parole pullin' hides at the rendering plant."

"Yer worse than I thought! It's a hopeless case ,and me, with my wings on the line. I've checked through yer records for somethin worthwhile. There's really not much I can find.

"You rattle around in your sister's ol' truck with no visible means of support If sorry and worthless came bottled in pints, you'd be good for a quart! "You gypo some cows and ride a few colts, do day work if all else fails. Shoot pool and drink beer, rope three days a week, trade chronics at all of the sales.

"Your past is a trip through the cat box of life, a sorid collection of wrecks. You've broke enough hearts to frighten DeBakey and written so many bad checks "Were they laid on the ground in a line end to end they'd reach further than you could point! Though time is a teacher, you've failed the grade. I can't see a thing that you've loint.

"But what the heck, it's Christmas, a time of goodwill so I'm willin' to skip the above If we can find a single good deed you've done that shows kindness and love." "Hummm...kindness and love...?" thought Tiny Slim Crachett, his mind beginning to race, "Once a rumor got started that Mother's old farm was covered with toxic waste.

"For the sake of my mom, I rallied the press. To a man they took up her cause! Greenpeace rowed up and camped on the lawn, the feminists all burned their bras! "I handcuffed myself to the Frigidaire! And went on a hunger strike! But alas we failed. She was forced to sell at less than I would have liked.

"Thank goodness I'd just got my real estate license 'cause the place brought near '43' Though it cost the ol' lady twenty'two thou for commission and realtor's fee. "So there's my good deed. As simple as that you can count on me in a pinch. Our problem is solved, I'm home free and clear and your wings are a lead pipe cinch!

"So, let's drink a toast to Mom and the angels, and you, though you're a late bloomer, And hope they never find out it was me who started that ugly rumor!"

Baxter Black can be contacted through his website, [www.baxterblack.com](http://www.baxterblack.com).

## Letters to the editor

### Missed education

Just a few thoughts on (mis) education.

The No Child Left Behind Act was only a question the president wanted answered: "Are schools educating our children to the standards to be proficient in the future?"

Testing was the method used to quantify this request and ended up exposing an incredibly flawed, manipulated system. Making teachers accountable would have to start in state teacher accreditation methods, which would define how preservice education is done. State accreditation standards define how schools teach teachers to teach (requires teaching to the state test).

Tenure is a joke and has no basis in quality of education. I was a certified structural steel welder. Just because I passed a state welding certification test does not mean I won't be fired when a weld I make breaks on the job or does not pass a quality test. What standards of accountability are teachers held to?

The bridges you drive

over were built by welders, like myself, that maintained a high degree of accountability. I shiver when I hear a teacher say they just want to walk into their classroom, "close the door" and just teach. Closing the door symbolizes their desire for zero accountability. I am glad welders, doctors, lawyers and bakers can't just close the door on scrutiny of their work. Pride in work is defined by the results of that work.

Rob Wood

### Obama count

I was at the new Walmart where I was engaged in a conversation with someone about the state of things under Obama. As we talked some obnoxious, rude woman injected herself into our conversation and proceeded to inform us of how much better off we are under Obama.

Let me count the ways?

1. We are now \$18 trillion in debt instead of \$10 trillion.

2. We are now for the first time since the 1870s the world's No. 2 economy. China is now No. 1.

3. We are better off

with the NSA and IRS both spying on us.

4. We are better off with fraudulently passed Obama care.

5. We are better off with a foreign policy in complete disarray and with the Middle East about to erupt. I won't list all of the different countries involved.

6. We are better off with Putin running wild not only in the Ukraine, but up and down both of coasts and the Gulf of Mexico as well.

7. We are better off having to bum rides to our space station with the Russians.

8. We are better off having open borders, and Obama issuing illegal executive orders.

9. We are better off having every issue turned into a race issue.

10. We are better off having an anti-business administration.

11. We are better off with "Fast and Furious."

12. We are better off being lied to about everything, every day.

13. In short, we are better off now being the laughing stock of the entire planet. Only Jimmy Carter is better off.

Needless to say the conversation with this rude woman ended badly.

Dennis Stone

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# RECALL, FROM PAGE A1

recall by the group called New Mexicans for a Better Tomorrow.

The other councillors are District 3's Olga Pedroza and District 5's Gill Sorg. They became targets of a recall effort for their support for letting voters decide on a proposal to raise the minimum wage to \$10.10 an hour by 2017 in a series of annual increases. Small recently succeeded in passing an amendment to the ordinance to push back by two years future increases after the minimum wage increases to \$8.40 an hour Jan. 1, 2015.

Jeffrey Isbell, campaign manager for New Mexicans for a Better Tomorrow – the “out-of-state organizer” referred to by Griffin, released the following statement after the press conference:

“We are not surprised that a small group of citizens would follow the lead of the mayor (Ken Miyagishima) and liberal media in discouraging participation in the public process through our citizens initiative petition calling for a special election to hold elected officials accountable and create a better future for Las Cruces. We look forward to a greater dialogue on how we can move our city forward with non-partisan representation for all citizens, not a few radical special interest groups. We continue with our signature collection efforts to force a special election ... and are gaining momentum as we take our message to the voters.”

A new nonprofit, the Southern New

Mexico Business Coalition, 501(c)4 organization started in September, supports the recall effort.

“Somebody needed to step up and start representing the small business and large business in town,” said Gary Coppedge with Circle 7 Development, LLC. “We are concerned and that’s why we stepped up and decided to take a stance.”

Businessman Dan Schneider, president of the SNMBC, said the Las Cruces City Council is “extremely anti-business.”

He said he believes outside forces have “usurped” some of the power of the City Council, something he said he noticed during the debate of whether to raise the minimum wage.

“We want responsible government and accountable government,” Schneider said. “We’re not Republican or Democrat, our goal is to try and be a voice for some common sense.”

Miyagishima has sponsored robo-calls against the recall effort.

At the press conference, Violet Cauthon, who lives in District 5, said she and her husband, Ron, are “appalled and disgusted” with the recall group’s use of “innuendos” and “lies” to make its case.

“They are hijacking the election process,” she said. “We want residents to say no to the recall and refuse to sign the petition.”

Griffin said one misleading tactic used by the recall organizers is calling residents and asking if they would favor recalling unnamed city councillors for non-specified ethical lapses.

“We are receiving a barrage of postcards and phone calls that allege misconduct by city councillors,” he said. “All of the allegations are without any substance whatsoever.”

Cauthon and Griffin said they believe their councillors have served them well and have done nothing to deserve being recalled.

“I know these targeted councillors are people of integrity,” Griffin said.

In documents from the New Mexico Secretary of State’s Office, the resident group said 90 percent of the more than \$28,000 raised by New Mexicans for a Better Tomorrow – that had to file a

report of contributions as a political action committee – come from just seven people, none of whom live in city limits. The resident group also questioned more than \$3,000 of “in-kind” contributions from the Southern New Mexico Business Coalition.

Cauthon said a recall election will be costly to voters. Griffin said the recall effort only serves to undermine the democratic process of debating different solutions to problems.

“It is inevitable there will be disagreements,” said Griffin, adding such disagreements shouldn’t be cause for recall.



Paul Garcia draws an ace of diamonds, placing him first on the ballot for District 4 position on the Las Cruces Public Schools Board of Education election Feb. 3, 2015, as Doña Ana County Clerk Lynn Ellins observes Tuesday, Dec. 16, after closing declarations of candidacy.

LAS CRUCES BULLETIN PHOTO BY TODD DICKSON

# SCHOOL, FROM PAGE A1

draw for all other races, which included races in the Hatch and Gadsden school districts.

Both Blevins and Garcia said they had never run for an elected office before.

Blevins said he decided to run after long being involved in his children’s schools by serving on both school and district advisory committees. With one child left in high school, Blevins said he felt he would have the time to serve the district in a broader capacity.

Garcia, on the other hand, is a father of two children not yet of school age.

“That’s why I’m running,” he said. “I want the schools to be better for them.”

Garcia is employed with the Border Patrol and is the author of a children’s book, “The Adventures of Rocky Bear.” Garcia said he wants the schools to provide positive environments for children to excel. He also said he will seek to build healthy relationships with the business community.

In terms of the business community, Tudor has been active in the Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce. Castro is

active in the county’s Democratic Party.

The other opening on the Las Cruces school board is for District 5, which is currently held by Connie Phillips, who was also has been on the board since 2007, but is seeking re-election. She will be challenged by Edward Frank.

For the Hatch Valley school board, one position also attracted a field of four candidates. For Hatch District 3, the candidates, in order of ballot position, are Lupe Castillo, David Franzoy, Johnny Lucero and Bobby Cordero.

In Hatch District 5, the candidates, in order of ballot position, are Cameron Whitlock and Greg Mitchell.

Paul Dulin was the candidate to file for the Hatch District 2 position.

In the Gadsden Independent School District, Maria Saenz was the only candidate in an uncontested race for District 3.

For the Gadsden District 1 position, the candidates, in order of ballot position, are Daniel Estupiñan and Gloria Irigoyen.

For the Gadsden District 4 position, the candidates, in order of ballot position, are Maria Carter and Daniel Castillo.

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# Coming up

## NMSU library hours

Due to the upcoming holidays and breaks, the New Mexico State University Library has adjusted hours for its Zuhl and Branson locations.

The following is an updated library hours schedule for the remainder of the month:

- Saturday, Dec. 20, and Sunday, Dec. 21: closed
- Monday, Dec. 22, and Tuesday, Dec. 23: 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Wednesday, Dec. 24, through Sunday, Jan. 4: closed

The Archives and Special Collections Reading Room will be open by appointment only between the following dates:

- Wednesday, Dec. 17, through Tuesday, Dec. 23
- Monday, Jan. 5, through Friday, Jan. 9

To make an appointment for the Archives and Special Collections Reading Room, call 646-7455 or email archives@lib.nmsu.edu.

Current hours of operation are available at 646-4749 or <http://lib.nmsu.edu/aboutlib/libhours.html>.

## Holiday schedules

City Hall and most other City of Las Cruces offices will be closed to the public Wednesday, Dec. 24, Thursday, Dec. 25, and Thursday, Jan. 1, 2015, for the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

In addition, many offices will also close for the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday Monday, Jan. 19, 2015.

Emergency services such as fire and police will not be affected.

The following is a list of closures/modifications for Wednesday, Dec. 24:

- Meerscheidt Recreation Center, modified to 8 a.m. to noon
- Frank O'Brien Papen Center, modified to 8 a.m. to noon
- Juvenile Citation Program/Weed & Seed closed
- Regional Aquatic Center, modified to 8 a.m. to noon
- Frenger Pool, lap swim only 6 a.m. to noon
- Thomas Branigan Library closed
- All Senior Programs closed
- RoadRunner Transit modified 6:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Solid Waste Services collected as normal
- Foothills Landfill closed
- All museums closed

The following is a list of closures for Thursday, Dec. 25, (Christmas Day):

- Meerscheidt Recreation Center
- Frank O'Brien Papen Center
- Juvenile Citation Program/Weed & Seed
- Regional Aquatic Center
- Frenger Pool
- Thomas Branigan Library
- All senior programs
- All RoadRunner Transit Services
- Solid Waste Services
- Foothills Landfill
- All museums

The following is a list of closures/modifications for Thursday, Jan. 1, 2015 (New Year's Day):

- Meerscheidt Recreation Center closed
- Frank O'Brien Papen Center closed
- Juvenile Citation Program/Weed & Seed closed
- Regional Aquatic Center closed
- Frenger Pool closed
- Thomas Branigan Library closed
- All senior programs closed
- RoadRunner Transit closed

- Solid Waste Services closed (Collection will resume Jan. 2 or 3)
- Foothills Landfill closed
- All museums closed

The following is a list of closures/modifications for Monday, Jan. 19, 2015 (Martin Luther King Jr. Day):

- Meerscheidt Recreation Center closed
- Frank O'Brien Papen Center closed
- Juvenile Citation Program/Weed & Seed closed
- Regional Aquatic Center closed
- Frenger Pool closed
- Thomas Branigan Library closed
- All senior programs closed
- RoadRunner Transit regular service
- Solid Waste Services collected as normal
- Foothills Landfill normal operations
- All museums closed

Also, Doña Ana County offices will be closed Wednesday, Dec. 24, Thursday, Dec. 25, Wednesday, Dec. 31, and Thursday, Jan. 1, 2015, to allow employees time with their families during the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

The administrative offices of the Doña Ana County Sheriff's Department will be closed, but law enforcement and emergency services in the field will be continuous, with saturation patrols and DWI checkpoints planned throughout the holiday period.

Christmas Day is a state and federal holiday, as is New Year's Day. The U.S. Postal Service also takes those holidays off. Most banks take those days off, but resume normal business hours before and after.

The last day for Las Cruces Public Schools is Friday, Dec. 19, with classes being held only in the morning.

Students attending New Mexico State University and its branch campuses are currently on winter break with classes resuming Thursday, Jan. 15, 2015.

## Swearing in

Newly elected county officials, including state legislators and judges, will be sworn in 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 30, at the Doña Ana County Government Center, 845 N. Motel Blvd.

Third Judicial District Court Chief Judge Fernando Macias will administer the oaths of office.

## CASF to meet

The Cruces Atmospheric Sciences Forum (CASF) will meet at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 20, at Pepe's Mexican Food Restaurant, 1405 W. Picacho Ave.

CASF is a group of scientists, engineers and interested citizens dedicated to informing the public of the facts of the scientific method, observational data, measurement techniques and historical facts regarding energy, weather, climate and climate change. Many members of the group are former employees of laboratories and support contractors for White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico State University's Physical Science Laboratory and NASA's White Sands Test Facility.

The group meets to discuss real-world measurements. The December meeting's subject is the Argo float project and ocean temperature measurements returned from the Argo floats.

CASF members believe that there is nothing unusual about the current climate, and that claims of an ongoing "climate catastrophe" from growing amounts of the trace gas carbon dioxide in the atmosphere are without foundation in science and fact.

CASF welcomes visitors seeking information on energy, weather and

SEE COMING UP, PAGE A10

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# Coming up

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## STEM career conference for girls

New Mexico State University is the first of several locations throughout the state to host an “Expanding Your Horizons” conference for girls in grades 5-10 next year.

The event will provide hands-on

training in science and computing from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 31, 2015, in the Science Hall on the Las Cruces campus.

The Network for Women in Science & Engineering is helping to sponsor the conferences across New Mexico.

NMSU’s Young Women in Computing program in the College of Arts and Sciences is hosting the Las Cruces conference, which will offer opportunities for young women in middle and high school to explore hands-on projects to expose them to careers in engineering, computing, medicine and other science, technology and math professions.

“We accept any young woman from anywhere in the state who is in the fifth

to 10th grade and would like to participate in the conference in Las Cruces,” said Rebecca Galves, YWiC program coordinator who is also organizing the local conference. She noted participants come from New Mexico and El Paso.

Registration for the conference will run from Friday, Jan. 2, 2015, through Thursday, Jan. 29, 2015, but walk-ins also will be welcomed to register on the morning of the conference. The cost is \$5 per student. Scholarships are available and lunch is included.

Each student will participate in two hands-on workshops that will last one hour and 15 minutes.

Workshops include “Make an online game in a SNAP,” “Java & HTML,” “Alternative fuels for moving vehicles,” “Soil science” and many more.

Participants can register through the site [www.expandingyourhorizons.org/conferences/LasCruces](http://www.expandingyourhorizons.org/conferences/LasCruces) or by completing a paper version with their school, teacher or any adult and faxing, scanning or emailing it in. All participants will also complete a release form, either prior to the event or on that day.

## Spring Dream League Soccer

Registration for the spring 2015 Las Cruces Dream League Soccer Program began Monday, Dec. 15, at Meerscheidt Recreation Center, 1600 E. Hadley Ave.

The league is available to individuals ages 4 to 17. Athletes will play against peers of similar size, age and ability. All games will be played at Meerscheidt Recreation Center. Cost is \$10 per athlete, which includes a uniform shirt. The league is open to city and non-residents. Parents or care providers must be present during league activities.

The program consists of two instructional workshops and four games. The league will begin Feb. 7, 2015, and run through March 14, 2015.

Coaches and volunteers are needed, and must pass a background check before participating.

For more information call Recreation Programs at 541-2455. The TTY number is 541-2772. Hours at the center are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

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# BALLET, FROM PAGE A1

archery and enjoys golfing with her father John Bulla – all skills that contribute to the poise and athleticism dance requires.

The Moscow Ballet is a traveling company with many award-winning principal dancers and a corps de ballet of 40 Vaganova-trained ballerinas and dancers. Since 1993, the company annually visits more than 100 cities throughout the months of November and December.

The group's "Dance with Us" program gives local children the chance to dance with the company in roles to match a variety of skill levels. Eva Bulla will be playing one of the mice, a fun role in the pivotal scene in the Nutcracker, which transitions from the dream of a memory to a dream within.

The "Great Russian Nutcracker" follows Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite score. It departs from the traditional staging in the second act by following Clara (called Masha in this version) and her prince to the Land of Peace and Harmony instead of the kingdom of the Sugar Plum Fairy. The change suggests a focus on international peace and intercultural understanding.

In El Paso to help conduct the auditions was Ekaterina Bortiakova, who plays the principal role of Clara in the Great Russian Nutcracker Ballet.

"Everyone got introduced to her, and she kind of went through the steps of what the whole ballet was about," John said.



Eva Bulla stretches before the Verdi Academy of Dance Holiday Spectacular on Sunday, Dec. 14, at the Oñate High School Performing Arts Center.

LAS CRUCES BULLETIN PHOTO BY MARISSA BOND

"She was very nice, she worked well with the kids," Veronica said.

The auditions took place in late September, and after a full morning of auditions, the pool of applicants was whittled down from 120 to 60, with Eva as the only Las Cruces listed among those chosen.

This led to a busy weekend, with two full days of practice. Since then, rehears-

als have been limited to about once a week.

"They're fun," Eva said. "Being able to run around, 'cause you're mice."

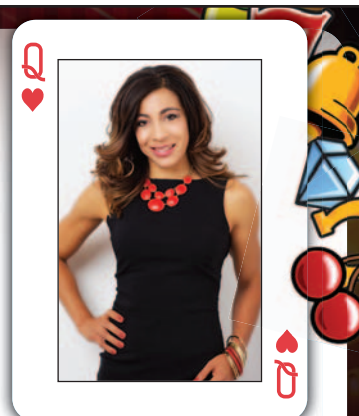
Still, the constant travel and practice has been draining. Veronica Bulla said the hardest part was the travel between Las Cruces and El Paso, which has cut into the busy fourth-grader's social time. "It's a little bit of a sacrifice of time and

energy but it's completely worth it," Veronica said. "She's been a trooper."

The Moscow Ballet will be performing the Great Russian Nutcracker at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Plaza Theatre Performing Art Center at 125 W. Mills Ave. in El Paso on Tuesday, Dec. 23. Tickets are available by calling the Plaza Theatre at 800-745-3000 or at [www.nutcracker.com/buy-tickets](http://www.nutcracker.com/buy-tickets).

## 2014 HIGH HEELS MODELS

- |                      |                   |                   |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Taryn Armitage       | Kelly Jameson     | April Anaya       | Melissa Carbajal        |
| Rachel Bustos        | Brandy Darden     | Chelsea Green     | Stacie Christiano Allen |
| Lyndsey (Lynz) Green | Dr. Dolores Gomez | Sylvia Washington | Kayla Jones             |
| Laura Walker         | Nicole Oswalt     | Veronica Jurney   | Tonda Salvini           |
| Taylor Trout         | Azadeh Ghorbani   | Michelle Schirmer | Jessica Spaulding       |
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- Becky Horner, State Director, March of Dimes Staff

# NMSU regents review reports

At a regular meeting Friday, Dec. 12, New Mexico State University regents approved the university's audited financial report for the fiscal year that ended June 30.

Angela Throneberry, senior vice president for administration and finance, presented the audited annual financial statements, including the report of the independent audit firm of Moss Adams LLP reflecting an unmodified opinion.

The regents also approved an operating agreement renewal with the Grants Cibola County School District for the operations of NMSU Grants.

In his report to the regents, President Garrey Carruthers indicated the university will be looking to issue a request for a proposal for an outside review of the institution's staffing levels. He would like to see an improved student-to-staff ratio.

The regents heard an update from Executive

Vice President & Provost Dan Howard on NMSU's Guaranteed Pathway, a program for students who do not meet admission requirements to NMSU. Students in the program can attend one of NMSU's community colleges and eventually transfer to the main campus. All NMSU community college students will be eligible to take this pathway, but priority will be given to those who applied but did not meet the NMSU admissions requirements, and to first-generation college students.

The pathway program was developed to help students who want to pursue a baccalaureate degree, but may need some assistance to be prepared for the coursework. NMSU recently changed its admission standards for students applying to NMSU starting with the fall 2016 semester.

Bernadette Montoya, vice president for student affairs and enrollment management, gave an outlook for enrollment



NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY PHOTO  
Following the New Mexico State University Board of Regents meeting Dec. 12, out-going regents Isaac Pino, Javier Gonzales and Jordan Banegas planted a tree in Regents Grove east of Corbett Center. At the tree planting, from left, are Regent Mike Cheney, President Garrey Carruthers, Gonzales, Pino, Banegas, Regent Kari Mitchell and Provost Dan Howard.

for spring 2015, as well as fall 2015. She said that the number of applications for first-time freshmen to NMSU for the fall 2015 semester has increased.

The regents also heard an annual update on research from Vimal Chaitanya, vice president for research. Chaitanya highlighted achievements of NMSU's research enterprise including substantial renewed funding for programs that support STEM educational programs with research components, many of them benefiting minority faculty and students. He also reviewed challenges such as the need to diversify the research portfolio and compete with other institutions for hiring specialists, as well as oppor-

tunities, such as working with government labs in New Mexico and partnering internationally.

The board presented the Above & Beyond Award to Senior Vice President Throneberry. The Above & Beyond Award recognizes full-time employees who go the extra distance in service to any and all aspects of the NMSU system. Individuals are recognized for performance that goes "above and beyond" their regular responsibilities and for demonstrating a positive attitude that inspires others.

Throneberry is responsible for the university's financial and administrative operations, including budget and planning; accounting and financial

reporting activities; university accounts receivable; procurement services and risk management; auxiliary services; information technology and communications; and facilities and services, which includes oversight responsibility for about 700 full-time regular NMSU employees.

During the presentation, Carruthers said, "When members of the 'Aggie Family' were asked to comment on the nomination of Angela for this award, they jumped at the chance to shed light on why she is the perfect nominee."

Glen Haubold, associate vice president for facilities, said, "Through her example, she has taught us how to face adversity, delegate effec-

tively and think strategically. Angela consistently demonstrates sound leadership and management abilities by improving operating efficiencies, championing procedural changes and achieving established goals."

D'Anne Stuart, associate vice president for administration and finance, said, "Angela works tirelessly in support of New Mexico State University. Riding for the brand is instilled in who she is and how she serves the university. Angela's commitment to NMSU is unwavering and an inspiration to those who work with her."

The next scheduled regents meeting is Jan. 30, 2015, in Santa Fe.

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# Let your mind rise above last-minute shopping?



**Brook Stockberger**  
*Taking a look*

Every year I swear I'll complete my holiday shopping early and not have to be out with the rest of the last-minute crowd.

Every year – sigh – I find myself out with the rest of the last-minute crowd.

As you read this, I'll probably still be scrambling to check a few items off of my list.

I have a system, though, to avoid stress, or at least too much stress. I learned this years ago at a department store in the now-sadly-gone Greengate Mall in Greensburg, Pa. While I stood in a long line at the cash register, I transformed myself into a

being lighter than air. Not literally, of course, but in my brain I floated slightly above the commotion and took deep, regular, slow breaths and allowed my mind to empty and then fill back up with non-shopping thoughts.

Specifically, thoughts of the next game on the schedule for the Pittsburgh Steelers alighted on my consciousness. All the ins and outs – who was injured, who had the better defense, what role the weather would play – flowed through my brain until, before I realized it, I was at the front of the line.

I've used this system ever since. My thoughts

are not always on football. Sometimes I quietly sing Johnny Cash songs, or re-view David Foster Wallace's writing or smile at the thought of Wes Anderson movies to occupy my time.

Sometimes I just think silent prayers over and over until they become a soothing mantra.

As for shopping itself, here are some tips I picked

up with the help of various websites:

- Check out the New Mexico State University bookstore: We have New Mexico State University here in Las Cruces – why not share Aggie merchandise.
- Buy local: Support area entrepreneurs by purchasing artwork, spirits or even food from the hometown

experts.

- Try something completely different. Your friends are never too old to learn something new. Give a certificate for dance lessons, horseback riding, rock climbing or sushi-making.
- Put it in a basket: Create a theme – like car wash, spa night or barbecue bash – and fill a container with every-

thing the recipient needs.

- Give year-round: A magazine subscription will make sure your friend thinks of you when each issue arrives. Wrap a current copy with a note stating more are on the way.

*Brook Stockberger may be reached at 680-1977 or brook@lascrucesbulletin.com.*

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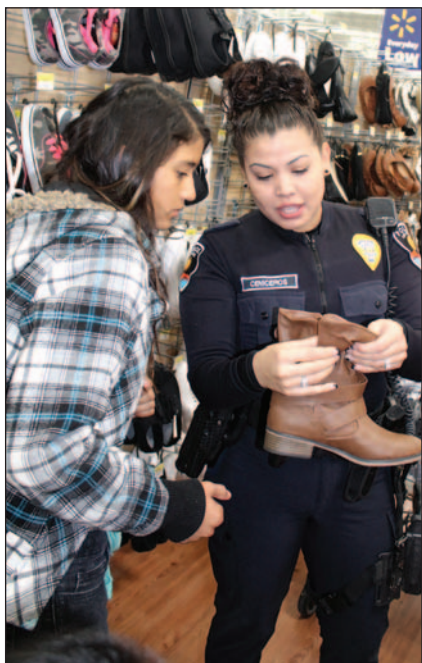
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# Shop with a Cop

PHOTOS BY TODD DICKSON

Briana Arzabal, 13, gets help finding the right size boot from Las Cruces police officer Carmen Cenicerros during the annual Shop with a Cop event Saturday, Dec. 13, at Walmart on Rinconada Boulevard. Sponsored by the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP), the event gave more than 200 youths the chance to buy new clothes.



Las Cruces police officer Jason Saucedo gives Jesus Vargas, 13, advice on T-shirts to buy.



National Guard 1st Sgt. Ernie Nevarez suggests an item to a 2-year-old shopper.

FOP President J.R. Stewart checks in with Rudy Trevino and his 3-year-old daughter Jamie, who was just along for the ride.



Las Cruces police officer Stephanie Carabajal helped Rebekah Segura shop for her daughters Raiyne, 6, and Raiyah, 5.

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# CrimeStoppers

## Cell phone burglar suspect sought

Las Cruces Crime Stoppers is offering a \$1,000 reward for information that helps identify a man suspected of burglarizing a cell phone repair shop on south Solano Drive.

Police learned that the burglary occurred at around 4:45 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 6. Surveillance photos showed a man use a rock to smash a front window of the Cell Phone Factory at 590 S. Solano Drive. The suspect then entered the business and stole approximately \$18,000 worth of cell phones, iPads and tablets.



Property stolen included at least four iPads, two



Samsung tablets and more than 80 cell phones that are contracted through Sprint or T-Mobile.

The suspect will most likely try to dispose of the stolen property by selling the items, most likely at prices far below retail value.

Detectives believe the suspect is in his late teens or early 20s. He was wearing a light gray or white hoodie.

Anyone with information that can help identify the suspect is asked to call Las Cruces Crime Stoppers at 800-222-TIPS (8477) or send a

tip by 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.

## Armed robber killed in attempt

The armed robbery suspect who was shot and killed Sunday, Dec. 14, by a smoke shop employee has been identified as 24-year-old Luciano Acuna.

Las Cruces Police detectives learned that shortly before 9 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, Acuna had his face partially covered with a mask and was armed with a shotgun when he entered DCP's Smoke Shop at 1025 S. Solano Drive. Detectives have reason to believe Acuna pointed the shotgun at one of the employees and demanded cash from the store's register.

Detectives learned that Acuna became distracted for a brief moment at which

time the employee retrieved a handgun and fired multiple shots at the robbery suspect. One of the shots struck Acuna in the head.

The employee who fired the shot and another store employee then left the business through a back door and called 911.

Acuna was pronounced dead at the scene.

The two employees were cooperative with investigators and no charges are expected to be filed against the man who fired the lethal shot. The names of the store employees will not be released.

This surveillance photo shows the suspect in the Nov. 6 burglary of Cell Phone Factory at 590 S. Solano Drive.



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# NMSU Fall Commencement



Hussam Alqassem hugs his father, Nasser Alqassem, in celebration of his recent accomplishment after graduating in New Mexico State University's Fall Commencement ceremony Saturday, Dec. 13, in the Pan American Center.

PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER BELARDE



NMSU President Garrey Carruthers addresses the more than 1,000 graduates.

NMSU Provost Dan Howard "hoods" Southwestern writer Max Evans as he receives an honorary doctoral degree.



Waiting for her fellow NMSU graduates to find their seats, Bonnie Harris takes a selfie to commemorate her completion of a bachelor's degree in mass communication.



Mary Zimmerman Krienke and her service dog, Jack, wait to cross the stage to receive her bachelor's degree in English and German.

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He received his residency training at Unity Hospital/ University of Rochester, Rochester New York and his subspecialty fellowship at Providence Hospital/Wayne State University school of medicine (Karmanos Cancer Center) Detroit, Michigan. Before moving to Las Cruces, he was an assistant professor of Oncology at East Carolina University.

He treats all types of cancers and blood diseases, and provides chemotherapy and other infusion therapy in his office, a conducive and home-like environment. Dr. Ike is accepting patients, and takes most insurance plans.



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# La Gran Posada



PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER BELARDE

The Virgin Mary and Joseph, played by siblings Lily and Sullivan Woodall, lead a mixture of southern New Mexico congregations during this year's Gran Posada Sunday, Dec. 14, on Main Street Downtown.



Las Cruces Diocese Liturgy Director Joanna Haston reads the story of the Virgin Mary and Joseph seeking shelter on Christmas Eve.

Members of St Genevieve parish, Patricia Maese and Leo Ambriz, sing out "Emmanuel" to celebrate La Gran Posada.



Children dive onto the floor to secure candy from a piñata broken in celebration of Christmas.



 *Come share the precious gift of Christmas*

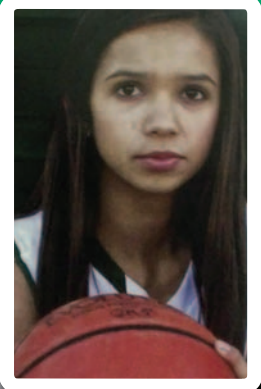
**First Presbyterian Church**  
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**Saturday, Dec 20 – 6:00 pm**  
*Jones Hall Potluck and Carols*  
**Sunday, Dec 21 – 10:30 am**  
*Cantata Worship Service*  
*Chancel Choir and Brass Ensemble*  
**Christmas Eve, Dec 24**  
*4 pm: Service for children of all ages*  
*7 pm: Carols, Christmas Stories, and Candlelight Service*

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**ATHLETE OF THE WEEK** SPONSORED BY: THE LAS CRUCES **Bulletin**

**JAYCE GORMAN**  
Jayce Gorman is a 15-year-old sophomore at Mayfield High School. She plays guard and wing on the Lady Trojan basketball team. Gorzman is averaging 12 points, 5.4 rebounds and three assists per game. She was named MVP of the Albuquerque Academy Tournament. She is a hard worker, very coachable and has a great attitude. Gorzman believes that the Mayfield Lady Trojan basketball team has grown a lot as a team this year and if they continue working as a team, they should have a good season. She feels blessed to have great parental support, awesome teammates and an amazing coach!  
Gorzman is a dedicated student, with a 3.75 GPA. She enjoys swimming, supporting other Mayfield athletics, hanging out with friends and family.



**MAYFIELD HIGH SCHOOL**

## Mack paces NMSU women to win streak

By **Lewis Harry**  
 For the Las Cruces Bulletin

Opening the season with five-straight losses, including one to I-10 rival University of Texas-El Paso, was not the start the New Mexico State women's basketball team was looking for.

The Aggies (4-5), though, now own a four-game winning streak, including a victory against rival University of New Mexico.



**MACK**

NMSU has found a recent spark behind the efforts of sophomore Moriah Mack.

Mack recently was awarded the Western Athletic Conference Player of the Week honor after she led the Aggies to victory against North Dakota State with a career-high 18 points. In just eight games, Mack has compiled a .535 field goal percentage and a .571 three-point percentage.

"I think winning Player of the Week really helps my confidence, being able to realize that my work is being recognized," Mack said. "My teammates helped me get there, so I know that I couldn't be here or have any of these accomplishments without them."

In her second season at NMSU, Mack has stepped up and become a critical part of the Aggies offense. Along with leading the team in three-point percentage, Mack is also a leading her team from the charity stripe with a .857 free throw percentage. Although their 3-5 record might not reflect it, the Aggies level of play is on the rise this season and Mack has put in plenty of work during practice to prove it.

"One thing I like to put emphasis on is playing hard. It's not only about offense, it's also about the defensive end too, you can't win without playing defense," she said.

Mack said she believes the attitude and intensity during practice translates over to game time.

"Just coming in every day ready to work," she said. "Trying to

See **Mack** on page A19

## SonBlazers off to a hot start

### MVCS basketball sweeps through Prep tournament

By **Lewis Harry**  
 For the Las Cruces Bulletin

A week after losing to the Cliff High Cowboys in the final game of the Cliff Roundup tournament, the Mesilla Valley Christian Schools SonBlazers seem to be back on the right track.

The SonBlazers claimed three straight games to win the Sandia Prep basketball tournament. Powered by a solid offense provided by seniors Jeff Adler and Tristan Franzoy, MVCS defeated their opponents by an average margin of 16.3 points per game.

Along the way to claiming the Sandia Prep tourney title, the SonBlazers defeated 5A powerhouse Espanola Valley, who is ranked No. 3 following their loss to MVCS.

"If anybody knows the history of Espanola Valley in the state, they are always a tough team to play, very tough to beat," second-year head coach Jeremy Roman said. "That was a big win for us."

Despite struggling from the field in the final, foul trouble for Robertson High boosted MVCS to a 56-45 victory over the Cardinals.

"Both of those games had the feel of a later playoff game, so I'm really excited about that for this season," Roman said. "Our role players have stepped up, they have been doing their jobs and the guys that are expected to score for us have been doing that."

The SonBlazers overpowering offense, which has averaged 58.1 points per game in just six games, has been one key to their success early this season. Roman has implemented a different style of offense since taking over the program from former head coach Terry Adler, who amassed a 154-30 record during his tenure at MVCS.

"Terry liked to run a lot of specific sets and we would change sets often," said Roman, who was an assistant under Adler for six years. "I don't run sets very often, I like to run a motion offense and give the players a lot more freedom to read and react on the court. Our offensive schemes are a lot more free, a lot more ball movement on the court."

Aside from the SonBlazers productive offense and defense, the team's sense of unity has been the core of their 5-1



LAS CRUCES BULLETIN PHOTO BY LEWIS HARRY

Mesilla Valley Christian basketball players Jeff Adler, left, and Tristan Franzoy have helped the SonBlazers jump out to a 5-1 start on the season.

start. What the stat line won't tell you, coach Roman speaks highly of. These players have bought into the idea to do what is best for the teams' success, and not just their own.

"A selfless approach to the game," he said. "It doesn't matter who gets the awards or the points, it takes a whole team to win a game. We have guys that could go score 40 points a night if they wanted to, but I'm asking them to hold back a little bit and distribute the ball

more. The biggest thing we always talk about in here is that we are all brothers and you want to be able to lay your life down for your brothers. Basketball is just a small way we can teach life lessons."

The SonBlazers are looking to keep the current momentum going and improve on the season. MVCS is faced with a tough upcoming road schedule before returning to start district play.

See **SonBlazers** on page A19

# Aggie men fall at Baylor; to host rival Lobos

Bulletin Staff Report

The Aggies are looking for some home cooking.

New Mexico State University men's basketball team lost its seventh game of the season at Baylor Wednesday, Dec. 16. The Aggies (4-7) have lost all of their away games so far this year, but return to Las Cruces and the friendly confines of the Pan American Center when they clash with in-state rival University of

New Mexico Saturday, Dec. 20.

The Aggies own a 14-game winning streak at home dating back to last season.

Tipoff is scheduled for 7 p.m.

Against Baylor, NMSU played without reigning WAC Player of the Year Daniel Mullings and preseason All-WAC center Tshilidzi Nephawe due to injuries.

NMSU trailed by just two with 17:28 to play at 34-32, before Baylor got a 3-pointer from Al Freeman that started

a 15-4 run for the Bears to send the Aggies down 14 points. The Aggies never recovered.

"We mixed it up well with them for a while," NMSU coach Marvin Menzies said. "But we lost to a good team."

"I thought we had some areas where we made some growth, but their big boys went to work on our babies and were just more physical," Menzies said.

## COLLEGE BASKETBALL

### New Mexico at New Mexico State

Tipoff: 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20

Radio: 98.7 FM

### Northern New Mexico at New Mexico State

Tipoff: 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 22

Radio: 98.7 FM

## MACK, FROM PAGE 18

practice hard every time and be consistent, working on communication in practice and trying to be a leader."

The Aggies are producing on the offensive end this season, averaging 72.4 points per game despite dropping the first three games. The Aggies have also held their own on defense this year, holding their opponents to 72 points per game. NMSU's production is due to the amount of depth on the roster. Six players are averaging seven or more points per contest this season while the team has also accumulated 30 blocks and 95 steals in eight games.

"I think we have some depth, we all have different things that we can contribute, whether it's defense or offense. I

think we all have that one thing that we can bring to the team," Mack said.

With conference play right around the corner, Mack and her teammates are gearing up to face tough opponents, most notably Idaho, who eliminated the Aggies from the WAC Tournament last year.

"We just have to stay together, through the good and the bad. We always have to have each others back and be willing to work hard and work hard for each other," Mack said.

The Aggies now head to Long Beach, Calif., to participate in the Beach Classic hosted by Long Beach State.

NMSU faces Pacific Friday, Dec. 19, before meeting Florida Atlantic on Saturday, Dec. 20.

## SONBLAZERS, FROM PAGE 18

"We have been really focusing on small details and just working hard in general," senior Tristan Franzoy said. "We have to be precise on everything, make all our layups and hit all of our shots."

Franzoy said he believes teamwork has been the key to the SonBlazers recent victories. Franzoy and fellow senior Jeff Adler have become a powerful presence on the court for MVCS. Adler credits the SonBlazers defense for production on the floor.

"If we don't come out with intensity on defense, then we usually do pretty

poorly," Adler said. "In our last tournament, it really showed when we came out intense on defense, we executed and performed very well."

Although the season is still young, the SonBlazers have their sights set on what needs to be done leading up to the playoffs.

"We just need to keep up that intensity, keep our composure in those close games," Adler said. "We've had a few close ones and we were able to keep our poise."

The SonBlazers returned to the court Thursday, Dec. 18, at Portales High.

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# There's still time to get your favorite golfer a gift



**Charlie Blanchard**  
Golf Doctor

Last spring there were hundreds of shopping days to Christmas. Not no more. Now you've got only a few days to do your last-minute shopping for that special gift that will make the golfer or golfers in your world really happy.

Your best bet is to do your shopping right here in Las Cruces, and trust me, you'll have plenty of great gift items to choose from. Here are my best suggestions.

If your favorite golfer is an Aggie fan, the place to go is the New Mexico State University Golf Course pro shop. They have a ship-load of Aggie gear; even high-end garb not found in the bookstore. There are cool-weather zip pullovers by Ashworth for \$66 and \$68, as well as fleece pullover vests by Columbia for \$39.50. My

favorite is a combo nylon and fleece pullover for \$42.50.

You can get a T-shirt and Aggie cap combination for 25-percent off and you can pick your own style and color, or you can pick an NFL logo cap with a matching dozen golf balls. One of the best stocking stuffers is an Aggie Hydro Flask that will keep your beverage hot or cold for many hours, at \$22 to \$26.

Another popular stocking stuffer is the 3-pack of leather-like Aggie head covers for \$40 or a Pistol Pete fuzzy cover for \$27. The NMSU shop has a new line of nifty Aggie junior apparel as well as an array of U.S. Kids junior clubs.

One gift product I know will make a big hit is the mini GPS range finder made by Golf Buddy. I've seen this item at the PGA Golf Show and

it's great. The device is no bigger than a large watch and gives you middle, front and back of the green yardage, and comes pre-loaded with 30,000 golf courses. The standard unit is \$99 and the voice-active unit is \$130. Or you can get your top golfer a gift certificate at the NMSU shop for a golf club or set of clubs and the professional club-fitting service comes free. Be sure to ask about the customer loyalty awards program where you get ample credit with your purchases.

Over at the Sonoma Ranch Golf Course pro shop they are featuring Nike long sleeve thermal pullovers at \$69.99 and Under Armour thermal vests for \$69.99. The Under Armour "Sun Block" nylon short sleeve golf shirt is \$59.99

and boasts SPF 30 sun protection. For women, there are Nike

L.S. thermal pullovers at \$69.99 that come in sharp red, white and blue, as well as equally sharp FootJoy short sleeve shirts for \$59.99. Your special golfer is sure to appreciate a pair of Under Armour golfing sunglasses in an array of beautiful colors for \$94.99. Don't forget to match your clothing purchases with the right color logo golf cap for \$24.99. Sonoma Ranch is featuring a special on Titleist "Vokey" wedges, which are the very best, for only \$129.99.

At Dick's sporting goods they say that "every season begins at Dicks."

Golf season is partly ending, but Dicks is fully stocked for everything golfing. They have Under Armour "infrared" T-neck zips and pullovers at \$74.99 with super warm beanie caps at \$24.99. Their mock-T's are \$49.99 and Nike golf fleece shirts are \$48.75. Long sleeve Adidas zip "downswing" jackets, regularly \$70 are now 40 percent off. I think

perhaps the best deal is for Walter Hagen shirts that are regularly \$50 to \$60 but are now 50 percent off for the season. Dick's has a full selection of well-priced golf bags from Top Flite, Ogio, Titleist, Nike, Callaway and Taylor Made, as well as a vast selection of putters.

For those golfers who like to have their music with them when they play, as I do, a full-sound, chargeable, reliable portable speaker is a must. My two favorites are the Bose Sound Link Mini, that has big sound in a small package (about the size of a 1-pound brick of cheese), and the Charge 2 model by JBL that will take a charge for 12 hours and with a port to charge your cell phone if necessary. The Bose is \$199.99 and the JBL is \$149.99, both at Best Buy.

*Charlie Blanchard is a licensed psychologist specializing in sports and leadership. Contact Blanchard at performancecoach@zianet.com.*



## Ag coach inducted into Hall of Fame

Orin Richburg, the New Mexico State University head cross country and track and field coach, was named as one of the 15 inductees for the first annual Pittsburgh City League All-Sports Hall of Fame on Saturday, Dec. 13, organized by Achieving Greatness, Inc.

The event recognized 50 nominees and honored the 15 inductees into the City League's own Hall of Fame.

"The honor for me to be included in the first group of 15 former city of Pittsburgh athletes that have excelled in their hometown is unbelievable," Richburg said. "I have always strived to do the best I can under the circumstances presented. I prepared myself academically as well as athletically for success at the highest level."

In his seventh year with the program, Richburg continues to lead the team to great successes. During the 2014 cross country season, Richburg saw senior Hab Rubio become the first New Mexico State runner to win the Western Athletic Conference men's individual cross country championship at the WAC Championships

Among his achievements with the team, Richburg has also been inducted into the Western Pa. Heinz Sports Museum and the Kent State Hall of Fame. He has also served as assistant coach for the United States Track and Field Team at the World



NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY PHOTO

**New Mexico State University cross country and track coach Orin Richburg has been inducted into Pittsburgh City League All-Sports Hall of Fame.**

Championships in Istanbul, Turkey in March 2012.

"Coach Richburg has helped me so much ever since I was a freshman," former athlete Jenna Banegas said. "He is hard working, passionate and a great provider to all of his athletes."

## Shelton helps pace Grossmont



**Barbara Boxleitner**  
*Keeping up*

Sophomore Shane Shelton has been a key part of the offense for the Grossmont College (Calif.) men's basketball team.

Through 10 games (5-5), including nine starts, the Las Cruces resident averaged 9.8 points, third on the squad.

The guard had a season-high 24 points in the opener and scored 11 or more points three other times.

### More men's basketball

Oñate High School graduate Tim Jacobs had eight points and five rebounds for University of New Mexico against University of Louisiana at Monroe.

Out of Las Cruces High, Malik Woods-Williams is a freshman guard for Northern New Mexico College.

### Men's swimming

William Jewell College junior Parker Temple, a Las Cruces High product, was fourth in the 200-yard backstroke and fifth in the 100 backstroke against University of Missouri and Lindenwood University.

### Women's basketball

Mayfield High School graduate

Daeshianna McCants is a freshman for University of Texas at El Paso. She started two of seven games and averaged 4.6 rebounds and 3.7 points. She had eight rebounds and seven points against Northern Arizona University.

### Women's swimming

University of Minnesota's Samantha Harding placed seventh in the 200 backstroke during the Jean Freeman Invitational, which featured 15 additional Midwest teams. The Las Cruces alumna finished ninth in the 200 breaststroke.

Las Cruces High graduate Moranda Madero was fourth in the 100-yard butterfly against Colorado State University and fifth in the 200 butterfly against Northern Arizona.

Another from Las Cruces High, New Mexico State University sophomore Josi Gabaldon was a part of the 200 freestyle relay that finished second against Colorado State University.

Also a former Bulldawg, Melissa Rogers was fifth in the 800 freestyle against Northern Arizona.

Fresno Pacific University junior Amanda Acosta, who competed for the Bulldawgs, was fifth in the 3-meter dive against University of California, Santa Cruz.

*Send updates about area athletes to Barbara Boxleitner at BKLE3@aol.com.*

# 'No Doubt' Trout pays tribute to his boxing PALs



LAS CRUCES BULLETIN PHOTOS BY TODD DICKSON

Above, Police Athletic League (PAL) board President Ron Schulmeister and pro boxer, Las Cruces' 'No Doubt' Austin Trout – who defeated Luis Grajeda Thursday, Dec. 11 with a TKO after seven rounds – give a plaque to Ben Rodriguez for the support he has given to the PAL gym and organization at an awards ceremony Monday, Dec. 15. The ceremony recognized donors, supporters, coaches and athletes. Right, Trout said the PAL gym "Really changed my life. I can take care of my family and help out a lot of people." Below, Joe Bob Sellers talks about how far the gym and program have come since he first started PAL boxing years ago. Standing next to Sellers are PAL board members Alma Cortez and Rose Maese.



## Professional Golf Association gives award to NMSU's Gavin

By **Amanda Bradford**  
For the Las Cruces Bulletin

Pat Gavin, head of the New Mexico State University PGA Golf Management program and department head for Marketing in the College of Business, is the recipient of the 2014 PGA National 2014 Horton Smith Award in recognition of his contributions to professional development and education within the golf industry.



GAVIN

Gavin has received the award at the regional level for the Sun Country Section, which includes New Mexico and West Texas, more than a dozen times, but this is his first time receiving

the national award.

He was among several national award recipients profiled during the 2014 PGA of America Awards on Dec. 15. The broadcast can be viewed online at [http://www.pgamediacenter.com/videos/2014\\_PGA\\_Awards.cfm#](http://www.pgamediacenter.com/videos/2014_PGA_Awards.cfm#).

"I'm very proud and honored to receive this award on behalf of myself, our PGA Golf Management Program, NMSU, the Sun Country PGA and the state of New Mexico," Gavin said. "To win the section award 13 times was great, but the national award is the summit and a career-long goal achieved."

Gavin serves as secretary on the Sun Country Section's board of directors and is also the education chairman for the region, where he has played a key

role in the development of both the section's education and apprentice programs.

He's been an active member of the PGA since 1997.

For more than 20 years, Gavin has led the NMSU PGA Golf Management program, growing the program from about 40 participants to as high as 300 with a waiting list. Though the number of programs offered nationally has grown from three active universities to 19, NMSU has been able to maintain enrollment of more than 140 current students.

He joined the faculty as assistant director of the golf management program, taking over the reins as director in 1994. The program, brought to NMSU by NCAA hall of fame coach

Herb Wimberly, has seen steady growth under Gavin's stewardship – during which time Gavin also became a full college professor.

"To hear from graduates from over the past 21 years saying that I made a difference in their lives and careers means everything," Gavin said.

"I am truly blessed to have been given this opportunity, and Herb Wimberly is a big part of why I am here."

College of Business Dean Jim Hoffman said Gavin has kept the NMSU program – one of the nation's first – in the spotlight.

For more information about the PGA Golf Management program at NMSU, visit <http://business.nmsu.edu/academics/undergraduate/golf>

# LookingBack

## This week in the history of the Mesilla Valley



**Zak Hansen**  
Reflections

### 100yearsago

**1914**

• The Doña Ana County treasurer released a statement for the year ending Nov. 30, 1914, detailing the financial state of the county, which closed the fiscal year with a balance of \$92,259.28. The net position at the end of last year indicated Doña Ana County ended 2013 with a balance of \$230,882,012.

• The Las Cruces Citizen reported Thomas F. Cooney left in his Ford for Mogollon, accompanied by his wife and children. He went to find his uncle, 70-year-old Charles M. Cooney, who had been lost in the mountains since the previous month. Earlier, the Citizen reported of the missing Cooney, “age had not diminished the fever of the prospector in his veins.”

• The Las Cruces Citizen reported a census showed that 38,492 bales of cotton were ginned in Doña Ana County from the crop of 1939 before Dec. 1, 1939. In 2012, Doña Ana County produced 17,100 bales of upland cotton.

### 75yearsago

**1939**

• Bobby Butts was visiting Las Cruces from

Presbyterian School at Marysville, Tenn., spending Christmas with his mother, Mrs. Onna Butts.

• Funeral services were held last week for 108-year-old Victoriano Holguin, of Tortugas, “found dead in a wheat field near his home Sunday morning.”

### 50yearsago

**1964**

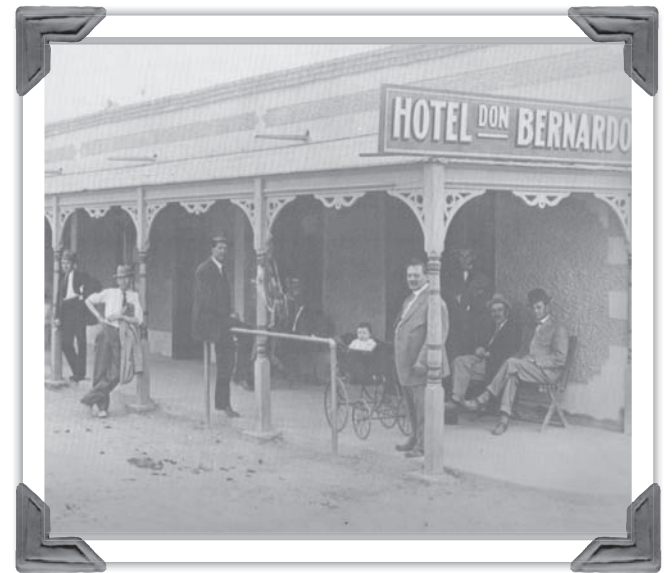
• New Mexico State University biology professor Dr. Marlowe G. Anderson was awarded the university’s highest faculty honor, the Westhafer Award for teaching, the Citizen reported. The award, named for Dr. Robert L. Westhafer, mathematics professor, was most recently awarded to NMSU geography professor John B. Wright in 2013.

• Gov. Jack M. Campbell was to celebrate in Las Cruces the inauguration of his second term “with fitting flourishes” in January, the Citizen reported. The day’s program would feature a formal swearing-in ceremony, a public reception and traditional Inaugural Ball, held that night at the La Fonda.

### 25yearsago

**1989**

• The town of Mesilla was granted at 2.82-acre easement for a well-site on mesa land west of the community by the Bureau of Land Management, the Dec. 20 Las Cruces Bulletin reported, bringing the town “one step closer to obtaining and operating its own water system.”



NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY RIO GRANDE HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS PHOTO

This photo, dated 1920, shows a group of patrons in front of the popular Hotel don Bernardo, located in Downtown Las Cruces.

• Farmers Insurance Group agent and owner Kenneth Miyagishima announced his intention to seek the Democratic nomination for state representative from House District 37 in Las Cruces, citing “education, economic development and improving the quality of life for senior citizens” as his main concerns, the Bulletin reported.

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

*The New Mexico State University Library Archives & Special Collections Department needs your help!*

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— PUBLIC NOTICE —

## MINIMUM WAGE

Pursuant to Las Cruces Municipal Code, Ordinance #2741, the minimum wage in the city limits of Las Cruces will increase to \$8.40 per hour on January 1, 2015. The tipped minimum wage will be 40% of the minimum wage. The Ordinance is accessible online at [las-cruces.org](http://las-cruces.org).

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— PÚBLICO AVISO —

## SALARIO MÍNIMO

De acuerdo con el Código Municipal de la ciudad de Las Cruces, el salario mínimo dentro de los límites de la ciudad aumentará a \$8.50 por hora a partir del 1ro de Enero del 2015. El aumento será de un 40% de incremento sobre el salario mínimo actual. La Ordenanza está accesible por Internet en: [las-cruces.org](http://las-cruces.org).

/CityofLasCruces

# In the news

## Omnibus bill both touted and criticized by New Mexico delegation

U.S. Sens. Tom Udall and Martin Heinrich joined in voting 56-40 for the \$1.1 trillion "omnibus" appropriations bill to fund the government – including critical New Mexico programs – through September 2015, the end of the Fiscal Year.

The bill includes full funding for the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program, which helps pay for law enforcement, schools, roads and other local government services. It provides more than \$100 million in additional funding to continue recovery from the radiation leak at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP), as well as continued work on the B61 Life Extension Project (LEP) at Los Alamos and Sandia national labs; construction and projects at Kirtland and Cannon Air Force bases; technology transfer to help stimulate job growth; rural water projects; and public lands programs.

"This bill includes critical funding for New Mexico, to sustain our national labs and military bases, continue recovery at WIPP, and ensure New Mexicans can count on basic government services like schools, public safety, roads and so many other needs," Udall said. "I'm extremely disappointed that this bill also contains measures that weaken campaign finance laws and roll back Wall Street reforms. Our duty is to the American people – not Wall Street billionaires and bankers. But at the end of the day, I could not risk a government shutdown. I will continue to do everything I can as a member of the Appropriations Committee to get Congress back to working for New Mexico and the American people. The American people deserve better than this broken process. They deserve a Congress that works – that is open and deliber-

ate – not last-minute deals and gimmicks for special interests. We cannot keep getting in just under the wire."

"After careful consideration of this bill, I've decided that the good outweighs the bad. New Mexico relies heavily on these federal investments," Heinrich said. "Home to military bases, national laboratories, and WIPP, our state serves the nation in many ways. Federal dollars help fund critical education initiatives, infrastructure projects, and other vitally important economic drivers. This appropriations bill also includes funding for our nation's response to the Ebola epidemic and to combat the threat presented by the terrorist organization ISIL.

"It is very unfortunate that the bill includes policy riders that I don't support and which don't belong there – including ones that would open the floodgates to special interest money influencing our elections and undo reforms to protect hardworking taxpayers from having to again bailout Wall Street bankers. I'm also opposed to an amendment that could compromise the retirement security of hardworking families. While I'm pleased that PILT funding was included in the final package, I will continue to push for full and dedicated funding for Secure Rural Schools to give our counties the budget certainty they need. Our economy desperately needs long-term stability. It doesn't need another government shutdown. We must continue to work together and be willing to compromise in order to get things done for the American people and New Mexico."

Congressman Steve Pearce voted in favor of the omnibus bill, which was signed by President Barack Obama.

Pearce said the spending would protect American jobs, fund national security priorities, reduce wasteful spending and provide for veterans.

"Passing the spending

bill as our last order of business this year was critical, as it will provide certainty and stability for New Mexico businesses through the next fiscal year," Pearce said. "Compelling points and arguments existed on both sides of the issues, and I found there were reasons to vote for and against the bill. The bill provides several provisions to protect jobs and restrict crippling federal regulation and overreach, including protecting farmers and ranchers from new grazing fees on BLM and Forest Service lands. The legislation also reduces federal bureaucracy. It decreases funding for the IRS by \$346 million. The bill restricts overreach of the federal government, including a provision to prevent the EPA from passing a rule to regulate lead content in ammunition, and it prohibits the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers from requiring Clean Water Act permits for agricultural ponds and ditches.

"We have increased funding for the National Institutes of Health and provided \$45.2 billion for VA medical services, including \$7 billion for mental health care, \$133 million for suicide prevention and \$7 billion for homeless veterans' assistance.

"The bill increases funding for hazardous fuels reduction to help Western communities prevent catastrophic wildfires. It also prevents the administration from implementing new fees on oil and gas producers who create jobs and ensure stable energy prices for middle-class families. The bill cuts full-time employees at the EPA to the lowest level in 25 years, and rejects \$66 million requested by the President to implement even more economically devastating regulations. The bill will give statewide conservation efforts a chance to succeed by preventing a listing of the sage grouse, which would have severe economic consequences for many Western communities."

Highlights of the FY CR-Omnibus Appropriations Bill:

- \$45.2 billion for VA

medical services, including \$7 billion for mental health care, \$133 million for suicide prevention and \$7 billion for homeless veterans' assistance

- \$209 million to assist with VA Veterans Choice Program
- Prevents federal regulations on farm ponds, irrigation ditches
- Prohibits proposed new grazing fees on BLM and U.S. Forest Service lands
- Since 2010, overall spending has decreases \$10.91 Trillion to \$1.013 Trillion (\$80 billion). The IRS budget has been reduced more than \$1.2 billion since 2010 and is currently funded below 2008 levels.
- Since 2010, the EPA budget has been reduced by more than \$2 billion.
- EPA employee levels are at the lowest since 1989.
- Budget rejects new EPA regulatory programs.
- Defunds \$4.3 billion "Race to the Top," the program, and the Common Core State Standards.

The FY 2015 CR-Omnibus Appropriations bill passed the House of Representatives by a 219 to 206 vote.

## Detective gets 20 years for sex abuse

In District Court Monday, Dec. 15, District Judge Fernando Macias sentenced former Las Cruces Police Detective Michael Garcia to 30 years imprisonment, 10

of which were suspended, for three counts of criminal sexual contact of a minor in the second degree and two counts of criminal sexual contact of a minor in the second degree (person in position of authority).

Garcia was initially arrested on Aug. 23, 2013, for sexually assaulting a minor then a second time on Sept. 4, 2013, with 10 additional charges related to sexually assaulting another young girl.

The victim, a family member, read a statement to the court many times addressing Garcia directly citing occasions of the abuse he inflicted upon her even finding the opportunity on family vacations. She accused Garcia of wearing a mask for the community to hide who he really was "a monster" to her.

"Throughout the ordeal the victim has been the bravest, most articulate young lady I have ever met, her courage was infectious to us all," District Attorney Mark D'Antonio said. "This sentence has been a long time coming and we are very happy with it."

Garcia has already received a nine-year federal sentence for admitting to raping a teenage girl who was an Excel Intern with the department in the summer of 2013. The two sentences will run concurrent to each other meaning Garcia will serve the nine-year federal sentence in Massachusetts then be transferred back to New Mexico to



GARCIA



DE LA CRUZ

serve the remaining 11-year sentence from District Court.

Also on Monday, Macias sen-

tenced Clemente De La Cruz to 21 years imprisonment on counts of Aggravated Assault on a Peace Officer with Intent to kill; Tampering with evidence and Resisting, Evading & Obstructing an Officer (Arrest).

On April 15, 2013, Sheriff's Deputy Scott Bayles witnessed the vehicle driven by De La Cruz make a U-turn on Valley Drive. When the deputy pulled up alongside, the driver stated he was having car problems. Bayles turned around and pulled up behind De La Cruz' parked vehicle to assist but when he approached the driver side with his flashlight De La Cruz suddenly jumped out of the vehicle wielding a sawed off shotgun and attempted to shoot Bayles but the gun failed.

Bayles fired striking the defendant once in each thigh. De La Cruz fled and hid in the Valley Westwind area. Border Patrol utilized heat sensor's to locate him and he was promptly arrested.

De La Cruz has a 2007 conviction for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon as well as a 2008 conviction for shooting at a dwelling. He recently pled to felony counts of possession of a firearm in Federal Court which carries a term of 20 years imprisonment.

Federal Court sentence is pending.

## JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM, VOICES OF THE NATIVITY



Friday, December 19

6:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 20

2:30 & 6 p.m.

The tickets are FREE and we ask that people pick them up at Calvary Baptist Church between the hours of 9:00-4:00.

1800 S. Locust st. • 575-522-7900

# Menorah in Mesilla

While celebrating Chanukah (Hanukkah) at the menorah lighting ceremony on the Mesilla plaza Wednesday, Dec. 17, Corry McKissack dances with a circle of women.

PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER BELARDE



Above, Rabbi Bery Schmukler recites a traditional Hebrew prayer.



Olivia Cicero, 9, celebrates the lighting of a third candle on the menorah.



As is tradition, jelly-filled doughnuts were passed out during the menorah lighting ceremony.

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# SeniorActivities



## SINGING DANCERS

The Swinging Dancers will have a Christmas Party and Dance from 7 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20, hosted by Golden Mesa Retirement Center at 151 N. Roadrunner Parkway.

Couples, singles and their guests are welcome. Music will be by Mark Coker.

For more information, call 649-5306.

## BINGO

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. and first game is at 6:30 p.m.

Food and sodas will be available.

For more information, call 526-9139.

Bingo Mania is from 1:15 to 2:45 p.m. Wednesdays at Eastside Community Center, 310 N. Tornillo St.

There is no cost to play.

Free bingo is offered from 1 to 2 p.m. Wednesdays at Benavidez Center, 1045 McClure Road.

Players have a chance

to win a prize and have fun with friends and neighbors.

For more information, call 528-3000.

## ENHANCE FITNESS

Enhance Fitness classes are offered from 8:45 to 9:45 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at Eastside Community Center, 310 N. Tornillo St.

Participants must be age 60 or older and members of Senior Programs. The class is free.

## SHUFFLE BOARD

Shuffle board tournaments are held every Sunday at VFW Post 10124, 709 S. Valley Drive.

Open to all VFW members and their sponsored guests. For more information, call 525-5761.

## 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.

## AEROBICS

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 those 60 or older.

## TRAVELERS CLUB

Discover Switzerland, April 22-May 1, 2015, \$3,549 double; \$3,849 single. Sign up by Nov. 17.

Alaska Cruise, May 29-June 9, 2015, \$3,400 and up.

Chicago, June 19-29, 2015, \$1,018 double.

Nashville Show Trip, Sept. 26-Oct. 4, 2015, \$886 double.

Costa Rica, Oct. 24-Nov. 1, 2015, \$2,399 double.

For more information, call Helen Glover at 805-4920.

## AQUATICS FITNESS

Aquatics fitness class combines cardio with

strength building and is for all ages and fitness levels. Class is from 9 to 10 a.m. Monday through Friday.

The classes take place at the Las Cruces Regional Aquatic Center, 1401 E. Hadley Ave. Cost is \$2, or \$1 for those 60 or older.

## YOGA CLASSES

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 those 60 or older.

## DANCESPORT

New Mexico State University's DanceSport team teaches two weekly lessons from 7 to 8 p.m. and from 8 to 9 p.m. Tuesdays in the Rentfrow Gym on the NMSU campus, 3165 Williams Ave.

The first class is a beginner class and is free.

The second class costs \$5 and is intermediate. For more information,

call 646-5704.

## BOARD GAMES

Board games such as Scrabble, dominoes, Mexican train, Uno, Skip-Bo, cribbage and 1 to 13/Five Crown are held from 9 to 11 a.m. Fridays at Sage Cafe, 6121 Reynolds Drive.

For more information, call 528-3035.

## CHAIR EXERCISES

Chair exercises led by Lisa Ortega are from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Eastside Community Center, 310 N. Tornillo St.

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

## CALL FOR LOCAL SENIOR ARTISTS

An artist is needed to paint a mural for the Eastside Community Center, located at 310 N. Tornillo St.

The work medium is paint and the surface is the exterior of the Tornillo side of the building. Submit résumés by Jan. 31, 2015,

## FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS

Munson Senior Center  
528-3000

AARP  
636-5877

Henry Benavidez Community Center  
541-5185

Eastside Community Center  
528-3012

Frank O'Brien Papan Community Center  
541-2455

In-Home Services  
541-2451

Resource Center  
528-3011

Senior Nutrition Program  
528-3012

Doña Ana County Senior Olympics  
386-2050

Dial-A-Ride Senior Transportation  
541-2777

In-Home Services  
541-2451

to Lori Crumet at the Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St.



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electricity so much that less solar is required to go \$0 electric, achieving the lowest total cost.

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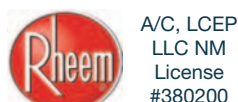
EXAMPLE	
5 Ton Geo System	\$26,110
Renewable Credits	-\$8,997
Cash Discount	-\$1,500
Down Payment	\$0
<b>Finance</b>	<b>\$15,614</b>
Fed. Tax Credit	-\$7,383
NM Tax Credit	-\$7,255
<b>Net Cost</b>	<b>\$975</b>
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88005	42
88007	36
88008	11
88011	57
88012	25
88021-24	8
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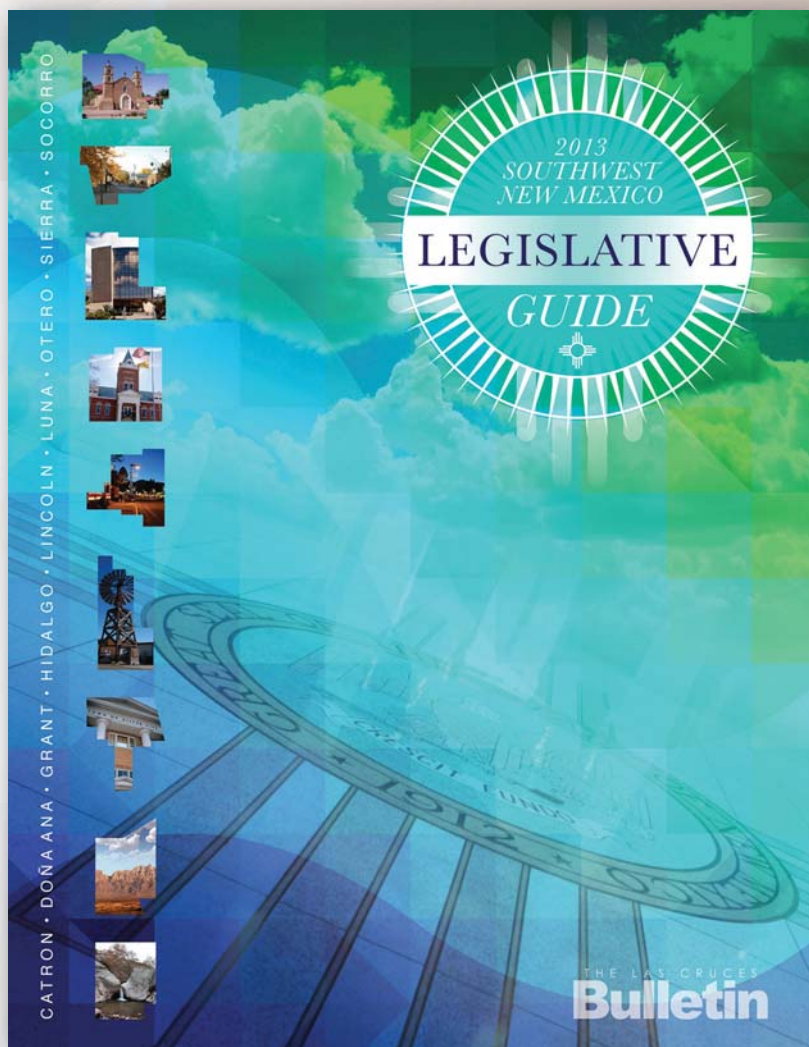
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# 9th Edition of "All I Want For Christmas" The Ashley Furniture HomeStore Furniture Giveaway

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**All letters and emails must be received by Dec. 22, 2014. An independent panel of judges will make the final selections.**

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All letters and emails must be received by December 22, 2014 at the Las Cruces Ashley Furniture HomeStore, herein AFHS. "All I want for Christmas" Furniture Give-A-Way is open to all residents in our trade area. No purchase necessary to enter or be selected. All entries must be postmarked by December 18, 2014. All entries after this date will not be considered. AFHS is not responsible for late, damaged or incomplete entries. Furniture is in the Las Cruces AFHS store showroom, is on selected available dinettes, living room, bedroom, and recliners. AFHS of Las Cruces intends to deliver furniture before Christmas if possible. Families will be selected based on their need to receive furniture. All families selected to receive the furniture will be made at the discretion of the preliminary and final independent selection panel participants. The final judging panel will consist of community leaders and respected community members.

## Chef Tatsu to oversee cuisine at Turner's Sierra Grande Lodge

### Bulletin Staff Report

The Restaurant at Sierra Grande, located at the Sierra Grande Lodge & Spa, will open in January 2015 under the direction of Las Cruces chef and restaurateur Tatsu Miyazaki.

Media mogul Ted Turner purchased Sierra Grande Lodge & Spa in 2013.

The resort is known for its healing hot springs, luxurious accommodations, rustic charm and tranquil spa experiences.

"We are eager to expand upon Sierra Grande's offerings with the opening of this new restaurant in January," Turner said in a statement. "We have the utmost confidence in Chef Tatsu and his team, and we are excited to see this concept come to fruition."

Miyazaki will offer the latest restaurant concepts and catering, highlighting seasonal, contemporary American dishes with southwestern fare and global influence.

"It is a privilege to be able to partner with Ted Turner

and his team at Sierra Grande Lodge & Spa to create a memorable dining experience for guests of the lodge, as well as the public, and to further allow us the opportunity to create jobs for the Sierra County community," he said.

Miyazaki owns World Class Gourmet International Inc. as well as Savoy de Mesilla and Aqua Reef in Las Cruces.

In June, World Class Gourmet was named Virgin Galactic's first exclusive catering partner serving the needs of Spaceport America astronauts.

Miyazaki drew upon his international experience to create 300 menu items for Virgin Galactic.

He said the Savoy team will prepare the food for future Virgin Galactic astronauts during their three days of on-site training, as well as for a celebratory reception and dinner for a larger group after the flight returns.

Miyazaki's previous local ventures include owner of Tatsu's from 1983 to 2002 and



Chef Tatsu Miyazaki is pictured in the kitchen at Savoy de Mesilla in July when his company, World Class Gourmet, was named hospitality partner for Virgin Galactic in Sierra County. World Class Gourmet International Inc. will operate the restaurant at Sierra Grande Lodge & Spa.

SEE LODGE, PAGE B2

## BRIEFS

### 20th local shopping spree winner named

Thor Stromberg is the 20th winner of the RTD Hardware's semi-annual shopping spree drawing. The win entitles him to \$1,000 worth of merchandise from the hardware store.

"I can't believe we are giving away our 20th award," said store manager Tom Shamp. "We are proud that we have been able to do this for our customers for so long."

The contest will be held again in spring 2015 and will be open to residents of Doña Ana County. For more information, call 525-2446 or visit the store located at 4501 N Valley Drive.

RTD Hardware has been a locally owned and operated hardware store since 1986.

### Junior Amigos seeks members

Junior Amigos of the Las Cruces Hispanic Chamber of Commerce is looking for youth volunteers to serve as junior ambassadors.

A meeting for interested high school students will be held 5 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 6, in the conference room at 2777 E. Amador Ave.

Participating students will

- Build leadership, character and job skills
- Participate in community service activities
- Interact with youth throughout Doña Ana County
- Interact with local business leaders
- Earn a stipend for year of participation
- Make a difference in the community

For more information, call the chamber at 524-8900.

SEE BRIEFS, PAGE B2

## How to find last-minute 'gifts' from the IRS

By **Alta LeCompte**  
Las Cruces Bulletin

Before the giant chile descends Downtown on New Year's Eve, it's last call for maximizing your 2014 tax breaks.

Don't look under the tree for deductions – look into your holiday bonus, retirement plan, charitable giving and investments. Making some changes now in the way you use those financial tools could pay off at tax time.

CPA and Beasley, Mitchell, & Co. partner Brad Beasley and his brother attorney David, who joined the firm this year after four years with McGrath North law firm in Omaha, where he was associate tax and estate planning attorney, shared some ideas on what to look for.

### Don't leave retirement money on the table.

If you're an employee, max out your 401(k) plan contributions, making sure you at least take advantage of the matching contribution your employer makes. Your employer's contribution is free money: Don't leave it one table.

Brad Beasley said the average person in Las Cruces is probably paying 25 percent of their income in federal income tax, so they would save 25 cents on every dollar they put into a tax-deferred plan. With a tax deferred plan, you set aside pre-tax dollars; you don't pay current income tax on those savings or the income your retirement investments. You pay taxes when you retire and are likely

to be in a lower tax bracket. Meanwhile, your nest egg has a chance to grow throughout your working life.

An especially easy way to add to your retirement nestegg – and save on current taxes – is to make strategic decisions about your Christmas or year-end bonus.

"You can tell your employer you would like to defer all or that or part of that, especially if you live on your salary and treat the extra money as a true bonus," David Beasley said. "This works especially well for people who have a hard time saving. This is the easy way to do it, not putting your bonus money in

SEE TAX, PAGE B2

## LODGE,

FROM PAGE B1

partner of The Mix from 1999 to 2002. Earlier he was sous chef at Tepan Yaki Restaurant and head chef at Minato, both in Albuquerque.

He has received numerous awards for culinary expertise. He is an American Culinary Federation (ACF) Certified Executive Chef with more than 30 years of experience as a restaurateur and executive chef. He has been a chef instructor at Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts in Las Vegas, and has owned, operated and consulted for restaurants throughout the world.

Miyazaki began his formal culinary arts education at New Mexico State University and has been studying, teaching and competing ever since.

Sierra Grande Lodge & Spa in October also was designated a hospitality partner for Virgin Galactic.

The lodge near Truth or Consequences, along with Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces, is an official lodging

option for astronauts who will take sub-orbital space flights from the New Mexico spaceport in Sierra County.

“Our goal is to transform Sierra Grande Lodge & Spa into a world-class destination, and we need a great restaurant in order to do that,” said Turner Enterprises President and CEO Taylor Glover. “Chef Tatsu and his talented team will provide a more well-rounded set of healthy meal options to our guests, and offer a variety of food items for those touring our two ranches in southwest New Mexico.”

Beginning in 2015, Sierra Grande Lodge & Spa will offer nature, adventure and experiential tours on Turner’s two properties surrounding the city of Truth or Consequences, the Ladder Ranch and the Armendaris Ranch. Comprising a combined total of 513,000 acres of land, both ranches are home to a variety of wildlife and aquatic species, as well as stunning mountains and desertscapes.

The lodge is a launching point for visitors to New Mexico to discover the area’s recreational, eco-tour-

ism and artistic opportunities including ancient hot springs, hunting and fishing, hiking, boating, bird watching, historic ghost towns, fine art galleries and world-class golf.

Turner Enterprises Inc. (TEI), a private company, manages the business interests, land holdings and investments of Ted Turner, including the oversight of two million acres in 12 states and in Argentina, and more than 51,000 bison.

TEI also works closely with Turner’s philanthropic and charitable interests, including the founding and ongoing operations of the United Nations Foundation, Nuclear Threat Initiative, Turner Foundation, Captain Planet Foundation and the Turner Endangered Species Fund.

Turner Enterprises is headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia, also home to the Ted’s Montana Grill restaurant chain and Turner Renewable Energy.

Visit [www.sierragrandelodge.com](http://www.sierragrandelodge.com) for more information about Sierra Grande Lodge & Spa.

## TAX, FROM PAGE B1

your pocket or toward a lavish and magnificent present.”

Employers, too, may be able to improve their tax position by making some retirement plan changes.

“There are only a couple of options this late in the year. Most plans are done making changes by Oct. 15,” Beasley said. “Employers should always have that conversation with their tax advisor in September.”

Beasley said last-minute retirement plan adjustments may be an option in certain circumstances.

“As an employer, you may want to look at this if your income is up substantially from the previous year or if you’re a small-business owner who is nearing retirement and would benefit from defer-

ring until retirement puts you into a lower tax bracket.

“Why pay it now when you can pay it later?” he asked.

Brad Beasley said employers can wait until their tax returns are due, usually Sept. 15, to put their match into the company’s retirement plan.

### Give it away – now

If you’re planning to make year-end gifts to charity, timing is everything.

“One of the big things is if you’re going to give to charity, make sure your checks clear before the end of the year,” David Beasley said. “Don’t write a check on New Year’s Eve and expect to claim it (as a 2014 deduction).”

In-kind giving also counts as a contribution to charity.

“What we see a lot is people tend to under-value their in-kind (tangible) gifts,” Brad Beasley said, of taxpayers who donate used goods.

He said the IRS and the Salvation Army partnered to set agreed-upon values for donations of used merchandise, for instance shirts and other clothing.

“The deduction may be \$2 a shirt, but you may give a bag full of 40 shirts and only claim \$30 for

that donation,” he said, urging taxpayers to check the guidelines to be sure they’re claiming the deduction to which they’re entitled.

Many local businesses also make in-kind gifts to charity.

While giving new merchandise, such as clothing, is a straightforward process, giving used equipment can be tricky in New Mexico, he said.

“If I take an old computer and give it to charity, I can’t double-dip, because it’s already depreciated,” he said.

Churchgoers who put cash in the collection plate may also lose the ability to claim a charitable deduction, he said. In order to claim cash contributions, the parishioner must have a record of the amount recorded on an envelope. The church can then record the donation and include it the end-of-year statement sent to contributors.

“I think charitable giving is important,” he added. “If we make more money, we want to be more charitable. Unfortunately under the new tax code as your income goes up ability to deduct all contributions goes down.”

### Buy and sell smart

Both real property and other investments can be bought or sold at year-end to improve the tax picture for an individual or a business owner.

“If you arrange to sell a piece of property in 2014 but contractually cannot get paid until 2015, you’re essentially deferring that income until 2015,” Brad Beasley said. “We do a lot of planning around that.”

“Keep in mind, however, that simply waiting to cash your check or avoiding collection of your sales proceeds is generally not enough to take advantage of this opportunity.”

Strategically timing the sale of property is especially important for people who anticipate retiring and having less income the following year.


Ideally, that planning would take place in September, he said.

But now is a good time to look at your investment portfolio and possibly make some moves.

“If you feel like rebalancing, sell stocks with losses at the same time you sell stocks with gains at the same time to offset the gains,” Brad Beasley said.

He said contrary to popular belief, you don’t have to wait 31 days to re-buy a stock if you sold it for a gain.

Alta LeCompte can be reached at 680-1840 or [alta@las-crucesbulletin.com](mailto:alta@las-crucesbulletin.com).




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# DLCP taps Parsons as interim director

*Bulletin Staff Report*

Tuesday morning, Dec. 16 – Arianna Parsons' first day on the job as interim executive director of the Downtown Las Cruces Partnership (DLCP) – she already was digging in with back-to-back meetings.

DLCP Board President John L. Hummer announced her appointment on Dec. 15, following a unanimous vote by the board earlier that day.

He said Parsons will hold the position of interim director for 90 days, during which time the organization will conduct a search for a permanent executive director. Parsons will also be a candidate for the permanent position.

The position was held for the past three years by Carrie La Tour, who announced last week she would be relinquishing her role as effective Dec. 23.

“On behalf of DLCP's board of directors, we are extremely pleased and genuinely excited to have someone of Arianna's capabilities and passion for our Downtown's continued growth and development as our interim executive director. Not only can she relate with business owners working hard to grow their businesses, but she also lives in the immediate area of our Downtown. As she told us, this is more than just a job to her but rather a tremendous opportunity to make a real and impactful difference in our community,” Hummer said.

Parsons, along with her husband Tyrell Thacker, own Beck's Coffee, a roasting house and coffee bar at 130 N. Mesquite St.

The business got its start at the Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces where it continues to sell coffee.

Both Parsons and Thacker have played a key role in the revitalization of Downtown and the historic Mesquite District. Their bricks-and-mortar shop opened this spring with the help of a micro loan through the DLCP, the first local business to receive the start-up assistance.

In June, the couple hosted a ribbon cutting for the shop with the Las Cruces Green Chamber of Commerce and Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce.

“The growth of Beck's Coffee has allowed them to hire additional staff, whereby Tyrell can focus full-time efforts on managing the store while Arianna pursues other professional opportunities in Las Cruces thus the position with the DLCP,” Hummer said.

“I am extremely excited to take my passion for our Downtown to the next level as I work with my friends and colleagues towards the goal of strengthening, revitalizing and promoting Main Street and the surrounding neighborhoods,” Parsons said. “We have great momentum from all of the hard work and enthusiasm of the outgoing director, the board and other stakeholders, so I feel confident in saying that great things

are going to happen.”

She said her first priority will be meeting with stakeholders.

“We need to all work together to decide what's working, what we should keep even if it's not working yet and where to let go,” she said.

“One of the greatest challenges is to get folks to think outside of Downtown, to encompass the Mesquite and Alameda Depot historic areas as well,” said Parsons, a Mesquite district resident who also has lived in the Alameda Depot neighborhood.

Parsons is the former business manager of Positive Energy Solar and a graduate of the College of New Jersey with a degree in business.

After earning her degree in 2002, she opened Toast of the Town café in New Jersey.

Four years later, she returned to her native Missouri, where she managed Murry's jazz club and restaurant.

She spent three years in Los Angeles with the nonprofit Koreatown Youth and Community Center, where she was in charge of communication and promotion.

Parsons is the founder of My Green Cities LLC, which matched consumers and independent businesses on issues of sustainability and social awareness, providing resources for a more conscientious lifestyle, partnering with community groups and giving small business owners tools to communicate their good business practices to the community.

A former member of the Downtown planning committee, Parsons serves on the board of Las Esperanzas, a community organization dedicated to preserving



Arianna Parsons relaxes at Beck's Coffee after her first day on the job as interim executive director of the Las Cruces Downtown Partnership.

the Mesquite district.

“My passion lies in connecting to the community through hosting events, volunteering on boards and raising money for local nonprofits,” she said in her LinkedIn.com profile. “An out-of-the-box thinker, I believe that staying connected to the community is the key to propelling ourselves forward and can lead to innovative solutions for even the most systematically ingrained problems or obstacles.”

## Building Las Cruces



LAS CRUCES BULLETIN PHOTO BY ALTA LECOMPTÉ

The future Comfort Suites hotel takes shape Tuesday, Dec. 16, at 236 N. Telshor Blvd. 2 G Construction LLC of Albuquerque is building the hotel with financing from First Federal Savings. 2G is the development and construction arm of TNJ Group, which also includes the hotel management company TNJ Management. The hotel group operates three hotels in Albuquerque and one each in Santa Fe, Hobbs and Carlsbad. Properties include Choice, Hilton, La Quinta and Marriott.

## Save the Date

**FRI. 12/19**

**11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. High Tech Consortium of Southern New Mexico holiday lunch meeting**, Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces, 705 S. Telshor Blvd.

Meetings are open to the public and free (lunch \$20, optional). Anyone interested in growing technology in southern New Mexico is encouraged to attend. For more information, call Terry Jack at 522-3868.

**5 to 8 p.m. Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce Good Evening Las Cruces**, Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces, 705 S. Telshor Blvd. For more information, call the chamber at 524-1968.

**TUE. 1/6**

**11:30 a.m. Business in the Borderplex luncheon**, Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces. Bill Connor, chair of the Doña Ana County Legislative Coalition (DACLC), will speak. Reservations are required. Advance registration is \$20, payable by major credit card. Payment at the door with cash, check or credit card is \$25.

Register online at [mveda.com/blog](http://mveda.com/blog).

**5 p.m. Junior Amigos recruitment meeting**, 277 E. Amador Ave. conference room. For more information, call the Las Cruces Hispanic Chamber of Commerce at 524-8900.

**FRI. 1/16**

**6 p.m. 2014 Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce Choice Awards & Gala**, Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave. For more information, call the chamber at 524-1968.

**THU. 1/22**

**5 p.m. Business After Hours**, Adams Radio, 1355 California Ave. For more information, call the Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce, 524-1968.

**SAT.-MON. 1/31-2/2, 2015**

**Las Cruces Day in Santa Fe.** Early bird registration ends Jan. 9, 2015. For more information, call the Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce at 524-1968.

# Retailers, consumers better off without Black Friday



**Chris Erickson**  
*State of the Economy*

As the Christmas season winds down, you are probably recalling all the shopping you've done and thinking the same thing I am: Black Friday is a weird institution.

Retailers expend enormous resources to concentrate (they hope) a whole season of spending into a small period, impose enormous cost on themselves and inconvenience on their customers.

Consumers have only so much to spend on Christmas. The retailer hopes by luring the shopper into their store earlier, before the shopper has spent their money elsewhere, they will capture more of the consumer's budget. Thus is born the heavily advertised

Black Friday, with its deep discounts and an earlier and earlier starting time.

First, stores opened early on Black Friday, then at midnight. Now, they open at 5 p.m. Thanksgiving.

The result is Black Friday, with massive sales, packed aisles and long checkout lines.

Total holiday spending is about the same; it's just that the spending is condensed into a short period right at the opening of the shopping season.

Black Friday imposes costs on the retailers, who have to pay overtime to employees to work a holiday. It imposes costs on employees who can't spend Thanksgiving with their families. It also imposes costs on consumers, who have to cram into stores all at once to get the best buys.

This is an example of what is called a "Prisoners' Dilemma," named after the canonical

example of two criminals arrested by the police.

As the story goes, the two criminals are put into separate rooms and questioned. They are each told that the first to confess will receive a lesser sentence, but if the other confesses first, then the non-confessor will have the book thrown at them.

Each prisoner would be better off if neither confesses, but both have an incentive to confess; thus, both confess.

The Prisoners' Dilemma is an extraordinarily common problem – a factor in any number of economically relevant situations from supply chain management to the allocation of sales territories. Indeed, I emphasize to my MBA students that recognizing and managing Prisoners' Dilemmas is one of the reasons that MBAs get paid the big bucks. The solution to the

Prisoners' Dilemma is third-party enforcement. If you are talking about actual criminals, the third party enforcer can be the Mafia. Contracts enforced by courts and regulation enforced by government bureaucrats can also work.

So government could regulate Black Friday, forcing businesses to remain closed on Thanksgiving and regulating the type of discounts retailers are allowed to offer. But that would be a solution worse than the problem itself.

Such government micromanagement infringes on freedom and often results in unintended consequences. The outcome undoubtedly would be perverted by lobbying by those seeking special privileges. The potential for outright graft is obvious.

The better way to limit Black Friday is through the soft power of social pressure. The

push back against early opening is already gaining steam, with more and more consumers choosing not to participate in Black Friday.

Several media outlets and worker groups have called for a "buy nothing" day as a counter to Black Friday.

The irony of the whole thing is that if these anti-Black Friday groups are successful, the retailers will be all the better off for it. Holiday sales will likely be just the same, but the cost and expense of Black Friday will be avoided.

*Christopher A. Erickson, Ph.D., is a professor of economics at New Mexico State University. He has shopped at Walmart on Black Friday, but feels guilty for having done so. The views expressed may not be shared by the regents and administration of NMSU. Erickson can be reached at [chrerick@nmsu.edu](mailto:chrerick@nmsu.edu).*

# How giving to local charities keeps money in our community



**Carrie Hamblen**  
*Going green*

As I continue to talk with people in the community about the Las Cruces Green Chamber, I am finding more and more nonprofit organizations are seeing the value of becoming a member.

According to the National Center for Charitable Statistics (NCCS), a program of the Urban Institute in Washington, D.C., there are more than 9,000 nonprofit organizations operating in New Mexico.

The NCCS reports, with the latest numbers from 2012, there are more than 1.5 million nonprofit organizations in the country. In 2012, public charities reported in excess of \$1.65 trillion in total revenue and \$1.57 trillion in total expenses.

If there was ever a question about the amount of revenue a nonprofit contributes to our community, these numbers alone support the value of a nonprofit, not just for the services provided but for the jobs and money spent in the area.

The majority of nonprofits exist to fill a niche for services

the government will not or can not do. These services can be anywhere from feeding the hungry to providing art activities for kids, spaying stray animals, advocating equality for oppressed groups and more. We see so many groups in our community addressing these needs, that, sometimes, it is difficult to keep track of the different causes.

If there is a nonprofit working in our community, it's because a group or cause needs assistance.

Over the past several years, I have had the honor of overseeing the operations of two nonprofit organizations in the community. I have learned the value of creating community investment in the missions of the organizations.

Idealist.org offers five tips to consider when you are starting, helping to start or running a nonprofit.

No. 1: All nonprofits are local. Idealist.org explains even national nonprofit organizations must register within local communities if they wish to start a chapter. However, this does not mean the local funds raised by a national nonprofit stay in the community. In some cases, a national nonprofit serves as an umbrella organization and di-

vides the money raised locally among causes throughout the country. In other cases, you, as a donor, can designate where your donation will go. When you support a locally based nonprofit, the chances of the money staying here are much greater. If you are concerned about where your donations go when giving to a nonprofit, I encourage you to contact the local office and ask for an explanation about where the money goes.

No. 2: Local supporters are necessary. Idealist.org recommends, "The first thing you need to do when starting a nonprofit is to identify the circles of friends who know your work and develop a strategy for earning income from people who can help pay for the services they receive." If you seek grant funding, the amount of community support will help your request for funds from national funders. Start at the local level first, build a donor base, and then pursue bigger funding opportunities after you are established for a time.

No. 3: Nonprofits have to be businesslike. It is imperative nonprofits keep good records, watch revenue and expenditures carefully and commit to thoughtful planning about

when and how to grow. Also, with businesslike practices, nonprofits are more easily able to establish a value to the community and funders.

No. 4: Often not starting a nonprofit at all is the best way to serve. We are very blessed to have a variety of nonprofit organizations in the community. We may not know of the entire list of active nonprofits here. If you see a need that is not being met, check with the United Way of Southwest New Mexico or the Community Foundation of Southern New Mexico before starting the nonprofit application process. Someone may already be doing the work but are just not very visible in the community.

No. 5: Plan for the long term. Providing a permanent service or tackling a big problem often requires an organization that can be sustained for years, if not generations. This requires sound strategic goals, an active board of directors, strong fundraising and a good group of volunteers.

Idealist.org is among a number of online sites that provide resources for understanding the makeup and process of starting a nonprofit. There also are a number of organizations

in Las Cruces that can answer questions before you start the process.

Knowing the dozens who are members of the Las Cruces Green Chamber, I often think of how many of them benefit from the generosity of our local businesses when seeking donations. I believe our nonprofit organizations and our local businesses are equally important to our community. Local business support nonprofits because they believe in the cause and are committed to improving our city. Matter of fact, local businesses give donations to local nonprofits 350 percent more than donations from national chains.

So, if you are at a loss for what to give for the holidays, and you have completed your shopping, I suggest giving to any one of the number of locally run nonprofit organizations in the community.

I hope during this holiday season, in order to keep that money in Las Cruces, you will think local, give local and buy local.

*Carrie Hamblen is the executive director of the Las Cruces Green Chamber of Commerce. She can be contacted at [carrie@nmgreenchamber.com](mailto:carrie@nmgreenchamber.com) or 323-1575.*



# NMSU, Dine College help Navajo sheep producers

From the time Churro sheep were introduced to the indigenous people of the Southwest by Spanish explorer Francisco Vazquez de Coronado in 1540, sheep have been an important part of Navajo cultural tradition.

More than 47 percent of the 89,745 sheep raised in New Mexico are in Navajo herds in McKinley and San Juan counties, while 83 percent of Arizona's state herd is raised on Navajo land in the northeast region of the state, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture 2012 Census of Agriculture.

New Mexico State University and Dine College Cooperative Extension Service agents are combining efforts to help the next generation of sheep producers to not just carry on the tradition of raising a herd, but to improve their monetary profit.

"Traditionally, all of the sheep



**New Mexico State University's Corona Range and Livestock Center is combining South Africa Meat Merino breed genetics with the Rambouillet ewes to improve lamb growth without compromising the marketability of the wool. Dine College's ram lease program is using SAMM rams from the NMSU breeding program to introduce the genetics into Navajo herds.**

is used. Our ancestors ate the meat and used the wool to protect themselves from the cold with garments and blankets,"

said Jesse Jim, NMSU Tribal Extension agent for the Navajo Nation's eastern region. "Sheep are still part of our cultural

activities."

Felix Nez, the Extension agent at Dine College in Tsaike, Ariz., and Jim are helping sheep herders produce fine wools and carcass characteristics through educational workshops and a breeding program that can increase economic returns.

"What they are doing is not wrong, but there are better ways to approach raising a herd," said Jim, who is working with producers, teaching them about the need for vaccinations and how to efficiently shear the sheep. "We partnered with Navajo Technical University's Spring Sheep conference, held in Crownpoint, to introduce the various resources available to the producers."

Some sheep producers have a mixture of breeds. As Nez began working with the producers, he realized many did not know about different breed types, or

the difference between commercial and value-added wool markets.

"To be profitable in the commercial market, sheep will need to produce fine wool and have a good meat carcass when butchered," Nez said.

To accomplish that, Nez is trying to improve the genetics of Navajo sheep for producers who are willing to look into the commercial markets. He turned to NMSU's Corona Range and Livestock Research Center for help.

Optimal lamb growth without compromising marketability of the wool is an important objective for range sheep producers in the Southwest.

NMSU is conducting a cross-breeding program to combine the South African Meat Merino breed genetics with the Rambouillet breed.

## NMSU ethics initiative infused with \$1.25 million

By **Amanda Bradford**  
For the Las Cruces Bulletin

Following the success of its five-year pilot program, the New Mexico State University College of Business has been awarded an additional \$1.25 million over the next five years to continue its principle-based ethics program.

The grant is part of the Daniels Fund Ethics Initiative, whose goal is to strengthen principle-based ethics education and to foster a high standard of ethics in young people.

The college received its first \$1.25 million award through the Daniels Fund in 2010.

"We are very excited that the Daniels Fund Ethics Initiative at New Mexico State University has been renewed for another five years," said Director Bruce Huhmann, an associate professor of marketing in the business college. "We will continue to work closely with our partner schools in the Daniels Fund Ethics Consortium, especially our partners at the University of New

Mexico."

Three additional Colorado colleges have been accepted into the Daniels Fund Ethics Initiative this year, bringing the consortium to a total of 11 institutions in New Mexico, Colorado, Utah and Wyoming.

Huhmann said students have been the biggest beneficiaries of the Daniels Fund Ethics Initiative at NMSU.

"NMSU business students are now consistently exposed to ethics issues via case studies, modules, activities and guest speakers," Huhmann said. "Principle-based ethics is integrated into graduate and undergraduate classes across the curriculum in all business disciplines."

The initiative uses principle-based ethics as a framework for personal and organizational decision-making and leadership, he said, demonstrating that business and personal success can be achieved by following certain universal principles, such as respect, accountability, transparency and fairness.

The Daniels Fund

Ethics Initiative at New Mexico State University teaches students decision-making tools that help put these ethical principles into practice.

Students in other disciplines, including engineering, English, philosophy and criminal justice, have also benefited from course materials created by Daniels Fund Ethics Initiative Fellows at NMSU. The Honors College has brought principle-based ethics curriculum to the university's top academic achieving students across the university, and a Student Center for the Public Trust campus chapter was established to expose students from many disciplines to the importance and multifaceted issues of ethical leadership and professionalism, Huhmann said.

"This grant provides us with the resources give our students an excellent education with regard to ethics in the workplace and beyond the workplace," said College of Business Dean Jim Hoffman.

Huhmann said the initiative's principle-based ethics teaching extends beyond the campus to the business community, the rural and agricultural communities, American Indian

communities and the borderland communities.

That's true of the partnerships it has facilitated with other institutions in the consortium, as well, Hoffman said.

"Being part of the

Daniels Fund set of universities also gives our faculty and students a great opportunity to interact with faculty and students from other member universities," Hoffman said.

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# FNMB Giving Trees auctioned for charity

Celebrating the First New Mexico Bank (FNMB) Giving Trees are, front row: Julie Koenig, senior vice president of FNMB; Margarita Eddings, March of Dimes; Geraldine Calhoun, C4CR; Makayla Richardson, Sullivan Woodall, Eva Madrid and Theresa Dean of Doña Ana County 4-H. Back row: Lorenzo Alba, Casa de Peregrinos; Denny Calhoun, C4CR; Joe McCauley, Leavitt Group SW; Lynn Arnold, C4CR; Curtis Creighton, Horse N Hound Feed N Supply; Allen Hayes, Allstate Insurance; and Chuck Widger, FNMB vice president.



Employees of First New Mexico Bank, Las Cruces, recently held a Giving Trees event to raise funds to support local charities.

The trees were auctioned the evening of Nov. 21, with Van Bullock as auctioneer. A total of \$6,300 was raised in the auction.

Trees were decorated by the following organizations: Doña Ana County Humane Society, Casa de Peregrinos, The Habitat ReStore, March of Dimes, Doña Ana County 4-H, Cowboys 4 Cancer Research along with the following businesses: Kitchen Kraft, Horse N Hound Feed N Supply, the Sisbarro Dealerships and First New Mexico Bank.

The decorated trees were purchased by and donations received from A & E Enterprises, Dr. Julie Gray-Arroyo Veterinary Clinic, Buffalo Wild Wings, Mathers Realty, Leavitt Insurance Group, Colette and Van Bullock, Curtis and Amanda Creighton, Dr. John and Laura Conniff, Jerome Dodson, Russell and Kathryn Jennett, Charles and Linda Tharp, Craig and Chandra Tharp and Jack and Kathy Thomas.

The event was called Giving Trees as a reminder of helping others by giving. Charities that decorated trees benefited from half of the auction proceeds from their tree and businesses decorating trees chose the charity of their choice for the half of the auction proceeds from their tree. The bank employees voted on the selected charities to benefit from the remaining half of the funds raised from each tree.

All proceeds were donated back to the community.

## Pecan harvest in high gear

By Marvin Tessneer  
Las Cruces Bulletin

Early pecan orchard conditions indicated production is leveling off, but quality is improving.

Elephant Butte Irrigation District (EBID) orchard men are harvesting their pecan crops thanks to a November cold snap.

Field men attach an erratic boom that shakes the trees and jars the pecans loose. Later, the pecans are gathered from the ground.

The harvest is sent over a vibrating belt, where the pecans, leaves and hulls are separated.

“Pecan growers need a hard freeze to loosen and

dry out hulls for the harvest,” County Extension horticulturist Jeff Anderson said.

Doña Ana County growers have 27,000 acres of pecans to harvest, he said.

Light snow was reported in the Upper Rio Grande valley, where the EBID receives its water. The EBID administers about 90,000 acres of land

Water storage at Elephant Butte Reservoir is only 9.2 percent of capacity.

EBID officials, however, said it is too early to say how much land will be set aside by farmers next season because of the shortage of irrigation water.



Pecans are pushed into piles Thursday, Dec. 11, on the Arnold Brothers Farm on Shalem Colony Road.

LAS CRUCES BULLETIN PHOTO BY ALTA LECOMPTÉ

# Holiday happenings



Outdoor diners took advantage of the great weather to enjoy Jimmy John's customer appreciation event Friday, Dec. 12. The sandwich shop featured \$1 subs at its University Avenue and Lohman Avenue locations during a four-hour celebration.

Holiday shoppers seeking unique gifts checked out jewelry, art, edibles and more Saturday, Dec. 6, at the Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces.



Green's Bean's drew a crowd of adults looking for a freshly brewed, mid-morning coffee fix Saturday, at the market.



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# Life is Good in Las Cruces

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2014

C1

## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



**Bosque Brewing Co.  
opens local taproom  
C10**

## HOMES & SW LIVING



**Historic Mesilla home  
up for sale  
C14**

## HEALTH & WELL BEING



**Groups work to find  
homes for animals  
C21**

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## NEXT WEEK

**Year in review**  
A look back at what stories  
made headlines in 2014

# LAS CRUCES CHILE DROP

**Inaugural celebration rings in  
the New Year starting at 7:30  
p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, on  
Main Street Downtown**

See feature on page C2

## Las Cruces Chile Drop rings in New Year

By **Zak Hansen**  
Las Cruces Bulletin

New York City may have its Times Square, viewed by millions around the country each New Year's Eve, but this year, all eyes in the Mesilla Valley will be fixed skyward on a gigantic chile, as Downtown becomes the home for the inaugural Las Cruces Chile Drop.

Beginning at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, Main Street Downtown will be transformed into a full-fledged street celebration of the New Year, with live music and entertainment, food trucks galore, a beer and wine garden, kids' area and more, all leading up to the midnight countdown, when the mighty chile begins its descent and months of hard work and voting are realized as it erupts into color.

But what color – red or green – will it be? That's up to you, the community.

Through its websites – [www.lascruceschiledrop.com](http://www.lascruceschiledrop.com) and [www.facebook.com/pages/Las-Cruces-Chile-Drop/1492331817686013](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Las-Cruces-Chile-Drop/1492331817686013) – citizens of Las Cruces can vote for their choice through Christmas Day, Thursday, Dec. 25. Votes will be tallied, lights will be strung and,

as the clock strikes midnight on New Year's Eve, tens of thousands of LED lights will illuminate in the chosen chile color.

There's plenty more to do at the Las Cruces Chile Drop than count the seconds, though.

From 7:30 to 9 p.m., a kids' zone will be open for families eager to attend but wary of keeping the little ones out too late. Throughout the night, entertainment will be provided by musicians on two stages. On the Positive Energy Solar Main Stage – sponsored by the company and powered entirely by harnessing energy from the sun – a welcoming ceremony will be held led by Grand Marshal Josie Ortegón, of KVIA-TV, and Chile Drop Queen Kristy Maestas, who won her reign through her tireless work with Project Mainstreet.

At 9 p.m., it's party time, as food vendors serve their finest fare, beer from High Desert Brewing Co. and Bosque Brewing Co. and wine from Amaro Winery begins to flow and the more than 20 musicians of the DAMN (Doña Ana Music Night) Union collective of musicians and

songwriters play the night away. On the second stage, made possible through a donation by Iron Works, Native American flute player and musician Randy Granger will be joined by local writers participating in a haiku battles.

As midnight draws near, the chile, suspended 60 feet in the air by a crane provided by Weaver Crane, will begin to softly shimmer and shine; 30 seconds before, the light will grow brighter and more defined before exploding into multicolor, all before making its final descent where, promptly at midnight, the color will be revealed.

Throughout the evening, thanks to fundraising by the office of District Attorney Mark D'Antonio, free shuttles will be available to give celebrants a safe and sober ride home after a night of revelry.

According to organizer Russ Smith, of Happy Dog and Project Mainstreet, the Las Cruces Chile Drop is more than a decade in the making, starting with a proposal by the late Doug Rains, a community member known for his work with organizations including Dress the Child, to then-new mayor Ken Miyagishima.

When the mayor wasn't able to get the ball rolling, Smith said, the idea was moved to the back-burner while Abby Osborne, a professor at New Mexico State University and Doña Ana Community College, continued to champion the project throughout her work with Project Mainstreet and in the

hallways of City Hall, where it eventually reached the ears of Andy Hume, senior planner with the Las Cruces Community Development Department.

Hume, in turn, brought the idea to Smith and Project Mainstreet.

"We took one look at it and said, 'Gosh, why not?'" Smith said, and thus the Las Cruces Chile Drop was born.

More than a celebration of the dawn of the New Year, Smith said, the Las Cruces Chile Drop is the perfect way to celebrate the many harvested bounties we enjoy in the Land of Enchantment, made possible through the generosity of the community.

"The Chile Drop really represents our harvest in southern New Mexico," he said, "from harvesting our community who's been so involved with the Farmers Market and Project Mainstreet, harvesting energy from the sun to make all this possible, harvesting new local tourism with the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument, harvesting the chile we love each year."

*Zak Hansen can be reached at [zak@lascrucesbulletin.com](mailto:zak@lascrucesbulletin.com) or 680-1958.*

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Work continues on the 15-foot chile set to drop at midnight Wednesday, Dec. 31, ringing in the New Year with the first ever Las Cruces Chile Drop, held on Main Street Downtown. At midnight on New Year's Eve, the chile will begin its descent, finally exploding into color – red or green, based on community voting – provided by tens of thousands of LED lights.



# NMSU Center for the Arts to become the ASNMSU Center for the Arts

The New Mexico State University Board of Regents approved a name change for the university's Center for the Arts during its regular meeting Friday, Dec. 12. The building will now be known as the Associated Students of NMSU Center for the Arts. The change is in recognition for ASNMSU's substantial support in constructing the building.

"This is a great legacy for past, present and future students," NMSU President Garrey Carruthers said. "It reflects their willingness to invest in the beauty and functionality of campus. It is also very appropriate for this recognition to be placed at a prominent intersection that connects the university to the Las Cruces community."

"I'm extremely appreciative of the administration for working with us on this project," ASNMSU President Wes Jackson said. "It's a beautiful building and we're excited that we could make this happen."

NMSU broke ground on the Center for the Arts construction project in 2010 and completed work in 2012. ASNMSU's bonding capacity was used to ensure construction of the Center for the Arts stayed on schedule and remained within budget. The three-story academic building is home to NMSU's Department of Theatre Arts.

"After working with ASNMSU presidents for the last three years on this idea, it's gratifying to see the naming of the Center for the Arts in honor of the Associated Students of NMSU come to fruition," said Christa Slaton, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. "The enthusiastic support from our student leaders as well as their financial contribution have been invaluable in making the Center for the Arts a reality."

The ASNMSU Center for the Arts has a 466-seat



New Mexico State University's Center for the Arts, which houses the Mark and Stephanie Medoff Theatre along with classrooms, offices, rehearsal spaces and workshops, will be renamed the ASNMSU Center for the Arts, in honor of the support given by the Associated Students of New Mexico State University.

performance space for theater and dance, which has an orchestra pit and trap room, orchestra level, two balconies and a fly tower. The building also features a large rehearsal room, classrooms, office and back-of-the-house supporting areas.

## Rio Grande cancels 'Santaland,' hosts New Years Eve with Little Anthony

Due to illness and additional complications, The Fusion Theater Company has cancelled all performances of "The SantaLand Diaries" in northern and southern New Mexico, including at the Rio Grande Theatre Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 20-21. The Doña Ana Arts Council apologizes for the inconvenience to its Rio Grande Theatre patrons.

Ticket holders for either performance will be issued a refund either by credit card or check, depending upon purchase method. Season package ticket holders who chose "The SantaLand Diaries" as one of their season choices may receive a refund or choose a different show.

The Doña Ana Arts Council welcomes 2015 with an intimate evening in the company of Jerome Anthony Gourdine, better known as Little Anthony, delivering his one-man show celebrating 56 years in show business.

On tour to promote the release of his new book, "Little Anthony: My Journey, My Destiny," by Arlene Krieger, Anthony will regale audiences with a nostalgic look back at the golden age of rock 'n' roll, then sign copies of his book, which will be on sale after the show. Ring in the New Year at the Rio Grande Theatre with the legendary Little Anthony, Wednesday, Dec. 31.

On this tour, and accompanied by pianist and

Imperial Johnny Britt, Anthony will enchant audiences with stories, anecdotes and hit songs from more than half a century as a musician.

Hear how it all began in Brooklyn, listening to his first song on a transistor radio when he was just 18, through his influential relationships with some of the biggest acts of the day, including Marvin Gaye, Sammy Davis Jr., Moms Mabley, Miles Davis and Aretha Franklin. Follow Anthony as he relates tales ranging from 1960s racial prejudice horrors to the honor of his induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2009.

Little Anthony, along with his band the Imperials, has performed live before millions and sold more than 22 million records worldwide in the past 57 years. Although Little Anthony still tours with The Imperials, he has long desired to record a "solo-driven duets album" similar to the ones Tony Bennett famously did. The album he desired is now in pre-production - release date in mid-to-late 2015. Tentatively titled, "It Takes Two," the album will be released on the New Jersey-based Reviver Records.

The Rio Grande Theatre is located at 211 N. Main St. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the performance begins at 7 p.m. Reserved seat tickets are \$45.50 and \$34.50 and may be purchased in person at the box office or online at [www.riograndetheatre.com](http://www.riograndetheatre.com).

For more information, call 523-6403.



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### UPCOMING EVENTS

**FRI DEC. 19** 7:30 P.M.  
**David Benoit: A Charlie Brown Christmas**  
Rio Grande Theatre

**SAT DEC. 20** 2:00 P.M.  
**Make a Christmas Star (grades 6-12)**  
Branigan Library

**MON DEC. 22** 5:30 P.M.  
**Writers' Critique Group**  
Branigan Library

**TUE DEC. 23** 10:30 A.M.  
**Read to Me Stories for Ages 3 and up**  
Branigan Library

**TUE DEC. 23** 4:00 P.M.  
**Teen Game Night: ages 12-18**  
Branigan Library

**TUES DEC. 23** 6:30 P.M.  
**Every Other Tuesday: Sage Gentle-Wind**  
Rio Grande Theatre

**WED DEC. 24** ALL DAY  
**LIBRARY CLOSED**  
Branigan Library

**THU DEC. 25** ALL DAY  
**LIBRARY CLOSED**  
Branigan Library

**WED DEC. 31** 7 P.M.  
**Little Anthony Live In Concert**  
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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# Auteuil continues Pagnol trilogy with 'Fanny'

Review by **Jeff Berg**  
For the Las Cruces Bulletin

Part two of actor/director Daniel Auteuil's Marcel Pagnol trilogy – a remake of three French films from many years ago – "Fanny" is a bit less interesting than "Marius," which screened a couple of months ago at the Fountain Theatre, but interesting and entertaining on its own level.

Again directed by and starring Auteuil, "Fanny" takes up where "Marius" left off, with the namesake of the first film torn between going to sea and his love for the delicate and kind Fanny.

The sea wins and he has signed on and set sail on a five-year journey. However, the moment his ship leaves the dock – do note, he has not told his Father, Caesar, played by Auteuil, or hardly anyone else in town, that he is leaving – Fanny discovers that she is carrying his child. As news of Marius' departure gets out, sides are divided on whether he is a scoundrel or just someone taking care of his own needs.

Fanny only tells a select few about the baby, and in order to save face, the wealthy sail-maker Panisse offers to marry her and help raise the child as his own. She accepts his offer,

brokered by Caesar and Fanny's mother, which will ensure financial well being for Fanny and her baby, a son, while avoiding the shame of having a child out of wedlock. The movie is set in 1920s France, after all, not 2014 when society is more accepting of such births.

For most of the first hour of the film, we are witness to Fanny and how she deals with these complex problems that have become her life. Of course, she is not really in love with Panisse, as kind and understanding as he tries to be.

Emotionally, she begins to wither, and the only person who might miss Marius even more is Caesar, who waits anxiously day after day for a letter from his seaward son.

Just as soon as things sort of settle in for the couple and their son, who comes back but Marius, setting the stage for the third part of the film,

which offers an emotional see-saw, pitting love and desire against family, common sense and social standing.

The production values of "Fanny" are very good, although it does seem a bit claustrophobic at times, often feeling more like a stage production than a movie.



Actor/director Daniel Auteuil and Victoire Bélézy star in "Fanny," part two of Auteuil's Marcel Pagnol trilogy, now playing at the Fountain Theatre in Mesilla.

Auteuil does a good job of directing and remains very faithful to the original films, which blend an occasional feeling of light heartedness with romantic drama.

"Fanny" opens for a one-week run Friday, Dec. 19, at the Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe. Showtimes are

7:30 p.m. nightly, along with a 1:30 p.m. Saturday and 2:30 p.m. Sunday matinee.

The Fountain Theatre will be closed for the Christmas holiday Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 24-25.

*Sitting on my fanny in Santa Fe ... nedludd76@hotmail.com.*

## 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](http://www.sudoku.com)

### BEGINNER

	2	6	8	1				
	6	5		7			8	3
3				2		4		
7		6	2	1				8
	1						6	
8			9	3	7			2
	7		8					1
2	4			1		9	5	
		1	5		4			3

### CHALLENGER

	5	6				3	8	
			5	7				
9			8	2				6
	1						9	
8		7				4		5
	9						7	
1			2	8				9
			6	3				
	8	2				6	1	

### EXPERT

			4	9		2		
6		2	3	1				
								1
1					8	5		
	4			7			3	
		9	2					6
7								
				6	1	8		3
		8		2	4			

### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

BEGINNER

7	2	1	5	3	6	9	4	8
3	4	8	1	7	9	2	6	5
9	6	5	4	2	8	7	3	1
8	3	7	9	6	5	4	1	2
6	9	4	3	1	2	8	5	7
1	5	2	8	4	7	6	9	3
2	7	9	6	5	1	3	8	4
5	8	3	2	9	4	1	7	6
4	1	6	7	8	3	5	2	9

CHALLENGER

2	8	3	5	6	7	9	1	4
5	9	4	1	3	8	6	2	7
7	1	6	2	9	4	5	8	3
1	2	5	4	7	6	3	9	8
3	7	8	9	1	5	4	6	2
4	6	9	3	8	2	7	5	1
6	5	1	8	4	3	2	7	9
8	3	7	6	2	9	1	4	5
9	4	2	7	5	1	8	3	6

EXPERT

6	2	3	1	7	8	9	5	4
9	7	5	3	2	4	6	1	8
4	8	1	5	9	6	3	7	2
8	5	4	2	6	1	7	3	9
2	9	6	4	3	7	5	8	1
3	1	7	9	8	5	2	4	6
1	3	2	8	5	9	4	6	7
5	6	8	7	4	2	1	9	3
7	4	9	6	1	3	8	2	5

# Events Calendar

## FRI. 12/19

**7 p.m. Live music with Jamielynn Amato**, Amaro Winery, 402 S. Melendres St. Green Chile Paddy Wagon will serve food. No cover. Call 527-5310.

**7 p.m. Good Time Singers present "A Christmas Tapestry,"** Trails West Clubhouse, 1450 Avenida de Mesilla. The Good Time Singers, directed by Diane Schutz, will give their 2014 Christmas concert.

**7:30 p.m. "A Charlie Brown Christmas" with David Benoit**, Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St. Grammy-nominated jazz pianist, composer and producer David Benoit will celebrate the holidays with the iconic jazz from Charles Schultz's "Peanuts" specials. Revive the Christmas feeling with Vince Guaraldi's perennial tunes including "Linus and Lucy" and "Christmas Time is Here" while the beloved animated classic is projected on the theater screen. Tickets \$34 and \$45.50. Call 523-6403.

**9 p.m. Live music with Overcome Las Cruces**, Pecan Grill & Brewery, 500 S. Telshor Blvd. No cover. Call 521-1099.

## SAT. 12/20

**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. Wide variety of arts and crafts, food, fresh produce, unique fine art, pet adoptions and more. Free. Visit [www.fcmlc.org](http://www.fcmlc.org).

**9 a.m. to noon, Mountain View Market Co-op Farm volunteer day**, 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 Sonya Weiner will be the storyteller at the Solano location. COAS will give coupons for free books to all children who attend. Free. Call 524-8471.

**11 a.m. Story Time**, Las Cruces Railroad Museum, 351 N. Mesilla St. Listen to a Thomas the Tank Engine book and enjoy a Thomas video while completing a related craft activity. Free. Call 647-4480.

**2 to 6 p.m. Live music with Frontera Jazz Guitarz**, Sombra Antigua Winery, 430 La Viña Road, Chamberino, N.M. No cover. Call 915-241-4349.

**5:30 to 6:30 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.

**8 to 11 p.m. Live music with Deming Fusiliers Reunion**, High Desert Brewing Co., 1201 W. Hadley Ave. No cover. Call 525-6752.

**9 p.m. Live music with Billy Townes Group**, Pecan Grill & Brewery, 500 S. Telshor Blvd. No cover. Call 521-1099.

## SUN. 12/21

**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.

**2 p.m. Bluegrass, country and folk music jam**, Doña Ana Community College commons area, 3400 S. Espina St. All players are welcome. Free. Call 405-1290.

**2:30 to 5:30 p.m. Live music with April Ticket**, Sombra Antigua Winery, 430 La Viña Road, Chamberino, N.M. No cover. Call 915-241-4349.

## MON. 12/22

**9 p.m. Open mic with Chris Baker and special guests**, Pecan Grill & Brewery, 500 S. Telshor Blvd. No cover. Call 521-1099.

## TUE. 12/23

**4 to 8 p.m. Tuesday 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.

**5 to 6 p.m. Belly Dance Club**, My Place Jewell, 140-A 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.

**6:30 P.M. Every Other Tuesday with Sage Gentle-Wing**, Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St. Every Other Tuesday concert series presents singer-songwriter Sage Gentle-Wings. The EOT series offers a free venue for local performers to showcase their talents and promote upcoming performances at other venues. Free. Call 523-6403.

## WED. 12/24

**8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces**, Main Street Downtown. Wide variety of arts and crafts, food, fresh produce, unique fine art, pet adoptions and more. Free. Visit [www.fcmlc.org](http://www.fcmlc.org).

**9 a.m. to noon, Mountain View Market Co-op Farm volunteer day**, 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.

**5 to 8 p.m. Open Mic**, New Mexico State University Barnes & Noble, University Avenue and Jordan Road. Poetry and musicians alternate. Organized by David Rodriguez. Free. Call 646-4431.

**8 to 10 p.m. Open mic**, Q's Steak, Pasta and Brewhouse, 1300 Avenida de Mesilla. No cover. Call 571-4350.

## THU. 12/25

### MERRY CHRISTMAS

## FRI. 12/26

**7 p.m. Live music with Dan Lambert**, Amaro Winery, 402 S. Melendres St. Green Chile Paddy Wagon will serve food. No cover. Call 527-5310.

**9 p.m. Live music with Tiffany Christopher**, Pecan Grill & Brewery, 500 S. Telshor Blvd. No cover. Call 521-1099.

## SAT. 12/27

**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. Wide variety of arts and crafts, food, fresh produce, unique fine art, pet adoptions and more. Free. Visit [www.fcmlc.org](http://www.fcmlc.org).

**9 a.m. to noon, Mountain View Market Co-op Farm volunteer day**, 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 a.m. to 1 p.m. Crafts for Kids**, New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road. Children of all ages are invited to come by the museum and create their own New Year's crafts to take home. Regular museum admission of \$5 adults, \$3 seniors, \$2 children age 5 to 17 and free for children 4 and younger applies. Call 522-4100.

## PLAYBILL

### LAST CHANCE

#### Meet Me in St. Louis

Las Cruces Community Theatre  
313 N. Main St.  
Tickets \$10 to \$14  
523-1200  
8 p.m. Friday and Saturday  
2 p.m. Sunday  
Through Sunday, Dec. 21



**10:30 a.m. Storytellers of Las Cruces**, COAS Bookstores, 1101 S. Solano Drive and 317 S. Main St. This week, Sarah Addison and Sharlene Wittern will be the storytellers at the Downtown location and Nancy Banks will be the storyteller at the Solano location. COAS will give coupons for free books to all children who attend. Free. Call 524-8471.

**2 to 6 p.m. Live music with Trifecta Jazz**, Sombra Antigua Winery, 430 La Viña Road, Chamberino, N.M. No cover. Call 915-241-4349.

**5:30 to 6:30 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.

**8 to 11 p.m. Live music with The DAMN Union**, High Desert Brewing Co., 1201 W. Hadley Ave. No cover. Call 525-6752.

**9 p.m. Live music with Vince Alten**, Pecan Grill & Brewery, 500 S. Telshor Blvd. No cover. Call 521-1099.

## SUN. 12/28

**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.

**2:30 to 5:30 p.m. Live music with Eهران Krauel**, Sombra Antigua Winery, 430 La Viña Road, Chamberino, N.M. No cover. Call 915-241-4349.

## MON. 12/29

**9 p.m. Open mic with Chris Baker and special guests**, Pecan Grill & Brewery, 500 S. Telshor Blvd. No cover. Call 521-1099.

## TUE. 12/30

**4 to 8 p.m. Tuesday 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.

**5 to 6 p.m. Belly Dance Club**, My Place Jewell, 140-A 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.



# Galleries & Openings

## LAST CHANCE

**NOPALITO'S GALERÍA** presents the fourth annual "Artistic Moments" art show. Originally called "Senior Moments," as most of its artists participated in classes at the Munson or Eastside community centers, "Artistic Moments" is still mostly seniors but does include younger artists. "Artistic Moments" features wood carving, painting, gourd work, stained glass, mosaics, pottery, crocheted items, metal punch work and more. The show will remain on display through Saturday, Dec. 20.

Nopalito's Galería is located at 326 S. Mesquite St. Gallery hours are 4 to 7 p.m. Friday and noon to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. For more information, visit [www.nopalitosgaleria.com](http://www.nopalitosgaleria.com).

## ONGOING

**LULU FINE ART GALLERY** presents "Convergence of Substance and Form," an exhibit of original photography, serigraphs and acrylic works by Collette Marie and Glenn Holgersen. "Convergence of Substance and Form" will remain on display through January 2015.

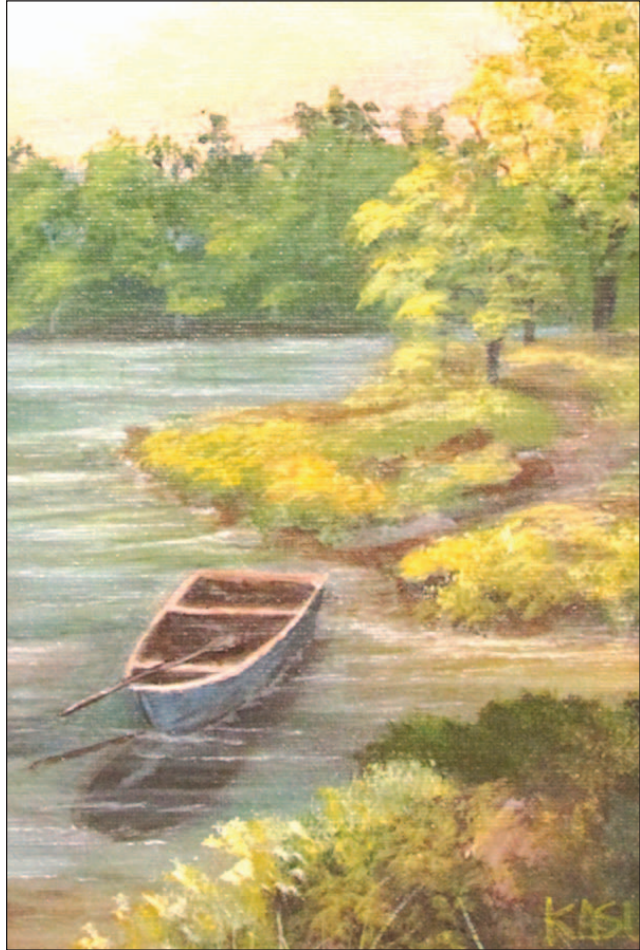
Lulu Fine Art Gallery is located inside Lulu Elements for Living, 1800 Avenida de Mesilla. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. For more information, call 523-4747.

**ART OBSCURA GALLERY** presents "New American Nomad," a show of paintings and ceramics by Joey Fleming. "New American Nomad" opens with an artist's reception at 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, and will remain on display through Jan. 9, 2015.

Art Obscura Gallery is located at 3206 Harrelson St. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. For more information, call 494-7256.

**BRANIGAN CULTURAL CENTER** presents "Continuing Traditions," an exhibition depicting the culture and lifestyle of the Pueblo people of New Mexico, in particular the Piro-Manso-Tiwa Tribe of Las Cruces. The exhibit features jewelry, art, textiles and more from members of the Pueblo tribe, including artists Tonio LeFebre and Louie Garcia, will be on display. "Continuing Traditions" will remain on display through the end of January 2015.

Branigan Cultural Center is located at 501 N. Main St. Regular hours are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. For more



Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery is proud to display the paintings of new member artist Kay Susin, who works in pastels and oils, through the month of December.

information, call 541-2154.

**MAS ART** presents "Dyad: A Visual Duet," an exhibit of work from partners in art and in life Anahy Nuñez and Aaron Valenzuela. "Dyad" will remain on display through the end of December.

Mas Art is located at 126 S. Main St. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call 526-9113.

**WEST END ART DEPOT** presents "(RE)COLLECTIONS," an interactive public writing and community memory exhibit. This exhibit promotes audience participation and opens up the innovative composition space that might occur between and beyond institutional and social boundaries. Fill in your wishes on the "Before I Die" wall, collect and shelve your memories with hands-on media and collaborate with others on a public collage. Discover the collective voice of the vibrant Las Cruces community. "(RE)COLLECTIONS" will remain on display through the end of December.

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. Saturday, noon to 3 p.m. Sunday and by appointment. For more information, call 312-9892 or visit [www.we-ad.org](http://www.we-ad.org).

**MAIN STREET GALLERY AND BIG PICTURE DIGITAL IMAGE EXPERTS** presents "The Past Renewed." John Turkle has been working at the Big Picture for more than three years and has become expertly skilled at vintage photo restoration. "The Past Renewed" showcases his talent at restoring precious heirloom images for future generations. These before-and-after vintage images are fascinating to view. "The Past Renewed" will remain on display through the end of December.

Main Street Gallery is located at 311 N. Main St. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday to Friday and 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call 647-0508.

**M. PHILLIP'S FINE ART GALLERY** invites the community to come in, slow down and enjoy beautiful works of art. Gifts are available in all sizes and price ranges, from something to hang on the wall or around your neck, a sculpture or your home or your finger. Storewide, everything is 15 percent off as a "thank you" for voting M. Phillip's Best Gallery in Las Cruces.

M. Phillip's Fine Art Gallery is located at 221 N. Main St. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call 525-1367.

**ADOBE PATIO GALLERY** presents "Small is Beautiful," an exhibit of small and intimate works of art 15 inches or smaller created by members of the Border Artists along with special guest artists Margaret Barrier, Mary Robertson and Mary Labe. "Small is Beautiful" will remain on display through Jan. 17, 2015.

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.

**CUTTER GALLERY** presents ceramic and clay artists Susi and Richard Bergquist. Susi Bergquist creates clay figures, mojaves, ledger drawings and etchings based on American Indian folklore, and Richard Bergquist works with clay santos, nativities and holy families. The exhibit will remain on display through the end of December.

Cutter Gallery is located at 2640 El Paseo Road. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call 541-0658.

**TOMBAUGH GALLERY** presents "UU Bee Welcome," a quilting bee that has met for more than five years and provides opportunities for quilters of all skill levels and techniques to gather for one to six hours weekly. The UU Bee members support, inspire, conspire, teach, learn and have way too much fun in their shared passion for this ancient art and craft. This show features a variety of original quilts and other related pieces including clothing, home wares and sculpture. "UU Bee Welcome" will remain on display through Jan. 23, 2015.

Tombaugh Gallery is located inside the Unitarian Universalist Church of Las Cruces, 2000 S. Solano Drive. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and by appointment. For more information, call 522-7281.

**NEW MEXICO FARM & RANCH HERITAGE MUSEUM** presents Cheryl Cathcart's "In a World of Horses," featuring 32 photographs of horses from the U.S. and Europe, capturing the power, beauty and spirit of the animals in New Mexico, Montana, France, Italy and Portugal.

Also on display at the museum are "Cowboys: The Real Deal," through July 2015; "The Color of Pie Town," featuring the iconic photographs of Russell Lee; and "The Cowboy Way: Drawings by Robert 'Shoofly' Shufelt," on long-term display.

The New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum is located at 4100 Dripping Springs Road. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. For more information, call 522-4100.



Collette Marie's "Santa Lluvia" will be on display as part of the artist's cooperative exhibit with Glenn Holgersen, "Convergence of Substance and Form" at LuLu Fine Art Gallery, 1800 Avenida de Mesilla.

**LAS CRUCES MUSEUM OF ART** presents "Fragile Waters," an exhibit of work from renowned photographers Ansel Adams, Ernest H. Brooks and Dorothy Kerper Monnelly featuring 117 black-and-white images, many not previously exhibited. "Fragile Waters" invites viewers to connect with the beauty of water of to consider taking action to conserve and restore our most precious resource. The images featured take the viewer undersea, over rivers and marshes and to snow-capped peaks and ice formations around the world. "Fragile Waters" will remain on display through Jan. 10, 2015.

Las Cruces Museum of Art is located at 491 N. Main St. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. For more information, call 541-213

**MESILLA VALLEY FINE ARTS GALLERY** features two artists for the month of December, Bonnie MacQuarrie, wall tileist, and Patricia Black, gourd artist. The gallery is also pleased to announce its newest member, Kay Susin, a pastel and oil artist. In addition, the 31 member artists of the gallery continue to offer paintings, acrylics, pastels, fused-glass art jewelry, woodturning, stained glass, mixed media, photography, natural quality gemstone jewelry and more.

Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery is located at 2470-A Calle de Guadalupe. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Sunday. For more information, call 522-2933 or visit [www.mesillavalleyfinearts.com](http://www.mesillavalleyfinearts.com).

**DOÑA ANA COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER** is currently displaying more than 100 pieces of new, original artwork created by students from Las Cruces Public Schools and Gadsden Independent School District in the center's first-floor corridor. The exhibit includes drawings, paintings, photography, etchings and more.

The student art exhibit complements the permanent art collection held inside the center, featuring 41 original acrylics and oils by Joyce T. Macrorie, several historical photographs and landscapes, art from students attending J. Paul Taylor Academy and Hatch Public Schools, work from Virginia Marie Romero and Alice Terry and, on semi-permanent display, Caballo de Las Cruces, a painted pony covered with millions of tiny decorative glass beads.

The Doña Ana County Government Center is located at 845 N. Motel Blvd. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call 647-7210.

**EL PASO ELECTRIC GALLERY**, located in the lobby of the Rio Grande Theatre, presents an exhibit of the nature drawings of New Mexico State University biology graduate Denise Barella. The exhibit will remain on display through the end of December.

El Paso Electric Gallery is located at 211 N. Main St. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, visit [www.riograndetheatre.com](http://www.riograndetheatre.com) or call 523-6403.

# Bosque Brewing continues NM beer revolution

By **Zak Hansen**  
Las Cruces Bulletin

New Mexico is in the midst of a craft beer revolution. While the state has long held hoppy hidden treasures for those who take the time to look, national notoriety has been a long time coming – but that time has come.

Three years ago, the website [www.livability.com](http://www.livability.com) placed Albuquerque at the top of its “Unexpected Beer Cities” list and last week, the website voted our neighbors to the north the fourth-best beer city in the country.

The revolution isn’t just happening up north, though. Las Cruces has been home to High Desert Brewing Co. for many years, a fixture and favorite watering hole for generations; Dave Allan at Pecan Grill & Brewery is hard at work perfecting that budding brewery’s cutting-edge beers; and months ago, Spotted Dog Brewery opened its doors on the eastern edge of Mesilla, serving thirsty beer-drinkers blocks away from the historic city center.

Under Executive Director Chris Goblet, too, the New Mexico Brewers’ Guild has made its way to Las Cruces for four successful beer festivals – two summer Blazin’ Brewfests and two fall Dia de la Cervezas – bringing with him the best brews from all across the Land of Enchantment and attracting a growing number of beer-lovers at each consecutive outing.

It’s true, as Goblet and the New Mexico Brewers Guild proudly proclaim – “New Mexico is the frontier of beer,” and those boundary lines are quickly coming to encompass the entirety of the state.

On Friday, Dec. 12, Bosque Brewing Co., one of the state’s fastest-growing and best-rated breweries, opened the doors to its Las Cruces taproom on University Avenue, in a space left empty by the closure of Deming’s Mimbres Valley Brewing Co. – a homecoming, of sorts, for several of its founders, and the next step in the New Mexico beer revolution.

In October 2012, Bosque Brewing Co. was born – born of lasting friendships forged in college and an abiding love of craft-brewed beer – when Las Cruces natives Gabe Jensen and brothers Kevin and Ryan Jameson, living in Albuquerque, teamed up with Duke City natives and brothers Jotham and Jared Michnovicz with one thing in mind: to offer a hard-fought alternative to the watery American Lagers that have dominated the market and, more, “to see the ancient art of crafting great-tasting craft beer restored to its former glory.”

Bosque started small, with the team brewing three-barrel batches in the home-brew traditions they held



Samples of Bosque Brewing Co.’s Bosque Lager, IPA 57, Adopt Ex English Pale Ale, Cottonwood Imperial Ale, Scotia Scotch Ale and Olde Bosky Porter



Dakota Vaughan pours a sample of beer at Bosque Brewing Co.’s Las Cruces taproom, which opened its doors Friday, Dec. 12, located at 901 E. University Ave. Bldg. 985, Suite 1B.

LAS CRUCES BULLETIN PHOTOS BY ZAK HANSEN

so dear. Realizing their dream of world-class beer would require some world-class equipment and, much more importantly, a world-class brewer, Jensen set about searching for the perfect fit – though, he admits, he already had a prospect in mind.

John Bullard, another New Mexico native and just now breaking into his 30s, is one of the rising stars of the New Mexico brewing scene, having cut his teeth at some of the state’s most respected elders, those at Chama River Brewing Co., Blue Corn Brewery and La Cumbre Brewing Co. He was Jensen’s first choice, and over a round of beers in Santa Fe, Jensen introduced Bullard to his fellow owners, then hesitant to bring an outsider into the mix. As Jensen tells it, by the second round – Bullard’s buy, for the record – skeptics were convinced and Bullard was hired on the spot.

With a top-quality brewer in place, Jensen, the Jamesons and the Michnoviczs were able to focus their attentions on the business end of Bosque Brewing Co., and in the time since, production and popularity have boomed. After just two years, they’ve expanded their capacity from 3 barrels – 93 gallons – to five times that – 15 barrels, or 465 gallons – allowing them to crank out up to 100 barrels per week. This week, Bosque opened its first satellite taproom here, and in the first months of the New Year, will open its second location in Albuquerque, situated in the Nob Hill area.

While Bosque Brewing was born up north, its owners have roots in the Mesilla Valley: Mayfield High School alumni, former Aggies and through-and-through Las Cruces. The Jameson brothers, Kevin and Ryan, were born and raised here, attending Mayfield High before heading north.

Heck, when I was in high school, the younger Jameson’s band, Cica, played an illicit party at my vacationing parents’ Mesilla Park home, a raucous birthday gathering that resulted in two street-side fistfights, soaked guests from a decimated koi pond, 14 hours of frenzied cleaning and several months of unconditional grounding. Sorry, mom and dad.

Jensen is a former Mesilla Valley Christian School Blazer and a graduate of New Mexico State University, as is Kevin Jameson. Now, they’re back and eager to show the town that raised them a thing or two about great beer.

All this history is great, but what about the beer?

While cozy, Bosque Brewing’s Las Cruces taproom offers a wide selection of draft beers – a dozen, in fact, six year-round offerings and six rotating specialty brews – making sure the menu is always fresh without sacrificing consistent favorites.

Those six regular offerings are anything but. Ranging from very light to very, very dark, that half-dozen brews – Bosque Lager, Pale Ryder, IPA, Brewer’s Boot Amber Ale, Scotia Scotch Ale and the dark-as-night Driftwood Oatmeal Stout – should please the palate of any discerning beer drinker.

Ask any aficionado, though, and they’ll tell you trying new things is the fastest way to find new favorites. Specialty beers on tap during my visit were the PSA (pumpkin spice ale), Olde Bosky Porter, Cottonwood Imperial Red, IPA 57, Adopt Ex English Pale Ale and Prospector Milk Stout.

Pours are available in 12-, 16- and 20-ounce servings, and vary in price according to size, availability and alcohol content, but most will range you about \$5 – less \$1 during Bosque Brewing’s happy hour, which runs from 3 to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday and all day Sunday.

Growlers are also available in 32- and 64-ounce glasses – yours to keep and reuse for \$4 – and a refill will run you about \$10 for 64 ounces. While you’re there, ask about the taproom’s Mug Club, a \$30 membership that saves you on pours, refills and more.

Bosque Brewing Co. is open from noon to 11 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and noon to midnight Friday and Saturday. For more information, call 505-433-3889 or visit [www.bosquebrewing.com](http://www.bosquebrewing.com).

Zak Hansen can be reached at [zak@lascrucesbulletin.com](mailto:zak@lascrucesbulletin.com) or 680-1958.

# Wing Daddy's the sauce boss

By **Zak Hansen**  
Las Cruces Bulletin

My first time at Wing Daddy's Sauce House, the El Paso-born chain quickly making its way outward – the franchise boasts five locations in the Sun City, across the border in Juarez and in San Luis Potosi, Mexico, and two in San Antonio, Texas, not to mention Las Cruces – was a much-needed surprise.

A friend utilized the restaurant's potent combination of hot wings, cold beers, loud televisions and pretty waitresses to wrench me from a depression pit following a recent breakup. Since then, I've been a fan, and after a lengthy construction process – it may have just seemed that way – the Southwest chain's first New Mexico location opened at 775 S. Telshor Blvd.

While wings, beer and waitresses are not a new formula, Wing Daddy's wields it well, delivering on all three of its promises admirably, priding itself on its food – made in-house daily.

With 18 sauce options, it can be hard to pick just one or two. So I didn't, instead diving in to all of them with a dozen wings and a basket of fries.

**Hot:** Wing Daddy's take on classic Buffalo sauce, this has some good heat, but not at the expense of flavor. Also, there's not a Buffalo-style sauce on the menu any milder, so a sample might be a good idea.

**BBQ:** Sweet, spicy, tangy and packing a slight kick, Wing Daddy's BBQ sauce is a classic, Kansas City-style barbecue sauce.

**Honey BBQ:** A slightly sweeter version of the restaurant's BBQ sauce

**Flamin' BBQ:** Kansas City-style with lots of heat.

**Cajun:** With a mix of Cajun spices – garlic, paprika, oregano, thyme and peppers black, red, white and cayenne – added to their classic Hot Buffalo sauce, Wing Daddy's Cajun sauce ranks as one of my favorites.

**Asian Persuasion:** Sweet and tangy flavors of ginger and citrus balance out a little bit of heat in this Asian-inspired sauce.

**Honey Hot:** Sweet honey helps even out the heat from Wing Daddy's classic hot sauce

**Lemon Pepper:** Pretty self-explanatory. Strong citrus flavor with a peppery bite. Simple but solid.

**Kickin' Garlic:** Plenty of garlic added to a classic hot Buffalo sauce.

**Jalapeño Ranch:** This one, I didn't care for, but years of work in the pizza-buffet industry soured me on ranch and just about every other salad dressing.

**Teriyaki:** A classic teriyaki taste, with soy sauce and just the right amount of sweet.

**Chipotle Raspberry:** Closer to a jam than a sauce, the Chipotle Raspberry is sweeter than it is hot, but doesn't skimp on the kick as it closes out.

**Smooth Habañero:** Each month, Wing Daddy's offers a special sauce; in December, that's been Smooth Habañero, which packs a heavy kick just behind a deceptively sweet start. This one should do well for the Scoville-seekers, but those not looking for some serious heat may be wise to steer clear.

**Scorchin' Cilantro Lime:** A best-seller and staff favorite at the Las Cruces location, Wing Daddy's Scorchin' Cilantro Lime is made with sriracha and



Wing Daddy's Sauce House, 775 N. Telshor Blvd., offers 18 different wing sauces, alongside sandwiches, salads, Southern favorites and an admirable selection of left-of-center appetizers.

LAS CRUCES BULLETIN PHOTO BY ZAK HANSEN

packs a fair amount of heat, balanced with a splash of citrus and some strong cilantro flavor. It may not be for everyone, but I like it.

**Hellfire:** Hot as hell; need I say more?

**Tangasaurus:** Another local favorite, Tangasaurus is a blend of the Hellfire and Lemon Pepper sauces, adding a touch of spice and citrus to the already potent kick.

**Garlic Parmesan:** Robust parmesan cheese and heavy garlic flavors make this a winner, provided you don't plan on kissing anyone soon.

**Pecker Wrecker:** Pecker, wrecked.

After 12 wings, a basket of fries and two beers, I was sadly too full to try much else of Wing Daddy's fare, which includes fried alligator, sloppy queso fries and its signature Sneezeballs – “tater tots on steroids” loaded with three cheeses, bacon and chives.

Wing Daddy's also offers southern favorites including baby back ribs and brisket, fried pickles and chicken and waffles, along with something called the Hogzilla – thin-sliced ham, four slices of bacon and a pile of pulled pork, topped with Flamin' BBQ sauce and served on a corn-dusted roll. The menu even recommends a defibrillator.

It wouldn't be a wing place without the libations, and Wing Daddy's offers a full bar with a well-rounded menu of domestic and imported beers in bottle and on draft, along with wine and spirits.

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# AtTheMovies

## 'Exodus: Gods and Kings' an unholy mess

Review by **Zak Hansen**  
Las Cruces Bulletin

Ridley Scott, after making a name for himself with two sci-fi classics ("Alien" and "Blade Runner") and a cult-classic fantasy ("Legend"), remade himself with "Thelma & Louise" before turning, for much of the rest of his career, to the period piece and sweeping historical epic, aside from dabbling in romantic comedies and crime films with decidedly mixed results.

His painterly directorial style suits the genre well, with Scott's camera lovingly sweeping across battlefields and ancient civilizations, allowing cityscapes to tell his story as he stops in at crux moments throughout history. He has filmed the Roman coliseums of A.D. 180 (his 2000 "Gladiator" revived the long-dead swords-and-sandals genre) to Robin Hood's feats of derring-do (2010's "Robin Hood") and the Crusades of the 12th century ("Kingdom of Heaven") to Columbus' arrival on American shores in 1492 ("Conquest of Paradise," a 1992 flop).

His latest outing, "Exodus: Gods and Kings," applies the formula that worked so well for him in "Gladiator" – low-born hero versus friend-turned-enemy with power – to the biblical story of Moses and the exodus of the Hebrews. He led 400,000 Israelites out of bondage from their Egyptian rulers through the wilderness, across the Red Sea and to Mount Sinai before delivering to God's chosen people the Ten Commandments.

Working from such rich source material – inarguably the most influential work in human history – Scott's vision and style could have worked well. However, "Exodus" is an unholy mess from beginning to end, albeit a pretty one. The film is poorly acted, thinly scripted, ploddingly paced and racially insensitive, not to mention boring. It's "Gladiator" with a watery Old Testament lacquer and a divine twist.

Scott's film is problematic from the start, from the reimagining of Moses as a desert-dwelling ass-kicker in need of an origin story to the very casting of that character, tapping a white actor named Christian (Bale) to play the Jewish prophet Moses. So, too, is the casting of a Welsh actor named Joel (Edgerton) as Egyptian pharaoh Ramesses II, Aaron Paul of "Breaking Bad" as Joshua, Ben Mendelsohn ("The Dark Knight Rises") as Viceroy Hegep and

Sigourney Weaver as Ramesses' mother, Queen Tuya. The bronzer budget of "Exodus" would have made King Solomon blush.

Indeed, every speaking role in "Exodus" – all of them Egyptian or Hebrew – is inhabited by an Anglo actor. Sure, actors and actresses of color appear on-screen, too, each and every one of them a slave or a servant. If Scott was aiming to hit the Book of Exodus' tale of religious and ethnic liberation, he sure missed the mark here.

Brash cultural insensitivity aside, Scott's casting choices would be easier to forgive if the A-list Anglos he chose brought anything meaningful to the screen. Bale grumbles his way through the part of prophet; Edgerton's makeup would make Liz Taylor proud; and neither can seem to keep his accent straight. The dialects spoken in this film run roughshod over ethno-linguistic boundaries like pharaoh's army, bouncing from Brit-speak to American English and everywhere in between. It's a disaster, to say the least.

What's more, many of Scott's actors barely get a word in. Paul's entire performance consists of reaction shots, Mendelsohn minces his way through the viceroy's palace and Ben Kingsley is relegated to painful exposition as Nun, the Hebrew elder who prompts Moses' revelation. One wonders: Why cast an actress as talented as Weaver if you're going to give her five lines of clunky epic-speak?

Historical epics aren't necessarily known for their subtle, nuanced performances. Often they rely more on spectacle between morale-boosting speechifying. While "Exodus" has plenty of spectacle – it opens with a sweeping, large-scale battle between the Egyptian army and the Hittites and offers plenty of hack-and-slash action in its time – none of it is very interesting. You've seen this all before, done better by Scott and even some of his disciples.

Spacing out the battle scenes, Scott's loaded his film with reams and reams of clunky exposition, a poor choice given the talent of his actors and the familiarity of his source material – only the most popular book in the world. Actors this good shouldn't have to read dialogue this bad, and no one in the Western Hemisphere needs be talked down to like this.

The one thing Scott's film does do right is visual splendor. When the



Joel Edgerton, Sigourney Weaver, John Turturro and Christian Bale – all Anglos – star as Egyptians and Hebrews in Ridley Scott's "Exodus: Gods and Kings," an interpretation of the biblical story of the Moses and the Israelites' flight from Egyptian slavery.

camera is not locked in on the lacking narrative or poor acting, Scott lets it wander, spinning outward and lofting above massive, meticulously rendered ancient cities.

The most thrilling moments of Scott's film come almost entirely in montage, as the 10 plagues ravage the pharaoh and his people. Each – from the blood-red waters of the Nile River filled with frenzied alligators to the steps of the pharaoh's palace littered with frogs and the fields stripped bare by swarms of locust. Each calamity is a visual masterpiece, and it's in these moments "Exodus" reaches its peaks.

With the arrival of the final – and obviously, most horrific – plague, the undercooked human-interest story kicks back and the film creaks expensively to its foregone conclusion on the beach of the Red Sea, resulting in only the second-best CGI tidal wave of the year, ranking well behind "Interstellar."

Perhaps most damnably, Scott has

told a familiar story in a stale way, adding nothing new to the conversation. It's unlikely faithful audiences will care much for the spectacular nature of "Exodus," and in many cases, he's run the risk of alienating Christian audiences by tampering with his source material – here, Moses receives his calling not from God, but from a snot-nosed and petulant pre-teen who may or may not be a figment of the prophet's imagination.

Secular audiences, on the other hand, just want a good time, regardless of historicity or faithfulness to text, and Scott failed here, too, unwilling to take the narrative and stylistic liberties to make his story anything more than a plodding retreat.

*Zak Hansen may be reached at 680-1958 or zak@lascrucesbulletin.com.*

### EXODUS: GODS AND KINGS

Rated: PG-13

Running time: 150 minutes

Starring: Christian Bale, Joel Edgerton

Director: Ridley Scott

### Film Review

Ridley Scott's poorly acted, thinly plotted "Exodus: Gods and Kings" is a misstep of biblical proportions.

Grade  
**D**

# AtTheMovies

## Picking the Flicks




Movie information from www.rottentomatoes.com. Movie reel based on a 5-point scale.


**Gone Girl**  
 Rated: R  
**Plot Overview:** After his wife's disappearance, a man finds himself under intense scrutiny by the media.  
**Starring:** Ben Affleck, Rosamund Pike  
**Director:** David Fincher



**The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 1**  
 Rated: PG-13  
**Plot Overview:** After Katniss destroys the games, the president convinces her to become a symbol of rebellion.  
**Starring:** Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson  
**Director:** Francis Lawrence




**The Theory of Everything**  
 Rated: PG-13  
**Plot Overview:** A look at the relationship of renowned physicist Stephen Hawking and his wife.  
**Starring:** Eddie Redmayne  
**Director:** James Marsh



**Birdman**  
 Rated: R  
**Plot Overview:** A washed-up superhero actor must overcome his personal struggles as he attempts to stage a Broadway play.  
**Starring:** Michael Keaton, Edward Norton  
**Director:** Alejandro González Iñárritu



**Horrible Bosses 2**  
 Rated: R  
**Plot Overview:** When Dale, Kurt and Nick start a business, only to be taken by a slick investor, they attempt a harebrained kidnapping scheme.  
**Starring:** Jason Sudekis, Jason Bateman  
**Director:** Sean Anders



**Exodus: Gods and Kings**  
 Rated: PG-13  
**Plot Overview:** Moses rises up against Ramses, the Egyptian king, leading 600,000 slaves out of Egypt and away from the deadly cycle of plagues.  
**Starring:** Christian Bale, Joel Edgerton  
**Director:** Ridley Scott




**The Hobbit: Battle of the Five Armies**  
 Rated: PG-13  
**Plot Overview:** Bilbo and his companions engage in a war to keep Smaug from obliterating Middle-Earth.  
**Starring:** Ian McKellan, Martin Freeman  
**Director:** Peter Jackson



**Penguins of Madagascar**  
 Rated: PG  
**Plot Overview:** To stop Dr. Octavius Brine from destroying the world, the penguins team with an undercover organization called The North Wind.  
**Starring:** Tom McGrath, Chris Miller (voices)  
**Directors:** Eric Darnell, Simon J. Smith




**Interstellar**  
 Rated: PG-13  
**Plot Overview:** A group of space explorers use a wormhole to take them farther than ever before possible.  
**Starring:** Matthew McConaughey, Anne Hathaway  
**Director:** Christopher Nolan



**Big Hero 6**  
 Rated: PG  
**Plot Overview:** An inflatable robot and a child prodigy team with a group of friends to form a band of high-tech heroes.  
**Starring:** Ryan Potter, Scott Adsit (voices)  
**Directors:** Don Hall, Chris Williams




**The Pyramid**  
 Rated: R  
**Plot Overview:** A team of archaeologists unleash a deadly force as they attempt to unlock the secrets of a lost pyramid.  
**Starring:** Ashley Hinshaw, James Buckley  
**Director:** Grégory Levasseur



**Top Five**  
 Rated: R  
**Plot Overview:** A comedian attempts a serious acting career when he's talked into broadcasting his wedding to his reality TV-star fiancé.  
**Starring:** Chris Rock, Rosario Dawson  
**Director:** Chris Rock



**Annie**  
 Rated: PG  
**Plot Overview:** A foster child's life changes when she's taken in by business tycoon and New York City mayoral candidate Will Stacks.  
**Starring:** Quvenzhané Wallis, Jamie Foxx  
**Director:** Will Gluck



**Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb**  
 Rated: PG  
**Plot Overview:** Larry sets off on an epic quest, uniting new and favorite characters to save the magic.  
**Starring:** Ben Stiller, Robin Williams  
**Director:** Shawn Levy



OPENS FRIDAY, DEC. 19

OPENS FRIDAY, DEC. 19

## New on DVD Tuesday, Dec. 23

**7 Assassins**

Rated: R  
 Genre: Action  
**Starring:** Eric Tsang, Felix Wong  
**Directors:** Eric Tsang, Xiong Xin Xin

**Pride**

Rated: R  
 Genre: Drama  
**Starring:** Imelda Staunton, Bill Nighy  
**Director:** Matthew Warchus

**The Good Lie**

Rated: PG-13  
 Genre: Drama  
**Starring:** Reese Witherspoon, Corey Stoll  
**Director:** Philippe Falardeau

**The Trip to Italy**

Not Rated  
 Genre: Comedy  
**Starring:** Steve Coogan, Rob Brydon  
**Director:** Michael Winterbottom

## Top-grossing Dec. 12-14

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>1</b> <b>Exodus: Gods and Kings</b> (Week No. 1)<br>\$25,115,934           | <b>6</b> <b>Interstellar</b> (Week No. 6)<br>\$5,452,904             |
| <b>2</b> <b>The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 1</b> (Week No. 4) \$12,686,742 | <b>7</b> <b>Horrible Bosses 2</b> (Week No. 3)<br>\$4,611,437        |
| <b>3</b> <b>Penguins of Madagascar</b> (Week No. 3)<br>\$7,206,293            | <b>8</b> <b>Dumb and Dumber 2</b> (Week No. 5)<br>\$2,785,070        |
| <b>4</b> <b>Top Five</b> (Week No. 1)<br>\$6,894,814                          | <b>9</b> <b>The Theory of Everything</b> (Week No. 6)<br>\$2,466,251 |
| <b>5</b> <b>Big Hero 6</b> (Week No. 6)<br>\$6,055,901                        | <b>10</b> <b>Wild</b> (Week No. 2)<br>\$1,531,013                    |

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**Annie** DAILY 12:15 3:00 6:05 9:00 (PG) NO PASS OR DISCOUNT

**EXODUS GODS AND KINGS** SHOWING IN 2D DAILY 11:50 2:50 6:10 9:40 (PG13) NO PASS OR DISCOUNT

**THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY PART I** DAILY 12:30 3:30 7:00 10:00 (PG13)

**EXODUS GODS AND KINGS** SHOWING IN 2D DAILY 11:30 1:45 4:00 6:30 9:45 (PG)

**THE HOBBIT THE BATTLE OF THE FIVE ARMIES** IN DOLBY ATMOS SHOWING IN 2D DAILY 12:00 3:30 6:30 9:45 (PG13) NO PASS OR DISCOUNT

**EXODUS GODS AND KINGS** SHOWING IN 3D DAILY 11:20 1:50 4:20 6:50 9:20 (PG)

**THE HOBBIT THE BATTLE OF THE FIVE ARMIES** SHOWING IN 3D DAILY 12:30 3:35 6:40 9:45 (PG13) \$2 UPCHARGE NO PASS OF ANY KIND

**EXODUS GODS AND KINGS** SHOWING IN 3D DAILY 12:00 3:00 7:00 10:00 (PG13)

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**EXODUS GODS AND KINGS** SHOWING IN 2D DAILY 12:15 3:25 6:35 9:45 (PG13) NO PASS OR DISCOUNT

**INTERSTELLAR** DAILY 9:20 (PG13)

**THE HOBBIT THE BATTLE OF THE FIVE ARMIES** SHOWING IN 2D DAILY 12:30 4:45 8:30 (PG13) NO PASS OR DISCOUNT

**EXODUS GODS AND KINGS** SHOWING IN 3D DAILY 12:00 3:10 6:20 9:30 (PG13) \$2 UPCHARGE NO PASS OF ANY KIND

**NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM SECRET OF THE TOMB** DAILY 12:15 2:40 5:10 7:30 10:00 (PG) NO PASS OR DISCOUNT

**THE PYRAMID** DAILY 11:30 2:00 4:25 6:45 9:00 (R) NO PASS OR DISCOUNT

**THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY PART I** DAILY 12:00 3:00 7:00 10:00 (PG13)

**TOP FIVE** DAILY 11:35 2:05 4:35 7:05 9:35 (R) NO PASS OR DISCOUNT

**BIRDMAN** DAILY 12:00 3:00 6:15 9:00 (R)

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**GONE GIRL (R)** DAILY 2:00 5:15 8:30

**THE BOOK OF LIFE (PG)** DAILY 2:30 5:00 7:10 9:20

**ALEXANDER TERRIBLE DAY (PG)** DAILY 2:20 4:50 7:25 10:00

**JOHN WICK (R)** DAILY 2:15 4:45 7:20 9:40 8:30



COURTESY PHOTOS BY PADMA MOTT-VALDEVIT

Above, together with the Basilica de San Albino in Mesilla, the Don Rafael Bermúdez House takes up an entire block, running from Calle de Guadalupe on the east to Calle de Principal on the west. Below, A hallway leads to a door. The property, including retail space, is for sale for \$598,000.

## Mesilla home offers many stories to owner

By **Marissa Bond**  
Las Cruces Bulletin

The Don Rafael Bermúdez home at 2226 Calle de Guadalupe in Mesilla opens like a book of stories, susurrating parchment histories.

The prologue begins with the door knocker; it had been gifted to homeowner and historical properties renovator Cliff Schlothauer years before he purchased the home. Made of heavy brass shaped into stylized peacocks, it belonged on a mid-range official's home in central Mexico during the 1850s, Schlothauer was told.

He rediscovered the knocker after purchasing the Bermúdez house, which had been built in the mid-19th century, also by a mid-level official.

It fit perfectly in the carved door, the first of the mixture of felicitous coincidence and attention to detail that marks Schlothauer's renovations.

The Bermúdez house is the last traditional hacienda style home in Mesilla. It was built or Don Rafael Bermúdez, a successful farmer, merchant and tax

collector before the Gadsden Purchase, in 1853. Together with the Basilica de San Albino, it takes up an entire block, running from Calle de Guadalupe on the east to Calle de Principal on the west. The house is zoned historic commercial, with the north part of the home being used as a rented commercial space.

"Mesilla is a magical place to live," Schlothauer said. "I time my day by the chiming of the church bells. In the mornings, I'll step out and enjoy the still of the dawn. With the lamps on, it looks like I have stepped back in time to when this house was new."

One of the home's unique details is the tablecloth glass set into many of the windows facing the street. Exquisitely cut as Waterford crystal, it has been manufactured by a Chihuahuan company since the 1880s.

"It is new, but vintage," Schlothauer said. "It adds a whimsical touch."

The wood floors in the kitchen are narrower and newer than the rest of the house, dating from the early 1900s.

See **STORIES** on page C15



# STORIES,

FROM PAGE 14

This is a lovely distinction which Shlothauer has kept. It is respectful of the way the home has aged – not hermetically sealed in the era of its creation, but as a timeline layered back on itself like a sentence on a page.

French-style windows open to the courtyard and to the street, letting in either the tintinnabular chiming of the bells or the bustle of the plaza. Talavera tile trims some of the windowsills and baseboards.

“The Talavera is not original to the home, but it is vintage style and uses traditional patterns,” Schlothauer said.

The kitchen has been completely updated with walnut cabinets and high-grade granite countertops. The colors of the granite bend and flow, creating the illusion of movement.

“The contractor is right, it’s like looking at a stream,” Schlothauer said.

The cabinets are all uplit to provide elegant, subdued light and catch the unique wear patterns of the antique vigas – wooden beams characteristic of older adobe construction in the Southwest.

The vigas are all local cottonwood. In some of them, striations are visible. Patterns of wear from hand stripping the bark fluidly blur into the grain of the wood. Vigas are the southwest’s response to Renaissance ceiling masterworks – undulating wood and earth, the waveplay of the desert.

“There’s an old Spanish saying – ‘You don’t build your home before you have your vigas,’” Schlothauer said.

The length of the wood determined the width of the rooms. Despite the limitations cottonwoods impose, the Bermúdez house has a long, refined salon of a living space and a sumptuous master bedroom featuring a large fireplace and a private entrance to the courtyard.



In the Don Rafael Bermúdez House, the living room and bedroom floors are wide boards of Mexican pine.

COURTESY PHOTOBY PADMA MOTT-VALDEVIT

The floor in the living room and bedroom are wide boards of Mexican pine. Well constructed, they are too dignified to creak even after 160 years of use. The boards are made from old growth trees and have no knots, luminous in deep copper and bright blonde.

While the exterior and the rooms soothe the cool elegance of period-accurate white-wash, the interior courtyard is painted in vivid Mexican pigments.

It had been cluttered with raised beds, but Schlothauer redesigned it as a traditional Mexican all-brick patio. A section of the patio is covered with a tin roof and deep enough to keep out the searching summer sun.

Schlothauer pointed out how the builders had perfectly fit a single Tala-

### Don Fernando Bermúdez House

**Where:** 2226 Calle de Guadalupe

**Square footage:** 3,608

**Bedrooms:** 3,500 +

**Bathrooms:** Two and a half

**Price:** \$598,000

**Special features:** Zoned historic commercial, rented commercial space, interior courtyard, 2 fireplaces, renovated kitchen, granite countertops, vigas, latillas, Talavera tile, office, covered patio, proximity to Mesilla Plaza

**Contact:** Padma Mott-Valdevit at 635-6662

vera tile between each rafter.

The courtyard fountain and statues are made of cantera stone, a volcanic rock quarried in Mexico and prized for its unique hues, softness for carving and a rich patina as it weathers.

Through the back gate where the building stretches to touch the opposite street, an angel called Naranja guards the door. Also made of

cantera stone, it burnishes orange in the rain.


The Bermúdez house has many stories, some we know and many we cannot; but as a place where the past and present collapse into one, it has chapters to read and space for more yet to be written.

Marissa Bond can be reached at 680-1845 or [marissa@lascrucesbulletin.com](mailto:marissa@lascrucesbulletin.com).



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**Coach Lou & Mary Henson**

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# Yard of the Month



COURTESY PHOTO

The December Yard of the Month winner is Phil and Joni Giles on Longbow Loop. The couple's yard was chosen for the variety of plantings and the obvious care and maintenance.

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# Religion Listings

## MOUNTAIN VIEW TO HOLD PERFORMANCE

The public is invited to Mountain View Baptist Church, located across the street from Las Cruces City Hall, at 705 N. Main St., at 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, for the Christmas musical "A Shepherd's Tale," presented by the choir with participation by other members of the congregation.

For additional information

## SALT & LIGHT PROGRAM

First Presbyterian Church, 200 E. Boutz Road, has begun its yearly Salt & Light after-school community program.

The program is open to community children in grades kindergarten through 12 and takes place Wednesday evenings.

Designed to offer a kid-friendly atmosphere, the program includes snacks, recreation, Bible classes, music, worship and dinner. The cost is \$50 per child, or \$100 for families. Some scholarships are available.

For more information, call 526-5559.

## BONHOEFFER STUDY GROUP

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 518 N. Alameda Blvd., will host a study group on the life and times of Dietrich Bonhoeffer from 7 to 8 p.m. the first and third Tuesday of every month.

Bonhoeffer was a pastor, spy, threat to the Third Reich and martyr, but perhaps more than anything else, he was a man with a deeply held faith.

Gifted in his ability to articulate that faith, Bonhoeffer wrote books, both before and during his imprisonment, that continue to deeply challenge Christians.

The Bonhoeffer Study Group is free to attend. Short videos about Bonhoeffer will set the stage for each discussion. For more information, call 526-6333.

## MODERN BUDDHISM CLASSES OFFERED

The Unitarian Universalist Church, 2000 S. Solano Drive, offers Modern Buddhism meditation classes, sponsored by the Kadampa Meditation Center, in the R.S. Great Room from 10 to 11:30 a.m. the first and third Saturday of each month. The topic of the class is "The Wisdom of Fearlessness," which uses the teachings of Buddha to acquire tools to free ourselves from fear and, ultimately, all painful, limiting states of mind.

The classes are open to the public. A \$10 donation is suggested.

For more information, call 496-4271.

## DISCOVER THE FAITH

Mission Lutheran Church, 2752 Roadrunner Parkway, offers adult Bible study classes at 10 a.m. every Saturday.

Regular worship schedule is 6 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m. Sunday and a Spanish-language service at 10:30 a.m.

Sunday.

For more information, call 522-0465.

## CHRISTIAN MEN'S FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

Calling all men: A Christian men's luncheon meets at noon every Tuesday at IHOP, 2900 Del Rey Blvd. Open discussions. Bring a friend.

For more information, call 635-7262.

## MORNING PRAYER AT HOLY FAMILY

Holy Family American Catholic Church, 702 Parker Road, presents the Liturgy of the Hours/Morning Prayer at 10 a.m., as well as Evening Prayer at 5:15 p.m. and Mass at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday in the Saint Francis Chapel. Services are open to all.

For more information, call 644-5025.

## CENTER FOR SPIRITUAL LIVING

The Center for Spiritual Living, 575 N. Main St., offers "A Course In Miracles" open book study from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturdays; "Prayer Treatment" by local New Thought ministers, practitioners and teachers from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays

Pastoral care is also offered by Rev. Bonnie Smith by appointment at 635-8081.

For more information, call 523-4847.

## COURSE IN MIRACLES

At the Good Samaritan Society-Las Cruces Village, 3025 Terrace Drive, a complete self-study spiritual thought system called "A Course In Miracles," is offered from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Saturdays.

Presented by Edward Alvarez, the class is a three-volume curriculum, teaching that the way to universal love and peace is by undoing guilt through forgiveness of others. There is no charge for the program and all levels of students and spiritual seekers are welcome.

For more information, call 993-4903.

## SILENT MEDITATION

Peace Lutheran Church, 1701 E. Missouri Ave., offers a 20-minute period of silent meditation after a brief reading at 9 a.m. Saturday mornings. A "sacred word" is selected and is returned to during times of distraction.

All faiths are welcome. For more information, call 647-5684 or 522-7119.

## MEN'S CATHOLIC FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

Catholic men are invited to attend a men's Catholic fellowship breakfast from 8 to 10 a.m. the second Saturday of the month at the San Albino Parish Hall on the Mesilla Plaza.

The monthly gathering is an opportunity for men to fellowship with other Catholic men and renew themselves spiritually.

The fellowship is sponsored by the Cathedral of Immaculate Heart of Mary in collaboration with other Mesilla Valley Catholic parishes. The cost of the breakfast is \$5.

For more information, call 524-8563.

# Keep Christ in Christmas

By Archbishop Michael Sheehan

For the Las Cruces Bulletin

Christmas decorations are up all over New Mexico, but it seems the emphasis is on large Santa Claus figurines, Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer and Frosty the Snowman.

There are twinkling lights and tinsel everywhere and people are busy buying and wrapping gifts in fancy paper with big bows.

We are all sending and receiving Christmas cards. Dinners and trips are being planned. Lots of money is being spent.

It seems like our secular society has forgotten the reason for this season: the birth of Jesus Christ.

Still, many of us are more concerned about the external trappings and forget the internal preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus.

My Christmas message is that we remember that God sent us his son, Jesus, born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem about 2,000 years ago. May the love we have for family and friends and the joy of Christmas be based on the image of the Christmas Crib – the birth of the Savior

Merry Christmas.

*Michael Sheehan is the eleventh and current Archbishop of Santa Fe.*

## 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. 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>.

## 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.

Anyone seeking spiritual study, knowledge and awareness is encouraged to attend.

For more information and location, call 405-2089.

## SPANISH MASS OFFERED

Holy Family Ecumenical Catholic Church, 702 Parker Road, is an independent Catholic community where all are welcome and will celebrate Spanish Mass on the second and fourth Sunday of each month. In addition, Holy Family has English Masses at 5:30 p.m. Saturdays and 10:30 a.m. Sundays.

For more information, call 644-5025.

## 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.

## KELP RADIO MINISTRY

Calvary Chapel Las Cruces hosts a radio ministry at 12:30 p.m. Monday through Friday on local station KELP 89.3 FM. The program features the ministry of Pastor Robert "Bob" Ortega Jr. as he teaches from the

Word of God.

For questions, comments or prayer regarding the program, call the church fellowship at 524-0985.

## GRIEF RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP

If you've lost someone close to you or know someone who has, Grief Share is a special weekly support group held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays at the Morning Star United Methodist Church, 2941 Morning Star Drive, Room 105.

At Grief Share, you will learn valuable information that will help you through this difficult time in your life.

For more information or to register, call the church office at 521-3770.

## CHURCH OPENS DOORS FOR 24-HOUR PRAYER

It is a well known fact that Christmas and New Years brings on loneliness and sorrow for many. Agape Christian Church will open its doors at the west wing of the Palm's Business complex at 2407 W. Picacho Ave. for prayer and Bible sharing 24 hours a day, from 6 a.m. Monday, Dec. 22 to 6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 3.

There will be a prayer counselor on staff at all hours, a warm and friendly place to receive prayer, or to come pray privately on your own.

For information, call Herb Pinney at 650-3915 or in the office at 647 2168. There is no charge.


## AGAPE CHURCH ANNOUNCES SCHEDULE

Sunday at Agape Christian begins with The Breakfast Club, with a free fix-your-own breakfast and an hour of Bible teaching on how to live as a Christian in a secular world; followed by the regular morning worship from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

On Sunday afternoon, at 4:30 p.m. is Family Bible College with classes for all ages, followed at 5:30 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. with Evening Non-denominational worship and communion. Rides available, call Herb Pinney for info. 650 3915.

# Worship Services

## Anglican



**ST. MARY'S ANGLICAN**  
The Historical Stone Church with Traditional Values

Sunday - 9 a.m. Holy Communion  
10:15 a.m. Adult/Child Bible Studies  
Tuesday - 10 a.m. Bible Study  
Rev. James Patterson, Rector  
Rev. James Reeves, Vicar  
7975 Doña Ana Rd., Las Cruces  
on the left at the curve  
523-2740 or 525-0062


## Baha'i Faith

**The Baha'i Information & Reading Center**  
All faiths welcome

Interspiritual Devotional  
Sundays 10:30 to 11 a.m.  
Adult Spiritual Discussion  
11 a.m. to Noon  
Book Club  
Wednesday, 6 p.m.  
Please call for more info.  
"All the prophets of God  
proclaim the same Faith"

**525 E. Lohman**  
575.522.0467

## Baptist



**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
LAS CRUCES, N.M.

**SUNDAY**  
Bible Study 9 & 10:45 am  
Morning Worship 9 & 10:45 am  
University of Life 6 pm

**WEDNESDAY**  
Intercessory Prayer 5:45 pm  
Encounter: Corporate Prayer and Worship 6:15 pm

CHILD CARE AVAILABLE

106 South Miranda  
Downtown Las Cruces  
524-3691  
www.fbclasruces.com


## THIS CHRISTMAS AT calvary baptist church

Journey To Bethlehem,  
Voices of the Nativity  
Fri, Dec. 19 6:30 PM  
Sat, Dec. 20  
2:30 PM & 6 PM

The tickets are FREE and we ask that people pick them up at Calvary Baptist Church between the hours of 9:00-4:00.

1800 S. Locust St.  
575-522-7900

## Catholic-Independent




**Holy Family American National Catholic Church**  
A Catholic Community Where All Are Welcome

Service Times  
Mass  
Saturday 5:30 pm  
Sunday 10:30 am  
Morning Prayer  
Tue.-Fri. 9 am  
Evening Prayer  
Tue.-Fri. 5:15 pm

Clergy: Frs. Jim Lehman,  
Louie Amezaga & Peter Sanchez  
575-644-5025  
702 Parker Road • Las Cruces, NM 88005  
www.holyfamilyancc.com

## Catholic - Roman



**THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF LAS CRUCES**

VIEW ALL LISTINGS OF CATHOLIC CHURCHES ON OUR WEBSITE  
WWW.DIOCESEOFLASCRUCES.ORG


## Christian



**First Church of Christ, Scientist**

Sunday:  
Service & Sunday School  
10 a.m.  
Wednesday:  
Testimonies 7 p.m.  
**All are WELCOME!**

325 West Mountain Ave.  
Las Cruces, NM  
575-523-5063



**The NEW ONE WAY Life Center**  
Ministers Ralph & Norma Molina

Dec. 24 at 8:00 PM.....Candlelight Service  
We will be singing Christmas Carols, reading old testament prophecies that foretold Jesus' birth, and watching a Nativity film.  
DEC. 31, AT 8:00 PM.....New Year's Service  
featuring personal testimonies and making new resolutions for the new year! Refreshments will be served at both services.

916 Chaparro, Las Cruces  
Full Gospel • Christ Centered  
**EVERYONE WELCOME**

## Disciples of Christ



**First Christian Church**  
(Disciples of Christ)

An open community,  
now also affiliated with  
the United Church of Christ

1809 El Paseo  
524-3245

Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m.  
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  
Nursery Provided



**ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
"Digging deep wells so others may drink."

Rector: The Rev. Canon Scott A. Ruthven

**Weekday Services**  
Tuesday - 9:30 AM - Morning Prayer  
Thursday - Noon - Holy Eucharist  
**Sunday Services**  
8:30 AM - Rite 1 • 10:30 AM - Rite 2

December 24th:  
5:30 pm - Christmas Pageant with Eucharist Service  
10:00 pm - Service of Carols  
10:30 pm - Christmas Eve Service with Holy Eucharist (Incense will be used)  
December 25th: 10:00 am - Christmas Day Service  
January 1st: 10:00 am - New Year's Day Service

518 N. Alameda Blvd.  
526-6333  
www.SaintAndrewsLC.org

## Episcopal



**St. James' Episcopal Church**

Biblically Orthodox  
Traditional Anglican Worship  
Sunday: 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.  
Wednesday: 10 a.m.  
Sunday School - 10:15 a.m.  
Nursery - 10:30 a.m.  
Fellowship after each Service  
Bible Study Groups - Weekly  
www.saintjameslc.com

102 St. James Ave. • 526-2389  
1 Blk. off University @ S. Main

## Jewish



**TEMPLE BETH-EL OF LAS CRUCES**

OURS IS A DIVERSE AND GROWING JEWISH COMMUNITY

FRIDAY SERVICES VARY. PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR THIS WEEK'S TIME

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES AT 10:15 AM

WWW.TBELC.ORG  
3980 SONOMA SPRINGS AVE.  
575-524-3380

RABBI LAWRENCE P. KAROL  
MEMBER OF UNION FOR REFORM JUDAISM

Interested in being on our worship services page? Call 524-8061 for details.

## Lutheran



**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA**  
2900 Elks Drive, LC  
575.523.4232

Sun. Worship 9:00 am  
Christmas Eve Worship  
Dec. 24th • 6:30 p.m.

All are welcome!

## Messianic



**ETZ CHAYIM**

What does it mean to be MESSIANIC?

Join us at  
134 S. Main St. (Griggs & Main)  
1:00pm Saturday Afternoon  
4:30pm Bible Study Saturday  
to discover what a Messianic lifestyle is all about and what it could mean for you.  
Everyone is welcome!  
For more information call 866-874-7250

## Methodist




**Morning Star**  
United Methodist Church  
Where mercy triumphs over judgement.

521-3770  
2941 Morning Star Dr. at Roadrunner Pkwy

Blended Worship - 8:15 a.m.  
Contemporary Worship - 9:45 a.m.  
Traditional Worship - 11:15 a.m.

Please call for information about our Ministries, Sunday Schools and Small Groups or visit our web site: www.morningstarumc.org

**Rev. Travis Bennett**



**ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
Transforming the World from the Heart of Las Cruces

225 W. Griggs Ave.  
Downtown on the corner of Alameda & Griggs • 526-6689 for information

Rev. Eduardo Rivera, Senior Pastor

Traditional Worship	8:15 a.m.
Unplugged Contemporary Worship	9:30 a.m.
Traditional Worship	10:45 a.m.

www.lascrucesmethodistchurch.com



**UNIVERSITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Pastor: Randall W. Partin

Sunday Worship Services:  
Traditional: 8:30 a.m.  
Informal: 11:00 a.m.  
Classes for All: 9:45 a.m.  
Longest Night Service Dec. 21, 6:30pm.  
Candlelight Service Dec. 24, 4&7p.m.

2000 S. Locust (575) 522-8220  
www.uumclascruces.org  
Bright Beginnings  
Childcare & Preschool 522-3261



**El Calvario United Methodist Church**

Wed.: Bible Study 7 p.m.

Sunday:  
Sunday School 10 a.m.  
Worship 11 a.m.

Where everyone is welcome.  
Donde todos son bienvenidos.

elcalvarioumc@hotmail.com

Pastor Nema LeCuyer

300 N. Campo  
575-524-1230 • 575-652-1188  
elcalvario@centurylink.net

"Changing the world, one person at a time."  
"Cambiando el mundo una persona a la vez."

## New Thought



**Center for Spiritual Living**  
In the Heart of Las Cruces

A Science of Mind Center  
**Service on Sunday 10:30-11:30 am**

Guest Speaker:  
Sunday, December 21st:  
Reverend Bram Watkins

DEC 22 - 25TH  
Musical Candlelight Service  
Wednesday, Dec. 24th at 7:00PM  
Contemplation, music and celebration!

575 North Main St.  
Las Cruces, NM 88001  
www.csllascruces.org  
575-523-4847



**WELLSPRING CHURCH**

An Inclusive New Thought Community  
140 Taylor Rd - 524-2375  
Sunday Celebration 11:00 AM  
Men's and Women's  
Discussion Groups 9:30 AM  
Rev. Sam Ritchey - 647-2560  
wellspringnow.com  
wellspringnow.blogspot.com

facebook

## Non Denominational

**Southern New Mexico Church of God**

Sabbath Services  
Interactive Bible Study  
Saturdays 1 p.m.  
1701 E. Missouri

Hear us Sunday mornings 8 a.m. on 1450 AM KOBE  
See us Sunday mornings 10:30 a.m. on Comcast Cable Channel 98  
We observe all of God's Holy Days and accept Jesus Christ as our savior.

**650-7359**

Confidential private counseling also available.

## Calvary Chapel Three Crosses

Simply Teaching the Bible Simply


Service Times  
Sun 9 & 11 am  
Wed 6:30 pm

4301 Bataan Memorial W. Hwy 70  
Las Cruces, NM 88012  
505-358-4046

Find Hope  
Find Truth

www.calvarychapelthreecrosses.com  
Watch Live or Archived teaching videos  
http://new.livestream.com/accounts/5421822/cc3c

## Pentecostal



**River of Life**

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES  
SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 10AM  
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE AT 11AM  
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY AT 7PM  
1880 N. SOLANO  
LAS CRUCES, NM 88001  
575-405-4269  
www.riveroflifeupc.org

Interested in being on our worship services page? Call 524-8061 for details.

# Healthy Happenings



## ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

If you drink, that's your business. If you want to stop drinking and can't, that's ours. For more information, call 527-1803.

## ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

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

- 11:30 a.m. Thursdays at Sunset Grill, 1274 Golf Club Road. For more information, call Jan at 522-7133.
- 6 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at Mountain View Market Co-Op, 1300 El Paseo Road. Respite care available during meeting. For more information, call Tony or Michael at 382-5200.

## BRAIN INJURY GROUP MEETS

The Brain Injury Group meets from 10 a.m. to 12:30

### Presbyterian

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Sunday School 9 a.m.  
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

Iglesia del Pueblo  
Spanish Services  
Sunday 9:30 a.m.

200 E. Boutz Road, Las Cruces  
www.firstpreslc.com  
(575) 526-5559

### Unity

**unity**  
of Las Cruces

**"A positive path for spiritual living"**

Sunday Celebration ..... 10:30 am  
Children's Activity ..... 10:30 am

**"Practical Christianity in action"**

Rev. Terry Lund  
**125 Wyatt Drive**  
**575-523-5592**  
www.UnityofLasCruces.org

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.

## GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP MEETS

The Southern New Mexico Bereaved Parents Support Group meets 2:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month at Mesilla Valley Hospice, 410 Foster Road, in the Grief Center. Parents, grandparents and siblings are invited.

For more information, call Anna Cook at 527-1193.

## BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

The Breast Cancer Support Group of the Community Foundation of Southern New Mexico meets from 10 to 11 a.m. every fourth Saturday of the month at Memorial Medical Center, 2450 S. Telshor Blvd., West Annex Building.

Monthly programs vary, with information related to breast cancer and the pursuit of wellness. Meetings are free, no registration required, and are open to all who have been touched by breast cancer.

For more information, call 524-4373.

## CANCER CARE SUPPORT GROUP

A Cancer Care support group meets from 6:30 to 8 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month at University United Methodist Church, 2000 S. Locust St. Cancer survivors, those currently being treated and anyone in the community whose life has been touched by cancer are invited.

For more information, call 524-3994 or 522-3261.

## GRANDPARENTS SUPPORT GROUP

A Grandparents Raising Grandchildren support group is held from 10 a.m. to noon the second Tuesday of the month at the Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St. Grandpar-

ents raising grandchildren on a full-time basis are invited to join.

For more information, call 528-3301.

## LUNCHTIME YOGA

Beginners and experienced alike are invited to a 45-minute yoga class, followed by lunch.

The class is noon to 1 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays, Downtown Desert Yoga, 303 S. Alameda Blvd.

For more information, call 647-9642.

## NEEDLE EXCHANGE AVAILABLE

The Families & Youth Inc. Needle Exchange Program, 1190 Foster Road, seeks to reduce HIV and hepatitis C by decreasing the circulation of unclean syringes and provides free information on 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 556-1622.

## CROSSROADS CLASSES

Crossroads Accupuncture, 130 S. Main St., announces new classes. Gentle Chair Yoga will be offered from 6 to 7 p.m. Mondays and Yoga En Español (bilingual English and Spanish) will be offered from 6 to 7 p.m. Wednesdays.

For more information, call 312-6569.

## OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS

Overeaters Anonymous is a fellowship of those individuals who, through shared experience, strength and hope, are recovering from a compulsive relationship with food.

There are three weekly meetings: 7 p.m. Mondays at Unity Church of Las Cruces, 125 Wyatt Drive; noon Wednesdays in the library of St. James Episcopal Church, 1102 St. James Ave.; and 9:30 a.m. Saturdays at Peace Lutheran Church, 1701 E. Missouri Ave.

For more information, call 571-7864.

## SOUTHERN NM DIABETES GROUP

The diabetes educational support group meetings are held from 10 to 11:15 a.m. the third Thursday of each month at Natural Grocers, 3970 E. Lohman Ave.

For more information, call 522-0287.

## STROKE GROUP FOR SURVIVORS

Stroke survivors and caregivers share their experiences at support group meetings at 1 p.m. the first Thursday of the month at Munson Senior Center, 975 S. Mesquite St.

For more information, call 522-2625.

## SUICIDE SURVIVORS GROUP MEETS

Suicide Survivors, a free, peer-led group is open to any adult survivor of suicide.

Facilitated by the Southern New Mexico Suicide Prevention and Survivor Support Coalition, the group meets from 4:30 to 6 p.m. the first and third Monday of the month at the Center for Grief Services, 209 E. Montana Ave.

For more information, call 635-6265 or email margaret.short@lpnt.net.

## TOPS GROUPS MEETINGS SET

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 more information, call Doris at 524-7461.

TOPS 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.

For more information, call 523-6240.

TOPS Chapter 390 meets 5:45 to 7 p.m. Thursdays at Morning Star United Methodist Church.

## 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.

## RECOVERY 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.

For more information, call 522-6404 or send an email to bridge@nmsu.edu.

## 12-STEP MEETINGS

The Center for Spiritual Living, 575 N. Main St., hosts ongoing 12-step meetings.

Sexual Compulsives Anonymous meetings are held from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Mondays.

Overeaters Anonymous meetings are held from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Thursdays.

For more information, call 523-4847.

## T'AI CHI CHIH AT SENIOR CIRCLE

T'ai Chi Chih sessions taught by Rose J. Alvarez-Diosdado are from 8:45 to 9:45 a.m. Mondays and Tuesdays, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Mondays, from 10 to 11 a.m. Tuesdays and 11 a.m. to noon Wednesdays at Senior Circle Center, 3948 E. Lohman Ave.

Classes are free to Senior Circle members or \$2 for nonmembers.

Free classes are also available at 10 a.m. the first and third Thursdays of each month at Young Park, 1905 Nevada Ave.

For more information, email rositaad4@gmail.com or visit www.taichichih.org.

## YOGA OFFERED

Certified yoga instructor Olivia Solomon offers all levels yoga classes at 9 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at Gold Medal Taekwondo, 519 E. Boutz Road, kitty-corner from Las Cruces High School. Bring a yoga mat and any props needed.

For more information, contact 522-5350 or wildyoga@yahoo.com.

## VEGAN SUPPORT GROUP MEETS AT MVM

A "Being Vegan" group meeting will be from 7 to 8 p.m. the third Monday of the month in the Mountain View Market community room, 1300 El Paseo Road.

Being Vegan is a place for vegans and vegan-curious people to find support and knowledge about food choices.

For more information, call 523-0436.

## SEXUAL COMPULSIVES ANONYMOUS

If you struggle with the burden of lust and find only passing pleasure from your intimacies, or have difficulty sustaining on-going, meaningful relationships, Sexual Compulsives Anonymous provides an answer.

This 12-step recovery program meets 7 to 8 p.m. Mondays, at Sierra Vista Community Church, 514 N. Telshor Blvd. (behind the large T-Mobile sign). For more information, contact Don B. at 908-432-7816 and leave a message.

## DEBTORS ANONYMOUS HOLDS MEETINGS

Debtors Anonymous meets from noon to 1 p.m. Saturdays at the Center for Spiritual Living, 575 N. Main St.

Debtors Anonymous is a fellowship of women and men who are recovering from compulsive debt-ing, under-earning, overspending and living in fear.

Attendees can find an abundant, joyous and free life in this program.

For more information, call 647-5684.

# 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.

### LIKE DR. DOLITTLE

**ENGLISH**  
 BIRDS  
 CATS  
 DOGS  
 MAMMALS  
 MEDICINE  
 PRESCRIPTION  
 REPTILE  
 SICK  
 TO CURE  
 TO EXAMINE  
 TO RECOVER  
 VETERINARIAN

**SPANISH**  
 PÁJAROS  
 GATOS  
 PERROS  
 MAMÍFEROS  
 MEDICINA  
 RECETA  
 REPTIL  
 ENFERMO  
 CURAR  
 EXAMINAR  
 CURARSE  
 VETERINARIO

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S O R E P J Á P O M R E F N E  
 S T A C A X E N I M A X E O T  
 R E P U V E T E R I N A R I O  
 V T O R E C O V E R E C E T A  
 E E G A T O S O R R E P Í P N  
 T N S R A L S L A M M A M I I  
 E I D S E I D N T I O N Í R C  
 R C R E P T I L C O V E F C I  
 I I I C K M A M Í F E R O S D  
 N D B M A M Í K T O C U R E E  
 A E I X O U C E T U Í D F R M  
 R M E C U I R V R T M S O P E  
 I P Á J S O R A J Á P E V G V  
 A T E P Á J R E P T I L E V S  
 N O I T P I R C P Á J R O S E

## Crossword Puzzles

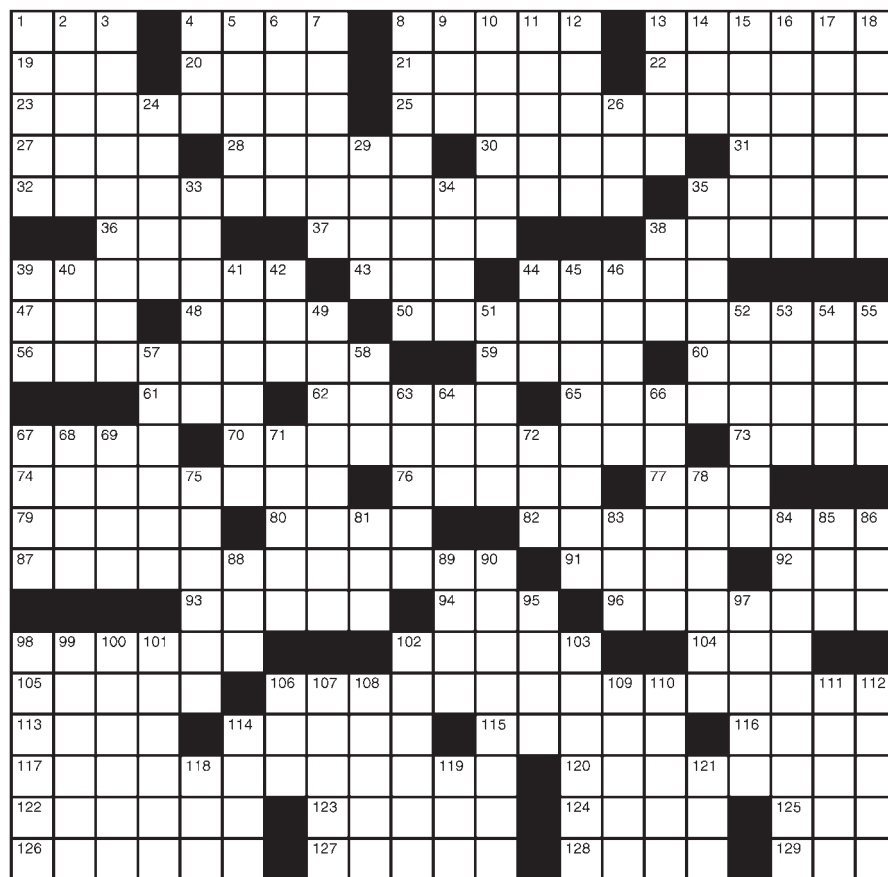
### Diagramless, 21 x 21

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**
- 1 Sword stroke
  - 6 "Repo Man" star Harry Dean
  - 8 Kadeem of "The Cosby Show"
  - 10 Baseball player's stat
  - 11 Coty and Auberjonois
  - 13 Santa winds
  - 16 Spring fragrance
  - 18 Subside
  - 20 Kaline and Capone
  - 23 Zilch
  - 24 Fastest land animal
  - 26 Etc.'s cousin
  - 27 Republicans
  - 28 Junior high school subj.
  - 29 Wets thoroughly
  - 30 Balance aboard
  - 32 Gabor of "Green Acres"
  - 33 State of little difficulty
  - 35 Vatican chapel
  - 36 S. African settler
  - 37 "Fidelio" soprano
  - 38 Panels of prospective jurors
  - 39 Gangsters' girlfriends
  - 40 Cassava
  - 41 Explosive cocktail?
  - 42 Country violin
  - 43 Highway sign abbr.
  - 44 Positive nautical reply
  - 45 Uncouth clod
  - 46 Smallest bill
  - 47 Condition of agonizing struggle
  - 50 Capitol Hill honcho
  - 52 Three-ring
  - 56 Circular
  - 57 Young noblemen
  - 58 Swiss lake
  - 59 Rascals
  - 60 Wooded
  - 61 South African jazz trumpeter Hugh
  - 62 Understand
  - 63 Thoroughwort
  - 64 Cut off
  - 65 Poorly lit
  - 66 Otto I's realm
  - 67 Laugh loudly
  - 68 Became shallow
  - 70 Man with an alibi?
  - 71 Ninnyhammer
  - 72 Site of rites
  - 74 Distinctive atmospheres
- DOWN**
- 1 Horse quarters
  - 2 Rope on the range
  - 3 Plus
  - 4 Mix
  - 5 Book after Daniel
  - 6 Frantic cries
  - 7 Faithless one
  - 9 Tidies
  - 12 Part of a process
  - 13 Founder of Scholasticism
  - 14 Ancient city in Asia Minor
  - 15 Elvis Costello hit
  - 16 Capital of Tibet
  - 17 Sands or Mirage, e.g.
  - 19 Golfer Ernie
  - 20 Ancient
  - 21 Apollo 13 crew member
  - 22 Scanty
  - 24 Compels
  - 25 Paused
  - 29 Treated haughtily
  - 31 One of the Fates
  - 34 Shackled
  - 35 Gypsum crystals
  - 36 "10" star
  - 38 Peeping Toms
  - 39 Really compact auto
  - 41 Went about in disguise
  - 42 Concentrated
  - 47 Country singer Yearwood
  - 48 Four-base hits
  - 49 Indian cash
  - 51 Singer Franklin
  - 53 Believe in
  - 54 Dissimilar
  - 55 Formed ridges
  - 57 Musical works
  - 58 Washes
  - 60 Ices
  - 61 Hodgepodge
  - 63 Bikini piece
  - 64 Polynesian wraps
  - 69 Excursion
  - 73 Carnival attractions
  - 77 Continental currency
  - 80 Metal container

### DOUBLING UP

- ACROSS**
- 1 One kind of constrictor
  - 4 Rival rival
  - 8 Author of "Longitude"
  - 13 Judge's order
  - 19 Avant-garde French sculptor
  - 20 Hair colorist
  - 21 Ecole attendee
  - 22 Eloquent speaker
  - 23 Wisdom
  - 25 Start of Fiorello La Guardia quip
  - 27 Picture on a PC
  - 28 Old-time actress Nita
  - 30 Fred's dancing sister
  - 31 Deer head?
  - 32 Part 2 of quip
  - 35 Billiards shot
  - 36 Holy sister
  - 37 Two-under-par score
  - 38 Endured
  - 39 Main courses
  - 43 Totality
  - 44 PC operating system
  - 47 Christopher or Peggy
  - 48 Goddess of strife
  - 50 Part 3 of quip
  - 56 Changes, as a signal
  - 59 Krueger, the Match King
  - 60 Arrowsmith's first wife
  - 61 Former U.S. draft org.
  - 62 Tablet choice
  - 65 Some pavements
  - 67 Rhine tributary
  - 70 Part 4 of quip
  - 73 Card game for three
  - 74 Actor Forrest
  - 76 Beaming
  - 77 Papua New Guinea port
  - 79 Henry VIII's last name
  - 80 Lat. list-ender
  - 82 Easily influenced
  - 87 Part 5 of quip
  - 91 Calendar span
  - 92 Reference bk. from England
  - 93 Apothecary measures
  - 94 Pompous fool
  - 96 Camera type
  - 98 Sissy of "Carrie"
  - 102 TV from D.C.
  - 104 Cote call
  - 105 Threesomes
  - 106 Part 6 of quip
  - 113 Epidermal opening
- DOWN**
- 114 Riga's river
  - 115 Salami type
  - 116 Duration
  - 117 End of quip
  - 120 Added one's two cents
  - 122 Toyota model
  - 123 Prefix for bargain models
  - 124 Abominable Snowman
  - 125 Summer on the Somme
  - 126 Ancient Jewish ascetic
  - 127 Of the kidneys
  - 128 Pique performance
  - 129 Opp. of NNE



- 53 Drench
- 54 Cookbook author
- 55 Boss Tweed's lampooner
- 57 Applied to
- 58 Knight's title
- 63 African antelope
- 64 Easter item
- 66 Stock of wines
- 67 Shaving lotion brand
- 68 What to make for it?
- 69 Funnyman Foxx
- 71 Panoramas
- 72 CD add-on?
- 75 Wears away
- 78 Organism requiring oxygen
- 81 Expressions of satisfaction
- 83 Neighbor of Syr.
- 84 Good faith
- 85 Island wreath
- 86 Dutch commune
- 88 Stir-fry pan
- 89 Flower holder
- 90 Spaniard to a Frenchman
- 95 Marquis de
- 97 Fritter away
- 98 Tampa neighbor, casually
- 99 Verifies
- 100 Broadcasters
- 101 Use intimidation
- 102 Styx ferryman
- 103 Kulp and Kerrigan
- 106 Boob tubes
- 107 Windshield cleaner
- 108 In reserve
- 109 Comic Myron
- 110 Half of Hispaniola
- 111 Leaves out
- 112 Begin again
- 114 Valley
- 118 Desire
- 119 Actress Claire
- 121 Sch. near Harvard

### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

#### Word Salsa

T N E M E L A I C R E M M O I C  
 N O I S N O I S I V E L E T A  
 Ó T O D I S P L A Y A Y S C R I  
 I N T E R N E T N O P U S U T E  
 T E L E V I S I O N R D A D E  
 R M R A L U C R I C O R G O L E  
 M E N S A J E B J A D O E R I E  
 C S E B I X R T O D U S A P R  
 I I X O R A D I O I C N U N A  
 R I T H I N T E R N E T O M J  
 C R I O U C T O N X E P A R A  
 U E B A T E N R C I A S R T S  
 L V I R L A I C R E M O C A N  
 A D R A O B L L I B G T A P E  
 R A N I C O R T A P A S E M

#### Diagramless

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

#### Street Gang

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

#### CRYPTOGRAM

P U C W P T X S G K T X N C S S C  
 Q B S M K - Q X C D J , N T V G B C S ,  
 V T O C E W B N , Q O T T W U  
 O T D J V T E W P B W W J V ? C  
 W P J J W W C S M B E F F X K .

#### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

If Aesop wrote a fable about growing grass, could it be called an arable parable?



**Katharine  
Lark Chrisley**  
*Stable Woman*

## Horses need to stay in motion

In the wild, a horse would be in near constant motion, foraging for food, finding water and running from predators. Its body is designed to be in motion. In a natural condition, the horse might sleep just four hours out of 24. Herd mates would take turns watching over sleeping companions.

When we place a horse in a stall or small pen, we take away its ability to move well and this can be quite detrimental to its health over time. The equine hoof is a small, complex structure that actually pushes blood back up the leg when the horse is in motion. Muscle movement keeps the lymph flowing and the lymphatic system operating. This is a system that moves toxins, through the body, toward elimination.

Heart and lungs require exercise to remain functioning properly. If we restrict the horse's natural movement, we will need to provide other ways to exercise it and keep it healthy.

Simple turn out in a large field can create exercise, especially if this is with a group of other horses. A single horse in turn out, though, might simply stand around, so I like to put its water at the far end, and if I feed the horse there, make three or four piles of hay well spread out.

Regular riding will give good exercise. Long, stretching walks on the trail are one of the most beneficial forms of riding, especially if there are up and down hill parts.

"Longeing" is a form of exercise and training in which the horse, on a long rope called a longe line attached to the head collar or halter, circles the handler, working equally in each direction. The handler uses a "longe whip" (we like to call them "wands") as an extension

SEE HORSES PAGE C22

## Groups help animals find homes



By **Marissa Bond**  
Las Cruces Bulletin

For animal welfare groups in Las Cruces, it has been both a busy and productive year.

This year, ACTION Program for Animals (APA) has rescued more than 700 animals from shelters, exceeding their 2014 goal of a 50-percent increase in rescues. Even with a maximum facility capacity of just about 30 animals, APA has been able to help approximately 670 animals find homes.

The overwhelming majority of these animals have been taken in by APA out of the municipal shelter, freeing up needed space in the shelter kennels.

When it comes to dogs, the APA looks for animals difficult to adopt out of shelters. Pit bull and Chihuahua mixes are common but difficult to adopt out, so volunteer director Michel Meunier said the APA focuses on those breeds to give them a chance they likely would not have.

In order to facilitate adoptions, the APA opened the APA Furrever Home and Education Center at 800 W. Picacho Ave. The center has both cats and dogs available for adoption.

The Cat's Meow, a cat-only, no-kill adoption center, recently opened at 2211 N. Mesquite St. A group of cat lovers seeking to fill a need in the community, The Cat's Meow volunteers have created a beautiful space and a well-run program.

What is striking is how well-socialized and relaxed the cats seem. A shelter environment can be stressful on an animal, and can bring out fearful or aggressive behaviors not accurate reflections of the creature's personality. By building a safe facility with loving volunteers who give the cats regular exercise and socialization, the animals are healthier, more relaxed and better prepared for a new home.

Unlike APA, The Cat's Meow receives most of their animals from individuals who can no longer care for their pets but want to keep them out of the shelter system.

TOONCES FINDS HIS FOREVER HOME WITH DR. NICK KENNEDY AT THE APA FURREVER HOME ADOPTION AND EDUCATION CENTER.

LAS CRUCES BULLETIN PHOTO BY MARISSA BOND

SEE HOMES, PAGE C22

# HORSES,

FROM PAGE 21

of his or her arm to point at the horse's body. In this way the handler can either send the horse forward around the circle by pointing at its haunches, or send it out more onto the circle by

pointing at his shoulder.

Some horse people "free longe" horses in a round pen without a line attached to the horse. If this exercise is accomplished without aggressively chasing the horse, it can be a training aid as well as a form of needed exercise.

Exercise also promotes what we call "gut motility"

in the horse. This means that it keeps things moving through the horse's digestive system. Horses are prone to episodes of colic, which can become deadly when their digestion slows or they do not drink enough water.

Exercise encourages water consumption and the move-

ment keeps the intestines active.

Some of us who have more than one horse can ride out on the trail on a steady mount while leading - known as ponying - another horse. This exercises two at once, but the rider must be experienced and the ridden horse must be very calm.

There are a lot of options for keeping a horse moving. The important thing is just do it, just keep the exercise as a priority. The horse in motion is a horse that can be healthy.

*Katharine Chrisley is a lifelong horse-woman, equine specialist, instructor and trainer. For more information, visit [www.dharamahorse.com](http://www.dharamahorse.com)*

# HOMES,

FROM PAGE 21

"Everyone connected with this place is an avid cat lover," said Kathy Billing, the volunteer coordinator for The Cat's Meow.

The group has space for about 30 cats and fosters approximately 25 more in homes. Like the APA, though, the Cat's Meow is at full capacity, and always looking for good homes for the cats in its care.

The new adoption centers and welfare groups have made great strides in getting animals out of the shelter, but the need for permanent homes

remains high. Lorna Harris, executive director of The Safe Haven Animal Sanctuary, appreciates what the APA has accomplished but recognizes the need to alter its approach with the sudden influx of new adoption facilities. The Safe Haven Animal Sanctuary is located about 10 miles out of town and provides the animals with 3 acres of space to remain happy and healthy.

For the next year, Safe Haven is looking to promote more events through its thrift store, located at 840 El Paseo Road, and provide more opportunities for off-site adoption. In order to ac-

complish its goals, however, the shelter will need help from the community - both in donations and volunteers.

Animal welfare groups all emphasize the only way to ensure a viable long-term plan to prevent unwanted pets is for people to spay and neuter their animals. Groups such as the Spay Neuter Action Program (S.N.A.P.) provide low-cost spay/neuters for pets in qualifying low-income households.

Broken Promises SW is primarily focused on spaying and neutering animals. The group is active as a TNR (Trap, Neuter, Release) program, finding feral

cat colonies and spaying and neutering them to mitigate the population increase. If the cats they find are not feral but have been dumped, Broken Promises SW will foster them and try to find them homes. Broken Promises SW does not have an adoption center but can be reached at 680-1955 or [broken\\_promisessw@comcast.net](mailto:broken_promisessw@comcast.net).

The community can help these groups by volunteering, providing donations or opening up your home to a new, four-legged family member.

*Marissa Bond can be reached at 680-1845 or [marissa@lascrucesbulletin.com](mailto:marissa@lascrucesbulletin.com).*



LAS CRUCES BULLETIN PHOTO BY MARISSA BOND

Michel Meunier, volunteer director of the ACTION Program for Animals, stands in the offices of the new APA Furrever Home Adoption and Education Center.

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# Kinesiology & Dance now moniker of department

By Julie Hughes  
For the Las Cruces Bulletin

The Human Performance, Recreation and Dance Department in New Mexico State University's College of Education will now be known as the Kinesiology & Dance Department, following Board of Regents' approval to change the name at the board's Dec. 12 meeting.

*'We must present a greater visibility of our programs through name recognition.'*

### BOB WOOD

Kinesiology & Dance  
Department head

Department Head Bob Wood said kinesiology is a much more accurate name for describing the degree programs offered by the department. Kinesiology is an academic discipline that involves the study of physical activity and its impact on health, society and quality of life.

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Kinesiology is an academic discipline that involves the study of physical activity and its impact on health, society and quality of life.

"Kinesiology is the single most descriptive term that embodies the full breadth of the academic programs in our department," Wood said. "Kinesiology has become the most broadly adopted name for departments such as ours. Many prospective students identify academic programs and departments based on Internet searches.

"With kinesiology being the preferred degree for many pre-medical and pre-health related programs, we must present a greater visibility of our programs through name recognition."

Wood said 75 percent of the majors in the department are kinesiology majors and the program has seen significant growth in the last few years.

Regarding dance, Wood said while academics embrace dance in the field of kinesiology, the department determined it would be easier for prospective students to find the dance program and easier for graduates to find jobs if dance is in the title of the department.

ment determined it would be easier for prospective students to find the dance program and easier for graduates to find jobs if dance is in the title of the department.

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# NMSU students, hotel partner to help homeless

By **Amanda Bradford**  
For the Las Cruces Bulletin

Students in New Mexico State University's Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism Management program have learned success in their business is measured in more than profits, and giving back to their community makes sense in more ways than one.

The students have partnered with the Las Cruces Hampton Inn & Suites to help turn useful hotel items that might otherwise be discarded into valuable donations to the Mesilla valley Gospel Rescue Mission, which provides shelter services to homeless and near-homeless individuals in Las Cruces.

Betsy Stringam, an associate professor in hotel and resort management, got the project rolling after students in her class did a presentation on how large hotels in cities such as Las Vegas, Chicago and New York, employ companies to repackage their leftover guest amenities – shampoo and soap,

linens and other items – and send them to Africa as aid supplies.

Stringam recognized that this could be done on a smaller scale to benefit the local community, so she reached out to hotels in Las Cruces to see how her students could facilitate a similar program for a local charity. Hampton Inn & Suites General Manager Miguel Duran accepted the invitation to participate in the group's pilot project.

"I wanted to get involved with this project," Duran said, "not only to reuse some of the items that were here at the hotel, but just to know that they were going somewhere special and being reused."

Initially a sustainability project of the HRTM Student Association, the program has been continued by an informal group of students led by senior Seth Jenkins. The students gather once a month to load up and transport the donated items – mostly soaps and bed-

ding, but occasionally larger items like furniture – to the shelter, where they take care of all the paperwork and return it to the hotel.

"This project appealed to me because I wanted to give back to the community," said Jenkins, who hopes to one day own his own hotel.

"It's so important – being able to help out those in need and having that community bond is something that every company, every business should want."

Jenkins said community involvement like this isn't just about doing something that feels good – though he smiles when he describes the impact the donations have on the people at the shelter – it also makes good business sense.

Stringam said that lesson is important to these future business leaders.

"I wanted the students to know that when you go out there into the industry, that you're a part of the communi-



NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY PHOTO BY AMANDA BRADFORD

New Mexico State University hotel restaurant and tourism management student Danielle Leininger unloads a box of shampoos and soaps to be donated to the Gospel Rescue Mission by the Hampton Inn & Suites

ty," she said, "and that you have to give back to that community."

Stringam, Jenkins and the other students hope to expand the program, and are eager to sign on additional local hotels to their route.

"This has really been a very successful partnership with

the Hampton Inn and the students giving back to the community through the Gospel Rescue Mission," Stringam said.

For more information on the program or to get involved, contact Stringam at [betsys@nmsu.edu](mailto:betsys@nmsu.edu) or 646-7424.

## Pet Briefs

### Dachshund-Chihuahua mix Pet of the Week

Chip, a "chiweenie" – a Dachshund-Chihuahua

mix – is the Animal Services Center of Mesilla Valley's Pet of the Week.

He is a shy but very sweet and loves to cuddle and read his new favorite book, "25 Fire-Hydrants You Must Pee on in Your Lifetime."

He's determined to find all 25 and hopes you will

help him in his endeavor. Chip has been at our shelter for five months.

The shelter can be reached at 382-0018.

### Shelter seeks dog walkers

Large breed and small breed dog walkers needed at Animal Services Center of Mesilla Valley.

Complimentary training will be available in mid-January, by reservation and only after application approval

and completion of orientation.

Also, do you have a large group that requires hours for vet classes at



CHIP

New Mexico State University or Doña Ana Community College? Contact the volunteer coordinator to sign up as a volunteer/group day project.

Call Jan Wright at 382-0018 or send an email to [jwright@las-cruces.org](mailto:jwright@las-cruces.org).

Applications for volunteers can be picked up at 3551 Bataan Memorial West daily, or online via [www.las-cruces.org](http://www.las-cruces.org).

### APA continues adoption drive

ACTion Programs for Animals continues its Blue Buffalo Home 4 the Holidays pet adoption drive through Friday, Jan 2.

During the campaign, the adoption fees for animals are reduced to \$35. Visit or call the adoption center at 800 W. Picacho Ave., or 571-4654.

The APA adoption center is normally open from

noon to 5 p.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Wednesday and from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday evenings. During the Christmas holiday, the center will be closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, but APA encourages pets to be adopted as gifts and is offering free delivery of adopted pets on these days. Many puppies, dogs, kittens and cats will be available next month for adoption. People can also purchase gift certificates.

### Shelter asks for donations

Animal Services Center of the Mesilla Valley is in need of dog crates and treats as well as collars, leashes, towels and igloos. Donations can be dropped off from noon to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and noon to 5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays.

For more information, call 642-5888.

### Services offered at shelter

Microchip your pet for \$20 at Animal Services Center of Mesilla Valley, 3551 Bataan Memorial West. No appointment necessary and service is available daily. City and county pet licenses are also available daily.

Low-cost spay and neutering is by appointment only and is \$35 for dogs and \$25 for cats.

For more information, call the shelter at 382-0018.

### Foster homes needed for animals

Fostering can be a rewarding way to enjoy the companionship a pet pro-

vides without having the commitment that goes along with it.

For more information, call 527-4544.

### APA seeks old sleeping bags

ACTion Programs for Animals is seeking comforters or old sleeping bags to help offset the cooler temperatures for the animals that accompany the changing seasons. If you have any to donate, drop them off from noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, at 800 W. Picacho Ave.

The donations will be used as dog beds.

For more information, call 571-4654.

### Pet adoptions held at Petco

Animal Services Center of the Mesilla Valley staff and volunteers are facilitating dog, cat, puppy and kitten adoptions from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays at Petco, 3050 E. Lohman Ave.

Transport drivers are needed Saturdays. For more information, call 639-3036, email [jwright@las-cruces.org](mailto:jwright@las-cruces.org) or visit [www.bigkittyfix.org](http://www.bigkittyfix.org).

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- 5 10% OFF YOUR \$100 TACK PURCHASE
- 6 20% OFF BABY CLOTHES AND TOYS
- 7 20% OFF KIDS CLOTHES AND TOYS
- 8 75% OFF ANY CLEARANCE ITEMS
- 9 30% OFF CELL PHONE COVERS
- 10 20% OFF DOG TREATS
- 11 15% OFF DOG TOYS
- 12 30% OFF PURSES



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