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Local leaders argue wages

Most councillors back higher base

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

Just as the Las Cruces City Council was coming to some level of agreement Monday, March 4, on a statement of support for legislation to raise the minimum wage, the news came that the state Senate passed a bill to raise it from \$7.50 an hour to \$8.50.

The debate now goes to the House, but the City Council's 5-2 support for a non-specific increase reflects the split feelings about raising the standard in hard economic times.

Mayor Pro Tem Sharon Thomas said the majority of studies have found that raising the minimum wage does not kill jobs nor add greatly to the cost consumers pay for food, services and locally produced merchandise.

Thomas said that when Albuquerque raised its minimum wage by \$1 an hour this year, it resulted in an increase in prices to consumers of about 2 percent. Paying two pennies on the dollar is not a lot for consumers, she said, but for an impoverished family, bringing home \$40 more a week to can make a big difference in paying bills or putting food on the table.

Councillors discussed how Santa Fe also has a minimum wage (\$10.29) higher than the federal standard of \$7.25, as does Arizona at \$7.80 and Colorado at \$7.76.

Las Cruces Mayor Ken Miyagishima, who has been opposed to raising the minimum wage, countered that the local economy is still struggling.

"All I'm going to say is there's only one economy that I'm concerned about and that's the economy of Las Cruces," Miyagishima said.

Councillor Greg Smith agreed there are a lot of pressures on the local economy: drought, competition with chains, reduced take-home pay for federal workers from sequestration cuts, businesses trying to figure out the full effect of the Affordable Care Act and a proximity to the U.S.-Mexico border. The local community is still feeling the recession, he said, so the economic issues go beyond the minimum wage.

See **Council** on page A13

New bishop installed

Cantú sees the church as strong, loving and wise

By **Beth Sitzler**
Las Cruces Bulletin

At approximately 2 p.m., Mountain Standard Time, Thursday, Feb. 28, the world lost its pope when Pope Benedict XVI retired.

"But Las Cruces has a new bishop," Most Rev. Michael Sheehan, archbishop of Santa Fe, said to the crowd that had gathered at the Las Cruces Convention Center for the installation of the Most Rev. Oscar Cantú, the second bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Las Cruces.

The convention center ballroom overflowed with residents from the diocese – which includes Doña Ana, Hildago, Grant, Luna, Sierra, Otero, Lincoln, Chavez, Eddy and Lea counties – as well as a bus load of people from San Antonio, Texas, where Cantú previously served, eager to welcome the new bishop.

As students from St. Michael's Catholic

See **Bishop** on page A13



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Steve MacIntyre

The Rev. Eduardo Morales from San Antonio, Texas, hugs the Most Rev. Oscar Cantú, the second bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Las Cruces, before his Installation Mass at the Las Cruces Convention Center Thursday, Feb. 28.

Jail lawsuit settled for \$15.5 million
County admits past failures, touts recent progress

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

Rather than continue fighting a \$22 million jury verdict in the case in which a man was held in the Doña Ana County Detention Center for two years, Doña Ana County commissioners agreed to pay the man \$15.5 million to settle the case.

In a press release on the settlement, the county acknowledged Stephen Slevin was not provided adequate medical and mental health care as a detainee at the Doña Ana County Detention Center between August 2005 and June 2007.

"The Board of County Commissioners deeply regrets the harm Mr. Slevin suffered during this period," the release stated. "Over the past seven years, Doña Ana County has made significant improvements to detention center staffing, training, facilities and procedures.

Doña Ana County is committed to ensuring consistent and appropriate treatment of every detainee in its care."

The New Mexico Association of Counties will pay \$6 million of the settlement and the county will pay the remainder out of cash reserves.

"In agreeing to the settlement, the Board of County Commissioners took into consideration the risks of the appeals outcomes, as well as the total potential costs had the \$22 million jury verdict stood," the release stated. "Including interest, attorneys' fees and costs, the total could have reached in excess of \$24 million. The county was not in a financial position to bear that kind of burden without the certainty of adverse implications to staffing and key program provisions."

The settlement includes releasing Detention Center Director Chris Barela and former Medical Director Dan Zemek from personal

liability in the verdict. The release credited Barela with improvements to staffing and services since becoming director in December 2005 and noted that Zemek was recognized in 2007 by the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill for his contributions to addressing mental-health issues at the jail during his tenure.

The release detailed how the detention center's budget was \$12.7 million in 2006 and is now \$23.5 million, with most of the growth committed to improving health and mental health services for detainees. Also noted was the county opening a 12-bed jail intervention facility in July.

"Doña Ana County is building a regionally first-of-its-kind Crisis Triage Center that will help stabilize mentally ill persons who have committed no crimes but who represent a danger to themselves or others in the eyes of law-enforcement professionals," it stated.

See **Lawsuit** on page A13

NEXT WEEK **WHAT'S INSIDE** **HEALTH & WELL BEING**

Future of park's 'Lizzie' uncertain

City Councillor Miguel Silva listens to Mesquite Street neighborhood residents' concerns about antique fire truck in Klein Park.



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Casa de Peregrinos brings food pantry to Hatch D9





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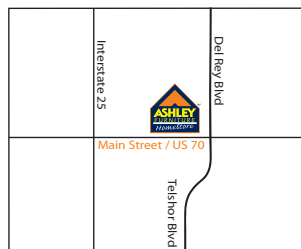
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Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Todd Dickson

Rev. Linda Mervine of the First Christian Church speaks at a press conference in the lobby of her church organized by Comunidades en Acción y de Fé (CAFé) Friday, March 1, to urge immigration reform progress.

Advocates focus on immigration

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

Citing a low number of illegal crossings intercepted by Border Patrol agents, advocates are calling on Congress to work on making immigration reforms.

At a press conference Friday, March 1, organized by Comunidades en Acción y de Fé (CAFé), the advocates cited both religious teachings and U.S. history as fundamental values that should be driving momentum for reforms.

Rabbi Larry Karol said the country has benefited from

the talents of people who immigrated to the United States.

Rev. Linda Mervine said she is baffled by those who treat these “unrecognized citizens” as people of lesser value.

“They are some of the most talented people in our community,” she said. “They should be treated with love, passion and concern.”

Doña Ana County Commissioner Wayne Hancock said he was embarrassed to learn that Mexico’s immigration system was faster and more efficient than what the United States has in place.

Girls Can! expands horizons

Douglas Miller, a New Mexico State University biology graduate student, shows a starfish shell and shark’s jaw to sixth-graders Guadalupe Garcia, 12, Bemma Lazono, 11, Nicole Esparza, 12, and Marian Landeros, 11, at the Girls Cans! Career Exploration Conference Saturday, March 2, at Lynn Middle School. Sponsored by the local American Association of University Women, the conference brings in young women from all over Doña Ana County to learn about a variety of non-traditional careers.

Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Todd Dickson



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From the publisher

BY RICHARD COLTHARP

Want a headache?

Try to understand the economy in New Mexico

"Every calculation based on experience elsewhere fails in New Mexico."

— Lew Wallace, New Mexico Territorial Governor, 1878-1881

We New Mexicans are used to being near the bottom of positive state rankings and near the top of the bad ones. Davin Lopez, however, recently quoted an even more boggling statistic. When it comes to business competitiveness among U.S. states, New Mexico ranks 51st.

Hey, wait a minute! Last I checked there were only 50 states.

Well, I doublechecked, and that's still true. The Ernst & Young index included the District of Columbia. So we got beat even by that bastion of red tape and gridlock.

Lopez, the president/CEO of the Mesilla Valley Economic Development Alliance, referred to Ernst & Young's index, which showed New Mexico's effective tax rate for businesses is 16.6 percent, highest in the nation. New Mexico's and D.C.'s rates were more than five points higher than No. 49, Rhode Island, at 11.5 percent. The best was Maine at 3 percent. That high rate is one of many obstacles economic development advocates in New Mexico face.

The Great Sequester loomed, and gloom and doom filled the room.

Then it came. And, as expected, Wall Street numbers quickly changed. But which direction? Up? No way! A record high? No way! We're told, "Don't believe the hype."

It's clear, given our nation's massive deficit, plenty of cuts are needed, and even the sequester won't put a dent in it.

However, unless Congress modifies the sequestration, it will affect New Mexico disproportionately. Look out our backyard and see the federal impact: White Sands Missile Range, NASA, White Sands National Monument, Border Patrol, Army National Guard and more.

Those entities are directly affected, as are the companies that do contract work for them. Many other entities will be indirectly affected. New Mexico State University could suffer significant impact if federal monies were curtailed and student loan programs were reduced.

Some of the economic paradoxes can be summed up in one New Mexico state senator.

Sen. Richard Martinez, D-Espanola, in his Senate Bill 416 vote for increasing the minimum wage, which I consider a bad economic move for New Mexico, said, "People have no problem paying \$8.50 for a margarita or \$11 for a martini and \$18 for an enchilada." He added the people who are cooking expensive meals "are making peanuts."

I've only had enchiladas in Espanola once, and didn't pay \$18. I can say with certainty people in Las Cruces would definitely have a problem paying \$18 for an enchilada. I realize people do pay that in Santa Fe, but that's just one reason it's the City Different. And part of the reason enchiladas are \$18 in Santa Fe is because of that city's \$10.51 minimum wage.

If the minimum wage goes up a dollar, enchiladas in Las Cruces will go up a dollar, and people will buy fewer of them. And the workers will still be making relative "peanuts."

So there, Martinez votes for one thing damaging to our state's fragile economy.

Now consider SB1, the Fair Foreclosure Act. I suspect, as our state's economy takes more hits and the sequester gains momentum, more New Mexicans may face home foreclosure. SB1 sought to ensure homeowners were given the opportunity to fairly pursue every effort to save their homes.

Home foreclosures are on the rise in our state and when they happen, they don't do anybody any good. Just as it makes sense to forestall a minimum wage increase in this shaky time, it also makes sense to help people avoid facing homelessness.

Yet, as chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Martinez voted against SB1.

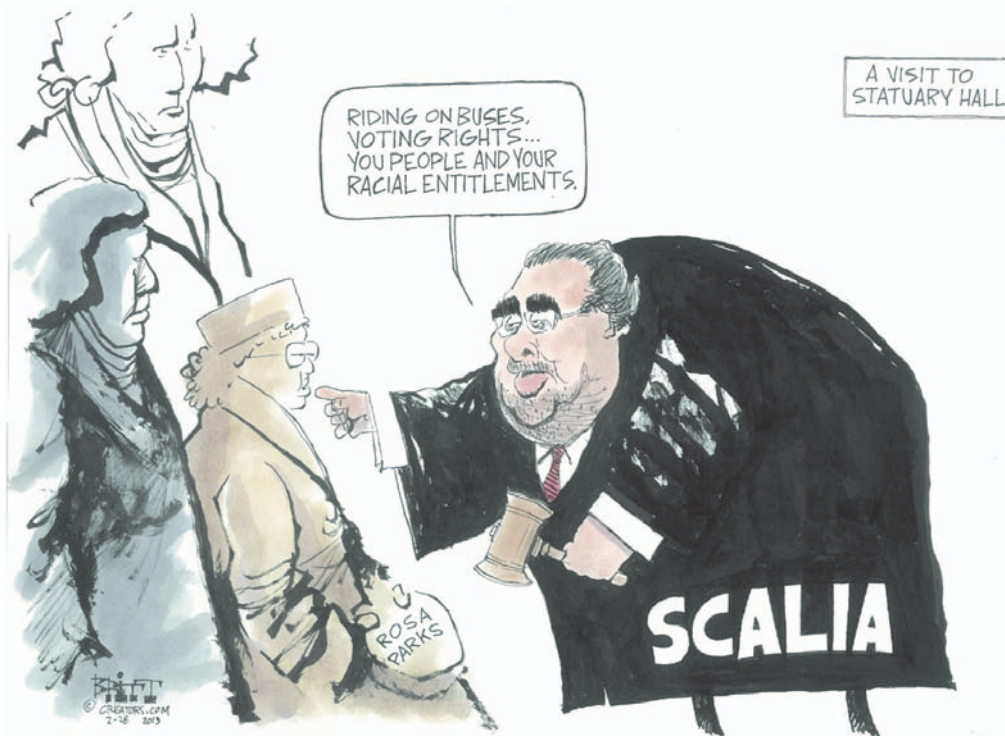
Another gloomy recent report is the one that showed Las Cruces having -3.4 percent job growth in the past 12 months. Doesn't sound good, but Lopez offered some perspective.

Fretting about 6.8 percent unemployment in Las Cruces? It's still better than El Paso County, Arizona or Colorado, Lopez said. He also reminded us about Las Cruces' 1996 unemployment rate of nearly 11 percent.

Maybe we didn't realize what we had back in 2007, when unemployment was at 3.2 percent. Perhaps a correction was due. As Lopez said of that 2007 figure, "That's the outlier."

In the face of it all, commercial and residential projects continue — true, at a much slower rate than 2007-08 — and new businesses continue to open.

There is work to be done and, no matter how tough the rules make it to do, Las Cruces will get it done.



Letters to the Editor

Volunteers strengthen the local community

On Saturday, Feb. 23, the City of Las Cruces Network Volunteer Center held the second annual Las Cruces Volunteer Fair at Branigan Cultural Center. Thirty-six nonprofit organizations were represented at the fair, and more than 500 people explored volunteer opportunities offered by these organizations. We were delighted by this great response.

The Volunteer Fair was successful in its goal to strengthen the Las Cruces community by connecting people of all ages to the volunteer opportunity of their choice.

The Volunteer Fair was a collaborative effort by the City of Las Cruces and local nonprofit organizations. We wish to thank our dedicated steering committee, comprised of Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) volunteers and representatives from local organizations including Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwestern New Mexico, Keep Las Cruces Beautiful, AARP, Branigan Cultural Center, The Network Volunteer Center and the United Way of Southwest New Mexico who planned the event.

We also wish to express our appreciation to these businesses that donated

refreshments and supplies for the fair: Albertsons, Andele, Little Caesar's, Outback Steakhouse, Olive Garden, Sam's Club and Walmart.

Door prizes were donated by a number of organizations including AARP, Angel Tree, Animal Services League, Casa de Peregrinos, Children's Reading Foundation, Coalition for Pets and People, Crossings Prison Ministry, Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest, La Piñon Sexual Assault Recovery Services, Mesilla Valley Habitat for Humanity, New Mexico Aging & Long-Term Services, Roadrunner Food Bank, Safe Haven Animal Sanctuary, SCORE, SNAP, Southwest Environmental Center, The Network Volunteer Center, United Way and Ziacase.

We sincerely thank Las Cruces Mayor Ken Miyagishima for kicking off the event and Mrs. Las Cruces Diahn Nevares for handing out door prizes.

Finally, we extend our appreciation to the 15 RSVP volunteers who helped the day of the event to ensure the fair ran smoothly.

We look forward to growing the Las Cruces Volunteer Fair in future years so that many more organizations and individuals can connect and strengthen our community through volunteer service.

Genevieve Kirk

Volunteer coordinator, City of Las Cruces

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Washington makes Santa Fe look sane

Political follies of state and national leaders seem never-ending

Jay Miller
Inside the Capitol



If there is anything that can make the New Mexico Legislature look good, it is the follies going on in Washington, D.C.

Both groups share one commonality: There's a lot of talk but not much is going to get done.

In Santa Fe, House Democrats can stop Republican Gov. Susana Martinez's meager agenda. Senate Democrats also are the majority party, but some of those Democrats have joined with a united Republican party and it appears that coalition is going to be able to stop anything Democrats want to get to the governor's desk.

To demonstrate that politics is equal opportunity, the situation in Washington is reversed but the partisanship is unchanged. A Republican House and a Democratic Senate that requires a 60 percent vote instead of 51 percent means little can be accomplished in that body.

Congress came back to do a little work last week, but will spend most of its time fighting. By Friday, March 1 it has to figure out how to avoid the big boulder it put in its road, called sequestering. It cuts everything equally, which means many pet projects get hurt.

Congress will waltz around that boulder, somehow, only to run into the expiration of a continuing resolution that runs the

government out of money.

They already have artfully dodged a fiscal cliff. They won't try completely shutting down government. Newt Gingrich tried doing that to President Bill Clinton and got badly burned.

Furloughs are being discussed. New Mexico state employees know about those. Gov. Bill Richardson imposed furloughs and ended up badly bruised.

Gun control isn't likely to see much action. People feel strongly about it, but those feelings

go both ways. Government buy backs see people bringing in boxes of guns and telling authorities they don't want any money. They just want to get rid of them.

On the other hand, you hear just as many say the only way they will give up their gun is for someone to pry it out of their cold, dead hands. How do you get people with such differing beliefs to agree on anything?

Richardson is saying on national shows that he thinks the stars now are in alignment to allow a comprehensive immigration act to pass Congress.

He reasons that with illegal immigration now going down instead of up, Americans are less fearful of them eventually taking over.

Republicans have determined that if they are going to win any more national elections, they are going to have to start addressing Hispanic needs.

Richardson thinks Congress can craft a plan to address a path to citizenship, border security, the DREAM Act and a guest worker plan.

Martinez also has a comprehensive

“ Gov. Bill Richardson imposed furloughs and ended up badly bruised. ”

immigration plan that she has voiced, but not often. She has let Florida's U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio take the spotlight on immigration.

Being from a border state, Martinez is well positioned to take the lead on immigration if she wants some more time on the national stage.

Back in 2007, when comprehensive immigration was last tried during the George W. Bush administration, Sen. John McCain took the lead and almost got it passed.

Then, when McCain decided to seriously run for president, he had to do an about face on immigration in order to win the GOP primary. His trademark saying became "Build

the dang fence."

Currently, McCain is concentrating his efforts on fighting President Obama's nominees for top cabinet positions and doesn't seem especially interested in immigration.

But immigration was the subject that got him in trouble at a town hall meeting during the most recent congressional recess, according to news coverage. And McCain sounded like the McCain of old defending the need for a comprehensive immigration solution.

As those of you who are longtime readers know, McCain is one of my heroes, but there are few people who have disappointed me at times as much as he has.

Guess he figures he has to do it. And it gives people in my business plenty of material.

Jay Miller may be contacted at insidethecapitol@hotmail.com.

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Mean is not confined to student bullies

Adults in the classroom also capable of acting viciously

Michael Swickard
In My Opinion



"Michael," the teacher snarled, "Did you bring your brain with you to school today? I blushed and nodded.

"Then why don't you know this?"

It was neither the first nor last time I was bullied by an educator. At a young age I knew some teachers were nice while others were

mean. I knew I must endure the mean teachers and administrators because no one was going to stop what the educators were doing.

There is lots of talk about school bullying but it is always kid-on-kid. Consider that mean educators can be 100 times more devastating. I am not excusing kid-on-kid bullying, rather, there is something worse.

In 1993, I was teaching future teachers at a college of education. I asked my supervisor about potential teachers who seem to not like children. Worse, what about educators who are mean?

I was told not to worry, since the teachers would be certified by the state and selected by the districts. Perhaps, those who do not like children will self-select themselves out of education.

It would appear the lure of employment attracts and keeps some in education. The average teacher works nine months a year for \$40,000 to \$50,000. School administrators make much more. Many stay for the pay.

The issue of mean educators is different. Alas, there is no mechanism to report mean teachers and administrators, as there is for students who bully. Even with a report, the adult-centric educational industrial complex normally circles the wagons.

Education in many communities is the major employer. Half of New Mexico's budget goes to public school education, of which 90 percent is for adult salaries. The political focus is upon teacher salaries, teacher performance and teacher retirement.

In theory it is connected to children. But if a school district needed to fire half of its teachers, it could not because of political influences. It is about the needs of those adults for jobs.

Could we do so? First, let each student vote each day, without teachers corrupting the process, on whether they liked that day in school. Preposterous? They are the clients. Do so every day and the stats would show students who were treated better would do better. (Teachers too, but I'm focusing on students here.)

The leaders will not pull this data, first because they would be working against their own self-interests and also because they are not prepared to reform education so that it is student-centered and anti-mean. For the

most part, the leaders are often only trying to keep the train on the tracks, which is a huge task. They need so many teachers, assistants, diagnosticians, cafeteria, bus drivers, janitorial and secretarial workers that they cannot discard employees because they need so many warm bodies. Someone has to be in front of the class when the bell rings.

Finally, never forget that in a hyper-political setting like education, it is dangerous to the career of any educator to take on a mean colleague.

Making this worse is the recent political notion of "rigor" where the school is to "toughen up students." People say, "The Marines are tough on the recruits." There is a vast difference between three months of

Marine training and 13 years of public school. We certainly have a "Pin the management tail on the burro" moment.

Let us start by recognizing that when educators act mean, it does have a serious trickle-down potential. When administrators bully teachers and staff, often it does reach the students. When teachers or staff members bully students there is a residual effect upon other students.

Former New Mexico Teacher of the Year Jim Smith said, "Every great teacher is just one bad administrator away from leaving the field of

education forever." Could it be the same for students?

We should consider mean educators as having a role in dropouts. We do not know because there is no mechanism to track these actions. Perhaps a start is to look for mean educators. The problem is: When people identify mean educators, who should get the report? Hopefully it will be someone who is not going to just circle the wagons.

Michael Swickard is co-host of radio talk show *News New Mexico* from 6 to 9 a.m. Monday through Friday on a number of New Mexico radio stations and through streaming. Swickard may be contacted at michael@swickard.com.

“ When educators act mean, it does have a serious trickle-down potential. ”

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Community College Corner

DACC makes education affordable

Private donations are an investment in the future

By **Jaylene McIntosh**
For the Las Cruces Bulletin

Since 1973, when Doña Ana Community College was known as the Doña Ana Occupational Education Branch, students have been graduating work force ready.

Through the multiple certificate and academic degree programs offered at DACC, students have acquired the knowledge and skills they need to successfully enter the work place.

Their success can be measured in dollars. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, the median annual earnings for a student with an associate degree are approximately \$12,000 more than what they are for an individual with a high school diploma.

DACC makes higher education both affordable and accessible. Its four campuses and three centers put college oppor-

tunities within easy reach of most communities in Doña Ana County. Students attending DACC not only learn the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed, but they do so while also enjoying the instruction of dedicated faculty members and smaller class sizes.

Tuition rates, together with mandatory fees at DACC, are \$744 per semester. Including books and any additional expenses, a student should budget approximately \$1,200 per semester to attend the college.

Though these tuition rates seem relatively affordable, approximately 80 percent of students attending DACC demonstrate financial need. Assistance comes in the form of federal aid through grants and loans, state-funded scholarships and privately funded scholarships.

DACC is fortunate to have the support of individuals who have endowed scholarships and funds for programs, as well as those who provide ongoing financial contributions to DACC students and programs.

By making a contribution that supports DACC, you also make an important investment in our community's future by empowering the future workforce.

There are multiple ways you can support DACC through program funds, scholarships, an annual gift, an endowed gift, honorary or memorial gifts, matching gifts through your employer and gifts-in-kind, such as equipment to enhance the offerings of a specific program.

Starting this year, DACC has a unique opportunity by which the power of your scholarship gift can be doubled. Through the generous \$2.7 million estate gift by the late local philanthropist Jon Wynne, a matching-funds endowment was established for the purpose of providing scholarships to DACC students with "great financial need."

Earnings from the endowment, surpassing \$28,000 this year, provide the matching funds that double your gift. Your role is essential, for no scholarship money from the earnings of the Wynne endowment can be distributed to students without the assistance of donors like you.

Many student lives are touched through the generosity of our community members and businesses, and we thank each and every one of you for your continued support. For more information about ways to support DACC through a tax-deductible gift, call 528-7070 or email jmcintosh@dacc.nmsu.edu.

Jaylene McIntosh is the director of development at Doña Ana Community College. DACC Corner appears every other week in the Las Cruces Bulletin. For more information about DACC and its many student offerings, visit www.dacc.nmsu.edu or call 527-7500.



An interesting season

It's been an interesting season for those of us in agriculture.

Several shifts in the world's social gyroscope have come to light that will affect the public's perception of our farming world. For years the anti's have led the battle to disparage the safety and health benefits of eating and raising meat, but "facts" are rearing their ugly head.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control has released a 10-year study that revealed more than half of the cases of food poisoning were related to produce (fruit and vegetables). The majority of the remaining sources were attributed to poultry. Less than 7 percent of the total was traced to beef consumption (e. coli in hamburger meat).

They attributed this small number to significant safety improvements in beef handling. It is also worth noting that most of the contamination, be it meat or produce, is related to food handling after it's left the farm.

In a related issue, the irradiation of meat and produce is gaining traction. The slow acceptance of this life-saving procedure, which kills the microbial pathogens from the field to the kill floor, is the public's erroneous perception that you can get "X-rays" from the food you eat.

It is one of those puzzling wives' tales like your feeder calves contracting IBR from IBR vaccination, or smoking stunts your growth, or Notre Dame really is a better team than Alabama, even though they lost. In the end you need to be able to trust your friendly local scientist.

Speaking of which, we had a big splash. A vociferous British Luddite (anti-technology) animal rights, eco-looney proclaimed to the world that his blindfolded opposition to the use of genetically modified foods was wrong. Maybe Prince Charles will take notes.

What caused this stark turn-around was his realization that without modern agriculture methods, the growing population of the world would be ravaged by an inconceivable famine.

I admit, I felt relief that at least one of the "pied pipers" allowed common sense to be a factor in his decision.

Which takes me to the abandoned horse travesty. I hear more and more states are considering a horse meat plant. Yet we are still piddling as "Rome burns." The problem continues unabated.

Horse rescue missions, wild horse feedlots and pastures are swamped and the price of hay is exorbitant. I don't know how much longer those who caused this tragedy can keep up their protest. Forgiveness for "unintended consequences" can only go so far.

And, to top it off, U.S. carbon emissions have plunged to a 20-year low. What surprised the EPA czars was the drop was not the result of direct government regulations and interference. It was caused by free market forces, specifically the infusion and production of cheaper natural gas instead of coal.

How 'bout that? Mark one up for us.

Black may be contacted at www.baxterblack.com

Letter to the Editor

Government isn't tyrannical

My letter is in response to the one published headlined "Government tyranny" by Evelyn Hancock in the March 1 Las Cruces Bulletin.

Let's begin with the word "tyranny." How often we have heard this from so many. You might want to look up the word in the dictionary before you start using it.

It is not what we have in government, where so many claim to know the Constitution, but need to take a course in Government 101. Let's begin with changing the word from "tyranny" to "services."

First, while the claim always made is cutting the budget, I have yet to read where the author actually recommends what "services" they are willing to do without, and that includes the branch of government legally responsible for the budget. Even that branch of government demands that other branches of government should produce the budget, which they are not legally responsible for producing. They count on citizens not knowing anything about government, which they are not about to claim, and they are right about that.

Second, the cries for "freeloaders," or the 47 percent, that some claim, demand cuts in programs for the "citizens" of our country needing it the most to live. However, government subsidies to banks, corporations, farmers, pharmaceuticals, airlines and the wealthy are considered by 60 million voters to be worthy of government support.

It was also noted that your use of the word "liberal" was a word of condemnation. I assume that many of the 60 million voters would consider themselves to be "Christian," which brings me to Bible 101.

Jesus was a "liberal." There are 600 references in the Bible that speak directly to the "poor." It even states that the "poor" will always be with us. So, as many would like to think that we are a "Christian nation" – which is not in the Constitution – why do we want to pick on the poor?

Social Security is often referred to as an "entitlement" program, which many in Congress want to change by reducing benefits because they consider it unworthy of support and a waste of "taxpayers" money.

I am on Social Security and I, as well as my employers, paid into it for 45 years, so it is not money from anyone but my ability to contribute to the program. The benefits are based on the amount paid into the fund. It is true, that both parties use this money in their budgets, but the money is still owed to the citizens by the government.

Corporations have taken money from employees retirement funds for many years and some have never paid it back and even refused to pay their employees the benefits they promised. They do not end up in prison.

Unfortunately, it is also true of government employees who steal from the "taxpayers" and even go to war by "lying" to the citizens of the country.

David Tornblom

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Looking good, Las Cruces

Catching up with the buzz around town



David McCollum
*Life is Good
in Las Cruces*

Thanks for all the notes and comments about my past columns in the weekly edition of the Las Cruces Bulletin.

This will be the first of a new column with a slightly different format. I hope to bring some observations and insight into a few of the happenings in and around Las Cruces, as well as an occasional perspective as to how state

and national events may affect those of us who choose to live in southern New Mexico.

First, a rousing cheer to our New Mexico State University basketball teams as they prepare for the upcoming Western Athletic Conference tournament.

Last month, coach Mark Trakh's Aggie women won three consecutive games. The biggest win was an incredible 106-94 upset over then-league-leading Utah State.

Also, Aggie women earned player-of-the-week honors in two consecutive weeks. The week of Feb. 11-17, sophomore Danesia Williamson earned the recognition after she

averaged 21 points, 10 assists and 4.5 rebounds in two games, including the stunning victory over Utah State. Then, for the week of Feb. 18-24, Camila Rosen was honored for her 19 points, nine rebounds, six steals and two assists in a win over California State University at Bakersfield. The CSU-Bakersfield win marked the 600th win in the history of the NMSU women's basketball program.

On Saturday, Feb. 23, the Aggie men downed UTEP 55-51 in an exciting game played in front of more than 10,000 rowdy fans in the Pan American Center. This was the largest basketball crowd in Las Cruces since the Western Athletic Conference finals back in 2008. The win was the Aggies' 19th of the year, and was their 13th win in the past 14 games.

Of special note to all those who attended the men's game and heard the powerful rendition of the Star Spangled Banner, sung by Orlando-Antonio Jimenez, it should be noted Feb. 23 was Jimenez' birthday. Also, he had recently undergone surgery and been in the hospital for two weeks up to the day before the big game. A special tip of the hat goes to "Lando" for his courage and dedication to give this wonderful performance.

Lots of discussion is going on in Las Cruces and around the state about a possible increase in the state's minimum wage law and President Obama's request for a \$9 per hour federal minimum wage.

Currently, New Mexico's minimum wage (\$7.50 per hour) is higher than the mandated federal wage of \$7.15 per hour. I understand from my friends in Washington there is no impetus at this time to support the president's request. However, New Mexico has always tended to think independently, and proposals to increase the state's minimum wage are being kicked around in Santa Fe.

Earlier this week, the 25 Democrats in the New Mexico Senate stood together against the 17 Republicans and approved raising the New Mexico minimum wage to \$8.50. House Democrats could approve the increase as well,

as they hold a 38 to 32 majority. However, Gov. Susana Martinez could kill the effort with her veto.

With the economy still struggling and additional taxation looming, this may not be the best time to be considering such a proposal. Also, the latest job growth numbers among the states, show that in November 2012 New Mexico ranked 49th in year-over-year job "growth." In the report, 44 states showed positive growth, while New Mexico was one of six states to post year-over-year job losses for November.

The 2013 Las Cruces Arts Fair will be Friday through Sunday, March 15-17, at the Las Cruces Convention Center. Nearly 100 artists from 18 states, including New Mexico, will be exhibiting at the show.

The NMSU Center for the Arts has now officially opened and recently hosted with a gala reception and a theater performance of "Our Town." What a terrific complement this center brings to our community. Thanks to NMSU and all the community partners who made this theater a reality.

On Saturday, March 2, the fourth annual Celebrity Waiter dinner benefitting the March of Dimes was held at the Las Cruces Convention Center. The 1970s-themed dinner event was put together by Jeff Silva and Team Zane, named for Silva's son, Zane. I understand that the event was sold out for the second consecutive year. Even Las Cruces' own world champion boxer, Austin Trout, joined in the fun as he "sparred" with young Zane to open the fundraising festivities.

We should all be proud of the fact Las Cruces continues to be one of the most charitable communities in the nation. Thanks to all my fellow Las Cruces who make this so.

David McCollum is publisher emeritus of the Las Cruces Bulletin. For comments or ideas about this column, contact him at dmccollum@lascrucesbulletin.com.



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Guest Columns

Wage increase will cost jobs

Hispano chamber opposes minimum wage increase

By **Kirk Clifton**
For the Las Cruces Bulletin

On behalf of the board of directors of the Hispano Chamber of Commerce de Las Cruces, I am submitting this letter of objection to the proposed minimum wage increase from \$7.50 per hour to \$8.50 per hour. The board of directors has deliberated this proposed legislation and overwhelmingly does not support the proposed increase to the minimum wage.

The Hispano Chamber and its many constituents cannot support this legislation as the increase will continue to burden and damage small businesses throughout the region. This increase, coupled with the impending Patient Protection and Affordability Act, has the potential to cause catastrophic economic damage to many small businesses in the area. Given the current conditions of the local, regional and national economy, now is not the time to further burden the very "backbone" of our economy. Unfortunately, the "economic recovery" for our nation, and specifically for our state, appears to be moving at an extremely slow, if not stagnant, pace.

The unfortunate reality is that a \$1 per hour increase will not significantly impact a worker who is currently earning the minimum wage of \$7.50 per hour. The fiscal year 2012/13 poverty rate for a family of one is \$11,170 while the rate for a family of 4 is \$23,050. As you can see, the current minimum wage for a worker, based on a 40-hour-per-week schedule, exceeds the poverty level for a family of one. The proposed increase will still not exceed the poverty level for a family of four.

Although the assumption is being made that these increased wages will put money back into the economy, there are neither studies nor evidence that it would have any impact. The only impact that will be felt will be the increased financial burden placed on business.

We are at a critical juncture for the economic recovery of both our national and local business communities. It is a fragile time for these businesses to not only maintain their very existence, but prosper during a time of uncertainty and increased federal and state regulations.

It is imperative that this proposed legislation not be approved at this time.

Kirk M. Clifton is president of the Hispano Chamber of Commerce de Las Cruces

“The only impact that will be felt will be the increased financial burden placed on business.”

Rabbi addresses state senators

Reward employee's hard work with fair, equitable wage

By **Rabbi Larry Karol**
For the Las Cruces Bulletin

On Feb. 27, I joined Rose Ann Vasquez and Katy Salazar, representing CAFé (Communities in Action and Faith of Southern New Mexico) at the Roundhouse in Santa Fe. We met with legislators to garner support for SB1, the Mortgage Fair Foreclosure Act, and for SB416, the bill to raise the minimum wage in New Mexico. We took information and had discussions with several senators to urge them to support SB1 so that homeowners attempting to negotiate a loan modification will not face foreclosure at the same time.

The issue of the day, however, was minimum wage. We were present at the Senate Corporations and Transportation Committee hearing where SB416 was passed, listening to very brief public comment and noting the opinions of the committee members in their discussion.

The text that follows was my prepared testimony provided for the senators on the committee. It was fascinating to watch the wheels of government turn through conversations in the hallways, in the offices of legislators, and in the official meeting of a Senate committee.

Our opinions do count and I believe that it is my role as a rabbi and spiritual leader to highlight the message of my tradition which, I believe, can be a source of values for any society regarding consideration for the well being of citizens. I heard New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie on television recently make an announcement about a particular policy by declaring, "We are putting people first."

We are an interconnected community and acknowledging that fact will strengthen our city, state and nation.

Note to Senators on the Senate Corporations and Transportation Committee:

I have been studying an ancient text called Pirkei Avot, the wisdom of the sages, with my congregation in Las Cruces. This text is a collection of sayings of the rabbis of 1,700 to 2,000 years ago.

One of the sayings that I came upon recently discussed the importance of making a tithe, setting aside a 10th of what you earn for charitable or even holy purposes. The commentary on the text that I was reading asked, "When you give away a 10th of the money you earn in order to help someone else and your community, are you richer or poorer?"

On the one hand, you could say you are poorer, because of

the mere fact that you have less money. But since when do we think about rich and poor only in terms of money? If there is a higher purpose for giving, you are actually richer for what you have done.

Providing a minimum wage that corresponds to general economic growth is a higher purpose. In most cases, the annual salary amount that results from minimum wage still puts an employee below the poverty level if that is the only job he or she works. Does that approach – of an employer or a society – make us rich or poor?

The Bible teaches that an employer should treat an employee with respect and provide for his or her needs. Not only the Bible – but human decency – demands that such principles be at the basis of what we do. Hard work should be rewarded with a fair and equitable wage. Treating employees well results in greater dedication and a better working environment. When an employer shows an employee that he or she cares about them, it can only be for good.

In a recent interview with Bill Moyers, economist Richard Wolff lamented how the buying power of minimum wage workers has drastically declined over the last 50 years. He recognized that an increased minimum wage might result in some employers hiring fewer employees. He noted, however, that such a consequence had to be weighed against the

benefit of raising the wages of 15 million Americans nationally.

In any state, those citizens who benefit from an increase in the minimum wage will have more money to buy goods and services, increasing employment for the companies that provide those goods and services. Those companies could include many small businesses.

Wolff wondered how many young people who grow up in a minimum wage family won't be able to get an education that will enable them to get a job to sustain themselves and their families. He asked, what kind of nation – and I would add, what kind of state are we – if we let this happen? Wolff concluded that there is no good economic reason that people at the bottom of the income scale should not share in what is now a slow but steady economic growth.

We should include this approach to human values in our discussions on minimum wage, even in these challenging economic times.

Rabbi Larry Karol is the spiritual head at Temple Beth-El congregation in Las Cruces.

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Coming Up

Jornada book fair

Jornada Elementary School, 3400 Elks Drive, will host a Scholastic Book Fair through Friday, March 8, in the school library. The event will be from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The book fair theme is "Story Laboratory: Reading Gives You Super Power!" During the book fair, Jornada Elementary will conduct an "All for Books" program, during which donations will be accepted to help purchase books for classrooms. Scholastic Book Fairs will match monetary donations with a donation of up to one million books to the Kids in Need Foundation and Kids in Distressed Situations Inc. Donations in any amount are requested by Friday, March 8.

Patrons can shop the book fair online through Tuesday, March 19 at www.scholastic.com/fair.

For more information, contact librarian Bernadette Gonzales at 527-9536 or berngonza@lcp.k12.nm.us.

KOC free throw contest set

The Local Knights of Columbus councils are hosting the annual free throw competition for boys and girls age 10 to 14 at 9 a.m. Saturday, March 9, at the Holy Cross School gymnasium, 1331 N. Miranda St.

All entrants must have a legal guardian present and must bring a copy of their birth certificate. Age is determined by the entrant's age Jan. 1.

For more information, call

Danny Rivera at 932-8237, Mannie Morales at 522-0437 or Jaime Flores at 993-8634.

Square dancing

The Blue Bells Square Dance Club will host its regular dance from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Friday, March 8, at the Belton Bridge Center, 1214 E. Madrid Ave. Club callers will be Jeanie, Fred and Craig. Visitors are welcome. Cost is \$3 per person at the door.

For more information, call all 524-2471.

Kiwanis hosts fish fry March 8

The Sun Country de Las Cruces Kiwanis 16th annual Lenten Fish Fry will be from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday, March 8, at the Good Samaritan Society-Las Cruces Village, 3011 Buena Vida Circle, in the Social Center.

The menu includes fish, shrimp, slaw, fries, iced tea, lemonade and coffee. Donation is \$10 per person. All proceeds go to Kiwanis projects to sponsor and support children's programs in the community.

Desserts will be for sale by the Oñate High School Key Club.

For more information, call Gabe Fusco at 647-4474.

O'Blarney golf clinic March 10

The 2013 O'Blarney Kid's Golf Clinic and Fitness Expo will be from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, March 10, at Picacho Hills Country Club, 6861 Via Campestre.

The event will feature a

free golf clinic for kids age 7 to 12, food, giveaways, prizes, yoga demonstrations and more. Pre-registration is required by Friday, March 8. Proceeds benefit Las Cruces Catholic School.

For more information, contact Terriane at 639-1138 or terriane@msn.com.

United Way open house

The United Way of Southwest New Mexico, 225 E. Idaho Ave., Suite 24, will have an open house from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, March 8, to officially mark the opening of its new office location in La Mission Plaza. A ribbon cutting celebration with the Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce and the Hispano Chamber of Commerce de Las Cruces will be held at 11 a.m. Free hot dogs will be served.

For more information, contact Sara Velo at 524-7561 or sara@uwswnm.org.

Recreation IDs available

The Las Cruces Parks and Recreation Department is now issuing individual activity identification cards for all youth who participate in Parks & Recreation programs. The card will contain a photo, ID number, birth month and year, grade level as of school year 2012-13 and issue/expiration dates. The initial card will be free of charge.

The card will help streamline the administration of Parks & Recreation programs and assist in getting children placed on teams and receiving information on upcoming events.

"Our goal is to have every child that participates in a program sponsored by the City of Las Cruces Parks & Recreation Department to have an activities identification card," said Parks & Recreation Department Director Mark Johnston.

For a child to obtain a card,

the child, along with parents or guardians, must appear in person at Meerscheidt Recreation Center, 1600 E. Hadley Ave., to fill out the permission form, provide proof of child's age and grade level and to have the child's photo taken.

Cards will be issued from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays.

For more information, call the Parks & Recreation Department at 541-2563. The TTY number is 541-2772.

MHS produces 'Zombie Prom'

Mayfield High School Theatre Productions will present "Zombie Prom: The Musical" at 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 8, at the Mayfield theater building, 1955 N. Valley Drive.

Tickets are \$5 for students and \$8 for adults. Tickets are on sale at the school before the show and at the door on the nights of performance.

"Zombie Prom" is a satirical love story about a girl named Toffee (Haley Kirkpatrick) and a boy named Jonny Warner (Joel Fisk), who later becomes a zombie," said MHS theater teacher Melissa Muñoz. "This story encompasses love, science fiction, beautiful voices, high school and the 1950s in a spectacular two-act play."

The cast also includes Courtney Hiedenreich as Ms. Strict and Abraham Espana as Eddie Flagante.

For more information, call 527-9415.

Model railroad group to meet

The Roadrunner Division of the National Model Railroad Association will meet at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, March 9, in the Las Cruces Railroad Museum, 351 N. Mesilla St. All model railroaders are invited. For more information,

call Mike Weiss at 532-1051 or mikeweiss65@gmail.com.

Back by Noon outing on tap

Geologist Eric Kappus will lead an exploration of Kilbourne Hole, a massive crater located in Doña Ana County west of La Union Saturday, March 9. This is the largest steam crater in New Mexico, created by a huge explosion through the Earth's crust. The off-trail hike is rated easy to moderate.

The outing is part of the Southwest Environmental Center's spring 2013 Back by Noon series of guided, family friendly Saturday morning trips designed to showcase the unique natural and historical features of the Las Cruces/El Paso area.

Advance reservations are required and space is limited.

For more information, call 522-5552 or visit <http://wildmesquite.org>.

Embroiderers' guild meets

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

For more information, call 522-4684.

Photography class at bosque

The Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park, 5000 Calle del Norte, will continue its Basic Digital Photography Series workshops with a two-hour workshop, "Buying a new Camera and Upgrading Your Equipment," from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 9, in the park classroom.

The workshop will focus on moving up from a point and shoot camera or smart phone camera into the world of digital SLR cameras and all types of cameras in between. The instructor will provide

information about important camera specifications such as megapixels, image stabilization, ISO range, LCD screen size and memory format. This class will also provide information about upgrading your camera and a discussion about what to add to your photographic equipment to help you make better pictures. There will be ample time for questions and answers as well as a look at some upgraded equipment.

Storm Sermay, a member of the Doña Ana Camera Club, will lead the workshop. She is an accomplished photographer who has had several of her own exhibits in galleries.

Rob Peinert, also from the camera club, will address the upgrade or new purchase of equipment and lenses. Other volunteers from the club will be available.

Space is limited and participants are encouraged to register as soon as possible. There is a \$5 per class fee as well as the \$5 park use fee payable at the start of the class. Participants can register by calling the park at 523-4398.

For more information or to register, contact Patrick Hulser at 618-6424 or patrick.hulser@gmail.com.

Home & Garden Show

The Las Cruces Home Builders Association will hold the 31st annual Home & Garden Show from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 9, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, March 10, at the Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave. Tickets to the Home & Garden Show are \$5 and children 12 and younger are free. Tickets can be purchased at the door. For more information, call 526-6126.

Benefit dance

The Salvation Army will host a dance to benefit victims of Hurricane Sandy from 7 to 10 p.m. Saturday, March 9, at the Beverly Hills Hall, 150 Hermosa St. Entertainment will be provided by Franky's Oldies but Goodies Band and magician Jaime O'Hara, with a special appearance by

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Coming Up

WBA Super Welterweight Champion Austin Trout. Finger foods will be provided. Cost is \$20 per person or \$150 for a table of 10.

For more information, call Franky at 523-0518.

Rotary Club talent show

The Mesilla Valley Rotary Club will present the 11th annual youth talent show competition at noon Saturday, March 9, at Court Youth Center, 402 W. Court Ave.

Children from all over the county will compete in the talent show. Acts include comedy routines, improvisational acting, violin, piano, voice and more. There will also be a concession stand selling treats.

Tickets are \$2 per person and can be purchased at the door. For children under age 12, admission is free. Doors open at 11 a.m.

"The talent show offers youth a venue to showcase their talents as the Mesilla Valley Rotary Club raises funds to help support youth projects in our community such as the Big Brothers Big Sisters, Jardin de los Niños and a youth food program at Casa De Peregrinos," said club president Denise Cooper.

For more information, call Allison Smith at 644-4609 or Cooper at 644-3791.

Solidarity hosts two lectures

Aggie Solidarity will present two lectures by Snehal Shingavi of the University of Texas at Austin English Department as part of its Aggie Solidarity Lecture Series.

Shingavi will present "Gandhi and the Politics of Non-Violence" at 7 p.m. Monday, March 11, and "The Origins of Racism" at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 12, in the Corbett Center Student Union auditorium.

The events are cosponsored by the New Mexico State University departments of history and criminal justice

and the honors college.

For more information, email aggiesolidarity@gmail.com.

Brown bag it at the library

The Brown Bag Lecture at the Las Cruces Railroad Museum, 351 N. Mesilla St. will be at noon Tuesday, March 12. The Harvey Girls of El Paso volunteer group will present the history of Fred Harvey and the Harvey Girls as they operated El Paso's Harvey House in the first half of the 20th century.

Harvey built an empire catering to the Santa Fe Railroad travelers, providing excellent quality food at restaurants along the route.

Appearing in Harvey Girl costumes will be Patricia Kidney, Prestene Dehrkoop, Sharon Cowell and Lynn Brightman. All are members of various historical societies in El Paso.

Light refreshments will be served. RSVPs are requested by calling Joanne Beer at 647-4480.

For more information, contact Beer at 647-4480 or jobeer@las-cruces.org.

Academy open house

Las Cruces Academy, 1755 Avenida de Mercado, will host an open house from 8 to 10 a.m. and from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 12. The school is accepting applications for kindergarten through 6th-grade for the 2013-14 academic year.

Morning visitors can watch classes in Singapore math, science, English, Chinese, phonics and early childhood topics. Evening visitors can tour the facilities, talk with teachers and view a brief presentation at 6:30 p.m. describing the unique features of the upcoming middle school program. Private visits may be scheduled on request.

For more information, visit www.lascrucesacademy.org

org or contact Lou Ellen Kay at 521-9384 or director@lascrucesacademy.org.

WNMU alumni meet March 12

The Western New Mexico University Mesilla Valley Alumni Chapter will meet at 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 12, at the Moose Lodge, 514 N. Main St. Attendees are asked to enter through the door on Main Street.

Planning is continuing on the inaugural golf tournament to be held June 29. Proceeds will benefit students entering and attending WNMU.

For more information, call Abe at 520-1000.

Genealogy society meets

The Doña Ana County Genealogical Society will meet at 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 13, at Branigan Memorial Library, 200 E. Picacho Ave., in the Roadrunner Room. Bruce Pearson will present a program titled "When You Can't Find It On the Internet: Some Tips On How to Break Through that Brick Wall."

All meetings are open to the public and anyone interested is encouraged to attend.

For more information, contact dacgslc@gmail.com or visit <http://dagenealogy.blogspot.com>.

Native plant society events

The Native Plant Society of New Mexico, Las Cruces Chapter will have two events in March:

- 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 13: Carol Campbell, of the New Mexico State University department of geography, will present "The Biogeography of Yosemite," at the Good Samaritan Society-Las Cruces Village, 3011 Buena Vida Circle, in the conference room.
- 8 a.m. Saturday, March 16: Gene Jercinovic will lead

a spring wildflower walk in the Florida Mountains. Anyone interested is asked to meet at the parking lot of the U.S. Post Office in Fairacres, 3800 W. Picacho Ave.

For more information, call Carolyn Gressitt at 523-8413 or Al Krueger at 532-1036.

'Afro-Latina' presentation

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Las Cruces, 2000 S. Solano, will present Romina Pacheco at 6:30 p.m. Friday, March 15. Pacheco will give a talk titled "Living to Tell: Moving Afro-Latinas' Voices to the Center."

Pacheco is originally from Maracay, Venezuela. She is a student in the Department of Curriculum & Instruction at New Mexico State University, where she is completing her doctorate in critical pedagogies with a minor in women's studies.

For more information, call 522-7281.

Tennis tourney set March 16

The Las Cruces Tennis Players Association will host a "Get Active" tennis festival at Lions Park, 701 W. Picacho Ave., from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 16. The event is free to children ages

5 to 14. The festival will include an introduction to tennis, fun, games and registration for spring and summer programs.

For more information, contact lcpta@hotmail.com or visit www.tennisatlionspark.com.

Las Aguilas Toastmasters

Las Aguilas Toastmasters, a Spanish-speaking speech club, meets from noon to 1 p.m. each Wednesday at 1240 S. Espina St., Room 106.

For more information, contact Jamie Hawkins at 520-6002 or drjrhdc@gmail.com.

Camera club meets March 19

The Doña Ana Camera Club will meet at the Southwest Environmental Center, 275 N. Main St., at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 19.

The meeting will feature a presentation by Ali Keyes titled "Passion," and Pat Hulser will present "10 Minutes with Annie Leibowitz." The "10 Minutes With" presentations highlight individuals who have had great influence on photography.

Technical presentations, friendly suggestions for improving member photos, travelogues, networking and

other activities are given at the meetings for photographers of all abilities.

For more information call 524-1288 or visit www.dacameraclub.org.

GOP women meet March 22

The Doña Ana County Federated Republican Women will meet at 11:30 a.m. Friday, March 22, at the Good Samaritan-Las Cruces Village, 3011 Buena Vida Circle. The speaker will be retired judge Susan Riedel. Lunch is \$10 and reservations are required by noon Monday, March 18.

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

Enchanted Gardens workshop

Enchanted Gardens, 270 Avenida de Mesilla, will host a workshop on creating a hummingbird garden at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 16.

Attendees will learn the plants and other habitat requirements needed to create an inviting garden for hummingbirds. The workshop is free to Enchanted Gardens benefit members or \$7.50 per person. Reservations are requested.

For more information, contact 524-1886 or gardens@zianet.com.



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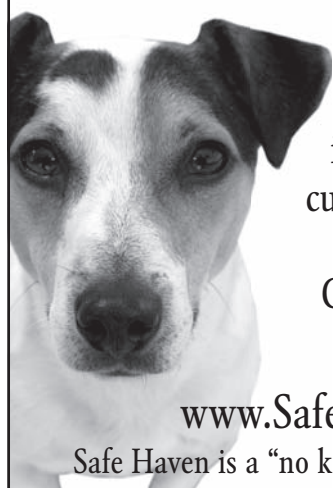


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"Sunset in the Medicine Bow Mountains" by George Coll will be one of the works by nearly 100 artists at the 2013 Las Cruces Arts Fair beginning Friday, March 15.



Arts fair arrives March 15

Annual fair features nearly 100 unique artists

Nearly 100 artists from across the United States – and across the border – will display their works at the third annual Las Cruces Arts Fair, held Friday through Sunday, March 15-17, at the Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave.

Over the weekend, the convention center will be packed with the finest wares by artists from all over, including – but certainly not limited to – jewelry and wearable art, metalwork, sculpture, glass, leather, painting, photography, mixed-media pieces, pottery, prints, woodworking and furniture.

Featured artists at this year's arts fair are the husband-and-wife duo of Betsy and Ray Shaw, of Taos. Betsy Shaw, once an interior designer, now expresses her creativity by building "female spirit dolls," collages created with natural elements, textiles and found treasures, including baubles and beads, bones, gems and minerals, embroidery pieces and even turtle shells.

Her husband, Ray Shaw, creates fascinating carved wooden masks, inspired largely by his interest in Native American figures and rock art of New Mexico.

This year, the Las Cruces Arts Fair welcomes as guest artists the artisans of the Mexican village of Mata Ortiz, world renowned for their distinctive and unique style of pottery.

Seventeen Mata Ortiz potters are expected to be on hand for the event, and throughout the weekend these renowned craftsmen and women will be demonstrating their hand-building and decorating techniques.

In addition to artist demonstrations and lectures, there will be lots of creative activities for kids ages 6 to 12, as well as opening night festivities on Friday which include live music and a cash bar.

Proceeds from the Las Cruces Arts Fair go to

support the numerous community programs sponsored by the Doña Ana Arts Council, a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life in southern New Mexico by ensuring the importance of all things art.

Admittance to the Las Cruces Arts Fair is \$6, with free entrance for children 12 and younger. For more information on the Arts Fair, the featured and guest artists or the Doña Ana Arts Council, call 523-6403 or visit www.las-cruces-arts.org.

Details

2013 Las Cruces Arts Fair

When
Friday through Sunday,
March 15 - 17

- 5 to 9 p.m. Friday
- 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday
- 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday

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Council

Continued from page A1

While others on the council agreed with Smith that the city needed a more focused effort on job creation, they said Las Cruces, as the second largest city in New Mexico, should have a voice in the state Legislature's debate.

Councillor Nathan Small said he favored the proposed resolution that didn't specify which legislation was best, but still acknowledged the need to raise the minimum wage.

Councillor Olga Pedroza said she did not see compelling evidence that an increase in the

minimum wage would result in a loss of jobs.

"I'm sorry, but it's totally illogical," Pedroza said. "To me, this sounds like an excuse to not take action."

Councillor Miguel Silva characterized the resolution as "feel good" legislation.

Sarah Nolan, executive director of New Mexico Comunidades en Accion y de Fé (CAFé) countered that the minimum wage isn't just "feel good" policy, but a place to start addressing the great income inequality seen statewide.

"Right now, we are debating a dollar, and we can't even get around that," she said.

Nolan said many minimum wage workers are caring for the elderly in home care and for the youngest children in day care.

including leaders from other faith organizations, greeted Cantú and songs of praise were sung, the bishop addressed his new flock.

He spoke about how, over the past week, among the packing and unpacking that had taken place, his life flashed before him and he was flooded with thoughts and memories. One memory, in particular, was of his parents' bedroom as a kid.

"My dad kept a flashlight in his chest of drawers," he said, adding that whenever he went to retrieve the flashlight, two images would capture his attention. "A painting of Our Lady of Guadalupe above the chest of drawers ... and a statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus."

He said these images intrigued him, especially the image of Jesus pointing at his heart, "as if he was inviting me into a conversation with him."

While this was just one of several sacred spots in the Cantú household, it helped him piece together the beauty and dialogue part of his faith, he said.

Cantú also spoke about the challenges the church faces in our modern culture and tradition.

"How do you transmit faith in a world so changed from when you and I grew up?" he asked the crowd.

He referenced an earlier reading from Jeremiah 1: 4-9, which emphasized being strong, loving and wise.

"We're in the midst of the pope's year of faith. We must be strong in our faith, we must be loving, we must be wise," he said, repeating the message.

He added that even though the world has changed, the human heart, and our longing for love and beauty, has not.

After the homily, and more songs of celebration and praise, Cantú led his first Communion as bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Las Cruces.

according to Gurley. The federal courts system looks for evidence of "deliberate indifference" and violation of the 8th Amendment, which prohibits cruel and unusual punishment.

Doña Ana County has taken some real steps to improving the jail's handling of detainees with mental illness, Gurley said. It hired a professional health care company bringing in 28 full-time health care staff, versus only three before, he said. The county has contracted with a local mental health hospital to provide committed beds, he said.

These steps are costly, Gurley said, but more manageable than paying out a large lawsuit judgment. Nor is the county government totally responsible, he said. Gurley praised new District Attorney Mark D'Antonio for committing staff to follow-up on cases involving someone arrested who may also be dealing with mental illness to not end up languishing unnoticed in a jail cell, which is what happened to Slevin.

Slevin, who had a history of depression, was held in solitary confinement for most of his 18 months in the county's detention center, and his condition deteriorated as the time lapsed, according to his civil complaint. His charges were dismissed in June 2007 after he was found incompetent to stand trial by a state judge.

Smith joined Thomas, Small, Pedroza and Councillor Gill Sorg in passing a resolution that supported government efforts "at the highest levels" to create a "living wage."

Senate Bill 416, sponsored by Sen. Richard Martinez, D-Española, which calls for raising the statewide minimum wage to \$8.50 an hour from \$7.50 an hour, passed the Senate on a straight party-line vote of 25-17.

Even if SB416 passes the House, it could run into trouble with Gov. Susana Martinez.

"The Legislature needs to focus on making New Mexico more competitive and the governor is concerned about a situation where New Mexico would have the highest minimum wage in the region, while simultaneously having the highest job-killing business tax rate and how that could drive job growth to surrounding states," said her spokesman Enrique Knell.

Businesses with fewer than 11 workers would

be exempt, as well as farm and ranch workers, employees under 18 and those receiving a "training wage" during their first year.

Sen. John Arthur Smith, D-Deming, introduced an amendment, which he admitted was only to make a point. His amendment would have forced Santa Fe and Albuquerque to raise their minimum wages by an additional 13 percent. "If the rest of the state has to raise it by 13 percent, those cities should too," he said.

The fiscally conservative Smith later voted in favor of the bill, even though he said he has misgivings about it.

In other business, the City Council approved a zoning change for a new CVS Pharmacy to open on the northeast corner of Main Street and Picacho Avenue.

The Santa Fe New Mexican contributed to this story.

Bishop

Continued from page A1

School carrying crosses and brightly colored flags began a procession, the ballroom filled with song. Dressed in their formal attire, members of the Holy Sepulcher and Knights of Columbus followed the students.

Deacons, seminarians and priests from throughout southern New Mexico led the way and were followed by 25 to 30 bishops and archbishops from across the United States. Last in the procession line, accompanied by Cantú and retired Bishop Ricardo Ramírez of the Las Cruces diocese, was the Most Rev. Carlo Maria Viganò, the Apostolic Nuncio to the United States and Vatican delegate for the installation.

After the procession weaved through the crowd and the dignitaries found their seats, Sheehan addressed the crowd before Viganò read a letter from the pope appointing Cantú on Jan. 10.

"We thank you sincerely for accepting the call of great service in the church," Viganò said to Cantú. "(Bishop Ramírez) we can't possibly overlook your dedication as bishop for over 20 years. From the bottom of our hearts, we say thank you."

Viganò said Cantú's experiences, which included service as San Antonio's auxiliary bishop, made him an ideal "shepherd" for the Las Cruces diocese.

After releasing him from his previous position and duties, Viganò asked Cantú if he was willing accept this call by the Holy Spirit and the people of the Diocese of Las Cruces and serve as their shepherd.

"With the love of God in my heart," he replied.

"Thanks be to God," the crowd chimed with resounding applause.

After representatives of the diocese,

Lawsuit

Continued from page A1

The Doña Ana County Detention Center has a total of 846 beds.

Ron Gurley, a local mental health advocate who has long warned county officials about the potential for lawsuits from the detention center's processing of people arrested with mental illness, said he was actually surprised the county was able to reduce the award amount by more than \$6 million.

While agreeing Doña Ana County has made progress in recent years, other counties should take notice of the cost of this one case. Currently, however, the state's association of counties is opposing House Bill 511 sponsored by Rep. Ed Sandoval, D-Bernalillo, that would require all jail workers to be up-to-date and certified in crisis intervention training.

The association says it would be too costly a proposal, but Gurley said his answer to that is, "You can pay now or pay later." As this case shows, the cost can be substantial, he said.

"Providing continuous training is one way for counties to offer some insulation (from lawsuits)," Gurley said.

Lawsuits for mistreatment of jail detainees with mental illness falls on two questions,



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Hunting down bargains at the Good Samaritan Garage Sale

Photos by Todd Dickson

Isaac Hartman helps his sister Zel fit a coffee table into the back of the family car after purchasing furniture at the annual Good Samaritan Village garage sale Saturday, March 2. The siblings are moving out of their home to attend classes at New Mexico State University.



Good Samaritan Executive Director Guy Matson and his wife, Ann, talk with organist Lois Jones and Eric Mayben. Matson said the first \$2,500 made at the garage sale goes to the Honor Flight of Southern New Mexico and a hospital in Zimbabwe.



Petra Salas checks out the bottom of a coffee table with help from June Brainard and Margaret Enriquez.



Grady McCullough makes a sale of screen material and "junk" to Don and Cindy Bowden.

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Saving pets and bucks at the ACTION Programs for Animals Garage Sale

Photos by Todd Dickson

Valina Hamilton feeds one of the dogs available for adoption at the ACTION Programs for Animals (APA) Garage Sale Saturday, March 2, at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3242. The sale was organized by Dee Dougil to raise funds for APA activities such as rescuing abused pets and helping low-income owners feed and care for their pets.



The VFW post on Mesquite Street was bustling with a mix of bargain hunters and pet enthusiasts.



Jennifer Wiskowski checks out some items available at the garage sale. Answering questions at the check-out is Fern Forman.



April 7, 2013

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Impressing judges at the Intel Science and Engineering Fair

Photos by Todd Dickson

David Gil, 13, of Las Cruces explains his display on low-cost solar panel enhancements at the Intel Science and Engineering Fair Saturday, March 2, at the Corbett Center Student Union on the New Mexico State University campus. Participating students came from all over southern New Mexico for the science and engineering fair.



Hilba Muhyl, 13, shows Normajean Oleary, an Advance Education Services facilitator for Las Cruces Public Schools, how her learning glove works.



After judging, Sara Manshad, 14, of Arrowhead Park Early College High School gets ready to break down her display on digitalizing manipulatives using magnetic cubes.

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Legislature 2013

Mrs. NM honored



Mrs. New Mexico America, Johna Cooper, received an award presented by Sen. Howie Morales at the New Mexico State Legislature office in Santa Fe Monday, March 4. Pictured with Cooper are Morales, husband Coye Cooper, Rep. Dianne Hamilton and Rep. Rodolpho Martinez. Born and raised in Las Cruces, Cooper earned a degree in radiology at New Mexico State University and now resides in Silver City with her husband and their son Chance, where she works as a radiologic technologist at Grant County Imaging. Cooper was given the award for her charitable work with such organizations as St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, the American Red Cross, Relay for Life, the General Federation of Women's Clubs, St. Baldrick's and Cupid's Chase 5k.

Rawson stays on investment panel

Former state senator and Las Cruces businessman Leonard Lee Rawson was unanimously reconfirmed by the New Mexico State Senate to serve four more years on the New Mexico State Investment Council.

Rawson was originally appointed to the State Investment Council in April 2010. The fund has grown by \$4 billion since Rawson has been on the council and is at an all time high of about \$17 billion. He is one of 11 members on the council and will serve until 2017.

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House stalled on driver's license bill

GOP effort to force a floor vote fails

By **Steve Terrell**
The New Mexican

An attempt to force a House vote on a bill that would repeal the state law allowing New Mexico to issue driver's licenses to undocumented immigrants fell short Wednesday, March 6.

Although Republicans were successful in getting House Bill 606 out of the House Labor and Human Resources Committee – which had tabled the measure last week – a subsequent tally of the full House to “blast” the bill out of another committee was one vote shy of getting the bill onto the House floor.

Technically, the bill still is alive. However, the clock is ticking on the session, which ends at noon Saturday, March 16. To get to Gov. Susana Martinez's desk, the bill also would have to pass the Democrat-controlled Senate. A Senate committee Tuesday, March 5, voted along party lines to kill a similar bill.

The driver's license issue has been a priority of Martinez, who made repeal of the 2003 law, which was championed by her predecessor, Bill Richardson, a major issue in her campaign.

In the previous two sessions, the House passed repeal bills, which went on to die in the Senate. However, last year Republicans lost two seats in the House, which weakened support for the repeal in the Legislature.

House Republican Whip Nate Gentry of Albuquerque led the charge in trying to blast the bill, which was sponsored by Rep. Paul Pacheco, R-Albuquerque.

Gentry said the House should debate the issue because there's support among New Mexico voters to repeal the 2003 law. The latest form of the bill, he said, is less restrictive than the bills approved by the House the previous two years.

“It's a good compromise, and every attempt that we've made to address this

issue has failed,” he said.

HB606 would provide temporary licenses to those immigrants who came to the U.S. as children and are covered by an executive order issued last year by President Barack Obama deferring deportation. But no licenses would be issued to other immigrants who illegally crossed the border.

Opponents say the bill is not a real compromise. The young immigrants covered by Obama's order are considered to be lawfully in the country and thus can get work permits and Social Security numbers, which allow them to get a regular driver's license in New Mexico.

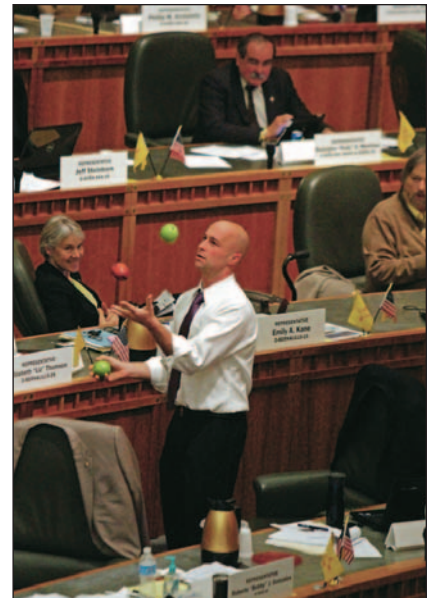
In opposing the blast, Rep. Brian Egolf, D-Santa Fe, noted there are more than 600 bills that have been introduced in the House this year.

“This is the most important issue to bring to this body's attention at this time?” he chided Gentry. “How many jobs does this bill create? ... I think getting New Mexicans back to work is the most important issue.”

Freshman Rep. Stephanie Garcia-Richard, D-Los Alamos, was one of four Democrats to join Republicans in voting to blast the bill on the first vote, 36-34, which removed the bill from the Labor Committee, where it had been tabled. However, she later voted against removing the bill from the Judiciary and Appropriations and Finance committees.

After the hearing, Garcia-Richard said she voted to move the bill out of the Labor Committee because she wanted to give it to a committee that would give it “more input.”

“I have some real issues with the bill,” she said. Many of her constituents are concerned that the licenses granted by the state are not compliant with the federal Real ID Act, which eventually might mean state license-holders would have to use other forms of ID – such as a birth certificate or a U.S. passport – to board



The New Mexican photo by Jane Phillips
Bill McCamley, D-Mesilla Park, juggles on the House floor Wednesday, March 6, while waiting for other representatives to arrive to attempt a vote on a bill that would repeal allowing driver's licenses for undocumented immigrants.

planes or enter federal buildings. “It still needs a lot of work,” she said.

The Real ID issue has become a major selling point for Martinez and others who want to repeal the driver's license law. However, opponents of the bill point out that only 19 states have licenses that comply with the federal law and many have passed laws prohibiting compliance with the Real ID Act. The government has pushed back the deadline for compliance several times since Congress passed the law in 2005.

Democrats who voted to blast the bill on all the votes taken Wednesday were Rep. Mary Helen Garcia of Las Cruces, Donna Irwin of Deming and Sandra Jeff of Crownpoint.

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Pearce re-introduces Organ Mountains bill

Opposition seeks broader proposal

Congressman Steve Pearce re-introduced a bill to establish the Organ Mountains as a national monument, which is similar to a bill he introduced in the previous session.

"This legislation was developed with close involvement and significant input from local ranchers, business owners, conservationists, sportsmen and other constituents," Pearce said.

The bill protects the rights of ranch-

ers, hunters and law enforcement to access the monument, Pearce said.

Supporters of the larger Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument remain critical of Pearce's bill for just the Organ Mountains.

Doña Ana County Commissioner Wayne Hancock and Las Cruces Mayor Pro Tem Sharon Thomas said Pearce "has once again chosen to ignore the wishes" of the local communities.

Athletes share love of Dr. Seuss



New Mexico State University track and field athletes Caroline Lewiecki and Nicolette Serrao read to preschoolers in Tracy Likes' class at César Chávez Elementary on Dr. Seuss Day, Friday, March 1.

Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Jim Hilley

NM STATE BASKETBALL

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ISO gets upgrade

Insurance rates should drop

At the request of the Las Cruces Fire Department, the Insurance Services Office Inc. (ISO) recently completed a survey for the City of Las Cruces that lowered the city's Public Protection Classification (PPC) to 2/9, effective Friday, March 1.

The 2/a classification places the Las Cruces Fire Department in the top 1.5 percent of fire departments nationwide. The City of Las Cruces previously had a PPC of 4/9.

Because many insurance companies use ISO PPC ratings to establish commercial and residential building insurance rates, the Las Cruces Fire Department sent letters to local insurance companies to advise them of this change. A copy of the letter can be found at www.clcfd.com.

CrimeStoppers

Auto burglaries

Las Cruces Crime Stoppers is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information that leads to the arrest of the person responsible Jan. 11 for breaking into a van that was parked near a business in Santa Teresa.

According to Doña Ana County Sheriff's Office investigators, a man was seen breaking into the van that was parked at a business on the 1700 block of Borderland in Santa Teresa.

The suspect was believed to have arrived in a silver minivan and approached the passenger-side of the victim's van. The suspect took several tools and electronics from the victim's van.

The suspect is said to be Hispanic, and was wear-



ing a gray hoodie and blue jeans. He appears to be approximately 5 feet 8 inches tall with a medium build and black hair.

Anyone with information that can help identify who is responsible for committing this burglary is asked to call Las Cruces Crime Stoppers at 800-222-TIPS (8477) or send a tip via text message to CRIMES (274637), keyword LCTIPS.

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

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Beck starts, earns win Aggie baseball hosts La Salle

Senior left-hand pitcher Ryan Beck started his first game of the year and led his team to a 4-0 shutout over Wake Forest in Winston-Salem, N.C., Sunday, March 3. The Aggies improved to 4-8 on the season. The Demon Deacons are now 9-3.

Beck was very efficient on Sunday, throwing 6.0 innings and striking out seven batters without walking a single batter. Senior right-hander Casey Collins earned the first save of his career entering the game in the seventh and striking out two. Beck is now 2-0 on the year and might move back into a starting role.

"We had great pitching and nine base hits so it was a good all-around effort today," NMSU coach Rocky Ward said. "It is good to get the win and it is going to be good to get back home and play in front of our fans."

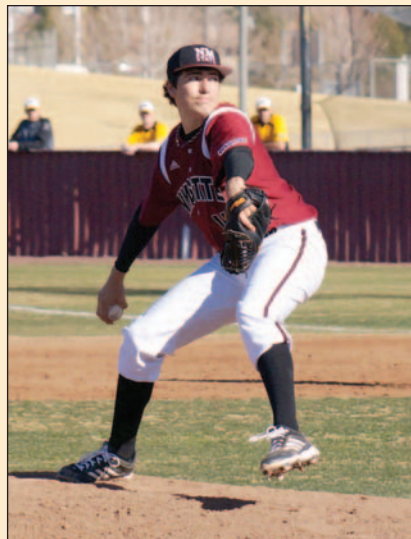
Beck retired 11-of-12 batters from the second-fifth innings, as the only batter to reach got on with an error.

Junior catcher Tanner Rust led the offense as he went 2-for-2 with two walks and two runs scored, including the first run of the day on a wild pitch in the second inning. First baseman Michael Paulson followed Rust, also scoring on a wild pitch in the second.

"Rust is a warrior and he got out of a rut. He is a very good teammate to the ball club and cares about everyone on the team," Ward said. "It was a kind of break-out day for him and it is good for him to have the kind of day he did."

The Aggies extended their lead in the top of the sixth when senior Cody Edwards blasted a double down the right-field line bringing in Rust and Paulson. Collins allowed three hits and a walk, but the Deacons never seemed to threaten.

NMSU takes on La Salle in a four-game series starting at 6:05 p.m. Friday, March 8, at Presley Askew Field. For tickets, call 646-1420 or purchase them at the ticket booth the day of the game.



Las Cruces native Michael Ormseth and the New Mexico State Aggies return home to host La Salle March 8-10, at Presley Askew Field.

The 'Iron Man' is a lady

Triathlete Sarah Reinertsen excels despite leg amputation

By **Jim Hilley**
Las Cruces Bulletin

Born with proximal femoral focal deficiency, Sarah Reinertsen had her leg amputated at age 7.

Reinertsen could easily have let her disability be a limiting factor in her life, but through her determination and perseverance, it was the beginning of a lifetime of adventure.

"I never would have imagined," Reinertsen said Tuesday, March 5, in a phone interview. "I just saw the path of wanting to do sports."

"I started with a 5K, I wasn't wanting to do anything great, I just wanted to do a 5K."

Reinertsen began to run at age 11, and when she was 13 she broke the 100-meter record for a female above the knee amputee in her first international track meet. She later set a 400-meter record, which still stands.

In 2005, on her second attempt, she became the first female leg amputee to finish the Ironman World Championships in Kona, Hawaii. A year later, in the CBS reality show, "The Amazing Race," she scaled the Great Wall of China.

Reinertsen has been on the cover of magazines, such as Runner's World, Triathlete, Competitor and ESPN magazine. Her book, "In Single Bound," was published in 2009.

Las Cruces will get a chance to hear more from this remarkable woman at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 14, at the Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St., in an event presented by the New Mexico State University Adventure Arts series. Tickets are \$5 in advance at the NMSU Outdoor Center or at the theater,



Not letting the amputation of a leg at age 7 hold her back, Sarah Reinertsen participates in a life of triathlon competition that has spanned the globe, including in Iceland, where this photo was taken. Reinertsen will appear at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 14, at the Rio Grande Theatre.

or are \$8 at the door.

Reinertsen said her amazing journey sometimes leaves even her amazed.

"I had the honor and privilege this last week of doing an event in Chicago with Michelle Obama. I was struck by the moment as I was standing on the stage with her," Reinertsen said. "Part of why I have been doing Iron Man is to show that a person with disability

deserves the right to play, and here I am on stage with Nike and the first lady and Serena Williams and all these champions.

"If somebody had said to me when I was 11, 'Oh don't worry Sarah, you are going to end up being a champion on stage with the first lady of the United States and Nike is going to be your sponsor,' I would have been like, 'Oh yeah, you're funny.'"

"It was a very profound week for me. I am still blown away."

Reinertsen is also a spokesperson for the Challenged Athletes Foundation (www.challengedathletes.org).

"We help pay for prosthetic equipment or adaptive sports equipment, the equipment that a person with a disability would need to get out there and be active

See **Reinertsen** on page A21

UT-Arlington Mavericks visit Pan Am Aggies hope to avenge earlier conference loss on Senior Night

By **Jim Hilley**
Las Cruces Bulletin

Despite a 12-game winning streak in the middle of the Western Athletic Conference season, the New Mexico State Aggie basketball team may find themselves fighting to stay in the top-three seeds for the WAC Tournament March 12-16 in Las Vegas, Nev.

Depending on how the Aggies fare against league-leading Louisiana Tech (26-3, 16-0 WAC), and whether UT-Arlington (17-10, 11-5) can upset Denver (19-8, 14-2) in the Mile High City, on Thursday, March 7, the Aggies (19-10, 12-4) could fall to fourth place in the conference with a loss to the Mavericks at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 8, in the Pan American Center.

"UT-Arlington is another challenge," NMSU coach Marvin Menzies said Tuesday, March 5.

"They have been on the back burner because of the success of La Tech, but they are 6-1 in their last games and are an admirable foe.

"They beat us earlier and we have a chance to redeem ourselves."

Actually, the Mavericks are 7-1 in their last eight games, with their only loss being in the Bracketbuster series to UC-Irvine Saturday, Feb. 23. In conference play, they had won seven straight going into their game at Denver.

Saturday's game for the Aggies will be Senior Night, with Bandja Sy and Tyrone Watson likely playing their last game at the Pan Am.

Sy said he wants to go out with a pair of wins. "I definitely want to win," he said. "At home we have a lot of confidence."

Saying goodbye to seniors is always a difficult time for the team, Menzies said.

"Anybody you've had underneath your

umbrella, part of your family, it's an emotional time to send them on to the rest of their lives," he said.

"The rest of the team will rally for them. We are looking forward to sending them off in the right way."

The NMSU coach said after reviewing film of the Aggies' loss at Denver, it wasn't the "end of the world."

"We just didn't take care of the ball," he said. "We have a lot of fun games ahead of us. The kids are in a good place and ready to go."

Saturday's game is an AggieVision production with Jeff Matthews and Glen Cerny. The game can be heard on the Aggie Sports Network and KGRT-FM 104 in Las Cruces with the "Voice of the Aggies" Jack Nixon. The games are also available in Spanish with Edgar Gardell on Vista-FM 98.7.

Aggies meet Denver at NMSU Senior Night

Photos by Steve MacIntyre



The New Mexico State University women's basketball team rallies on the bench Saturday, March 2, during a game against Denver University at the Pan American Center.



NMSU coach Mark Trakh talks to his team during a timeout against the Denver Pioneers.



Rozendaal goes for a loose ball against Janecek.



Aggie senior Kelsie Rozendaal puts up a shot over Denver Pioneers forward Alison Janecek.



NMSU guard Danesia Williamson attempts a shot over Denver University guard Emiko Smith at the Pan American Center. The Pioneers topped the Aggies 71-63.



Aggie senior guard Stephanie Gilbreath fires off a three point shot. The Aggies will again be in action at UT Arlington at 5 p.m. Saturday, March 9.

NM STATE BASEBALL

vs. La Salle
 Friday, March 8 at 6:05 p.m.
 Saturday, March 9 at 3:05 p.m. (DH)
 Sunday, March 10 at 1:05 p.m.



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vs. Western New Mexico
 March 8 at 2 p.m.
vs. Tarleton State
 March 10 at 9 a.m.



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NMSU goes 4-2 at UNLV tourney

Aggies overcome Weber State, Rebels on final day

The New Mexico State softball team finished the final day of the Eller Media Stadium Classic with two wins Sunday, March 3. The Aggies moved to 13-7 on the season with a 2-0 win over Weber State and a 5-3 win over host UNLV.

Senior Amber Olive went 3-for-7 on the day with two runs and two RBI. She helped the Aggies with a stolen base and 11 fielding assists on the game.

"I thought it was a good team effort," NMSU coach Kathy Rodolph said. "It's hard to come back and play a team on its home field on the last day of the tournament, but I thought we got better this weekend and had great contributions."

"The competition will continue to get stronger and stronger, and we just need to get ready for that."

NMSU 2, Weber State 0

In the Aggie half of the first, Amber Olive led off with a single to short and stole third to put herself in scoring position. Freshman Emma Adams hit a short bunt just in front of the plate to advance Olive. Staci Rodriguez came up with a sacrifice fly that scored Olive for the first run of the day for the Aggies.

NMSU allowed two Weber State hits, but kept the team off the board. The Aggies came up with two hits in the bottom of the second, with Olive's hit bringing around Tina Cisneros after she reached base on a walk.

The teams remained scoreless through the next three innings with

the Aggies picking up a hit by freshman Brennaly Nakamura, a single up the third baseline in the bottom of the fourth.

In the sixth, WSU hit a double to right, but was left stranded. In a similar Aggie half of the inning, Kelsey Dodd doubled to right also, but was out on a double play.

The seventh inning ended quickly as junior Celsa Walker closed out the game for NMSU and picked up her first save of the season by allowing just one Wildcat hit, and keeping them from crossing the plate.

Making her second start this season, freshman Makayla McAdams worked for six innings without allowing a run. McAdams moved to 2-2 on the season a 3.16 ERA.

NMSU 5, UNLV 3

The Aggies picked up five runs off 10 hits in game two, with Alyssa Ruiz going 2-for-2 and Kelsey Dodd going 3-for-2 with an RBI and a walk. Senior right-hand pitcher Alex Newman went the distance in the circle with just one earned run allowed off five hits.

As the Aggies met the Rebels for the second time over the weekend, the teams matched runs in the first inning. The Aggies got on the board first with a single RBI by Dodd. She went 3-for-6 on the day with an RBI. The Rebels hit a single to right followed by an RBI double.

NMSU took the lead with a big

second inning. Malena Padilla got on base with a single to right to bring up Kaaihue, who hit a sacrifice bunt to move Padilla into scoring position. A hard liner up through right center moved Padilla across the plate for a 2-1 lead. Emma Adams drove a hit up the right line for her fourth hit of the weekend.

The third inning was scoreless, but with four hits for the Aggies, Kaaihue picked up her fourth extra-base hit of the season with a double down the left line. She was brought around the bases by Olive after hit a single to right. The Aggies were victim of a double play to end that half of the inning.

The Aggies sat UNLV down in order in the home half of the fourth, only to rack up two more runs off three hits in the top of the fifth. After senior Teresa Conrad walked on base, Staci Rodriguez doubles to left to score Conrad.

Rodriguez then picked up her 16th run scored of the season off the bat of Padilla with her second hit of the game and Ruiz singled to shortstop, but the bases were left loaded at the work of the UNLV defense.

UNLV came up with two runs in the final at bat of the night to close the gap slightly, but a last inning rally was not enough to catch the Aggies. NMSU finished the weekend 4-2 by sweeping the final two days of the tournament.

NMSU now looks to the Diamond Devil Invitational in Tempe, Ariz., March 8-10.



Sarah Reinertsen competes in a New York City Triathlon.

Reinertsen

Continued from page A19

in sports," Reinertsen said.

"For a person like myself, it's beyond getting a pair of sneakers to get out and do that 5K. The running feet are expensive items and they are not insurance reimbursable, because they are not medically necessary."

"Those devices are out of reach for most people who might have the chutzpah to get out and run, but a leg for running is out of reach."

"If you think about somebody who is paralyzed or might have spina bifida, they have a wheelchair that takes them to and from work or to and from school, but if little Johnny wants to play wheelchair basketball or wheelchair tennis or wheelchair rugby, those wheelchairs are \$5,000."

Reinertsen said she is happy to be visiting Las Cruces. "I am looking forward to a fun night and a fun crowd," she said. "I have some time for questions and answers at the end and it's another great forum to explore."

For more information, contact NMSU Outdoor Recreation at 646-4252 or outdoor@nmsu.edu.



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Let's talk baseball



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Richard Coltharp
Sean Smock, commissioner of the American West Baseball League, visits with Las Cruces about the prospect of bringing a baseball team to town. Smock, AWBL President Will Joyce and CEO Mike Cummings were at MFive Wednesday, Feb. 27, to discuss the Las Cruces Sun Rays team that could be playing here this summer.

H I G H S C H O O L Sports Schedule

Centennial High School

March 8-9.....Baseball..... St. Pius Baseball TournamentTBA
 Saturday, March 9...Track (co-ed)..... at Los Lunas Varsity Meet 9 a.m.
 Softball..... at Del Norte High School noon, 2 p.m.



Las Cruces High School

Friday, March 8Girls Basketball No. 9 Las Cruces at No. 8 Valley 7 p.m.
 Saturday, March 9...Track (co-ed)..... at Los Lunas Varsity Meet 9 a.m.
 Baseball..... Cibola High School noon, 2 p.m.
 Softball..... Cibola High School noon, 2 p.m.
 Boys Basketball..... No. 11 Carlsbad at No. 6 Las Cruces..... 7 p.m.
 March 12-16.....Girls Basketball at State Basketball Tournament.....TBA
 Tuesday, March 12 ..Tennis (co-ed) at Santa Teresa High School..... 3 p.m.
 Baseball..... at Deming High School 3 p.m., 5 p.m.
 Softball..... at Deming High School 3 p.m., 5 p.m.
 March 13-16.....Boys Basketball..... at State Basketball Tournament.....TBA
 March 14-16.....Baseball..... at New Mexico Baseball InvitationalTBA
 March 15-16.....Softball..... at Southern New Mexico Softball Tournament...TBA



Mayfield High School

Friday, March 8Baseball..... Sandia High School..... 5 p.m., 7 p.m.
 Girls Basketball No. 15 Cleveland at No. 2 Mayfield 6 p.m.
 Saturday, March 9...Track (co-ed)..... at Los Lunas Varsity Meet 9 a.m.
 Softball..... Sandia High School..... noon, 2 p.m.
 March 12-16.....Girls Basketball at State Basketball Tournament.....TBA
 Tuesday, March 12 ..Tennis (co-ed) at Deming High School 3 p.m.
 March 14-16.....Baseball..... at New Mexico Baseball InvitationalTBA
 March 15-16.....Softball..... at Southern New Mexico Softball Tournament...TBA



Oñate High School

Friday, March 8Baseball..... Americas High School 3 p.m.
 Softball at Aztec High School (at Valencia HS)..... 3 p.m.
 Girls Basketball No. 14 OHS at No. 3 Cibola 7 p.m.
 Saturday, March 9...Track (co-ed)..... at Los Lunas Varsity Meet 9 a.m.
 Baseball..... at Rio Grande High School noon, 2 p.m.
 Softball at Rio Grande High School noon, 2 p.m.
 March 12-16.....Girls Basketball at State Basketball Tournament.....TBA
 March 14-16.....Baseball..... at Carlsbad Baseball Tournament.....TBA
 March 15-16.....Softball..... at Southern New Mexico Softball Tournament...TBA



Mesilla Valley Christian Schools

March 8-9.....Tennis (co-ed) at Chapin Tennis Tournament..... 8 a.m.
 Softball at Rio Rancho Tournament.....TBA
 Saturday, March 9...Boys Basketball..... No. 10 Santa Fe Prep at No. 7 MVCS 6 p.m.
 March 13-16.....Boys Basketball..... at State Basketball Tournament.....TBA
 Tuesday, March 12 ..Softball..... Hot Springs High School 3 p.m.
 March 14-16.....Softball..... at Hot Springs TournamentTBA



'Dawg boys top Gadsden Mayfield girls are No. 2 seed in playoffs

By **David Grimes**
 For the Las Cruces Bulletin

Friday, March 1, the Las Cruces High School boys varsity basketball team hosted a neutral play-off game against Gadsden High School.

With a district record of 1-7 and an overall record of 6-21, the No. 5 seed Panthers put up a good fight against the Bulldawgs, the returning undefeated district champs.

Gadsden scored the first point of the game and remained consistent with a tight, well-played defense, keeping the score even throughout the first quarter. The score was neck-and-neck up until the second half of the game, but as the game progressed, Las Cruces gathered weight and strength like an avalanche, developing a lead during the third quarter. The Bulldawgs got consistent scoring from three seniors – No. 14 Joseph Garza, No. 40 Patrick Noel and No. 52 Kamryn Dixon.

The Panther's defense held off the Bulldawg offense consistently until the final quarter, when

the Bulldawgs finally loosened up and went on a spree of layups, giving them a 10-point lead that tripled by the end of the game, with a final score of 61-31, putting an end to what would have been an interesting underdog story.

Now, the Bulldawgs go on to the state championships as the No. 6 seed. Their first play-off game is against Carlsbad at Las Cruces at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 9. The winner of that game will play either No. 3 La Cueva or No. 14 Astrico Heritage Academy on Wednesday, March 13, at the pit in Albuquerque.

In boys 2A playoff action, No. 7 Mesilla Valley Christian Schools hosts No. 10 Santa Fe Prep at 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 9.

In the 5A girls playoffs Friday, March 8, No. 2 Mayfield will host No. 15 Cleveland at 6 p.m., while No. 9 Las Cruces travels to play No. 8 Valley High School at 7 p.m. and No. 14 Oñate High School visits No. 3 Cibola, also at 7 p.m. Girls quarterfinal action will be Tuesday, March 12, at the Santa Ana Star Center in Rio Rancho.

Aggie golfers finish 15th Freshmen show promise for NMSU ladies

The New Mexico State women's golf team concluded play Tuesday, March 5, at the Bruin-Wave Invitational, being played at the par 72, 6,131-yards El Caballero Country Club.

The Aggies finished the tournament in 15th place with a final score of 134-over-par 998 (348-326-324).

NMSU finished with their best round of the tournament during the final day, a 36-over-par 324. It is the second time this season the Aggies have improved on their score after each round of a tournament.

The Aggies were led by the two freshmen on the team, Kacey Dalpes and Viviana Macias.

Dalpes finished in a team-high tie for 54th with a total score of 29-over-par 245 (82-84-79). She also shot the low round of the day on Tuesday for the Aggies, a 7-over-par 79. This is the fifth time in seven tournaments this season that Dalpes has been the top finisher for NMSU.

Macias, playing in only her second tournament for NMSU, finished a couple of shots behind Dalpes with a total score of 31-over-par 247 (79-80-88) and in a tie for 60th place. Although her final-round score of 16-over-par 88 was her worst of the tournament, Macias did have the best round of her young Aggie career during round one, shooting a 7-over 79. She then followed that with her second-best round in round two, an 8-over 80.

Junior Amelie Buhl finished in 74th place with a total score of 40-over-par 256 (95-79-

82). Buhl's second-round score of 7-over 79 tied her with Dalpes and Macias for the Aggies' best round of the tournament. Meanwhile, sophomore Laura Barron shot an 8-over-par 80 during Tuesday's final round to finish with total score of 46-over-par 262 (92-90-80) and in 76th place. Barron was the only Aggie golfer to duplicate the NMSU team and improve on her score after each round of the tournament.

Sophomore Paige Darwin had consecutive rounds shooting 11-over-par 83 during the final two rounds of the tournament. Unfortunately for Darwin, her first-round score was disqualified after a discrepancy was found on her scorecard.

Overall, the team title came down to the two most recognized universities of the Los Angeles area. In the end, USC, the No. 1-ranked team in the country according to golfstat.com, took home its second Bruin-Wave championship. The Trojans had a seven-stroke lead over their rivals UCLA after the first round, but watched the Bruins storm back in round two and take an eight-shot lead heading into the final round.

NMSU now looks forward to participating in its final two tournaments of the 2012-13 season before heading to the WAC Championships in Arizona.

The Aggies' next tournament will be March 18-19, when the team travels to St. George, Utah, to be part of the BYU at Entrada Classic hosted by Brigham Young University.

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On the green

'A change would do you good'

Golfers, listen up



Charlie Blanchard
Golf Doctor

On my first day working at the psychiatric hospital, the head doctor compulsively laid this on me: "Do you know how many California shrinks it takes to change a light bulb?"

"Why, no," I said.

"Only one. But the light bulb really has to want to change."

Cute, I thought, as I faked a smile out of obligation.

Here's the point. Perhaps you've been vaguely contemplating making a swing change. You really have to want to change. If you're like most golfers you feel a lot of trepidation about doing this, particularly as it strikes you that you're going to play worse before you play better for some time after a swing change. Plus, you'll be looking at hitting 500 to 1,000 practice balls before the alteration becomes a fixed habit that you don't have to think about.

With many of the golfers who attend our Performance Golf Schools, Herb Wimberly and I are challenged to take students through the difficult process of making a major swing change. Any complicated change in your golf game – even new equipment for that matter – is sure to be arduous and troublesome.

I was recently playing with a golfing friend who was totally off her game. I mean she had no clue what she was doing.

"I'm making so many swing changes that I can't keep them straight," she said to me.

Bear in mind that this person is a proficient, high caliber middle-aged golfer, who regularly takes money from the single-digit handicapper men she plays with. She was topping the ball, blooming it, shanking it and doing other strange things.

In desperation, I said to her, "Get back to your regular swing and then work on the swing changes later."

"You're right, I'm just overloaded," she said. In just two swings she was back to her regular form, which is pretty good, and spent the rest of the round shooting mostly par or better.

She was certainly willing to attempt to change her swing for the better, but she bit off more than she could chew. She mistakenly tried to process more swing information than she was able to handle, leading to a complete breakdown in form. Trying to handle five swing thoughts at once, she became completely discombobulated.

The truth is we can only process and execute one swing thought at a time. The golf course is no place to multi-task. We need the 500 practice balls to change a swing.

Change, like the light bulb anecdote above, can be a confusing happening. As we get older, change doesn't come easy; Muscles get stiffer, bones get denser, flexibility becomes harder to come by, strength erodes, eyesight fails and willpower suffers.

Most people resist change. Perhaps they're willing to change some things but not others. A good example is Tiger Woods. He's willing to make swing changes, and hone them into habits, but he does not seem willing to change his boorish egocentric personality, which I have labeled "celebrity personality disorder."

Behavior is the hardest thing to change; attitude is the second hardest. Why? Because we are not aware of the need for change and we mostly don't get feedback from others that we are so messed up we need to change.

Golf is different. We hit the golf ball and see the results in definitive, stark reality. Even then some folks don't get it. They look at a golf shot – it sucks. Another – it sucks. Still, they don't get it. A lot of golfers say they want to improve their golf swings (change), but are extremely reluctant to let go of poor swing habits in order to transform their golf swing and ultimately

their results. They resist.

What follows below is an inquiry process I go through with someone who is considering a big golf change. Kind of like being a patient on my office couch.

The very first thing I want you to ask yourself is: "What makes you think that you can do something about your present situation?"

A typical response might be, "Well, my game has been slipping downhill for sometime now and I'm feeling helpless. I'm terrible and I need to do something different."

"In other words your game stinks, you're unhappy and it worries you," I reflect.

"You got it."

Next, I might inquire: "In what ways do your unacceptable golf scores thwart you from becoming the golfer you want to be?"

A bit taken back you answer, "I've always thought of myself as a pretty good golfer and a tough competitor. Now I suck, and I hate losing all the time. I've got to do something."

That anguish is called "cognitive dissonance," where there is a discrepancy between our perceived self-image and what reality tells us. It can be quite motivating.

Now, I'd like you (my student) to tell me exactly how you see things being different with your golf game, if you go ahead and make the major swing change. The question implies that you will need to visualize yourself being successful – perhaps winning again – and feeling better about yourself as a result. This is a biggie. Change is hard. But the rewards are often worth the effort.

Continuing on, I'd like you to articulate the ways that you are encouraged and confident that you can, and actually will, transform your swing into a wonderful model of solid fundamental moves. That is, understanding that you want to do this. A few golfers, like you, have shared thoughts like, "Well, I'm really a strong person and when I put my mind to something I finish it. I really love golf. I've just got to keep playing. Got to get better."

Details

Special note to tournament directors and fundraisers: We at The Bulletin are planning to list upcoming golf tournaments and events under a special sidebar. If you are organizing a golf tournament, clinic or fundraiser, please let us know with specific information – i.e. who, what, when, where, cost, cause, registration, contact information, and so on. This request applies to all local golf courses, tournament directors and organizations that wish their events to be listed and promoted to the public. Send your notices to sports@lascrucesbulletin.com or get your information to me at performancecoach@zianet.com.

Lastly, I'd like you to share with me your real intentions about revamping your golf swing.

"Well, I think I want to," you hedge.

I've heard it all before. Folks want to do better at golf and in business and in life, but they are afraid to make a commitment that might involve transformation. Our comfort zone – the status quo – may not be the best, but in our soul we fear leaving it for the frightful and dreadful unknown.

Here is my advice. If you truly desire to make a quantum leap in your performance level – in anything – you absolutely must commit to making extensive changes in how you do things. You must commit by agreeing to a number of specific steps you must take, and by taking action immediately. And practicing until it becomes habit.

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

Las Cruces High School

High School

Athlete of the Week

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Joseph Garza

Joseph Garza is a 17-year-old senior at Las Cruces High School. He is point guard on the Bulldawg basketball team. He has averaged 18 points, five rebounds, five assists per game and is a 86 percent free-throw shooter. Garza was named to the 3-5A All-District team and is the District 3-5A Player of the Year. He is a leader by example – trustworthy, hard-working, responsible, respectful and very funny.

Garza is the ideal student athlete, with a 3.50 GPA. He is respected by fellow student athletes due to his leadership skills both on and off the court. Las Cruces High School is fortunate to have Garza in attendance. Outside of school and basketball, he loves animals and really enjoys spending time with his family.

NM STATE UNIVERSITY

ATHLETE of the WEEK

Laura Bostwick

Senior, Equestrian

Senior Laura Bostwick earned MVP honors in Equitation on the Flat against South Dakota State on Saturday, March 2. She was also victorious in her Equitation over Fences ride as well. Bostwick was 3-1 on the weekend, also earning a win against Fresno State in Equitation on the Flat.

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Aggie Insider

Pillars of Aggiedom

Four of New Mexico State's greatest coaching legends honored Saturday



Jack Nixon
Jack's Corner

New Mexico State athletics honors four legends Saturday, March 9, who are the pillars of Aggie sports history, as well as two seniors who are playing their final regular season home game.

Lou Henson, Warren Woodson, Presley Askew and Jerry Hines are being recognized for their work on and off the court. This quartet is already in the U.S. Bank/NM State Hall of Fame, but this weekend, they will be given their full due and will have their photos placed in the Pan American Center with the rest of the Aggie legends.

Askew coached two sports at NM State, baseball and basketball. He had two NCAA Tournament teams and three Border Conference championships. I had the pleasure of working with coach Askew on several basketball broadcasts, and I have never known a man who was kinder or more insightful regarding sports or life. Askew coached fellow Hall of Fame member Gary Ward in both sports as well as two other members of the Hall of Fame.

Hines' 1938 team has the school's longest basketball win streak and went to the N.A.I.B. postseason tournament twice, finishing second during that glorious 1938 season. His overall record was 157-109 in hoops but that wasn't the whole story. He ran the football program for

11 years with a winning record of 56-34-10 between 1929 and 1939, with a trip to the Sun Bowl in 1939, where the Aggies played Hardin-Simmons to a 14-14 tie.

Henson is the only living honoree. His Final Four team of 1970 remains the crown jewel of NM State basketball lore. Henson took seven teams to the NAAs in two different stints as the Aggies' head coach. He is the winningest coach in NM State hoops history with 289 wins for the Crimson and White.

To leave the Henson story at that is a disservice to the man. His work in our town with various community organizations would by itself qualify him for Hall of Fame status. He was close friends with Askew, having played and learned from him as an undergrad in Las Cruces in the mid-1950s.

Woodson is the other honoree this weekend. His legacy in Aggie football remains unchallenged.

Over 10 years, his teams won 63 times, and he coached the "Golden Year" of 1960 when NM State went unbeaten in the regular season, beating Utah State in the Sun Bowl in 1960.

The Aggies all-pro backfield sprang from Woodson's direction. Charley Johnson, Bob Jackson, Pervis Atkins and Bob Gaiters all went on to play in the pros after that 1960 season.

These men set the foundation for the Doug Martins, the Kathy Rodolphs and the rest who have taught, led, laughed and cried Aggie sports.

Your chance to honor their memory is Saturday night.

Aggie women's tennis lauded for academics

NMSU netters tennis excel in the classroom



Ivan Fernandez
Women's Tennis
Head Coach

I have been looking forward to the opportunity to express how proud I am of my women's tennis team. Not only have they been working very hard on the court, they have also been working hard in the classroom.

The student part of the title student athlete is too often overlooked. In collegiate tennis, student athletes are expected to practice and compete 20 hours per week as well as take a full load of classes. They also have to find time to study and have some sort of social life.

Tennis is one of the few sports that athletes tend to have the most success at an early age. Most of them, by the time they turn 18 years old, know if they will be able to have a career in professional tennis. Since a majority of them will not be able to make it, they turn to collegiate tennis for the opportunity to continue to play the sport they love as well as get an education.

In the last two years, the Aggie women's tennis team has been recognized as an All-American and WAC Academic Team as well as having eight Scholar Athletes with GPAs above a 3.5.

Also, the last two years, the entire team has been named to the New Mexico State Crimson and White

Academic Society, and received the 2012 Scholar Athlete Athletic Director's Academic Award as well as the 2012 Governor's Academic Award for having the highest grade point average of all of the sports teams at NM State with a 3.53.

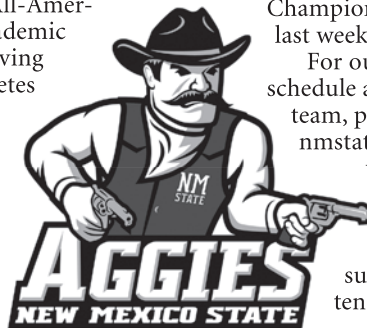
The team came back to school this fall with the added pressure of living up to having the highest GPA of all the sports on campus. Knowing that we were the team that all of the other sports were trying to catch, they stepped up to the challenge. They finished the fall semester with a team 3.84 GPA, including five perfect 4.0s. This gave us an overall cumulative team GPA of 3.6. This was an improvement over last year's team average.

I am extremely proud of how the team has really committed to taking care of their academics as well as their tennis.

On the court, the Aggie women's tennis team is gearing up for matches versus UTEP at 2 p.m. Friday, March 15, at the Aggie Tennis Center as well as preparing for our WAC matches.

This is the first year tennis in the WAC has had a mandatory full-conference schedule, and we are looking forward to playing every team in the conference before finishing the season at the WAC Championships in Denver the last week of April.

For our full home match schedule and to meet the team, please visit www.nmstatesports.com, and we look forward to having you come out to the Aggie Tennis Center to support the Aggies' tennis teams.



Upcoming

In Aggie Athletics

Friday, March 8 Women's Tennis

Western New Mexico
Las Cruces
2 p.m.

Softball

UC Davis/Pittsburgh
Tempe, Ariz.
11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Baseball

La Salle
Las Cruces
6 p.m.

Saturday, March 9 Men's Basketball

UT Arlington
Las Cruces
7 p.m.

Women's Basketball

UT Arlington
Arlington, Texas
5 p.m.

Softball

Notre Dame/Arizona State
Tempe, Ariz.
11:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Baseball

La Salle
Las Cruces
3 and 7 p.m.

Men's Tennis

New Mexico
Albuquerque
Noon

Sunday, March 10 Women's Tennis

Tarleton State
Las Cruces
10 a.m.

Men's Tennis

DePaul
Albuquerque
10 a.m.

Softball

Notre Dame
Tempe, Ariz.
11:30 a.m.

Baseball

La Salle
Las Cruces
1 p.m.

Aggie student-athlete spotlight



Ryan Beck
Senior
Baseball

Starting left-handed pitcher Ryan Beck made two appearances, finishing with a 1-0 record and a 3.38 ERA. Beck got the start in the series finale at Wake Forest and pitched

6.0 innings, striking out seven. He retired 11 of 12 batters from the second through fifth innings.



Kelsie Rozendaal
Redshirt senior
Women's basketball

In her final home game as an Aggie, redshirt senior forward Kelsie Rozendaal tallied 15 points and seven rebounds in the loss to Denver. She went 6-of-7 from the floor and 3-of-6

at the free-throw line. Rozendaal now has 10 games in double digits.



Celisha Walker
Junior
Softball

Junior right-handed pitcher Celisha Walker made four appearances over the weekend with a 0.00 ERA. She worked 12.1 innings in the circle and picked up her first

save of the season in the 2-0 win over Weber State. She recorded six strikeouts and allowed just one unearned run.

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THE LAS CRUCES
Bulletin

Cooper lays down trail for Gemini, Apollo programs

Astronaut flies spacecraft during re-entry



By **Michael Shinabery**
New Mexico Museum of Space History

Editor's note: This is part two of a two-part story.

Gordon Cooper's record-length mission took him one place no astronaut had yet traveled. That was "over Communist Chinese territory – the first U.S. spaceman to cross any Red country – on his 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th and final orbits," the United Press International news service reported. The Amarillo Daily News published the story on May 16, 1963.

Not long after achieving Earth orbit the day before, Cooper began initiating experiments aboard his capsule, Faith 7. Walter Williams, NASA's Mercury Flight Program operations chief, told the press that "after the third round trip that Cooper was performing all of his space experiments – designed to aid the longer Gemini and Apollo moon flights of the future – on schedule," UPI said, this in a story in the Tucumcari Daily News.

"Cooper's primary job was to manage his 'consumable' supplies – oxygen, water and electricity – and to report on his physical condition," Michael Cassutt wrote in "Who's Who in Space: The First 25 Years" (G.K. Hall & Co./1987). In addition, according to UPI, he "was to test further the effects of weightlessness on human beings."

One experiment did not work as expected. In the third orbit, Cooper "released a 10-pound sphere, about the size of a duckpin bowling ball, carrying two flashing lights," UPI said. "The idea was to see whether astronauts could easily spot beacons in the sky. Such beacons might be used to guide astronauts of the Gemini and Apollo programs

to other spacecraft in orbit." According to the story, Cooper "reported he was not immediately able to see the lights from the little ball traveling near him in space. In an effort to get a glimpse of them, he took over personal control of his Faith 7 cabin, swinging the craft around in space."

Cooper carried "a 10-pound television camera," UPI said, with which he "transmitted pictures of himself and the interior of his cabin." The images were sent to the Grand Canary Islands and then on to Cape Canaveral, and described "as fuzzy on home television." However, later that evening, NASA expected AT&T's Telstar 2 to be in position to transmit more "satisfactory" images. He was later scheduled to take pictures of the Pacific sunset, and "infrared weather photographs," The Associated Press reported in the Amarillo Daily News.

He was in his ninth orbit when NASA praised the flight as "almost textbook perfection," and he readied himself for a night's sleep, UPI said. By then, Cooper "had been awake for more than 18 hours except for a quick snooze he reported on one pass over California."

During the 19th orbit, an electrical glitch "falsely indicated" the automatic systems had begun re-entry, Cooper's NASA biography stated. The altitude and navigational instruments failed next. Loss of power to the automatic control followed.

"But to Gordo Cooper, trouble in flight was what they paid him to handle," Alan Shepard and Deke Slayton wrote in "Moon Shot" (Turner/1994). "Well, he called the flight controllers in his unmistakable (Oklahoma) twang, 'it looks like we've got a few little washouts here. Looks like we'll have to fly this thing ourselves.' ... This was the hoped-for payoff in the face of the NASA image makers who didn't want that redneck tooling about in space."

NASA recalculated re-entry and Cooper fired the retro-rockets. Temperatures of 3,000



NASA photo

Gemini V astronauts Pete Conrad and Gordon Cooper prepare for their flight by going through a simulation exercise on Aug. 13, 1965.

degrees during what the biography called a "fiery plunge ... ate away his heat shield."

"Faith 7 came out of space, rolling steadily, the Oklahoma boy flying with a precision that controllers mumbled was tighter than the autopilot had ever delivered," stated "Moon Shot." He splashed down only four miles from the recovery carrier, the biography said, proving "astronauts could save spacecraft."

When Cooper next flew, he commanded Gemini V in August 1965 with Pete Conrad. That mission made Cooper "the first man to make a second orbital flight," said jsc.nasa.gov, and he achieved another endurance record over the nearly eight days and 120 orbits.

However, Cooper's two NASA flights weren't his last. "In April 2007, two years after his death," according to nndb.com, his "cremated ashes were briefly rocketed into sub-orbital space, then returned to his family." A second attempt followed in August 2008, said abcnews.go.com. "When the rocket failed to

get to orbit, neither did the cremated remains, or, for that matter, some small satellites sent by NASA and the Department of Defense."

While the "satellites were lost," the company that arranges such flights, Celestis, "had a performance guarantee, which means it holds some ashes back just in case something goes horribly, terribly wrong," the story said. "Hence, a second chance."

That took place five years later, on May 22, 2012, when a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket once again carried Cooper ashes alongside more than "306 other people," abcnews.go.com said. One of his companions was no stranger to space, either: James Doohan, the Star Trek actor who portrayed Chief Engineer Montgomery "Scotty" Scott.

Michael Shinabery is an education specialist and Humanities Scholar with the New Mexico Museum of Space History. E-mail him at michael.shinabery@state.nm.us.



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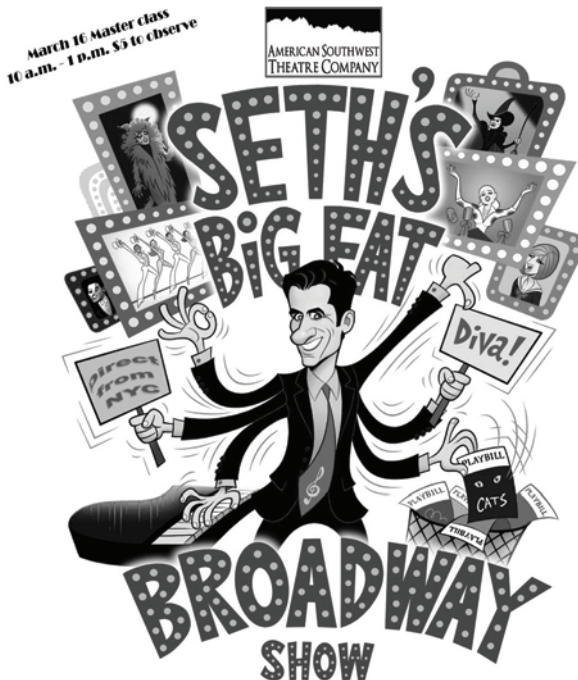
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Looking Back

This week in the history of the Mesilla Valley



Jim Hilley
Reflections

100 years ago

1913

• The Kimball Garage and the Borderland Garage were consolidated, and Mr. Kimball and Mr. Gurney could then be found at the Borderland Garage on Main Street.

• Fred Katzenstein returned from a six-week trip to England and France, where he visited Havre, Paris, Liverpool, London, Dover and Antwerp. Katzenstein said he was glad to be back in Las Cruces where “the wind never blows and the weather is like summer year round.”

• Henry Daily and William Mead were convicted of “defrauding” and sentenced to two to three years in the pen. “These are the men who buncoed John Engler out of \$300 in a shell game during the last fair,” the Las Cruces Citizen reported.

75 years ago

1938

• Mrs. Franke Burke, pioneer of Las Cruces and El Paso, was being honored at a reception, luncheon and family reunion at the home of her daughter, Mrs. L.R. Taylor, in El Paso. She came to Las Cruces with her husband 52 years earlier and lived for many years on her family

ranch in Mesilla Park, which was later sold to the Stuart family.

• The Las Cruces Bulldogs defeated Alamogordo 40-18, Deming 43-20 and Hatch 54-24 in the District Basketball Tournament, but fell in the championship game to Silver City 28-26.

50 years ago

1963

• The Boy Scouts of American National Court of Honor posthumously awarded a Certificate of Heroism to Daniel Ferralez in recognition of his action in saving the life of his brother, Michael, from drowning on July 15, 1962, while the family was on an outing at the Rio Grande. Ten-year-old Michael slipped into deep water and called for help. Daniel went to his aid with the assistance of an uncle. Michael was pulled to safety, but because of the swift current and sandy bottom, Daniel was pulled under and drowned. The certificate was presented to Daniel’s parents and a citation given to Boy Scout Troop 178 at a meeting of the Hermosa Heights PTA.

• The New Mexico State University golf team won its third tournament in a row as they beat the New Mexico Military Institute. Medaling for the Herb Wimberly-coached Aggies was Larry Beem.

25 years ago

1988

• The Las Cruces City Council approved a liquor license for American Legion Post No. 10 on Madrid Ave., despite opposition from



New Mexico State University Library Rio Grande Historical Collections photo

A survey crew poses for a picture on the Jornada Experimental Range in January 1934. The crew members are identified as “Asst. to Tech. Engholm, Valentine and Keller.”

neighborhood residents who said the post was too close to Apodaca Park.

• McCoy’s Lumber Co. held a lumber-cutting ceremony to officially open its new store on Valley Drive.

• Psychic Ian Bliss, who was bringing a psychic fair to Las Cruces, predicted Walter Mondale would be the next president and New Mexico

would amend its tax code to become more business friendly. Bliss said his premonitions had proven to be “100-percent accurate.” Bliss also said that “everyone was psychic,” and “If it wasn’t for speech, those powers would be much more developed.”

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

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

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Real food company experience offered

NMSU students run ACES in the Hole Foods

Students at New Mexico State University are bringing a taste of Italy to the Southwest by creating and selling unusual flavors of homemade gelato. The sweet treat is just one of a number of food projects emerging from a recently established program.

ACES in the Hole Foods is a student-run food company at NMSU and a part of the curriculum in Food Science and Technology, under the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences. It provides students with hands-on opportunities to apply the principles of food science and technology to the invention of new food products. Students in the program make and distribute homemade gelato from recipes they mix up themselves, among other food projects.

"The addition of ACES in the Hole Foods to the curriculum gives students the chance to develop the skills needed to translate those principles into the selection, processing, preservation, packaging, distribution and use of safe, high-quality foods," said Lisa McKee, Food Science and Technology professor.

McKee said when a new idea for a gelato flavor is presented, the students work together to figure out how it will be made. Some of the flavors created by the students include butter-nut squash, green chile lime sorbet, red chile pineapple sorbet, caramel apple, pecan pie and double dark chocolate.

"We try to stay away from the basic things that you could buy anywhere else," McKee said. "We want to make unique types of flavors."

When a recipe has been developed, the mixes are made by the students in advance and are placed in a refrigerator for 24 hours to age. After aging, the mix is frozen in an ice cream freezer and is then ready for sale.

"We have to do a lot of planning to make it work," McKee said. "Since they only go to class

twice a week it can be difficult."

The company began operating as a class in October and since developed 25 different flavors of gelato. The students have begun selling homemade brownie mix, as well.

"We have had some kinks and bumps in the road, but we are not in bad shape," McKee said. "We have done some selling and started working on the basics of how a company runs. It was a learning experience for all of us."

Within the company, students are placed in different groups that all help in the process of running ACES in the Hole Foods. The groups include production, quality control, sanitation and marketing. McKee said part of the student's job in the company is to create new products.

"Descriptions for many food science and technology jobs, even those that are entry-level, often require one or two years of experience," McKee said. "ACES in the Hole Foods give students that job experience."

Every semester students will be placed into different groups, so by the time they graduate they will have experienced the different roles in the company.

"Since students change jobs within the company each semester, it gives them perspective on how the different parts of a food company fit together and how an entire food company operates," McKee said. "It also allows them a chance to experience the different areas which will hopefully help them focus on one or more areas of interest when they begin looking for an industry job."

The Food Science and Technology program is designed to give students a solid background in diverse scientific disciplines, as well as the core food science and technology disciplines, including food microbiology, food analysis, food chemistry, food preservation, product

development and sensory evaluation. These two components give students the principles needed to understand the nature, deterioration and processing of foods.

Before ACES in the Hole Foods began operating as a food company, McKee and several students developed a chile brownie mix for the NMSU Chile Pepper Institute to sell. This semester, McKee said the students are working on a blue cornbread dry mix.

McKee said she hopes this semester the students will be able to tour other food companies in order to get a better idea how a food company runs.

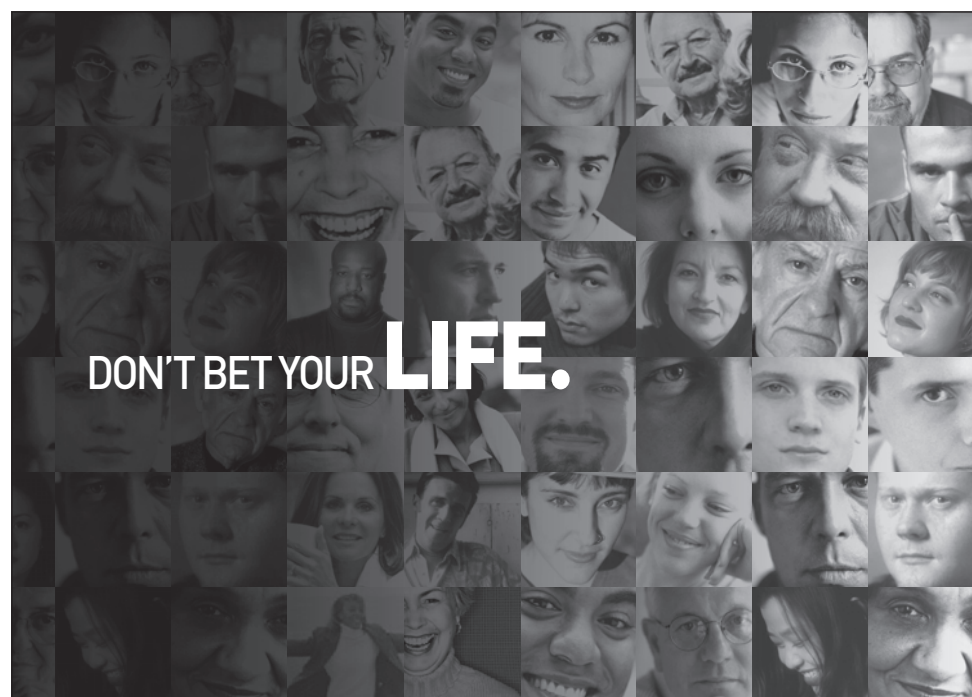
"It's evolving over time just like a regular company does," McKee said. "We are just starting from scratch."

ACES in the Hole Foods is located at Gerald Thomas Hall 332 and is open from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Tuesday and Friday. For more information on ACES in the Hole Foods, contact McKee at 646-1182 or lmckee@nmsu.edu.



New Mexico State University photo

A Food Science and Technology student makes gelato for ACES in the Hole Foods, a student-run food company at New Mexico State University that is part of the curriculum.



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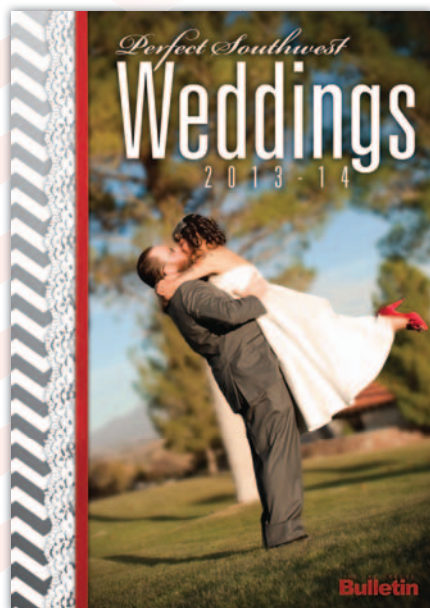
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SeniorActivities



SENIOR PROGRAMS

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

Munson Center offers a variety of classes at beginning, intermediate and advanced levels. Some classes offered are: beginning jewelry, clay works, china painting, stained glass, creative writing, Spanish, woodcarving and quilting.

For registration information, call 528-3000.

AARP DRIVER SAFETY PROGRAM

AARP Driver Safety Program courses are open to drivers age 55 or older. A certificate issued upon successful completion of the four-hour course may qualify the participant for a discount on insurance, depending on the driver's insurance policy. Cost is \$12 for AARP members and \$14 for nonmembers, paid at the door the day of class.

Participants need to bring their driver's license, a pen or pencil and correct change if paying with cash. AARP members must bring their membership cards to receive the discount.

Classes are held on a first-come, first-served basis.

The next available classes are:

- 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday,

March 16, at the Radium Springs Community Center, 12060 Lindbeck Road. Bring a sack lunch and snacks.

- 9:30 to 1:30 p.m. Saturday, March 23, Southwest Senior Lifestyle Expo, Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave., (Expo admission is \$3 donation.)

For more information, visit www.aarp.org or call 505-830-3096.

THE VOYAGERS TRAVEL CLUB

The Voyagers Travel Club is open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St.

Trips currently being booked include:

- **Tucson/Tubac/Major league baseball spring training game:** March 26-28. Cost: \$390 double, \$425 single.
- **Lake Lucero day trip:** March 30. Cost is \$32.
- **Santa Fe Turquoise Trail:** April 10-12. Cost: \$280 double, \$310 single.
- **San Antonio:** May 5-11, seven days, six nights. Cost: \$620 double, \$800 single.
- **Eastern Mediterranean Cruise:** June 15-23, nine days, eight nights. Call for details.
- **Niagara Falls/Toronto:** Sept. 23-26, four days, three nights. Cost: \$1,647

double, \$1,972 single. For more information, call Helen Glover at 805-4920 or 312-6152.

AEROBICS

Have fun and move to the music through a variety of exercises designed to increase muscular strength, range of movement and activity. Hand-held weights, elastic tubing with handles and a ball are offered for resistance; a chair is used for seated and/or standing support.

Classes are from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at Meerscheidt Recreation Center, 1600 E. Hadley Ave.

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

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 at the Las Cruces Regional Aquatic Center, 1401 E. Hadley Ave.

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

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 registered Senior Program members.

ZUMBA GOLD

Zumba Gold modifies Zumba moves and pacing to suit the needs of active older participants. It's a dance-fitness class that feels friendly and, most of all, fun.

Classes are from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays at Meerscheidt Recreation Center, 1600 E. Hadley Ave.

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

CARDIO, CORE & MORE

The core muscle group is often referred to as your "trunk" and involves all of the muscles surrounding the trunk. A weak core can contribute to lower-back pain, poor posture and loss of balance.

Basic classes are from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Mondays and Wednesdays at Las Cruces Regional Aquatic Center, 1401 E. Hadley Ave.

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

TAI CHI CLASS

Tai Chi class is from 3 to 4 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays

and Fridays at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St., in the auditorium.

SUPER SENIORS WATER AEROBICS

Super Seniors Water Aerobics are from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at the Las Cruces Regional Aquatic Center, 1401 E. Hadley Ave. The class is available only to seniors age 60 and older. A \$1 donation is suggested.

FREE TAX PREPARATION

The AARP and the Community Action Agency free tax preparation is available from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 8:30 a.m. to noon Friday through April 12 at 3880 Foothills Road. Tax preparation is also available from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday. There are no eligibility requirements.

For more information, call 527-8799.

SWINGING DANCERS

The Swinging Dancers will meet at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 9, at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St. Couples, individuals and guests are welcome, light refreshments will be provided. Entertainment will be provided by Mark Coker. Doors open at

6:30 p.m., dancing is from 7 to 9 p.m. Cost is \$6.

For more information, call 523-1871.

TAI CHI FOR BETTER BALANCE

"Tai Chi: Moving for Better Balance" classes are from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. each Tuesday and Thursday at the Frank O'Brien Papan Community Center, 304 W. Bell Ave.

The free program includes 24 Tai Chi forms that emphasize weight shifting, postural improvements and better balance, and is taught by accredited Tai Chi instructors from New Mexico State University's Department of Human Performance, Dance and Recreation. Wear comfortable clothes and shoes.

For more information, or to sign up, contact Phillip Catanach at 541-2550 or pcatanach@las-cruces.org.

THE NETWORK VOLUNTEER CENTER

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

Individuals 55 or older may be enrolled in the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) and receive free, supplemental volunteer insurance while on the job.

For more information, contact 528-3035 or thenetwork@las-cruces.org.

CONGRESS EXPANDS AC TAX CREDITS

WHAT CONGRESS ENABLED

In January Congress extended the Bush Tax cuts and expanded the tax credits for super efficient air conditioning. For homeowners who pay income tax, this means you can now have your complete refrigerated air conditioning system replaced for a net cost of \$511 (upgrading from evaporative cooling costs a little more). This includes up to 5 tons of refrigerated air conditioning, a new gas furnace, all the labor, permits, tax, etc. This sounds "too good to be true," but you can Google and read the "American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012" for yourself (see Title IV section).

ELECTRICITY SAVINGS

Over 90% of refrigerated air conditioners are operating at an Energy Efficiency Rating (EER) of less than 8. Like higher miles per gallon for a car means you will pay less for gas, a higher EER means you will pay less for electricity. For most homes in Doña Ana County, a new geothermal refrigerated air system (EER 16) will cut your electric cooling cost in half.

NEW WARRANTY

Most refrigerated air system warranties expire after 5 years, before annual maintenance and service costs increase. So after ~8 years of use, as major components like compressors go out, it is usually better to replace the system than to repair it. But a traditional replacement can be from seven to twelve thousand dollars during the summer. These super efficient, incentivized systems include 10 year warranties, and 2 years service at no additional charge.

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

The government likes carbon credits provided by renewable energy like geothermal heat pumps. Replacing a single 5 ton refrigerated air system with geothermal refrigerated air equates to the pollution reduction of taking 13 cars off the road. Efficiency Power will buy the renewable credits (RECs) and provide all the paperwork for your tax credits and financing.

HOW IT WORKS

You know how a basement stays cooler all summer? The geothermal system runs refrigerant lines through the ground to use the earth's coolness to refrigerate your home with 30% to 60% less electricity than traditional refrigerated air. Most homes have adequate space beside their home for the 25' x 2' trench, which is hand dug to minimize installation impact. The cooling is very stable with good indoor humidity control so that your home is not "over dried" in the summer. This is why geothermal refrigerated air provides the best indoor comfort, and you can control it from a smart phone if you want to.

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You must: 1) Own the home, 2) Pay New Mexico income tax, 3) Generally have family income above \$50K, and 4) Meet GE Capital's credit requirement. Qualified persons may pay \$0 down, GE's minimum payments, and 0% interest until you get your tax credit money back.

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MVEDA update



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Alta LeCompte
Davin Lopez, president/CEO of the Mesilla Valley Economic Development Alliance (MVEDA), gave a mid-year update on MVEDA's activities during the Business in the Borderplex luncheon Tuesday, March 5, at La Posta de Mesilla. Lopez said MVEDA is well ahead of last year in the number of leads generated, but is lagging in prospects who have actually visited.

HTC meeting set

Consortium meets March 15

The High Tech Consortium (HTC) of Southern New Mexico will have its annual membership meeting from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, March 15, at Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces, 705 S. Telshor Blvd.

William Hett-Dobricky of Doña Ana Community College will discuss the Procurement Technical Assistance Program (PTAP) and the services and programs offered to small businesses in Doña Ana and Sierra counties.

Scott Bryant, president of the Nano-Network of New Mexico, will discuss micro- and nanotechnology commercialization, current trends in nanotechnology and the opportunities for southern New Mexico.

Bryant will introduce the NanoTox Academy, together with the Bioscience Center, and will discuss the Western Region Nanotechnology OEHS Mini Boot Camp.

Meetings are open to the public and free.

For more information, contact Terry Jack at 522-3868 or terry@imac.us.com.

NMSU Board of Regents to meet

Monday meeting set at Educational Service Center

The New Mexico State University Board of Regents will meet at 9 a.m. Monday, March 11, in the Regents Room of the Educational Services Center on the Las Cruces campus.

A closed executive session will be held at 7:30 a.m. in Room 2 of the Educational Services Center on the Las Cruces campus to discuss personnel, real estate and legal matters in accordance with sections 10-15-1 H (2), (7) and (8) of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act.

Copies of the agenda for the regular meeting will be available at NMSU Zuhl Library, Las Cruces, not less than 24 hours prior to the meeting, and also will be posted on the university website at www.nmsu.edu/boardofregents/agenda.html.

The board of regents meeting will be available through webcast. Anyone interested can access the link at <http://panopto.nmsu.edu/bor>.

Any individual with a disability who is in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the meeting may contact the Office of the Regents' Chief of Staff at 646-2356 as soon as possible.

Public documents, including the agenda and minutes, can be provided in various accessible formats. Contact the Office of the Regents' Chief of Staff at 646-2356 if a summary or other type of accessible format is needed.

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DEATH NOTICES

SAENZ

Socorro Franco Saenz, 79, of Las Cruces, New Mexico, entered eternal life Sunday, March 3, 2013 at his home surrounded by his loving family.

Those left to mourn his passing include his loving wife of fifty-five years, Elena Miranda Saenz of the family home; four daughters; Socorro Saenz-Lobato, Hilda Paz, Yolanda Baca and Laura Meraz; five siblings, eleven grandchildren and one great-grandchild, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Recitation of the Rosary will begin at 7 p.m., Friday, March 8, 2013 in Baca's Chapel of Prayer, 300 E. Boutz Road. The Holy Mass of Resurrection will begin at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, March 9, 2013 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine and Parish, 3600 Parroquia Street in Tortugas, New Mexico, with the Reverend Richard Catanach officiating. The Rite of Committal and Interment will follow at Tortugas Cemetery where he will lay to rest.

Service arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Baca's Funeral Chapels of Las Cruces. 575-527-2222.

BRIZUELA

Jaime Brizuela, 49, of Las Cruces, New Mexico, entered eternal life Friday, March 1, 2013 at La Posada - Mesilla Valley Hospice. Jaime worked at Wal-Mart as a stocker for many years, and was a member of the Roman Catholic Church.

Those left to mourn his passing include his loving companion, Olga Ramirez, and his step-son, Nathan, both of Las Cruces.

At his request cremation will take place and a Memorial Service will be held at 6 p.m., Thursday, March 7, 2013 in the Peace Chapel of Baca's Funeral Chapels, 300 E. Boutz Road, with the Reverend Don Adamski officiating. Inurnment of cremains will be held at a later date.

Service arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Baca's Funeral Chapels and Sunset Crematory of Las Cruces. 575-527-2222.

GUEVARA

Erasmus P. Guevara, 83, of Las Cruces, New Mexico, died Wednesday, February 27, 2013. A visitation has been scheduled for Thursday, March 7, 2013 from 5 to 7 p.m., with a Prayer Vigil to follow at 7 p.m. in the Getz Funeral Home Chapel. The Funeral Liturgy will be on Friday, March 8, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Genevieve's Catholic Church with the Rite of Committal to follow at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens Cemetery.

Arrangements by Getz Funeral Home, corner of Solano and Bowman Ave. 575-526-2419

PACHECO

Manuel B. Pacheco, Sr., 78, of Las Cruces, New Mexico, died Wednesday, February 27, 2013.

Services have been held. Arrangements by Getz Funeral Home. 575-526-2419

CHAVEZ

Juanita D. Chavez, 75, of Las Cruces, New Mexico, entered eternal life Sunday, March 3, 2013 at La Posada - Mesilla Valley Hospice.

Services have been held. The Rite of Committal and Interment followed in Hillcrest Memorial Gardens Cemetery where she was laid to rest.

Entrusted to Baca's Funeral Chapels of Las Cruces. 575-527-2222 Your exclusive providers for "Veterans and Family Memorial Care." For online condolences log on to www.bacasfuneralchapelslascruces.com

MUNCRIEF

Betty Ann Muncrief, 75, lifelong resident of Las Cruces New Mexico, died Thursday, February 28, 2013 at her home. She was born May 28, 1937, in Canutillo, Texas.

A gathering of family and friends was held at the Eagle's Club.

At her request cremation will take place and her remains will be laid to rest next to her beloved husband Bill at Masonic Cemetery at a later date.

Arrangements by Getz Funeral Home and Getz Family Crematory corner of Solano and Bowman Ave., Las Cruces, NM 575-526-2419.

HANKS

Wardell Hanks, 96, of Las Cruces, New Mexico, died Thursday, February 28, 2013. Services have been held. Burial took place at Memory Gardens of the Valley, Santa Teresa, New Mexico where he was laid to rest.

Arrangements by Getz Funeral Home, corner of Solano and Bowman Ave. 575-526-2419

AGUILERA

Mary Lou Aguilera, 67, of Las Cruces, New Mexico, passed away on March 3, 2013 at Mesilla Valley Hospice surrounded by her family. Services have been held.

Arrangements are with Getz Funeral Home. 575-526-2419

TARIN

Gloria B. Tarin, 83, of Hatch, New Mexico passed away on Tuesday March 5, 2013 at Memorial Medical Center.

Services are pending with Getz Funeral Home and Getz Family Crematory. 575-526-2419

HALLER

Jozefa Haller, 91, of Las Cruces, New Mexico, passed away on February 23, 2013 at Cottonbloom Assisted Living Community.

She is survived by her son, Godehard Haller of Deming, New Mexico, and her daughter, Gisele Haller of Las Cruces.

A private Graveside Service will be held at St. Francis Memorial Cemetery in Columbus, New Mexico.

Memorial contributions may be sent to Mesilla Valley Hospice, 299 E. Montana, Las Cruces, NM 88005.

Arrangements entrusted to Baca's Funeral Chapels and Sunset Crematory of Las Cruces, 300 E. Boutz Road, 575-527-2222. For online condolences log on to www.bacasfuneralchapelslascruces.com

JIMENEZ

Azaliah D. R. Jimenez, 8 months, of Anthony, New Mexico passed away March 3, 2013 at Mesilla Valley Hospice surrounded by her family. Services have been held.

Arrangements are with Getz Funeral Home and Getz Family Crematory. 575-526-2419

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Conversations worth having



Alta LeCompte
Around the valley

Last week warmed my heart.

On Thursday evening, Bill Gates of Microsoft fame and New York City's millionaire mayor Michael Bloomberg described for television interviewer Charlie Rose their multi-billion dollar partnership to end polio on the planet.

The men are pouring their personal fortunes into immunizing children in the three remaining countries where the disease has not been defeated: Nigeria, Pakistan and Afghanistan.

They previously played a role in eradicating the disease in many other countries.

What they're doing is working.

But as Gates described their methodology and the importance of deadlines and measurements in ensuring the success of projects in business as well as philanthropy, it struck me that what they were doing is easy in comparison with what Randy Harris is doing in Las Cruces.

There was no disagreement about the nature of the polio problem and how to solve it.

Not so in Las Cruces, where Harris wades into an emotionally charged situation in which stakeholders don't agree on what the problem is, to say nothing of the solution.

That's heroic. And it's working.

I heard his story at the Las Cruces Green Chamber of Commerce First Friday event.

Harris told how The Great Conversation led to the evolution of Hope Village as a self-governing community with legal zoning and guided the transition of the Las Cruces Farmers & Crafts Market from city to vendor management.

The Great Conversation, he said, is "simply a circle of chairs" that form a safe place in which people can talk.

"Communities want to come together," Harris said. "The answers are there. We're not stupid. We can figure things out if we're given a format in which to do it, in which dialogue is free and open. I have unquestioned faith in us."

The Great Conversation is a three-year-old 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. The organization provides its services where requested in the community, but asks groups to pay if they can.

The Great Conversation currently is addressing emotionally charged issues

See **Conversations** on page B2

Chamber moves Downtown

Main Street will be temporary home

By **Alta LeCompte**
Las Cruces Bulletin

With hydraulic lift trucks on loan from the Dickerson Group and American Document Services, a band of volunteers will move the Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce into temporary quarters in Loretto Towne Centre this weekend.

The move is set to begin Friday, March 8 and continue Saturday, March 9.

The chamber's new home will be at 505 S. Main St., while the business-advocacy organization awaits a move to a new, permanent location at the historic Armijo House, just down the block at 150 E. Lohman Ave.

"It's exciting to move forward and get ourselves located Downtown, where we will be a part of the revitalization," chamber CEO Bill Allen said.

America's Best Care Inc., which has been operating out of a rented facility on North Main Street, bought the chamber building at 840 W. Picacho Ave. for an undisclosed sum.

"It's had a 'For Sale' sign on it for quite a while," said Allen, adding the sign on the single-story structure arrived long before he took the president and CEO job at the chamber in 2010.

See **Chamber** on page B2



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Alta LeCompte

The Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce is set to locate temporarily in Loretto Towne Center at 505 S. Main St., once the site of Safeway and JC Penney. A shopping hub during the decline of Downtown Main Street, the complex currently houses offices.

Sonic boom felt 'round the Valley

America's favorite drive-in celebrates 40 years in Las Cruces

By **David Salcido**
Las Cruces Bulletin

A lot can happen in 40 years.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, in 1973 there were an estimated 37,000 people living in Las Cruces, compared to an estimated 100,000 today. In 1973, a six-block stretch of the area around Main Street was being closed off to form a pedestrian "Downtown Mall," which has only recently been reopened to through traffic.

And on El Paseo Road, just south of Las Cruces High School, Bob and Betty Merritt and Barbara Stammer – known collectively as the Merritt Group – opened New Mexico's first Sonic Drive-In on March 27, 1973.

The decision was an easy one, according to Merritt Group CEO Barbara Stammer.

"Bob was looking for a new opportunity and thought a 1950s themed restaurant would fit in well," she said.

With its 1950s-style carhop concept, in which customers drove up to one of several covered parking lots, placed their orders through an intercom system and had their food served directly to their cars, Sonic Drive-in fit the bill perfectly. And timing, as they say, is everything.

A solid investment

In business since 1953, when an Oklahoma entrepreneur named Troy Smith opened the Sonic prototype in Shawnee, Okla., it wasn't until 1973 that the growing company restructured as a franchise company under the name Sonic Systems of America. By year-end, there



Owners Bob and Betty Merritt and Barbara Stammer celebrate 40 years in Las Cruces with Tad Benda, Louisa Martinez, Belen Holguin, Eddie Nevarez, Linda Skaggs, Claud Gamble, management and staff.

would be 200 Sonic Drive-ins across the United States, including No. 69 on the list, which is still owned by the same local entrepreneurs right here in Las Cruces.

Over the years, Sonic Systems of America continued to grow and expand until, in the late 1990s, the company underwent a major marketing shift in which it began to develop the Sonic brand without sacrificing its trademark appeal. Items were added to the menu that would differentiate it from other national fast food chains, including hot dogs, tater tots, a large variety of drinks and a line of ice cream desserts. The changes were eagerly received by

the American public and in 2005, Sonic opened its 3,000th drive-in.

But fast food convenience for a mobile market isn't the whole story where this company is concerned. Known for its national community giving programs, usually geared toward advancing education and academic opportunities, the company claims to have donated more than \$2.7 million since 2009. Here in Las Cruces, all five of the Sonic Drive-in locations are actively involved on a local basis, through the Sonic Community First Value Cards, according to Senior Marketing Director Donna Volz.

See **Sonic** on page B2

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Profile

Leslie Cervantes of GLCCC.....B7

Mixing 'N' Mingling

HCCLC unites businesses.....B10

Innoventure Winners

Budding entrepreneurs compete .B12

Chamber

Continued from page B1

He said the chamber outgrew the 1,900-square-foot Picacho Avenue structure, originally donated by the Las Cruces Lions in 1964.

Rescuing a local treasure

A \$2.3 million project is underway to restore the Armijo House, which is on both the New Mexico Register of Cultural Properties and the National Register of Historic Places, and to construct a new office building on the site.

Nestor Armijo acquired the home in 1877. The family added a second story, making it the first two-story adobe residence in New Mexico, Allen said.

Pioneer Bank bought Armijo House in 1982 and used it for offices until 1991. The building had tenants

for a number of years and then was essentially vacant and deteriorating for a decade.

The City of Las Cruces acquired the property from Citizens Bank, saving it from the wrecking ball.

Allen said a focus group in 2011 concluded it would be a good idea to try to save and rehabilitate the historic building.

"The consensus was this is a great spot and a great building," Allen said. "The house has historic significance for the business community and it's Downtown, where we want to be."

The Greater Las Cruces Chamber Foundation, in the quiet phase of a capital campaign, has raised 57 percent of the total needed.

Steven Silver of Philanthropic Services of the Southwest came on board Feb. 1 to work on the campaign, he said.

"He will be in town two days each week, splitting his time between face-to-face meetings and researching grant opportunities, which

Las Cruces Bulletin

should be a big part of the capital campaign," Allen said.

The public phase will kick off in March, he said, with a number of events to be held this year.

"Six months from now, we should be concluding the campaign and construction should be in full swing," Allen said.

A new vision for historic property

Architectural Resources Group, based in California, completed the historical research study last year.

"We will rehabilitate the house as it existed with a look and feel of 1914," Allen said.

He said researchers had found extensive documentation and photos of the house during that era.

"It represented the right time, when we go back and be pretty sure we got everything right," he said.

Allen smiled as he unrolled the exterior drawings for Armijo House, designed by Steve Newby Architects

& Associates of Las Cruces.

"It won't look exactly like this. This area that's green won't be grass," he said. "It will be a xeriscape."

Allen said two to three feet of water previously had gotten into the house, though it had not caused serious damage.

"The city mounded the dirt up at the park entrance in 2011 so water would not get in any more," he said. "We disabled the sprinkling system and trenched a little to take away water when it runs off the roof."

The signature architectural element of the home, a two-story balcony, will be restored to its period look using durable modern materials, Allen said.

Interior moves back in time

Inside, the structure will be altered to return it to its 1914 look, removing several walls on the first floor. The space will include a

Friday, March 8, 2013

museum area housing art and furniture the Armijo and Colligan families are donating.

Two offices will be located upstairs in the historic home, while the remainder of chamber offices will be in a new building designed to be compatible with the house.

Available space in both buildings will total about 6,000 square feet.

The new 3,500-square-foot building will house a library with resources for local businesses, a high-tech board room and committee meeting rooms.

Allen explained that because of the historic designation accorded the house, the new building must be entirely detached from it. It will open onto an extensive area of pavers that can be used for community events.

"There will be a solar component and we will use energy efficient construction as much as we can," Allen said.

Sonic

Continued from page B1

"In addition, the drive-ins frequently host spirit nights which provide additional fundraising opportunities for surrounding schools," she said.

Looking back

By all accounts, the little franchise that could has come a long way, but the early years weren't without their problems. Rising inflation rates and higher gasoline prices, as a result of the Oil Crisis of 1973, made the concept of a drive-in restaurant seem impractical to some. In addition, the company lacked a system-wide advertising program until 1977, which meant that marketing had to be very "grassroots," with on-lot specials and vigorous canvassing of the surrounding neighborhoods.

Despite these issues, the Las Cruces franchise flourished. Popular from the start, according to Stammer, the little drive-in on El Paseo Road attracted a wide clientele and became a hang-out for students attending the nearby high school. It was so popular, in fact, that a second location was built in 1976 on north Valley Drive.

Then, in 1977, tragedy struck when the original Sonic Drive-in on El Paseo Road was ravaged by fire.

"It took about three months to reopen," Stammer said of the



The original Sonic Drive-in, located in Shawnee, Okla., opened in 1953.

devastating setback. "But the community was very supportive. We had the drive-in on Valley Drive that our customers supported. We even received cards taped to the old building."

That show of support helped solidify the franchise in Las Cruces and today, in addition to the locations at 1603 El Paseo Road and 930 N. Valley Drive, the Merritt Group operates Sonic Drive-ins at 1210 N. Solano Drive. (built in 1983), 2925 N. Main St. (built in 1990) and 3471 Foothills Drive (built in 1998),

along with several more throughout New Mexico, Colorado, Texas, Arizona and Nevada.

Celebrating growth

For many, Sonic Drive-ins represent a quick and tasty alternative to the family meal in a fast-paced world. For others, it means something more. Joining in the 40-year anniversary celebration will be Eddie Nevarez, general manager of the El Paseo location and a Sonic employee for 23 years; Claud Gamble, general manager of the north Valley location and Sonic employee for 17 years; Belen Holguin, general manager of the north Solano location and Sonic employee for 15 years; Louisa Martinez, general manager of the Foothills location and Sonic employee for 25 years and Linda Skaggs, general manager of the north Main location and Sonic employee for 32 years.

After 40 years of change and growth, not to mention exceptional employee loyalty, the Merritt Group is commemorating the opening of its first Sonic Drive-in with a weeklong celebration taking place Monday, March 11 through Saturday, March 16. The festivities will include daily 40-cent food specials and prize giveaways at all five Sonic locations, a 101 Gold FM radio remote at the El Paseo location from 1 to 3 p.m., Saturday, March 16 and a ribbon cutting ceremony at 2 p.m., Tuesday, March 12.

"We are very appreciative of all the support we have received over the years," Stammer said. "We look forward to continuing to serve our loyal Las Cruces customers for many more years to come."



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Conversations

Continued from page B1

that include the minimum wage and city impact fees dreaded by builders and developers.

Commenting on conversations around the impact fees, Harris said at the end of one get-together, a group of developers, Realtors and builders applauded the city council because the city had set up the dialogue.

A similar dynamic can develop within a business that opts to hold The Great Conversation.

Harris cited the experience of MountainView Market Co-op, which started holding The Great Conversation during the turmoil of an organizational change.

At first, employees just vented, but the dialogue shifted.

"When people are free to express themselves ... self-examination is a natural outcome. It's not therapy, but because it's not therapy, it's very therapeutic. It's not education. Because it's not education, it's very educational," Harris said.

Carrie Hamblen, executive director of the Green Chamber, and Councillor Miguel Silva both described The Great Conversation as a "magical moment" when

people on opposing sides begin to really talk and listen to each other, and mutual respect emerges.

Silva popped in at the First Friday event and shared his experience with the farmers market's journey from being 200-plus vendors to becoming its own nonprofit to manage the market.

"You can really see it in their meetings, the respect they now have for each other," he said.

He said Harris "brings out community conversations that are not happening but need to be."

I thought of lots of places where The Great Conversation could be helpful, from the Thanksgiving dinner table to the halls of Congress.

But The Great Conversation is staying here, with Harris and others pitching in to keep it rolling.

The First Friday session at the Green Chamber, it turns out, was a preview of an evening series the Green Chamber will sponsor this year.

Topics will include building local economies, meeting the triple bottom line of people, planet and profit and green energy.

If you're just plain curious, as I was, or want to explore the possibility of starting a Great Conversation in your workplace, look for an announcement.

And be prepared to be inspired.

By the Numbers



Building Las Cruces



Dunkin' Donuts

Las Cruces Bulletin photo by David Salcido

Construction continues on the Dunkin' Donuts, 2513 N. Main St. One of nine stores scheduled to be built in the El Paso and Las Cruces markets within five years, this first Las Cruces location is expected to open in late March.

Recent projects featured in Building Las Cruces

Publish date	Building	Address	Contact
March 1	Valley Vista Plaza	1451 S. Valley Drive	532-9779
Feb. 22	Genghis Grill	880 S. Telshor Blvd.	888-436-4447
Feb. 15	Renovations at Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces	705 S. Telshor Blvd.	522-4300
Feb. 8	IHOP	Turrentine and University avenues	522-8240
Feb. 1	City of Las Cruces Intermodal Transit Center	Southwest corner of Alameda Boulevard and Lohman Avenue	541-2500

Our numbers

1973 Prices

\$35,500

Average price of a new house

\$175

Average monthly rent

40 cents

Cost of a gallon of gas

33 cents

Cost of a pack of cigarettes

8 cents

Cost of a first class stamp

Source: www.thepeoplehistory.com and www.foodtimeline.org

Gas update

Monday, March 4

Average retail gasoline prices in New Mexico have **risen 0.9 cents** per gallon in the past week, **averaging \$3.45** per gallon. This compares with the national **average** that has **fallen 2.8 cents** per gallon in the last week to **\$3.70** per gallon.

New Mexico prices **Monday, March 4**, were **9.1 cents** per gallon **lower** than the same day one year ago and are **30.7 cents** per gallon **higher** than a month ago. The national **average** has **increased 21.6 cents** per gallon during the last month and stands **0.7 cents** per gallon **lower** than this day one year ago.

1. Sam's Club	2711 N. Telshor Blvd.	\$3.37
2. Bradley's	1260 El Paseo Road and 920 El Paseo Road	\$3.41
3. Murphy Express	1290 S. Valley Drive	\$3.41
4. Alon	825 Avenida de Mesilla	\$3.41
5. Valero	2695 W. Picacho Ave.	\$3.47

Source: www.newmexicogasprices.com, as of Monday, March 4

Adventure Travel Airfare Watch

FROM EL PASO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	LOWEST AVERAGE ONE-WAY FARE	CARRIER
Albuquerque	\$133.80	US Air
Atlanta	\$246.80	US Air
Austin	\$122.80	United
Chicago	\$233.80	US Air
Dallas-Love	\$127.80	US Air
Houston	\$138.30	US Air
Las Vegas	\$139.80	US Air
Los Angeles	\$139.80	American
Phoenix	\$145.90	US Air
San Antonio	\$69.80	United
New York City	\$143.80	American
Orlando	\$279.80	US Air
San Diego	\$156.80	US Air
Seattle	\$229.80	US Air
Washington, D.C.	\$211.80	American
London roundtrip	\$989.70	US Air
Paris roundtrip	\$3,879.70	US Air
Rome roundtrip	\$1,040.80	Delta

Source: Adventure Travel *Prices effective March 12 - 19*Restrictions apply* Holidays

Money

Comparing the U.S. dollar

Euro

\$1.30174 in U.S. dollars
0.76820 per U.S. dollar

Mexican Peso

\$0.07828 in U.S. dollars
12.77500 per U.S. dollar

Japanese Yen

\$0.01070 in U.S. dollars
93.44004 per U.S. dollar

Canadian Dollar

\$0.97320 in U.S. dollars
1.02754 per U.S. dollar

Source: www.msn.com, as of Monday, March 4



Market snapshot

For the week of Feb. 25 - March 1, the market reports:

Index	Started	Ended	Change	% Change	% YTD
DJIA	14000.57	14089.66	89.09	.6	7.5
Nasdaq	3161.82	3169.74	7.92	.3	5.0

Strong: Consumer staples, financials, health care

Weak: Energy, materials, utilities

Source: <http://briefing.com>

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City of Las Cruces Building Permit Report Feb. 24 - March 1

Las Cruces Home Builders Association

PERMIT NO.	PERMIT TYPE	OWNER	ADDRESS	CONTRACTOR	TOTAL FEE	VALUATION
20131080	REROOF	MULTIFAMILY MTG BRANCH	999 S. TELSHOR BLVD.	DJ WALKER CONSTRUCTION LLC	\$76	\$8,140
20131084	REROOF	ANTHONY HULBERT	959 RIO BRAVO WAY	A & A ROOFING INC.	\$67	\$6,667
20131086	REROOF	MARK & TESSIE MCGUFFIN	1009 SYCAMORE DRIVE	ERASMO'S ROOFING LLC	\$86	\$9,895
20131088	REROOF	RICHARD CURTIS FAMILY LLC	133 WYATT DRIVE, NO. 4	TRIBUTE DEVELOPMENT LLC	\$140	\$19,000
20131097	REROOF	MARIA E. SAMANIEGO & TRUSTEE	1644 CAPITAN AVE.	C. RENTERIA CONSTRUCTION	\$57	\$5,000
20131131	REROOF	ABRAHAM S. VASQUEZ	3303 OAK ST.	ANTHONY SOSA ROOFING & CONSTRUCTION	\$39	\$1,334
20131140	REROOF	ADAM P. & MAYTTE BUSTILLOS	3525 OTTAWA COURT	VENTURA BUILDERS	\$68	\$6,776
20131158	REROOF	ARCHIE L. & MANUELA D. CHAVEZ	4831 VISTA CUESTA	ALLSTATE ROOFING LLC	\$94	\$11,167
20131180	REROOF	BILL MARTINEZ /PRO PLUMBING	2125 BEX ST.	A & A ROOFING INC.	\$56	\$4,800
20131183	REROOF	WILLIAM D. & NAOMI B. MAXEY	2611 HILLRISE DRIVE	ALLSTATE ROOFING LLC	\$81	\$9,110
20131194	REROOF	TERRY D. EDWARDS	955 LAUREL ST.	ALLSTATE ROOFING LLC	\$97	\$11,751
20131203	REROOF	THOMAS R. & JANE M. TAYLOR	2186 BOISE DRIVE	CLAYTON DONNELLY ROOFING	\$65	\$6,250
20131090	RES NEW SINGLE FAMILY	LINDA LEIGH	925 MESQUITE ST.	PINETOP CONSTRUCTION	\$2,013	\$131,200
20131103	RES NEW SINGLE FAMILY	STEVE GUERRA & JOSE DE JESUS	4329 TEWA COURT	STEVE GUERRA & JOSE DE JESUS	\$4,809	\$229,436
20131130	RES NEW SINGLE FAMILY	P I HOLDINGS NO. 1 INC.	4114 SANTIAGO WAY	HAKES BROTHERS CONSTRUCTION LLC	\$4,707	\$169,740
20131133	RES NEW SINGLE FAMILY	HUNT DOS LADOS LLC	3942 AGUA DE VIDA	GL GREEN AND ASSOCIATES	\$2,987	\$192,864
20131146	RES NEW SINGLE FAMILY	BPS LLC	4715 MESITA ST.	DR HORTON CRUCES CONSTRUCTION INC.	\$3,849	\$135,956
20131147	RES NEW SINGLE FAMILY	VELOZ HOMES INC.	4128 BENISA PLACE	HAKES BROTHERS CONSTRUCTION LLC	\$4,737	\$152,274
20131168	RES NEW SINGLE FAMILY	HUNT DOS LADOS LLC	3917 AGUA DE VIDA	SUMMIT DEVELOPMENT	\$2,960	\$176,628
20131169	RES NEW SINGLE FAMILY	HUNT DOS LADOS LLC	3918 AGUA DE VIDA	SUMMIT DEVELOPMENT	\$2,923	\$154,980
20131171	RES NEW SINGLE FAMILY	GL GREEN & ASSOCIATES LLC	980 FLORA VISTA DRIVE	SOUTHWEST AIR SYSTEMS INC.	\$4,691	\$160,392
20131089	RESIDENTIAL ADDITIONS	JOSE A. & GRISELDA VARELA	1235 PALMER ROAD	VALLEY VIEW	\$64	\$37,392
20131114	RESIDENTIAL ADDITIONS	ARMANDO H. AND ESTHER F. ZERTUCHE	1051 KENNEDY ROAD	ZERTUCHE BUILDERS	\$229	\$38,000
20131149	RESIDENTIAL ADDITIONS	JULIE PONCE	1700 N ALAMEDA BLVD.	ALLIED CONSTRUCTION	\$146	\$20,000
20131087	ROCKWALL	FIRST AMERICAN BANK	4321 TEWA COURT	SPIRIT VIEW HOMES	\$199	\$3,978
20131107	ROCKWALL	SONOMA RANCH EAST II LLC	4329 CALLE SONESTA	SOUTHERN COMFORT BUILDERS	\$98	\$1,960
20131108	ROCKWALL	SONOMA RANCH EAST II LLC	4350 DEL PRADO WAY	SOUTHERN COMFORT BUILDERS	\$129	\$2,577
20131122	ROCKWALL	CARL T. & LINDA A. GLEASMAN	4607 CAMINO DOS VIDAS	HARD HAT CONSTRUCTION LLC	\$73	\$1,450
20131145	ROCKWALL	BPS LLC	4677 RIMROCK DRIVE	E AND R CONTRACTORS	\$125	\$2,499
20131150	ROCKWALL	SONOMA RANCH NORTH LLC	4260 NORTHRISE DRIVE	EVERGREEN LLC	\$755	\$15,092
20131153	ROCKWALL	GL GREEN & ASSOCIATES LLC	1027 CALLE CONTENDO	SOUTHERN COMFORT BUILDERS	\$45	\$906
20131159	ROCKWALL	DANIEL SILVESTRE RIVERA	1505 SMITH AVE.	DANIEL SILVESTRE RIVERA	\$250	\$5,000
20131188	ROCKWALL	HUNT DOS LADOS LLC	3917 AGUA DE VIDA	E AND R CONTRACTORS	\$88	\$1,764
20131197	ROCKWALL	MISSION SANTA CLARA LLC	1949 VILLA NAPOLI LOOP WEST	SPIRIT VIEW HOMES	\$47	\$931

* Information provided by LCHBA from information provided by City of Las Cruces and Doña Ana County permit offices

Briefs

Local insurance broker certified



DORBANDT

Gilda Dorbandt of the 'N Compass Group, an organization specializing in Health Insurance and Employee Benefits, has qualified as PPACA (Health Care Reform) certified by the National Association of Health Underwriters (NAHU).

This certification was developed by experts in both PPACA and employment law. The 10-hour course ensures that Dorbandt as an insurance broker understands the key technical components of PPACA and is better prepared to counsel her clients on upcoming required health care changes and new options and requirements for health plans.

The PPACA certification course is a certification of expertise in the provisions and implementation of health care reform.

Green Chamber seeking nominations for LCGCC board of directors

Since formally organizing in 2010, the Las Cruces Green Chamber of Commerce has grown significantly. As part of that growth, the chamber is currently seeking nominations from its membership for board members.

"If you are interested in serving on a board

that believes in the power of the Triple Bottom Line – that investing in people, protecting our air, land and water and promoting profit through sustainable business practices will build a thriving community for today and for generations to come, then we want you," said Executive Director Carrie Hamblen.

In order to be considered for board participation, the applicant must be a member in good standing and up to date on membership dues. For an application, or answers to questions, contact Hamblen at carrie@nmgreencamber.com. Applications will be accepted through Monday, March 11.

Small Business Development Center announces workshops

The Small Business Development Center in Las Cruces has scheduled the following workshops for March:

- **Social media and your business:** How to leverage social media to increase sales using social media in today's markets is imperative to becoming a competitive business owner, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Thursday, March 14
- **How to get a business loan:** Experienced loan officer will discuss what it takes to successfully obtain a business loan, 9 to 11 a.m. Thursday, March 21
- **Getting and keeping customers:** A discussion of target marketing, ways to attract customers, and customer service, 2 to 4 p.m. Thursday, March 21
- **How to start a business:** Learn how to start a business safely and legally with emphasis

on New Mexico regulations and licenses, 9 to 11 a.m. Friday, March 29

All workshops are free at the DACC Workforce Center, 2345 E. Nevada Ave. (between Walnut Street and Triviz Drive), Room 101A. For more information, call 527-7676.

Employment Extravaganza Fair to be held March 13

The New Mexico State University

Employment Extravaganza Fair will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, March 13, in Corbett Center Student Union on the first floor. This year's event is a venture to unite the students of NMSU with employers in the state of New Mexico and regionally. Students may distribute résumés to participating employers and learn about career opportunities for current and future positions.

Freshmen through alumni are invited to participate. For more information, contact Career Services at 646-1631.

Save the date

FRI. 3/8

1 p.m. Ribbon cutting for United Way, 255 E. Idaho Ave., Suite 24. For more information, call the Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce at 524-1968.

5 p.m. Ribbon cutting for United RV Sales, 120 S. Water St. For more information, call 528-2800.

5 p.m. Ribbon cutting for Mountain View Market Kitchen, 700 Stern Drive. For more information, call the Las Cruces Green Chamber of Commerce at 323-1575.

TUE. 3/12

2 p.m. Ribbon cutting for Sonic Drive-in 40th Anniversary, 1603 El Paseo Road. For more information, call 524-8998.

8 a.m. & 5:30 p.m. Las Cruces Academy Open House, 1755 Avenida de Mercado, Mesilla. For more information, call 521-9384.

THU. 3/14

9 a.m. - 11 a.m. Social Media and Your Business workshop, Doña Ana Community College Workforce Center, 2345 E. Nevada Ave. Free. For more information, call 527-7676.

SAT. 3/16

11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Gracie Barra Las Cruces Grand Opening, 421 Avenida de Mesilla. Give-aways throughout the day. Seminar by multi-BJJ World Champion Roberto "Tussa" Alencar. For more information, call 523-1404.



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Alta LeCompte

NMSU's Jim Peach grabs the mic to comment on his gift of a made-in-China cap to fellow economist Eugenio Alemán of Wells Fargo, who shared the podium with him at the 2013 Economic Outlook forum Feb. 21. At far right is Dean Garrey Carruthers.

Mini-debates break out following the presentation, with Peach expressing his opinion to Donald Leslie of the High Tech Consortium of Southern New Mexico.

State economy sputters

Job growth in U.S. trails previous decade

By **Alta LeCompte**
Las Cruces Bulletin

Economists Eugenio Alemán of Wells Fargo and Jim Peach of the New Mexico University College of Business told the Economic Outlook forum at NMSU, the economy should continue to grow at the tepid rate of 1 1/2 percent at least through 2013.

At the second annual event Feb. 21 pairing the two experts, Alemán gave the national outlook, while Peach focused on the state economy.

Peach said the New Mexico economy has "flatlined."

"We lost nearly 3,000 jobs statewide in 2012," he said. "Education and health are the only sectors growing. In 2012, the rate of increase dropped considerably."

On a more optimistic note, he said there are some indications the housing sector in Albuquerque may be showing signs of recovery."

New Mexico wastes a lot of time arguing about the corporate tax rate, Peach asserted.

"I wish we'd get rid of it altogether," he said. "It accounts for only 4 to 5 percent of state revenue."

Although he declared the corporate tax insignificant, he said the state's personal income as a percentage of U.S. personal income is a

real and chronic that must be addressed.

He expressed concern that 25 percent of New Mexico employment is with government.

"It is actually a lot larger because a lot of people work for companies under direct contact to government agencies. The government is not likely to lead us out of recession in New Mexico. In fact, things could get pretty nasty," he said referring to the possible impact of anticipated government cuts on the state economy.

Federal dollars officially make up 12.8 percent of state GDP, he said, but the percentage rises to 36 percent if direct payments to individual are included.

Alemán said the overall potential negative consequences of sequestration have been overestimated, as the are only 2.5 percent of government spending.

The problem, he said, is the impact of sequestration is "not the same for all states."

Assessing the current state of the U.S. economy, Alemán said the growth rate is half what it was in the previous decade.

"We will still experience growth at the rate of 1 1/2 percent in 2013 as we did in 2012," he said. "It takes the economy five years to recover the level of job loss we experienced. We have recovered 6 of the 9 million jobs we lost. We haven't recovered the rest of the 9 million

because the number of state and local government jobs has dropped."

He said every sector except government has experienced growth in the recovery to date.

Alemán noted only 13 percent of U.S. government employment is federal, while the states employs 23 percent of government workers and localities 64 percent.

"The biggest issue in the economy today is the economy is having trouble hiring workers," he said, "3.7 percent is the unemployment for college graduates. If you want a job, you can get a job. Of course, you might have to go to North Dakota and you might have to have an engineering degree."

He said if the trend continues wage inflation is possible in the future.

Alemán said the Federal Reserve will continue to print money until at least the first half of 2015 and interest rates will remain near zero.

"My biggest concern is the Federal Reserve balance sheet going up, with the potential for a monetary tsunami," Alemán said.

He said housing is one of the best sectors today.

"The only complaint I hear from real estate brokers is that are not enough homes for sale,"

he said.

"Cash purchases are pushing it up," he said. "The Chinese are invading California, Canadians are invading Arizona, the Mexicans are invading Texas – again – and the Brazilians and French Canadians are invading Miami."

Existing home prices and housing starts have started to climb, Alemán said.

The country is starting to see a small increase in mortgage lending, he said, but unemployment is still high, and people can't save for a down payment.

He said, however, the United States may already be creating the next housing bubble, because mortgage rates have been kept so low for so long.

"We still have the largest manufacturing economy in the world," he said. "The difference is we no longer use workers."

Alemán said the current global economy poses decision making challenges for U.S. consumers.

"Fords are made in Mexico and Toyotas are made in North Carolina. Ford's money goes to Mexican workers and American management. Toyota's money goes to American workers and Japanese management. It's not an easy decision."

“The government is not likely to lead us out of recession in New Mexico.”

JIM PEACH,
economist

Second chances for nonprofits

U.S. Department of Labor announces competitive grants for job training programs

The U.S. Department of Labor announced Feb. 28 the availability of approximately \$32 million through two grant competitions that will offer job training, education and support services to formerly incarcerated youths and women.

"We are a country that believes in second chances," said acting Secretary of Labor Seth D. Harris. "Job training offers opportunities to learn skills and reshape lives. The grants will provide critical support for women and young people who are eager for employment and a productive role in their communities."

The department will award a total of \$20 million to four organizations to operate programs that work with juvenile offenders and youths at risk of becoming juvenile offenders in high-poverty, high-crime communities. Each organization may submit only one application for a grant of up to \$5 million.

Additionally, the department will award a total of \$12 million to eight organizations to provide job training for formerly

incarcerated individuals of all ages that leads to industry-recognized credentials.

Mentoring and assistance connecting to supportive services such as housing, substance abuse and mental health treatment, and assistance with parenting and child reunification, also will be available to participants. These grants are designed to expand opportunities for both youths and adults who demonstrate characteristics most common to female former offenders. However, services must also be open to eligible formerly incarcerated males. Each organization may submit only one application for a grant of up to \$1.5 million.

"Expanding access to job training programs and educational opportunities is a proven strategy for reducing recidivism and preventing crime," said Attorney General Eric Holder. "By supporting efforts to help formerly incarcerated women and young adults rebuild their lives – and become productive, law-abiding members of their communities – the departments of Justice and Labor are making good on our shared commitment to improving outcomes and ensuring public safety."

Reintegrating formerly incarcerated individuals is a government-wide effort supported by the Federal Interagency Re-entry Council. Chaired by the U.S. Department of Justice, the council brings together numerous federal agencies to advance

policies and programs to make communities safer, assist individuals returning to communities from prison or jail in becoming productive taxpaying citizens, and save taxpayer dollars by lowering the direct and collateral costs of incarceration.

Any nonprofit organization with 501(c)(3) status that meets the requirements of the solicitation may apply. The solicitations for grant applications, which include information about how to apply, are available at www.grants.gov.

GREAT COUNTRY MORNINGS



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Technicolor on Main Street

2013 Avenue Art welcomes painters April 27

Carrie LaTour

Executive director,
Downtown Las
Cruces Partnership



Avenue Art New Mexico is a one-day community festival 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 27, where art happens before your eyes as artists of all ages create paintings on the street. The canvas will be the newly reopened Main Street in Downtown Las Cruces.

Juried artists will compete for cash prizes and awards, while special guest artists will create showcase paintings. There will also be a special area set aside for our very young "aspiring artists" to play and create, so bring your kids.

The event is open to all artists living in New Mexico and west Texas.

Application forms, instructions and information can be found online at www.downtownlascruces.org, or at the Downtown Las Cruces Partnership, 138 S. Water St., 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information, call 525-1955

More information to come next month.

First ever Music on Main Street is a huge success

Thanks to a grant from U.S. Bank, the Downtown Las Cruces Partnership partnered with the Doña Ana Arts Council to bring music to Main Street for the month of February.

We would like to send our heartfelt thank you to all the artists who participated in the event, as well as the museums, galleries and

restaurants that hosted them.

Hard Road, Feral Root and Bob Diven (to name a few) gave incredible performances and really helped to make this event a success. We are still hearing about how much fun people had and how they would love to see more music Downtown.

The Rio Grande Theatre came alive every Tuesday and Friday and really is a great place to see music. Keep your suggestions coming and we will see what we can make happen in the future. Special thanks to Kathleen Albers, Vanessa Medina and Bruce Ven at the Doña Ana Arts Council for the extra hours they put in as well.

Business Breakfast buzz

The next Downtown Las Cruces Partnership Business Breakfast will be at 7:30 a.m., Thursday, April 4, at U.S. Bank, 277 E. Amador Ave. The space will be cozy, so make sure you reserve your place by calling the Downtown Las Cruces Partnership at 525-1955. A \$5 donation is requested.

If you would like to sponsor a Downtown Las Cruces Partnership Business Breakfast, call for available months.

Downtown Art Ramble

Enjoy a beautiful night on Main Street while visiting our Downtown galleries, 5 to 7 p.m., Friday, April 5.

Things you can do Downtown this month

- Visit Ladies and Gents, a great spa for both men and women, at 232 N. Campo St.
- Have a beer at the Main Street Bistro & Ale House, 139 N. Main St.
- Visit Happy Dog at the northwest corner of Griggs Avenue and Water Street for Happy Dog Tuesdays \$5 specials
- Come to the Downtown Business Breakfast April 4 at U.S. Bank
- Go to the Art Ramble and visit the Downtown galleries the first Friday of the month from 5 to 7 p.m. April 5
- Visit the Las Cruces Museum of Art the Branigan Cultural Center, and the newly opened Museum of Nature and Science. Admission is free.
- Buy a book at COAS Books, 317 N. Main St.
- Do your spring shopping at the Las Cruces Farmers & Crafts Market, open 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday and Saturday.
- Buy some art at MVS, Big Picture and M. Phillips Gallery, all on Main Street
- Spend a spa day at the Downtown Spa or Carmonas on Main



Bob Diven's art graced Main Street at 2012 Avenue Art, an event that attracted artists of all ages to create on a grand scale.

- Come to the Rio Grande Theatre (www.riograndetheatre.com/calendar)
 - Visit Las Cruces Community Theatre (<http://lcctnm.org/>)
 - Visit Black Box Theatre and the No Strings Theater Company (www.no-strings.org/)
 - For a treat, shop the Main Street Boutique next to the Rio Grande Theatre
 - Enjoy a cheeseburger at Day's Hamburgers
 - Visit Zeffiros Pizzeria Napoletana for the best loaf of bread in town
- For more information on how you can be part of Main Street and Downtown Las Cruces, call me at the Downtown Las Cruces Partnership at 525-1955.
- Shop, dine, spend some time Downtown!

Details

Downtown Las Cruces Partnership Board and Staff

- Hal Henthorne, president
- Patrick Grooms, secretary
- Jake Redfearn, treasurer
- Jorge Lopez
- Freda Flores
- Connie Hines
- Mollie McGraw
- Brett Beckett
- Stephanie Snodgrass
- Meg Sanchez Lammers
- Matt Dyer
- Carrie La Tour, executive director
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Profile

Leslie Cervantes: Leading the Greater Chamber

New board chair reaches out to ag, medical communities

Editor's note: This is the first in a series of profiles of the board chairs of Las Cruces' three chambers of commerce. Leslie Cervantes is chair of the board of Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce.

Tell us about your "day job."

I work for the Las Cruces Public Schools in the superintendent's office. I am the chief of staff and my main priority is to assist Superintendent Stan Rounds in carrying out the goals of the Board of Education. I also work closely with Mr. Rounds to assist with his educational initiatives, which ensure that all students are successful.

I have served as the executive director of the LCPS Foundation for the last five years. The foundation serves as 501(c)3 organization for the district. The mission is to attract and manage gifts that positively impact the classroom.

What qualities/skills you have cultivated to enhance your performance in the workplace?

My community involvement and work with philanthropic organizations has provided me with a different day-to-day perspective of Las Cruces and how I can connect that to my job. Through my work, I have learned that people can have genuine disagreement on issues. The issues should be scrutinized and debated. I have developed the ability to bring the right people around the table to tackle an issue and seek consensus.

Who were your memorable mentors and what role did they play in your pursuit of education and career goals?

My parents were my first mentors. They worked every day to show me that education and hard work are the keys to success and that we each have a responsibility to give back to our communities. After high school graduation, I traveled with my high school art teacher to Europe and she is responsible

for exposing me to thinking larger than the circle I live in every day.

When did you join the chamber? What made you decide to do so?

I joined the chamber six years ago. Although I work for the school district, the partnership between public education and the business community is an important one. I was honored to serve in that role. I have a degree in business and was raised in a family business, so it felt like a natural fit for me.

In what capacities have you been active in the chamber?

I have served as a member, secretary, chair elect and now chair. I also serve on the Heritage Foundation board – the 501 (c)3 organization for the chamber. The foundation is in place to assist in fundraising efforts as the chamber begins its remodel of the Armijo House in front of Citizens Bank, the future home of the chamber.

What would you like to accomplish in your term as board chair?

As chair, I will continue to serve the needs of all businesses in Las Cruces. The chamber especially wants to be the voice that advocates for business on issues that impact them every day.

The chamber is also committed to making sure that all business members of our community have a voice. As we look at our membership, we notice that members of our agriculture and medical communities are not strongly represented. We will work hard this year to include them in our conversations.

We will continue to work with city and county officials to ensure that policy, regulations and individual voting records of our elected officials are business friendly. And we will work hard to deliver the message to the citizens of Las Cruces the economic impact that business provides to our community every day.

How will you work with schools and colleges to help develop a work force that complements economic development in the Mesilla Valley?

I work for the public schools every day to support programs that do just that. It is important that our students have the skills necessary to enter the work force after graduation or are academically prepared to enter higher education. When they graduate from college we need to make sure we have jobs to keep them in Las Cruces.

What are the missing ingredients that, if added, could take the Mesilla Valley to the next level as a viable, diversified economy? What is the chamber's role in acquiring those ingredients?

Our tax structure has to be business friendly in order to compete with Texas and neighboring states. The current structure does not help in bringing business and industry to our area.

One example is that New Mexico is the fourth worst state in manufacturing employment in the U.S. – 3.6 percent of our current work force is involved in manufacturing. The U.S. average is 9 percent.

The chamber will continue to advocate and spread these messages. A group is going to Washington next month to meet with congressional leadership. This will be a message that is carried forward.

Locally, we need a detailed economic plan that is taken into account every time our city and county leadership are developing policy. This will ensure that discussion is centered on the financial well being of our business community.

What do you enjoy doing locally when you

Details

Leslie Cervantes

Las Cruces Public Schools,
Chief of staff

Previous positions

- Community relations coordinator
- Executive director of the Las Cruces Public Schools Foundation

Education

New Mexico State University
Bachelor of Business
Administration

Family

- Husband Dino Cervantes
- Daughter Alyssa Cervantes, a senior at Creighton University

Organizations

- Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce board chair
- First American Bank Advisory Board member
- Diocese of Las Cruces Foundation Board member

have time off?

I enjoy going to performing arts and sporting events.

Where do you take out-of-town guests when they visit?

We usually go to our family farm and chile processing plant for a quick lesson on agriculture and food production and then head to Mesilla for a bite to eat and a little shopping.

Why is life good in Las Cruces?

Life is great in Las Cruces. Where else can you have the best chile in the world?

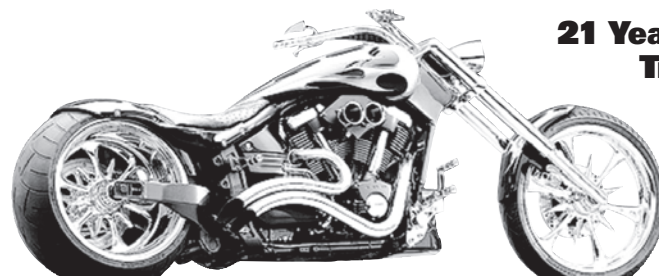
What would you like Las Cruces to know about you?

I want people to know that I care deeply about our community and I love a great Mah Jongg game with friends.



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Renter beware!

Renters have rights when properties go into foreclosure

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Do you rent or lease a home or apartment? If so, do you know if the owner of the property is paying the mortgage on time? Better yet, do you know whether or not the property is in some state of foreclosure? The answers can drastically change the lives of those who rent or lease residential property, even in Las Cruces. How? Consider the following:

Renters currently occupy about 32 percent of all single-family homes in the U.S., according to the folks at the U.S. Census Bureau. According to Doña Ana County's Chief Deputy Assessor Andy Segovia, there are more than 34,000 single-family homes in our immediate area. Segovia said that number does not include the area's numerous apartment buildings and complexes. If the census numbers are applicable to our area, chances are more than 10,000 Las Cruces are currently renting single-family homes, townhomes and condominiums. A few thousand more rent apartments and manufactured homes.

So, how do the thousands of area renters who could be affected by this problem learn about their properties' foreclosure status? When the lender comes-a-knocking. Because lenders have no formal relationship with tenants and seldom know who, if anyone, might be occupying a property, the first time most renters learn their "home" is in foreclosure is when the

lender's representative knocks at the door. It was the interaction between lenders and the tenants that caught the attention of Congress.

In the past, lenders' representatives would inform the tenant that the property was in foreclosure or had been foreclosed upon, and that the tenant had to be out in a very short period of time. It was this type of heavy-handed behavior that motivated Congress to pass the "Helping Families Save Their Homes Act of 2009." Under the new law, which went into effect in 2009, tenants must receive 90-days notice prior to being evicted. In addition, tenants must be allowed to stay in the property through the end of their lease, with two exceptions:

- The new owner wants to occupy the property as a personal residence.
- There is no lease (month-to-month tenancy), or there is a lease but state law allows it to be terminated at any time upon notice (which is not the case in New Mexico).

Even with the exceptions in place, the new law requires that tenants receive a 90-day notice before they can be evicted. Notice must be given by the "immediate successor in interest," which may be the bank or the new owner who acquired the property. There is a catch, however. The protections of this law apply only to "bona fide" tenants who have a written contract, the lease was the result of an arms-length transaction and the rent is not substantially less than the fair market rent for the property. Here's what that mumbo jumbo means in the real world.

Let's say you have an iron clad one-year lease on a home or apartment and are current on your rent. Under the new law, the bank or new owner must honor the lease. On the other hand, if your lease is expired and has reverted to a month-to-month tenancy (which leases do when they're not renewed), or if you had a written month-to-month agreement from the get-go, the maximum time you'll be allowed to stay in the property is 90 days. You can leave any time prior to that.

Keep in mind lenders have no right to toss you out of the home they don't own. Until the foreclosure is complete and

the lender or buyer at the foreclosure sale assumes ownership, the owner of the property is still your landlord. You're still required to make your payments on time. If you don't, or if you violate any other terms of your lease or rental agreement, you can be evicted.

Don't know where to send your payments? Simply stash them away in a savings account somewhere until you verify who is legally authorized to collect the funds. If you don't have the money on hand and can't make up the back rent, you won't be considered "current." In addition, most mortgages contain an "Assignment of Rents" clause, which authorizes the lender to collect rent prior to the actual foreclosure if the owner is not making payments. Lenders will notify tenants of this provision and provide instructions regarding how and where to send the rent.

When it comes to your security deposit, the law affords little protection. Since the property owner usually holds your rental deposit, your chances of getting it back are slim-to-none unless the owner finds compassion for your situation or the funds are held by a property manager.

Before I go, I'd like to pass along a valuable tip: Be on alert for a "Cash for Keys" opportunity. Lenders are not in the rental business and would like nothing more than to take possession of the property. To expedite the process and encourage you to vacate sooner rather than later, they may offer you a cash "bonus." Depending on the circumstances, lenders have been known to offer as little as \$500 and as much as \$3,000 to inspire a tenant to hit the bricks.

See you at closing.

Gary Sandler is the president of Gary Sandler Inc., Realtors in Las Cruces and the host of Gary Sandler's Real Estate Connection, broadcast each Monday from 4 to 6 p.m. on KSNM-AM 570. Sandler is the 2007 and 2010 recipient of the New Mexico Broadcaster's Associations Talk Show Host of the Year award. Questions or comments may be directed to Sandler at 525-2400 or by emailing gary@garysandler.com.

DACC earns NADE certification

Honor is one of several accreditations for college programming

The National Association for Developmental Education (NADE) has approved the Developmental Education program at Doña Ana Community College for advanced certification.

The NADE Certification process requires applicants to demonstrate application of theory, use of quality practices as defined by professional research and literature of the field, and analysis of baseline and comparative evaluation data to demonstrate the use of continuous and systematic assessment and evaluation.

"The granting of the National Association of Developmental Education certification is an affirmation of the high-quality teaching of our faculty and the efforts they make to help students who may not traditionally pursue higher education," said Bernard Piña, who is the division dean for the General Studies Division, which oversees the Developmental Studies program. "This is one more accolade that shows that DACC puts students first."

Applicants validate their use of theory by providing required information on their theoretical frameworks, and they demonstrate their use of quality practices by submitting a summary of a self-study using the appropriate section of the NADE Self-Evaluation Guides. Applicants may use additional tools to supplement, but not replace, the use of the NADE Guides. Applicants demonstrate their use of continuous assessment to improve services and student learning by collecting, analyzing, and discussing at least two years of baseline data and at least two years of comparative data to confirm that the program component is constantly improving and evolving to meet its mission and goals.

NADE Certification is awarded for a seven-year period. This seven-year period begins with the annual NADE conference, at which the newly certified program is recognized.



DACC NADE certification task force members: Rita González, chair, Math and Physical Science Department; Bernard Piña, dean, General Studies Division; Mia Kalish, institutional researcher; Lucy Gurrola, professor, math and physical science; Amy García, associate professor, English and communication. Not pictured: Victoria González, chair, English and Communication Department.

In related news, the college's Drafting and Design Technologies program has been recertified by the American Drafting and Design Association, and the National Center for Construction Education and Research has accredited the DACC Building and Construction Technology program to deliver their curriculum, which will result in students earning a nationally recognized certificate in various skills areas related to construction.

"National recognition of our programs will enhance our students' prospects for employment," said Rebecca Kongs, interim division dean of the Technical and Industrial Studies Division.

Other college programs have earned accreditations from the following entities:

- Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs
- American Welding Society

- Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs
- Commission on Dental Accreditation
- Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care
- International Fire Service Accreditation of Congress
- Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography
- Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology
- Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Profession
- National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF)
- New Mexico Board of Nursing

The community college as a whole is accredited independently of New Mexico State University by the Higher Learning Commission.

Storing up

State organizations stretching water resources for year

By **Marvin Tessner**
Las Cruces Bulletin

The New Mexico State Engineer plans to grant a 20,000 allotment to the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District (MRGCD) to benefit farmers and balance out irrigation district water accounts.

The proposed allocation to the MRGCD was generated via New Mexico's over-deliveries in the past to Texas by the Rio Grande Compact, according to a State Engineer news release.

The MRGCD is north of the Elephant Butte Irrigation District. The release is not expected to increase the water supply for EBID farmers.

The EBID received its benefit in 2010 when New Mexico relinquished water, termed "credit water," that allowed the EBID to store water that year, according to Rolf Schmidt-Petersen manager of the Interstate Steams Commission's Rio Grande Basin.

"Now, the MRGCD will be able to store small amounts of water this year," Schmidt-Petersen said.

The current drought is in its third year and the Vado Reservoir is almost empty, State Engineer Scott Verhines said.

"We recognize the importance of MRGCD of having about 80,000 acre-feet of water in storage to meet farmers' needs this summer," Verhines said in a news release. "The allocation of 20,000 acre-feet will help provide water through August."

"Our goal is the keep our communities intact," said Interstate Streams Commission Director Esteban Lopez. "We are working with water users statewide to stretch a limited supply of water as far as possible during this third year of drought."

Increased funding for educational retirement fund necessary

Bills in House, Senate supported by educational community



Chris Erickson
State of the Economy

There are more than 8,000 education employees working in Las Cruces whose retirement is at risk if action is not soon taken.

These are the teachers and staff working for the Las Cruces, Hatch and Gadsden public schools, as well as at New Mexico State University, who are members of the New Mexico Educational Retirement Fund. As a university professor, I'm one of these educators; so is my wife who is a teacher at Oñate High School.

The educational retirement fund, like many pensions, was hard hit by the 2008 financial crisis and is not likely to recover without reform. The current funding is at only 61 percent of expected future payouts; a fund balance of less than 80 percent is considered unsound. HB 64 and its sister bill SB 115 would authorize actions to rescue the fund and return it to a basis of solid funding.

The proposed reforms have a lot of moving parts, but here are the key facts. First, the House and Senate bills would not affect benefits of current employees, but those hired on or after July 1

and who retired with less than 30 years of service would see their early retirement benefits reduced. Second, employee contribution will increase to 10.7 percent phased-in over two years. Third, the proposal calls for no increase in taxpayer funding.

The last fact is worth emphasizing as there has been considerable misinformation about this. Taxpayers are not being asked to bail out the pension fund, but rather educators will contribute more toward their own retirement to maintain benefits. Taxpayers are being held harmless.

The current proposal is the outcome of a series of meetings held around the state by the Educational Retirement Board, and enjoys unanimous support among stakeholder groups, including teacher unions and the NMSU Faculty Senate. Of course, educators would prefer that taxpayers pay in more, but that's not going to happen, so support for the current proposal is the best deal chance to save the retirement fund.

And reform is necessary. Without it, the fund will continue to lose ground. This threatens the retirement of educators. The continued existence of unfunded benefits also threatens the state's bond rating, which could make funding capital projects more expensive. Both educators and

taxpayers benefit from passage of the current plan.

Retirement reform has passed the House, but is stuck in Senate. This has triggered negotiations with the governor's office. It seems the governor wants to modify the proposal to reduce the cost of living adjustment received by retirees.

I agree with the governor on this one. After all, the retirees, when they were employees, didn't pay in adequately to fully fund their own benefits. Now, as the fund makes up for past underpayment, it seems only fair that retirees contribute also. Reducing their inflation adjustment is a relatively painless way to do this.

With the governor's office on board, passage of education pension reform seems likely. The last remaining hurdle is to convince Senate leadership to agree to the funding change. If the reforms are adopted, educational retirement will stop losing ground and begin to grow again, reaching 70 percent funding by 2030 and 93 percent by 2043.

Christopher A. Erickson, Ph.D., is a professor of economics at NMSU. He has been a contributor to the Education Retirement Fund for 26 years, but has no plans to retire – ever. The opinions expressed here may not be those of the regents and administration of NMSU. Erickson can be reached at cherrick@nmsu.edu.

Surface water tension

As water woes continue, some farmers may be forced to leave fields fallow

By **Marvin Tessneer**
Las Cruces Bulletin

Elephant Butte Irrigation District (EBID) farmers haven't received definite word on how much surface water they'll receive this growing season, but they know how much it will cost them.

The EBID charge to farmers is \$75 per water-right acre.

"The charge is based on the right to use water, not how much water farmers use," the EBID taxation office reported.

The EBID has 90,640 water-right acres within its district.

The storage in Elephant Butte Reservoir, as reported by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, is 300,000 acre-feet, or 10 percent of normal. The reservoir level is 4,300 feet above sea level.

The mountain snow pack in northern New Mexico and southern Colorado is 70 percent of the long-term average.

The irrigation districts will have about 280,000 acre-feet to release in early June. A total of 90,000 acre-feet will be available to the EBID under terms of the Rio Grande Compact operations agreement.

During the last EBID meeting, the board of directors discussed a possible irrigation release of 6 inches

in early June.

"Some farmers are talking about leaving some fields fallow," EBID consultant J. Phillip said. "But I don't have any acreage figures yet."

Chris Biad of Biad Chili Products said he plans to irrigate his fields with ground water.

"We'll be able to get well water to all the fields," Biad said. "Most of our wells are in good shape, but the water

“Most of our wells are in good shape ...”

CHRIS BIAD,
Biad Chili Products

table has started to drop. We'll have to pump less because it takes a lot of energy to lift that water and that's expensive. Or we'll have to drill more or deeper wells or in other locations."

Biad grows about 200 to 300 acres of chile in the Las Cruces and Hatch Valley areas.

He also rotates fields with corn and cotton as a soil treatment to prevent buildup of diseases.

Most of his green chile is roasted and frozen and sold in popular retail packages.

Keith Deputy, a big cotton grower in the southern end of the county, said he already has started to leave some fields fallow because of the water shortage. He also grows diversified crops, and of his 2,400 acres he plans to leave 600 fallow this year.

"I had to leave 600 acres fallow last year," he said.

People helping people

Scholarships remember loved ones while encouraging a stronger community

Each year, the Community Foundation of Southern New Mexico (CFSNM) manages a variety of scholarships that were created to remember loved ones, grow philanthropy and encourage a stronger community.

Graduating seniors at high schools in Luna, Hidalgo, Grant, Sierra, Lincoln, Otero, and Doña Ana counties – the seven counties the CFSNM serves – recently received scholarship information and criteria for five of those scholarships within the CFSNM.

Two new scholarships are available through the CFSNM, including the Sunspot Solar/Mellow and Janet Honek and Barry McClure Memorial Endowment scholarships.

The Sunspot Solar/Mellow and Janet Honek Scholarship was established in 2012 to provide scholarships to Native American graduating seniors from New Mexico or the Oklahoma Cherokee Nation planning to attend New Mexico State University. The amount of this scholarship will be approximately \$1,500.

The Barry McClure Memorial Endowment, established in 2012, was created after McClure passed away in 2011. Friends focused on his passions while providing opportunities for the community's youth by

creating the Barry McClure Memorial Golf Tournament Fund within the CFSNM. With interest from that fund, friends created the Barry McClure Memorial Scholarship Fund.

The award is for graduating seniors who are Doña Ana County residents and are entering a track, golf or golf management program at any university in the state of New Mexico. The student must be graduating with a minimum GPA of 2.5. The amount of this scholarship will be \$1,000.

The Harold Cousland Fund for Young Journalists is for graduating seniors from Doña Ana or Luna counties who are enrolled in college with an interest in journalism.

Cousland was the editor of the Las Cruces Sun-News from 1991 until he died at the age of 58 on Sept. 21, 2011. Students applying for this scholarship must demonstrate participation in high school activities, particularly related to writing, and

have a reputable grade point average as well as special talents and community involvement. Approximate amount of the scholarship is \$600.

The Hispanic Scholarship Endowment was established by Drs. Robert Villalobos and Ernest Flores to support local area youth

through education, while promoting economic success within the community.

The Hispanic Scholarship is open to minority students graduating from a local area high school who are enrolled at NMSU or Doña Ana Community College. This scholarship is based on financial need, and students who demonstrate participation in high school and community activities will be considered. The approximate amount of scholarship is \$500.

The Kevin T. Riedel Memorial Scholarship was created in memory of Kevin T. Riedel who was a major contributor to the soccer community. Riedel died as a result of injuries suffered in an auto accident while traveling to a soccer tournament. One or more awards will be made annually and eligible applicants must be a member of the Las Cruces Soccer Referee Association, a graduating high school senior or have current good standing enrollment in a higher education institution including professional and trade schools and show continued development and involvement in soccer officiating or soccer community volunteerism. The approximate amount of scholarship is \$300.

The R.W. Van Pelt Educational Fund Scholarship was created in memory of "Rusty" Van Pelt, principal at Mayfield High School from 1967 to 1985. It was established by his family upon his passing in January 2011 to highlight his passion for education. Seniors graduating from Mayfield High School and enrolled as an education major at NMSU are eligible to apply. All applicants should demonstrate participation in high school and community activities and have a grade point average of 3.0 and above. The award is \$750.

The Zachary Eiland Lansford Memorial

Scholarship was established in memory of Zachary Eiland Lansford by his family.

On April 24, 1999, at the young age of 17, Lansford's life ended in an unfortunate car accident. The Zachary Eiland Lansford Memorial Scholarship is designated for a student who wants to go into the field of nursing. Graduating seniors from Sierra, Otero or Union counties are eligible to apply. Students must be enrolled at an institution for higher learning with a degree plan to become a registered nurse; have a reputable grade point average and show financial need. Approximate amount of scholarship is \$400.

Applications for all scholarships may be obtained at high school guidance counseling offices or downloaded online at the CFSNM's website, www.cfsnm.org. Applications must be submitted to the CFSNM office, 301 S. Church St., Suite H, Las Cruces, NM 88001 no later than noon Friday, March 29. Once the applications are received, the CFSNM will convene a committee of community members to review applications and select scholarship recipients.

Founded in 2000, the Community Foundation of southern New Mexico offers opportunities for local people who want to give back locally. Through the establishment of permanent funds you can sustain local charitable organizations, provide scholarships to area students and fulfill wishes that are close to your heart. Through our planned giving programs, you can honor loved ones or leave a legacy that benefits the people of Southern New Mexico for generations to come. The Community Foundation of Southern New Mexico can advise you on how best to maximize contributions, no matter what size. For more information see our website at www.cfsnm.org or call Luan Wagner Burn, Ph.D., at 521-4794. To donate, mail your check to CFSNM, 301 South Church St., Suite H, Las Cruces, NM 88001.



Mixing 'n' mingling at the M Five ribbon cutting

Photos by Richard Coltharp



Marci Dickerson cuts the ribbon for her new establishment, M Five, Wednesday, Feb. 20. Hispano Chamber of Commerce de Las Cruces President Kirk Clifton presents the proclamation. The ceremony preceded the chamber's monthly Mix 'N' Mingle.



Santiago Soto of itsQuest, Benita and Kari Hinojosa of Shaklee and Mary Iadicicco of Allstate Insurance



Tres Libby of Citizens Bank of Las Cruces, Brad Beasley and Michelle Schirmer of Beasley, Mitchell & Co.



David and Reta Warren, Lou and Pat Sisbarro, Diane and Robin Fovargue, and John and Laura Conniff



Stephanie Smith Griffin of the Las Cruces Bulletin and Dickerson



Paul Garay of Las Cruces Toyota, Brian Knapp and Antoinette Fuentes-Knapp of Century Link

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Felipe Juarez of \$20 Computer Repair and Albert Madrigal of Satellite Solutions

Banking on Business After Hours

Photos by Alta LeCompte



Matt Rush of New Mexico Farm & Livestock Bureau, Chamber President/CEO Bill Allen and Les Baldock, Mesilla Valley Economic Development Alliance operations manager



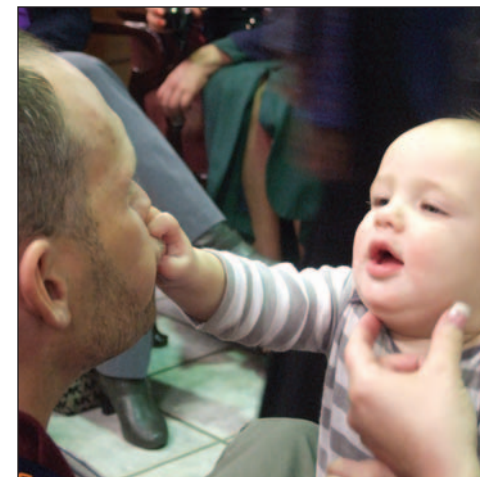
The U.S. Bank team of Craig Buchanan, John Vasquez, Jeremy Phillips, Claudia Clement and Karen Bailey at 277 E. Amador Ave. hosts Business After Hours for the Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce Thursday, Feb. 27.



Bruce Drum and Stacie Allen visit with Pat and Cindy Breedlove.

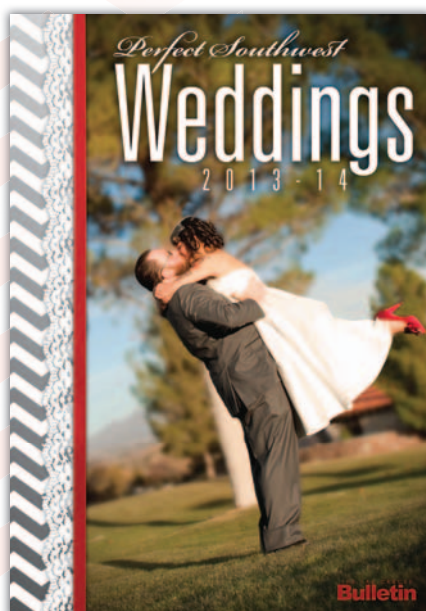


Peter Cruz of ClearVue and John Vasquez of U.S. Bank



Parker Allen, 8 months, gets a grip on David Doan's nose as Doan takes his turn entertaining the youngest guest at the business gathering.

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Ruidoso wins big at NMSU Innoventure

Students solve real-world problems and develop prototypes

Two teams from Ruidoso High School came out on top when students from throughout New Mexico vied for honors and scholarships at the 10th annual Innoventure competition sponsored by the Arrowhead Center at New Mexico State University.

This year, contestants were challenged to study how an everyday object functions and figure out a way to make the object more useful, useful for more people or find new uses for it, said program director Marie Borchert.

In the competition held Friday, March 1, at the Las Cruces Convention Center, the judges selected the Innewvations team for top honors, based on the team's idea, feasibility and presentation.

Team members Caroline Allen and Kaylee Aguilar said they were motivated by news reports of infants who died when left alone in closed vehicles. They designed a child safety seat with a pressure sensor that sends an alarm signal to a receiver on the driver's key chain if a child is accidentally left in the seat.

They said they continued to work on their design right up until deadline, adding another safety feature that would prevent the seat from tipping forward.

In addition to designing the prototype, they created a marketing plan for the product which relied heavily on a website and Facebook.

Another team from Ruidoso High School, 5 Star Kitchens, won the People's Choice Award. Their project was a food storage container with both chilled and room temperature compartments, designed for people living in very small spaces.

The judges awarded NIT-Industries of Portales High School second place for their system to de-ice streets.

Mayfield High School students formed the company Trojan Works and developed an electronic spray bottle designed for use by hotel chains. The top performing local school, they finished in third place.

Middle school winners were Green Goes from Anton Chico Middle School with a manual lawn mower that attaches to a bicycle, Ylectronics from Tony Hillerman Middle School – with a tangle-proof Y-bud for electronic devices and a headset that wirelessly receives music as radio waves – and Bedtime Brights curtains with decorative, child-friendly night lighting developed by PR Leyva Middle School.

Innoventure encourages students to use science, engineering and business skills to solve problems. Borchert said the event helps students understand the process of developing technological products from the idea phase to production. It also gives them a foundation of understanding business concepts as they relate to developing a product and marketing it. The competition develops practical skills of problem solving, business writing, teamwork, meeting deadlines and communication.

Borchert said the competition introduces students to entrepreneurship and helps them understand "they don't have to work for someone else – they can create their own jobs."

"The goal is really for them to understand more about the practical application of what they learn in class – and that it all can be used in business," she said. "In my mind, it's less about the final competition and judging. It's not all about the prizes."

More than 30 teams, representing 15 different schools from around New Mexico participated

The event's keynote speaker was Estela Hartley, an NMSU



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Alta LeCompte

Ruidoso High School students Caroline Allen and Kaylee Aguilar demonstrate a child safety seat that alerts the driver who leaves a baby behind. Their team's company, Innewvations, won first place at the 2013 Innoventure competition held Friday, March 1, at the Las Cruces Convention Center.

graduate who now owns a consulting company. She told the students at the awards presentation trial and error were part of the path she followed to eventual success building an all-women business consulting team.

Brenda Holzman, community banking district manager for Wells Fargo, and Molly Conneen, program officer for the Daniels Fund, presented the awards. The Daniels Fund provides financial support for Innoventure.

Wells Fargo, FirstLight Federal Credit Union and Springhill Suites by Marriott sponsored the event.

Improving wireless, wireline services

AT&T invested nearly \$20 million locally from 2009 through 2012

AT&T invested nearly \$20 million in its Las Cruces area wireless and wireline networks from 2009 through 2012, with a focus on expanding 4G mobile Internet coverage and enhancing the overall performance of its networks.

People in Las Cruces increasingly depend on mobile Internet connections for communication, entertainment and productivity at work, at home and everywhere in between. AT&T's continued investment is designed to deliver the highest levels of service, with network enhancements driving improvements in key areas of the mobile Internet experience: 4G speed, broad coverage and network reliability.

"We know the mobile Internet has become central to our customers' lives, and we're committed to driving both investment and innovation to deliver the best possible experience over the AT&T network," said Adam Vital, AT&T

vice president/general manager. "While third-party and internal testing shows that these investments are paying off with excellent service for Las Cruces customers, we are continually planning and deploying network enhancements to improve service in the future."

AT&T customers are benefitting from nearly 50 wireless network upgrades in six key categories in Las Cruces during 2012, including activating new cell sites, adding capacity, upgrading cell sites to provide fast 4G mobile Internet speeds, deploying high-capacity Ethernet connections to cell sites, and adding or upgrading Distributed Antenna Systems, which boost wireless coverage and capacity in buildings and at major venues like convention halls or sports arenas.

Continuing in its mission to improve customer service, AT&T recently launched Project Velocity IP (VIP), a three-year investment initiative to expand and enhance its wireless and wired IP broadband networks. As part of Project VIP, AT&T plans to increase the density of its wireless network by deploying more than 10,000 macro sites, more than 1,000 distributed antenna systems, and more than 40,000

small cells.

- Through this initiative, AT&T also plans to:
- Expand 4G LTE to cover more than 300 million people by year-end 2014
- Expand the AT&T wired IP broadband network to cover approximately 75 percent of customer locations in our wired service area by year-end 2015

- Expand the AT&T fiber network to reach 1 million additional business locations by year-end 2015
- For more information about AT&T's coverage in Las Cruces or anywhere in the U.S., consumers can visit the AT&T Coverage Viewer at www.wireless.att.com/coverageviewer. Using the online tool, AT&T customers can measure coverage quality of coverage from a street address, intersection, ZIP code or even a landmark.

Nuts about pecans



Pecan growers from the region and abroad check out a vendor's booth at the 2013 Western Pecan Growers Conference. The March 4-6 event at Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces featured educational programs on issues such as water management, agricultural science and marketing, as well as the trade show and a Pecan Food Fantasy recipe competition that drew entries in 11 categories.

Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Todd Dickson

BUSINESS OF THE MONTH

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Executive Director:
TJ Johnston-Hicks

Contact info:
522-7000
www.sagecrestrehabilitation.com

Quote:
"We have the ability to have a positive impact on someone's life and I take that very seriously," said Administrator TJ Johnston-Hicks.

"Having our families actually know what we do and have them trust us, it's great to see that," Marketing Director Lupe Rios said.

HOW TO NOMINATE A BUSINESS

Tell the Chamber about a great local business. Go to www.lascruces.org/downloads.php, scroll down to Member Spotlight Nomination Form and download a form. Candidates for Business of the Month will have more than 10 employees. Candidates for Small Business of the Month will have 10 or fewer employees. For more information, call the Chamber at 524-1968.

2013 BUSINESSES OF THE MONTH

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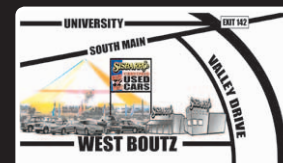


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'Twitch' tells a terrific tale C3



Watercolorist pursues his passion C7



Q's quest for quality C9



'21 & Over' takes the walk of shame C15

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NEXT WEEK

Las Cruces Arts Fair
Nearly 100 artists will display the work Friday, March 15, through Sunday, March 17.

Carnaval MASOUERADE BALL

Hearts for Autism benefit held
Saturday, March 16

Carnaval comes to Las Cruces

Masquerade Ball benefits Autism fund

By **Zak Hansen**
Las Cruces Bulletin

Carnival (Portuguese “carnaval”) is Brazil’s largest and most famous festival, taking place just before the start of Lent.

The celebration has grown to incredible proportions: In 2011, the Rio de Janeiro carnival, Brazil’s largest, drew more than 4.9 million people – nearly a half a million of them from out of the country – for a weeklong celebration of drinking, dancing and debauchery, one last hurrah before the 40 days of Lenten abstinence that follow.

Carnival festivities typically last several days and include lots of food and drink, public celebrations, parades, dancing and, of course, a masquerade.

This month, residents of the Mesilla Valley can get a taste of carnival for themselves, and do something great for their community – the Carnival Masquerade Ball takes place from 5:30 to 11 p.m. Saturday, March 16, at Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces, 705 S. Telshor Blvd.

Proceeds from the ball benefit the Hearts for Autism Fund, which provides much needed community services to those suffering from and affected by autism spectrum disorders, or ASD.

Established in 2010 by early childhood educator Estee Hafassa and Abel Covarrubias, CEO of Aprendamos Intervention Team, the Hearts for Autism fund aims to provide information, training and support services for families coping with ASD in southern New Mexico.

The Carnival Masquerade Ball offers guests and donors an entire evening of dining, drinking and dancing with a South American festival flair.

The evening will begin with a cocktail hour, allowing guests to loosen up and get acquainted with one another. Immediately following the cocktail hour will be a costume contest parade, with participants decked out in full carnival regalia.

After the costumes have been donned and a king and queen have been crowned, guests will take to their tables for dinner service, during which several guest speakers, community members and professionals will take the stage to share their own experiences with ASD.

After dinner, though, it’s right back into the fun with a special performance by members of the New Mexico State University DanceSport team.

After their routine, dancers will be on hand to give dance lessons and teach patrons how to do the samba, the traditional Brazilian dance and musical genre most closely associated with

carnival. With a little bit of help, you’ll fit in at Rio de Janeiro in no time.

The ballroom at Hotel Encanto will be decked in the finest trappings of the yearly Brazilian festival, replete with lots of color, bunches of flowers and, of course, the classic carnival masques.

“When you walk in, you won’t even recognize it as a ballroom in Las Cruces,” said Erlinda Portillo, owner of Puentes Event Planning, Promotion and Consulting, planners of the ball. “You’d think you were suddenly in Brazil.”

This event, then, is held not only to be a great time, but to be an asset to the community as well, providing much needed resources to those dealing with ASD. Having fun and doing good – what more could you ask for?

Details

Carnaval Masquerade Ball

When
5:30 to 11 p.m. Saturday, March 16

Where
Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces
705 S. Telshor Blvd.

Cost
• \$60 per person
• \$700 corporate table

Contact
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THE LAS CRUCES
Bulletin

Spring is in the air at Las Cruces Museums

March brings new exhibitions

March winds in the dusty desert mean the imminent arrival of spring. Tiny gems of green life will begin to outshine the brown landscape we've grown accustomed to over the winter months.

Though these moments of green are a pleasure to encounter, I still consider the brightest gems in the Mesilla Valley to be our city museums.

With last month's release of the 2012 Annual Report for Las Cruces Museums, one can see the efforts the museum system staff – and the community at large – has made to keep our museums as vibrant as greenery blossoming in the desert.

The highlight of the year was the opening of the new Museum of Nature & Science, thanks to a culmination of years of planning and the dedication of the museum staff, volunteers and supporters citywide.

The report proves a staff of a mere 20 employees can accomplish great feats. Total attendance at all four museums surpassed 218,000 last year, with a combined 43 exhibits, 264 tours and 431 on-site classes.

Volunteer efforts are a vital piece in keeping each of our museums at the Smithsonian-affiliate level. Volunteer numbers at our museums continue to soar, with 124 volunteers on record last year and total volunteer hours reaching 9,335.

According to the Corporation for National & Community Service, the estimated dollar value per hour of volunteer time in New Mexico is \$17.44, which makes the museums total volunteer in-kind contribution more than \$162,000. For more on the annual report, visit www.foundationlcm.com.

At the museums, take the opportunity to travel into two different worlds this month with new exhibits at the Branigan Cultural Center.

"Pancho Villa and the Mexican Revolution" opened Friday, March 1. Guest curated by James Hester, professor emeritus of the University of Colorado, this photographic biography captures the enduring legacy of the man viewed historically as an outlaw. As a complement to the exhibit, the curator will present the lecture "The Life and Times of Pancho Villa" on Thursday, March 21.

The second exhibit is "Masterworks: Googlepaedic Narrations and the Dysfunction of Damage," by Shaurya Kumar. Kumar, an assistant professor at The School of Art Institute in Chicago, said the show addresses his personal displacement from his native environment and cultural roots, and is a virtual interpretation of his memories of ancient murals during travels to remote villages and temples in India.

The highly anticipated comeback of "Let's Talk About It: Making Sense of the American Civil War" continues March 21. Stop by or call the Cultural Center at 541-2154 to register or borrow books.

"Elemental New Mexico" continues this month at the Museum of Art, and don't miss the Family Story and Art Journey 11 a.m. every Saturday,

beginning at the Branigan with story time and ending at the Museum of Art with a related project.

Headed to the Las Cruces Farmers & Craft Market this Saturday? The Museum of Nature & Science has much to offer school-aged kids or grandkids, including hands-on science activities with FETCH! and the opportunity to hang out with Chihuahuan desert animals during Animal Encounters.

For more information on the Foundation for Las Cruces Museums, visit www.foundationlcm.com, email info@foundationlcm.com or find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/FoundationLCMuseums.

Jennifer Perez is the secretary for the Foundation for Las Cruces Museums. She can be reached at info@foundationlcm.com.



'Twitch' a thought-provoking dramedy

No Strings Theatre Company production is a hit

Review by **Gerald M. Kane**
For the Las Cruces Bulletin

"Thought provoking" are the two words that keep rolling around in my head while watching the world-premiere performance of "Twitch" by Amy Lanasa.

The same two words remain with me the next morning as I sit down at the computer to gather my thoughts to compose this review.

While Lanasa herself told me "Twitch" was a "poignant drama with lots of laughs," there is much more to contemplate in this production. It forces audience members to "go deep" – very deep. In other words, I didn't find myself laughing very much.

"Twitch" is based on a true incident that took place in LeRoy, New York, in January 2012, when several high school students (primarily girls) developed physical and verbal tics and twitches.

Transforming this news event into a significant and insightful play takes vision, skill and real talent. Lanasa, together with her director, Ross Kagan Marks, makes the stage vibrate with tension and excitement.

In truth, it took me a while to "get into" the story, but I later realized that is how Lanasa makes the tension build.

We first encounter adult student Heather Deem, played with the appropriate anxiousness and a touch of humor by Las Cruces' theatrically omnipresent Janet Mazdra. She fiddles with a video camera to begin the first entry in her journalism assignment – to create a video journal of a newsworthy event.

Her decision to re-visit her old high school to find a story places her in a special needs classroom taught by a fellow classmate, Sawyer Allen, played with touches of teaching skill, dedication and

"mystery" (for lack of a better word) by Shiloh Holloway. She records most of the student/teacher interactions, which are visible to the audience up-close and personal through a monitor that is a part of the stage set, cleverly designed by Peter Herman and Zachary Grace.

The students in the class each bring their own set of emotional issues into the classroom, and thanks to Allen's dedication and skill, a community is assembled. I was particularly impressed by the skills of Taylor Rey, Daniel Delaney and Grace Marks. Hopefully, we will see more of their work in future theatrical productions.

As the first act moves along, we still are uncertain where the play is heading, but after a couple of emotional outbursts, we know we are headed to a darker place. In this classroom, it is not all "fun and games."

My reticence to share too much of the plot is mandated by my philosophy not to share so much that the elements of surprise and discovery are diminished for prospective audience members. I hope to whet your theatrical appetites and move you to make reservations immediately.

The first "twitches" manifest themselves at the end of the first act. Over the course of the second act, we painfully watch the students suffer with their afflictions. Kudos to Marks for his ability to train his actors so well to stay in character with the addition of a physical disability.

More impressive is his use of the entire acting area to move the actors in ways to share their varying, often violent, emotions with the entire audience.

I was most deeply moved by one encounter in the first act, and two equally emotionally fraught encounters in the

second act. The first act encounter is between Holloway and Rey. It is unexpected and tense. The second act scene between Mazdra and Rey, at the start of the act, is cleverly written and convincingly acted. The last and most impressive altercation is between Mazdra and Holloway. The manner in which Ross staged the encounters, the spontaneity of the actors' performances and the natural and easy way of Lanasa's dialogue make for impressive and expressive theater.

The "coda" of the play is a surprise of sorts and revelatory. The surprise element is nothing I saw coming and was a "splash of cold water." I left the theater with so much to contemplate and with a sense of gratitude that our community boasts such talent in its midst.

I encourage you to take advantage of the world-premiere run of a play that I believe has big things in store for it.

Brava, Ceil Herman, for your vision in producing such a thought-provoking work! Brava, Amy Lanasa, for an amazing script! Bravo, Ross Marks, for your exceptional direction! And, last but not least, bravi, to a dedicated, remarkable ensemble cast!

Performances of "Twitch" run through Sunday, March 17. Performances are 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 2:30 p.m. Sundays, March 10 and 17, and a 7 p.m. performance Thursday, March 14. Tickets are \$10 regular admission, \$9 students and seniors over 65, and all tickets on Thursday are \$7. To make reservations, call 523-1223.

Gerald Kane has reviewed theater, music, opera, film and books for NPR stations and newspapers in New Orleans, Phoenix and Kansas City as well as for the Las Cruces Bulletin. A former member of the American Theatre Critics Association, he is the Rabbi Emeritus of Temple Beth-El in Las Cruces and teaches "Jews on Screen" at NMSU.

Bulletin Advertising Works!



"Attendance at NMSU Adventure Arts Series has increased significantly as a direct result of working with the Las Cruces Bulletin. Their support and organization has helped NMSU Outdoor Recreation reach a diverse population."

Watch for the Adventure Arts Series ads in the Bulletin and come join us at the Rio Grande Theater to view the films!"

"Their support and organization has helped NMSU Outdoor Recreation reach a diverse population."

Contact Claire Frohs at 644-3626 for help with your marketing needs.



Galleries & Openings

LAST CHANCE

THE CUTTER GALLERY presents the work of artist and jewelry designer Jo-an Smith.

Smith's show, titled "Exciting Explorations," will include a series of watercolors and oils inspired by outer space, as well as her unique gold jewelry creations. The show will remain on display through Friday, March 8.

The 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.

ONGOING

ARALIA FINE ART GALLERY will feature the watercolors of John Schooley for the month of March.

Schooley, a 30-year advertising industry veteran, is a self-taught artist who uses watercolors to capture landscapes, florals, still lifes, animals, building and beaches, among others. Schooley is also a member of the New Mexico Watercolor Society-Southern Chapter.

Aralia Fine Art Gallery is located at 224 N. Campo St. Gallery hours are 2 to 5 p.m. Thursday, 2 to 7 p.m. Friday, noon to 6 p.m. Saturday and 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday, or by appointment. For more information, visit www.araliagallery.com or call 650-7543.

WEST END ART DEPOT presents "EstrogenFest 2013: The Women of We.AD y Amigas" for the month

of March.

"EstrogenFest 2013" is a show featuring works in many media by the lady members of the West End Art Depot arts co-op and assorted XX-chromosomed friends.

West End Art Depot is located at 401 N. Mesilla St. New gallery hours are 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, noon to 4 p.m. Saturday and noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, or by appointment. For more information, call 312-9892.

MESILLA VALLEY FINE ARTS GALLERY will feature two Las Cruces artists for the month of March, Merideth Loring and Richard Spellenberg. Loring combines her lifelong love of fabric and needle crafts with her artistic vision of developing objects and materials to be reborn into new forms.

Spellenberg, a woodworker who began his love of the craft in his teenage years, uses a process called wood turning, one of the oldest woodworking crafts dating back 4,000 years.

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.

MAIN STREET GALLERY presents the Big Picture Customer exhibit for the month of March. The show features the photographic works created by customers of the Big Picture Digital Image Lab, and is an opportunity for professional and non-professional photograph artists to exhibit their works

in a gallery setting, some for the first time. Artists include Micah Pearson, Ben Alexander, Storm Sermay, Ron Saltzman, Chuck West, Will Keener, Pam Needam and Robert Edmonds.

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

BRANIGAN CULTURAL CENTER presents the photographic display "Pancho Villa and the Mexican Revolution," curated by anthropologist James J. Hester. Through this photographic biography, the enduring legacy of Pancho Villa in his many capacities can be seen as captured through the lenses of his contemporaries.

The cultural center also presents "Masterworks: Googlepaedic Narrations of and the Dysfunction of Damage," an exhibit by Shaurya Kumar. The exhibit addresses Kumar's "own displacement from (his) native environment and cultural roots, and will be virtual inter-pretation of (his) memories and ancient murals during travels to remote villages and temples in India."

The Branigan Cultural Center is located at 501 N. Main St. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. For more information, call 541-2154 or visit www.lascruces.org/museums.

NOPALITO'S GALERÍA presents the selected furniture of designer and artisan carpenter Francisco Goytia. Goytia has been evolving his craft as a professional



"Heron" by John Schooley is one of many pieces on display for the month of March at Aralia Gallery, 224 N. Campo St.

carpenter for the past 50 years. His style represents the classical colonial hacienda style of Mexico. The galería will display Goytia's custom furniture consisting primarily of chairs, coffee tables, mirrors and tables. The show will run through Sunday, March 31.

Nopalito's Galería is located at 326 S. Mesquite St. Gallery hours are from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday and noon to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. For more information, visit www.nopalitogaleria.com.

QUILLIN STUDIO AND GALLERY presents a "Festival of Notecards" during the month of March.

Artists always have fun creating note cards, and this selection ranges from fractals to pentagles to more traditional cards. They can be sent to someone special, or framed alone or in groups. Artists include Sally Quillin, Mike Stephens, Kim Gaskill, Jay Foster Savage, Steven Zinns, Roy Fister and Melanie Berry.

Gallery hours are Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. or by appointment.

Quillin Studio and Gallery is located at 317 N. Main St.

For more information, call 312-1064.

LAS CRUCES MUSEUM OF ART presents "Elemental New Mexico," an exhibition of works in a variety of media.

The New Mexico landscape is the inspiration for "Elemental New Mexico," and includes Bill Gilbert, Diane McGregor, Brian Kluge, Nolan Winkler, Anthony Howell and Michael Berman. The show will be on display through April 6.

The Las Cruces Museum of Art is located at 491 N. Main St., next to the Branigan Cultural Center. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

For more information, call 554-2137 or visit www.las-cruces.org/museums.

LAS CRUCES PUBLIC SCHOOLS ADMINISTRATION BUILDING will hold its annual LCPS high school art show through April 24.

The LCPS administration building is located at 505 S. Main St. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call 527-9486.

LAS CRUCES RAILROAD MUSEUM presents the

New Mexico Watercolor Society-Southern Chapter's 2013 For the Love of Art Month presentation, "Planes, Trains and Automobiles," which includes 15 works that represent the theme. The show will remain on display through March.

The Las Cruces Railroad Museum is located at 351 N. Mesilla St. Gallery hours are 9 to 4:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. For more information, call 647-4480.

NEW MEXICO FARM & RANCH HERITAGE MUSEUM presents "Mesilla Valley Weavers: Threads Through Time." This diverse exhibition features 44 different woven works from the artists of the Mesilla Valley Weavers Guild. The exhibit will be in the arts corridor through March.

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.

NMSU Outdoor Recreation Adventure Arts Series

Presents

SARAH REINERTSEN

Sarah stepped on the world stage after making sports history in one of the toughest endurance events in the world -- the Hawaii Ironman. This legendary race includes a 2.4-mile swim (3.8km), 112-mile bike (180km), and a 26.2-mile run (42.2km). Sarah is the first woman on a prosthetic leg to finish the Ironman World Championships in Kona. Sarah's story has been covered in many national newspapers and she has graced the covers of Runner's World, Triathlete, Competitor and ESPN magazine. In 2009, GPP Life published her book, entitled "In A Single Bound."



Thursday March 14th, 2013, 7:00pm
Rio Grande Theatre

Tickets: \$5 in advance, \$8 at the door

Can be purchased at the NMSU Outdoor Center or at the Rio Grande Theatre Email: outdoor@nmsu.edu

Phone: 575.646.4252

2013 Las Cruces Arts Fair



The third annual Las Cruces Arts Fair, Friday through Sunday, March 15-17, will feature the work of nearly 100 artists, including a number of Mata Ortiz potters who will display their works and give demonstrations of their techniques throughout the weekend. Mata Ortiz, a small village found in northern Chihuahua, Mexico, is renowned as the home of the rebirth of the ancient Mesoamerican pottery tradition, largely due to the work and skill of Juan Quezada, a self-taught artist and originator of this widely recognized, world-class style of ceramics. Seventeen members of the Mata Ortiz pueblo will bring their work to Las Cruces, including several artisans who are the direct family of Quezada himself. Hours for the Las Cruces Arts Fair are 5 to 9 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$6, children 12 and younger are free. For more information, visit www.las-cruces-arts.org or call 523-6403.

EventsCalendar

FRI. 3/8

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

7 p.m. Project in Motion presents "A Midsummer Night's Dream," The Gin Studios, 430 N. Compress Road. Project in Motion aerial dance company presents a mesmerizing adaptation of the classic Shakespearean comedy as you've never seen it before. Cost \$10. Visit www.projectinmotion.com.

7 p.m. Live music with Daniel Park, Amaro Winery, 402 S. Melendres St. No cover. Call 527-5310.

7:30 p.m. "Our Town," NMSU Center for the Arts, 1000 E. University Ave. The American Southwest Theatre Company presents Thornton Wilder's "Our Town," a classic slice of Americana following the Gibbs family, Webb family and their neighbors in small Grover's Corners, N.H. Cost \$15 adults, \$13 seniors and NMSU faculty/staff and \$10 students. Call 646-4515.

8 p.m. "Twitch," Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Main St. Inspired by recent events in LeRoy, N.Y., "Twitch" follows a group of already marginalized high school students who begin to develop tics and tourette's-like symptoms, a condition they name "the twitch." Cost \$10 regular admission, \$9 students and seniors. Call 522-1223.

SAT. 3/9

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.

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. New Mexico Day of Percussion, Atkinson Recital Hall, 1075 N. Horseshoe Drive, on the NMSU campus. Featuring clinics and performances by Simon Mancuso, Mike Johnston, Josh Gottry, Randy Granger, Mike Armendariz, the Las Cruces High School percussion ensemble, the Oñate High School percussion ensemble, the University of New Mexico percussion ensemble and the NMSU percussion ensemble. Free. For a detailed schedule, visit www.music.nmsu.edu.

9 a.m. to noon, Mountain View Market Co-op Farm Volunteer days, Mountain View Market Farm, 2653 Snow Road. Interested in organic farming and local food production? Want to find out more about vermiculture, composting, laying hens, season extension and crop planning in our region? Come and volunteer at the Mountain View Market farm in Mesilla. Free. Call 523-0436 for

directions.

9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Las Cruces Farmers & Crafts Market, Downtown Main Street. Wide variety of arts and crafts, food, fresh produce, unique fine art. Free. Email fmarket@las-cruces.org.

10 a.m. to noon, Unravelers Knitting Guild, Doña Ana Community College Public Health and Safety Building, Room 292. For this month's meeting, LaDonna Maxwell will demonstrate knitting cables with beads. BellaDulce yarns will be featured and available for sale during the meeting. Free. Call 201-3514.

10:30 a.m. Storytellers of Las Cruces, COAS Bookstores, 1101 S. Solano Drive and 317 S. Main St. This week, Louise O'Donnell will be the storyteller at the Solano location. COAS will give coupons for free books to all children who attend. Free. Call 524-8471.

5 p.m. "The Renaissance of Mata Ortiz," Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St. The Emmy award-winning documentary tells the story of how a small village in northern Mexico became the home of a number of world-class sculptors from one self-taught artist, Juan Quezada, and one patron, Spencer MacCallum. Free. Call 523-6403.

6 to 9 p.m. Southwest Jewish Art Festival, Temple Beth-El, 3980 Sonoma Springs Ave. Temple Beth-El of Las Cruces presents "All Things Beautiful," a wide variety of fine art and more by Jewish artists on Jewish themes. Special preview night is accompanied by a celebration and traditional Jewish foods. Cost \$25. Call 524-3380.

7 p.m. Project in Motion presents "A Midsummer Night's Dream," The Gin Studios, 430 N. Compress Road. Project in Motion aerial dance company presents a mesmerizing adaptation of the classic Shakespearean comedy as you've never seen it before. Cost \$10. Visit www.projectinmotion.com.

7:30 p.m. "Our Town," NMSU Center for the Arts, 1000 E. University Ave. The American Southwest Theatre Company presents Thornton Wilder's "Our Town," a classic slice of Americana following the Gibbs family, Webb family and their neighbors in small Grover's Corners, N.H. Cost \$15 adults, \$13 seniors and NMSU faculty/staff and \$10 students. Call 646-4515.

8 p.m. "Twitch," Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Main St. Inspired by recent events in LeRoy, N.Y., "Twitch" follows a group of already marginalized high school students who begin to develop tics and tourette's-like symptoms, a condition they name "the

twitch." Cost \$10 regular admission, \$9 students and seniors. Call 522-1223.

SUN. 3/10

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.

11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Southwest Jewish Art Festival, Temple Beth-El, 3980 Sonoma Springs Ave. Temple Beth-El of Las Cruces presents "All Things Beautiful," a wide variety of fine art and more by Jewish artists on Jewish themes. Cost \$5. Call 524-3380.

2 p.m. "Our Town," NMSU Center for the Arts, 1000 E. University Ave. The American Southwest Theatre Company presents Thornton Wilder's "Our Town," a classic slice of Americana following the Gibbs family, Webb family and their neighbors in small Grover's Corners, N.H. Cost \$15 adults, \$13 seniors and NMSU faculty/staff and \$10 students. Call 646-4515.

2:30 p.m. "Twitch," Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Main St. Inspired by recent events in LeRoy, N.Y., "Twitch" follows a group of already marginalized high school students who begin to develop tics and tourette's-like symptoms, a condition they name "the twitch." Cost \$10 regular admission, \$9 students and seniors. Call 522-1223.

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TUE. 3/12

1 to 3:30 p.m. Beginning to Advanced Drawing and Painting, My Place Jewell, 140-A Wyatt Drive. Open to students of all skill levels. Taught by art educator Wayne Carl Huber. Call 647-5684.

WED. 3/13

1 to 3:30 p.m. Life Drawing and Open Studio, My Place Jewell, 140-A Wyatt Drive. Gesture drawing and detail portraiture taught by art educator Wayne Carl Huber. Call 647-5684.

THU. 3/14

1 to 3:30 p.m. Intermediate to Advanced Painting, My Place Jewell, 140-A Wyatt Drive. Watercolor, acrylic and water-soluble oil painting classes taught by art educator Wayne Carl Huber. Open enrollment starting any Thursday. Cost \$50 for four two half-hour sessions. Call 647-5684.

7 p.m. Big Band Dance Club, Court Youth Center, 402 W. Court Ave. The Big Band Dance Club invites the community to dance ballroom, country, swing and Latin styles. This week, music will be provided by the Jim Helder Septet. Beginners group dance lesson begins at 7 p.m., dances from 8 to 10 p.m. Cost \$9 nonmembers and \$7 members. Call 526-6504.

7:30 p.m. "Twitch," Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Main St. Inspired by recent events in LeRoy, N.Y., "Twitch" follows a group of already marginalized high school students who begin to develop tics and tourette's-like symptoms, a condition they name "the twitch." Cost \$10 regular admission, \$9 students and seniors. Call 522-1223.

FRI. 3/15

5 to 8 p.m. Open mic, NMSU Barnes & Noble, University and Jordan avenues. Poetry readers and musicians alternate. Organized by David Rodriguez. Free. Call 646-4431.

5 to 9 p.m. Las Cruces Arts Fair, Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave. Nearly 100 artists from 18 states, including New Mexico, will bring their wares for this fine art fair. There will be free artist demonstrations and lectures, as well as creative activities for children 6 to 12. Artists are contributing pieces representative of their work to a silent auction that will benefit the Doña Ana Arts Council. Opening night festivities include live music and a cash bar. Cost \$6, children 12 and younger free. Call 523-6403.

7 p.m. Project in Motion presents "A Midsummer

Night's Dream," The Gin Studios, 430 N. Compress Road. Project in Motion aerial dance company presents a mesmerizing adaptation of the classic Shakespearean comedy as you've never seen it before. Cost \$10. Visit www.projectinmotion.com.

7 to 10 p.m. Jazzman Ross and the Jazz Show Band, Ump 88 Grill, 1338 Picacho Hills Drive. Dixie, cool and blues in two shows at 7:10 p.m. and 8:35 p.m. No cover. Call 647-1455.

8 p.m. "Twitch," Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Main St. Inspired by recent events in LeRoy, N.Y., "Twitch" follows a group of already marginalized high school students who begin to develop tics and tourette's-like symptoms, a condition they name "the twitch." Cost \$10 regular admission, \$9 students and seniors. Call 522-1223.

SAT. 3/16

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.

9 a.m. to noon, Mountain View Market Co-op Farm Volunteer days, Mountain View Market Farm, 2653 Snow Road. Interested in organic farming and local food production? Want to find out more about vermiculture, composting, laying hens, season extension and crop planning in our region? Come and volunteer at the Mountain View Market farm in Mesilla. Free. Call 523-0436 for directions.

9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Las Cruces Farmers & Crafts Market, Downtown Main Street. Wide variety of

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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 Gloria Hacker will be the storyteller at the Solano location. COAS will give coupons for free books to all children who attend. Free. Call 524-8471.

7 p.m. Drag Pageant, Court Youth Center, 402 W. Court Ave. Southern New Mexico Pride presents the 2013 Drag Pageant, with performances by Aleah Rico, Mikayla de la Rosa, Josh Couture, David Monroy and many more. Cost \$10, \$8 students with ID. Tickets are available at Spirit Winds, Milagro Coffee y Espresso and from www.eventbrite.com.

7 p.m. Project in Motion presents "A Midsummer Night's Dream," The Gin Studios, 430 N. Compress Road. Project in Motion aerial dance company presents a mesmerizing adaptation of the classic Shakespearean comedy as you've never seen it before. Cost \$10. Visit www.projectinmotion.com.

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Celebrating Cowboy Days at the Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum

Photos by Steve MacIntyre



Kenny Arroyos plays for visitors.



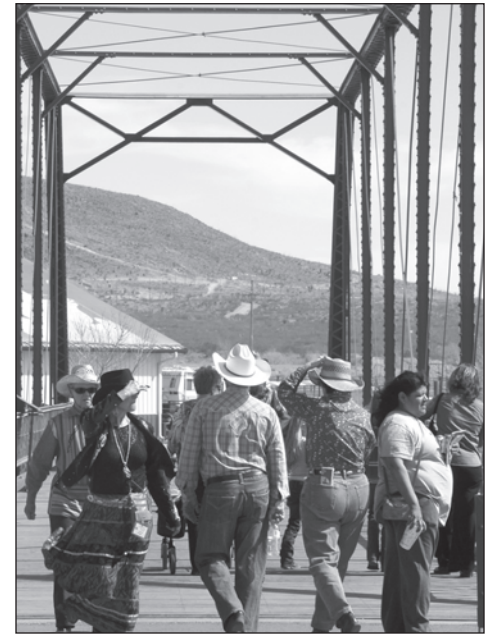
"Wash Tub" Jerry plays his unique wash tub bass with Kenny Arroyos.



Jason McAnally and his son Xander McAnally, 1, pet Chance, a 21-year-old Paso Fino horse with Back County Horseman volunteer Don Patterson Sunday, March 3, at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum's 14th annual Cowboy Days.



Living History Director Scott Burns played preacher Spider McGee during a performance of "Jack Jasper's Wake."



Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum visitors cross over the Green Bridge during Cowboy Days.



Steve Cormier plays guitar with the Organ Mountains as a backdrop.



Melody Hagan lets Scott Burns get a whiff of a eucalyptus cowboy man bar.

Featured artist: John Schooley

Former 'mad man' pursues painting

John Schooley continues his second act

By **Zak Hansen**
Las Cruces Bulletin

His watercolors of buildings, beaches, landscapes, animals and still lifes may look like those of a career painter, but Las Cruces' John Schooley has only been painting seriously for the past five years.

Schooley left a 31-year career in the advertising industry to pursue a passion for painting.

Since he was 7 years old, Schooley said, he's been painting and drawing, but didn't finish high school and received no formal education in the graphic arts.

Schooley's father, a linotype salesman, first introduced him to the world of print advertising and placed a well-timed phone call to an industry friend, landing Schooley his first gig.

Interested in the production process, Schooley was as a "keyliner," a paste-up artist responsible for taking elements of typesetting, graphics and page elements, assembling them into camera-ready pages, proofing, correcting and preparing pages for print.

"When I started, I really wanted to get as high in the business as I could," Schooley said. "Ultimately, I wanted to break into art direction."

Taking the initiative, Schooley began taking other ads and reformatting them on his own, then taking his work to higher-ups and industry professionals for tips and criticism.

"Eventually," he said, "they started to give me real design jobs."

Schooley spent the next six years designing in Dayton, Ohio, until the 1980s, when the state's largest industry – steel – took a major hit.

"Without the industry, there was no advertising," Schooley said, adding that he soon found himself looking for new work.

Eventually landing in Cincinnati, Schooley took work at a small design firm for the next two years, but was left

unsatisfied by the work. Life, as it tends to do, would soon intervene.

Answering an Ohio newspaper ad for a company seeking an experienced art director, Schooley thought he had found new work and close to home. Only half of that would be true.

"When I responded to the ad, I thought the firm was there (in Ohio)," he said. "It turned out they were all the way down in Louisville, Ky., and the Ohio office was a little satellite firm."

Schooley relocated to the South, bringing his family with him after several months of back-and-forth travel.

Entering the company as senior art director, Schooley worked his way up in the ranks over the next six years, eventually finding himself in the position of creative director.

"I had my own clients, managed employees and designers under me and started hiring younger designers who had skills with computers," he said.

After eight years as creative director, Schooley found himself faced with another dilemma. Following the sale and restructuring of the company, the new owners were unwilling to keep him on at the competitive rate he deserved. Thirty years into the industry, Schooley left advertising for good.

"I was 51 and out of a job," he said. "All I was thinking was, 'What do I do now?'"

Relocating back to the small town of Washington Court House, Ohio, Schooley began to pursue his painting, which had long taken a backseat to a high-pressure advertising career.

"I always loved to paint, so when I got to Washington Court House, I just started to paint," Schooley said.

The next hurdle, he said, was figuring out where to sell his work. While in Ohio beginning his second act as a watercolorist, Schooley took a part-time job teaching art classes to students with developmental disabilities at Fayette Progressive

Details

John Schooley

Where

Aralia Gallery, 224 N. Campo St.

When

- 2 to 5 p.m. Thursday
- 2 to 7 p.m. Friday
- Noon to 6 p.m. Saturday
- 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday
- By appointment

Contact

650-7543

Industries.

"I got so much out of it," Schooley said. "Not only was I painting, but I was giving something back, and that was such a genuine reward in itself."

Still unable to settle, Schooley set out on trips across the country, seeking the right market to sell his work.

"I went to Charleston (S.C.), but it didn't feel quite right. I went to Galveston, Texas, but it didn't feel right. I visited my sister out in Tucson (Ariz.), but that didn't feel right either," he said.

Back in Ohio, a random encounter in a grocery store set Schooley on a path that landed him in the City of the Crosses.

"I was in a Walmart in Washington Court House and I ran into a former teacher," he said. "She asked what I had been doing and I said, 'I don't really know – I'd like to relocate, but I don't know where.'"

The teacher asked Schooley if he'd ever heard of Las Cruces, where she and her husband were planning their coming retirement, citing the scenery, the landscapes, the weather and – most of all – the people as reasons to come.

"I went home, got on the Internet and did some research, requested relocation guides, gallery lists, all of that," Schooley said.

After sending out information and résumés to local artists and galleries, Schooley moved to Las Cruces and started anew, spending his first three months in the city painting out of a motel room.

After a meeting with Las Cruces photographer Ali Keyes, Schooley met with Wendy Robin Weir, owner of Aralia Gallery. Weir was not only looking for new artists to feature, but for someone to manage the gallery as well.

"I jumped at the chance – it was time to get out of the motel room," Schooley said with a laugh.

Since then, he's had work on display at Aralia Gallery, which he helps manage, and even rents a small room inside the space where he can continue his work.

Ever since his arrival in Las Cruces, Schooley has seen his passion and hard work come to fruition. He's shown in galleries around town including the El Paso Electric Gallery, Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery, the Las Cruces Railroad Museum and Aralia Gallery, where he is currently a featured artist, as well as shows in Los Alamos and Fort Bliss. Schooley is also a member of the New Mexico Watercolor Society-Southern Chapter.

"The people here in Las Cruces have been so helpful," he said. "There's so much talent and potential here. The artists are really like a family, helping each other out and supporting one another."



"Peña Blanca at Organ Mountains" by John Schooley



UPCOMING EVENTS

FRI. MAR 8	10:30 A.M.
Rhythm Roundup – Music & Movement ages 2–5	Branigan Library
FRI. MAR 8	3 P.M.
Fantastic Fridays – Stories & Crafts ages 7–11	Branigan Library
FRI.–SUN. MAR 8–10	(SUN 2:30 P.M.) 8 P.M.
Twitch	Black Box Theatre
SAT. MAR 9	10 A.M.
Fun with Acting class	Black Box Rehearsal Hall
SAT. MAR 9	10:30 A.M.
Storytellers of Las Cruces	COAS Bookstore
SUN. MAR 10	2 P.M.
Second Sunday SCRABBLE	Branigan Library
MON. MAR 11	3 P.M.
Computer Class: MS Word 2007	Branigan Library
TUE. MAR 12	9 A.M.
Intro to Philanthropy In/Sight	Branigan Library
TUE. MAR 12	10:30 A.M.
Read to Me – Storytime ages 3 & Up	Branigan Library
TUE. MAR 12	3 P.M.
Computer Class: Know Your PC	Branigan Library
TUE. MAR 12	3:30 P.M.
Doodle 4 Google	Branigan Library
WED.+THU. MAR 13+14	10 A.M.
Toddler Time! Stories for kids 1–3	Branigan Library
WED. MAR 13	11 A.M.
Mother Goose Time	Branigan Library
WED. MAR 13	2 P.M.
DAC Genealogical Society Meeting	Branigan Library
WED. MAR 13	5:30 P.M.
Doodle 4 Google	Branigan Library
THU. MAR 14	3 P.M.
Computer Class: iPad Basics	Branigan Library
THU. MAR 14	6 P.M.
Introduction to Mah Jongg	Branigan Library



ONGOING EVENTS:

- Downtown Arts RAMBLE - 1st Friday of the Month 5-7pm
- Camino del Arte - 2nd Saturday of the Month 11am-3pm
- Las Cruces Farmers & Crafts Market - Wed. and Sat. Morn.

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Wednesday: \$4 Sakeinis
Thursday: \$4 Sake Mojitos
Friday: \$5 Hamami Cocktail
Half off Dim Sum every weekday from 2 to 5 p.m.

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3375 Bataan Memorial West
382-9051
4 to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, Food and drink specials
Live entertainment every other week
Every Wednesday night is open mic night

Cattle Baron
790 S. Telshor Blvd.
522-7533
4 to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, Discounted drink specials and complimentary food bar

Chilitos
3850 Foothills Road
532-0141
2405 S. Valley Drive
526-4184
3 to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, \$2 domestic beers

Double Eagle
2355 Calle de Guadalupe
523-6700
3 to 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. to close, Monday

through Friday
Discounted liquor, beer and wine by the glass
Discounted bar food specials

Dublin's Street Pub
1745 E. University Ave.
522-0931
3 to 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Monday through Friday, \$1 off domestic pints and well drinks
1/2 off select beer of the day

Garduños
705 S. Telshor Blvd.
(Inside Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces)
532-4277
5 to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, 20% off all well drinks
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High Desert Brewing Co.
1201 W. Hadley Ave.
525-6752
5 to 7 p.m. Sunday and Monday, \$1 off pints
Lunch specials available daily

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Thursday: \$2 Shock Top bottles

Saturday: Kids eat free. One kids meal per paying adult meal all day

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Quintessence of culinary quality

Chef, owner Quintana keeps the bar raised

By Zak Hansen
Las Cruces Bulletin

Anthony Quintana knows what makes a successful restaurant. At the end of the day, it isn't the atmosphere, or the staff, or the ambiance, or the amount of stuff you tack up on the walls, or even the price – it's all about the food. When you can balance all of those things, though, you've found a rare and beautiful balance.

Born and raised in Las Cruces, Quintana left to attend culinary school in San Francisco. Upon completion, he returned to the Mesilla Valley, where he was the executive chef of the Marriott Hotel for several years.

Five years ago, though, Quintana broke out on his own and opened Q's Southern Bistro in Silver City. The restaurant was a hit.

Now, Quintana has brought his culinary prowess back to his hometown with the opening of Q's Steak, Pasta and Brewhouse at 1300 Avenida de Mesilla.

Q's, which opened up shop in the sadly long-vacant building that once housed the Gadsden Purchase, offers steaks, pastas, seafood and burgers – along with plenty of great beers on tap – all carefully prepared under Quintana's supervision.

Don't expect the endless dining room schmoozing that many restaurateurs feel compelled to engage in at Q's. Quintana works ceaselessly to ensure the food leaving his kitchen is prepared to the highest standards – his own. This means

he's not going to be sipping white wine on the balcony during business hours with the regulars – he'll be in the back with a knife, a pair of tongs or a searing hot pan, all in the name of giving his customers the meal they deserve.

Sure, he'll visit with the customers when there's time, but in the kitchen, time is often in short supply, and Quintana's focus is, and will continue to be, on the food.

Each and every item on the menu has been created and tested by Quintana himself, and you can bet he'll be there making sure it leaves the kitchen exactly as it should.

The expansive appetizer menu features starters such as spicy shrimp avocado wontons, beer-battered fried mushrooms stuffed with mozzarella cheese, spinach and bacon, and stuffed calabacitas – breaded zucchini pieces stuffed with parmesan cheese, roasted peppers, scallions and sliced asparagus topped with Q's own red chile cream sauce.

If you want more than an appetizer but aren't ready for a steak, Q's offers plenty of pasta options, from the pasta Florentine, with sautéed portabellas, spinach and garlic deglazed in a sweet moscato wine and served with a creamy white wine sauce, to the feta stuffed ravioli, with sautéed peppers, garlic and green onions served with one of three sauces, pesto, alfredo or marinara. Never fear vegetarians: all of these pastas are herbivore-friendly. That said, the omnis

Details

Q's Steak, Pasta and Brewhouse

Address
1300 Avenida de Mesilla

Phone
571-4350

Hours
11 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Monday through Saturday,
11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday



and carnis among us can still add chicken, steak, salmon or shrimp to any pasta dish.

Q's steaks – obviously the most important element of a steakhouse – are hand cut and herbed then grilled to perfection. The sirloin filet and rib eye can be cut to one of three sizes (6 oz., 8 oz. or 10 oz.), and the filet mignon – the king of meats – comes at 8 oz. All of Q's steaks are served with two sides, including onion rings, mashed potatoes, mac' n' cheese, sweet potato fries, collard greens and green beans.

The burgers at Q's are made with the same care and attention to detail as the omnipresent but difficult filet mignon. I had the Monti Burger – a whole half-pound of juicy beef topped with Swiss cheese, grilled onions, grilled tomatoes, lettuce and pickles (and, of course, green chile by request) on a sour-dough bun – and it made for a helluva meal, especially coupled with a cold pint of beer from one of Q's 19 taps (Santa Fe Brewing Co. makes a killer Black I.P.A.).

Even the fries that came with the burger impressed: none of those even cut, from-the-freezer-to-the-fryer excuses for fried potatoes at Q's. These things start out as actual potatoes before they're hand-cut, fried crispy and sprinkled with coarse ground salt and pepper. This is a little touch, but one that's telling of Quintana's devotion to the craft at Q's.

It's not easier to make food this way, nor is it cheaper.

It's just a whole lot better.

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All this = What's for dinner?



Mesilla Valley
Menu Guide 2013

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*15 minutes lunch is from time order is placed to the time waiter delivers to the table.

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SATURDAY EVENING MARCH 9, 2013
Table with columns for time slots (5:00-11:30) and channels (PBS, CBS, ABC, etc.) listing various TV programs like Lewis, Chris Mann in Concert, and The Ugly Truth.

SUNDAY MORNING MARCH 10, 2013
Table with columns for time slots (5:00-10:30) and channels (PBS, CBS, ABC, etc.) listing programs such as Albert King, Home, and Good Morning El Paso.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON MARCH 10, 2013
Table with columns for time slots (11:00-4:30) and channels (PBS, CBS, ABC, etc.) listing afternoon programs including Heart of Perfect Health and The Piano Guys.

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March 8 - 14 All Together
March 15 - 21 Oscar Nominated Shorts

This Week on KRWG-TV 22
Sunday, March 10 9 p.m. Albert King With Stevie Ray Vaughan
Monday, March 11 7 p.m. Great Scenic Railway Journeys
Tuesday, March 12 8:30 p.m. 60's Pop Flashback
Wednesday, March 13 8:30 p.m. Aaron Neville In Concert
Thursday, March 14 7 p.m. Jerry Lewis Live From Las Vegas
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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.

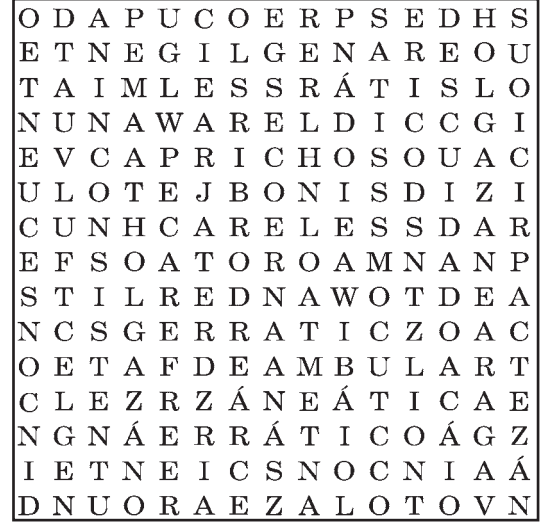
NO PLAN OF ACTION

ENGLISH

- AIMLESS
- CAREFREE
- CARELESS
- CAPRICIOUS
- ERRATIC
- IDLE
- INCONSISTENT
- NEGLECTFUL
- TO LAZE AROUND
- TO ROAM
- TO WANDER
- UNAWARE

SPANISH

- SIN OBJETO
- DESPREOCUPADO
- DESCUIDADO
- CAPRICIOSO
- ERRÁTICO
- HOLGAZÁN
- INCONSECUENTE
- NEGLIGENTE
- HOLGAZANEAR
- VAGAR
- DEAMBULAR
- INCONSCIENTE



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 | DOWN |
| 1 Connie of "Hotel" | 1 Rescuers |
| 9 "Cheers" bartender | 2 Cuts and splices |
| 12 Wake-up call? | 3 Dryer trappings |
| 14 Potpie vegetables | 4 Ship's diary |
| 16 1967 Michael Rennie movie | 5 ___ your heart out! |
| 18 Come to a consensus | 6 Highland group |
| 20 Interviewer Dick | 7 Editor's mark |
| 21 Nerve cell | 8 Debates |
| 23 NHL players, basically | 9 Healing waters |
| 25 Paces | 10 Sponsorship |
| 27 Sibyl | 11 Explorer Polo |
| 28 Pack down tightly | 12 Leads a nomadic life |
| 32 Full of lip | 13 Ethel of Broadway |
| 33 That woman | 15 Prognosticators |
| 34 Abettors | 16 Aussie's amigo |
| 36 ___-do-well | 17 Hush-hush |
| 37 NFLer Manning | 19 Shunning |
| 39 Old sound system | 20 Tender or Pullman |
| 40 Livy's 401 | 22 Plummet |
| 41 Harmless cysts | 24 Dancer Ruby |
| 43 Powdered | 26 Neighbor of Israel |
| 44 River inlet | 28 Race of giant gods |
| 45 Burr and Spelling | 29 Soprano Patti |
| 47 Pungent bulbs | 30 "Never on Sunday" star |
| 48 Gun the engine | 31 Reserve ahead of time |
| 49 Two-masted sailing vessel | 34 In the matter of |
| 51 Tea containers | 35 Lays turf |
| 53 Tight | 38 Protect with serum |
| 54 Blanchett of "Oscar and Lucinda" | 42 Got cozy |
| 55 Popeye's Olive | 45 Pointed tool |
| 56 Leave in a hurry | 46 Frightened |
| 58 Noah's peak | 48 Squalor |
| 60 Nev. neighbor | 49 Alpine singer |
| 61 2000 candidate | 50 Khomeini, for one |
| 62 Stravinsky or Sikorsky | 52 With confidence |
| 63 Seine | 54 HOV-lane users |
| 64 Spoke | 56 Dugout stack |
| 65 Paranormal insight | 57 Williams and Kennedy |
| 66 Block up | 59 Forum platforms |
| 68 Strengthens | 60 Ancient Peruvians |
| 69 Hanks or Cruise | 67 Contrivance |
| 71 Arabic word for God | 70 Wisdom tooth, e.g. |
| 73 Circular current | 72 Maintain a grip |
| 74 Triple calculations | 74 Word before bag or beetle |
| 80 Infrequently | 75 Recommended emphatically |
| 82 "Raiders of the Lost Ark" co-star | 76 Stout or bock |
| 83 Loose overcoat | 77 Ultimate act |
| 85 United | 78 Lone Star State |
| 86 Part of WASP | 79 Sleep noisily |
| 88 Gardener's tool | 81 ___ cum laude |
| 91 Scarce | 82 French military caps |
| 92 Too nervous to speak | 84 Images in rev. |
| 93 Do needlework | 85 Parasitic arachnid |
| 94 Most unpleasant | 87 Of recent origin |
| | 89 Incision |
| | 90 Hilo garland |

WING DING

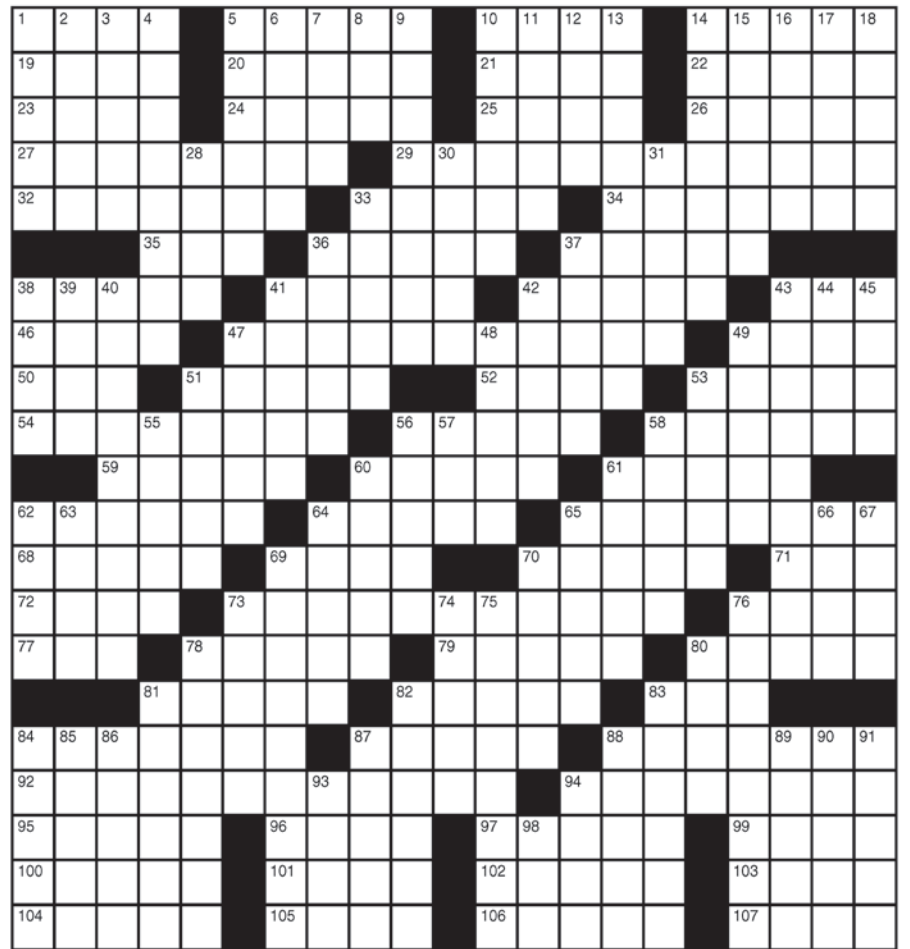
ACROSS

- 1 Beat it, Fluffy!
- 5 Rock overhang
- 10 Lock with a pin
- 14 Use boiling water
- 19 Muscle condition
- 20 Track competitor
- 21 Dunkable cookie
- 22 Diner patron
- 23 Somewhat
- 24 Activity area
- 25 Pitcher's miscue
- 26 Treasure hunter's find
- 27 "Big" star goose?
- 29 Pavers for turkeys?
- 32 Jacket parts
- 33 Exclaims
- 34 Swelling waves
- 35 Thing in court
- 36 Aims
- 37 Consent
- 38 Born before
- 41 "My Favorite Wife" star
- 42 Swings of the bat
- 43 Swabbie's tool
- 46 Settled a debt
- 47 Nighty-night, canaries!
- 49 Roman orator
- 50 Do wrong
- 51 Try hard to persuade
- 52 Aesop's fabled loser
- 53 Evert of tennis
- 54 Wetlands plants
- 56 To-do list entry
- 58 ___ longue
- 59 Cool it!
- 60 Provides with a meal
- 61 Pine
- 62 Against adversity
- 64 Bow or Barton
- 65 Delta deposit
- 68 Amphitheater levels
- 69 Bovine bellows
- 70 Beautiful wife of Menelaus
- 71 Pullman or sleeper
- 72 Mimicked
- 73 Chick who kept a diary?
- 76 Guitarist's gizmo
- 77 Up on trends
- 78 Wild card
- 79 Linear measures
- 80 Intimidated
- 81 Pouting faces
- 82 Makes flush
- 83 Against
- 84 Waylays
- 87 Comes up short

- 88 Consecrates
- 92 Classic game show for pheasants?
- 94 Pigeon takeover?
- 95 Blacksmith's block
- 96 High time?
- 97 Perjurers
- 99 Astronaut's negative
- 100 Martin or McQueen
- 101 Opening for quarters
- 102 Borden's spokes-cow
- 103 Long, difficult journey
- 104 Zigzag turns
- 105 Pitcher parts
- 106 Vote into office
- 107 Withered

DOWN

- 1 RBIs and ERAs, for example
- 2 Old computer language
- 3 Japanese cartooning style
- 4 On a leash
- 5 Lifting devices
- 6 Carefree adventures
- 7 Chills
- 8 Marshy wetland
- 9 Like a rose
- 10 Calvin's tiger
- 11 Some Semites
- 12 Auction off
- 13 Texas Hold'em, e.g.
- 14 Comes to rest
- 15 King or Lombard
- 16 Make up (for)
- 17 Prying tool
- 18 Put on clothes
- 28 Finished
- 30 Greased up
- 31 Classifies
- 33 Ice cream holders
- 36 Educated or wild follower
- 37 Knowing
- 38 International fuel cartel's letters
- 39 "Doctor Zhivago" heroine
- 40 Inexpensive baby robin?
- 41 Live
- 42 Roebuck's business partner
- 43 Military branch calling?
- 44 Name on an elevator
- 45 Stance
- 47 Vocal quaver
- 48 Valerie Harper sitcom
- 49 Captivate
- 51 Beach toys
- 53 Sequence
- 55 Graham Greene's "The ___ Man"
- 56 Type of fire?
- 57 That girl
- 58 Relinquishes
- 60 Baker's purchase
- 61 Short, sharp barks
- 62 Provo's state
- 63 Plumbing conduit
- 64 Hails (from)
- 65 Burpee products
- 66 Back of the neck
- 67 Stomped (on)
- 69 Be reasonable
- 70 Toast's start
- 73 Down on a map
- 74 Song text
- 75 "Twittering Machine" artist
- 76 Says yes
- 78 Pushes and shoves
- 80 Unisex
- 81 Reason for an action
- 82 Razzes
- 83 Storage space
- 84 Humiliate
- 85 Pennies
- 86 Bats' habitats
- 87 Knock senseless
- 88 ___ acid
- 89 Put in mothballs
- 90 Rarin' to go
- 91 Use a poker
- 93 Soft drink
- 94 Perry Mason project
- 98 Under the weather

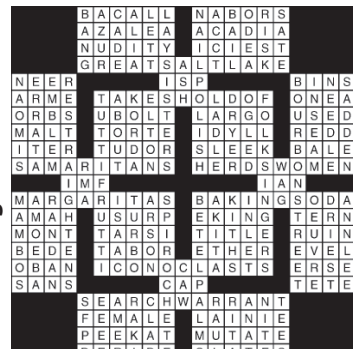


LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

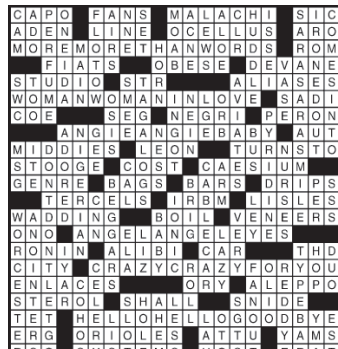
Word Salsa



Diagramless



Double A-Sides



CRYPTOGRAM

TH THDMB UWLGPPEZM GPOS T XTMNLGT
 VZM UPIZZ GTLGZS ONRZ EWS. GVZ
 XTMNLGT RZJG VZM UPPO THS JOTBIWOOB
 MZGPMGZS, "BZL, NG'L IMZLV DMPWHS."
LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:
 It's a fundamental fact: though letters get mailed and move very fast across the country, they remain stationary.

AtTheMovies

Over 21 need not apply

College comedy aims low, still misses

By **Zak Hansen**
Las Cruces Bulletin

Watching "21 & Over" made me feel old.

My hard-partying early 20s aren't all that far behind me, but this latest entry in the drunken buddy comedy makes me feel like I'm sitting on the front porch shaking my cane at kids in the yard. Maybe I've just seen too many iterations of this same story tailored to my own generation, but this one made me want to sit out and predict the summer rains by the swelling in my bad knee.

"21 & Over," the directorial debut of duo Jon Lucas and Scott Moore – writers of the hugely successful "The Hangover" – follows straight-laced future financier Casey (Skylar Astin) and loud-mouth Miller (Miles Teller) as they arrive to show their best friend Jeff Chang (Justin Chon) the time of his life on the most

important night of the college-age male's social calendar: his 21st birthday.

But guess what? Jeff has a big medical school interview the next morning, orchestrated by his glowering, domineering doctor father (Francois Chau). Miller and Casey convince "JeffChang" – they run his name together because he's Asian, get it? – to go out with them for "just one drink" and ...

Yes, you've seen this movie before. Probably a number of times.

As you can imagine, one beer turns into two, turns into several shots, turns into a night of pub-crawling debauchery and – wouldn't you know it? – Jeff gets drunk and passes out – to the point that he can't tell his buddies where he lives. Hilarity ensues.

Or, should ensue, as the formula goes.

This genre of movie thrives on formula, and that's never been the issue. Teens and 20-somethings

don't flock in droves to see the likes of "Project X," "Superbad," "The Hangover," "Harold and Kumar go to White Castle," "Old School," "Road Trip," "Animal House" or – need I continue? – to be surprised.

These movies do so well precisely because they are formulaic, easy, and present no new and terrifying stimuli for the drunken masses – they simply follow the formula and attempt to one up their forebears in the gross-out department.

"21 & Over" only got half of this equation right. Or, to extend the metaphor, it's as if writers Lucas and Moore wrote down the equation, scribbled some numbers under it and turned in their exam. There isn't an original thought in "21 & Over," which wouldn't be too terrible an indictment if the jokes ever went anywhere, not to mention if it was the least bit funny.

The drunken trio of Miller, Casey and Jeff find themselves in increasingly "wild and crazy" situations and locales, but this idea of debauchery has been done before and done better.

Lucas and Moore aim for offensive, but all their attempts to cross the ever-blurrer lines just come off as feeble adolescent banter.

Miller, the resident loudmouth of the film, spouts off obscenities and derogations of all manner – race, religion, gender, sexuality – but while doing so, he isn't funny or charming enough to be sympathetic nor offensive enough to be disliked. He's just there, and so are all of the characters.



Miles Teller, Justin Chon and Skylar Astin star in the college comedy "21 & Over," now playing at Allen Theatres.

Sure, the directors have tacked on tossed-off side stories about Miller dropping out of college altogether, Casey's uncertainty about his future in the financial world and Jeff's overwhelming stress over the demands of his father, but these tidbits are discarded almost as soon as they surface. Their only function, it seems, is to make Miller sympathetic – he says rude things cause he hurts – Casey down to earth – privileged guys have worries, too – and help set up Jeff's eventual confrontation with his father over medical school. How original.

Sure, there's lots of male nudity played for laughs, casual racism and stereotyping, body shots, pratfalls and a super slow motion vomit scene, but it's all so trite that none of it comes close to inspiring gasps – or laughs. Really, the only shocking thing about "21 & Over" is just how unfunny and tame it all is.

Unless this is your first foray into

comedies about drunken buffoons – or you're well under the titular age – stay away from "21 & Over." To save you time and money, I wrote you this mad lib. It works.

(1-4) friends promise to show (name) the time of (his/her) life on the night of (his/her) (bachelor party/graduation/birthday) but there's just one problem: tomorrow is the big (wedding/test/interview) and they've gotten out of control!

If they don't get (name) there on time, (his/her) (spouse/domineering father/crusty old dean) will sure have it out for them!

Along the way, they'll meet some crazy characters like _____, _____ and _____, find themselves trapped in _____, and – just maybe – learn a thing or two about (friendship/love) along the way.

Go ahead, try it. I guarantee your results will get more giggles than "21 & Over."



Film Review

Spare your brain cells – "21 & Over" is more dangerous than a night of binge drinking.

Grade D

21 & OVER

Rated: R

Running Time: 93 minutes

Starring: Miles Teller, Justin Chon

Director: Jon Lucas, Scott Moore

Fonda proves that aging isn't all that fun

'All Together' is a graceful look at getting on

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

An intelligent and graceful look at the hazards of aging besides not being able to sleep, eat, move, go to the bathroom, have sex or remember a damn thing, "All Together" tells the story of five friends who don't want to end up in an old folks home.

Instead, they start a sort of elders' commune, wherein they work to take care of themselves and each other.

You'll recognize two of the faces right off, Jane Fonda (almost my neighbor), who co-stars in her first French speaking film in 40 years, the last one being (I believe) a Jean-Luc Goddard film, "Tout va Bien (All is Well)," which doesn't exactly describe the friends' new arrangement; and the wonderful Geraldine Chaplin.

Each of the roomies has issues, mostly relating to health. Fonda has an unspecified disease which

is slowly killing her, but she refuses to confide in her friends or even her husband, well played by Pierre Richard, who can ill afford to have the first stages of Alzheimer's, which impairs his work as a photographer.

Claude Rich plays Claude, the bachelor of the group, who still thinks he has a way with women, not realizing his libido is stronger than his heart until he suffers a stroke at a house of ill repute.

Chaplin might be the healthiest of the bunch, but the constant fighting between her and her husband, Jean (Guy Bedos), really starts to take a toll on everyone. Jean, a long-

time political activist and rabble-rouser, is slow to find out that most people and most of the authorities don't care too much about older folks who engage in protests and the anger of an aging man.

The film follows them as they blend into their new house: working to find space for all of the things that they still cherish and need to continue their ever-shortening lives. Things that used to be easy and common can now be struggles, and each helps the other through the daily slog.

Thankfully, the story is not treated as a comedy of geezers needing diapers and Viagra. Rather, it is a touching and often gently funny look at what we will all face or are already facing.

Something else that ties them together besides mutual need is Dirk, (Daniel Bruhl), who is hired as Chaplin's dog walker and is an ethnologist studying for his Ph.D., on the subject of senior citizens. Dirk becomes like a walking, talking memory at times, offering a bittersweet look at most of the characters' past in one way or another. It is a masterful stroke in writing and gives the film a definite



Pierre Richard and Jane Fonda star in "All Together," Fonda's first French-speaking film in more than 40 years, now playing at the Fountain Theatre.

boost.

Similar in tone, but more structured than last year's "Best Exotic Marigold Hotel," "All Together" sets a pleasant pace with strong acting and writing to help keep itself, and us, as the audience, focused.

Best of all, even if Fonda is the "star power" for the American screenings of this film, she doesn't show it. She blends in well and expertly with a cast that is certainly lesser known on this side of the Atlantic, never once showboating or

preening. I always give a film bonus points if a main actor or actress makes me forget who they really are as he or she works through a role. Fonda does that all too well in this picture.

In the end, "All Together" is a bittersweet look at life, love and health, thus becoming a film that is easy to appreciate.

Still have a grudge against Ms. Fonda? Get over it already. jeffberg@lascrucesbulletin.com



FILM REVIEW

"All Together" is in French and runs about 95 minutes. It opens for a week run at the Fountain Theatre on Friday, March 8.

GRADE B

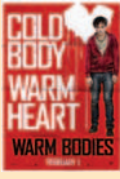



At The Movies


Picking the Flicks

Movie information from www.rottentomatoes.com. Thumbs-up based on a 5-point scale.


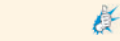
Warm Bodies
Rated: PG-13
Plot Overview: A relationship develops between a teenage girl and a zombie, and their romance could hold the key to saving the world.
Starring: Nicholas Hoult, Teresa Palmer
Director: Jonathan Levine

Identity Thief
Rated: R
Plot Overview: An accounts rep travels across the country to confront the woman who's stolen his identity and run amok on his tab.
Starring: Jason Bateman, Melissa McCarthy
Director: Seth Gordon




A Good Day to Die Hard
Rated: R
Plot Overview: John McClane heads to Russia to help his son, who is working as a CIA operative, to prevent a nuclear arms heist.
Starring: Bruce Willis, Jai Courtney
Director: John Moores

Jack the Giant Slayer
Rated: PG-13
Plot Overview: Jack, a young farmhand, accidentally opens a gateway between the human and giant worlds, reigniting an ancient war.
Starring: Nicholas Hoult, Stanley Tucci
Director: Bryan Singer






Safe Haven
Rated: PG-13
Plot Overview: A mysterious young woman arrives in a small North Carolina town and begins a relationship with a single father, but dark secrets from her past threaten her new life.
Starring: Josh Duhamel, Julianne Hough
Director: Lasse Hallström




Escape from Planet Earth
Rated: PG
Plot Overview: On the planet Baab, famed astronaut Scorch Supernova is a hero. When an SOS arrives from a notoriously dangerous planet, Supernova is caught in a trap.
Starring: Brendan Fraser, Jessica Alba (voices)
Director: Cal Bunker




Life of Pi 3D
Rated: PG
Plot Overview: A young man survives a sea disaster and enters into an unexpected epic journey with the only other survivor, a Bengal tiger.
Starring: Suraj Sharma, Irfan Khan
Director: Ang Lee



Dark Skies
Rated: PG-13
Plot Overview: A suburban family is terrorized by an otherworldly – and deadly – force, and must take matters into their own hands.
Starring: Keri Russell, Josh Hamilton
Director: Scott Stewart




Silver Linings Playbook
Rated: R
Plot Overview: Pat has lost his job, his wife, his house and his sanity. After eight months in an institution, he returns home to pick up the pieces.
Starring: Bradley Cooper, Jennifer Lawrence
Director: David O. Russell




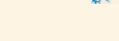

Snitch
Rated: PG-13
Plot Overview: After his son is wrongly convicted of a drug offense and sent to prison, a father makes a deal to become an informant and infiltrate a vicious drug cartel.
Starring: Dwayne Johnson, Barry Pepper
Director: Ric Roman Waugh

21 & Over
Rated: R
Plot Overview: Finally 21, an honor student celebrates his birthday with a night of drinking, debauchery and excess – the night before a medical school interview.
Starring: Justin Chon, Skylar Astin
Directors: Jon Lucas, Scott Moore




The Last Exorcism Part II
Rated: PG-13
Plot Overview: Nell Sweetzer, attempting to rebuild a life after the terrifying events of the first film, is once again possessed by an evil force.
Starring: Ashley Bell, Spencer Treat Clark
Director: Ed Gass-Donnelly






Oz the Great and Powerful
Rated: PG
Plot Overview: A magician leaves Kansas and finds himself in an enchanted land, where he will decide whether or not he will become great.
Starring: James Franco, Mila Kunis
Director: Sam Raimi




OPENS FRIDAY, MARCH 8

Dead Man Down
Rated: R
Plot Overview: A rising gangster and a damaged woman join together on a violent campaign of retribution on those who ruined their lives.
Starring: Colin Farrell, Noomi Rapace
Director: Neils Arden Oplev

OPENS FRIDAY, MARCH 8

New this week on DVD

Tuesday, March 12

Cirque du Soleil: Worlds Away
Rated: PG
Genre: Performing Arts
Starring: Igor Zaripov, Erica Kathleen Linz
Director: Andrew Adamson

Life of Pi
Rated: PG
Genre: Adventure
Starring: Suraj Sharma, Irrfan Khan
Director: Ang Lee

Rise of the Guardians
Rated: PG
Genre: Family
Starring: Chris Pine, Alec Baldwin (voices)
Director: Peter Ramsey

Top Grossing March 1-3

1 Jack the Giant Slayer (Week No. 1) \$27,202,000	6 Escape From Planet Earth (Week No. 3) \$6,619,000
2 Identity Thief (Week No. 4) \$9,706,000	7 Safe Haven (Week No. 3) \$6,278,000
3 21 & Over (Week No. 1) \$8,754,000	8 Silver Linings Playbook (Week No. 16) \$5,723,000
4 Snitch (Week No. 2) \$7,768,000	9 A Good Day to Die Hard (Week No. 3) \$4,572,000
5 The Last Exorcism Part II (Week No. 1) \$7,728,000	10 Dark Skies (Week No. 2) \$3,468,000

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<p>CINEPORT 10</p> <p>700 S. TELSHOR BLVD. WWW.ALLENTHEATRESINC.COM</p>	<p>OPERA in CINEMA</p> <p>REGISTER AT ALLENTHEATRESINC.COM FOR EMAIL INFO AND SPECIALS</p>	<p>TELSHOR 12</p> <p>2811 TELSHOR BLVD.</p> <p>PLEASE BE COURTEOUS TO YOUR FOLLOW PATRONS. TURN OFF YOUR CELL BEFORE ENTERING THE AUDITORIUM.</p>	<p>DEAD MAN DOWN</p> <p>DAILY 2:00 4:40 7:20 10:00 SAT-SUN 11:20 (R) NO PASS OR DISCOUNT</p>
<p>OZ THE GREAT AND POWERFUL</p> <p>SHOWING IN 3D DAILY 12:25 3:20 6:20 9:15 (PG) \$2 UPCHARGE NO PASS OF ANY KIND</p>	<p>JACK THE GIANT SLAYER</p> <p>SHOWING IN 3D DAILY 11:40 4:50 10:00 (PG13) \$2 UPCHARGE NO PASS OF ANY KIND</p>	<p>JACK THE GIANT SLAYER</p> <p>SHOWING IN 3D DAILY 4:50 10:00 SAT-SUN 11:40 (PG13) \$2 3D NO PASS OF ANY KIND</p>	<p>21 & OVER</p> <p>DAILY 2:00 4:35 7:05 9:40 SAT-SUN 11:30 (R) NO PASS OR DISCOUNT</p>
<p>SAFE HAVEN</p> <p>DAILY 11:30 2:05 4:40 7:15 9:50 (PG13)</p>	<p>A GOOD DAY TO DIE HARD</p> <p>DAILY 12:10 2:30 4:50 7:10 9:30 (R)</p>	<p>WARM BODIES</p> <p>DAILY 2:15 4:45 7:15 9:45 SAT-SUN 11:45 (PG13)</p>	<p>LIFE OF PI</p> <p>SHOWING IN 3D DAILY 4:00 7:00 9:50 SAT-SUN 12:30 (PG) \$2 UPCHARGE NO PASS OF ANY KIND</p>
<p>JACK THE GIANT SLAYER</p> <p>SHOWING IN 2D DAILY 2:15 7:25 (PG13) NO PASS OR DISCOUNT</p>	<p>21 & OVER</p> <p>DAILY 12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00 (R) NO PASS OR DISCOUNT</p>	<p>OZ THE GREAT AND POWERFUL</p> <p>SHOWING 3D DAILY 3:40 6:35 9:30 SAT-SUN 12:45 (PG) \$2 UPCHARGE NO PASS OR DISCOUNT</p>	<p>SNITCH</p> <p>DAILY 2:00 4:35 7:10 9:45 SAT-SUN 11:25 (PG13)</p>
<p>SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK</p> <p>DAILY 12:00 3:15 7:10 10:00 (R)</p>	<p>ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH</p> <p>SHOWING IN 3D DAILY 12:45 5:15 7:30 (PG) \$2 UPCHARGE NO PASS OR DISCOUNT</p>	<p>DARK SKIES</p> <p>DAILY 9:30 (PG13)</p>	<p>IDENTITY THIEF</p> <p>DAILY 2:00 4:35 7:05 9:40 SAT-SUN 11:30 (R)</p>
<p>IDENTITY THIEF</p> <p>DAILY 11:45 2:15 4:50 7:25 10:00 (R)</p>	<p>OZ THE GREAT AND POWERFUL</p> <p>SHOWING IN 2D DAILY 1:20 4:55 8:25 (PG) NO PASS OR DISCOUNT</p>	<p>BLESS ME ULTIMA</p> <p>DAILY 2:15 4:50 7:25 10:00 SAT-SUN 11:30 (PG13)</p>	<p>THE LAST EXORCISM PART II</p> <p>DAILY 2:15 4:45 7:15 9:45 SAT-SUN 11:45 (PG13) NO PASS OR DISCOUNT</p>
<p>DARK SKIES</p> <p>DAILY 12:35 2:55 5:10 7:30 9:50 (PG13)</p>	<p>ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH</p> <p>SHOWING IN 2D DAILY 3:00 9:45 (PG)</p>	<p>VIDEO 4</p> <p>1005 S. EL PASO</p> <p>ALL SEATS ALL TIMES \$3.00</p>	<p>WRECK IT RALPH</p> <p>DAILY 4:45 7:15 9:50 SAT-SUN 2:10 (PG)</p> <p>ZERO DARK THIRTY</p> <p>DAILY 5:25 8:50 SAT-SUN 2:00 (R)</p> <p>HOBBIT</p> <p>DAILY 5:30 9:00 SAT-SUN 2:00 (PG13)</p> <p>JACK REACHER</p> <p>DAILY 5:00 8:00 SAT-SUN 2:10 (PG13)</p>

Gary Guzman's
berry-care tips
D5



Stout Hardwood
Floors has you
covered
D6-7

Health &
Well Being



Shavees help
childhood cancer
research
D9



Celebrity Waiter
marks fourth year
D15

CHURCH



At Bishop Cantú's
Installation Mass
D14

Architectural Poetry

Sonnet Court home captures beauty of Picacho Hills



See featured home on pages D2-3

Featured home: 1236 Sonnet Court

Photos by Steve MacIntyre



Circles were used throughout the home.



The Michael Floyd creation at 1236 Sonnet Court was built in 2005 and features a view of Picacho Peak.



Large beams cover the living room ceiling.



A guest suite has its own kitchen and other amenities.



Neutral-colored granite countertops and tile fill the kitchen of the 4,100-square-foot home.



The living room opens to the dining room for a great room feel.

An outdoor living area is perfect for summer or fall.



Designed with entertaining in mind

Coronado Ridge home features openness and comfort

By **Beth Sitzler**
Las Cruces Bulletin

As with many moving to the Picacho Hills area, LaTricia and Al Lynch were attracted to the neighborhood because of the expansive view of the Organ Mountains and Picacho Peak.

Finding just the lot at 1236 Sonnet Court, in the Coronado Ridge subdivision, the couple hired local builder Michael Floyd to construct their 4,100-square-foot, Spanish-inspired abode.

“(Our Realtor) Howard Dukes introduced us to three different builders and we picked Michael Floyd,” LaTricia Lynch said. “He had a plan we liked, we just had to tweak it.”

The couple also worked with Floyd’s wife, Judy, an interior designer, on the look of the home, which features a vivid exterior, neutral interior color palette and various Spanish and Mediterranean elements.

“Judy Floyd helped me immensely,” she said. “They worked really well with us.”

When the home was finished in 2005, after about six months of construction, the couple had their dream home, complete with numerous guest suites and an open great room area.

“I love to entertain and have guests over, so it was important to me that all of the bedrooms be suites,” Lynch said. “I wanted everyone to be comfortable.”

The home is located on the bottom of a cul-de-sac, with a fountain placed at the center of its winding driveway. A short wall encloses a front courtyard leading to an iron-and-glass door. Inside, guests are greeted by the view of the Organ Mountains.

The home features many circular elements – from rounded walls to skylights. This is first seen in the entrance, which showcases a large medallion, selected by Al Lynch, on the floor, mimicking the skylight above.

A hall to the right leads to the master suite. Tucked behind French doors, the bedroom features one of the home’s four fireplaces. A small bonus area, originally planned to be Lynch’s exercise area, is now used as a reading area. A door leads to the covered patio and in-ground spa.

A pocket door closes off the master bathroom. A favorite feature of Lynch’s is the L-shaped steam shower, she said. The cream tile of the shower was also used around the jetted bathtub and complements the speckled granite countertops.

Lynch said another one of her favorite features is the finished closet. Thanks to the various built-in shelves and drawers, the couple doesn’t need dressers cluttering their bedroom.

Near the master is a guest bedroom, which features a private bathroom. Tall countertops were used in the bathroom to accommodate the couple’s 6-foot-5-inch son.

Beside the entrance is another guest suite. Designed for Lynch’s mother, the room is more of an apartment, with a full kitchen, living room, separate bedroom and bathroom and its own entrance and garage.

“(The bathroom) is also handicap accessible,” said Lynch, adding that the shower features a ramp entrance as well as a bar.

The apartment has access to a patio, which is shared with the fourth guest suite.

At the back of the home is the great room – a combination of living room, dining room and kitchen. Large wood beams cover the 12-foot ceiling. Built-in shelves designed in a unique

square pattern enclose the TV in the living room.

“I saw a picture of this and (Floyd) copied it to fit the space,” Lynch said of the architectural detail located next to a kiva-inspired fireplace.

Lynch said when it came to the kitchen, she made adjustments to the floor plan to ensure she got just what she wanted.

“I love to cook,” said the former caterer. “I moved the stove so the space would be more open.”

Wanting a gourmet space to work in, the couple included two sinks, a double dishwasher and warmer in the kitchen. Lynch had the microwave placed in the island to cut down on countertop clutter.

Off the kitchen, completing the expanded great room, is a breakfast nook, which the couple converted into a sitting area. Lynch said the area, which has a fireplace and is brightly lit with natural light thanks to the surrounding windows, is more intimate than the large living room.

“I’ll have my morning breakfast in this room,” she said.

A door from the breakfast nook leads out to the tile-lined, covered patio. Adjacent to this door is the sliding-glass entry into the exercise room, a feature the couple had Floyd add in 2007.

Windows that capture the natural light as well as the view illuminate the room. A red accent wall features several mirrors that not only ensure perfect form

is being used when exercising, but also enlarges the space.

The exercise room has access to an existing bathroom, which also can be entered from the two-car garage.

The covered patio extends the length of the home and overlooks the Organ Mountains. A mini courtyard was created by the couple and showcases a raised fire pit. Grass and rock landscaping covers the backyard.

The jewel of the backyard, however, is the outdoor kitchen and living room. Talavera tile lines the countertop of the covered, partly walled area. Beside the mini kitchen, which includes a sink and refrigerator, is a kiva-inspired fireplace. Lounge chairs are placed in front of it to take in the pleasant environment.



The master bathroom was designed to be a retreat.

Details

Featured home
1236 Sonnet Court

Square footage
4,100

Acres
1.27

Bedrooms
Four

Bathrooms
Five

Fireplaces
Four

Price
\$758,000

Special features

Located on a cul-de-sac in a gated community, overlooks Organ Mountains and Picacho Peak, style includes Spanish and Mediterranean elements, open great room great for entertaining, outdoor living room and an apartment with full kitchen and garage

Contact

Howard Dukes at 649-4595 or hdukes@coldwellbankerlc.com

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ChileKnights

Dish up eggplant

Recipes will make this fruit a favorite

Sunny Conley
Chile Knights



When purchasing eggplant, we automatically head to the veggie produce section in a supermarket.

However, it really belongs next to the berries since eggplant is actually – botanically speaking – a fruit that contains edible seeds. Because the seeds are bitter in taste, they need to be cooked to make them palatable.

There are different varieties of eggplant but we're most familiar with the plump, deep purple, pear-shaped globe. (Other varieties include Japanese or Asian, Italian and white.)

Eggplant can be baked, broiled, fried and grilled. A favorite recipe of mine is eggplant dip, also known as baba ghanouj, a Middle Eastern purée of cooked eggplant, tahini, olive oil, lemon juice and garlic. (I add a pinch of red chile pepper powder or fresh red jalapeño and a swirl of Greek yogurt.)

Served with pita bread, it makes a tasty (and healthy) appetizer or snack. Serve with fresh pita bread triangles, baked pita chips or sliced apples or carrot sticks. Or try it as a spread on sandwich bread (including pita pocket), layering it with sliced cucumber, tomatoes, spinach and sprouts.

I think you'll enjoy the addictive dip as well as the spicy vegetarian (oops, fruitarian) eggplant recipes in this week's column.

Green Chile Eggplant

1 (4-ounce) can medium-hot to hot green chile peppers, chopped and drained

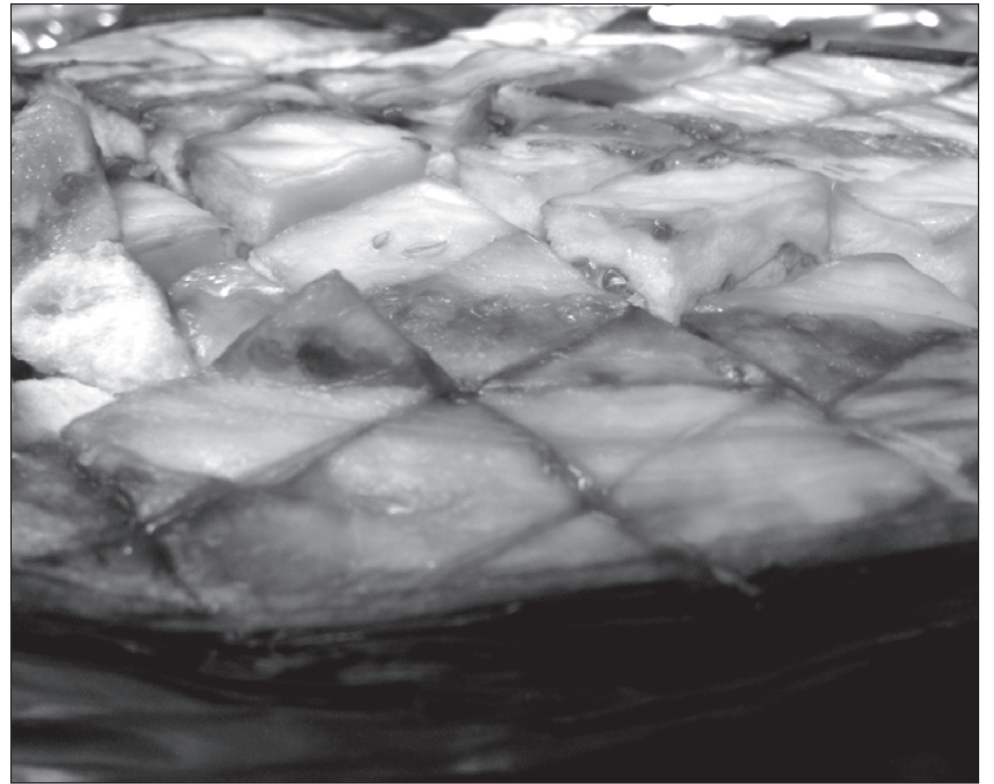
2 eggplants, remove ends with a knife
2 tablespoons soy sauce
2 cloves garlic, chopped
1 tablespoon sugar
1 bunch Thai basil leaves, plucked from stem
1 tablespoon olive oil

Slice the eggplants into irregular shapes for easy turning in the pan. When it is sliced into a small disk, it tends to stick to the bottom of the pan and makes it difficult to flip or turn.

Heat a pan or wok over high or medium high. Add oil, chile pepper and garlic. Stir until the garlic turns golden brown. Add eggplant and stir. Add a cup of water and cover the pan or wok with a lid. Keep the lid closed until the eggplant is cooked, about 5 to 7 minutes or until eggplant turns from white to translucent. Almost all of the water should have been evaporated at this point. If the eggplant is still not cooked, add a little bit more water and keep lid closed until the eggplant is ready. Add soy sauce and sugar and stir. Add basil and quickly stir to heat the basil, so that it retains its color. Turn off heat immediately. Serve hot with rice. Makes 4 servings.

Spicy-Hot Indian Eggplant

1 eggplant
1 ripe tomato, diced, or 1/2 can diced tomatoes
1 cup green chile such as Anaheim, stemmed, seeded and diced
1 cup onions, chopped
1 tablespoon olive oil
1 tablespoon garam masala
1/2 tablespoon turmeric



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Sunny Conley

Eggplant makes a healthy, delicious side dish. It tastes especially good brushed with olive oil, sprinkled with Parmesan cheese and topped with a favorite salsa.

1/2 tablespoon chili powder
4 sprigs cilantro

Preheat oven to 450 degrees. Spray a cooking sheet with Pam or drizzle with olive oil. Perforate eggplant with a fork. Rub oil over sides of eggplant. Roast the eggplant for 35 to 45 minutes (turning every 5 to 10 minutes) until it begins to deflate.

Put eggplant in a bowl of cold water. Heat olive oil over medium heat in a skillet, add onion and chile pepper. Stir-fry until golden brown.

While onion and pepper are frying, peel the cooled eggplant (peel should easily tear off). Finely chop or mash the flesh of the eggplant.

Once the onions and peppers are lightly browned, add turmeric, chili powder, and garam masala. Toss or stir until the powders are evenly distributed. Add tomatoes and stir-fry for another 5 minutes.

Add mashed eggplant flesh and toss together. Cook for 5 to 10 minutes, until eggplant is browned. Garnish with cilantro leaves. Makes 4 servings. (Recipe adapted from <http://sparkpeople.com>.)

Black Bean Chili With Eggplant

1 1/2 pounds eggplant, stemmed, unpeeled and cut into 1-inch cubes
Salt for sprinkling the eggplant plus additional to taste
3 ounces dried New Mexico red chile peppers, stemmed and seeded
3 cups water
1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
2 small red onions, finely chopped

4 garlic cloves, minced
1 (28-ounce) can plum tomatoes, drained and chopped
1/2 tablespoon ground coriander
1/2 teaspoon ground cumin
1 bay leaf
2 cups cooked black beans
Garnish suggestions: Cheddar cheese, shredded; green onion, chopped; sour cream

Place the eggplant in a strainer and sprinkle generously with salt. Let stand for 1 hour and pat dry with paper towels.

Put the dried chiles in a saucepot, add the water, place over medium high heat and bring to the boil. Reduce heat and let the pot simmer for 20 minutes. Cool for about 10 minutes.

Purée the chiles and the liquid in a blender until very smooth. Force the purée through a strainer and discard any solid pieces.

Heat the oil in a large, heavy Dutch oven over medium-high heat. Add eggplant and cook, stirring, until almost tender, about 4 minutes. Remove eggplant and set aside.

Add onions and garlic to the same Dutch oven, adding more oil if necessary, and cook, stirring, for 4 minutes.

Add tomatoes, ground coriander, cumin, bay leaf, eggplant and chile purée; simmer for 5 minutes.

Add beans and simmer over moderate heat for 15 minutes. Remove the bay leaf. Ladle into bowls and garnish with cheese and green onion or other favorite toppings and serve. Makes 4 servings.

Sunny Conley, a former Las Cruces, is an award-winning cookbook author and food columnist. Contact Conley at sunny.conley@gmail.com.

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Richard Lopez, assistant manager of Sutherlands, mans the company's booth during the 30th annual Home & Garden Show at the Las Cruces Convention Center in 2012.

Home & Garden Show this weekend

Two-day event at Convention center

The Las Cruces Home Builders Association will hold its 31st annual Home & Garden Show from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 9, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, March 10, at the Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave.

"The show is going to be bigger and better than in the past," said LCHBA Managing Director Steve Chavira. "There are a lot of exciting offerings for people to see."

Max Bower, chair of the Home & Garden Show, said last year's show featured about 2,500 visitors and the 2013 show has already sold out, with more than 60 vendors spread throughout the convention center.

"We've doubled the size of the garden area and we'll have multiple vendors in it so you can see how it all comes together," Bower said. "We're going to have several outdoor living spaces in the garden area. ... We're showcasing vegetation that does well in this environment, but there will be plenty of color."

Tickets to the Home & Garden Show are \$5 and children 12 and younger are free. Tickets can be purchased at the door. For more information, call 526-6126.

Details

Home & Garden Show

When

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 9
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, March 10

Where

Las Cruces Convention Center
680 E. University Ave.

Cost

\$5
Children 12 and younger are free

Contact

526-6126

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Welcome to 'Berry Land'

Tips for growing these sweet and tart summer treats

Gary Guzman
Gardening Guru



Here are some tips for growing grapes, raspberries, blueberries and blackberries in the desert Southwest.

The easiest of the bunch (no pun intended) are grapevines. They take less effort than one would imagine, even in our harsh desert climate. Grapevines should be placed in areas that receive sun all day. They do best in soils that provide excellent drainage. They will need a structure, such as wire, trellis, fencing, an arbor or a pergola, to entwine on. It is not uncommon for these plants to grow up to 12 feet or more per year, so give them plenty of room.

Table varieties that are usually available are Thompson seedless, ruby seedless, Niagara, flame seedless and black Manukka, to name a few. Wine varieties also available are Chardonnay, Merlot, Pinot Noir and Cabernet Sauvignon.

If planting new vines, use plenty of soil amendments such as compost, and/or peat moss. A yearly or bi-yearly application of well-aged manure and/or compost can be used as a top dressing to help keep the soil rejuvenated.

If you cannot locate a fertilizer that lists berries or grapes on the label, you should be safe with an "all purpose" or "garden" type fertilizer. Fertilizers containing mycorrhiza have been shown to boost plant growth and yields in an array of fruiting plants.

The most common insects that attack grapevines are grape leaf skeletonizers and leafhoppers.

The grape leaf skeletonizer is a small

black and blue striped caterpillar that will chew on the foliage and leave a pattern that looks like a doily. An organic control for this insect is BT (bacillus thuringiensis), which will target only members of the caterpillar family.

Sevin, more of a broad-spectrum insecticide, will offer control for the leafhopper and skeletonizer as well. In either case make sure you read and follow directions as labeled.

Raspberries, blueberries and blackberries are a bit trickier, but not impossible here in the Southwest. This group prefers a more acidic soil, so it is essential that you use plenty of organic amendments, such as peat moss and compost.

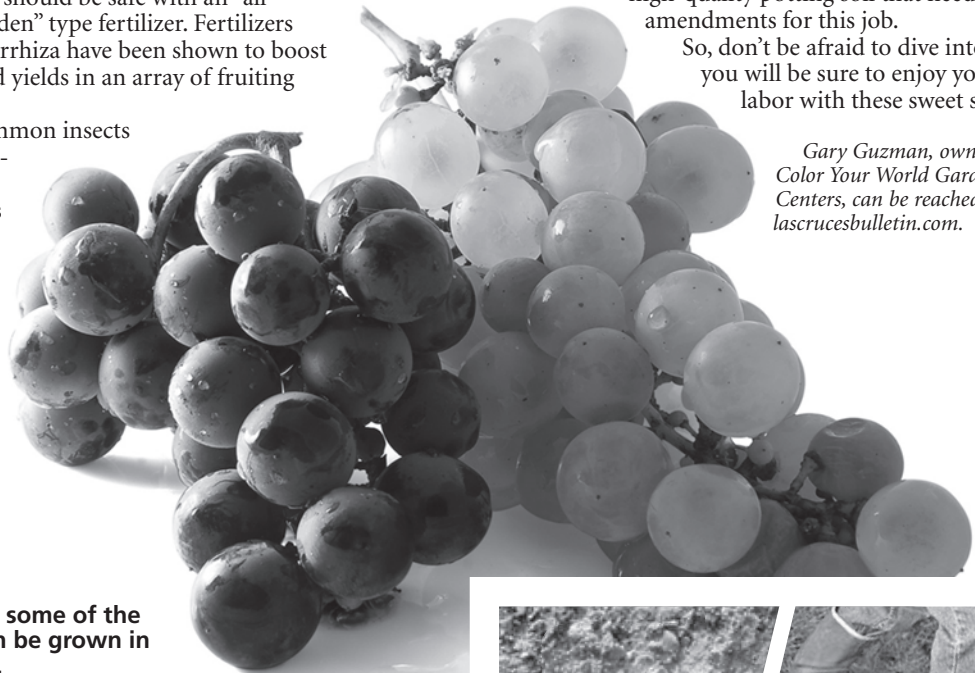
Our water is generally alkaline, so a soil acidifier or organic iron chelate will need to be used on a regular basis. The soil should be well drained and kept moist but not soggy, especially in the summer months. A two- to three-inch layer of mulch will also help to keep the soil cooler during the hottest part of the year.

These berries will appreciate some very light shade during the heat of the summer. Avoid planting next to a south facing "hot" wall, which will reflect even more heat. Too much shade will produce less flavorful or no fruit.

If your soil is too alkaline, consider using as large a container as possible. This method may be preferred as you can move the plants in and out of the shade as the angle of the sun changes. If you decide to go with the container, use a good high-quality potting soil that needs no additional amendments for this job.

So, don't be afraid to dive into "Berry Land," you will be sure to enjoy your fruits of labor with these sweet summer treats.

Gary Guzman, owner of Guzman's Color Your World Gardening Centers, can be reached at gary@lascrucesbulletin.com.



Grapes are just some of the berries that can be grown in the Southwest.

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Getting to know: Stout Hardwood Floor Co. Inc.

Craftsmanship behind hardwood floors

Local family business continues to flourish

By **Beth Sitzler**
Las Cruces Bulletin

When Barry Stout spent his weekends as a child helping his father and grandfather install hardwood floors, he didn't think the craft would end up being his career.

"I didn't like it," said Stout, president of Stout Hardwood Floor Co. Inc. "I promise you, when I was in sixth grade, working with my father and grandfather during the summer, I never thought this would happen." Stout Hardwood Floor was founded in 1928 by Stout's grandfather, Harry. The company was originally located in Tucumcari before Harry moved it to Las Cruces in the mid-1940s.

"He saw more opportunity because it was a bigger town," Stout said.

Stout's father, Bobby, took over the family company and Stout continued to work with him while he earned a bachelor's degree in management and economy at New Mexico State University.

"It paid off. I learned a very unique trade," Stout said.

He spent some time in San Diego before

he and his wife, Kathy Salopek Stout, moved to Denver, where he worked for Bona, a wood floor manufacturing company. Through Bona, Stout was able to learn about the latest tools and processes in hardwood flooring – insight he shared with his father.

After a few years in Denver, the couple returned to the Mesilla Valley and Stout went back to work with his father. In 1995, "the stars aligned," Stout said, and he took over the family business.

"My dad said one day, 'I'm done. It's yours,'" Stout said.

While the company focused on residential work, hardwood floor sales slowed during the 1980s. As a way to keep business going, Stout began installing commercial gym flooring.

"We knew it would keep the lights on during slow times. Our first job was Santa Teresa Middle School in 1998. We've done over 75 since then and over 100 including Arizona," said Stout, adding that in 2008, the company expanded into the neighboring state as a manager for its manufacturer, Robbins Sports Surfaces.

The stars once again aligned for Stout in 2012, when his former employee, Merek

“ We will climb mountains and cross rivers to get to a job – literally. ”

MERЕК ROGERS,
Stout Hardwood Flooring
residential project manager



Stout Hardwood Floor Co. Inc. Residential Project Manager Merек Rogers and President Barry Stout have worked to provide the best in service.

Stout said the company doesn't limit itself geographically and will do any job in southern New Mexico and El Paso, such as a ranch project near the Gila Cliff Dwellings.

"We had to cross a river three times in the winter to get to the ranch," Rogers said. "We will climb mountains and cross rivers to get to a job – literally."

Making that extra effort is what has helped Continued on following page

Rogers, came back to the company as the residential projects manager, allowing him to focus on the expanding gym floor business.

Rogers first joined Stout Hardwood Floor in 2002.

"I was tinkering in construction throughout college, and a buddy worked for Stout," he said. "(After I started with the company) I just wanted to take in as much as I could. ... I just fell in love with it. ... It's not a thankless job. People love and are amazed by what we can do."

Because Stout Hardwood Floor works closely with its customers, sometimes spending weeks with them, the company has earned a reputation for high quality and customer satisfaction, with about 90 percent of its advertising being done through word of mouth.

"We never felt it (when the housing market took a hit) because we aren't tied to new-home construction," said Stout, adding that a lot of their business is refurbishing, including replacing carpet. "There was a surge (of hardwood floors) in the 1950s and '60s. Old homes in every town have them, which is lucky for us because we refinish them."

While hardwood floors cost more than tile and carpet to install, it has a lower "lifecycle" cost than these products, Stout said.

"It has a longevity and durability," said Rogers, adding that they have been replacing carpeting on a monthly basis lately. "I call them '100-year floors.' They'll last the life of the building."

Stout said there are some trends in hardwood floors. In addition to green, sustainable products, a popular item is hand-scraped finishes.

"It has an old look, a rustic look and there is more attention to detail," said Roger, adding that it is common in high-traffic areas. "It's very forgiving."

Details

Stout Hardwood Floor Co. Inc.

President
Barry Stout

Address
695 S. Compress Road, Suite 1

Phone
527-4143

Website
www.stout-hardwood-floors.com

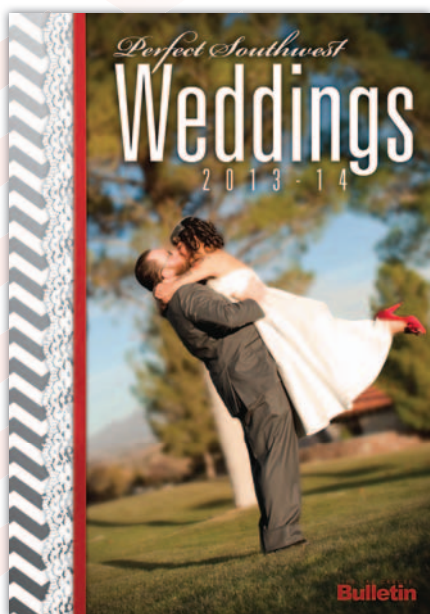
Associations

- Las Cruces Home Builders Association
- Natural Wood Flooring Association
- Maple Floor Manufacturer Association



Stout Hardwood Floors installed the gym floor at Centennial High School. The company received an award from Robbins Sports Surfaces for the work it did on the logo.

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Bulletin



Stout Hardwood Floors has been a part of the restoration project with the Amador Hotel since 2011, as well as other restoration projects around Las Cruces.

Continued from previous page

set Stout Hardwood Floor apart from the competition.

"It's very labor intensive, it's all about touch. Being a bull in a china shop will not work," Stout said. "I hear all the time, 'I didn't think you could save this floor.'"

"We get letters of appreciation. That's (what's rewarding) – transforming it into a piece of art."

"It can change an entire look of a room," Rogers said.

The two crews have a combined 15 years of experience, said Rogers, adding that each have their own "little tricks" to the job.

"Restoration takes experience," Stout said. "These are true craftsmen."

The team of craftsmen has done many memorable jobs over the years, from creating a floor from the bottoms of old oak barrels to laying reclaimed wood from a 100-year-old building in Italy.

"We just finished the Mesilla visitor center," said Stout, adding that the project included 7,000 feet of historic oak wood.

"We're doing the Amador Hotel right now," Rogers said.

Rogers said he and his residential team became involved in the Amador Hotel restoration in 2011 and have completed the entry and west room.

"We had to patch a third of it and you can't tell. We can match anything," he said, adding that this is another advantage over tile.

Other restoration projects Stout Hardwood Floor has been involved with include the stage of the Rio Grande Theatre, the new Border Book Festival building and Phillips Chapel CME.

Newer projects include the stage of the NMSU Center for the Arts and the Centennial High School gymnasium, for which the company won an award from Robbins Sports Surfaces for its logo work.

"We take care of the floors at NMSU and (the University of Texas at El Paso)," Stout said. "We've met a lot of really cool people."

Stout said he believes another influx of people to Las Cruces is coming soon, so he and his team plan on being ready.

"We go to conventions every year to see what's new," he said. "It helps keep the guys educated on safety and new products."

Unwelcome impact of climate change

More bugs the result of unusual weather pattern



Scott Svenheim
ACE Pest Detective

What do the ever-changing weather patterns have to do with pest control? Quite a bit, actually.

As northern parts of the country experience extremely low temperatures, and other areas are oddly warmer than usual, the change in our typical seasonal patterns raises a red flag for changes in pest activity.

Irregular changes in the weather, such as spikes in cold temperatures, have the potential to significantly diminish a pest predator's population, affecting the balance of the ecosystem and allowing pests to thrive and flourish as they take advantage and adapt without anyone to threaten their livelihood. As the populations of predators decrease, pests are able to recuperate from the weather change significantly quicker.

The impact of climate change on insects and humans is far reaching – forest and food crops could be affected and diseases spread by insects could have a wider range. Nature has a delicate balance and it doesn't take much – a slight temperature variation, or even a movement in the course of a river – to cause changes that move throughout an ecosystem.

Since mosquitoes are the most common carriers of malaria and yellow fever, dramatic increases in these diseases would be likely.

Moreover, both the National Centers for Disease Control and the World Health Organization report that current treatments for malaria and yellow fever are becoming less effective, leading to the potential for plague-like levels of these diseases, unlike anything seen since the U.S. Civil War.

Pests including the cockroach, bed bug, scorpion and mosquito are among the most adaptable and successful life forms on earth. For example, cockroaches are among the oldest living creatures. They survived the Ice Age, and are believed to have persisted for more than 350 million years. With that record of success, we can be sure they will adapt and thrive in changing climate patterns.

Bed bugs have been around since the 11th century and have learned to live and adapt as humans do while acclimating and adjusting to the warmer and milder climates, creating a new page in their pest evolution. In the southern part of the country, these nomadic pests have caused infestations to rise exponentially, threatening vacationers' favorite sunny spots and bringing home with them unwanted houseguests.

We know that there is a strong, direct relationship between the level of insect populations and fluctuating temperatures. As variations in the seasons become more evident, predictions for pest activity in 2013 reflect similarly to what we've seen in 2012. And since 2012 was one of the hottest years on record, what we can expect in 2013 is a continuation of abnormal pest activity.

Scott Svenheim, an expert for Truly Nolen of America, has 25 years of experience in the pest control industry. Svenheim brings an informative as well as unique and entertaining perspective to consumers' pest problems in the 21st century. Founded in 1938, Tucson, Ariz.,-based Truly Nolen of America is one of the largest family owned pest control companies in the United States. Truly Nolen has more than 80 branch offices in Arizona, California, Florida, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas and Utah. For more information or to ask your local expert a question about insects and insect prevention, visit www.trulynolen.com or call 915-591-9864.



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Home Sales Scoreboard

LAS CRUCES AREA

	This Week	Last Week	Same Week Last Year
Closed Sales New Homes	6	2	2
Closed Sales Existing Homes	20	15	20
Pending Home Sales (All)	210	204	189
Average Days on Market (All)	130	173	121
Median Price New	\$167,450	\$271,412	\$171,720
Median Price Existing	\$127,000	\$162,000	\$141,000
Total Homes on Market (All)	1,073	1,088	1,133
Real Estate Agents	374	374	399

"Homes" include detached single-family homes, townhomes and condominiums

Source: Las Cruces Multiple Listing Service (MLS)* for the period 02/25/13 to 03/02/2013
 *MLS is wholly owned by the Las Cruces Association of Realtors
 ** Unknown per LCAR

Good news for chile lovers

University brings the heat with new spicy taco sauce

If you're serious about tacos, this sauce is for you – just be sure to have a nice, cold beverage on stand-by.

New Mexico State University's Chile Pepper Institute is rolling out the latest in a line of seriously spicy sauces. This time, it's Holy Jolokia taco sauce, the fifth in a series of award-winning sauces and salsas produced in partnership with CaJohns Fiery Foods.

The sauce was unveiled at the National Fiery Foods and Barbecue Show, the largest and most visited spicy foods show in the world, Friday through Sunday, March 1-3, in Albuquerque. The sauce is made with Bhut Jolokia chile peppers, which have

a heat rating of more than 1 million Scoville Heat Units – about 100 times hotter than the average jalapeño.

"We're very excited about Holy Jolokia taco sauce," said Erica Sichler, the program coordinator at the Chile Pepper Institute. "It's spicy, but not overwhelming. It fits right in with the other Holy Jolokia sauces."

Over the past few years, the Chile Pepper Institute has worked with CaJohns to produce Holy Jolokia hot sauce, salsa and barbecue sauce, each made with Bhut Jolokia chile peppers. The two have also teamed up to produce Sancto Scorpio hot sauce, made with Trinidad Moruga Scorpion chile pepper, cur-

rently ranked as the hottest pepper in the world.

The Chile Pepper Institute is part of NMSU's College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences. A portion of the proceeds from each sale of Holy Jolokia taco sauce, along with the other Holy Jolokia products, goes toward an endowed chair for chile pepper research.

The Holy Jolokia taco sauce is now available at the Chile Pepper Institute and online at www.chilepepperinstitute.org.

For more information, contact Sichler at 646-3028.



New Mexico State University's Chile Pepper Institute has partnered with CaJohns Fiery Foods to produce Holy Jolokia taco sauce, made with Bhut Jolokia chile peppers. Sales of the sauce benefit chile pepper research at the university.

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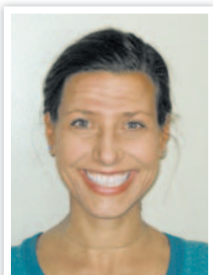
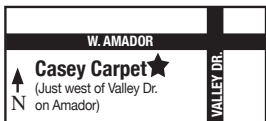
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Gina Hoffman Schweinebraten
Vice-President
Casey Carpet of Las Cruces, Inc.

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- 1 pound boneless and skinless tilapia fillets, cut into 2-inch pieces, rinsed and patted dry
- Olive oil, salt and pepper
- 3/4 cup sour cream
- 3/4 cup plus 2 tablespoons fresh salsa
- 12 corn or flour tortillas, warmed
- 1 1/2 cups cabbage, shredded
- Optional garnishes: cheese, cilantro, lime, avocado

Heat broiler, with rack in highest position. Place fish on rimmed baking sheet; drizzle with olive oil and season with salt and pepper. Broil until fish is lightly browned on top, 5 to 10 minutes, until flesh is opaque throughout.

Meanwhile in a small bowl, mix sour cream with 2 tablespoons fresh salsa.

Divide fish evenly among tortillas and top with shredded cabbage, sour cream and fresh salsa. (Recipe adapted by www.recipegirl.com.)

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Snuggle up and read



Rorie Measure
The Reading Solution

Parents are often on the look out for just the right toys to buy or the latest technology to give their children an extra boost.

By focusing their energy on purchases, some parents miss giving their children the most important advantage. By picking up a book and placing your child on your lap – even as an infant – to look at pictures in a book, you have started your child on a lifetime of learning and literacy. Just hugging, talking and laughing together as you look at books creates a warm, nurturing environment where learning thrives.

Children raised in homes that promote family literacy grow up to be better readers and do better in school than children raised in homes without books.

The National Center for Educational statistics states, “Students who read for pleasure every day scored almost 10 percent higher on proficiency tests than those children who don’t.”

Too many children start school without ever seeing a book. These children are at a disadvantage on the first day of kindergarten, and statistics reveal that many of them never catch up.

Residents in Doña Ana County can change that future. The Children’s Reading Foundation-Doña Ana County introduces the Dolly Parton Imagination Library program.

Imagination Library provides books to children between the ages of 1 month and 5 years old. Once a child has been registered, an age appropriate book of literary merit will begin arriving in the mail each month. Babies receive sturdy books with large bright pictures. One-year-olds receive books featuring repetition and predictability, familiar things, colors and numbers. As children grow, their stories deal with feelings, emotions, rhymes, poems and humor.

Later, their books include more complexity, diversity, heroes, folktales, nonfiction and science.

Making books available in all homes provide a common early childhood experience that increases the potential for all children. Families reading together at home can eliminate barriers to success that exist in our community. Encouraging family reading promotes healthy relationships between children and their parents.

Las Cruces educator Rhonda Karol is coordinating Imagination Library of Doña Ana County. Thanks to contributions made by Sunspot Solar, Wellspring Church and individual donors, Karol has started registering children.

She has volunteered to take on this responsibility by believing that books in the home will level the playing field for children whose own parents may have had trouble relating to school.

See **Read** on page D10

Peregrinos extends its reach

Mobile food pantries move in

By **Rachel Christiansen**
Las Cruces Bulletin

Comida gratis. Free food. That probably sounds good to just about anyone, especially to those who depend on it.

That’s what the white sandwich sign advertised outside of Doña Ana Community College in Hatch Wednesday, Feb. 27, after Casa de Peregrinos set up its monthly mobile food pantry.

But for the local families who recognize the fourth Wednesday of the month as the day Casa de Peregrinos arrives to fill their empty cabinets – and bellies – they line up long before the sign goes up.

Vicky Mata is used to putting a lot of miles on the nonprofit’s delivery van, since she makes 12 trips a month to locations throughout Doña Ana County as the food pantry’s mobile coordinator.

“The first one I started doing was two years ago,” Mata said. “It’s just grown since then.”

Peek in the van as it leaves the dock of Casa de Peregrinos’ home base at 999 W. Amador Ave., you won’t find it filled with food – but with tables and canopies.

Good thing, because it wouldn’t fit the almost 9,000 pounds of food necessary to feed the families who show up to the Hatch location.

“We help around 200 customers here,” Mata said. “We take the weight of food and divide it by how many people we expect to figure out how much food everyone gets.”



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Rachel Christiansen

Five-year Casa de Peregrinos volunteer Robert Flores hands Maria Torres a bread bag amidst a long line of customers Wednesday, Feb. 27, at Casa de Peregrinos’ monthly mobile food pantry delivery in Hatch at the Doña Ana Community College satellite campus.

The van meets up with the nonprofit’s partner, Roadrunner Food Bank, which delivers the food on crates and pallets in a truck equipped to handle such a load.

Everything you can imagine, from staple pantry items such as beans and rice to fresh vegetables and bread, are unloaded in bulk and set up in an assembly line fashion.

Mata can’t do all that alone. In addition to being met by the Roadrunner food truck, around 20 volunteers were awaiting the delivery to help unload and distribute.

Some of the clients needing groceries had already been waiting for hours to secure their place in line.

See **Pantry** on page D10

Bald is beautiful

St. Baldrick’s returns to help fund childhood cancer research

By **Lorena Sanchez**
Las Cruces Bulletin

Even a little sacrifice can make an impact for children battling cancer.

At 2 p.m. Saturday, March 16, at Dickerson’s Event Center, 3920 W. Picacho Ave., men, women and children will shave their heads to help advance childhood cancer research.

“This is our sixth year,” said volunteer event organizer Mat Hall. “We’re anticipating around 100 shaves.”

Hall said the event has a lot of return shaves, both men and women, who have been impacted in some way by childhood cancer.

“Until my son was sick, I (didn’t realize) how many people have actually been affected by childhood cancer,” Hall said.

One in 300 boys and one in 333 girls will be diagnosed with cancer before the age of 20. The St. Baldrick’s Foundation funds leading research to find new treatments and cures for

childhood cancers.

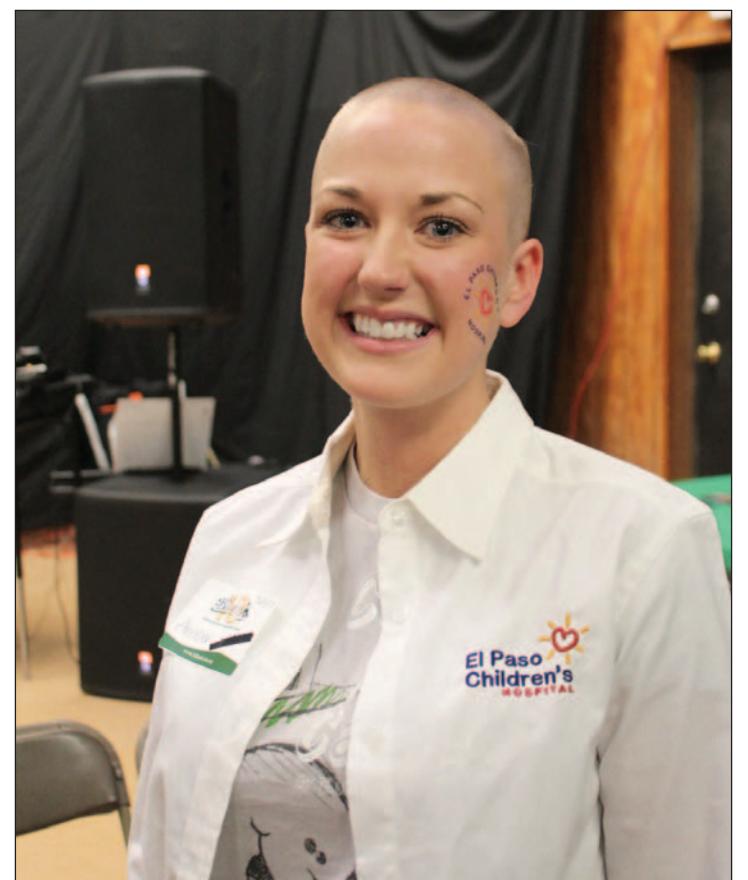
Families such as the Marlin benefit from the research supported through the foundation. Ben Marlin, his wife, Heidi, and their children, Rachel and Max, have lived in Las Cruces for three years. In 2012, Max, 7, was diagnosed with Rhabdomyosarcoma, a malignant tumor of the muscles that are attached to the bones, according to the National Center for Biotechnology Information.

Ben Marlin said they took Max to the doctor when they noticed he had been limping. Tests revealed he had stage 4 Rhabdomyosarcoma.

Marlin said soon after the diagnosis, his son’s health quickly declined, but that didn’t stop his son from staying positive.

“Through all this, he’s been an active kid,” Marlin said. “The day his lymph nodes swelled up, he was playing basketball. You wouldn’t know (the cancer) had spread through his whole body.”

Shortly after Max was
See **Baldrick’s** on page D10



Amber McGhee, El Paso Children’s Hospital, smiles beautifully after having her hair shaved at Las Cruces’ fifth annual St. Baldrick’s event in 2012. The event raises funds to benefit childhood cancer research, which affects one in 300 boys and one in 333 girls before the age of 20.

Pantry

Continued from page D9

Hatch is the most recent opening of the 12 remote locations, which include Chaparral, Berino, Tortugas, Radium Springs, Doña Ana, Del Cerro, Rincon, Organ, Mesquite and La Mesa.

“When we first opened in November 2012, we brought enough food for 75 families,” Mata said. “We had to turn people away then.”

Casa de Peregrinos Executive Director Lorenzo Alba said the need for food in the rural areas of Doña Ana County is extremely high.

“We’ve added about 2,100 customers just by going to these rural areas,” Alba said. “There’s a lot of emotion attached to what we do. Most of the families have had an emergency, but regardless of why they come, we still give them food. ‘No’ is not an option.”

Mata and Alba agreed that much of the need for food in the outlying areas of the county could be attributed to a lack of full-time employment – with many relying on seasonal work – which makes the cold winter months even more difficult.

In 2012, Casa de Peregrinos had

almost 20,000 distributions and almost 9,000 of those were rural pantry deliveries, totaling almost 1 million pounds of food.

The volunteers are essential to ensuring distribution to these large turnouts to the food pantry at Las Cruces and the mobile locations, as well.

Mata said some of the volunteers follow her to each location, driving their own vehicles, and have made it such a habit, they know the drill without being told.

Robert Flores said he has been volunteering with Casa de Peregrinos for about five years, and makes it to the mobile deliveries on a regular basis.

“I do this to help the people in need,” Flores said. “I can feel their appreciation when we bend over backwards to help them.”

People such as Andy Saucedo, a professor at DACC and founder of Enactus, a club that volunteers for organizations in need, reached out to DACC President Margie Huerta when the food pantry was struggling to find a location in Hatch.

“I’m so proud of this partnership,” Huerta said. “It’s a wonderful thing to use the facility for.”

Details

Casa de Peregrinos mobile food pantry schedule

- **Chaparral:** 1 p.m. – 568 Lisa Drive, first Tuesday of the month
- **Berino:** 1 p.m. – Immaculate Conception Church, first Thursday of the month
- **Tortugas:** Noon – 3600 Paroquia St., second Monday of the month
- **Radium Springs:** 2 p.m. – 12060 Lindbeck Road, second Thursday of the month
- **Doña Ana:** 2 p.m. – 5745 Ledesma Road, second Friday of the month
- **Del Cerro:** 2:30 p.m. – 180 La Fe Ave., third Tuesday of the month
- **Rincon:** 2 p.m. – 220 Baker St., third Friday of the month
- **Organ:** 2 p.m. – 5880 Second St., fourth Monday of the month
- **Mesquite:** 1 p.m. – Community Center on Tawa Drive, fourth Tuesday of the month
- **Hatch:** Noon – Doña Ana Community College Hatch branch, fourth Wednesday of the month
- **La Mesa:** San Jose Catholic Church, fourth Thursday of the month

Read

Continued from page D9

“Books in the home provide greater communication between parents and children. Families have new opportunities for storytelling,” Karol said. “Reading together develops an appreciation for the printed word, and models different rhythms of speech for children in a safe and loving environment.”

There is an easy way to become part of this remarkable program. A contribution of \$28 will sponsor one child for a year. Does creating literate children fit the goals of your organization, or business? Is there a particular neighborhood that would benefit from your sponsorship?

All funds collected locally are used for the children of our community only.

Visit our webpage or contact Karol through this column and become part of the Imagination Library today.

Next month, the Reading Solution will look at the remarkable way parents of preschoolers and teachers at three elementary schools are getting their children ready for kindergarten.

The Children’s Reading Foundation of Doña Ana County (CRF-DA) is a community-driven, countywide project that promotes the message “read with a child every day” and focuses on improving literacy throughout Doña Ana County. The column will promote literacy by offering ideas for family activities, featuring community projects and exploring local resources that help your children succeed. Rorie Measure serves on the Board of Directors of (CRF-DA as Director of Public Awareness. She is a reading specialist and train teachers. Measure taught in Las Cruces Public Schools and the Gadsden Independent School Districts. Contact Measure at roriecrf@gmail.com.

Baldrick’s

Continued from page D9

diagnosed, he was unable to walk and talk and had to use a wheel chair.

Marlin said Max is responding well to chemotherapy, but will have to continue to receive treatment for another year.

“Maybe by next Christmas he’ll be done with treatment,” Marlin said.

The cancer has spread throughout Max’s body – in his hips, lymph nodes and shoulder blades. The primary tumor is in his

left foot.

Although the family is optimistic about the treatment, they are fully aware of the gravity of the situation.

“There is nothing good about this situation,” Marlin said. “If he gets through this, he will not be the same.”

Max is receiving his primary treatment at the University of New Mexico and is monitored by Memorial Medical Center in Las Cruces. His treatment is part of a clinical trial.

“He’s very active in soccer and football,” Marlin said. “He loves ‘Star Wars’ and Legos. He’s a first-grader and is still in school, although now they come to him. He’s been all over the world. We lived in California before we came (to Las Cruces).”

Marlin said the entire community has been supportive of his family throughout this ordeal. He has been in contact with Hall to help spread awareness in the community about childhood cancer.

“Supporting St. Baldrick’s is so important because you think (childhood cancer) is rare and it’s not,” Marlin said. “Childhood cancer is very different from adult cancer. I first found out about the fundraiser last year and I think that it’s a tremendous thing he’s doing.”

Hall encourages the public to attend the event on March 16 to learn more about St. Baldrick’s and support those in the community who are raising money and shaving their heads to help make strides in childhood cancer research and help families like the Marlins.

“If they haven’t been before, it will be an experience for them to see 20 women get their head shaved,” Hall said. “Any amount of money anyone can donate is very much appreciated. Any little bit helps. The money really does have an impact.”

The 2012 Las Cruces event raised more than \$36,000 and Hall has set a goal of \$40,000 this year.

There will be entertainment, a DJ, raffle, food and refreshments for purchase and a Lucky Irish Auction for those who attend.

For more information or to register, visit www.stbaldricks.org. Participants can also register at the door.

March is _____ Month

American Red Cross • Brain Injury Awareness • Hemophilia • National Colorectal Awareness • National Developmental Disabilities Awareness • National Eye Donor • National Kidney • National Nutrition • National Poison Prevention • National Professional Social Work • Save Your Vision • Workplace Eye Health and Safety • National Athletic Trainers

Week

10-16 National Pulmonary Rehabilitation

F.Y.I.

The American Thoracic Society (ATS) and European Respiratory Society (ERS) defines Pulmonary Rehabilitation as “an evidence-based, multidisciplinary, and comprehensive intervention for patients with chronic respiratory diseases who are symptomatic and often have decreased daily activities. Patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) make up the majority of patients who are referred to Pulmonary Rehabilitation programs.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) guidelines are based on clinical practice guidelines and the following components must be included in a pulmonary rehab program:

- Physician prescribed exercise
- Education or training
- Psychosocial Assessment
- Outcomes Assessment

Sources: www.nationalwellness.org, www.aacvpr.org

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Healthy Happenings



TOPS MEETING CHAPTER 381

Take Off Pounds Sensibly Chapter 381 is open to new members of all ages at its Thursday morning meetings, which start with a private weigh-in from 10 to 10:30 a.m. Weigh-ins are followed by group discussions of weight loss, dietary help and nutrition. The group meets at Trails West Senior Community Clubhouse, 1450 Avenida de Mesilla, in the main room.

For more information, call 523-6240.

TOPS MEETING CHAPTER 219

Take Off Pounds Sensibly Chapter 219 meets from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Thursdays. This support group assists members in achieving and maintaining healthy weight loss goals.

For location information, call Doris Fields at 524-7461.

ART OF RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP

Art of Recovery, a support group for adults in recovery from mental illness, meets from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays at The Bridge, 2511 Chaparral St.

The group matches those in need of support with volunteers to help build bonds, share experiences and create arts and crafts to sell in a supportive environment.

For more information, call Kathy or David at 522-6404 or email bridge@nmsu.edu.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS

Overeaters Anonymous is a 12-step spiritual program for those with a desire to stop eating compulsively. There are no fees. The program meets at 7 p.m. Mondays at Unity of Las Cruces, 125 Wyatt Drive. Enter through the back door.

Overeaters Anonymous is also offered at noon each Wednesday at St. James Episcopal Church, 105 Saint James St.

For more information, call Wayne at 647-5684.

GLBTQ CENTER OFFERS SUPPORT

The Las Cruces GLBTQ Center, 1210 N. Main St., provides a variety of groups and services for Las Cruces' gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning community.

For more information, call 635-4902, email info@newmexicoglbtqcenters.org or visit www.newmexicoglbtqcenters.org.

FYI HOSTS NEEDLE EXCHANGE

The Families & Youth Inc. Needle Exchange Program, located at 1320 S. Solano Drive, seeks to reduce HIV and hepatitis C by decreasing the circulation of unclean syringes and helps drug users overcome addiction by providing free information on available drug-treatment services.

The office is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. The service is confidential and no appointments are needed.

For more information, call Stefano at 556-1549.

HIV SUPPORT GROUP

A Las Cruces HIV Support Group meets from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays at the Las Cruces GLBTQ Center, 1210 N. Main St. The group offers advocacy and support for those infected with or affected by the HIV virus, and focuses on the rebuilding of community, outreach, education, self-advocacy and wellness.

For more information, call Seth at 621-0681.

BRAIN INJURY GROUP

The Brain Injury Group meets from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. each Friday at the Mesilla Valley Public Housing Authority, 926 S. San Pedro St. Each meeting features games, movies, artwork, music, books, puzzles, coffee and conversation.

For more information, call Dolores Garcia at 805-1301.

HATHA YOGA AT PEACE LUTHERAN

Hatha Yoga classes for beginners are held at 5:30 p.m. Mondays and noon Fridays at Peace Lutheran Church, 1701 Missouri Ave. Classes are taught by Shoshana, a certified instructor. The class is gentle and non-competitive. Donations are accepted. Attendees are asked to bring a mat or blanket.

For more information, call 522-7119.

T'AI CHI CHIH AT MOUNTAINVIEW

T'ai Chi Chih sessions taught by Rose J. Alvarez-Diosdado are from 9 to 10 a.m. Mondays and Tuesdays, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Mondays and from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. Tuesdays at MountainView Medical Plaza, 4351 E. Lohman Ave., Suite 404. Classes are free to Senior Circle and Healthy Women members, or \$2. Free classes are also available to Senior Circle and Healthy Women members from 11 a.m. to noon Wednesdays at Encantada Park, 1000 Coyote Trail.

For more information, call 312-8320 or email rositaad4@gmail.com.

CO-DEPENDENTS ANONYMOUS

Adult Children of Alcoholics/Co-Dependents Anonymous meets at 10:30 a.m. Saturdays at the Arid Club, 334 W. Griggs Ave. The one-hour meetings are intended to help those raised in alcoholic or dysfunctional family situations deal with their issues and move on to a healthier, happier life through a 12-step program.

For more information, call 647-5684.

YOGA CLASSES BENEFIT JARDIN

Karen Nichols is offering 90-minute yoga classes for adults and upper teens at 6 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays at My Place Jewell, 140-A Wyatt Drive. Donations in excess of space rental benefit Jardín de los Niños. Participants should bring a yoga mat and any props they may need. Classes are suitable for all levels of experience.

For more information, email Nichols at karen_f_n@yahoo.com or leave a message at 882-4943.

YOGA CLASSES BY BETH LEBLANC

Mixed gentle yoga sessions for men and women – with and without chairs – are taught by Beth LeBlanc from 1 to 2 p.m. Wednesdays.

Laughter yoga sessions by Le Blanc are taught from 9 to 10 a.m. Thursdays.

Both classes are at MountainView Regional Medical Center, 4311 E. Lohman Ave., in the Women's Resource Room, and are free to Senior Circle and Healthy Women members. For others, a \$2 donation is requested.

Yoga sessions are available from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Mondays and Fridays at Encantada Park, 1000 Coyote Trail.

Classes are also available at 10 a.m. Tuesdays and 11 a.m. Thursdays at Peace Lutheran Church, 1701 E. Missouri Ave. Donations are accepted.

For more information, call 522-0011 or 640-7614.

YOGA CLASSES AT UU METHODIST

Olivia Solomon is offering yoga classes for all levels from 9 to 10 a.m. Tuesdays and from 8:45 to 9:45 a.m. Thursdays at the University United Methodist Church, 2000 S. Locust St. For more information, contact Solomon at 522-5350 or wildyoga@yahoo.com.

TAIJI QIGONG DANCE

Mei Ling Po McKay is offering a slow and relaxed moving meditation exercise with gentle elements of dance from 11 a.m. to noon Tuesdays and Fridays at My Place Jewell, 140-A Wyatt Drive. Classes are \$4. Classes are suitable for all levels of experience.

For more information, email McKay at harmeizianet.com or call 382-8978.

TRAINING FOR ALZHEIMER'S CARE

Family and caregivers of people with Alzheimer's can receive free training in late-stage Alzheimer's care from noon to 1 p.m. Friday, March 15, at the Alzheimer's Association, 1121 Mall Drive, Suite C.

The session will detail Alzheimer's disease characteristics and progression, while delivering practical tools for

caring for people in the final stages of the disease. No reservations are necessary.

For more information, contact 647-3868 or msiderisdorame@alz.org.

SILENT MEDITATION

Anyone interested may participate in 30 minutes of silent meditation at 5 p.m. each Tuesday at the Las Cruces Friends Meetinghouse, 622 N. Mesquite St. There is not cost to attend.

For more information, call Laura Solberg, at 526-1853.

CITY RECREATION SCHEDULE

The following classes are at Las Cruces Regional Aquatic Center, 1401 E. Hadley Ave. For more information, call 541-2782:

- **Yoga:** 8:15 to 9:15 a.m. Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays
- **Aquatic Fitness:** 9 to 10 a.m. Mondays through Fridays; 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. Wednesdays; 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Saturdays; and 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays
- **Circuit Training:** 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays
- **Aqua Zumba:** 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Saturdays and 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays
- **Aqua Fit:** 10 to 11 a.m. Tuesdays; 10 to 11 a.m.

and 1 to 2 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays

- **Safe and Gentle Cardio:** 10 to 11 a.m. Thursdays
 - **Aquatic Fitness:** 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays
 - **Cardio Core & More Basic:** 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Mondays and Wednesdays
 - **Super Seniors Water Aerobics:** 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays
 - **Lunch Break Yoga:** Noon to 12:50 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays
 - **Tai Chi:** 5 to 6 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays
 - **Indoor Cycle:** 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Thursdays
 - **Zumba:** 6 to 7 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays
- The following classes are at Meerschiedt Recreation Center, 1600 E. Hadley Ave. For more information, call 541-2653:
- **Aerobics:** 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays
 - **Pickleball:** 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays
 - **Pilates:** 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays
- The following class is at Benavidez Recreation Center, 1045 McClure Road. For more information, call 541-2550:
- **Zumba:** 6 to 7 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays

The following classes are at Munson Senior Center, 975 S. Mesquite St. For more information, call 528-3000:

- **Enhance Fitness:** 8:45 to 9:45 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays
- **Tai Chi:** 3 to 4 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays

TAI CHI FOR BETTER BALANCE

"Tai Chi: Moving for Better Balance" classes are from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. each Tuesday and Thursday in the auditorium at the Frank O'Brien Papan Community Center, 304 W. Bell Ave.

The program includes 24 Tai Chi forms that emphasize weight shifting, postural improvements and better balance. Each session includes new techniques, as well as an overview of techniques used in previous sessions. The class is free and open to the public. Older adults who have suffered a fall or are at risk of falling are encouraged to attend.

The class is taught by accredited Tai Chi instructors from New Mexico State University's Department of Human Performance, Dance and Recreation. Attendees should wear comfortable clothes and tennis shoes.

For more information, or to sign up, contact Phillip Catanach at 541-2550 or pcatanach@las-cruces.org.

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Non Denominational

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 Thursday Bible Study - 6 p.m.
 360-840-3755 or 575-652-4845


 Pastors Lee, Flora & Cauasia Rush

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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. Thursdays, 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. Each session stands alone. For more information or to register, call the church office at 521-3770. Jackie Sledge at 915-525-2575 or Jim Maxon at 532-9699.

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Calvary Baptist Church, 1800 Locust St., will hold the 2013 Women's Mini Conference from 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, March 8, and 8:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 9. Featured speaker will be Las Cruces native and author Allison Haggood Pittman. The theme of the conference is "BFF: Being a Faithful Friend." Tickets are \$8 for the full conference, which includes dinner Friday and breakfast Saturday. To reserve a ticket, call 522-7900.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH AWARDS

Latter Rain Harvest Fellowship Church, 401 N. Main St., will host the inaugural celebration in honor of the unsung African-American women in the Las Cruces workforce community at 6 p.m. Saturday, March 9. The celebration will highlight their many outstanding contributions and service. The program will include music, history, praise dancers and storytelling. For more information, call Pastor Mary Sellers at 312-5476 or Lola Lestrack at 571-8541.

SOUTHWEST JEWISH ART FESTIVAL

"All Things Beautiful," the Southwest Jewish Art Festival, will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday, March 9, and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, March 10, at Temple Beth-El, 3980 Sonoma Springs Ave. The festival

features the work of 44 artists, including Jewish artists on Jewish themes. Tickets are \$25 for the opening event and \$5 for Sunday. For more information, call 524-3380 or 652-3124.

SACRED PARENTING CLASSES

Sierra Vista Community Church, 514 N. Telshor Blvd., will hold Sacred Parenting classes from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Sundays, March 10-April 21, with no class on March 31. Author Gary Thomas' curriculum addresses core issues of parenting. The classes are about how God raises parents through their kids. Participant books are \$9. Registration deadline is March 10. For more information, contact Felicia at 526-9535 or lcfelicia@aol.com.

NEW MASS TIME

Holy Family Ecumenical Catholic Church, 702 Parker Road, has moved its 10 a.m. Sunday Mass to 10:30 a.m. beginning Sunday, March 10. For more information, 644-5025.

SEDER FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE

The Social Action Committee of Temple Beth-El and CAFé (Communities in Action and Faith) of Southern New Mexico will present an Interfaith Dessert Seder for Justice and Peace at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 14, at Temple Beth-El, 3980 Sonoma Springs Ave. Readings, songs and discussion will highlight the struggles of many people to find justice and equality in their lives. To attend or for more information, contact Rabbi Karol at rabbi@tbelc.org or 524-3380 by Tuesday, March 12.

TRANSITION WORKSHOP

Rev. Gardiner Rapleye will present a workshop on "Finding Yourself in Transition" at 1 p.m. Sunday, March 10, at Unity of Las Cruces, 125 Wyatt Drive. The church also has an ongoing class on metaphysics at 6 p.m. Thursday. For more information, visit www.unityoflascruces.org.

DVD PRESENTATION

A free DVD presentation and discussion of the epic series, "Catholicism," will be held at 7 p.m. starting Tuesday, March 12, at Holy Cross Church, 1327 N. Miranda Ave. Journey around the world and deep into the faith to see the ageless beauty, goodness and truth of Catholicism. For more information, call 523-0167.

SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER

The Hope and Care Ministry of Sonoma Springs Church will hold its annual spaghetti dinner fundraiser from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 16, at the church, 3940 Sonoma Spring Ave. Tickets are \$6 for adults, \$3 for children age 10 and younger. To-go dinners will be available. For more information, call the church at 526-4907, Judy at 523-6528 or Roxann at 373-0138.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER

The University United Methodist Men will host its second annual St. Patrick's Day dinner from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, March 17, at the church, 2000 S. Locust St. This will be a traditional corned beef and cabbage dinner. Tickets are \$9 in advance at the church office and \$10 at the door. Children younger than 12 are free. All proceeds will go to the group's mission projects.

LENT AT MISSION LUTHERAN


Mission Lutheran Church and School, 2752 Roadrunner Parkway, will hold the Jonah Survivor Series at 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. with a fellowship soup supper at 5:15 p.m. Wednesdays through the Lenten season. Sundays during Lent, discovery of the prayer that Jesus taught will be held at 9 a.m. For more information, call 522-0465.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Holy Family Ecumenical Catholic Church, 702 Parker Road, will hold the Stations of the Cross at 6:30 p.m. Fridays as part of its Lenten services. For more information, call 644-5025.

The Social Action Committee of Temple Beth-El and CAFé (Communities in Action and Faith) of Southern New Mexico present

an Interfaith Dessert Seder* for Justice and Peace



Thu., March 14, 2013 • 7:00 pm
Temple Beth-El • 3980 Sonoma Springs Ave.

Readings, songs and discussion will highlight the struggles of many people to find justice and equality in their lives.

*A Dessert Seder features a variety of desserts at the time when a meal is usually served

Please RSVP by March 12

email **rabbi@tbelc.org** or
 call Temple **575-524-3380**

"All Things Beautiful"

The Temple Beth El



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Sunday, March 10th
11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
\$5 at the door

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 to order tickets

A time of praise at the Bishop's Installation Mass

Photos by Steve MacIntyre



Cantú enjoys a moment of levity before his Installation Mass at the Las Cruces convention center Sunday.



Ladies of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem Christina Chavez Kelly, Bea Armijo and Mae Armijo chat before Installation Mass of the Most Rev. Oscar Cantú, second bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Las Cruces, Thursday, Feb. 28, at the Las Cruces Convention Center.



Deacon Tom Baca and Deacon Rev. Robert Brotherton pray with the newly installed C.S.B. Bishop Oscar Cantú.



Bishop Emeritus of Las Cruces Ricardo Ramirez walks with the procession into the Las Cruces Convention Center ballroom.



Hundreds of Las Cruces and area residents came to watch Cantú become the second bishop in the 30-year-plus history of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Las Cruces.

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Dishing out quality service at the 2013 Celebrity Waiter event

Photos by Steve MacIntyre



Enrique Carrillo serves Ricardo Duran and Alex Carrera at the sports and nutrition table Saturday, March 2, during the Celebrity Waiter fundraiser for March of Dimes at the Las Cruces Convention Center hosted by Team Zane.



Celebrity waiter Austin "No Doubt" Trout pauses for a photo with Victor Black and Jill Freemyer.



Elisa Cundiff of Energy Concepts serves drinks and dessert.



Stacie Allen serves coffee. Allen was one of the local celebrities who was asked to serve at the event.




Ilana Lapid rocked a '70s-style Afro.

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Ready, aim ... toss!



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Lorena Sanchez

Manuel Leyva tosses a horseshoe as competitor James Clark looks on. The pair competed Tuesday, March 5, in the 75 to 79 year old age group, during the Doña Ana County Senior Games Horseshoe competition. The first competitor to reach 21 points win the match. Clark won the game, however, both will advance to the state games in Roswell this summer. Eight men and three women competed in Tuesday's game. For more information or to register for the senior games, call 541-5171.

2013 DOÑA ANA COUNTY SENIOR GAMES SCHEDULE

Date & time	Event	Location
9 a.m. Tuesday, March 12	Huachas	Frank O'Brien Papen Center
Noon Friday, March 15	Table tennis - Singles/Doubles/Mix.	Frank O'Brien Papen Center
8 a.m. Saturday, March 16	Swimming	NMSU Pool

Health Briefs

Check out Cakes for a Cause

Entries for the 2013 Cakes for a Cause are now being accepted. Cakes for a Cause is a cake decorating competition and silent auction to benefit the March of Dimes. The event will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 9, at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road. Cake decorators of all abilities will participate. The public is invited to view the cakes and support the decorators, as well as take part in the silent auction. For more information, visit <http://cakesforacauselc.blogspot.com>.

Lives affected by mental illness

Residents from Las Cruces and surrounding communities will deliver a dynamic series of monologues about how mental illness has affected their lives.

The series, "Minds Interrupted: Stories of Lives Affected by Mental Illness," will be presented at 7 p.m. Monday, March 11, at the Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St. Tickets are \$10. Scholarship tickets are also available.

One out of four American families are impacted by chronic mental illness. In the U.S., more than 2 million people are diagnosed with schizophrenia, yet the stigma of it and other mental illnesses is so prevalent that people talk much less openly about these diseases.

To purchase tickets, call 386-6890 or visit www.nami-dac.org. Tickets will also be available at the door.

For more information, call Michele Herling at 577-7840 or Pamela Field at 312-2288.

Running club to meet

The Las Cruces Running Club will hold a meeting for members and non-members at 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 13, at Meerscheidt Recreation Center, 1600 E. Hadley Ave.

Business will include nominations, the election of LCRC officers, membership drive and an open discussion of LCRC activities both past and future. For those in arrears with their membership, there will be an opportunity to re-join that evening. Only current members can vote.

The meeting is open to all interested parties both members and non-members. For more information, call Cliff Cole at 636-4683.

NMSU Spring Wellness Fair is family friendly

New Mexico State University Spring Wellness Fair, a family-friendly event meant to

spread the word about the importance of living a healthy life, will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 16, at Preciado Park next to O'Donnell Hall (on the corner of Stewart and Williams streets) on the NMSU campus. The event is free and will include performances and demonstrations by various wellness-related groups. There will also be face painting, an obstacle course for children, a bungee run and a joust.

The goal of the Spring Wellness Fair is to provide the community with useful information and resources about staying healthy. On-campus programs, local businesses and nonprofit groups with a health-related emphasis are invited to participate and give out information about their programs and services. The fair is sponsored by the New Mexico State University Wellness, Action and Violence Education program, social work services, Campus Health Center and Associated Students of NMSU. For more information, call Lori Haussamen at 646-2731.

Equine fair set for March 23

The 2013 Red Sky Farm Hunter Jumpers and Dharmahorse Natural Horse Support Center are hosting "An Equine aFair" from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 23, at 7440 Arroyo Seco. There will be demonstrations in equine massage, red light therapy, Reiki, groundwork for riding, jumping exercises, a Tack Sale and more. Items for the sale will be accepted through Thursday, March 21. Booths are still available. Products featured at the fair include items for horses, woodworking and jewelry. Admission is \$5 at the door - there are door prizes. This is an opportunity for area horsemen and horsewomen to meet, exchange information and immerse themselves in all things equine. For more information, call 541-0137.

Register for Walk MS

Registration is open for Walk MS, a walk to raise money and awareness to fight Multiple Sclerosis. The race will take place at 9 a.m. April 6 at Young Park, 1905 E. Nevada Ave. Onsite registration will begin at 8 a.m.

Registration is free. Participants are asked to register early to allow time to raise funds to support MS research, programs and services that directly impact individuals and families living with the disease. The average participant raises \$225, and fundraising prizes are awarded beginning at the \$100 level. To register early, visit <http://walkmsnewmexico.org>.

For more information, contact Maggie Schold at 505-243-2792 or maggie.schold@nmss.org.

Cookbook helps TETWP



Pat Sisbarro and Laura Conniff of New Mexico State University Aggies Are Tough Enough to Wear Pink accept an \$18,487 check from Biad Chili Co. in February. Sales from the 2012 Biad Chili "Tough Book of Green Chile Recipes" fund breast cancer research throughout New Mexico. Recipes for the cookbook were collected through the Biad Chili Facebook page and include dishes from cooks all over the United States. Plans are underway to publish a 2013 cookbook which 100 percent of the proceeds will benefit the 2013 TETWP campaign.



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