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examines love
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Media tour county jail

No 'rat hole,' official says

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

In the fire storm of national attention following the \$22 million lawsuit award to a man held at the Doña Ana County Detention Center for more than 20 months, officials opened up the facility to media Friday, Jan. 27, to see current conditions there.

County spokesman Jess Williams said the purpose of the tour was to counter how some have described the detention center that opened in 1996.

"This tour was designed for people to see that this is not the 'rat hole' it's been portrayed to be," Williams said.

The county is appealing the \$22 million award by a federal jury in Santa Fe to Stephen Slevin of Las Cruces. According to his lawyer, Slevin was clinically depressed when he was originally jailed on charges of driving while intoxicated, transferring a stolen vehicle and other crimes Aug. 24, 2005. The charges were dismissed May 25, 2007, after the courts deemed him incompetent to stand trial and sent to New Mexico Behavioral Health Institute in Las Vegas, N.M.

Slevin's lawyer claims that conditions were poor at the center and Slevin's physical and mental health were degraded by prolonged solitary confinement. After the hearing, Slevin told reporters he had to pull out one of his teeth after jail personnel refused to let him see the dentist.

One of the first stops was at the 2,500-square-foot medical section of the jail that sees more than 100 detainees every day, with a dentist visiting more than once a week, according to Detention Center Director Chris Barela, who was a defendant named specifically in the lawsuit.

In 2008, the center began contracting medical services from Prison Healthcare Services, now called Corizon. Even more recently, the prison installed kiosks into the detention areas where detainees can make medical requests through the touch-screen system.

Barela acknowledged that many of the improvements being made at the detention center resulted from a settlement on a class action lawsuit by the ACLU over conditions at the jail. Before contracting for the services, Barela said the

See **Jail** on page A17



*Aggie
icons*

Longtime New Mexico State University basketball coach Lou Henson and his wife, Mary, attended the NMSU Alumni Reception in Santa Fe Friday, Jan. 27. The event served as an unofficial kickoff to Las Cruces Day in Santa Fe, and gave alumni in the region a chance to greet NMSU officials, including President Barbara Couture. An 80th birthday cake was served as participants sang "Happy Birthday" to Henson. For more photos on the reception, Las Cruces Day in Santa Fe and the Henson reception in Las Cruces, see A12-13, A15, A28 and B10-11.

Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Richard Coltharp

Trial lawyers object to spaceport limits

Space support jobs unlikely
without expanded protection

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

Supporters of expanding liability protection for Spaceport America activities got a taste of the legislation's opposition from testimony given by trial lawyers during a Senate committee hearing Monday, Jan. 30.

With detailed legalities being debated, the Senate Corporations and Transportation Committee eventually passed the legislation sponsored by Sen. Mary Kay Pappan, D-Las Cruces, so it could be debated by lawyers in the bill's next stop before the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Last year, the Legislature passed a similar bill to provide

protection to launch-flight operators such as Virgin Galactic to limit lawsuits from passengers going to space. Barring gross negligence, passengers acknowledge in writing they are taking a risky ride into space.

The law doesn't extend that protection to companies providing supplies or services to the operators. Texas, Virginia and Florida have since passed liability protections to suppliers and Spaceport America Executive Director Christine Anderson said support companies won't relocate to New Mexico without that protection.

That's especially critical to the spaceport's anchor tenant Virgin
See **Spaceport** on page A14

Businesses dim on new lighting rules

First glimpse given to city
outdoor lighting ordinance

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

The first public input meeting was given to the new outdoor lighting ordinance Tuesday, Jan. 31, with no one taking a shine to the latest attempt to revise restrictions to outdoor lighting.

Since 2009, Las Cruces city officials have been trying to update its ordinance covering outdoor lighting as new digital signs and new lighting technology entered the market, as well as addressing concerns about safety and light trespass.

Barry Cole of the city building and electrical inspection department said developing the

new standards has been a challenge because some aspects of the concerns can be objective, such as what causes glare.

In drafting the new ordinance, the city used a new approach called BUG, which is a "luminaire classification system that evaluates backlight (B), uplight (U) and glare (G)."

Under the new ordinance, any residence can have at least "one partially shielded or unshielded luminaire at the main entry, not exceeding 1,800 luminaire lumens," which is the equivalent of light given by a 100-watt light bulb.

Any other partially shielded
See **Lighting** on page A18

NEXT WEEK

Casino debate reaches council

Las Cruces City Council expected to make stand on renewed Indian casino project in Anthony, N.M.

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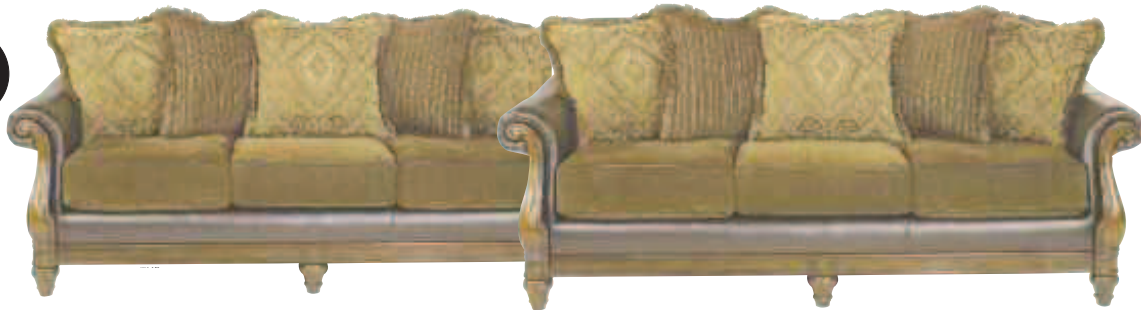
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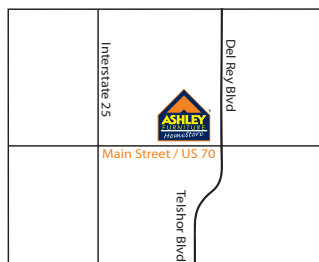
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Centennial Spotlight

1912 - 2012



Butterfield Trail may merit historic status

Park Service seeks local input on plan

The Butterfield Overland Trail, which carried stagecoaches and mail from the Mississippi River to San Francisco and made a stop in Mesilla, could become a national historic trail.

The National Park Service (NPS) is seeking public comments concerning the suitability and feasibility of this designation.

This NPS study and environmental assessment, in its initial information-gathering phase, will address the historic route in states from Missouri to California.

A meeting will be in Las Cruces from 3 to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7, at City Hall, 700 N. Main St. There will also be a meeting in El Paso from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 6, at the Museum of History seminar room, 510 N. Santa Fe St.

The public meetings will gather information, comments and concerns and will be held in communities along the historic route. The NPS invites everyone with an interest in the trail and its history to attend one or more of the public meetings.

In 1857, entrepreneur John Butterfield won a government contract to operate a mail and stage service along the Ox-Box Route between Mississippi River points and San Francisco. By September 1858, Butterfield had orchestrated the necessary horses, stations and stagecoaches to make his line operational. Stagecoach service began between Tipton, Mo., and San Francisco.

The line operated for 2.5 years, until events surrounding the upcoming Civil War forced its discontinuance. The Butterfield Overland Trail comprises approximately 3,500 miles of stage, rail and ferry routes in Missouri, Tennessee, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California.

The building that houses La Posta de Mesilla restaurant is the last of the trail stations still used commercially.

If the route is designated, the Secretary of the Interior would work in cooperation with American Indian tribes and other federal, state and local agencies, private organizations, landowners and others to tell the trail story and provide opportunities for people to visit important sites along the route.

Land ownership and private property rights would not be affected by designation of the route. Participation of land owners and managers in trail-related projects would be voluntary.

In addition to offering comments in person at the meetings, interested persons may submit their written comments regarding the study online at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/butterfieldsrs> until May 18. Comments may also be submitted via email or in writing to gretchen_ward@nps.gov or Gretchen Ward, National Trails Intermountain Region, National Park Service, P.O. Box 728, Santa Fe, NM 87504.

Comments provided by the public during this review phase will be considered by the NPS planning team. The NPS will consolidate the comments into a scoping report, which will be posted online for the public to view.

The study will evaluate the suitability and feasibility of designating the route known as the Butterfield Overland Trail Ox-Box Route as a national historic trail under the sthe National Trails System Act. The environmental assessment will identify, evaluate and document the potential effects of designating the route as a national historic trail. The public will have an opportunity to review and comment on the draft study/environmental assessment. The final study/environmental assessment will be submitted to Congress, which will then decide whether to designate the Butterfield Overland Trail as a national historic trail.



Mike Groves and La Posta photo
La Posta de Mesilla was part of the Butterfield Overland Trail, which is being considered by the National Park Service for its historical significance. There will be a meeting 3 to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7, at Las Cruces City Hall for public comment on the project.

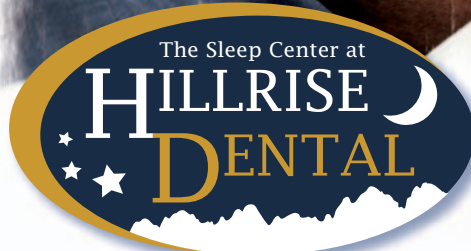
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From the publisher

BY DAVID MCCOLLUM

Lady in the Roundhouse

Gov. Susana Martinez is the right person at the right time to lead New Mexico into its second 100 years

This past weekend, more than 250 business and community leaders made the annual trek to our state capital for the Las Cruces Day in Santa Fe events. Hosted by the Conquistadores of the Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce, the three-day celebration is intended to bring the business community closer together with our statewide elected officials, and to ensure that the goals and needs of southwest New Mexico are clearly understood by those who control the rules and monies that allow our regional communities to thrive.

The task of our state legislature is mind-boggling, especially during the short, 30-day session when the first two weeks are spent introducing bills, leaving only 14 days, including two weekends, to take action on proposed new legislation.

Our Las Cruces and Doña Ana legislators are, in my opinion, among the best in the state. Each of our senators and representatives has demonstrated willingness to vote their own conscience on important issues instead of simply following the partisan pack.

Our contingent has several experienced, senior members including Sen. Mary Jane Garcia (23 years), Sen. Cynthia Nava (20 years), Rep. Mary Helen Garcia (18 years), Sen. Mary Kay Papen (12 years), Rep. Joseph Cervantes (11 years) and Rep. Andy Nuñez (6 years). Relative newcomers are Rep. Dr. Terry McMillan (the only physician among our state legislators), Rep. Rick Little and Sen. Steve Fischmann, who were elected two years ago, and Rep. Bill Burt who was appointed last year.

New Mexico's top leader, Gov. Susana Martinez, is a fellow Las Crucean who knows well the importance of southwest New Mexico to our state's economy. She is a fearless leader who understands the political process, including the need to choose her battles carefully and to be unwavering on the issues that can move New Mexico forward into its next century.

Martinez plans to continue to make progress on her agenda to establish New Mexico as a state that can balance economic growth with education and human rights. Her vision is for New Mexico to move from the bottom of the list of indicators that position our state as one of the lowest-performing states. Her ideas are simple, logical and straightforward.

Of course, the Roundhouse can be a frustrating environment. Sometimes, the most logical and obvious tasks that need to be done can get lost in partisan political rhetoric. Such is the case with the ridiculously slow approval process for several of Martinez's cabinet secretaries.

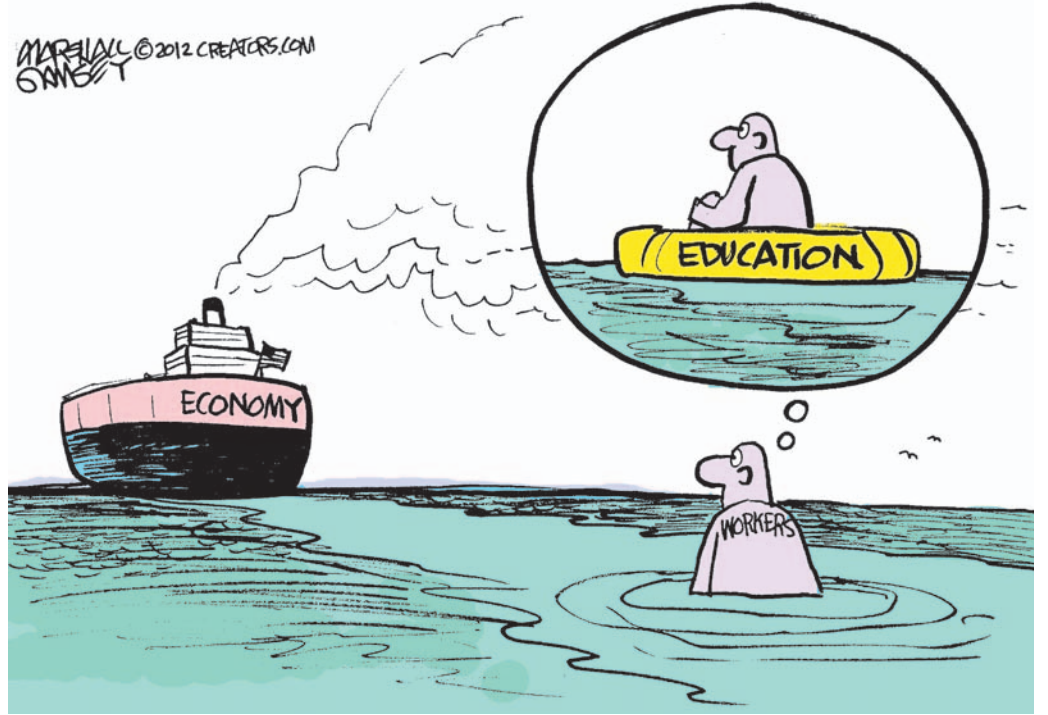
For example, John Barela has now served New Mexico as the Secretary of Economic Development "designate" for more than a year. He has traversed the state and has played an instrumental role in positioning New Mexico as a great place to do business. He also has led by example by streamlining his office, eliminating unnecessary positions and vehicles that he inherited from the previous administration. I cannot imagine a better person to manage the Department of Economic Development. His approval should be a "slam dunk" as should several others. However, to the embarrassment of our state, the approval is still painfully pending.

There are some who claim that Martinez is operating just like the previous administration she criticized during her campaign. However, this claim is a bit absurd when you consider the changes she has made, including the reduction of costs of unnecessary jobs and jets.

As for those claims that she is too controlling, I have not heard of Martinez asking any of her appointed officials to sign an undated letter of resignation prior to the appointment, as was the case in the previous administration.

Hopefully, over the next two weeks, the partisan politics will be minimized and our statewide elected officials will consider the needs of the people of New Mexico. Our state has the potential, and is poised, to be one of the most attractive places in the United States.

We urge all citizens to participate in the political process by contacting their representatives, senators and Martinez, and letting them know what we need to make our state a great place to live and do business.



Letters to the Editor

Detention Center fiasco

Doña Ana County is now liable for a \$22 million dollar judgment because our district attorney's office dropped the ball.

In August, 2005, Stephen Slevin was arrested for allegedly driving a stolen car while under the influence. Almost two years later he was released from jail to a hospital in need of medical attention.

Gov. Susana Martinez was the district attorney at the time and present District Attorney Amy Orlando was her trusted assistant. Orlando says that the time he spent in jail is not out of the normal. Slevin had to pull his own tooth and his toenails curled under his toes.

I believe the district attorney's office was holding Slevin in order to force him to cop a plea. I wonder how many others have had this same treatment under Martinez and Orlando.

It seems that all who came in contact with Slevin had a duty to bring attention to his condition. The county puts the blame on the district attorney's office. Isn't the district attorney's office responsible to ensure that Slevin got a speedy and fair trial?

Ernie Bean

Supports wilderness

It was heartening to read of the cooperative efforts of local citizens, community leaders and legislators to bring about permanent

protection of our beloved desert mountains in Doña Ana County. For too long, efforts to safeguard these fragile lands have fallen by the wayside, although an overwhelming majority of our county's citizens have called for their protection.

Without unceasing efforts on the parts of all users of these precious lands, they will fall prey to those who would kill the goose that laid the golden egg without a thought to our children and grandchildren. We have myriad examples of what happens when those pursuing personal gain are allowed free rein. Areas that only a few decades ago offered respite from a hectic world and places to retreat in search of peace and solitude now are now laid waste, stripped of vegetation or paved over.

There is a healthy way for humans and nature to interact to accommodate both planned development and protection of wild places and shrinking resources. Our quality of life will be greatly diminished and the powerful revenue generator of the Organs – the heart of the Mesilla Valley – will be lost forever unless we move forward strongly in support of legislative efforts to protect our desert peaks.

Kudos to the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Town of La Mesilla, and their counterparts in the city and county governments. May you never lose courage; we need your voices and your efforts.

Amy Carpenter

Friends of the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks Wilderness

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

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Capitol echoes of politics past

New controversies resurrect long buried conflicts

Jay Miller
Inside the Capitol



The ghosts of New Mexico's political past are back to raise their mischievous heads again. The opening two weeks of this Legislature have been more lively than most. After a do-little regular session last year, followed by a do-nothing special session, the change is refreshing.

The session is seeing its usual demonstrations but this time some are taking on the aura of the more rowdy demonstrations of the 1960s and 1970s. The occupy movement has shown up twice for legislative events and has stretched the meaning of peaceful to its limits.

First, it was the governor's opening day address to the Legislature, and a week later, it was a dinner hosted by a national conservative organization that were disrupted by a handful of shouting protesters. We may not have seen the end of the occurrences.

A few of the demonstrators walked all the way from Albuquerque in mid-January. That would seem to indicate some sort of resolve to do more than just hold a picket sign.

In the wake of the disturbances, Albuquerque Rep. Bill Rehm, whose female companion was accidentally injured during the banquet disruption, questioned on the floor of the House two days later whether the Legislature has enough security and whether Santa Fe is a safe setting for the Legislature or whether another city should be considered.

The increased police presence has been a sore point at times in the past, especially when it was difficult to find a parking place within blocks of the Capitol Building. Police cars always seemed to have all the good spots near the building. That concern has been eased with the construction of a parking garage across the street.

But the suggestion of moving the state capital out of Santa Fe opened old wounds. Albuquerque began pushing for moving the capital back in the 1880s, when the railroad avoided Santa Fe and chose Albuquerque. The city was even blamed by many Santa Feans for burning our second Capitol Building to the ground.

As soon as Rehm finished his lengthy speech, House Speaker Ben Lujan provided evidence of those strong Santa Fe feelings when he told Rehm that he resented his suggestion.

For many decades the capital has been slowly moving toward Albuquerque as new state buildings are constructed, first in southern Santa Fe and now south of town. Statewide elected

officials and cabinet secretaries, living in Albuquerque, have long opened Albuquerque offices in order to avoid Santa Fe.

Moving the entire state capital would be quite a chore, involving a constitutional amendment and the construction of new government buildings. It would mean much economic development for the city chosen and Rehm didn't mention Albuquerque specifically.

Rehm also mentioned a legislator who did not attend the dinner where the disturbance occurred; whom he thought might have had advance knowledge of the occupy plan but gave no warning of it. He didn't mention any legislator by name but Santa Fe Rep. Brian Egolf was seen in the building talking with some of the people who later caused the disturbance.

Egolf later said his office is near Eldorado Hotel where the dinner was taking place and that he often drops by the hotel on his way home. He said he was not told of the plan and left before the action took place.

What then appeared to be a heated exchange occurred on the floor between Egolf and Rehm. It wasn't the first time heated exchanges have occurred during legislative sessions in Santa Fe. Occasionally chairs get knocked over in bars and maybe a few punches thrown.

And more heated exchanges have occurred in the past. I have read more than one source concerning a state lawmaker named "Diamond Tooth" Miller who shot and killed a state Supreme Court chief justice at La Fonda Hotel many years ago.

I have consulted all my trusty historical sources without luck. Google only wants to sell me diamond teeth. I would appreciate someone helping me with the story.

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

Letters to the Editor

Jail violations unacceptable

As a citizen and as a taxpayer, I am annoyed, angry and totally upset about this Slevin case; a \$22 million judgment against the county. It does not matter if this man was guilty or not, he was deprived of many of his rights under both the Bill of Rights and the New Mexico Constitution.

Where was his right to a speedy trial, his right to counsel? Now, we taxpayers of Doña Ana County have to pay the bill for these injustices.

The county manager can say the county has strong grounds for appeal, but I wonder where the county attorneys were during the trial.

I believe this matter requires a full investigation, beginning with the jail administration and medical unit. This is just the latest in cases of negligence on their part. If represented by an attorney or the public defenders office, how did he fell through the cracks? Lastly, what defenses were used by the county attorney to defend the county at the trial?

We as citizens cannot allow such violations of rights to happen to another human being. As taxpayers, we must demand that our tax dollars be used for the good of all the people, not to pay for the negligence of a few.

Patrick J. Curran

Support governor's proposals

I know that balancing our time between our busy lives and serving the community can be a challenge.

However, as a business owner, I'm concerned the social promotion and teacher accountability bills could be headed to dilution and compromise. I am hoping readers will consider contacting their legislators and ask them to not compromise on the education bills our governor is proposing and supporting – HB69, SB96 and the teacher accountability bill not tagged yet.

The business community really needs to be heard on the issues of social promotion and teacher accountability. We need to continue to push for a better return on investment of our educational dollars.

I know, like me you are very concerned about what we are seeing in work ethic and soft skills.

We need to take a hard stand against promoting children through the system when they can't meet the requirements. Doing so creates the idea at a very early age that you don't need to meet expectations to advance. As you know, this thinking then flows right into our companies.

Our educational institutions exist for the very purpose of developing the future workforce. We cannot afford poor work ethic development in our schools.

Don't misunderstand me, I think character is the parent's primary responsibility.

We don't need to blame our schools, but rather to support them by ensuring high expectations are required and met; not diluted or passed over. If we do not immediately address underperformance, it only makes it harder and more expensive to fix down the road.

We do not help the teacher who receives the unprepared kid. They have to work harder to make up for the "transferred deficiency." This makes measuring their effectiveness more difficult, which is why we also need to support the administration's teacher-accountability bill.

The on-track students also suffer in their own advancement in learning since the teacher is spread over the varied levels.

The "not ready" kids don't benefit either. Statistically, not being able to read by the third grade is a major predictor for dropping out. Thirty percent of dropouts end up in the juvenile justice system, furthering the increase of our tax costs and reducing the employability of the individual

If you agree, take a few minutes to contact your legislator.

Russell Allen

Chairman, Doña Ana County Republican Party

Ferrari ceremony strikes a chord

The promotion ceremony of Brig. Gen John Ferrari at White Sands Missile Range was one of those "ah ha" moments for those of us who attended.

While the promotion ceremony was very compelling, the participation of his wife and children was even more so. The fact that his wife and children were there to pin on his stars made the family feel they were not only a part of his life as

a husband and dad, but also an integral part of his professional life as a soldier.

As a Navy wife whose husband spent 24 years in the Navy, I never recalled being at a promotion ceremony nor participating in one. My husband's deployments took him out to sea aboard aircraft carriers for long periods of time, so we were separated during most of his career. When he was promoted it must have been at sea, and I can't recall if we were ever invited as a family to be a part of one of his promotion ceremonies.

Our children never really connected with his Navy career, and as a consequence were not given the opportunity to be part of his Navy life. There was a saying in the Navy that "if the Navy wanted a sailor to have a wife they would have issued one with his sea bag."

The wonderful ceremony of having Ferrari, his lovely wife Andrea and their children there to pin on his star brought home to me that the family must be an integral part of a serviceman's career and have a connection to it since this is who they are.

Gen. Benjamin Griffin spoke of the separations from family, something that we service wives are all so well aware of.

This wonderful family and the tradition of having their children's involvement as a part of this special time in their lives brought home to me how very important it is for the services to remember to include families in their traditions and in their lives and remember that when they are deployed for duty to a foreign land, where families cannot follow, it is just as painful and difficult for the families they left behind as it is for those leaving.

Thank you for the privilege of being a witness at this very special moment.

Frances F. Williams

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BaxterBlack

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE



Feedlot consultants: A tribute

When I started practicing feedlot medicine in the late 1960s it was a fairly new specialty.

Feedlots, as we picture them now in the Midwest and southwest, were not as common. By the time I hired on with the Diamond A out of Roswell, 20,000 head yards were spreading across the country. They prospered in the arid Southwest because mud is the biggest enemy of feedlot grain. The Imperial Valley of California, the desert country of Arizona and the Texas panhandle became popular places to feed cattle.

The veterinary profession also faced a new challenge, the herd health of 50,000 head of cattle on feed in one place. Most feedlot managers did not even consider a DVM on the staff full-time. Very quickly the job of "head doctor" became a feedlot occupation. But, all too often, they got in over their head.

A certain group of veterinarians responded by offering themselves as consultants. They would schedule regular, usually weekly visits to the feedlots, to oversee treatment programs, processing of the incoming and diagnosis of the sick and dead. To get the job done it was imperative that the feedlot employees, head doctors and processing crews, in particular, have a good understanding of animal health. So a handful of these consulting veterinarians began teaching rudimentary veterinary medicine to the feedlot laymen.

This caused a grand uproar in the veterinary profession, "teaching laymen to do what veterinarians were licensed and trained to do." It took many years before the profession in general recognized the reality of caring for confinement animals. But the consulting veterinarians of the time, the elite of our profession, now the highest paid of the DVM specialties, were royalty in my eyes. They were like the Supreme Court, the

Rat Pack, the font of wisdom for aspiring feedlot veterinarians like me. They roamed the plains of Texas, Kansas, Oklahoma and California like gunfighters; Paladin or Eliot Ness, in a Cessna 182 mixing tetracycline powder and carrying blood tubes and necropsy knives.

Names like Dehyle, Brimhall, Cerniga, Bechtol, Sheldon, Crane, Johnson and Rinker hung in the rafters of my vocabulary. They were the equivalent of Apollo astronauts exploring a new type of medicine that was not being taught in vet schools. I imagined they walked on golden streets, they were the epitome of what I could achieve.

Across the poker table from the vets were the independent consulting nutritionists. Gunslingers like Eng, Autry, Coolie, Erwin, Elam, Noftzinger and Algeo covered the commercial feedlot world like Secretaries of State, dispensing diplomacy, gossip and supplements like frankincense and myrrh.

Feedlot managers talked to each other about their consultants like they were their personal racehorses. Today this specialty practice they invented has blossomed into the Academy of Veterinary consultants, some 880 members strong.

I feel I must make a disclaimer, the individuals I named were the generation before me. Each decade has brought in a new set of feedlot practitioners, professors, scientists, nutritionists and company vets. Their continuing contributions keep the bar rising... and some of them are characters, too. But to the groundbreakers, wherever you are, retired on the porch, in the chronic pen or with your hand up the back of a cow for ol' times sake, we salute you. You will always be our excuse. All we ever need to say is, "Well, that's the way the big boys used to do it!"

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

Occupiers cross the line

Protests should stay off private property

Michael Swickard
In My Opinion



"OSF (Occupy Santa Fe) understands the continuing corruption of our democracy is a matter of sheer survival with 146 million Americans at, or below the poverty line. A noisy interruption of the ALEC (American Legislative Exchange Council) \$250 dinner is mild compared to the economic, social and environmental devastation caused by corporate domination. ALEC members choked two women protesters with their own scarves while simultaneously punching them in the back, one by Rep. Kintigh of Roswell. Following them to the sidewalk in front of the restaurant, an ALEC member punched a male protester in the face and shoved another male protester to the wall in a chokehold. Four security guards from the Eldorado Hotel contained the violent ALEC legislative member."

— Occupy Santa Fe spokesperson

I was not there, nor did I speak to anyone involved before I wrote this column. However, I am gravely concerned about two things: first, that a peaceful group of elected New Mexico legislators on private property were attacked and sustained injuries. Second, there was no security for these legislators.

If the Occupy Santa Fe protesters had remained outside of the hotel where they were protesting, this would be a non-story. Instead some of them came onto private property — a hotel dining room — and caused a fuss. They called causing a fuss civil disobedience, but they are wrong.

Be noisy, be in the face, be on public property.

Step onto private property without permission, and it is not fine. The hotel, while open to the public, is still private property. The protesters have no right to walk into any store, restaurant or hotel without permission.

The authorities and security forces were absent. That left it up to the legislators to protect themselves.

The protesters charge that Reps. Bill Rehm and Dennis Kintigh used force to remove them. They did so after the protesters injured Rep.

Rehm's date. Both Rehm and Kintigh have law enforcement backgrounds. That they felt compelled to act speaks volumes.

Where do we go from here? I hope Occupy Santa Fe troops are not trying to force the legislators to huddle behind protected walls. We have a great citizen Legislature where anyone can walk almost anywhere in the Roundhouse without hassle. The dialog may have started to try to contain the "terrorist" effect of protesters.

I do have to protest the protester press release, "the continuing corruption of our democracy is a matter of sheer survival with 146 million Americans at or below the poverty line." So one-half of all Americans are at or below the poverty line? Yet most have a house, car and cable. How is that poverty? I suspect the fragile population is closer to 5 percent and, yes, they do need our prayers and our help.

Also, the New Mexico Legislature has been firmly in the hands of the Democrats since before World War II. The Occupy Santa Fe group was yelling at Republicans who rarely, if ever, have any say in what the Legislature does. If corporations have bought the New Mexico Legislature, protest the Democrats.

I would like to give some honest, helpful advice for the people in the Occupy Santa Fe movement. Stay on public property. We hear you and, dare I say it, I agree with some of your more reasonable concerns. I have raised them myself as to money and politics.

“ If the Occupy Santa Fe protesters had remained outside of the hotel where they were protesting, this would be a non-story. ”

Importantly, if you really want to make a difference, go to each legislative district and put up a candidate against the incumbent so that a year from now the entire 112 members of the New Mexico Legislature could all be newly elected occupy members who will completely cleanse the political process. Do the change right.

The occupy people all over our nation do have our attention but we will not be bullied, we will not be intimidated and they

cannot come on private property and attack New Mexico citizens without the full response of angry citizens being conveyed to them. If they want to change the political process it is open to them to do so. Do it in the way that our U.S. and New Mexico constitutions allow, get elected and lead us to a better world.

Michael Swickard is co-host of radio talk show News New Mexico on KSNM-AM 570. Swickard may be contacted at michael@swickard.com.

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In addition, a panel of experts from the University of New Mexico SAFE Clinic (Support and Assessment for Feeding and Eating) will present on the associated behavioral aspects of swallowing disorders.



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Letters to the Editor

Republican candidates

In spite of everything, look at what the Republican debates have communicated.

Mitt Romney talks as if he's having a high school debate over some generic form of capitalism versus some generic form of socialism. Did Romney not get the memo?

The debate today – and I'd argue back into the 19th century – has not been about capitalism versus something else, but a debate over managed capitalism, how to manage it so that it contributes to what our Constitution calls the "general welfare," the greatest good for the greatest number.

Any other argument – communism, socialism, blah, blah – is a straw man argument for those channeling adolescent debate fantasies. Newt Gingrich is obviously going whole hog for the tea party vote. He's throwing his lot with the sociopathic side of the American psyche, the angry pit bulls, the blood lust of the crowd as it channels tea party lions devouring the "liberal elites" or the "establishment" in something reminiscent of a Roman amphitheatre.

Gingrich's magic moment came at minute 65 of the debate in South Carolina where he and the crowd became one, when he stated his "clear-cut idea about America's enemies: Kill them." As one reporter

put it: Fox News shows a crowd shot. People are pumping their fists in the air. Kill them. Kill them.

Gingrich is like the inquisitor of old, who in rooting out heresy, gave the order to "kill them all. God will know His own."

Romney's saving grace is that, even if he's not too bright, at least he's not the embarrassment to humanity that Gingrich is.

Michael Walsh

Prison Family Services thanks the community

Prison Family Services would like to express its appreciation to the Las Cruces community for the spirit of cooperation and care for others expressed during the past year. Our organization exists for the purpose of preservation of the families of incarcerated persons.

The following community organizations and persons assisted Prison Family Services in providing gifts and food to children and families at Thanksgiving and Christmas: Gospel Rescue Mission, Tresco Toys for Kids Motorcycle Parade Committee, Lilley Law Office, First Baptist Church of Las Cruces, Education Department at Southern New Mexico Correctional Facility, Mayfield High School Honor Society, Catholic Diocese of Las Cruces, Sunland Park Baptist Church, Luz Del Mundo Iglesia Bautista of Anthony, Valley View

Keeping kids warm



The AKTION CLUB, along with Kiwanis Club of Las Cruces President Mike Dallago, display a check for \$465 raised for Coats for Kids. The money was raised during a pancake breakfast through cash donations and payroll deductions. The check was presented to Coats for Kids at US Bank of Las Cruces, Dec. 28, 2011, along with more than 80 coats gathered during the drive. The AKTION CLUB performs community service and is sponsored by the Kiwanis Club and Tresco Inc.

Baptist Church, Michael and Diane Lilley and Prison Family Services board members.

Thank you also to those who assisted with a Christmas party held for the children and families

at the Visitor Hospitality House at Southern New Mexico Correctional Facility: Santa Claus, represented by Joe Fleming; Jack Diven, freelance photographer; Mary Diven and family; AmeriCorps volunteers;

visitor hospitality staff, Southern New Mexico Correctional Facility staff and officers and Prison Family Services board members.

Betty Eason

Prison Family Services board member

SPOT A LEAK? HERE'S WHAT TO DO.

What should you do if you suspect a natural gas leak? Evacuate the area and prevent anyone from entering, abandon any equipment used, avoid open flames, avoid ignition sources like cell phones or 2-way radios, do not start or turn off motor vehicles or electrical equipment, call 911 or your local fire or law enforcement agency, notify Zia, and do not attempt to extinguish a natural gas fire or operate any pipeline valves. Above all, your personal safety should be your first concern. New Mexico's natural choice, Zia Natural Gas Company ... and please remember to call 811 before you dig.

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RSVP: David @ 1-888-246-8139

These educational workshops are offered by UnitedHealthcare based upon the overwhelming statistics of 10,000 baby boomers reaching 65 every day for the next 19 years. The primary objective of these workshops will be to illustrate cost savings resulting from the movement of 65-and-over employees to Medicare Advantage plans that offer low or no premiums.

Exciting Door Prizes:

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• Dinner for two at Lorenzo's

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Coming Up

MV bosque events listed

Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park, 5000 Calle del Norte, west of Mesilla, has announced its February calendar of events.

- Ranger-led nature hikes are at 3 p.m. each Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Visitors are asked to bring binoculars, water, sunscreen and hiking shoes to all hikes.
- Bird tours will be at 8:15 a.m. Saturdays, Feb. 4, 11 and 18.
- World Wetlands Day: 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, Feb. 4. Events include a guided bird tour at 8:15 a.m., a wetland presentation by Environmental Specialist Chris Canavan, and the Rolling River display sponsored by El Paso Water Utilities. Visitors will learn about wetlands and the importance of water conservation at this half-day event.
- Bosque Education Workshop: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11. This free workshop will help teachers learn how to use the Bosque Education Guide, an interdisciplinary curriculum designed for instruction in kindergarten through 12th grade. Space is limited. To reserve a seat, call 523-4398.
- Pruning 101: 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 18. Master Naturalist Sylvia Hacker will provide tips on how to prune trees and shrubs in the park classroom.
- Becoming a Birder Series

will be at 8:15 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 25.

- Hot Chocolate Cache: 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, Feb. 25. This is one of many cache events to commemorate the centennial of New Mexico's statehood. This event is intended for senior geocachers, first-time geocachers or those just curious about geocaching, and will include a three-stage, temporary geocache allowing participants to compile everything they need to create a nice hot mug of hot chocolate. Daily entrance fee is \$5 per vehicle. Annual day passes are available for \$40. All events are free with a valid park pass.

Winter hours at the park are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Sunday.

For more information, call LuAnn Tafoya at 523-4398.

Co-op events

Mountain View Market Natural Foods Cooperative, 1300 El Paseo Road, Suite M, has announced its events for February.

- Farm Volunteer Day: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. each Wednesday, at the MVM Farm in Mesilla. For details and directions, email mvmoutreach@gmail.com or call 523-0436.
- Balanced Living Book Club: 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Feb. 8, 15, 22 and 29. For more information, call 510-459-2671.
- Psychic Readings and Energetic Healings: Noon

to 2 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 16. Dawn Cheney performs readings and healings in the Co-op Café. Donations accepted. For more information, call 233-1108.

- Mountain View Market tours are from 6 to 7 p.m. each first and third Thursday of the month.
- Feral cat care: 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7. Joe Miele will present "Trap, Neuter and Return and Winter Feral Cat Care," in the Co-op Community Room.
- The Sugar Blues: 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 16. Health coach Connie Gayhl will speak on how sugar can affect mood and energy at this free event in the Co-op Community Room. For more information, call 524-1449.
- Meet the Practitioners: Noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 18. Visitors will have an opportunity to talk with local specialists in the natural health and alternative medicine fields. Disciplines include herbalism, oriental medicine, life-coaching, Reiki and more. A free event in the Co-op Community Room.
- Co-op Rocks!: 5 to 11 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 18. Mountain View Market and SumArt present Co-op Rocks!, a free monthly concert and art show at the GreenWorks building located on the Downtown Mall. The all ages event is free and open to the public. Local food and High

Desert beer are available for purchase.

- Kids' Crafts with Annie: 11 a.m. to noon Sunday, Feb. 19, in the Co-op Community Room. This month, the free class will feature kite making. Snacks are provided and parents are required to attend with kids.
- New Year, New You: 6 to 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 20. Kathy and Trish will demonstrate how to improve life with herbs and supplements for a good night's rest, managing stress and maximizing daily energy. This is the second installment in a free, three-part series.
- Evening with a Doctor: 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 21. Dr. Kelly Elkins will focus on today's health issues and information we don't all have access to. The class is free and will repeat the third Tuesday of each month. For more information, email kelley@anextstep.org.
- Free Health Screening with Project Hope: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25. The HOPEMobile, will be in the MVM parking lot. The free screening includes diabetes, cholesterol and blood pressure testing and more. For more information, email tcovington@projecthope.org or call 540-837-9266.
- Solar energy seminar: 3 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25. Positive Energy Solar will present "Plug into the Sun," a free solar energy

seminar. For more information, call 524-2030.

Unless otherwise noted, all events are in the Co-op Community Room. For more information, call 523-0436.

Film at SWEC

The Southwest Environmental Center, 275 N. Main St., will present a free screening of the film "Call of Life: Facing the Mass Extinction," at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3, as part of its ongoing First Friday Free Film Series.

The film explores the current crisis in nature and human nature and how the decision we choose to make – or fail to make – will affect the habitability of Earth for millions of years to come.

For more information, call 522-5552 or visit www.wildmesquite.org.

Court Jr. High alumni sought

The Court Youth Center (CYC) is asking former Court Junior High School students and faculty and people who were alive when the old courthouse was still standing on Court Avenue to share their memories and any memorabilia they may have of the historic property.

In celebration of the 70 years of Court Junior High School and New Mexico's centennial year, a new project called the "402 West Court Story" is a living history of the people and the buildings that have contributed to the 129-year narrative of the property. This includes the Doña Ana County Court House (1883-1936); Court Junior High School (1941-82); Court Youth Center (1996 to the present) and Alma d'arte

Charter High School (2004 to present).

As part of the project, "Public Memory Gathering Days" will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays, Feb. 4, 11 and 18, at Court Youth Center, 402 W. Court Ave., in Studio A.

"The property is so much of our city's history both in architecture and the people who spent some time in the buildings," said Irene Oliver-Lewis, Court Youth Center/Alma d'arte artistic director and founder.

Lauren Light and Shakeria Crawley are currently interviewing Court Junior High alumni. Light has developed a series of questions and information-gathering methods to make the experience accessible to everyone. They ask participants to bring memorabilia such as photos, yearbooks, clothing, report cards, art done while at the building, journals, and other items that may be of interest.

"Irene (Oliver-Lewis) has been collecting items from Court Junior High School alumni since the Court Youth Center had a community clean-up day in 1995. We now would like to display this history in the building for all to see the importance of the people that worked, went to school, or participated in any event in the building," Light said.

For more information, call Light at 541-0145 or email laurenlight@gmail.com.

Senior golf tournament set

The New Mexico State University Golf Course is hosting the Mesilla Valley Seniors Golf Association first annual Men's Bogey Tournament, Wednesday Feb. 22.

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Coming Up

The tournament is open to all members or nonmembers over the age of 55. For more information, contact David Tini at 570-780-8098 or dtini57@yahoo.com no later than Sunday, Feb. 19. Information is also available at the NMSU Golf Course Pro Shop at 646-3219.

LCHS open house Feb. 9

Las Cruces High School will host an open house from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9. The event will include performances by the LCCHS choir, band and performing dance. There will also be prize drawings and informational booths about LCCHS' academic clubs, athletics and extracurricular activities.

The first 100 students to arrive with student identification will receive a voucher for free admission to the Las Cruces High School versus Mayfield High School basketball game at 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 10.

For more information, call 527-9400.

Show Kindness Day at NMSU

An Aggie is spirited, proud of New Mexico State University and shows kindness and consideration to others – at least according to Emily Lein, whose death last November inspired Aggie Kindness Day.

Lein was a student and an Aggie “superfan” who showed kindness and enthusiasm to everyone she encountered. NMSU Housing and Residential Life is honoring her spirit by encouraging students, faculty and staff to participate in an act of kindness.

“Emily’s death was a reminder to a lot of people that our opportunities to be kind come in many forms,” said Michelle Bernstein, assistant director of residential education and assessment. “We wanted to give students the opportunity to spread kindness throughout NMSU and the community.”

Aggie Kindness Day will take place Thursday, Feb. 9. Aggies can sign up at the information table in front of

Taos Cafeteria in Corbett Center from Monday, Feb. 6, through the day of the event and receive a button showing their participation.

The acts of kindness can be large or small and impact an individual or a group. Ideas can be found at the information table, but creativity is encouraged.

Participants are requested to submit photos, quotes, and feedback from their Aggie Kindness Day experience on the Housing and Residential Life Facebook Page at www.facebook.com/NMSUHousing.

Bernstein said the stories will be compiled “to see what a difference one initiative can make.”

Native Plant Society events

The Native Plant Society of New Mexico, Las Cruces Chapter has announced its events for February.

- Medicinal Plants of the Mesilla Valley: 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 8, at the Good Samaritan Society-Las Cruces Village, 3011 Buena Vida Circle in the Conference Room. Mary O’Connell will be the presenter.
- Tour of the Sierra Vista Nursery in La Union: 8 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 11. Anyone interested is asked to meet at east end of the Rio Grande Bank parking lot at the corner of University Avenue and Telshor Boulevard. Horticulturalist Joe Kane will guide the tour.

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

NARFE meets

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) Chapter 182 will meet at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 11, at Days Inn & Suites Mesilla Valley Conference Center, 901 Avenida de Mesilla, in the Columbus Conference Center. Las Cruces Police Chief Richard Williams will be the guest speaker. All current and retired federal employees are encouraged to attend. There is a cost (cash

only) for the breakfast buffet, and reservations must be made by Wednesday, Feb. 8, by calling Carol Main at 382-7686 or Carol Decker at 522-3033.

Genealogy Society meets

The Doña Ana County Genealogical Society will meet on at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 8, at Branigan Memorial Library, 200 E. Picacho Ave., in the Roadrunner Room. Joan Cole will be giving a program titled, “How Do You Know You Don’t Have a Quaker Ancestor?” A questionnaire and a short presentation on finding Quaker ancestors will be included. All meetings are open to the public and anyone interested is encouraged to attend. For more information, email dacgslc@gmail.com or visit <http://dagenealogy.blogspot.com>.

Academy has open house

Las Cruces Academy, at 212 S. Main St., will host an open house Tuesday, Feb. 7. The private, nonprofit school for gifted and academically advanced students is currently educating kindergarten through fifth-grade students. Visitors may observe classes in English, Chinese, phonics, social studies and math from 8 to 10 a.m., and visitors may tour the academy and speak with the teachers from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

The academy provides a challenging, yet supportive environment, encouraging academic excellence over a wide range of subjects. Daily classes include math, science, reading, writing, social studies, PE, Chinese, Spanish and the arts. Classes are small, providing individualized instruction. The academy is accepting applications for kindergarten through 6th grade for the 2012-13 school year.

For more information, visit www.lascrucesacademy.org or call 521-9384.

DACSAR meets

Doña Ana County Search & Rescue Inc., a volunteer search and rescue team, will meet at 6 p.m. Monday, Feb. 6, in classroom 126 in the main building, Doña Ana Community College, 3400 S. Espina St. Visitors are new member are welcome. For more information visit www.dacsar.org or call 526-4918.

Pearce hosts VA meeting

Congressman Steve Pearce will host a meeting with Veterans Administration staff and veterans at 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 4, at Cineport 10 Theatre, located in Mesilla Valley Mall, 700 S. Telshor Blvd. Veterans will have the opportunity to talk with the staff of the VA hospital in El Paso.

For those wishing to avoid discussion in a public forum, VA Hospital staff members will be on site and ready to discuss individual cases with veterans 30 minutes prior to the meeting time. Hospital staff and Pearce will listen to any questions and take comments about veterans’ services.

For anyone needing special communication accommodations, including but not limited to language translation or sign language translation, may contact Pearce’s office at 855-473-2723.

LC Dog Park Coalition meets

The Las Cruces Dog Park Coalition will hold its second annual dinner meeting at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11, at the Las Cruces Association of Realtors, 150 E. Idaho Ave. Tickets are free to coalition members and \$5 for nonmembers through Saturday, Feb. 4. Tickets prices after Feb. 4 will be \$5 for members and \$10 for nonmembers. Table sponsors and volunteers for the event are needed. Advance reservations can be made by calling

Vivian Hawn at 523-6856.

The meeting will involve the election of coalition directors and reports from the treasurer and president. There will be door prizes and awards to several volunteers and financial supporters. Dance music will be provided by Ross LeCompte and the Jazz Hounds until 9 p.m.

For more information, call Kevin Armstrong at 525-8694 or visit www.lcdogparkers.com.

AARP offers tax preparation

AARP will be offering free tax preparation through April 13 at 3880 Foothills Road, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and from 8:30 a.m. to noon on Friday. Evening hours will be offered from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning Tuesday, Feb. 21. In addition, taxes will be prepared at the Anthony Women’s Intercultural Center, 303 Lincoln St. in Anthony, N.M., from 1 to 4 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning Tuesday, Feb. 21. For more information, call 527-8799 or 800-657-8967.

RV club meets

The Mesilla Valley Nomads RV Club, a group of individuals aged 55 and older, is looking for new members. Meetings are held at 10 a.m. on the first Saturday of each month at the Northrise Assisted Living Facility, 2882 N. Roadrunner Parkway, in the Hallmark Building. For more information, call Wes Bonsell at 525-0260.

Nursery lists month’s events

Enchanted Gardens, 270 Avenida de Mesilla, has announced its special events for February.

- Organic Garden Soil Preparation: 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4. The secret to a great vegetable or flower garden is the quality of the soil. Attendees will earn about additions that can be made to soil for more color and produce from your garden. Cost is \$7.50 per person or free to Enchanted Gardens Benefit Members.
 - Composting in the Desert: 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 18. Compost builds healthy garden soil and adds nutrients and organic matter that Southwest soil lacks, making vegetables and flowers more productive. Attendees will learn techniques for composting in the desert. Cost is \$7.50 per person or free to Enchanted Gardens Benefit Members.
 - Vegetable Gardening: 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25. Preparing and planting a vegetable garden will be the topic of this class. Participants will learn what and when to plant, pest control techniques and how to handle many garden challenges. Cost is \$7.50 per person or free to Enchanted Gardens Benefit Members.
- All events are at Enchanted Gardens unless otherwise noted. For more information, call Jackye Meinecke at 524-1886 or email gardens@zianet.com.

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NMSU's online classes ranked University is among the best

New Mexico State University's online education programs and online bachelor's programs as well as the engineering and nursing online graduate degree programs were identified in the U.S. News and World Report first edition of Top Online Education Program rankings.

"It is gratifying for NMSU to be among the top online education programs in the nation identified by U.S. News and World Report," said Susie Ceppi-Bussmann, director of Technology-Assisted and Off-Site Programs at NMSU. "The shift this year to ranking is a reflection of the national trend to make comparisons to support informed consumer choices. How well these intentions have been realized is a matter of some debate among educators and U.S. News and World Report is likely to modify the ranking methodologies next year and beyond. This first U.S. News and World Report effort publicly acknowledges the NMSU faculty's commitment to quality in providing fully online degree programs which is well deserved."

The engineering graduate program was ranked 25th in student services and technology, which scores on a number of technologies and services accessible to students, and 26th in student engagement, which scores how easy it is for students to participate in class and interact with their instructors.

The nursing graduate program was ranked 33rd in faculty credentials and training, which scored significant faculty academic credentials and training in teaching online. The nursing program also ranked 65th in student engagement and CCNE accreditation status as well as 74th in student services and technology.

The education program was ranked 54th in student services and technology, 63rd in faculty credentials and training and 93rd in student engagement and NCATE accreditation status.

For online bachelor's programs, NMSU ranked 61st in student services and technology and 151st in student engagement and assessment, which scored the many ways students may participate in class and have faculty who clearly and thoroughly assess students' classwork.

Learn more about NMSU distance education at <http://distance.nmsu.edu/degrees>.

For a full list of the rankings as well as the methodology used in this first assessment, visit www.usnews.com/education/online-education/articles/2012/01/09/about-the-top-online-education-programs-rankings.

Black History Month events set NMSU plays host to a variety of cultural offerings

New Mexico State University's Black Programs found a dozen ways to commemorate Black History Month in 2012 and invites others to help them honor the accomplishments and celebrate the contributions of black Americans to our history and culture.

President of the Black Student Association (BSA) Erika Galloway said they will host a game night at 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3, at the Corbett Center Auditorium.

"This will give an opportunity for people to come together, mingle, learn about and experience each other while having refreshments provided by Papa John's," Galloway said.

The BSA is also sponsoring a night of soul music remixes. This event will feature artists that have taken modern songs and changed the lyrics to a gospel theme. The event will take place at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7, at Corbett Center Auditorium, and will include local artists.

Dana Gilmore, a spoken word artist featured on HBO's Def Poetry, will perform and host an open mic night at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9, at the Corbett Center Auditorium.

The spirit may move some to enjoy Gospel Jazz Night at 6:30 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 12, at the Atkinson Recital Hall. The New Mexico Mass Choir and NMSU's Gospel Choir will perform a diverse selection of music.

Running shoes are not required for speed dating at 6 p.m. Monday, Feb. 13, at the Aggie Underground in the Corbett Center. The event will include two-minute rounds, a



New Mexico State University photo

NMSU's Gospel Choir performs for the first time with the New Mexico Mass Choir for its annual Black History Month concert Sunday, Feb. 12, at the Atkinson Recital Hall.

group mixer and refreshments.

A screening of the movie "Glory Road" which tells the true story of the first all-black college basketball starting five to win the NCAA Championship will take place at 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 17, at the Corbett Center Auditorium. Nevil "The Shadow" Shed will speak about his experience playing on the historic team.

Spencer Crew will discuss "The great migration of African-Americans: Making the color-line national," at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 20, in the College of Health and Social Services Auditorium. Crew is

a professor of African-American and public history who has worked at the National Museum of American History Smithsonian Institution.

A panel discussion about current racial issues will take place at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 21, at Garcia Annex in the faculty senate chambers. This is an open forum to discuss ways in which racial issues play out both on campus and in the community.

Guest speaker Bruce Bridges will present "Martin Luther King-Perspective of the past, vision of the future," at 7 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 22, in the Corbett Center Ballrooms. Bridges

is a speaker and author whose latest book is titled "Recapturing the African Mind."

The Black Student Association will host a black history month banquet and dance at 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 23, in the Corbett Center Ballrooms. This event is meant to provide others with an opportunity to know the student leaders of the BSA and other participating student organizations.

The festivities will conclude at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 29, with a screening of the film "Mississippi Burning" at Corbett Center in the senate chambers.

Announcement

The Doña Ana Community College Nursing Program wishes to announce that it will host a site review for continuing accreditation of its associate degree in nursing program. You are invited to meet the visit team and share your comments about the program in person at a meeting scheduled for February 15 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in room 293 of the health and public services building of the central campus of Doña Ana Community College.

Written comments are also welcome and should be submitted directly to:
Dr. Sharon Tanner, Chief Executive Officer
3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850
Atlanta, GA 30326
or email: sjtanner@nlac.org



All written comments should arrive at NLNAC by February 8, 2012.



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Moon mapping a priority

Corralitos Observatory contributes to moon atlas

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

When the Soviet Luna 9 made the first-ever soft landing on the Moon, the achievement created “a new sense of urgency” at NASA regarding Surveyor, the Alamoogordo Daily News reported on Feb. 4, 1966.

For two years, Holloman Air Force Base had been testing Surveyor. Initially, a mockup of the probe was lowered from huge tethered balloons. Eventually, the engines were able to lower the 240-pound spacecraft much of the distance to the ground after release from a “balloon at 1,450 feet altitude.”

Three months later, on May 30, 1966, NASA launched the first of seven Surveyor missions. The July 1966 Sky and Telescope described how, on June 2 at “the moon’s Oceanus Procellarum” – and 500 miles from Luna 9’s landing spot – the three-legged probe arrived “in a gentle touchdown at only a few feet per second.”

“Touchdown was less than one second off schedule from the predicted landing time,” said the Hughes Aircraft Company booklet “Surveyor Launch Handbook.” Fortunately, Sky and Telescope reported, “either the deceleration or the impact of landing” caused an antenna that had not unfolded after launch to finally deploy.

The August 1966 issue of the magazine said the vehicle landed “with a vertical speed of about 10 feet per second, then rebounded about 2 1/2 inches.

Over six weeks, according to “Surveyor Launch Handbook,” “the television camera transmitted to space communications stations on Earth 11,150 high-resolution pictures of the moon’s surface.” Lunar day temperatures reached 250 degrees Fahrenheit, but during the two-week long lunar night dropped to minus 260 degrees Fahrenheit “The spacecraft’s batteries barely survived the cold,” the August 1966 Sky and Telescope said.

Mapping the Moon for an eventual manned landing was a priority during the Space Race, with roots in a resolution the International Astronomical Union passed in August 1955. That created the Lunar Atlas Project. Five years later the Air Force, in conjunction with Yerkes Observatory (which the University of Chicago operated in Wisconsin) published the Lunar Atlas. Volume One alone is nearly two inches thick; the photographs measure one-foot nine inches in length by one-foot five inches tall.

The purpose, the atlas stated, was “to provide the most complete and best available photographic coverage of the moon as a contribution of the United States government in the national space effort.” In addition to Yerkes, (considered the birthplace of modern astrophysics), the observatories at Mount Wilson (Southern California), Lick (San Jose, Calif.), McDonald (west Texas), and Pic du Midi (France) contributed images.

“In these maps the resources and skills of profes-

sional cartographers have finally been applied to the moon,” said a review in the April 1962 Sky and Telescope. “Terrestrial mapmaking has reached high standards of excellence, spurred by the practical needs of navigators, geographers, government agencies, and armies. Lunar charting, on the other hand, has hitherto usually been by private individuals, working alone and at their own expense.”

In 1961, Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill., dedicated the Corralitos Observatory near Las Cruces, said www.northwestern.edu. The Associated Press, in an Oct. 12, 1965 story the ADN published, reported the 24-inch reflector telescope was “the result of new prominence attached to the moon in the space age.”

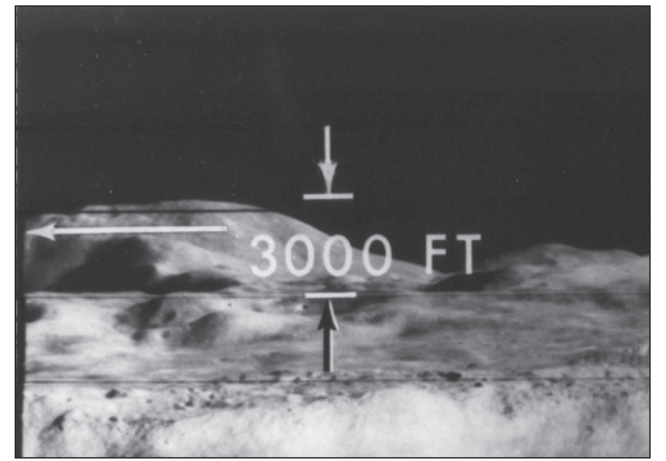
“Astronomers are always interested in things much further away than the moon,” *The AP* quoted Dr. J. Allen Hynek, chair of Northwestern’s Astronomy Department. “Only with the coming of the space age has the moon come back to any prominence.”

In 1966, cityprofile.com said, Chrysler “sponsored ... a wide-angle camera” for Corralitos that “was a test model for a far ultraviolet camera that was being developed for the Apollo spacecraft.” Subsequently, in December 1968 said astr.ua.edu, Corralitos captured more than “400 short-exposure intensified images” of Apollo 8, the first manned mission that orbited the Moon, “giving very accurate locations for the spacecraft.”

During the 1960s, though, America and the Soviets depended increasingly on probes for ever closer and more definitive images. From 1961-65 NASA launched Rangers, “designed to fly straight down towards the Moon and send images back until the moment of impact,” said the webpage nssdc.gsfc.nasa. Only Rangers 7-9 succeeded. Commensurately, the Soviets initiated the Luna, and then Zond, missions.

Then, on Aug. 10, 1966, NASA sent off the first of five Lunar Orbiters, which carried an “ingenious imaging system” made up “of a dual-lens camera, a film processing unit, a readout scanner and a film handling apparatus.” Images were recorded “on a single roll of 70 mm film” that “was moved during exposure to compensate for the spacecraft velocity.

The film was then processed, scanned, and the images transmitted back to Earth.” The October 1966 Sky and Telescope documented that transmissions were “recorded on magnetic tape” and “run through a film reproducer which reconstructs a corrected photograph.” In addition, a Jet Propulsion Laboratory computer corrected distortion



NASA photo

On Nov. 23, 1966, the Lunar Orbiter II shot this “first closeup photograph of the crater Copernicus, one of the most prominent features on the face of the moon,” according to information on the back of the picture.

and improved resolution.

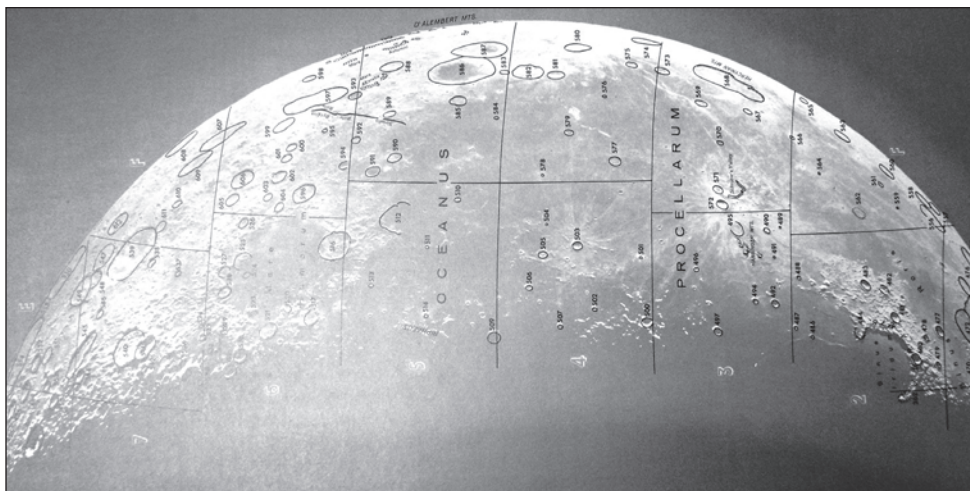
During Apollo 8, in which Corralitos recorded images of the mated command and lunar modules, the astronauts discovered seeing the lunar surface in person, over “lunar reconnaissance vehicles” photographs, was “surprising,” said “From Vinland To Mars” (Quadrangle/NY Times/1976).

True, “closeup photographs had prepared man for such scenes,” but the astronauts now “looked at the surface of the Moon for the first time as a massive landscape that filled nearly all of their field of view.” They saw, as an expanse in perspective, “an undulating surface” and the “rounded off ... rims of craters and the crests of mountains.” They realized

“erosion was at work on the airless, waterless Moon – in what form could merely be surmised. Perhaps the ancient hills and crater rims had been sanded down by the infall of micrometeoroids or by the solar wind that blew directly on the naked lunar surface.”

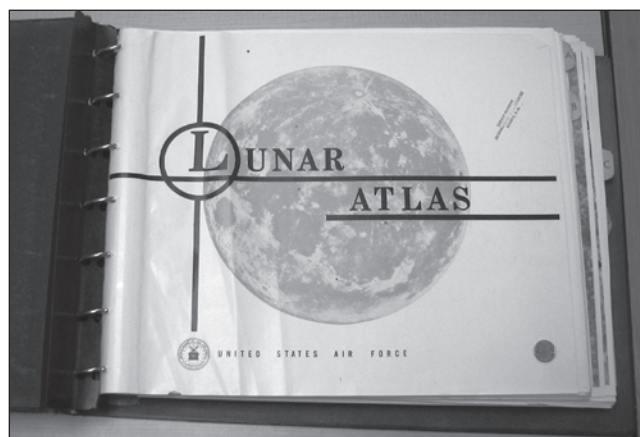
A prediction the April 1962 Sky and Telescope had made regarding the Lunar Atlas was apparently coming to pass. “Some years from now,” the magazine stated, “an astronaut in the first manned American spacecraft traveling toward the moon may be consulting the map.”

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



The above map of a portion of the lunar surface is taken from Volume One of the Lunar Atlas compiled of five years of photographs from five observatories. The quarter in the bottom right-hand corner shows how large the atlas was.

USAF/Michael Shinabery
NMMSH photo



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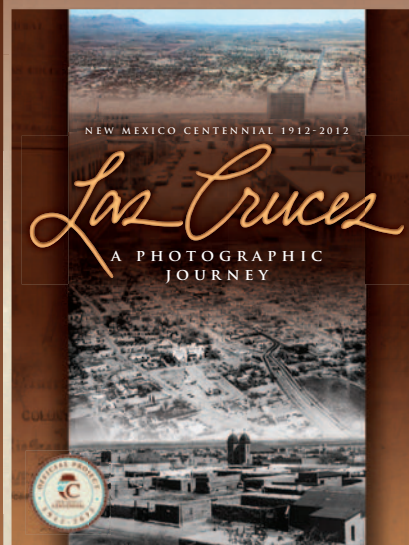
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NMSU alumni gather during Las Cruces Day in Santa Fe

Photos by Richard Coltharp

Mary and Lou Henson applaud Jack Horne, a 1942 graduate of NMSU. "I should have graduated in '41, but I ran out of money," Horne said. "I earned enough to finish by sweeping floors, slinging hash and selling my horse for \$50."



New Mexico State University President Barbara Couture addresses alumni, legislators and state officials at the Bataan Military Museum in Santa Fe Friday, Jan. 27. The gathering was an unofficial start to Las Cruces Day in Santa Fe activities, which took place through Monday, Jan. 30.



Anthony Chavez of Albuquerque has his basketball signed by former men's basketball coach Lou Henson at the NMSU alumni reception. Chavez is a 1988 NMSU graduate.



Jim Valdez and Lynette Montoya of Santa Fe are former NMSU students.



State Sen. Mary Kay Papen visits with state Rep. Rick Little.

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Las Cruzens meet with State officials, lawmakers

Photos by Todd Dickson

Pat Hynes, director of the New Mexico Space Grant Consortium, shows how student experiments are loaded into a rocket payload to Mary Lou Padilla of Santa Fe during Las Cruces Day in Santa Fe Monday, Jan. 30, in the State Capitol lobby. Hynes is able to launch student experiments each year from Spaceport America. For more Las Cruces Day in Santa Fe photos, see pages B10-11.



The last moments of sunlight hit the western side of the State Capitol at the end of Las Cruces Day in Santa Fe Monday, Jan. 30.

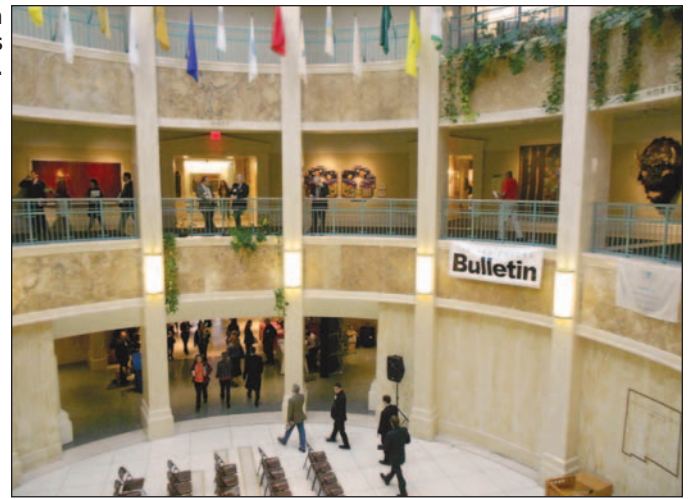


Las Cruces City Councillor Miguel Silva chats with state Rep. Zachary Cook, R-Ruidoso, at the Governor's Residence reception Sunday, Jan. 29.

State Rep. Joseph Cervantes, Kari Mitchell, Las Cruces Public Schools Superintendent Stan Rounds and Bill Connor



Officials pass through the Rotunda to visit Las Cruces exhibitors.





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Spaceport

Continued from page A1

Galactic, which is expected to be the first private company giving suborbital space flights within the next year or two.

Sierra Nevada Corp. is making the large hybrid rocket motors for Virgin, which wants to fly at least twice daily to meet its first year of operations goal of taking 500 people to space — roughly the same number of people government space programs took to space over 50 years. To ensure safety, the main propulsion components of Virgin's rocket motors will be replaced every flight, offering a promise of regular support work near the spaceport.

But Sierra Nevada won't set up operations in New Mexico without the liability protection, Anderson told the committee. Sierra Nevada is

such a "game-changing" company in the new private space industry that not getting them to set up shop in New Mexico would send a signal to other aerospace companies wanting to work out of Spaceport America, she said.

To make good on all the jobs promised by the \$209 million spaceport, support companies need to be located in New Mexico, not just the operators, Anderson said.

Trial lawyers at the committee hearing cited examples of the fatal Firestone tire and shuttle O-ring failures as examples of why the protections should not be allowed.

Trail lawyer David Armijo said the new legislation also calls for a higher level of proof for proving negligence than the bill last year. The first law cited negligence or willful reckless conduct, but the new bill has negligence defined as willful reckless conduct, he said.

To sue for damages, family members of someone who dies in a flight accident would have to prove a criminal level of negligence under the new legislation, Armijo said.

Papen said the language in the new legislation was based to competitive with the Texas liability protections.

Robert Desiderio, an attorney who helped draft the legislation, disagreed the language change would give suppliers a greater protection than that already granted to the operators.

Virgin Galactic Chief Executive Officer George Whitesides said the expanded liability protection is essential as the new private space industry gets off the ground.

"What we're really talking about here is the long-term viability of Spaceport America," Whitesides said. "What has changed since last year is the legal landscape."

On the cusp

A landscape that also has significantly changed since last year can be found in the desert between Las Cruces and Truth or Consequences. The first phase of Spaceport America is nearly complete with a hangar-terminal and runway built for Virgin Galactic operations.

The Virgin Galactic space-liner will carry the six-passenger spaceship to 50,000 feet for midair launches. The jet-propelled carrier aircraft has completed about 80 test flights while the spaceship has completed more than 30 glide tests, Whitesides said. The hybrid engine has successfully been fire-tested on the ground for 58 seconds, he said, the same amount of time it will burn in flight.

Virgin Galactic has \$60 million in deposits and more than 500 signed up to take the \$200,000 flights into suborbital space.

The New Mexico Spaceport Authority (NMSA) is now starting the second construction phase, which includes paving the southern road leading to the complex. The next construction phase includes adding more pads and support facilities to the spaceport's vertical launch area.

NMSA is currently accepting bids on contracts to provide information technology and space operations support. Activity at NMSA is picking up for research and development of new systems, such as reusable rocket boosters, with Lockheed Martin winning an Air Force contract to test its design for such a system at Spaceport America. Armadillo Aerospace has tested more traditional rocket prototypes with a number of launches since May. Boeing will test a helicopter avionics system at the spaceport.

The new construction will provide a second pad for vertical launches and rollback shelter for these kind of tests. UP Aerospace that has been launching sounding rockets from Spaceport America since 2006 to send a variety of small payloads into suborbital space.

Legal confusions

Some confused the liability protection as not allowing non-passengers to sue should something fall out of the sky, causing property damage or death.

"Things go up, things fall down," said trial lawyer Diego Zamora.

Desiderio said that's not a correct reading of the legislation, which is only providing liability limitations for lawsuits involving willing passengers on the flights.

State Sen. David Ulibarri, D-Cibola, Socorro and Valencia counties, said he understood the legislation to provide the liability limitations only to those taking flights into space from Spaceport America.

Also, Desiderio said the liability limitations would sunset by 2018.

With the lawyers debating the nuanced changes in language, Ulibarri moved to pass the bill onto the Judiciary Committee so the lawyers could hash it out. A majority of committee

“What we're really talking about here is the long-term viability of Spaceport America.”

GEORGE WHITESIDES,
Virgin Galactic CEO

members agreed.

After the meeting, Papen met with spaceport and Virgin Galactic representatives, saying they would need to come armed with more concrete numbers on the jobs at risk.

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NMSU celebrates Lou Henson's 80th birthday

Photos by Nicolas Bañales

Former Aggie men's basketball coach Lou Henson addresses attendees of a birthday reception fundraiser at the Pan American Center annex gym Saturday, Jan. 28. Henson, who began his coaching career at Las Cruces High School, racked up 779 victories as a college coach, making him one of the winningest coaches in NCAA history.



Mary and Lou Henson cut into a birthday cake during halftime at NMSU men's basketball game against Fresno State University Saturday, Jan. 28. Before the game, Lou Henson's 80th birthday was celebrated with a fundraising reception for the Lou and Mary Henson Endowment and NMSU Aggies are Tough Enough to Wear Pink, a cancer prevention and awareness campaign.



Dell Avant shows off her basketball Lou Henson signed at the reception.



The Hensons are joined by one of their biggest fans, David McCollum, publisher of the Las Cruces Bulletin. Lou and Mary Henson participated in the toga festivities, the basketball game's theme.

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Marking three months of Occupy Las Cruces

Photos by Nicolas Bañales



Las Cruces Mayor Ken Miyagishima visits with Erica Samuel, a social worker, and Jason Burke, a field organizer for the Southwest Environmental Center.



Protesters and supporters of Occupy Las Cruces gathered at Albert Johnson Park Saturday, Jan. 28, for a first quarter anniversary party. A core group has camped out at the city park for the past three months to protest tax inequality and other social and economic issues.



Pete Ferrill cooks burgers and hot dogs.



Frank Lovato provided music during the gathering.

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Jail

Continued from page A1

county was challenged to find and keep properly trained medical staff. The person in charge of medical services during the time of Slevin's incarceration was reportedly only a registered nurse by training.

Unless a detainee acts out in disruptive behavior, it can be difficult for detention officers to detect if a detainee is clinically depressed, Barela said, but the detention officers now also get training to look for symptoms of mental illness, such as chronic despondency.

With a current budget of \$7.8 million, the detention center is putting more money into medical and mental health services, Barela said, compared to the first \$2 million contract awarded to the company now called Corizon. Providing mental health services is the need responsible for most of the medical budget increase over the years, he said.

The jail has 846 beds, and is often filled to capacity, Barela said. At the time of the media tour, there were about 780 detainees in the jail. Detainees are grouped according to the severity of the crimes they are accused of, he said, and detainees with mental illnesses are housed in a special unit.

Las Cruces and county officials are working to open a "crisis triage center" adjacent to the detention center. It would provide about 12 beds for 23-hour stays of people with mental illness who have been arrested. The county has the funding to build the center, but no operational funding and is seeking funding from the Legislature.

Most local mental health advocates agree the detention center has made improvements in recent years, but have pushed county and city employees to make opening a crisis triage center a priority.

Regular inspections

In a press release issued Thursday, Jan. 26,



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Todd Dickson
Chris Barela, director of the Doña Ana County Detention Center, points out the space provided for health services to detainees during a media tour Friday, Jan. 27. The tour was in response to a \$22 million judgment against the jail for its treatment of a detainee six years ago.

Williams said coverage of Slevin's victory in court "painted an inaccurate picture of the conditions found in the Doña Ana County Detention Center."

Three years after the new jail opened in 1996, the county received \$2 million from the U.S. Marshal's Service to partially fund a 290-bed expansion of the facility, bringing the total inmate capacity to 846, Williams said. The detention center is not operated or supervised by the sheriff's department, but is a stand-alone department within the county government structure, he said. The expansion was to make room for federal detainees and the Marshal's Service regularly inspects the center.

"The cells and cellblocks throughout the facility are clean, well-lit and have windows for detainees to look out and for officers to ob-

serve the detainees," Williams said in the press release. "General-population day rooms are large common areas surrounded by cell units. Day rooms are equipped with televisions and game tables where the detainees can play board games, cards, checkers and chess.

"General-population detainees have access to both indoor and outdoor recreation areas, and they can avail themselves to a number of educational and rehabilitative programs offered by the staff, contractors and volunteers.

"The building has an independent medical wing, with full dental and acute-care capabilities. The detainees also have access to library books and a fully stocked commissary. Visitation is available five days a week."

Food served at the center is nutritionally balanced and is prepared in a state-certified kitchen, Williams said.

"In the specific case of Slevin, he was deemed a threat to himself upon intake to the detention center and was observed for three days in a special cell in the medical wing for his own protection," Williams said in the press release. "After his condition stabilized, he was kept in the medical wing for an additional three weeks for observation.

"After that period, he was offered an opportunity to join the general population in a cell block with a day room. Slevin refused, and the only option after his refusal was to place him in one of the facility's 28 administrative segregation cells.

"For the next five months, records show that he regularly requested and received medical attention and commissary purchases. After that period, he stopped requesting those services. He frequently refused offers to leave his cell for recreation and exercise.

"Slevin was in the facility for 22 months. No one on the Doña Ana County Detention Center management team had any authority to release him without a judge's orders. His length of stay in the facility was entirely in the hands of the Third Judicial District Attorney's

Office, his court-ordered defense attorney and the Third Judicial District Court."

According to media reports, however, Slevin wrote letters to his sister complaining of the conditions.

"I have not slept in days," a letter by Slevin from Sept. 4, 2005, contends. This letter was written after a couple weeks of solitary confinement, according to news reports. In the letter, he complained of being in a deep depression and lacking appetite.

In later letters, he complained of having "weird and bizarre" dreams and being "afraid to close my eyes."

According to Williams' press release, Slevin was monitored daily, had access to medical personnel and was prescribed medications.

Efforts to improve

Williams said Barela has "tackled the issue head-on" since he was hired as the detention director in late 2005. Besides hiring staff and contracting for services, Barela negotiated the elimination of the employee union from the medical wing "to facilitate easier and more interactive and adaptive management of that sector of the facility," he said.

Improving medical and mental health services has been a constantly evolving process, Williams said. During the tour, Barela said county jails have become mental health facilities almost by default, and the media reports since the lawsuit have hurt morale at the center.

"It is an attack on your pride," Barela said. "We have worked really hard on making this place safe."

Ron Gurley, a mental health advocate in Las Cruces, said the case should be taken as a wake-up call for improving how well the legal system deals with people who have a mental illness. The state mental health hospital in Las Vegas, he noted, only has 72 forensic beds to evaluate the competency of detainees facing felony charges.



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Lighting

Continued from page A1

light cannot exceed 900 lumens. Any other unshielded light cannot exceed 450 lumens.

Cole said traditional security lights will be allowed so long as they don't cause light trespass or cause glare beyond the property boundary.

Homebuilder John Hadley said new homebuyers "can't get enough security lighting," so restricting them would hurt an already struggling market.

More complicated restriction would be set for business lighting and digital signs, and these attracted the most comments during the hearing.

Brian Morris, an electrical engineer, said these new standards are not what

the contractors and suppliers are used to seeing and will make it too difficult to come with drawings and specifications for jobs.

"What you have here is too radical," he said. "These new standards are way far out there."

Roy Granado of Newman Outdoor Advertising said the digital signs his company has put up so far followed the existing rules and should be allowed to continue as they are now equipped.

Under even the existing ordinance, Pic Quik owner Oscar Andrade said his newer convenience stores have been difficult to light with new LED fixtures. Under the proposed new ordinance, there will be large dark areas between the pump station canopy and main stores, he said.

While Andrade said he has had to

"bend over backwards" to comply with city restrictions on lighting and signage, New Mexico State University doesn't have the same restrictions and has brighter lights and bigger digital signs.

"Who would want to deal with these regulations and build in Las Cruces?" Andrade asked.

Ron Kramer, president of the Astronomical Society of Las Cruces, said although his group wants "dark sky" considerations for its activities, the city efforts may be too complicated. All the astronomers really need is to have lights at night shining down, not up, he said.

"All we're asking for is redirecting the light," Kramer said.

Residents at the hearing also asked why government and school buildings don't have to follow the same restrictions as home and business owners.

CrimeStoppers

Fraud suspects

Las Cruces Crime Stoppers is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information that leads to the arrests of three women who have used duplicate vehicle titles and false information to secure fraudulent loans.

Arrest warrants have been issued for Karen Joanna Carter, 20, and Krystle L. Bueno, 19, who are charged with felony counts of fraud and conspiracy. Las Cruces Police and New Mexico State Police are investigating multiple reports of the women using duplicate vehicle titles and false information to secure title loans from finance companies in Las Cruces, El Paso and surrounding communities.

Carter and Bueno are believed to be working with a third woman, 19-year-old Janet Lara, to obtain thousands of dollars in fraudulent loans from the finance companies.

Investigators have determined the vehicle titles the trio used as collateral are duplicate titles, and they have used fake Social Security numbers and false contact information to obtain the loans.

If you have any information on the whereabouts of Carter, Bueno or Lara, you are asked to call Las Cruces Crime Stoppers at 800-222-TIPS (8477) or send a tip via text message to LCTIPS (528477).

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.



CARTER



BUENO





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Snoozin' Sunday



Jim Hilley
Deflections

The New York Giants and the New England Patriots will play the National Football League Super Bowl at 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5.

I just can't tell you how excited I am about this game.

Mostly because on a scale of one to 10 my excitement meter is reading zero.

So here, by the numbers, are the reasons I might just take a nap or find something else to do during the most hyped spectacle in the world of sports, or the world of anything, for that matter.

2,229: The number of miles from Las Cruces to New York City. I don't know if there is any way to measure the distance in cultural terms – light years, perhaps?

2,391: The number of miles from Las Cruces to Foxboro, Mass. Google Maps actually selects a route through Indianapolis, where the game is being played in something called the Lucas Oil Stadium. If it was Luca Soil Stadium and Luca Soil was something like Astroturf, there might be a good reason to name a stadium after it, but there isn't.

390: Number of minutes of pregame hype televised by NBC leading into the actual game telecast on Sunday. Other channels will also offer programming on the Super Bowl – keep that remote handy or you'll miss some of it.

118: Combined age of the three featured-performers during halftime. Getting top-billing is 53-year-old Madonna. Also performing will be Niki Minaj and M.I.A. Minaj is 29-years old, almost a quarter of century less than Madonna. M.I.A.'s real named is Mathangi "Maya" Arulpragasam. She is 36 years old and is from Trinidad, making her a Trinidadian.

57: Predicted high temperature in Las Cruces Sunday with partly sunny skies.

30: Super Bowl halftime is 30 minutes long, NFL regular season halftimes are 12 minutes. After all the pre-game hype, viewers certainly need these extra minutes of viewing pleasure.

20: Number of minutes NBC-TV is expected to promo its own programming during the Super Bowl. At least it's not on Fox.

7: Number of losses for the Giants versus nine wins in the regular season.

6: Number of previous Super Bowls for the New England Patriots. Good job on their part. Just another re-run from my perspective.

2. Number of Manning brothers playing in the NFL that I don't particularly care for.

0: Number of players from New Mexico State University on the rosters of this year's Super Bowl rosters. As a native New Mexican I like to root for teams with a local tie.

OK, I admit it, I'll probably watch the game – just for the commercials of course – and I guess I'll root for the Giants. I have a thing for underdogs.

Aggies host improving Bulldogs



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Nicolas Bañales
Senior guard Hernst Laroche does a balancing act with the basketball during the Aggies' 60-56 win over Fresno State Saturday, Jan. 28, in the Pan American Center.

NMSU hoping to rediscover some confidence on offense

By **Jim Hilley**
Las Cruces Bulletin

The New Mexico State Aggies opened their 2011-12 Western Athletic Conference season with an 83-73 win over the Louisiana Tech Bulldogs Jan. 7 in Ruston La., part of a six-game winning streak for NMSU.

The Bulldogs were 0-3 at one point in conference play, but have been playing better basketball.

"La Tech is good," NMSU coach Marvin Menzies said Tuesday, Jan. 31. "La Tech has improved since we played them. The guys are getting more comfortable with their new head coach (Michael White) and more familiar with their system."

After dropping the conference opener to the Aggies, the Bulldogs lost a heartbreaker in overtime to Idaho. After that, La Tech won three straight conference games, losing to league-leading Nevada by only 2 points, 65-63.

"They are gaining confidence as they're winning and playing teams close," Menzies said. "They played Nevada to a 2-point game, and you don't do that unless you're playing hard and playing with some confidence."

Meanwhile, the Aggies have been struggling on offense, scoring only 60 points in a 68-60 loss to Nevada and a win over Fresno State 60-56. Both games were in Las Cruces.

"We're at a place where we have hit a little bit of a lull offensively, not necessarily missing shots but not executing. We have to execute better offensively," Menzies said.

The Aggies host the Bulldogs for the

“You’re not going to have too many nights off ...”

MARVIN MENZIES,
NMSU basketball coach

rematch at 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4, before heading out on a road trip to Idaho, at 9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9, and Utah State at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11 – a game nationally televised on ESPN 2.

See **Aggies** on page A21

Mayfield wrestlers eye state titles

Senior-dominated Trojans look strong

By **Craig Massey**
Las Cruces Bulletin

In the middle of his 15th year of coaching high school wrestling at Mayfield, Jimmy Nevarez has been through just about everything a coach can experience.

He's had all types of teams that have had all types of results. But this year's squad is like no other.

The Trojans are a senior-heavy team with nine on the roster. But it's also a young team with eight eighth-graders, some of whom have gained varsity experience this year. It's a team capable of just about anything, but has to be properly motivated, Nevarez said.

"We have to try to keep our seniors focused and help our eighth-graders stick with it," Nevarez said. "They've been through some tough practices. This team works very hard and they take the hard training very well. They're also a very technical team. They have a lot of knowledge of wrestling."

Whatever the coaches are doing, it's working so far this season. Mayfield won its 12-team invitational tournament Jan. 28, defeating Las

Cruces High, 38-23, in the finals. The Trojans are undefeated in dual events this year and have finished in the top three in all of the tournaments they've participated in when they have a full, healthy squad available.

Mayfield finished second last year at the state championships, just 1.5 points out of the top spot. It's the first time a Las Cruces team has placed at state since 1988, Nevarez said.

With injuries and some academic situations, Nevarez said it's been a challenge to keep the entire team in the lineup.

"We've had a good showing from our younger kids," he said. "They've had to step up in places."

The team, however, is dominated by the seniors and Mayfield is led by three standouts. At 132 pounds, Orlando Guerra is 29-2 on the year and is a state title hopeful this year, Nevarez said.

At 138 pounds, Nathaniel May is 27-4 this year and another threat to challenge for a state championship in his division. The Trojans also lean heavily on 170-pound Cooper Chambers who has only three losses.

“Our seniors up and down the lineup have wrestled well ...”

JIMMY NEVAREZ,
MHS wrestling coach



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Nicolas Bañales

Wrestling coach Jimmy Nevarez directs his wrestlers at a match Saturday, Jan. 28, at Mayfield High School.

"Our other seniors up and down the lineup have wrestled well, too," Nevarez said.

Nevarez believes the Trojans are among the top three or four teams in the state and should challenge for a long-sought state title during the championships Feb. 17-18 in Albuquerque.

"We just need to pick up our intensity," Nevarez said. "That's been a challenge this year. We tend to let our guard down and wrestle to the opponents' level."

High school wrestling at Trojan Gymnasium

Photos by Nicolas Bañales



Mayfield senior Orlando Guerra is declared the winner in a match.



Seniors Orlando Guerra, Cooper Chambers and Nathaniel May listen to the referee's instructions.



Mayfield High School senior Orlando Guerra faces a wrestler from Gadsden High School at the Mayfield Wrestling Tournament Saturday, Jan. 28, at Mayfield High School. The Trojans won the 12-team match, defeating Las Cruces High School 38-23 in the finals.



Mayfield senior Ryan Delaney gets in position for a match.



The Mayfield wrestling team poses for a photo.

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Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Nicolas Bañales
Sophomore center Tshilidzi Nephawe had a solid game against Fresno State Jan. 28, scoring eight points, blocking four shots and grabbing six rebounds.

Aggies

Continued from page A19

“That’s a doozy of a trip, but we do it every year,” Menzies said. “You’re not going to have too many nights off in conference.”

In recent games, Menzies has been trying to work freshmen forward Remi Barry into the line up.

Menzies said Barry still has a ways to go, but is improving.

“He is still out of place a lot and he is still getting familiar with the system,” Menzies said. “He’s got to learn what the rest of the team is doing and stay in sync with them.

“He’s getting there, he’s not to that point yet.”

Menzies said he is looking for his underclassmen to give the Aggies a boost.

“You know what you’re are going to get from your three seniors. It’s the underclassmen that are sort of the x-factor for us,” he said.

“Banja Sy is a sparkplug for the other guys because he is so athletic,” Menzies said. “but he brings a lot more to the table than just shooting he’s very long and can guard multiple positions. He can help us win without scoring points.

“Daniel (Mulling) didn’t have a very good offensive game against Fresno State, but he was stellar in the last few minutes defensively against Kevin Olekaibe.”

H I G H S C H O O L SportsSchedule

Las Cruces High School

| | | | |
|------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|--------|
| Friday, Feb. 3 | Girls Basketball | Alamogordo High School | 7 p.m. |
| | Boys Basketball | at Alamogordo High School | 7 p.m. |
| Feb. 3-4 | Swimming (coed) | at District 3-5A Meet (Hobbs) | TBA |
| Saturday, Feb. 4 | Wrestling | at Deming Tournament | TBA |
| Tuesday, Feb. 7 | Boys Basketball | Oñate High School | 7 p.m. |
| | Girls Basketball | at Oñate High School | 7 p.m. |
| Friday, Feb. 10 | Girls Basketball | Mayfield High School | 7 p.m. |
| | Boys Basketball | at Mayfield High School | 7 p.m. |



Mayfield High School

| | | | |
|------------------|------------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| Friday, Feb. 3 | Boys Basketball | at Cathedral High School | 7:30 p.m. |
| Saturday, Feb. 4 | Wrestling | at Deming Tournament | TBA |
| Tuesday, Feb. 7 | Girls Basketball | Gadsden High School | 7 p.m. |
| | Boys Basketball | at Gadsden High School | 7 p.m. |
| Friday, Feb. 10 | Boys Basketball | Las Cruces High School | 7 p.m. |
| | Girls Basketball | at Las Cruces High School | 7 p.m. |



Oñate High School

| | | | |
|------------------|------------------|---------------------------|--------|
| Friday, Feb. 3 | Boys Basketball | Gadsden High School | 7 p.m. |
| | Girls Basketball | at Gadsden High School | 7 p.m. |
| Saturday, Feb. 4 | Wrestling | at Deming Tournament | TBA |
| Tuesday, Feb. 7 | Girls Basketball | Las Cruces High School | 7 p.m. |
| | Boys Basketball | at Las Cruces High School | 7 p.m. |
| Friday, Feb. 10 | Boys Basketball | Alamogordo High School | 7 p.m. |
| | Girls Basketball | at Alamogordo High School | 7 p.m. |



Mesilla Valley Christian Schools

| | | | |
|-----------------|------------------|---------------|-----------|
| Friday, Feb. 3 | Boys Basketball | Cloudcroft | 6:30 p.m. |
| | Girls Basketball | at Cloudcroft | 6:30 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Feb. 7 | Girls Basketball | Tularosa | 6:30 p.m. |
| | Boys Basketball | at Tularosa | 6:30 p.m. |
| Friday, Feb. 10 | Boys Basketball | Lordsburg | 6:30 p.m. |
| | Girls Basketball | at Lordsburg | 6:30 p.m. |



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Ags host Nevada

The New Mexico State women's basketball team hosts Nevada at 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4, at the Pan American Center. Fans can listen to the game on KSNM-AM 570 with Kyle Doperalski calling the action. As of Wednesday, Feb. 1, the Aggies were tied with Nevada for sixth place in the Western Athletic Conference at 1-4.

The Aggies hosted Fresno State on Thursday, Feb. 2, while Nevada was visiting Louisiana Tech in Ruston, Louisiana.

The Aggies dropped a pair of WAC road contests last week at San Jose State, 67-62, and at Hawai'i, 51-48. Senior Tabytha Wampler scored a season high 24 points in the loss at Hawai'i Jan. 28. Seniors Kaitlyn Soto and Erica Sanchez posted career high point totals of 23 and 20, respectively to lead the team at San Jose State two days earlier.

NMSU track team raising the bar

Courtney Shultz leads Aggies in record-setting meets

The New Mexico State University track and field team is off to one of its best starts in recent memory, with three all-time school records already broken and 30 different top-10 records already set after the first three meets of the season.

Junior Courtney Shultz is responsible for breaking two of the school records. Shultz broke the top record for the 3,000 meter, Jan. 27 at the New Mexico Invite and the 1,000 meter, Jan. 13 at the Texas Tech Open.

Schultz ran the 3,000 meter in a time of 9:53.51, which beat the previous school record held by Schultz herself by over four seconds. Schultz ran the 1,000 meter in 2:55.39, which broke the previous school record by Brittany Hurtado by over eight seconds.

Junior LaSasha Aldredge set a new school record for the 400 meter, Jan. 20, at the Cherry and Silver Invitational with a time of 56.16. Aldredge previously set the school record in the event in 2010 with a time of 56.51.

"As a team, we are making more progress toward the Western Athletic Conference Championship," said head track and field coach Orin Richburg.

There were also two top-3 performance marks set over the past three meets. Aldredge ran the 200 meter in a time of 24.69 at the New Mexico Invite, placing her second all-time behind senior Leah Benton, who currently holds the record with a time of 24.33. Junior Camille ran a time of 3:03.00 in the 1,000 meter at the Texas Tech Open, placing her second all-time behind her sister Courtney.

New Mexico State also earned a new second all-time record in the 4-by-400 meter relay at the Cherry and Silver Invitational when Aldredge, Benton, senior Melanie Clay and Sophomore Zoe Meade marked a time of 3:49.43. The current school record of 3:47.78 was set last season.

Richburg said they have made progress with a number of the distance runners, citing Courtney and Camille Schultz, Clay and senior Madelyn Stoltze. Richburg added that progress has been made with the freshman trio of Diana Hawk, Tamara Lementino and Caroline Lewiecki, who have each made contributions to the overall success of the early season.

Courtney and Camille Schultz rank first and third respectively in the 3,000 meter for the WAC for the season. Each of their season-best times were posted at the New Mexico Invite.

Hawk and Lewiecki placed in the top 10 at the Texas Tech Open in the 1,000 meter and Lementino placed fourth overall in the 3,000m. At the Cherry and Silver Invitational, the freshman trio all placed in the top-15 in the 1-mile run.

Sprints have been a particular strong point for the Aggies this season, with nine top-10 school records broken in sprinting events.

"Aldredge, Benton, Clay, Meade and (India) Cleveland, are the backbone for our sprints," Richburg said. "The freshman Jenna Banegas and Kendra Walker add depth to our sprints as well."

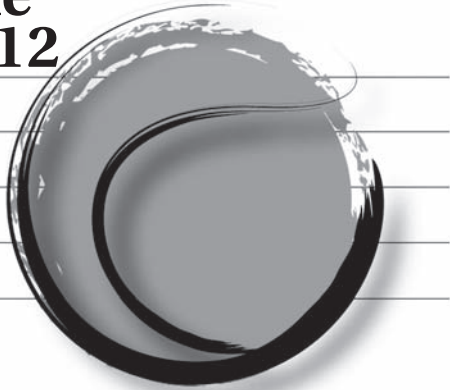
Aldredge is responsible for two individual records, as well as contributing to two new records for the 4 by 400 meter relay. Cleveland set four top 10 school records over the past three meets, both in hurdle sprints and in the long-jump.

Senior Bellosie Frazier has strengthened the New Mexico State throwing side, earning new records for the shot put and weight throw. Frazier threw a career-best 16.84 meters in the weight throw at the New Mexico Invite, placing her fifth in the record books and threw a career-best shot put of 13.27 meters at the Cherry and Silver Invitational, earning her the fourth spot.

New Mexico State will prepare to return to Albuquerque, for a third-straight week for the Lobo Invite Friday, Feb. 3. This will be the last meet of the season in the state of New Mexico for the Aggies.

"This weekend gives us another opportunity to see who we need to add for the conference championships," Richburg said.

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For information regarding the tournament contact
battleoftheclubs@gmail.com

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Mini Art Gallery Show

You're invited to the City of Las Cruces Senior Programs Mini Art Gallery show. The show will highlight arts and craftwork by senior artists and crafters in the area.

FEBRUARY 13TH-17TH
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
10 a.m. to 12 p.m. (Friday)
Munson Senior Center
975 S. Mesquite

The Mini Art show is put on in conjunction with The Love of Art month. All work is made by adults 50 years and older. An artist reception will be held on Monday, February 13th from 8:30 – 10:30 a.m. See what great works have been created!

For more information, contact the
Munson Senior Center at 528-3000.

www.las-cruces.org



Aggie Insider

Deserving Aggies

Bickerstaff, Lopez and Wragge earned their place in the NMSU Hall of Fame



Jack Nixon
Jack's Corner

Three more deserving Aggies will take their place in the U.S. Bank/New Mexico State Athletics Hall of Fame at the end of the month. An originator, a wordsmith and an offensive lineman with a prosperous NFL career will be inducted Feb. 25.

The late C.R. Bickerstaff was the first athletic trainer at NM State in 1955. Athletic trainers are the unsung heroes of the athletics department. They do their best to repair the real and imagined injuries, they have to make coaches and players simultaneously happy, and they do it all with a knowing grin and an unlimited amount of energy.

Bickerstaff was the first of a long line of dedicated men and women who put tape and gauze to ankles and so forth. It wouldn't surprise me if the current head of the athletic training department, Mike O'Larey, joined Bickerstaff in the hall in the future.

Dave Lopez was the sports information director when I came to Las Cruces in 1976. I can still remember the welcoming letter he sent me in advance of my relocation. It was the start of a relationship that never left me wanting for information, interviews with coaches or players or good company as I learned how to be a play-by-play man at

the Division I level.

Lopez went on to become the President of AT&T's SBC communications as well as serving as a regent in the Texas Tech University system. He now is directing the revitalization of Oklahoma City's downtown area.

He is a native Las Crucean who learned his trade well and used it to make his life a success story. His inclusion onto the hall is one of dozens of recognitions he has received for his efforts in the private and public sector.

The third Aggie who will be enshrined is Tony Wragge, the NFL starter and former prep chef for Henry J's. Wragge's athletic skills have enabled him to play 10 years with the Cardinals, 49ers and Rams. Wragge came back to school to earn his degree even though his NFL career was paying the bills.

After his NM State career ended and before his NFL time began, Wragge picked up extra money working in the kitchen of a local restaurant, Henry J's. His appetite was legendary, and it isn't known if the diner's bottom line was pinched during his stint in the kitchen.

In my opinion, it is a fact that football players always date the prettiest girls. Wragge's wife, Nicole, spent some time on the Aggie volleyball team and then worked in marketing.

It will be a pleasure to welcome back these friends who are deserving recipients of the athletics department's highest honor.

Encore performance

Ag softball looks to build on 2011 championship



Kathy Rodolph
Softball
Head Coach

Encore!

It seems like just yesterday I was grappling for the right words to describe the process necessary to overhaul Aggie softball when I took the helm in 2003 after an 8-55 season. Things change with some elbow grease, a great staff, a lot of support and student athletes who buy what you are selling.

In 2011, Aggie softball shattered New Mexico State records, WAC records and a lot of people's expectations. A logical question after a WAC Championship, the graduation of seven very productive seniors and the arrival of nine new freshmen might be, "What now?"

Our mission will never change. Aggie softball strives for excellence in all we do. Last year, we ranked No. 21 among NCAA Division I softball teams in team GPA. We ranked in the top 10 of every significant offensive category. We led all NM State athletic teams in community service hours for the fourth straight year. We won the WAC regular season championship, the WAC tournament title and we qualified for the NCAA tournament for the first time in program history.

We expect no different this year. The 2012 softball season opens at 5:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 10, against Indiana at the NM State softball complex, and I could not be more excited about these Aggies.

Sure, we will have new faces, new team leaders and the program's most challenging schedule ever, but our highly touted freshman class might be the hardest working class I have ever recruited. They will have to get some experience under their belts at the NCAA Division I level but hard work sure expedites the learning curve.

We return 13 letter winners who are new at leading our team and are flat-out getting the job done. They are helping our young kids acclimate to college and the rigors of Division I athletics. If they continue to set our collective bar this high, this will be another amazing run.

Some of our decorated veterans are: Tiare Jennings, a senior, who has claimed All-WAC and All-Region awards for three years, Teresa Conrad, a junior, who collected All-WAC and CoSIDA Academic All-District honors in 2011, Alex Newman, a junior, who earned 2011 All-WAC Tournament accolades, and Valerie Swedberg, a sophomore, who hauled in the 2011 WAC Freshman of the Year award, All-WAC honors and the MVP award of the WAC Tournament last season.

We all know our ability to come together and battle as one team and under one philosophy will determine our fate. So far, our team chemistry is great. Our work ethic is stellar and our resolve to repeat as WAC champions and advance further into the postseason is unwavering.

No doubt our mettle will be challenged early in 2012 as we take on many of the titans in our sport, but I am confident that this group of Aggies will emerge seasoned and prepared.

Early on we will battle defending national champion Arizona State, as well as perennial national powers Arizona, California, Stanford, Oregon, Nebraska along with Indiana of the Big Ten and a myriad of other 2011 conference champions.

The WAC is being billed as one of the strongest non-BCS conferences for 2012. BYU rejoins the WAC this year as Boise State departs. Having four teams in the WAC who received top-25 votes in preseason polls will prove challenging for us and exciting for fans.

This Week

In Aggie Athletics

Friday, Feb. 3
Men's Tennis
UNLV/Loyola Marymount
Las Vegas, Nev.
11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

Track and Field
New Mexico Classic
Albuquerque
All day

Women's Equestrian
Baylor
Waco, Texas
TBA

Women's Tennis
Air Force
Las Cruces
2 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 4
Women's Basketball
Nevada
Las Cruces
3:30 p.m.

Men's Basketball
Louisiana Tech
Las Cruces
7 p.m.

Women's Equestrian
Oklahoma State
Stillwater, Okla.
TBA

Men's Golf
New Mexico Collegiate Cup
Truth or Consequences, N.M.
All day

Swimming and Diving
New Mexico
Albuquerque
Noon

Men's Tennis
UC Riverside
Las Vegas, Nev.
11 a.m.

Sunday, Feb. 5
Women's Tennis
Northern Arizona
Las Cruces
10 a.m.

Women's Golf
Wildcat Invitational
Tucson, Ariz.
All day

Monday, Feb. 6
Women's Golf
Wildcat Invitational
Tucson, Ariz.
All day

Aggie student-athlete spotlight



Germain Degardin
Freshman
Men's tennis

Freshman Germain Degardin turned in his season-best performance and claimed the only point for the Aggies against No. 8 Baylor and No. 37 Rice.

In the final singles match, Degardin won his No. 3 singles match in a third-set superbreaker at 4-6, 6-1, 1-0 (10-7) to claim victory over Rice's Jonathan Chang.



Bellosie Frazier
Senior
Track and field

Senior Bellosie Frazier won the weight throw with a distance of 16.84 meters at the New Mexico Collegiate Invitational, Jan. 28. Frazier also finished second overall in the shot

put with a mark of 13.02 meters. Both marks were career best and placed fifth on NM State's all-time record list.



Courtney Schultz
Junior
Track and field

Junior Courtney Schultz earned runner-up honors in the 3,000-meter run with a time of 9:53.51 at the New Mexico Collegiate Invitational, Jan. 28. Her time is a new school

record for the event, and she broke her previous program record by more than 17 seconds.

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Onthegreen

Rough times for golf

PGA seeks path to sustained growth and prosperity



Charlie Blanchard
Golf Doctor

Golf has fallen on hard times. So the golf industry leaders say, anyway.

This year could see the largest number of golf course closings ever. The fact that courses were ridiculously overbuilt during the past 20 years, plus a recession for the last five years, has certainly led to an inevitable retraction.

Total rounds of golf for the country are down at least 10 percent – maybe 20 percent – but no one really knows.

Revenues are off significantly. Because of that, you'd think, it would cost a lot less to play. But golf doesn't always respond to the principle of supply and demand the way other businesses do.

If you want to play a really, really posh resort course it still will set you back \$200 to \$500, not including hotel room. Further, jobs are now hard to come by for apprentice golf professionals. Salaries, golf lessons and retail sales are all down.

Since 2006, golf has lost 23 percent of women players, 6 percent of kids, and so many men it's hard to count. Industry leaders realize that if positive steps are not taken immediately, the future of golf will continue to decline, regardless of recession, leading to failing revenues for everyone.

The Professional Golfers' Association of America (PGA) euphemistically calls former golf participants who left the game "lapsed" golfers. And they want 'em back, plus an influx of new players.

To do that, the PGA (with the expensive help of the Boston Consulting Group, one of the world's leading consumer research firms), has launched "Golf 2.0," an industrywide strategy

plan to breathe new life into golf.

Last week at the PGA Merchandise Show in Orlando (Mickey's true home) I talked with industry execs, read press releases and heard speeches promoting Golf 2.0. It's all about a single mantra: "grow the game."

Over the past decade, there have been several other initiatives by the PGA intended to grow the game, the largest being Play Golf America – www.playgolfamerica.com. As part of that umbrella is the Get Golf Ready Program, which was designed to teach golfers everything they'll need to know – in five short lessons – to step onto a golf course with confidence.

In my humble opinion, based on teaching a thousand beginners, that was a monstrous stretch.

PGA Junior Golf League and PGA Sports Academy are other useful recent programs. And the newest program is the Tee It Forward initiative aimed at prompting recreational golfers, who don't hit it as far as Bubba Watson, to play from the tees that offer the short-cut yardage to the hole. This has possibility.

Jack Nicklaus gave the keynote address to open the PGA convention in which he urged everyone who has a stake in the growth of golf to adopt a non-traditional view and mentality for the future.

"I've always been a traditionalist, but I've realized that in order to save the game we need to think outside the box," Nicklaus said.

Noting that "golf has given me everything I have" the legendary champion – still the best ever – urged making city parks – most of which are used for soccer and baseball – user friendly for kid's golf when otherwise not in use for other games.

Affirming to the golf industry his belief that many aspects of the game need to change in order for it to prosper, Nicklaus suggested that new facilities could be built with 12 holes

to foster play that would conform to a much faster pace of life than in years past.

"I care about the game," Nicklaus told his audience, as if he needed to mouth what we all know is true, and went on to mention that 8-inch cups could spawn excitement to the game for folks who need more fun.

I personally see a future where there are more than one set of rules for the game: one for tour professionals and one or more for recreational golfers.

The day may come where equipment and golf balls are OK for some golfers but disallowed for tournament play.

I did notice that the USGA was conspicuously not represented at any of the talks I attended.

The centerpiece of Golf 2.0 is a Player Development Playbook designed to give PGA and LPGA professionals a road map to grow the game in more fun and welcoming ways. As part of Golf 2.0, the PGA unveiled the first component of a new investment in the professional development of PGA members in the form of "PGA Certified Professionals." PGA club and teaching pros have been required to earn yearly continuing education credits for a long time (something close to 50 years), but this program raises the bar to a brand new level.

We eventually will see a whole new cadre of educated golf shop personnel that has been drilled into being customer friendly, along with knowing how to actually do some selling of the retail merchandise. Imagine that.

Further, we'll see golf course marshals and "ambassadors" who have been formally trained to discharge their duties in an extremely intelligent and professional manner. This would mean that a golf course that was once perceived as a "club in the country" could turn itself into a real country club.

Right now, I'll bet you're wondering what this big golf business push for growth is going to do for me.

Well, for starters, here's what it's not going to do. It won't keep some jokers wearing wife-beater shirts off the golf course. It won't stop sandbaggers. And it won't eliminate those snails who plod around in 5-1/2 hours.

I think what the initiative is going to do, over the next five to 10 years, is create a whole new generation of PGA professionals who are truly savvy in golf club management, retail operations, tournament organization, marketing, teaching golf and player development.

Maybe we'll see a day when no golfer is allowed on the hallowed ground of a golf course without having first taken and passed a playing test – no scratch that, it wouldn't be "welcoming and fun" to newer golfers.

Right now there are about 27 million golfers in the country, and that figure is based on

folks that play as little as a few rounds a year. They produce an industry-wide revenue of \$33 billion a year. Golf 2.0 has a goal of 40 million golfers by the year 2020, and \$40 billion in revenue.

My own reaction to Golf 2.0 was mixed. On the one hand it's encouraging to see moguls of the golf world come together and create something that I think is quite intelligently detailed and competitive, and certainly will have an impact on golf. Perhaps not as ambitious an impact that the industry hoped for, but a positive impact nonetheless.

Hearing the Golf 2.0 initiative to make golf fun for all even got me to thinking about ways that Herb Wimberley and I could make our Performance Golf Schools more fun and less work for our future students. I'm even wondering how I could make teaching mental toughness more "welcoming."

On the other hand, what about the millions of golfers who haven't "lapsed?" Will golf course owners and managers fulfill their obligations to their frequent golfers and keep up their property as they should? Will superintendents see to the attention to detail with fairways, greens, bunkers and cups like they should?

What about those avid golfers who don't care to contend with hordes of new, uninitiated and inept beginner golfers taking up space on their beloved green grass?

I know that sounds "unwelcoming," but it could be a problem, and could drive some passionate golfers away from the game as an unintended consequence of "growing the game."

One of my close friends, who is a PGA professional at a major retirement community in Florida that has several dozen golf courses, had this to say: "I'm fully aware that the game of golf has changed. But I have no problem growing the game here at our golf courses. I just don't have enough tee times available."

My most urgent fear is that the Boston Consulting Group might have packaged their proposals to the PGA into a one-size-fits-all, by inculcating the PGA of America with advice given by all consultants to virtually every company in America – you either grow or die.

In my previous life as a corporate factory general manager I know in my heart that that is not the way. Haven't we come to an age where there is some respect for sustainable status quo?

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 Wimberley as the principal instructors at Performance Golf Schools. Readers may contact Blanchard at drblanchard@lascrucesbulletin.com.

NM STATE UNIVERSITY

ATHLETE of the WEEK

Amy Lang
Senior, Equestrian

Senior Amy Lang extended her undefeated streak to 10 rides with wins over Tennessee-Martin, Jan. 27, and Kansas State, Jan. 28 in Equitation over Fences. Lang has not lost since the spring of 2011.

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Aggie rodeo starts season

Team at first rodeo in Tucson Saturday

By **Marvin Tessneer**
Las Cruces Bulletin

New Mexico State University rodeo athletes will ride to strengthen their lead in the Grand Canyon Region when it opens its spring season Saturday, Feb. 4, at the University of Arizona in Tucson, said rodeo coach Jim Dewey Brown.

The Aggie rodeo team has 72 members, and more than 40 are attending the university with the help of rodeo scholarships.

The Aggie rodeo team is leading the Grand Canyon Region, the men with 3,452 points and the women with 1,688.

"I hope our students can continue our success during this spring season," Brown said.

The remainder of the Aggie Rodeo Team spring schedule is:

- March 3-4, Cochise College, Fort Huachuca, Ariz.
- March 10-11, Central Arizona College, Florence, Ariz.
- April 20-21, Northland Pioneer College, Taylor, Ariz.

Aggie rodeo team will wrap up its spring season with its regional rodeo scheduled April 27-28 at the Southern New Mexico State Fairgrounds.

Quinn nets first recruiting class

Aggie recruits include Las Cruces High's Cat Acosta

New Mexico State soccer coach Blair Quinn has signed five athletes to National Letters of Intent. Midfielder/forward Cat Acosta, defender Mikaela Haley, midfielder Tatiana Raygoza, forward Samantha Sandoval and midfielder/forward Miranda Valdez join the Aggies in fall 2012.

A homegrown product, Acosta joins the Aggies from Las Cruces High School. She was a four-time all-state selection and led the Bulldawgs to an 18-2 record and a district championship in 2011. Acosta scored 74 goals and recorded 37 assists in her high school career. She was a top-five goal scorer in New Mexico as a junior and senior, and was a four-time all-district selection and three-time district player of the year. As a junior, she guided Las Cruces to the state tournament.

"Cat is from Las Cruces High School where she plays center, mid and forward," Quinn said. "She plays those same positions for one of the top under-18 club teams in the west region, the Rio Vista 94 Eagles. Her team is the current New Mexico State Champion as well as Region IV Finalists, so she has big game experience, something we were specifically looking to add. She scored 27 goals for Las Cruces this year, finishing as one of the top four scorers in the state, also something we needed to add. We are excited to add a homegrown player from right here in Las Cruces with the technical, play-making and goal scoring ability that Cat has."

Haley, a Rio Rancho, N.M., native, directed Cleveland High School to the state semifinals and a third-place district finish as a senior in 2011. She was a two-time second team all-state, second team metro and first team all-district honoree. Haley led the Storm to three district titles as a junior, sophomore and freshman, as well as the state quarterfinals in 2010 and state semifinals in 2008 and 2009.

"Mikaela is a feisty, fiery outside back from Rio Rancho," Quinn said. "She plays much bigger and stronger than her 5-1 frame, and she is a natural leader on the field. Mikaela scored one of the best goals I've seen in youth soccer last year in the New Mexico State Finals in the last 30 seconds to tie the game for her team and send it to overtime, so she's no stranger to pressure situations and championship games. She also has a big personality and is someone we felt fit in immediately with our team culture and values."

Raygoza arrives in Las Cruces from West Covina, Calif., and Eleanor Roosevelt High School. She led South Hills High School to the Big VIII League Championship and California Interscholastic Federation second round in 2008-09. In both her sophomore and junior campaigns, Raygoza paced Roosevelt to a fifth-place showing in league play. With the SoCal Blues club team, Raygoza and team won the Region IV Championship and

played for the national title in 2011.

"Tati is a player that can play several positions for us in our formation, notably wide defender and holding center mid," Quinn said. "Her team won the Region IV Championship and played in the 2011 USYS National Championships. So we are adding another player that we know has been in multiple championship situations and can bring that knowledge and level of play to our team and program and compete for playing time immediately."

Sandoval joins the Aggies from Albuquerque and Volcano Vista High School. As a senior, she led the Hawks to a runner-up finish at state and district championship following a state title and second-place district finish in 2010. She recorded 26 career goals and 22 career assists. In her sophomore and freshman seasons, Sandoval paced Volcano Vista to third-place finishes at the state tournament and district title in 2008 and runner-up district finish in 2009. She was a second team all-state honoree in 2010 and three-time honorable mention all-state selection in 2008, 2009 and 2011. Additionally, Sandoval was a first team all-district pick in 2008 and 2009 and second team all-district honoree in 2010 and 2011.

"Samantha is a speedy, left-footed forward from Albuquerque," Quinn said. "She has excellent one-on-one ability and can serve a very dangerous cross from the left flank. She is another player that is somewhat small in stature, but plays bigger than her size and is definitely stronger than she may appear. We feel like she fits our 4-3-3 system very well and will be competing for playing time right away."

Valdez arrives in Las Cruces from Orange, Calif., and Orange Lutheran High School. As a senior, she has recorded 16 goals and 10 assists this season, and the Lancers rank fifth in the California Interscholastic Federation and top 20 nationally. Overall, Valdez has 35 career goals and 22 career assists. In her junior campaign, she was a second team All-Trinity League selection and offensive player of the year. Valdez earned second team all-league honors and the rookie of the year award in 2008-09 after leading the team to a third-place league showing.

"Miranda comes to us from a very competitive club, Beach FC, in the deepest soccer talent pool in the country, Southern California," Quinn said. "She is excellent on the ball and in one-on-one situations. She has great vision and technical ability and will do quite well for us in an attacking center mid/forward role. She has family in New Mexico and a cousin currently attending New Mexico State, so she felt comfortable here right away, and we believe she is going to be an impactful player here for four years."



QUINN

SWQHA event set

Horses at fairgrounds Saturday

The Southwest Quarter Horse Association will step up its spring schedule with two shows Saturday, Feb. 4, and Sunday, Feb. 5, at the Southern New Mexico State Fairgrounds, chairman Elfigo "Fig" Padilla announced.

On Saturday, the show coordinators will conduct working cow horse events and on Sunday the show will present western riding events.

The association will continue its spring schedule at the fairgrounds Saturday, March 10, with working cow horse events, and Sunday, March 11, with western trail, halter and western riding classes.

The SWQHA has 158 members in New Mexico, west Texas and Arizona, and draws show contestants from these states.

"In our January show, we had we had more than 300 contestants," Padilla said.



— PUBLIC MEETINGS —

VISION 2040 PLAN

Area residents are invited to attend the following public meetings for consideration to adopt the One Valley, One Vision 2040 Regional Plan. The plan is a long-range, regional comprehensive project that evaluates the needs of the region for the next 30 years and ways to meet those needs.

Tues, Feb 21 - 1 p.m.
Las Cruces City Council,
City Hall, 700 N Main St.

The plan is available at www.vision2040.las-cruces.org or at Las Cruces City Hall or the Doña Ana County Government Center.

Tues, Feb 28 - 9 a.m.
Board of County
Commission
Doña Ana County
Government Center
845 N Motel Blvd.

For more information, or to comment, contact City Planner Paul Michaud at 528-3271 or pmichaud@las-cruces.org.

www.las-cruces.org



Las Cruces High School

High School

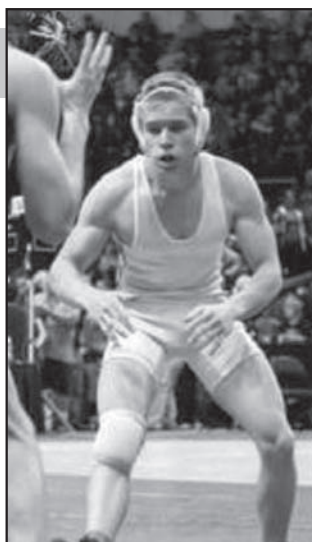
Athlete of the Week

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Zach Leupold

Zach Leupold is a 17-year-old senior at Las Cruces High School. He is on the Bulldawg's wrestling team in the 160-pound weight class. Leupold placed third at state last year with a 24-4 record.

He is a positive role model for his teammates and is an easy going yet, hard-working individual. Leupold is also a dedicated student with a 3.65 GPA. His interests outside of school and sports are his church youth groups, family, lifting weights, hanging out with friends and building things with his hands, especially tree houses.

Looking Back

This week in the history of the Mesilla Valley



Jim Hilley
Reflections

100 years ago

1912

• A bill was introduced in the U.S. Congress to hold a U.S. Court in Las Cruces, Roswell, Santa Fe, Albuquerque and Las Vegas, N.M.

• Early in the week, Capt. Thomas Branigan was reported to be improving and was expected to be out and about in a week to 10 days, however, it was later reported that Branigan had suffered a relapse and would remain confined to his home.

• Active work began on the trenches for sewer lines west of Las Cruces near the Rio Grande. The contractor brought in a very large dredge weighing more than seven tons to do the work. The waterworks were also planning to install 57 fire plugs. "Considering our many fireproof buildings," the Rio Grande Republican said "that is a very adequate number."

• The Board of Trustees approved boundaries for the town as surveyed and determined by County Surveyor posts. A complaint that a street was closed near the Barrio place in precinct 20 was ordered investigated and reopened.

• The chicken pot pie supper given by the women at the Methodist Church was voted a success by all lucky enough to partake and enjoy the hospitality of the ladies.

75 years ago

1937

• Experiment Station Director Fabian Garcia released a report showing the work of the station to establish a sugar beet industry had increased local farm income by \$75,000. Station specialists had developed a sugar beet resistant to curly-top disease that made the cultivation of beets profitable. The report also noted advances in chile production, Alcalá cotton, two new onion crops and pecans facilitated by the experiment station.

• Jerry Hines' varsity cagemen were hard at work preparing for Texas Tech after being handed their first loss by Flagstaff, dropping their record to 7-1. Injuries were dogging the Aggies, as Lauro Apodaca had seven stitches over his right eye and Pecos Finley was slowed down by a heavy brace on his knee.

50 years ago

1962

• Hershel Zohn, director of the Playmakers at New Mexico State University, announced tryouts for the production of "Bourgeois Gentlemen," by the classical French comedy master Moliere. The major production would require a large cast of actors, singers and dancers.

• The Aggies were "flat" against the Texas Western Miners and lost 67-51. "We didn't play well," coach Presley Askew said. He had praise for Miners coach Don Haskins. "He's doing as good or better job as any Henry Iba



Doña Ana County Court House, Las Cruces, New Mexico, 1892. Burge, photo

Photo reproduced courtesy of the New Mexico State Library Rio Grande Historical Collection
The Doña Ana County Courthouse as it appeared in 1892. Court Junior High School was built at the site and Court Youth Center now occupies the building. The center is now conducting a living history project titled "402 West Court Story." As part of the project, Public Memory Gathering Days will be held at the center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays, Feb. 4, 11 and 18. Area residents and Court Junior High School alumni are invited to attend the events and share their memories or memorabilia. For more information, call Lauren Light at 541-0145 or email laurenlight@gmail.com.

product I've seen in a long time," Askew said. A bright spot for the Aggies was that guard Gary Ward would be fully recovered from the flu in time to make the trip to Arizona and Arizona State.

windows were targeted by the vandals. At least three people were injured.

• Jeanette Dickerson won a seat on the Las Cruces Public Schools Board in an election held Feb. 3, by a vote of 665 for Dickerson, to 94 for Julian "J" Cates. County residents voted down a requested increase in property taxes to benefit the Doña Ana Branch Community College.

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

25 years ago

1987

• Vandals with pellet guns went on a shooting spree on the east side of Las Cruces. More than 100 car windows and a few home

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squeak-a

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SPECIAL GUEST PERFORMANCE BY THE DESERT DOLLS!

Legislature 2012

Committee spikes fireworks controls

Vendors say fireworks cause few fires

By **Steve Terrell**
The New Mexican

A bill to give the governor and local governments more power to restrict fireworks during times of high fire risk won praise from several fire chiefs and mayors from around the state.

But the bill ran into stiff opposition in a Senate committee meeting Tuesday, Jan. 31, when owners of several fireworks businesses around the state said the bill would dry up their livelihoods.

Opponents' move to table — and effectively kill — Senate Bill 5 in the Senate Public Affairs Committee failed by a single vote. The committee then voted to send the measure on to the Senate Corporations and Transportation Committee without recommendation.

Gov. Susana Martinez called for such a bill last summer when forest fires — including the Las Conchas Fire near Los Alamos — were raging around the state.

Committee Chairwoman Dede Feldman, D-Albuquerque, one of the bill's sponsors, said it would give local governments and the governor more tools to deal with fire dangers in such times.

Feldman recalled a major bosque fire in Albuquerque in 2003, which she said came within a few blocks of her own home. That fire, which was caused by fireworks, burned about 150 acres.

"I won't forget what it's like for folks to be given one half hour to gather their belongings and get out," she said.

Those who earn their livings selling fireworks said a low percentage of forest fires around the state are caused by fireworks.

"It's a free country," said Eddie Arnett, a co-owner of a Roswell-based family business, Amy's Fireworks, after the hearing. "What the hell are they doing?"

Arnett said if SB 5 had been in effect, "I would only have been able to be open one year in the past eight years." He said he and

his wife started the business about 30 years ago, first in a roadside stand, then in a tent and finally in a permanent building.

Opponents of the bill said there were almost 600 permits to sell fireworks issued by the state last year.

Besides the economic impact on the fireworks sellers, some, including Sen. Tim Eisenberg, D-Albuquerque, argued that the bill would have no effect on fireworks sold on American Indian land.

In some areas, such as Santa Fe, fireworks stands on American Indian land are responsible for a huge percentage of fireworks sold. While fireworks merchants on non-American Indian lands are limited to low-key fireworks such as fountains, sparklers and smoke bombs, sellers on American Indian land have no such restrictions.

Some committee members suggested that advocates of the bill get together with fireworks businesses and come up with a compromise.

After the hearing, Rep. Nate Gentry, R-Albuquerque, a co-sponsor of SB 5, said one possible compromise that's been under discussion is allowing the state forester, not the governor, to make the determination when fireworks sales could be prohibited in areas of high fire danger.

Interviewed after the hearing, Martinez said she could live with giving that power to the state forester. Asked about the fact that the bill wouldn't affect sales of fireworks on American Indian land, Martinez said she's confident that agreements could be worked out with tribes and pueblos.

"They've seen the damage fire can do to their lands and to their water," she said.

Under current law, Feldman said, municipal and county governments can prohibit the sale of all fireworks, but they must do so only after giving a 20-day notice. SB 5 would do away with that requirement.

Senate confirms corrections chief

Lawsuit threatened to derail cabinet-level confirmation

By **Steve Terrell**
The New Mexican

Despite the concerns of Senate Rules Committee Chairwoman Linda Lopez about Corrections Secretary designate Gregg Marcantel, the state Senate confirmed Marcantel for the job Wednesday, Feb. 1.

The vote was 38 to 1 with Lopez, D-Albuquerque, casting the only dissenting vote.

Marcantel, 51, who had been a deputy secretary of the Public Safety Department since early 2011, became acting deputy secretary at Corrections last August after his predecessor, Lupe Martinez, resigned. In November 2011, Gov. Susana Martinez tapped him to become secretary of the department.

In a letter to Marcantel released to reporters on Monday, Lopez said she was concerned that Marcantel, a career law enforcement officer, hadn't disclosed a lawsuit in which he was a defendant. That suit centers on an informant who earned early release in exchange for providing information in a drug case. The man later pleaded guilty to raping two children. Marcantel was a detective with the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Department at the time. He worked for the department for nearly 19 years.

Lopez, in her letter, also said Marcantel hadn't disclosed two suspensions early in his law enforcement career when he was a corrections officer in Lake Charles, La.

Marcantel told the Senate Rules Committee on Wednesday he wasn't trying to hide anything. He was dropped as a defendant in the lawsuit before it was settled, he said.

As for the two suspensions, Marcantel said the question contained in the questionnaire he filled out wasn't clear. The question asked whether there had been allegations of sexual harassment or other "workplace misconduct" against him.

The suspensions took place when he was 19 years old and he said he "knew nothing more about police work than what I saw on Beretta."

One suspension, which Marcantel said occurred about three months after he was hired, came after Marcantel and another guard made a deal with an inmate to move

the inmate to a different cell in exchange for the inmate giving them information about the whereabouts of an escapee.

The second was for signing a petition saying that a trustee who was a shoeshine man was doing a good job. His superiors called that a conflict of interest.

"I just thought he was a nice old guy," Marcantel told the Rules Committee.

He told the panel he had disclosed those suspensions in previous background checks for law enforcement positions.

"I'm not a great guy," he told reporters after the hearing. "I'm a guy that's got as many faults as anybody else. But I am going to tell you what I am not: I am not a liar."

Marcantel said he didn't mind answering questions about Lopez's concerns. But he said he wished Lopez would have talked to him before sending her letter and press release to reporters.

He said the Rules Committee should change the wording of its questionnaire to make it more clear for future nominees. Lopez said many previous nominees had not had trouble understanding the question.

Law enforcement officials from around the state attended the committee hearing to testify in favor of Marcantel's appointment. These included Public Safety Secretary Gordon Eden — who last year convinced Marcantel to come out of retirement — and Bernalillo County Sheriff Dan Houston, who worked with Marcantel as a sheriff's deputy.

Houston told the committee that dealing with confidential informants is one of the uglier sides of law enforcement, and sometimes an informant can go on to commit other crimes. He gave the example of an Albuquerque case in the 1980s when a police informant was behind the kidnapping and murder of a young woman who was abducted in her own front yard.

Several senators from all sides of the political spectrum praised Marcantel. Sen. Peter Wirth, D-Santa Fe, said that Marcantel, who has been acting secretary for several months, had been very responsive to concerns of lawmakers.

But Wirth said the department will face a challenge as budget cuts will mean the end of some inmate programs while the prisons will become more crowded due to passage of more laws with tougher criminal penalties.

Martinez promises veto on tax bill

Effort to tax out-of-state corporations progresses

By **Trip Jennings**
The New Mexican

A bill that supporters say would force some out-of-state corporations to pay more in state taxes cleared an important Senate committee for the first time in eight years Wednesday, Feb. 1.

The Senate Corporations and Transportation Committee voted 5 to 4 to send Senate Bill 9, sponsored by Sen. Peter Wirth, D-Santa Fe, on to the Senate Finance Committee without a recommendation.

Wirth celebrated Wednesday's victory. But the bill faces an uncertain future as it moves on Senate Finance, which has earned a reputation as a killing ground for legislation in recent years.

Gov. Susana Martinez also has said she would veto the bill if the Legislature passed it.

Wirth has repeatedly framed his bill as a way to help New Mexico businesses, and he did that again Wednesday night, arguing that local businesses, both small and large, are at a disadvantage because of New Mexico's tax code. His bill would require all businesses filing state corporate income tax returns to file them the same way, he said.

Currently, out-of-state corporations have a choice. They can either file a combined report that separates how much profit was earned in the state versus what was earned in other states, or they can file a separate return that allows them to expense profits to states that don't have a corporate income tax, such as Delaware.

Removing that second option would allow New

Mexico to capture new tax revenue from those out-of-state corporations currently shifting revenues to states with lower or no corporate tax rates.

Wirth, earlier in the week, said he couldn't name which corporations might pay higher taxes if his bill were to become law. But he said the extra income netted through requiring all corporations to play by the same rules would allow New Mexico to lower its corporate income tax from 7.6 percent to 7 percent.

"It is fundamentally unfair to allow this shifting to happen," Wirth said.

A series of small business people and liberal advocates stepped up to support Wirth's legislation, saying it made New Mexico's tax code fairer.

But opponents, which included lobbyists for large U.S. and multinational corporations, said the legislation would likely lead to layoffs at companies hit by the new law.

Richard Minzner, a former state Taxation and Revenue Secretary, told state lawmakers companies would be encouraged to reduce their workforce in New Mexico if the legislation became law.

That's because income for a company and all its affiliates would be combined into one pool. Then the company would pay taxes on revenues found to have been generated in New Mexico based on the company's payroll here as well as the amount of property and sales generated here.

"If you lay off people in New Mexico, that payroll piece goes down," said Minzner, explaining that companies could reduce the workforce to avoid taxes.

Dan Najjar, representing Intel, also told lawmakers the corporation's New Mexico location is its highest-taxed plant anywhere in the globe, and this bill would raise it.

Garcia bills advancing

Senate Majority Whip Mary Jane Garcia, D-Doña Ana, said she is successfully advancing her 2012 Child Protection Package through the Legislature.

In the Senate Public Affairs Committee, she secured a unanimous "Do Pass" on her SB58 "Criminal Sexual Penetration of Child Under 5" and SB59 "Child Murder as Aggravating Circumstance."

Both bills will progress to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

SB58 defines criminal sexual penetration of a child under five as "aggravated criminal sexual penetration," which is eligible for a life sentence. SB59 adds an additional

aggravating circumstance to the state's capital felony sentencing statute: the murder of a child under 13. Murders committed with an aggravating circumstance are eligible for NM's highest sentence of life in prison without the possibility of parole.

In addition to the two bills passed, Garcia's 2012 Child Protection Package includes SB57 "Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Task Force" and SB64 "Child Abuse Public Awareness Campaign."

SB57 was found to be not germane for the 2012 legislative session. SB64 has passed its first committee and will next be heard by the Senate Finance Committee.

Mingling with legislators at Las Cruces Day in Santa Fe

Photos by Theresa Montoya Basaldua

Superintendent Stan Rounds, Las Cruces Machine CEO Kari Mitchell and Rep. Andy Nuñez are engrossed in conversation during a reception at the Governor's Residence in Santa Fe Sunday, Jan. 29. The event was part of Las Cruces Day in Santa Fe.



Pat Hynes, director of the New Mexico Spacegrant Consortium, talks about the program in the Roundhouse Monday, Jan. 30.




State Sen. Mary Jane Garcia, center, accepts a gift from Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce Conquistadore Chair Sarah Stegall and chamber board Chair Richard Haas.



NMSU Graduate School Dean Linda Lacey shares a laugh with colleague Ben Woods and his wife Christine.

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11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
 Thursday, February 16
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Tickets are \$20 for Chamber members and \$40 for non-members. To register, contact the Chamber at 524-1968 or relo@lascruces.org



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SeniorActivities

Programs at Munson Senior Center are for those age 50 and over. Membership is free and required to participate in classes and activities.

Call the Munson Senior Center at 528-3000 or check postings at the facility, 975 S. Mesquite St., for information on ongoing programs.

AQUATICS CLASS

Aquatics class is from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at the Las Cruces Regional Aquatic Center, 1401 E. Hadley Ave. Classes are walk up, but registration with Senior Programs is required. Donation suggested.

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS

A registered nurse provides blood pressure checks at the following times and locations. Donation suggested.

- 10 to 11 a.m. Mondays at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St.
- 11 a.m. to noon Tuesdays at Benavidez Community Center, 1045 McClure Road.
- 10 to 11 a.m. Wednesdays at Eastside Community Center, 310 N. Tornillo St.
- 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. Thursdays at Mesilla Park Recreation Center, 304 W. Bell Ave.

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 Casino:** Feb 22-24. Cost \$225 double, \$295 single. Sign up by Feb. 1.
- **Cattleman's Steakhouse, Fabens, Texas:** Friday, Feb. 10. Cost: \$70.
- **Cloudcroft Mardi Gras in the Clouds:** Saturday, Feb. 18. Cost: \$20 per person.
- **Belen/Santa Fe Rail Runner:** March 13-15. Cost: \$330 double, \$384 single.
- **Savannah/Jekyll Island:** April 13-23. Motor coach. Sign up by Feb. 7. Cost: \$949 double, \$1,199 single.
- **New Orleans:** Nov. 10-18.

Motor coach. Cost: \$810 double, \$1,080 single.

- **Canada/New England cruise:** Oct. 10-20.
- **Australia/New Zealand cruise:** March 4, 2013. For more information, call Helen Glover at 528-3166.

STAINED GLASS

Beginning and advanced stained-glass classes meet at 8:30 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St. Intermediate stained-glass class meets at 1 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at Munson Center. Registration is required.

AEROBICS CLASS

Aerobics class is from 9 to 10 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St. Classes are drop-in. Donation suggested.

CORE EXERCISE

Core exercise classes are from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at Meerscheidt Recreation Center, 1600 E. Hadley Ave. Classes are drop-in. Donation suggested.

LINE DANCING

Beginning line dance classes for anyone over 50 are held from 1:45 to 2:45 p.m. each Monday and intermediate line dance classes are held from 1:45 to 2:45 p.m. each Friday at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St. Donations are accepted. For more information, call 528-3000.

ARTIST OF THE MONTH

Each month a selected artist displays his or her work at City Hall. A ceremony with the mayor is at 12:30 p.m. the first Monday of each month to recognize that month's artist. For more information, call 528-3000.

HATHA YOGA

Yoga classes are from 8 to 9 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St. Classes are drop-in. Donation suggested.

T'AI CHI CLASSES

T'ai chi classes are from 3 to 4 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St. Classes are drop-in. Donation suggested.

CARD/TABLE GAMES

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

50+ WALKING GROUP

The City of Las Cruces Parks & Recreation will lead a walking group targeted toward those 50 years and older at 8 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. There is no fee to join and total walking distance will be no more than two miles per walk.

For more information, call the Parks & Recreation Department at 541-2550. The TTY number is 541-2182.

THE THURSDAY BRIDGE CLUB

The Thursday Bridge Club meets for lunch and bridge at 11 a.m. the first and third Thursday of each month.

For more information, call Judy at 373-9309, Ann at 522-7240 or Bev at 523-6106.

QUILTERS MEET AT MUNSON CENTER

The Munson Quilters meet from 9 to 11 a.m. each Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St. Quilters over age 50 of all levels are encouraged to participate.

On Fridays, the group works on quilts to be donated to local organizations.

CITY RECREATION

The City of Las Cruces offers recreation and fitness classes at city recreation and community centers.

The following classes are held at Meerscheidt Recreation Center, 1600 E. Hadley Ave.:

- **Aerobics:** 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays

- **Yoga:** 9 to 10 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays
 - **Pilates:** 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays
 - **Core/Floor Exercises:** 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays
 - **Pickleball:** 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Monday through Fridays. Paddles may be rented for \$1.
 - **Indoor Cycling:** 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays
- The following class is held at Benavidez Community Center, 1045 McClure Road:
- **Zumba:** 6 to 7 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. For more information, call 541-5185.

The following classes are held at the Regional Aquatic Center, 1401 E. Hadley Ave.

- **Aquatic Fitness:** 9 to 10 a.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays
 - **Safe Strength Gentle Cardio Water Workout:** 10 to 11 a.m. Thursdays
 - **Water Fitness for Non-Swimmers:** 10 to 11 a.m. Tuesdays
 - **Senior Aquatics Class:** 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Classes are drop in, but seniors must be registered with Las Cruces Senior Services.
 - **Aqua Fit:** 1 to 2 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays
 - **Aqua Zumba:** 5:30 to 6:15 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Saturdays
 - **Relax and Stretch:** 1 to 2 p.m. Tuesdays
- For more information, call 541-2782.
- The following class is held at the East Mesa Recreation Center, 5589 Porter Drive:
- **Zumba:** 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays

For more information, call 382-1662.

All classes are \$2. For more information, call 541-2550.

SOCIAL DANCERS

Genie & the Starliners will perform from 7 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4, at Court Youth Center, 402 W. Court Ave. The dance is sponsored by the Las Cruces Social Dancers. Cost is \$6 per person.

For more information, call 541-5982.

WOMEN'S 8-BALL TOURNAMENT

An 8-ball tournament for women ages 50 and over is held the first Monday of the month at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St. Sign up is at 8 a.m. and play begins from 8:30 to 9 a.m. Cost is \$3 per person. Gift cards are awarded to first- and second-place winners.

For more information, call 541-2550.

HEALTH INFORMATION

Resource Center staff provide a free information and referral service to those age 50 and over on Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, housing, food stamps and more at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St.

For more information, call 528-3301.

MONTHLY POTLUCK

A potluck is held from noon to 2 p.m., the second Sunday of the month at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St. Anyone age 50 or over is invited to bring a covered dish along with eating utensils. For more information, call 528-3000.

AARP DRIVER SAFETY PROGRAM

AARP Driver Safety Program courses are open to drivers 55 years of age 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 and a pen or pencil, and the correct change if paying with cash. AARP members must bring their membership card to receive the discount. Classes are held on a first-come, first-served basis.

Classes in February are:

- 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 8: Encantada Park, 1000 Coyote Trail.
 - Noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28: Good Samaritan Society-Las Cruces Village, 3011 Buena Vida Circle.
- For more information, visit www.aarp.org or call 505-830-3096.

SENIOR GOLF TOURNAMENT

The New Mexico State University Golf Course is hosting the Mesilla Valley Seniors Golf Association first annual Men's Bogey Tournament, Wednesday, Feb. 22. The tournament is open to all members or non-members over the age of 55. For more information, contact David Tini at 570-780-8098 or email dtini57@yahoo.com no later than Sunday, Feb. 19.

Information is also available at the NMSU Golf Course Pro Shop at 646-3219.

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In the news

Read Across America coming

NEA-Las Cruces will hold its annual Read Across America celebration from noon to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4, at the Mesilla Park Recreation Center, 304 W. Bell Ave., in Mesilla Park.

The event is free of charge and is open to all Las Cruces Public Schools students as well as students in charter schools and private schools and students who are home schooled. Preschoolers are also welcome. The NEA asks that parents remain with their children during the event.

The event is a celebration of reading for children of all ages. It will also include hot dogs and lemonade, prizes, games and activities for everyone.

The NEA began Read Across America in 1997 to celebrate reading and to honor children's book author Theodore Geisel (March 2, 1904-Sept. 24, 1991), better known as Dr. Seuss.

For more information, call NEA-Las Cruces President Pat-

rick Sanchez at Lynn Middle School, 527-9445, or visit www.nea.org/grants/886.htm.

County offers online access

Anyone looking to download maps, county codes or community plans will soon be able to skip the trip to the Doña Ana County Government Center, and access those products online.

The Community Development Store, an online marketplace for county products, is a project spearheaded by the Doña Ana County Community Development Department. Free of charge, anyone with Internet access can download a copy of any existing county map, copies of county codes and community plans, such as the master plans currently in development for Berino and Rincon. Oversized and customized products will still be available for a fee via mail or through visiting the department in person.

"Before we opened our online store, products could only

be requested over the phone, through email or in person," said Deputy Assistant County Manager Chuck McMahon. "There wasn't a system in place to make customers aware of what products we have to offer. The Community Development Store will be a valuable tool for anyone who needs immediate access to this information."

McMahon says new products will be continuously added to the store, and any changes will be updated in a timely manner. He also said feedback from users and requests from the public are highly encouraged.

Most products are free to download through the online store. Anyone without access to a computer or the Internet may still use one of the computer stations at the Community Development Department inside the Doña Ana County Government Center. Copies can be made for a nominal fee.

Requests for products can still be made in person or by telephone, 525-5505. All payments for oversized requests or customized products must be made through the County Treasurer's Office, which accepts cash and credit cards (in person only), as well as checks and money orders.

Visitors to the Community Development Store can access products by visiting www.donaanacounty.org/development/catalog.

Applicants sought for county labor and housing boards

Doña Ana County is seeking applications from residents interested in serving a one-year appointment on the Doña Ana County Labor/Management Relations Board. Applicants are being sought to represent management.

The Doña Ana County Labor/Management Relations Board is a three-member board of volunteers whose members enforce provisions of Doña Ana County's Labor/Management Relations Ordinance and the board's Labor/Management Relations rules and regulations.

Matters that historically have come before the labor management relations board include designation of appropriate bargaining units, the selection, certification and decertification of exclusive representatives, and the filing, hearing and determination of complaints.

One member representing management and one member representing labor are appointed by the commissioners, and those two appointees recommend a member for commission consideration. During the term of appointment, no board member may hold or seek any political office, public employment or be an employee of a union, an organization representing public employees or a public employer.

Applications will be accepted through 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 10. Applications will consist of a letter of interest, along with a current résumé and three letters of reference. Application packets should be mailed or delivered to the Doña Ana County Human Resources Department, 845 N. Motel Blvd., Las Cruces, NM 88007, to the attention of Vicki Lusk. Application packets also can be faxed to 525-5888.

For more information, call 647-7210. Residents calling from outside the Las Cruces area may call toll-free at 877-827-7200 and request extension 7210.

Also, the County Commission is seeking applicants willing to serve on the Mesilla Valley Public Housing Authority Commission. The deadline to apply has been extended.

To be considered, the applicant must submit a letter of interest, a current resume and three letters of reference to the Doña Ana County Community Development Department no later than 5 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 29.

The Housing Authority Commission consists of two appointees by the Doña Ana County Board of Commissioners, two appointees by the City of Las Cruces and a fifth appointee who is nominated by the city- and county-appointed commissioners.

The appointee will serve for one year. All subsequent appointees will serve staggered five-year terms.

At present, the Housing Authority Commission meets at 2 p.m. every third Tuesday of the month in the conference suite of the Mesilla Valley Public Housing Authority Commission. Meeting times and dates may be changed once a new commission is appointed.

Matters that frequently arise for consideration by the Housing Authority Commission include annual budgets, federally mandated planning documents, policy documents, tax-credit developments and the annual performance evaluation of the Housing Authority's executive director. Meetings average about two hours each.

Applications for county appointments may be mailed to Doña Ana County Chief Planner Janine Divyak at 845 N. Motel Blvd., Las Cruces, NM 88007, or delivered in person to the Doña Ana County Community Development Department at the Doña Ana County Government Center.

Back by Popular Demand!

The Doña Ana Arts Council presents

The World Famous

Glenn Miller Orchestra



February 15, 2012 ~ 7pm

Rio Grande Theatre
211 N. Main St., Las Cruces

Tickets \$30

Available at

The Rio Grande Theatre,
Enchanted Gardens

La Iguana (10% Off with Reservation)

(575) 523-6403

www.RioGrandeTheatre.com

Immigration talk migrates to larger room

Anthony Mora, assistant professor in the history department at the University of Michigan, gives his talk on "Americans Immigrate Constantly": Historic Ironies and Reversals that Made the Modern U.S.-Mexican Border," which drew such a large crowd Tuesday, Jan. 31, it was moved from New Mexico State University's College of Health and Social Services auditorium to Hardman Hall. Mora's lecture is the first in the "Arriving in America: The Challenge of Immigrants and Minorities in Modern American History" series of free lectures held through March.

Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Todd Dickson



Neighbors We've Lost

DEATH NOTICES

BERNAL

Sandra R. Bernal, 81, passed away Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2012. Arrangements are with La Paz - Graham's Funeral Home in Las Cruces, New Mexico. 575-526-6891

HINMAN

James Frederick Hinman, Jr., 83, passed away Friday, January 27, 2012. Service arrangements are pending with La Paz - Graham's Funeral Home, Las Cruces, New Mexico. 575-526-6891

ALLIMAN

Jeanne Alliman passed away on Monday, January 30, 2012. Funeral services are pending with La Paz - Graham's Funeral Home, Las Cruces, New Mexico. 575-526-6891

PONCE

Ronald Delgado Ponce, 41, of Las Cruces, New Mexico, entered eternal life Saturday, Jan. 28, 2012, at Memorial Medical Center. Visitation for Ronald and the Prayer Vigil were held Wednesday, Feb. 1, in Baca's Chapel of Prayer, 300 E. Boutz Road, Las Cruces. The Funeral Liturgy was Thursday, Feb. 2, in St. Genevieve's Catholic Church, 100 S. Espina St., Las Cruces, New Mexico. Cremation followed and inurnment of cremains will take place at 2:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 3 at Ft. Bliss National Cemetery. Entrusted to Baca's Funeral Chapels and Baca's Sunset Crematory, Las Cruces. 575-527-2222

LUGO

Ruben R. Lugo, 57, of Las Cruces, New Mexico, passed away at MountainView Regional Medical Center Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2012. The Funeral Liturgy was held Jan. 28, at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Cathedral in Las Cruces. Cremation followed and inurnment of cremains will take place at a later date. Entrusted to Baca's Funeral Chapels and Baca's Sunset Crematory, Las Cruces. 575-527-2222. To send condolences online log on to www.bacasfuneralchapelslascruc.com.

NEVAREZ

Ernesto S. Nevarez, age 80, of Tortugas, New Mexico, entered eternal life at his home surrounded by his loving family Thursday, Jan. 26, 2012. Visitation for Mr. Nevarez and the Prayer Vigil were held Monday, Jan. 30, at Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine and Parish in Tortugas. The Funeral Mass was held at the same location on Tuesday, Jan. 31, followed by the Rite of Committal and Interment at the Tortugas Cemetery. Service arrangements were entrusted to the care of Baca's Funeral Chapels, 300 E. Boutz Road, Las Cruces. 575-527-2222. Your exclusive providers for "Veterans and Family Memorial Care." For online condolences log on to www.bacasfuneralchapelslascruc.com.

GARCIA

Eulogia M. Garcia, 92, of Las Cruces, New Mexico, died Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2012. She was born March 11, 1919. Arrangements are pending with Getz Funeral Home in Las Cruces, New Mexico. 575-526-2419

OBITUARIES

PATRICIA "PATSY" EDSON TOMBAUGH *November 7, 1912 - January 12, 2012*

Patsy Tombaugh, a resident of Las Cruces for 66 years, died Thursday, January 12 at the Arbors of Del Rey. She was born in 1912 in Kansas City, Missouri to James and Irene Edson. In 1934, she married Clyde Tombaugh who had discovered the planet Pluto. She graduated from Kansas University with a degree in philosophy. The Tombaughs lived in Flagstaff, Ariz. and CA before moving to Las Cruces in 1946. She taught elementary school at South Ward, Central, Valley View, and Conlee. She worked at PSL on the NMSU campus. She was a community leader and helped found Las Cruces' Community Concerts, Unitarian Universalist Church, Arts

Assoc., and Astronomical Society. She is predeceased by her parents, two brothers, and husband. Those surviving Patsy are children, Annette Tombaugh-Sitze (Wilbur) and Alden Tombaugh (Cherylee) of Las Cruces, 5 grandchildren, 9 great-grandchildren, 1 great-great-grandchild, and 12 step-grandchildren and their children. A memorial service will be held on Sunday, February 12, at 2 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Las Cruces located at 2000 South Solano Dr. Donations in Patsy's name can be made to the Las Cruces Symphony Assoc., Mesilla Valley Hospice, or the Unitarian Universalist Church of Las Cruces.

The Las Cruces Bulletin will publish paid obituaries, which may include up to two photographs. Brief death notices are published at no charge. Memorials and remembrances are also available. For more information, call Sid Graft at the Las Cruces Bulletin, 575-524-8061, or email obits@lascrucesbulletin.com.

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



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Memorial Medical Center

CARDIAC SERVICES

Politics, football, love and cars



Samantha Roberts
Business Editor

Writing a business column usually comes naturally to me because so much is happening around the world.

Either a corporation is filing for bankruptcy, food or gas prices are continuing on their price roller coaster or social media is changing the way we do business.

But February is an interesting time.

The media is flooded with Super Bowl news, political campaigns, 2012 food prices and Valentine's Day statistics.

In recent events, Facebook has gone public, which will probably value the company at \$80 billion to \$100 billion.

Hostess and American Airlines have filed for bankruptcy, bringing up the question, "Is bankruptcy an easy out for corporations?"

And politics are inundating media sites with election primary results.

In February, it's hard to overlook all of the Super Bowl news. Statistics show car companies will make up one third of Super Bowl advertising in 2012. Acura, Chrysler and Volkswagen will all be seen Sunday, Feb. 5, among others.

Also in the news are stories about car companies in trouble, looking for an out to pay their debt. I wonder where all of the money is going?

February is a time retailers and restaurants look forward to, because Americans shell out an estimated \$14 billion dollars on candy, flowers and cards for Valentine's Day.

A not-so-popular topic has been the recession – with Americans hurting to pay their bills. I wonder where all the money is going?

Many economists have said the housing market will lead the turnaround in the U.S. economy. If so, we are in trouble.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the nation's homeownership rate fell to 66 percent in the fourth quarter, continuing a seven-year drop from a fourth-quarter peak of 69.2 percent in 2004. This means more people are renting than buying due to poor credit, a lack of lending and spending too much on Valentine's Day.

Email me at samantha@lascrucesbulletin.com.

INSIDE

Range conditions remain poor in New Mexico

Farmers and ranchers hope for more precipitation B2

Signed collectibles found at Signz of the Time

..... B7

Networking for southern New Mexico at LCDSF

In photos B10-11

LCDSF reveals \$100,000 surprise

Union Pacific makes significant donation to Doña Ana Community College

By **Samantha Roberts**
Las Cruces Bulletin

Union Pacific, which recently began construction of an all-new rail facility outside Santa Teresa, announced a \$100,000 donation to Doña Ana Community College as part of Las Cruces Day in Santa Fe during a press conference Monday, Jan. 30, at the Roundhouse in Santa Fe.

The donation, which Zoe Richmond, UP director of public affairs, said was given to DACC to use as the institution sees fit. However, the underlying message at the press conference was creating jobs to sustain UP's new intermodal facility.

"Doña Ana Community College is excited to be the recipient of such generosity from Union Pacific," said DACC President Margie Huerta. "We plan to use the funds for scholarships and workforce development to ensure our students have the knowledge needed to qualify for the jobs this new facility will bring to the region."

There were several key players who helped make the donation a possibility, including Sens. Cynthia Nava and Mary Kay Papen, Rep. Mary Helen Garcia and New Mexico Economic Development Secretary Designate Jon Barela as well as Mesilla Valley Economic Development Alliance CEO Davin Lopez and Building Industry Association Executive Director Jerry Pacheco and Juan Massey.

"Union Pacific and Doña Ana Community College is an example of a great private-public partnership," Lopez said. "We are proud to be a part of this."

"Right now, we are moving 4.1 million cubic yards of dirt," Richmond said about developments in Santa Teresa. "We hope this donation strengthens our long-term commitment to southern New Mexico."

As another part of Union Pacific's commitment to grow New Mexico, Richmond said seven of the 10 subcontractors working on the



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Theresa Montoya Basaldua

Union Pacific Director of Public Affairs Zoe Richmond passes a \$100,000 check to Doña Ana Community College President Margie Huerta as a donation to the community college to help create a strong workforce in Doña Ana County.

project are from New Mexico, which translates to 66 percent of \$40 million that has been spent in the Land of Enchantment.

The intermodal facility is expected to be completed by 2015, bringing in 600 permanent high-paying jobs.

"The average employee will be making \$100,000 in wages and benefits," Richmond said. "We like to say where we have rails, we have ties."

Richmond said UP chose DACC as a recipient because "DACC is a neighbor" and she is looking forward to a good working relationship with the community college.

"Thank you for your generosity," Huerta said during the press conference. "The Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce as well as

many others have given their help and been so supportive – Davin Lopez, Jerry Pacheco, Juan Massey, (Rep.) Terry McMillan.

"Donations like this will have an immediate impact on southern New Mexico. Developing the workforce in southern New Mexico is critical, and this gift of \$100,000 is a huge investment and will yield positive return.

"In Doña Ana County, we work with a collaborative spirit to improve the community."

Nava, former superintendent of Gadsden Independent School District, said the example set in southern New Mexico is remarkable.

"The rest of the state should listen," Nava said. "I fought to get Union Pacific here, and I will fight to hold them accountable to their

See **LCDSF** on page B2

Public course absorbs guests

Las Cruces Country Club members move to Sonoma

By **Samantha Roberts**
Las Cruces Bulletin

Las Cruces Country Club (LCCC) officially shut its doors Dec. 31, 2011, and nearly 200 of its members moved their golf games to Sonoma Ranch Golf Club upon the closure.

"Overall, the transition period went really well," said Peter Raitt, general manager of Sonoma Ranch Golf Club, a public golf course in Las Cruces. "We initially had 180 people come to Sonoma, and a majority of them have stuck around."

Raitt said LCCC members were invited to play at the same rate as other annual Sonoma guests – \$3,000 per year.

Golfers pay an annual amount similar to a season golf pass, comparable to a season pass at Disney World.

If you play enough golf, the pass allows you to play at a discounted rate, said Justin

See **Sonoma** on page B2



Sonoma Ranch Golf Club, a public golf course in Las Cruces, absorbed members from Las Cruces Country Club; however, the club still maintains room for daily play.

Range conditions stay dry

More precipitation needed to help ranchers, farmers

By **Marvin Tessneer**
Las Cruces Bulletin

Rainfall during January in the Mesilla Valley was better than average, but beef cattle ranchers continue to report poor range conditions, said David Dubois, a state climatologist.

Rain during January measured .75 inches at the New Mexico State University weather station, compared with the 30-year average (1981-2010) of .53 inches. The area had three rains, including .67 inches on Jan. 9, Dubois said.

"Rainfall across New Mexico during January has been spotty with the plains areas receiving little if no rain," Dubois said.

Cattlemen are holding down the replacement heifer numbers because of the lack of forage, said Doña Ana County Extension horticulturist Jeffrey Anderson.

"The rains in the fall were too late, and it's too cold for the seeds to germinate," he said. "There's not enough water and the cost of feed is so high."

This could result in fewer beef cattle and

higher food prices for consumers.

Luna County to the west hasn't received any precipitation since the fall and early winter, agriculture agent Jack Blandford said.

"The result could be trouble with noxious weeds that we usually don't have with a wet fall and winter," he said. "I don't see ranchers building back herds for recovery the next five or 10 years at the minimum because of the lack of forage."

Ranchers are trying to hang on to their cattle with supplemental feeding, hay, liquid molasses and pellets including cottonseed meal and different grains.

Doña Ana County rancher Tom Cooper said his range received about 4 to 5 inches of precipitation, but low temperatures have pre-

vented seed germination.

"Last year was pretty dry, and we haven't seen much of a change," he said.

He has been putting out protein blocks and grain-based range cubes for his cattle.

"Cattle need that protein at this time of year," he said. "We're trying to hold on as much as we can."

The Clovis Livestock Auction is seeing normal sales for this time of year, manager Charlie Rogers said. He said he is watching the results of rainfall, which has been good in some parts of the country and short in others.

"In areas that have not received good moisture, we expect to see more bred cows and pairs, or cows with calves, coming to the sales soon," Rogers said.

LCDSF

Continued from page B1

promises. This check is a great start, and it is about jobs, economic development and the opportunity for students to succeed."

To help bring UP to southern New Mexico, Gov. Susana Martinez signed into law in 2011 a bill granting Union Pacific a locomotive fuel tax deduction that allowed the company to move forward with an investment of \$400 million in the construction of a 2,200-acre rail facility west of the Santa Teresa Airport, which will include fueling facilities, crew change buildings, locomotive inspection tracks, an intermodal ramp and a switching yard.

"This new facility will strengthen our long-term commitment to deliver premium service to our customers," said Scott Moore, vice president of public affairs for Union Pacific. "Upon completion of this new infrastructure, New Mexico will take its place among the leaders in the goods movement industry."

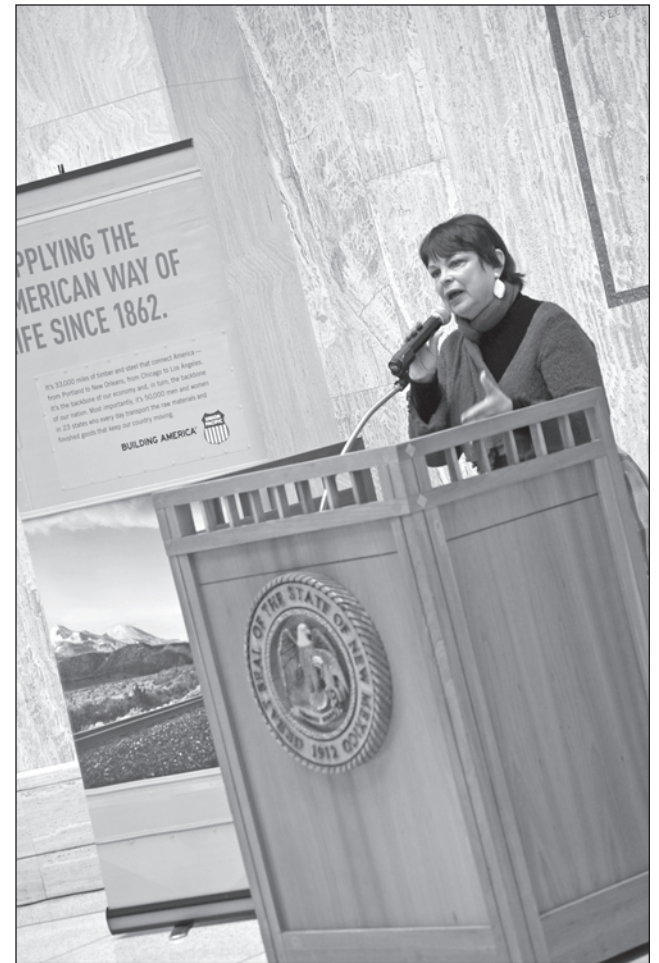
A key player in getting the locomotive fuel tax deduction bill passed was Barela.

When the bill was passed, Barela called it "a cornerstone to creating jobs in southern New Mexico."

"Doña Ana County has great potential, and thank you to our great corporate neighbor – UP," Barela said. "The facility is a solid anchor project on the entire Mexico border – all 2,000 miles of it."



Las Cruces Bulletin photos by Theresa Montoya Basaldua
Conquistadores listen during a press conference Monday, Jan. 30, at the Roundhouse during Las Cruces Day in Santa Fe.



Sen. Cynthia Nava speaks about her gratitude toward UP upholding its promise to invest in southern New Mexico. "The rest of the state should listen," Nava said about the collaboration in southern New Mexico.



– PUBLIC HEARINGS – SENIOR PROGRAMS Needs of Elderly Residents and Caregivers

City of Las Cruces Senior Programs will conduct public hearings to receive public comment on the needs of elderly residents and their caregivers in Las Cruces. Comments are sought from senior citizens, their advocates and other interested individuals and organizations on services to be funded with federal, state and local resources. The information received will help in planning for the distribution of federal and state Older Americans Act funds for Fiscal Years 2012-2013.

THE HEARINGS ARE SCHEDULED AS FOLLOWS:

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Benavidez Center
1045 McClure Rd.
10 – 11:30 a.m.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Munson Senior Center
975 S. Mesquite Street
10 – 11:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Frank O'Brien Papan Community Center
(Formerly Mesilla Park Community Center)
304 W. Bell
10 – 11:30 a.m.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Eastside Community Center
(Spanish translation will be available)
310 N. Tornillo Avenue
10 – 11:30 a.m.

In addition to Public Hearings

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11
Farmers Market –
Downtown Mall,
9 a.m. – 12 noon
Senior Programs Table
(please visit and provide input)

Persons with hearing and/or sight impairment and those who require special assistance to participate in the public hearings, can contact Toni Flores at 575/528-3004 or New Mexico Relay Services at 1-800-659-1779.

If you are unable to attend and would like to comment in writing, please send comments to: Shelley Modell, Administrator, City of Las Cruces Senior Programs, PO Box 20000, Las Cruces, NM 88004 or email your comments to smodell@las-cruces.org.

www.las-cruces.org

Sonoma

Continued from page B1

Dahrling, Sonoma Ranch golf pro.

The course continues to be open to the public and has more than sufficient capacity to accommodate many more golfers.

"There is still a misconception that Sonoma Ranch is private, and maybe even more so since we absorbed many of the Las Cruces Country Club members," Raitt said.

In addition to picking up members, Sonoma is also planning to take on some of LCCC's annual tournaments; however, Raitt said there is still plenty of time for guests and members to golf.

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"On average, our members play about 20 percent of the rounds monthly," Dahrling said. "That means 80 percent is open for public play. There is plenty of space for people to play here."

Dahrling said the club takes tee times up to seven days in advance, adding that a majority of other public courses only give three to five days lead-time.

"Some of our players will golf a round, sign their receipt and then schedule (another round) for the next week," he said. "All of our tee times are on a first come, first serve basis. We don't hold tee times for our members."

"We are proud of this system because it works well for us."

As for future plans, Raitt said the course has room for growth.

"We are constantly looking at ways to grow and do things even better," he said adding that the club has space for expansion.

"We would like to add more social events. We have a combination of ideas. I believe we have the best facilities and would like to showcase all that we can offer – inside and outside."

The location also has an outdoor banquet area that can cater to 300 or 350 guests.

In addition to golf, Sonoma Ranch Golf Club is also in the same building as Sunset Grill, a contemporary restaurant that caters to golfers and those seeking fine dining.

For more information, visit www.sonomaranch.com. To book an online tee time, visit www.sonomaranchgolf.com. For special offers and deals, join the golf club's Facebook page.

By the Numbers



Building Las Cruces



The Power Center

Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Samantha Roberts

The Power Center, a local Polaris, Stihl and Honda power equipment dealer, will relocate to 2000 Telshor Blvd. after construction is completed. Its current location on Foster Road will be available for lease.

Recent projects featured in Building Las Cruces

| Publish date | Building | Address | Contact |
|--------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Jan. 27 | NMSU Center for the Arts | University Avenue | http://artsci.nmsu.edu |
| Jan. 20 | The Children's Garden | 650 S. Valley Drive | 644-8017 |
| Jan. 13 | Police headquarters | 4055 Sonoma Ranch Blvd. | 528-3043 |
| Jan. 6 | Giant gas station | 1685 E. University Ave. | www.giant.com |
| Dec. 30 | Road construction | Valley Drive | 528-3125 |

Our numbers

180 million

Valentine's Day cards are exchanged annually in the U.S.

50 percent

of all Valentine's Day cards are purchased in the six days prior to the holiday

1,233

locations in the U.S. produce chocolate/cocoa products

\$14.4 billion

worth of chocolate and cocoa products were shipped for the 2007 holiday

\$2.2 billion

worth of merchandise was sold in U.S. jewelry stores in 2007

Source: Squidoo.com

Gas update

Monday, Jan. 30

Average retail gasoline prices in New Mexico have risen **3.2 cents** per gallon in the past week, averaging **\$3.05** per gallon. This compares with the national average that has increased **4.5 cents** per gallon in the last week to **\$3.39** per gallon.

Including the change in gas prices in New Mexico during the past week, prices Monday, Jan. 30, were **8.8 cents** per gallon higher than the same day one year ago and are **15 cents** per gallon higher than a month ago. The national average has increased **13.5 cents** during the last month and stands **30.4 cents** per gallon higher than one year ago.

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|--------|
| 1. Dylan's | 1900 N. Main St. | \$3.04 |
| 2. Bradley's | 1260 El Paseo Road | \$3.05 |
| 3. Sam's Club | 2711 N. Telshor Blvd. | \$3.06 |
| 4. Valero | 2695 W. Picacho Ave. | \$3.07 |
| 5. Valero | 1305 El Paseo Road | \$3.09 |

Source: www.newmexicogasprices.com

Adventure Travel Airfare Watch

| FROM EL PASO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT | LOWEST AVERAGE ONE-WAY FARE | CARRIER |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| Albuquerque | \$117.40 | Southwest |
| Atlanta | \$209.40 | US Airways |
| Austin | \$119.90 | United |
| Chicago | \$205.40 | US Airways |
| Dallas/Fort Worth | \$119.70 | American |
| Houston | \$161.70 | Southwest |
| Las Vegas | \$90.40 | US Airways |
| Los Angeles | \$132.40 | US Airways |
| Phoenix | \$69.70 | US Airways |
| San Antonio | \$112.90 | United |
| New York City | \$184.10 | US Airways |
| Washington, D.C. | \$160.40 | American |
| San Diego | \$110.40 | US Airways |
| London | \$765.90 | American |
| Paris | \$771.90 | US Airways |
| Rome | \$825.90 | Delta |

Source: Adventure Travel *Prices effective through Feb. 7 *Restrictions apply

Money

Comparing the U.S. dollar

Euro
\$1.31666 in U.S. dollars
0.7595 per U.S. dollar

Mexican Peso
\$0.07755 in U.S. dollars
12.895 per U.S. dollar

Japanese Yen
\$0.01312 in U.S. dollars
76.24002 per U.S. dollar

Source: www.msn.com



Market Snapshot

For the week of Jan. 23-27, the market reports:

| Index | Started | Ended | Change | % Change | % YTD |
|---------------|----------|----------|--------|----------|-------|
| DJIA | 12720.48 | 12660.46 | -60.02 | -0.5 | 3.6 |
| Nasdaq | 2786.7 | 2816.55 | 29.85 | 1.1 | 8.1 |

Strong: Household appliances, office services and supplies, specialized consumer services, life science tools and services, health care facilities, consumer electronics, insurance brokers, employment services

Weak: Internet retailers, real estate services

Source: http://briefing.com



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THE LAS CRUCES
Bulletin

All earnings are not created equal

Doing a little extra legwork can have long-term rewards

Jim Spence
Business Matters



One of the most critical questions an astute business analyst must continuously answer is, "What percentage of earnings must the company use for new equipment, plant upgrades and other improvements (capital expenditures) that must be done simply to maintain its existing competitive position and unit volume?"

Examples of businesses operating in high-capital expenditure industries are: airlines, auto manufacturers, chemical producers, heavy-machinery manufacturers, basic-material producers and truckers.

This basic question should be asked continuously because not all earnings are created equal.

While generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) attempt to standardize earnings reports, any business analyst worth his or her salt must understand and employ more sophisticated analysis techniques that enable the differentiation of so-called "GAAP earnings" from profits that are truly free for owner's to access and not necessary to reserve for ongoing capital expenditures.

The best way for a layperson to relate to "owner earning"

calculations is to think about local businesses that are particularly equipment intensive. These businesses seem to stay busy and employ large numbers of people.

However, sometimes it seems as if they can never find much of a breather between equipment replacement cycles. And, of course, each time they go to replace their equipment, inflation drives up the cost of their outlays. Additionally, anytime there is a general business slowdown, these businesses have expensive, unused machinery standing idle or worse yet, standing idle while the owner accrues interest payment liabilities.

These types of businesses mirror the high capital spending industries previously listed. In the stock market, these businesses will often trade at very low price-to-earnings ratios and appear to be "cheap."

However, the huge taxable earnings these companies tend to report actually masks the hidden liabilities of their inherent capital spending cycles. Effectively, huge cap-ex companies are dollar-swapping machines that produce far less real earnings available to shareholders than what appears at first glance.

Companies carrying no such balls and chains are operators that can grow unit volumes and sales volumes with little additional plant or equipment. Often at first glance, these companies will appear to be more expensive. However, knowing that all earnings are not created equal is one of the

first really important lessons we learned on our journey to becoming business analysts.

However, large purchases of property, plant and equipment, such as large GAAP earnings, can be deceiving. Take, for example, everyone's most enjoyable place to shop: Walmart. Walmart has a large capital-spending budget each year, some of which is used to open new stores and some of which is used to remodel existing stores. A new store, in theory, generates additional sales for the company while a remodeled store merely keeps customers returning and maintains existing sales. Thus, an analyst's next challenge is to estimate which capital expenditures will lead to growth and which will be crucial to maintain the company's current level of sales. Earnings are not created equally, like all capital spending is not created equally.

Calculating owner's earnings is not something anyone can do with pinpoint precision, even the company itself. Calculating the cycles associated with future maintenance capital expenditures often requires rough estimates and idealistic assumptions.

Legendary economist and investor John Maynard Keynes said, "I would rather be vaguely right than precisely wrong."

With this in mind, we still think it is worthwhile to do our best to estimate capital spending rather than to ignore it, just because some extra legwork is required in making this subjective estimate. Just as all earnings and all capital spending are not created equally, all stock analysis is not created equal. Extra legwork can upend all previous assumptions.

Jim Spence is the portfolio manager at Spence Asset Management Inc., a federally registered investment advisory firm in Las Cruces. He has been involved in the investment business since 1983.

Looking beyond U.S. stocks

Explore the world of international investments

You're probably accustomed to measuring the progress of your investments, and the overall condition of the investment world, by checking on indexes such as the Dow Jones Industrial Average and the S&P 500.

And since these types of benchmarks focus almost exclusively on American companies, you might get the idea that the best investments are located right here in the U.S. But that impression would be false, because there are a world of investment opportunities beyond the U.S. borders.

In fact, as of the end of 2010, U.S. stock markets constituted less than a third of the total global stock market value, according to the World Bank. And you can probably just look around at the products you use in your daily life to identify many successful foreign companies.

Why invest a portion of your portfolio internationally? Here are a couple of reasons to consider:

Growth potential. The United States is a mature, highly developed economy. That doesn't mean, of course, that we have no "upside" here. However, you can also find considerable growth potential in emerging markets – countries such as China, India, Brazil and Mexico that are characterized by younger, less mature economies.

Diversification. The world's financial markets are somewhat dependent on one another, but that doesn't mean they constantly move in unison. In any given year, the U.S. markets may be down, but international markets might be doing better. Consequently, if during that year, you had invested only in U.S. companies, your portfolio may have taken a hit. It's important to diversify your portfolio by investing in many different vehicles, but you can also boost your diversification through geography. (Keep in mind, though, that diver-

sification can't guarantee a profit or protect against loss.)

While international investing can be beneficial, it does not come without risks. For one thing, when you invest overseas, you may encounter political instability, which could threaten the financial markets of a country or region. Conversely, financial problems, such as the European debt crisis, can result in loss of confidence in individual governments. Also, you might experience currency risk,

which means that changes in the value of the U.S. dollar relative to foreign currencies could harm the value of your investments. In any given year, any market, foreign or domestic, may be down.

Ultimately, you should probably limit your exposure to international investments to no more than 20 to 25 percent of your overall portfolio, with the exact amount, if any, depending on your situation – your goals, risk tolerance, time horizon, financial situation and other factors. You may also want to add an international flavor to your portfolio by investing in quality U.S. companies that do a considerable amount of business abroad. In any case, given the more complex nature of international investing, you'll want to consult with a financial professional before writing a check.

Still, consider the international investment world. With a little exploring, you may discover some good possibilities out there.

This article was written by Edward Jones brought to you by local financial advisor Patrick Grooms. For more information, contact Grooms at 532-2012 or patrick.grooms@edwardjones.com. Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors do not provide tax or legal advice. You should consult with a qualified tax or legal specialist for professional advice on your specific situation.

“ You may also want to add an international flavor to your portfolio by investing in quality U.S. companies that do business abroad. ”

NMSU business professor makes 2012 predictions

New Mexico's economic recovery will remain sluggish as it grows at a slow pace this year

The state's economy will continue to grow at a tepid pace in 2012, mirroring the national recovery, according to an economist at New Mexico State University.

In his economic forecast for New Mexico, Jim Peach said the economy will generate between 8,000 and 12,000 non-farm payroll jobs this year, which is consistent with historic averages.

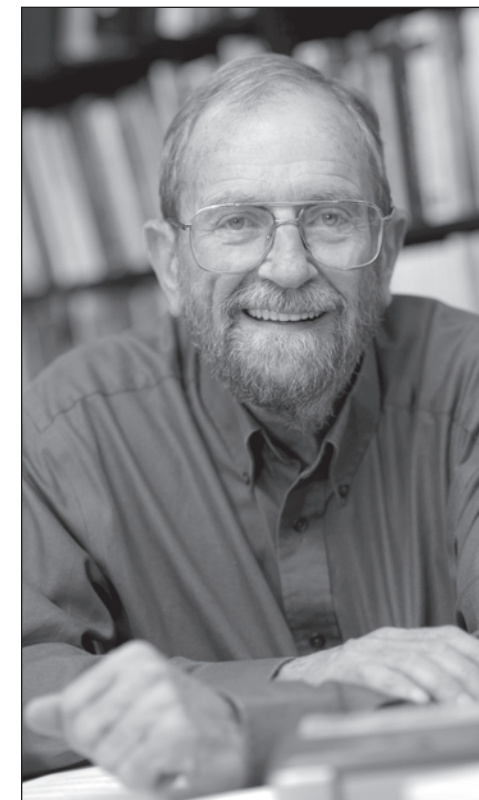
"Unfortunately, at this rate, it will take New Mexico three or four years to have as many jobs as we did when the state entered the recession in 2008," Peach said. "Even so, the New Mexico labor market appears to be in better shape than the national labor market."

Peach, expanding on the forecast he made at the January Economic Outlook Conference sponsored by NMSU's College of Business and Wells Fargo Bank, also said total personal income in New Mexico will grow between 4 and 5 percent, "within the range of recent history."

"In the last couple of years, New Mexico personal income has benefited from extraordinary increases in transfer payments and these are about to end," Peach said. "I am referring to the extraordinary federal dollars injected into New Mexico from the 2009 American Recovery and Re-investment Act."

As for the state's real gross domestic product, Peach is forecasting an increase between 2.5 and 4 percent. Whether the growth is closer to 2.5 or 4 percent will depend on two critical factors: the strength of the national economy and the price of oil and gas. According to the Wells Fargo forecast, the nation's economy is projected to grow by 2 percent.

"There is considerable uncertainty about both the national economy and oil and gas prices," Peach said. "The New Mexico economy tends to do well when the national economy



New Mexico State University photo
Jim Peach, an economist at New Mexico State University, said the state's economic recovery will remain sluggish in 2012.

does well. Energy prices are highly volatile; a change in oil prices of \$20 per barrel means a change in New Mexico real GDP of \$1 billion or more about 1.2 percent of the total. No one should be silly enough to think they can predict oil prices accurately."

Formula: Annual Cash Flow / Cash Investment = Cash on Cash Return Same-home sales on Camino Dos Vidas

| Date Sold | Sales Price | Annual Rental Income | Annual Expenses | Annual Cash Flow | Cash Investment | Cash on Cash Return |
|-----------|-------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| May 2006 | \$160,000 | \$10,200 (\$850 p/mo) | \$1,500 (\$125 p/mo) | \$8,700 (\$725 p/mo) | \$160,000 | 5.4% |
| Dec 2011 | \$120,000 | \$11,100 (\$925 p/mo) | \$2140 (\$178 p/mo) | \$8,960 (\$747 p/mo) | \$120,000 | 7.5% |

Now's the time to cash in Investors: No need to wait for the bottom

Gary Sandler's Real Estate Connection



All the components are in place: Las Cruces home prices are at 2004-05 levels, it's a buyer's market, mortgage rates are in the high-threes, rents are up and cash-on-cash returns are soaring.

What's a cash-on-cash return? In a nutshell, it's a so-called "napkin test" (rough calculation) used by investors to measure the ratio between a property's first-year cash flow before taxes and the initial cash investment. In real estate, it's a quick and easy way to determine which rental properties may potentially produce the highest returns.

Calculating the cash-on-cash return of investment (ROI) is easy. One simply divides the property's annual cash flow; after deducting operating expenses, i.e. property taxes, insurance, maintenance, vacancy factors and perhaps mortgage payments, by the amount of the cash investment. The resulting return is expressed as a percentage. Here's an example of how the ROI on a twice sold home on Camino Dos Vidas (a street near Engler Road and Mesa Grande on the East Mesa) increased by almost 36 percent over the past five and a half years.

The house in question sold new for \$160,000 in May 2006. For the purpose of simplifying the equation, let's assume an investor paid cash and rented the property for \$850 per month. After applying the formula (see table above), the annual cash-on-cash return settled in at 5.4 percent.

The property resold in December 2011 for \$120,000, and would now rent on the open market for at about \$925 per month. If you were December's purchaser, your first-year ROI would be approximately 7.5 percent. That's nearly a 40 percent increase over the return our 2004 investor may have realized on the very same home.

Since many investors finance their purchases utilizing a 20 percent down payment, a little additional math is required to calculate the return after taking the mortgage payments into consideration. I can tell you that the

napkin test indicates our December investor would realize a return of about 6.5 percent if he or she financed their purchase.

Since the formula works for all types of real estate, investors also use it to evaluate multifamily complexes, commercial and industrial properties, as well as other property-types that generate income. Most first-time investors like to start small, however, so here's a scenario that may pique your interest:

Approximately one-in-eight of the home, townhome and condominium sales closed in the last three months carried sales prices below \$100,000. A great example of an entry-level investment is the three bedroom, two bath, Telshor Boulevard area home that sold in December for \$72,000. Apply the napkin test to this investment that generates at least \$800 per month income, and an investor who financed the property with 20 percent down would realize a ROI of around 30 percent.

Would you be willing to assume a little more risk in exchange for a significantly higher return than is currently offered by your bank or brokerage house? If so, you may want to look into picking up a rental property, or two. An additional benefit to investors is that once the properties are paid off, the income is all theirs.

Before you start circling ads in the local real estate publications, keep in mind that there's more to buying an income property than just the napkin test. Other considerations, such as the time value of money, tax and retirement planning, projected depreciation, and other matters should be taken into account prior to taking the leap. Your trusted financial advisor, CPA or Realtor can provide the information you'll need to get started.

Who knows? With a little luck and the right kind of hairdo, you could be the next Donald Trump.

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, which broadcasts from 4 to 6 p.m. each Monday 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.

Jobs agenda of 2012 session

New proposals may be counterproductive



Chris Erickson
State of the Economy

The main topic at the New Mexico legislature is job creation.

To this end, Democratic lawmakers have introduced 11 bills that they claim will create jobs, but whether the bills will actually create jobs or not is an open question.

Some of the Democratic proposals engage in a level of micromanagement to the point of silliness. In this category falls a bill that would provide a \$5,000 credit for hiring a New Mexico resident who has graduated in the last 18 months from a state university. Good grief. Talk about government intrusion. Now they want to tell from which college your employees must have graduated.

Then there is a bill proposed by Sen. Mary Jane Garcia (D-Doña Ana) that would give a 25 percent tax credit to promote investment in sustainable energy technology. Sustainable energy gives us all warm fuzzies, but state government should not be in the business of developing energy policy.

Other proposals would provide a 25 percent tax credit to businesses that start up or expand in New Mexico, provide incentives to manufactures and give an incentive to raise pay for existing employees.

The problem with all these sorts of proposals is that they just don't work. They divert resources from programs with proven development track record to programs that benefit a few businesses but do not contribute to the general good.

The hit to economic development lower funding of proven development programs outweighs the any benefits from targeted

programs. Far better would be to promote programs that benefit the overall economy. Take roads construction, for example.

It provides jobs exactly to those who were most hurt by the latest recession, who are less well-educated males. Moreover, the government provided free roads as a subsidy to business, which after all uses the roads for transport (including the transport of commuting employees). Indeed, two of the 11 jobs bills proposed by the Democrats would authorize \$300 million in new construction.

Another worthwhile bill proposed by the Democrat solons is a bill authored by Sen. Steve Fischmann (D-Mesilla Park), which would eliminate tax pyramiding in the construction industry.

Tax pyramiding is the practice where a business making purchases from another New Mexico business must pay gross receipts tax on the product.

Later on, the GRT is charged again when the item is sold to the ultimate consumer thereby taxing the same item twice.

Fischmann's bill would provide the construction industry with \$110 million in tax relief but would pay for the benefit by eliminating certain business tax loopholes.

For that reason, the governor is supporting an alternative bill as she opposes any tax increase. In any case, eliminating pyramiding on construction should help that hard hit industry recover from the recession, which is a good thing.

Christopher A. Erickson, Ph.D., is an associate professor of economics at New Mexico State University. He has studied the New Mexico economy for more than a quarter century. The opinions expressed may not be shared by the regents or administration of NMSU. Erickson can be reached at cherrick@nmsu.edu.

“... promote programs that benefit the overall economy.”

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Community Foundation to help animal organization

Feral Cat Management Program hopes to increase funds

Courtesy of the Community Foundation of Southern New Mexico

A group of volunteers who dedicate time and money to the feral cat population on the New Mexico State University campus will now be able to increase their contributions and lessen their administrative workload after creating a special projects fund within the Community Foundation of Southern New Mexico (CFSNM).

The Feral Cat Management Program (FCaMP) began on the NMSU campus in

2002 in an attempt to stabilize the feral cat population on campus. The group employs the trap-neuter-return (TNR) methodology, in which the cats are trapped, surgically sterilized, vaccinated, microchipped, eartipped and returned to the area where they were trapped. In the case of abandoned or lost adult cats or kittens, the group fosters these felines until they can be returned to their owner or a permanent home can be found.

"We have provided vet services for approximately 250 cats," said Michelle Corella, a staff member at NMSU and program director

of FCaMP. "We are privately funded and what we are doing is working without costing the taxpayers money."

In January, FCaMP created a special projects fund within the CFSNM.

"I wanted to help out in any way I could, so I suggested the program establish itself under the Community Foundation as a special project," said FCaMP volunteer Anne Markman, who created a donor advised fund within the CFSNM with her husband. "Having a special interests fund frees up FCaMP to focus on their mission and not administrative work."

With special project funds, the CFSNM manages incoming donations, taxes, bookkeeping and the administrative process while recognizing contributors with a tax receipt and thank you letter on behalf of FCaMP. A 4 percent fee is paid to the CFSNM for administrative costs. Currently, the CFSNM manages 24 special projects funds.

"It is wonderful to have an organization like the Community Foundation willing to help a program like ours," Corella said. "This partnership is going to be beneficial for us."

FCaMP raises funds through private donations, yard sales, pastry fundraisers and collecting aluminum cans and inkjet printer cartridges for recycling. In the past, Corella managed all the funds raised in addition to her full-time job.

Over the years, FCaMP has reduced the cat population on campus by approximately two-thirds through a combination of TNR and finding homes for more than 100 lost or abandoned adult cats or kittens. Now less than 70 cats remain on campus, and over the past year there were only two litters known to be born on main campus.

"TNR is not just about trapping and releasing, it is also about finding homes when appropriate," Corella said.

When cats are returned back to campus, they are fed and monitored by FCaMP volunteers seven days a week.

The Community Foundation of Southern New Mexico is dedicated to helping the southern New Mexico community now, and in the future. Founded in 2000, the Community Foundation offers opportunities for local people who want to give back locally. The beauty of the foundation is that you need not be wealthy to make a positive difference in the lives of people throughout our area. 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 521-4794. To donate, mail your check to CFSNM, 301 S. Church St., Suite H, Las Cruces, NM 88001.

“ It is wonderful to have an organization like the Community Foundation willing to help ... ”



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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

NMSU Career Fair



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Samantha Roberts
Sarah Rush, a junior at New Mexico State University, talks with JBS Five Rivers feed manager Tres Tuttle Tuesday, Jan. 31, at the NMSU Career Fair in the Corbett Center Student Union. The biannual career fair was held Jan. 31-Feb. 1.

In Good Company: *Signz of the Time*

Bringing a bit of Hollywood to Las Cruces

Local memorabilia shop sells autographed posters, jerseys

By **Samantha Roberts**
Las Cruces Bulletin

Have you ever dreamed of getting an autograph from your favorite baseball player – the kind that you mount in a clear case for all of your friends to admire? Do you want a lucky jersey signed by your favorite quarterback?

All of this can be a reality thanks to Signz of the Time, an autograph and memorabilia store on Solano Drive.

Signz of the Time opened Nov. 1, 2011, by David Heynen, an entrepreneur and teacher who moved to Las Vegas, Nev., more than five years ago.

“People think we make signs, but the name actually stands for signatures,” said Patty Flores, general manager of Signz of the Time and Heynen’s mother. “We have pictures, jerseys, movie posters, T-shirts, etc.”

“My favorite is all of the jerseys. So many people come in just to look at our merchandise. Some come for hours just to stare at one picture.”

Though the store specializes in autographed collectibles, Flores said Signz of the Time has “a Las Cruces twist.”

“David put in other things for me,” she said. “Not everyone can afford to buy an expensive autographed picture, so we also carry other items that are inexpensive – knick knacks and stuff, regular jerseys, sports T-shirts and 8-by-11 (inch) pictures that are also autographed but not framed.”

Prices of the small autographed pictures start at around \$20, and Flores said jerseys are marked under mall prices.

“Jerseys can be expensive, and we want people to be able to afford them,” she said.

Flores said her son, who has a bachelor’s degree in history and Bible history, has always loved sports and movie history as well as general history.

After running a successful business in San Diego, Heynen moved to Las Cruces to be closer to his in-laws and family. He taught at Mesilla Valley Christian Schools for one year, and



Patty Flores, general manager of Signz of the Time, holds up an Emmitt Smith Dallas Cowboys jersey. The jersey, along with other signed memorabilia, is available at Signz of the Time, 824 S. Solano Drive.

Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Samantha Roberts

was offered a job at a high school in Las Vegas teaching 10th- to 12th-graders, Flores said.

In Las Vegas, he started managing memorabilia at Planet Hollywood and decided to follow his passion – collectibles.

“The store (in Las Vegas) closed, and David started his own company,” said Flores, adding that Signz of the Time is an extension of Heynen’s Las Vegas business. “David arranges signings with celebrities or he gets the items from a trusted source.”

To get these sought-after items, Flores said David’s self-confidence has significantly helped.

“David is very confident; he has never been afraid to walk right onto a set and ask someone to sign something,” she said. “Sometimes, if he knows a movie star or football player is in town, he will go to their hotel and ask them to send up something to sign.”

To show validity, Flores said each item from the store comes with a certificate of authenticity.

Bringing a store that is typically found in a bigger city to Las Cruces was a leap of faith, but Flores said she thinks they have something special.

“Having a memorabilia store in Las Cruces is unlike anything else,” she said. “There is nothing like this in Las Cruces or in El Paso as far as I know.”

Details

Signz of the Time

Address
824 S. Solano Drive

Phone
640-0234

Hours
11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Tuesday through Saturday

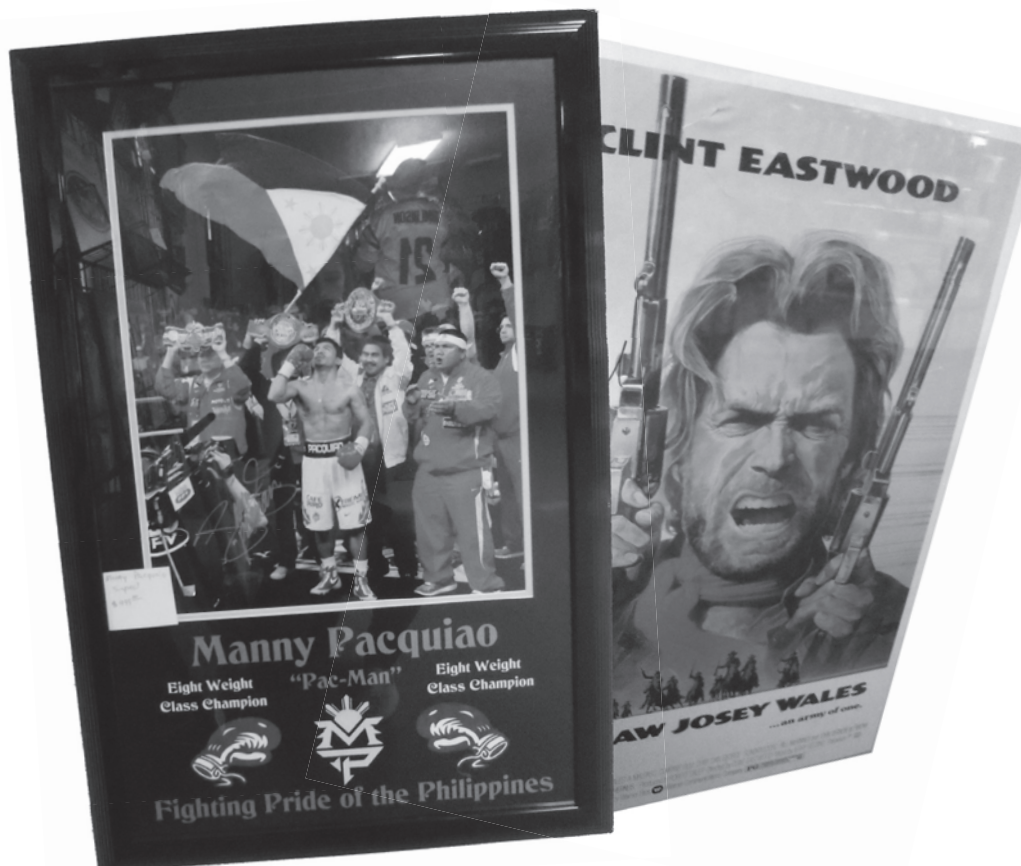
“It’s kind of like a little museum.” And if there is something a guest is looking for, but can’t find, Flores said she can try to get it.


“David has a lot of things on hand and, if he doesn’t, he will work really hard to try and find it,” she said.

In the future, Flores said Signz of the Time will have a custom framing and matting business in the back.

“David does a lot of the framing and matting himself,” she said. “He also has one guy that helps him out. I think having a framing and matting store would be a natural transition.”

For more information about Signz of the Time, call 640-0234 or visit 824 S. Solano Drive.





PUBLIC MEETING

Las Cruces Flood Control Dam Comprehensive Maintenance Plan

The Las Cruces Dam was built around 1970 and protects approximately two-thirds of the entire City population (see map to right). To maintain its critical function and to incorporate maintenance, vegetation, and animal management, a Comprehensive Maintenance Plan for the Las Cruces Dam is being developed. The Comprehensive Plan will supplement the current Operation & Maintenance Plan. The public is encouraged to attend the first **public meeting** to learn about this crucial project and to provide insights and ideas regarding the development of the maintenance plan.

The first meeting will be:
Thursday, February 9
5:30-7 P.M.
City Hall
Council Chambers
700 N. Main Street



STUDY AREA

sites southwest **Bohannon** **Huston**

For additional information or questions, please contact the Public Works Department, Engineering Services Section at 575-528-3171.

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Briefs

El Paso Electric CEO submits resignation

David Stevens, CEO of the El Paso Electric (EPE) Co., notified the board of directors in a letter Monday, Jan. 30, he is resigning his position effective March 2, to pursue another job opportunity.

The board announced Thomas Shockley, EPE director and former vice chairman of American Electric Power (AEP), will serve as interim CEO, effective with Stevens' resignation, while a search is under way to find a successor to Stevens. The search will consider both internal and external candidates for the position.

Stevens said he has great respect for Shockley's decades of utility experience, and he will assist him in any way he can during the transition to Shockley assuming the responsibility as CEO.

"I have really enjoyed my three plus years at the helm of EPE," Stevens said. "I very much appreciate having had the opportunity to work with EPE's talented and dedicated employees and to meet and serve the people in El Paso and the other areas of West Texas and southern New Mexico served by EPE."

Rep. Andy Nuñez receives award from NM Farm & Livestock Bureau

Rep. Andy Nuñez, a farmer and rancher from Hatch and House Representative for District 36, was chosen as the New Mexico Farm & Livestock Bureau's Distinguished Service to Agriculture recipient. Nuñez is a member of

the Water and Natural Resources, Education and Transportation and Public Works committees. He received a bachelor's degree in animal science from New Mexico State University in 1963, and then a master's degree in 1973. He has worked for the USDA in Gallup, as NM-SU's director of International Programs and as the executive director of the Puerto Rico Farm Bureau. He still farms onions, chile, pecans and alfalfa, and he and his wife Carolyn have five children, 18 grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

Acquisition of NAI Global by C-III Capital Partners is complete

NAI Global announced its previously reported acquisition by C-III Capital Partners LLC (C-III) has been completed. The transaction will help create a leading, fully integrated commercial property services company that will operate in markets around the world.

NAI 1st Valley is the local member of NAI Global. Randy McMillan CCIM, SIOR, qualifying broker of NAI 1st Valley, is especially encouraged by this move.

"CIII is a powerhouse - this month they were named as the No. 1 company to watch in 2012 by Real Estate Forum magazine," McMillan said. "They have acquired the top managed network in the world - together both companies will have great opportunities in this market. Locally, we anticipate that Las Cruces will have more opportunities to be in front of global investors because of our association with Andrew Farkus."

C-III is a leading commercial real estate services company engaged in a broad range of

activities, including primary and special loan servicing, loan origination, fund management, CDO management, principal investment, title services and multifamily property management. C-III is led by CEO Andrew L. Farkas, who founded and was chairman and CEO of Insignia Financial Group Inc. (NYSE:IFS). Its principal place of business is located in Irving, Texas, and it has additional offices in New York; Greenville, S.C.; McLean, Va.; Chicago; Dallas; and Nashville, Tenn.

NAI 1st Valley's General Manager Louis Edwards is also optimistic: "NAI Global is a unique collection of successful entrepreneur brokerages - clearly an entrepreneur like Andrew Farkus knows the value of associating with this network of successful firms. We know that selection of service providers must remain at arm's length and on a case by case basis, but CIII owns the commercial paper of many major properties in New Mexico and Las Cruces and we look forward to competing for the right to service those properties."

NAI Global will continue to operate as a separate company under its current management. C-III will accelerate NAI Global's growth by exploring business development opportunities in strategic locations, including New York, London, Singapore and other primary global business centers. It will also invest in the growth of the corporate solutions and capital markets offering, expanding asset/property management, project/facilities management and valuation services worldwide.

"The completion of this transaction represents a significant step forward in our strategy to build a fully diversified commercial real estate services company," Farkas said. "With the NAI Global acquisition, we are gaining the world's leading commercial real


estate network and a tremendous foundation for future growth. As we begin a new year, we look forward to partnering with the NAI team to provide enhanced services to the commercial and institutional real estate markets they serve as well as continuing to take advantage of other opportunities to grow and expand our platform."

"We are thrilled to be joining forces with C-III and excited about the opportunity to deliver an even broader range of services to our members and add greater value to our collective corporate and investment clients," said Jeffrey M. Finn, president and CEO of NAI Global. "We look forward to tapping into their extensive resources and expertise to assist all of our clients in strategically optimizing their commercial real estate assets."


Founded in 1977 by Gerald Finn, NAI Global has grown from covering 15 countries in 1999 to offering a full, collaborative platform of services to clients in more than 350 offices in 55 countries, with more than 300 million square feet of commercial space under management.

C-III commenced operations with the purchase of Centerline Capital Group's institutional real estate debt fund management and commercial mortgage loan servicing businesses in March 2010. Since that time, C-III has successfully launched mortgage origination, investment sales and title insurance businesses, and expanded its principal investment, loan origination, fund management and primary and special loan servicing businesses, including acquiring the special servicing and CDO management businesses of JER Partners in August 2011.

Financial terms of the NAI Global acquisition were not disclosed.

|  City of Las Cruces Building Permit Report January 25-30 | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|----------|--------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Building Industry Association of Southern New Mexico | | | | | | |
| Permit # | Permittee | Owner | Project | Address | Value | Permit |
| 20120521 | Five Storie Construction | Caren Hutchinson | Reroof | 2690 Stellar Way | \$9,000 | \$80.78 |
| 20120518 | Milliken Construction | Joe T. Hernandez | Reroof | 541 E. Chestnut Ave. | \$7,000 | \$74.89 |
| 20120496 | Summit Development | Rinconada Development of Las Cruces LLC | Res/New | 3200 Rio Arriza Loop | \$217,792 | \$4,788.84 |
| 20120516 | Crestline Building Corp. | Housing Authority of the City of Las Cruces | Comm/New | 1505 Casa Drive | \$42,561 | \$252.16 |
| 20120519 | Gilbert & Sons Roofing & Plastering | Glenna D. Poet | Reroof | 1060 Birch Drive | \$5,695 | \$61.31 |
| 20120497 | B and L Roofing Inc. | Jose L. and Luz M. Reyes | Reroof | 1315 Paxton St. | \$5,000 | \$57.22 |
| 20120540 | Sherry Curlee | Sherry Curlee | Reroof | 1918 Sheryl Way | \$1,800 | \$43.90 |
| 20120546 | P and S Construction | Allan Ferrera | Reroof | 1020 Candeleras St. | \$4,518 | \$54.38 |
| 20120548 | Progreen Superior Coating and Roofing Inc. | Karen K. Ross and Georgiana R. Webb | Reroof | 1805 Imperial Ridge | \$9,600 | \$84.31 |
| 20120569 | GMJ Enterprises | Three Crosses Joint Venture | Reroof | 123 Scotland Court | \$9,000 | \$80.78 |
| 20120567 | DR Horton Cruces Construction Inc. | DR Horton Inc. | Res/New | 5888 Organ Peak Drive | \$164,410 | \$4,697.70 |
| 20120498 | B and L Roofing Inc. | Virginia F. Berger | Reroof | 2147 Stone Pine Drive | \$6,000 | \$63.11 |
| 20120488 | YCF Construction | David Gregory Gallegos | Reroof | 2250 Thomas Drive | \$13,328 | \$106.27 |
| 20120577 | Victory Construction | Jimmie C. and Martha T. Robinson | Reroof | 3117 Missouri Ave. | \$5,500 | \$60.16 |
| 20120581 | Erasmio's Roofing LLC | Igor B. and Elena B. Sevostianov | Reroof | 5027 Desert Shadow Place | \$9,696 | \$84.88 |

* Information from BIA-SNM is provided by City of Las Cruces and Doña Ana County permit offices

|  Doña Ana County Building Permit Report January 25-30 | | | | | |
|---|------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------|-------------------------|---------|
| Building Industry Association of Southern New Mexico | | | | | |
| Permit # | Contractor | Owner | Project | Address | Permit |
| 37140 | Summit Development | Summit Development | Res/New | 1144 Cactus Wren Court | \$771 |
| 37142 | Timberland Construction Inc. | Hatch Area Med Center Foundation | Reroof | 1300 Thorpe Road | \$330 |
| 37143 | Ridgetop Construction | James McCune | Reroof | 5091 Baylor Canyon | \$100 |
| 37144 | G. Bishop Roofing | William B. and Maryann Harris | Reroof | 5493 La Paloma St. | \$110 |
| 37151 | Self | Jesus and Maria Pinales | Reroof | 5776 Crest Drive | \$90 |
| 37152 | Caliente Construction | State of New Mexico/AT&T | Reroof | 20000 Corralitos Road | \$1,540 |
| 37156 | Self | Loren and Mary Burke McDaniel | Res/New | 3505 RiversEdge Lane | \$940 |
| 37157 | Desert Song LLC | Paulette Nibler | Reroof | 653 Shadow Valley Drive | \$110 |

* Information from BIA-SNM is provided by City of Las Cruces and Doña Ana County permit offices

LEGAL NOTICES

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

STATE OF NEW MEXICO COUNTY OF DOÑA ANA THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

No. D-307-CV-201101771

WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL NEW MEXICO, INC., Plaintiff,

v.

JACENTA GARCIA,
CRISOFORO GARCIA
AND THE STATE OF NEW
MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF
TAXATION & REVENUE,
Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned Special Master will on February 9, 2012 at 1:00 PM, Front entrance to the Doña Ana County District Court, 201 W. Picacho, Las Cruces, NM, sell and convey to the highest bidder for cash all the right, title, and interest of the above-named defendants in and to the following described real estate located in said County and State:

Lot 1, Block 6, SUNLAND PARK SUBDIVISION - PLAT NO. 1, in Doña Ana County, New Mexico, as shown and designated on the plat thereof, filed in the office of the County Clerk of said County on August 5, 1976, in Book 12 Pages 71-73 of Plat Records.

The address of the real property is 181 Manzana Ave, Sunland Park, NM 88063. Plaintiff does not represent or warrant that the stated street address is the street address of the described property; if the street address does not match the legal description, then the property being sold herein is the property more particularly described above, not the property located at the street address; any prospective purchaser at the sale is given notice that it should verify the location and address of the property being sold. Said sale will be made pursuant to the judgment entered on December 6, 2011 in the above entitled and numbered cause, which was a suit to foreclose a mortgage held by the above Plaintiff and wherein Plaintiff was adjudged to have a lien against the above-described real estate in the sum of \$71,587.97 plus interest from November 6, 2011 to the date of sale at the rate of 11.130% per annum, the costs of sale, including the Special Master's fee, publication costs, and Plaintiff's costs expended for taxes, insurance, and keeping the property in good repair. Plaintiff has the right to bid at such sale and submit its bid verbally or in writing. The Plaintiff may apply all or any part of its judgment to the purchase price in lieu of cash.

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

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

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN

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

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

Jeffrey Lake
Special Master
Southwest Support Group
20 First Plaza NW, Suite #20
Albuquerque, NM 87102

NM11-00566_FC01

Pub # 11440
Dates 1/13, 1/20, 1/27, 2/3,
2012

STATE OF NEW MEXICO COUNTY OF DOÑA ANA THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

No. D-307-CV-201101622

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., Plaintiff,

v.

THE UNKNOWN HEIRS,
DEWISEES, OR LEGATEES OF
STACEY JEAN WILLIAMS,
DECEASED, UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA BY AND
THROUGH THE SECRETARY
OF HOUSING AND URBAN
DEVELOPMENT AND THE
UNKNOWN SURVIVING
SPOUSE OF STACEY
JEAN WILLIAMS, IF ANY,
Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned Special Master will on February 9, 2012 at 1:00 PM, Front entrance to the Doña Ana County District Court, 201 W. Picacho, Las Cruces, NM, sell and convey to the highest bidder for cash all the right, title, and interest of the above-named defendants in and to the following described real estate located in said County and State:

Lot numbered 16 in Block numbered C of Country Acre Phase 3A, Doña Ana County, New Mexico, as the same is shown and designated on the plat of said Country Acre Phase 3A, filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Doña Ana County, New Mexico on June 5, 1991 in Plat Book 17, Folio 36-37.

The address of the real property is 850 Hummingbird Drive, Las Cruces, NM 88007. Plaintiff does not represent or warrant that the stated street address is the street address of the described property; if the street address does not match the legal description, then the property being sold herein is the property more particularly described above, not the property located at the street address; any prospective purchaser at the sale is given notice

that it should verify the location and address of the property being sold. Said sale will be made pursuant to the judgment entered on December 8, 2011 in the above entitled and numbered cause, which was a suit to foreclose a mortgage held by the above Plaintiff and wherein Plaintiff was adjudged to have a lien against the above-described real estate in the sum of \$75,967.87 plus interest from October 26, 2011 to the date of sale at the variable rate per annum, the costs of sale, including the Special Master's fee, publication costs, and Plaintiff's costs expended for taxes, insurance, and keeping the property in good repair. Plaintiff has the right to bid at such sale and submit its bid verbally or in writing. The Plaintiff may apply all or any part of its judgment to the purchase price in lieu of cash.

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

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

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

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

Jeffrey Lake
Special Master
Southwest Support Group
20 First Plaza NW, Suite #20
Albuquerque, NM 87102

NM11-00065_FC01

Pub # 11441
Dates 1/13, 1/20, 1/27, 2/3,
2012

STATE OF NEW MEXICO COUNTY OF DOÑA ANA THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

No. D-307-CV-201101383

BAC HOME LOANS SERVICING, LP FKA COUNTRYWIDE HOME LOANS SERVICING LP, Plaintiff,

v.

KATHRYN ANN KIRKER
AND THE UNKNOWN

SPOUSE OF KATHRYN ANN KIRKER, IF ANY, Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned Special Master will on February 9, 2012 at 1:00 PM, Front entrance to the Doña Ana County District Court, 201 W. Picacho, Las Cruces, NM, sell and convey to the highest bidder for cash all the right, title, and interest of the above-named defendants in and to the following described real estate located in said County and State:

LOT 14 IN BLOCK B OF COUNTRY CLUB PARK SUBDIVISION NUMBER ONE REVISED, LOCATED IN THE CITY OF LAS CRUCES, DOÑA ANA, NEW MEXICO, AS THE SAME IS SHOWN AND DESIGNATED ON THE PLAT THEREOF FILED FOR RECORD IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK OF DOÑA ANA, NEW MEXICO APRIL 17, 1959 AND RECORDED IN BOOK 8 AT PAGES 44, PLAT RECORDS.

The address of the real property is 1555 Camino Del Rex, Las Cruces, NM 88001. Plaintiff does not represent or warrant that the stated street address is the street address of the described property; if the street address does not match the legal description, then the property being sold herein is the property more particularly described above, not the property located at the street address; any prospective purchaser at the sale is given notice that it should verify the location and address of the property being sold. Said sale will be made pursuant to the judgment entered on December 6, 2011 in the above entitled and numbered cause, which was a suit to foreclose a mortgage held by the above Plaintiff and wherein Plaintiff was adjudged to have a lien against the above-described real estate in the sum of \$91,632.27 plus interest from September 6, 2011 to the date of sale at the rate of 5.750% per annum, the costs of sale, including the Special Master's fee, publication costs, and Plaintiff's costs expended for taxes, insurance, and keeping the property in good repair. Plaintiff has the right to bid at such sale and submit its bid verbally or in writing. The Plaintiff may apply all or any part of its judgment to the purchase price in lieu of cash.

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

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

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the real property and improvements concerned with herein will be sold subject to any and all patent reservations, easements, all recorded and unrecorded liens not foreclosed herein, and all recorded and unrecorded special assessments and taxes that may be

due. Plaintiff and its attorneys disclaim all responsibility for, and the purchaser at the sale takes the property subject to, the valuation of the property by the County Assessor as real or personal property, affixture of any mobile or manufactured home to the land, deactivation of title to a mobile or manufactured home on the property, if any, environmental contamination on the property, if any, and zoning violations concerning the property, if any.

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

Jeffrey Lake
Special Master
Southwest Support Group
20 First Plaza NW, Suite #20
Albuquerque, NM 87102

NM00-01908_FC01

Pub # 11442
Dates 1/13, 1/20, 1/27, 2/3,
2012

STATE OF NEW MEXICO COUNTY OF DOÑA ANA THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

No. D-307-CV-200900867

NATIONAL CITY MORTGAGE CO. DBA ACCUBANC MORTGAGE, Plaintiff,

v.

OSCAR PORTILLO AKA
OSCAR L. PORTILLO,
SANDRA PORTILLO,
SANDRA P. PORTILLO,
BETTY JANE PETTIT,
THE STATE OF NEW
MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF
TAXATION & REVENUE,
OCCUPANTS, WHOSE TRUE
NAMES ARE UNKNOWN
AND THE UNKNOWN
SPOUSE OF BETTY
JANE PETTIT, IF ANY,
Defendant(s).

SECOND NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned Special Master will on February 8, 2012 at 10:00 AM, Front entrance to the Doña Ana County District Court, 201 W. Picacho, Las Cruces, NM, sell and convey to the highest bidder for cash all the right, title, and interest of the above-named defendants in and to the following described real estate located in said County and State:

EXHIBIT "A"
SEPTEMBER 1, 1998
DESCRIPTION OF A 1.404
ACRE TRACT
A tract of land situate South of Anthony, Doña Ana County, New Mexico, located in Section 9, T.27S., R.3E., N.M.P.M. of the U.S.R.S. Surveys, being more particularly described as follows, to wit:

BEGINNING at a 1/2" iron rod set on the West line of the Nemexas Drain for the Northeast corner of this tract:

WHENCE, the Section corner common to sections 4, 5, 8, and 9, T.27S., R.3E., N.M.P.M. of the U.S.R.S. Surveys, bears N.38°47'02" W., 786.57 feet;

THENCE, from the point of beginning and along the West line of the Nemexas Drain, S. 09°11'00" E., a distance of 222.31 feet to a 1/2" iron rod set for the Southeast corner of this tract;

THENCE, leaving the Nemexas

Drain, S. 82°35'44" W., a distance of 276.82 feet to a 1/2" iron rod set for the Southwest corner of this tract;

THENCE, N. 08°50'01" W., a distance of 220.92 feet to a 1/2" iron rod set on the Southerly line of U.S.R.S. Tract 29-32A2 for the Northwest corner of this tract;

THENCE, N.82°18'52"E., a distance of 275.44 feet to the point of beginning, enclosing 1.404 acres of land, more or less, Subject to easements and reservations of record.

Information in the preparation of this description derives from Special Warranty Deed filed September 3, 1996, in Book 63, Pages 757-762, of the Doña Ana County Records. A plat was prepared under Job No. 98-08-0652. Field Notes by SCANLON WHITE, INC., License No. 9433.

The address of the real property is 9063 West Side Road, Anthony, NM 88021. Plaintiff does not represent or warrant that the stated street address is the street address of the described property; if the street address does not match the legal description, then the property being sold herein is the property more particularly described above, not the property located at the street address; any prospective purchaser at the sale is given notice that it should verify the location and address of the property being sold. Said sale will be made pursuant to the judgment entered on January 25, 2010 in the above entitled and numbered cause, which was a suit to foreclose a mortgage held by the above Plaintiff and wherein Plaintiff was adjudged to have a lien against the above-described real estate in the sum of \$150,607.39 plus interest from September 30, 2009 to the date of sale at the rate of 8.375% per annum, the costs of sale, including the Special Master's fee, publication costs, and Plaintiff's costs expended for taxes, insurance, and keeping the property in good repair. Plaintiff has the right to bid at such sale and submit its bid verbally or in writing. The Plaintiff may apply all or any part of its judgment to the purchase price in lieu of cash.

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

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

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

or personal property, affixture of any mobile or manufactured home to the land, deactivation of title to a mobile or manufactured home on the property, if any, environmental contamination on the property, if any, and zoning violations concerning the property, if any.

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

Pamela Carmody
Special Master
Special Master
P.O. Box 16169
Las Cruces, NM 88004

NM00-00410_FC01

Pub # 11443
Dates 1/13, 1/20, 1/27, 2/3,
2012

STATE OF NEW MEXICO COUNTY OF DOÑA ANA THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

No. D-307-CV-201102414

BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., AS SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO BAC HOME LOANS SERVICING, LP, Plaintiff,

v.

ANN MARIE LYSGAARD,
MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC
REGISTRATION SYSTEMS,
INC. (SOLELY AS NOMINEE
FOR LENDER AND
LENDER'S SUCCESSORS
AND ASSIGNS) AND THE
UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF
ANN MARIE LYSGAARD,
Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned Special Master will on February 9, 2012 at 1:00 PM, Front entrance to the Doña Ana County District Court, 201 W. Picacho, Las Cruces, NM, sell and convey to the highest bidder for cash all the right, title, and interest of the above-named defendants in and to the following described real estate located in said County and State:

Lot numbered 14 in Block numbered 3 of The Mission Subdivision, Unit No 2, Las Cruces, Doña Ana County, New Mexico, as the same is shown and designated on the plat of said The Mission Subdivision, unit No 2, filed in the office of the County Clerk of Doña Ana County, New Mexico on November 13, 1997 in plat Book 19, Folio 7-8

The address of the real property is 2228 Santa Ana, Las Cruces, NM 88011-7002. Plaintiff does not represent or warrant that the stated street address is the street address of the described property; if the street address does not match the legal description, then the property being sold herein is the property more particularly described above, not the property located at the street address; any prospective purchaser at the sale is given notice that it should verify the location and address of the property being sold. Said sale will be made pursuant to the judgment entered on December 15, 2011 in the above entitled and numbered cause, which was a suit to foreclose a mortgage held by the above Plaintiff and wherein Plaintiff was adjudged to have a lien against the above-described real estate in the sum of \$189,671.53 plus interest from November 17, 2011 to

the date of sale at the rate of 6.250% per annum, the costs of sale, including the Special Master's fee, publication costs, and Plaintiff's costs expended for taxes, insurance, and keeping the property in good repair. Plaintiff has the right to bid at such sale and submit its bid verbally or in writing. The Plaintiff may apply all or any part of its judgment to the purchase price in lieu of cash.

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

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

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

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

Jeffrey Lake
Special Master
Southwest Support Group
20 First Plaza NW, Suite #20
Albuquerque, NM 87102

NM00-02469_FC01

Pub # 11444
Dates 1/13, 1/20, 1/27, 2/3,
2012

STATE OF NEW MEXICO COUNTY OF DOÑA ANA THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

No. D-307-CV-201102122

OCWEN LOAN SERVICING, LLC, Plaintiff,

v.

LYDIA BELINDA GALLEGOS,
THE STATE OF NEW
MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF
TAXATION & REVENUE,
BANK OF AMERICA,
NA AND W. H. PARTIN,
Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned Special Master will on February 9, 2012 at 1:00 PM, Front entrance to the Doña Ana County District Court, 201 W. Picacho, Las Cruces, NM, sell and convey to the highest bidder for cash all the right, title, and inter-

Connecting New Mexico at Las Cruces Day in Santa Fe

Photos by Theresa Montoya Basaldua



New Mexico State University President Barbara Couture was all smiles at the Governor's Reception held Sunday at the Governor's Residence in Santa Fe.



Tracey Bryan, CEO of The Bridge of Southern New Mexico, spoke to LCDSF attendees about the importance of funding dual-credit programs.



State Rep. Terry McMillian accepts his gift from Conquistadore Chair Sarah Stegall and Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce board Chair Richard Haas Sunday, Jan. 29, at Las Cruces Day in Santa Fe, a weekend event that connects southern New Mexico with legislators in Santa Fe.

During the Governor's Reception, Gov. Susana Martinez welcomed guests to her home and celebrated the work that helps bridge the gap between northern and southern New Mexico.



Dolores Connor and Laura Smart



Andrea Fletcher, Christine Woods, Leslie Cervantes with Las Cruces Public Schools and Amber Gonzalez

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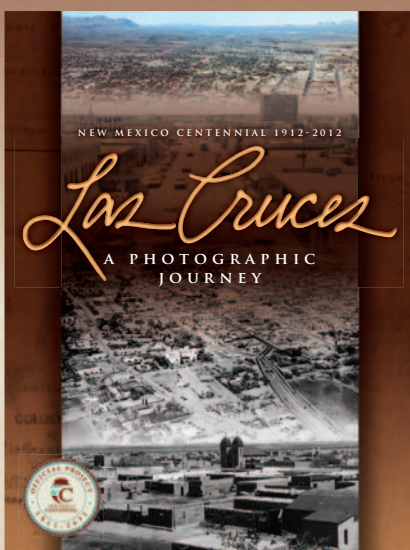
Mountain View Market Co-op
1300 El Paseo Rd.

Stahmanns
22505 S. Hwy. 28 & 2030 Calle de Parian

Truck Farm
940 N. Valley Dr.

Wright Jewelers
1300 El Paseo Rd.

Las Cruces Bulletin
840 N. Telshor Blvd., Ste E



For more information, call the Las Cruces Bulletin at 524-8061.

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11 A.M. - 4 P.M.
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To participate or for more information about the Las Cruces Bridal & Special Events Showcase, call Helping Hands at 522-1232. To place an ad in this Perfect Southwest Weddings 2012, call the Las Cruces Bulletin at 524-8061.

WWW.LASCRUCESBRIDALSHOWCASE.COM



THE LAS CRUCES Bulletin



Las Cruces Day in Santa Fe Chair Stacie Christiano, Stegall, Martinez and Haas



Miss New Mexico Teen USA Jacqueline Cai and Miss New Mexico USA Jessica Martin attended the reception.



Christine Anderson, executive director of New Mexico Spaceport Authority, listens to guest speakers during the Sunday brunch.



Chamber Conquistadores led and sponsored LCDSF events.



Kiel Hoffman and Denni and Mike Cheney, NMSU regent

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HOW TO BUILD A BRAND

Join the Advertising Federation on Tuesday, February 14 as national speaker DJ Heckes will demonstrate how to build a brand to differentiate yourself. Heckes is the owner of EXHIB-IT! Tradeshow Marketing Experts in Albuquerque and is also author of Full BRAIN Marketing for the Small Business.

You will learn:

- Branding through relationship building
- Global brands and correlation to relationship building
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- Measurement of brand success
- 14 ways to create YOUR brand

All attendees will receive a free copy of Full BRAIN Marketing for the Small Business!

Tuesday, February 14 • 11:45 am

Lorenzo's Ristorante Italiano
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\$15 for members, \$18 for guests
RSVP by Friday, February 10 to 647-4676 or adfedlc@gmail.com

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2010 Volkswagen Jetta Turbo Diesel Best Test Certified, Balance of Factory Warranty! Sisbarro Price **\$18,883***

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(Used #A12002. Tax, title license & dealer transfer service fee additional)

| | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| <p>2006 CHRYSLER SEBRING CONVERTIBLE</p> <p>V6, Automatic, AC, CD Player, Cruise Control, Tilt Wheel, Leather Seats, Power Windows! Used #M17859A.</p> <p>Was: \$9,986 NOW ONLY \$6,986*</p> | <p>2002 AUDI A6 QUATTRO</p> <p>V6, 4Dr, Automatic, AC, CD Player, Cruise Control, Tilt Wheel, All Power! Used #A12014A.</p> <p>Was: \$9,923 NOW ONLY \$6,923*</p> | <p>2009 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA TDI</p> <p>Best Test Certified, 3Sp, Sunroof, Diesel! Used #VW8933A.</p> <p>Was: \$11,990 NOW ONLY \$8,990*</p> | <p>2003 FORD MUSTANG LX</p> <p>V6, 2Dr, Automatic, AC, AM/FM Stereo, CD Player, Cruise Control, Tilt Wheel, All Power, Alloy Wheels! Used #VW8914A2.</p> <p>Was: \$9,959 NOW ONLY \$6,959*</p> | <p>2001 BMW 325I AWD</p> <p>5Sp, Leather Seats, Sunroof! Used #A12006B.</p> <p>Was: \$10,300 NOW ONLY \$7,300*</p> |
| <p>2004 VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT</p> <p>4Dr, AC, AM/FM Stereo, CD Player, Cruise Control, Tilt Wheel, All Power! Used #A11959A.</p> <p>Was: \$11,708 NOW ONLY \$8,708*</p> | <p>2008 KIA OPTIMA LX</p> <p>Best Test Certified, Automatic, AC! Used #A12041.</p> <p>Was: \$12,987 NOW ONLY \$9,987*</p> | <p>2007 LINCOLN MKZ AWD</p> <p>V6, AC, AM/FM Stereo, CD Player, Cruise Control, Tilt Wheel, All Power, Leather Seats, Sunroof! Used #VW8961A.</p> <p>Was: \$16,853 NOW ONLY \$13,853*</p> | <p>2011 TOYOTA COROLLA</p> <p>Best Test Certified, Balance of Warranty, 4Dr, 5Sp, AC, Cruise Control, Tilt Wheel, All Power! Used #A12093A.</p> <p>Was: \$17,999 NOW ONLY \$14,999*</p> | <p>2010 CHEVROLET CAMARO LT</p> <p>Balance of Warranty, V6, Automatic, Power Seats! Used #A12087.</p> <p>Was: \$24,999 NOW ONLY \$21,999*</p> |

*All deals with approved credit, plus tax, title, license and dealer service transfer fee. Photos for illustration purposes only. See dealer for complete details. When all factory maintenance as recommended by original owners manual is performed by Sisbarro. *All deals with approved credit, plus tax, title, license and dealer transfer service fee. Credit acceptance does not guarantee credit approval. Photos for illustration purposes only. Prior sales excluded. #1 volume based on YEAR TO DATE Polk Cross-Sell Report. 133-point certification of mechanical components, power accessories and electrical systems to ensure working order at time of purchase, does not assure overall condition or future roadworthiness of vehicle. Lifetime powertrain coverage only on vehicles five years from most current model year includes engine (except for carburetor and gasoline/diesel fuel injection components) front wheel drive, rear wheel drive and transmission. 72-hour exchange for vehicle of equal value. See Sisbarro for additional details. ** Used# A12060, 06 Suzuki Grand Vitara \$10,968 Sale Price, half payments based on 10% Down, 4% APR, OAC @ 72 months, \$84/mo. for first 6 months, then reverts back to \$169 per month for remainder of term at 4% APR @66months. Tax, title, license & dealer transfer service fee additional. See dealer for details. 11-102230



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NEXT WEEK

Countdown to V-Day
Surprise your sweetie with a Valentine's weekend starting Feb. 10

"Why love if losing hurts so much? I have no answers any more. Only the life I have lived. Twice in that life I've been given the choice: as a boy and as a man. The boy chose safety, the man chooses suffering. The pain now is part of the happiness then. That's the deal."

— CLIVE STAPLES LEWIS

shadowlands

THE TRUE STORY OF C.S. LEWIS' LOVE AND LOSS, OPENING AT
THE LAS CRUCES COMMUNITY THEATRE FEB. 3.



The veil between life and death

'Shadowlands' explores loss, love and human connection

By **Amanda Green**
Las Cruces Bulletin

"We can't have the happiness of yesterday without the pain of today. That's the deal."

In that one line American poet, Joy Gresham, gets to the meat of what it means to be alive.

It is this theme of life, love and the connections that bind all of humankind which helped Patrick Payne bring "Shadowlands" to Las Cruces.

Written by William Nicholson, "Shadowlands" is the story of the unusual relationship between British author and scholar C. S. Lewis, best known as the author of the "Chronicles of Narnia," and Joy Davidman Gresham, an American poet and self-described Jewish-Communist-Christian.

Known to his friends as "Jack," Lewis and Gresham meet for tea in Oxford, which sparks a friendship and the beginning of a beautiful love story. They eventually marry, only to discover that Gresham is terminally ill with cancer. Lewis preaches that one should endure suffering with patience, but finds that the simple answers he had preached no longer apply as they face his wife's tragic illness and his own personal grief.

Nicholson also wrote "Shadowlands" as a television movie for the BBC in 1986 before adapting it for the stage in 1989 and for a film starring Anthony Hopkins and Deborah Winger, which garnered an Academy Award nomination in 1993.

Heavily imbued with lessons of love, otherness and loss, the core of the tale is the love story that develops into tragedy.

"We've all known love, we've all known loss,

and it's these things that brings us together," Payne said. "Life goes on, and in order to live, I think we find that there are things we must let go."

For Payne, "Shadowlands" is more than a welcome home, as he has recently returned to New Mexico after living in New Orleans.

"I was scared to death," Payne said, of his decision to bring with him this incredible piece of theatre. "I've always wanted to share 'Shadowlands' with audiences, it just has so many messages that people need to hear."

To make "Shadowlands" possible, Payne recruited some of the best local talent, including Mike Cook, pre-cast as Lewis, Margie Brouhard as Gresham, Bob Diven as Lewis' brother, Warnie and 11-year-old Mason Hooley as Gresham's son, Douglas.

"I always knew I wanted Mike to take on this role," Payne said. "He's wonderful on stage, his presence, his talent and impeccable articulation are a director's dream."

"It's been a pleasure to work with the entire cast. They are some of the funniest, most well-rounded actors I've ever worked with."

Critics have been historically divided on "Shadowlands" in its many adaptations. While many agree that the play is very meaningful and tapped into powerful emotions about the nature of life, death, love and suffering, others believed it is trite and inaccurate.

Even critics that had problems with the play reported that "Shadowlands" had a cathartic effect on audiences, often leaving them in tears.

For example, an unnamed critic in Variety questioned why the play even was written. "It is not clear why Lewis' musings or his 10-year relationship with Gresham needs to be staged.

The story is both tragic and difficult."

Yet, other critics found much to praise. "Shadowlands' poses classic questions about God, pain and love, but mostly it makes you determined to embrace life. You can't ask much more of a play than that," said Gerald Nachman of the San Francisco Chronicle.

"I think that the tragedy is the reason the story is so important," Cook said. "Yes it's a love story about passionate people, but it's also about how those same people deal passionately with death."

Cook said he wasn't sold on "Shadowlands" at first, and explained that it would be difficult for him as an actor because Lewis was so different from him. "Lewis was so focused, so committed, and to play a role as solid as that, it really takes dedication and research."

Heavy dialogue takes incredible discipline and practice, and Hooley handles his role with ease.

"He's such a cool kid, so talented at such a young age. He has a real future on the stage," Cook said.

"Margie is one of my favorite people. She's just so funny and so incredibly talented."

"If there is anything I want audiences to walk away with, it's to take a second look at the person sitting next to them," Payne said. "Time is so short, and a true connection with another person is so important. Never take love for granted."

It's a lesson that often ends in tragedy and the tale of the "Shadowlands" reminds us just how precious life really is.

"Shadowlands" opens Friday, Feb. 3 at The Las Cruces Community Theatre, 313 N. Main St. The production runs Feb. 3 - 19, 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday evening shows and 2 p.m. Sunday matinees. Tickets are \$10 for adults,

Details

Shadowlands

Where

Las Cruces Community Theatre
313 N. Main St.

When

8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays
2 p.m. Sundays
Feb. 3-19

Contact

523-1200

Cost

\$7-\$10



\$9 for students/seniors/military, \$8 for groups of ten or more and \$7 for children. For more information, or reservations visit www.lcctnm.org, or call 523-1200.



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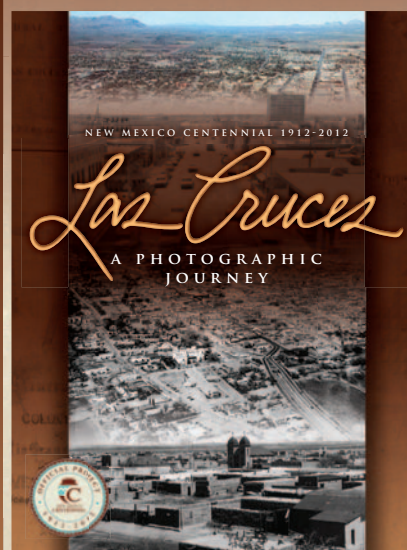
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1300 El Paseo Rd.

Stahmanns
22505 S. Hwy. 28 &
2030 Calle de Parian

Truck Farm
940 N. Valley Dr.

Wright Jewelers
1300 El Paseo Rd.

Las Cruces Bulletin
840 N. Telshor Blvd., Ste E



For more information, call the Las Cruces Bulletin at 524-8061.

Featured artists: Southwest Calligraphy Guild

'For the Love of Letters'

Calligraphy guild hosts exhibit

By **Natisha Hales**
Las Cruces Bulletin

For centuries, writers and poets have created art and evoked emotion by shaping a perfect combination of words. For just as long, calligraphers have penned visual masterpieces with those same words.

The Southwestern Calligraphy Guild will exhibit its visual masterpieces in its first-ever exhibit at the Terrace Gallery in the Thomas Branigan Memorial Library, 200 E. Picacho Ave.

As part of For the Love of Art Month, the exhibit is appropriately titled "For the Love of Letters," and is a show with about 10 member artists showcasing a wide range of experience.

"People think that calligraphy is just an italicized form of letters," said Amy Jones, guild president and a calligrapher since 1984. "They have no idea that there are so many different ways you write and so many different tools."

The show is a way for the community to learn more about calligraphy as a form of art, and to encourage the public to attend meetings, whether they've been a calligrapher for as long or longer than Jones, or are just trying to learn more about the practice.

"The guild has a wide range of experience - from 30 years to less than five," said Mary Havenor, a founding member of the guild, who has done calligraphy as a hobby for the past 30 years.

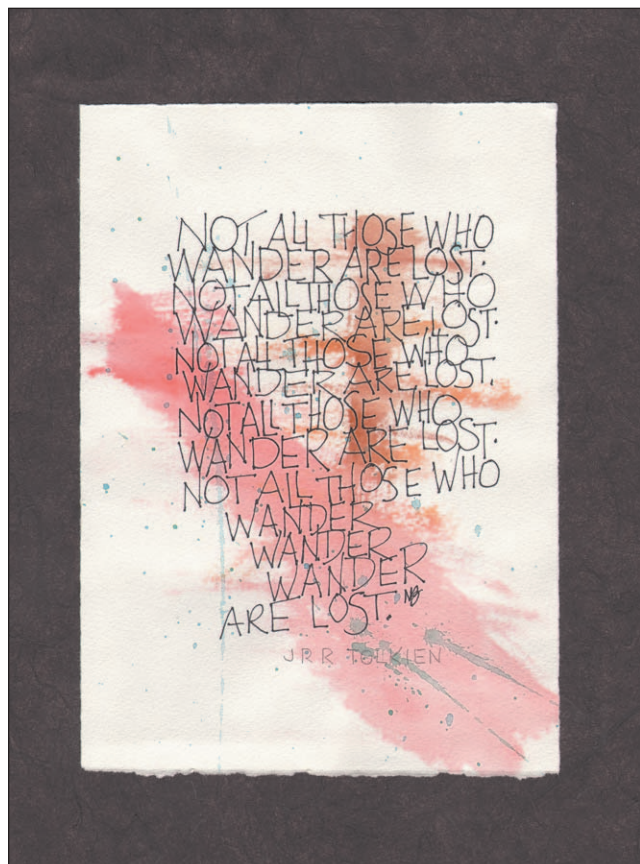
Before starting the local guild, Havenor and about six others from Las Cruces traveled to El Paso meetings for about 10 years, but the group got smaller and smaller, she said.

"Eventually, it got to the point where we were the core group, so we weren't going to go to El Paso anymore," she said.

Now, the group has 23 members. The organization is open to anyone who has an interest in the art of calligraphy as well as papermaking and card making.

Maude Beakley, who learned of the organization by attending a meeting with a friend, was originally a rubber stamper and card maker, but grew to love lettering.

"I've grown in many ways," she said. "At first, I was doing just letters, but then I'll add background material and things



These are two pieces featured in the Southwest Calligraphy Guild's "For the Love of Letters" show.

Details

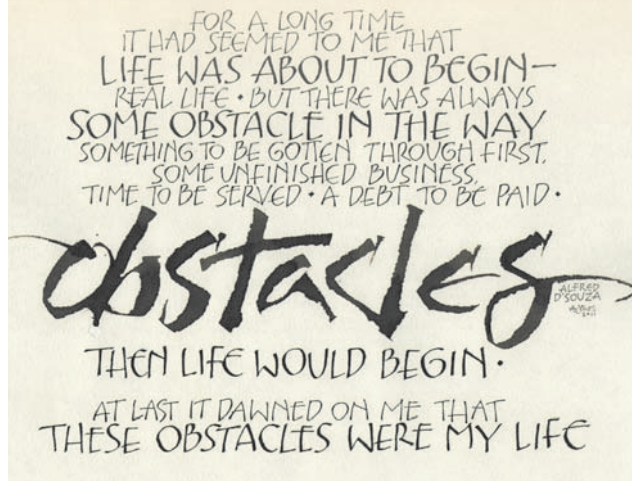
Southwest Calligraphy Guild
"For the Love of Letters" opening reception

When
4 to 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3

Where
Terrace Gallery
Thomas Branigan Memorial Library,
200 E. Picacho Ave.

Cost
Free

Contact
528-4000



with more layers."

During "For the Love of Letters," the three artists' works will be on display, as well as a range of others. For the guild, For the Love of Art Month was a perfect time, Jones said.

"We want to let people know we're there and what we do," she said. "Because of For the Love of Art Month, there are a lot of venues showing art, and it's an easy way to get our feet wet."

"Anyone who wanted to put something in, we're putting it up. There's a great deal of variety with a variety of different skill levels."

For those interested in becoming a member of the guild, dues are \$20 per year. The group meets once a month, and each meeting includes an instructional program on various topics. Jones is the "resident instructor," as Havenor put it, since she teaches a minimum of two courses per year in Doña Ana Community College's Community Education program.

"It's just four sessions (per class)," Jones said. "It's not a lifetime commitment, but you'll learn the foundations."

UPCOMING EVENTS

| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| FRI. FEB 3 | 10:30 A.M. |
| Rhythm Roundup: Music, Song & Dance ages 2-5 | Branigan Library |
| FRI. FEB 3 | 10:30 A.M. |
| Fantastic Fridays! Stories & Crafts for ages 7-11 | Branigan Library |
| FRI. FEB 3 | 5 P.M. |
| Downtown Arts RAMBLE | Downtown Main St. |
| FRI. FEB 3 | 8 P.M. |
| Shadowlands | LC Community Theatre |
| FRI.+SAT. FEB 3+4 | 8 P.M. |
| "The Sisters Rosenweig" | Black Box Theatre |
| SAT. FEB 4 | 9 A.M. - 1 P.M. |
| LC Farmers & Craft Market | Downtown Main St |
| SAT. FEB 4 | 10:30 A.M. |
| Storytellers of Las Cruces | COAS Bookstore |
| SAT. FEB 4 | 11:30 A.M. |
| Magic Carpet StoryTime | Branigan Cultural Center |
| SUN. FEB 5 | 2:30 P.M. |
| "The Sisters Rosenweig" | Black Box Theatre |
| TUE. FEB 7 | 10:30 A.M. |
| Read To Me - stories for ages 3 and up | Branigan Library |
| TUE. FEB 7 | 3 P.M. |
| Writers' Group meeting | Branigan Library |
| TUE. FEB 7 | 6:30 P.M. |
| Every Other Tuesday: Del Rey | Rio Grande Theatre |
| WED. FEB 8 | 9 A.M. - 1 P.M. |
| LC Farmers & Craft Market | Downtown Main St |
| WED. FEB 8 | 10 A.M. |
| Toddler Time! Stories for kids 1-3 | Branigan Library |
| WED. FEB 8 | 11 A.M. |
| Mother Goose Time - Activities for Infants | Branigan Library |
| WED. FEB 8 | 7 P.M. |
| Film Las Cruces: Made in New Mexico | Rio Grande Theatre |
| THU. FEB 9 | 10 A.M. |
| Toddler Time! Stories for kids 1-3 | Branigan Library |
| SAT. FEB 11 | 9 A.M. - 1 P.M. |
| LC Farmers & Craft Market | Downtown Main St |
| SAT. FEB 11 | 11 A.M. - 3 P.M. |
| Camino del Arte | Mesquite Historic District |

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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Making music of life and loss

Local artist holds concert for the Love of Art Month

By **Amanda Green**
Las Cruces Bulletin

For the Love of Art Month kicks off this weekend, during the Downtown Art Ramble with a concert by local, award-winning musician, Randy Granger. For the Love of Art is a month-long celebration of art in Las Cruces, which features musicians, dancers, poets and an exhibit of art by many local artists throughout the month of February.

From 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3, the Branigan Culture Center, 501 N. Main St., features

Granger, a multi instrumentalist and composer. Granger has headlined many Native American and World Music festivals around the country and has been featured on National Public Radio, Music from the Hearts of Space, Sirius satellite and other stations worldwide.

Granger is a Las Cruces resident but spends much time traveling, drawing in other cultural influences into the self-described, "Southwest World" feel to his music. He has composed for multi-media art shows and the New Mexico State University Dance Department and has been awarded the Indian Summer Music

Award and two Native American Music Awards nominations.

A singer/songwriter, as well as a musician, Granger performs on the Native American flute as well as with the hang hand drum.

"It's shaped like a UFO and it is played by hand," Granger said, of the hang drum. "The sound is mesmerizing, a cross between steel drums, gongs and bells."

He said the unique instrument, invented in Switzerland, has become a must-have for musicians. However, Granger said that it's almost impossible to get one. The creators of the drum only produced 5,000, he said.

"I was fortunate to have the right connections to get my hands on a used hang drum before they became so popular," Granger said. "Now, you have to be on a waiting list to even get one."

In his latest album and the new one being released this spring, Granger has been adding a smooth blend of vocals to the almost mystic melodies he concocts. The sounds and songs he has written are heavily based in the culture of New Mexico and the greater Southwest.

"I grew up in Hobbs, banging on pots and pans," he said. "My first musical love was percussion."

Granger was not always a musician having received a degree in journalism from NMSU. He worked for a newspaper for about a year before moving to Los Angeles. He soon found the West Coast less than appealing.

"I loved Las Cruces, there was such a wonderful art community here. So I came back," Granger said. "I began to explore my heritage, and used music to help guide me."

"My ancestry reflects resilient peoples and cultures. I'd like to think they all meet in my heart and that is where the music is made."

Granger has made several of his drum recordings, available online at his website, <http://randygranger.net>, for anyone curious as to what the hang drum sounds like.

His current album "Pura Vida - This is Pure Life" features a cover of Leonard Cohen's iconic "Hallelujah," and the life-affirming title track, "Pura Vida," which explores the need for hope

Details

Randy Granger

When

5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3

Where

Branigan Culture Center,
501 N. Main St.

Cost

Free

Contact

lonegranger@netscape.com

Website

<http://randygranger.net>

in a world that often brings us down.

Granger recorded the track after the devastating Haiti and Chilean earthquakes. The song is spoken-word collaboration with Las Cruces poet and partner Wayne Crawford, who co-wrote the lyrics. Crawford passed away in March, 2011 of pancreatic cancer, giving the strong, haunting melody a deeper meaning for Granger and his listeners.

"I believe Las Cruces has an art community unlike any other," said Granger. "For us, it's part of our quality of life. It really effects the people we are and who we want to be."

"I'm in the process of recording a new album, which has some heavily influenced emotional notes from the joys and losses in my life. It is my hope that they are able to help other people cope with loss, as they have done for me."

"Music is personal and universal," said Granger.

Granger can also be found playing at the Las Cruces Farmers & Crafts Market Downtown most Saturday mornings and Wednesdays at the Mesilla Valley Hospice, 299 Montana Ave., while he's not traveling.

The concert will take place during the Downtown Arts Ramble, which also features art, music and gallery openings. For more information on the concert, contact the Branigan Cultural Center at 541-2154.

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Galleries & Openings

OPENING

LAS CRUCES MUSEUM OF ART presents "New Mexico: 100 Years of Art," an exhibition commemorating 100 years of statehood through artistic expression. The exhibit opens Friday, Feb. 3, with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. during the Downtown Art Ramble. "New Mexico: 100 Years of Art" tells the ongoing story of New Mexico artists and showcases their work. In this exhibition, the museum presents a few of the hundreds of thousands of works of New Mexico art that have been produced over the past 100 years. It includes works of art by Peter Hurd, Luis Jimenez, Agnes Martin, Georgia O'Keeffe, Fremont Ellis, Henriette Wyeth and many other New Mexico artists.

The museum is located at 491 N. Main St. Hours are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Call 541-2137.

TERRACE GALLERY of the Thomas Branigan Memorial Library opens the first-ever show of the Southwest Calligraphy Guild. "For the Love of Lettering" opens with a reception from 4 to 5:45 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3. The show runs through Feb. 26.

The gallery is located at Thomas Branigan Memorial Library, 200 E. Picacho Ave. Hours are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday. Call 528-4000.

CUTTER GALLERY presents a collection of vintage and estate art through February. Artists such as Ben Turner, Clementine Hunter, Tom Lea, Cyrus Afsary, Carl Redin, Madge Tietjens, Rembrandt Peale, Joseph Stella, Bill Chappell, Gary Morton and others will be featured. There are miniature portraits, 19th-century girls embroidery samplers and retablos.

Cutter Gallery is located at 2640 El Paseo Road. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. Call 541-0658.

MAIN STREET GALLERY continues "Material Matters," the second annual fiber arts exhibit, featuring "Material Girls" Lynn Unangst, Joanna Bradley, Ann Angelo and Judy Licht. They are exhibiting their

Coming soon

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635-2285
Opens Friday, Feb. 10

original weaving, quilting constructs, gourd art and dyed silks. Many creations are wearable art pieces. A reception will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3, during the Downtown Art Ramble.

The gallery is located at 311 N. Main St. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday. Call 647-0508.

MOUNTAIN GALLERY AND STUDIOS opens its season with a Las Cruces Arts Association membership show and grand opening celebration from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3. The show celebrates the 50 years that LCAA has been a group. This is the first show at Mountain Gallery, the new home of the Las Cruces Arts Association. LCAA will have art shows on a monthly basis as part of the Downtown Art Ramble. An opening reception will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3, in conjunction with the Downtown Art Ramble.

Mountain Gallery and Studios is located at 138 W. Mountain Ave. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. Call 532-6293

M. PHILLIP'S GALLERY will be displaying art that shows characteristics of Romanticism, the period in the last half of the 18th century when the arts turned from the Neoclassical style being taught in the academies. Works by Julie Ford Oliver, Eric Wallis, Don Parks, Myer Eberhardt, Roman Frances and others will be available.

The gallery is located at 221 N. Main St. Hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday; and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. Call 525-1367.

LA IGUANA RESTAURANT hosts "Alternate Space," an exhibit of the Southern Chapter of the New Mexico Watercolor Society. Fifteen watercolorists will exhibit about 35 paintings with a wide variety of sizes and themes. The exhibit

will open with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3, in conjunction with the Downtown Art Ramble, and continue through March.

The restaurant is located at 139 N. Main St. Call 523-8550.

MVS STUDIOS will be featuring "Nudes," opening with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3, in conjunction with the Downtown Art Ramble. Featured during the exhibit are works by Toby DeVoss, David Shaw, Kate Mott, Sherry Doil-Carter, Antonio Muñoz and Michael Poncé.

MVS Studios is located at 535 N. Main St. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday. Call 524-3636.

QUILLIN STUDIO AND GALLERY welcomes Jay Foster Savage as the featured artist for February. His work fits in with the theme of For Love of Art Month, as his photographs exhibit his continuing love of the Organ Mountains. In the exhibit, his photos are color portraits of the moods and the beauty of the magnificent mountains. From detail to vistas, the mountains give up some of their secrets to Savage while hinting at their most majestic spirits.

The gallery is located behind COAS Books at 317 N. Main St. Call 312-1064.

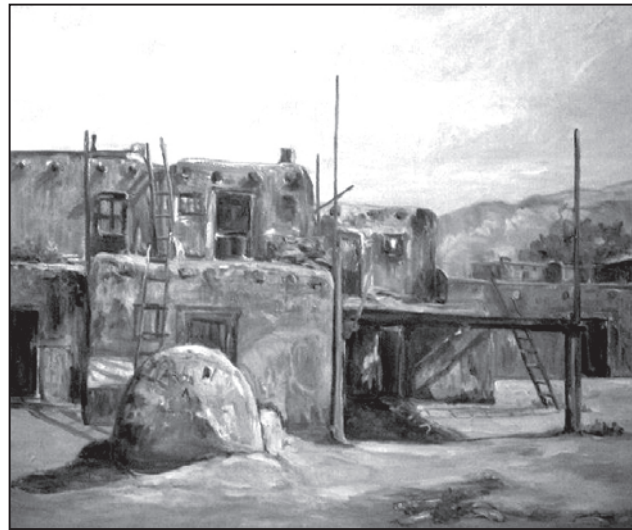
PICACHO HILLS COUNTRY CLUB hosts original artwork by 20 artisans who are members of the Artists of Picacho Hills. The presentation will be held from noon to 4 p.m.

The country club is located at 6861 Via Campestre. Call 523-6599.

AMARO WINERY opens "Reflections," photographs by Ali Keyes, with a reception from 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4.

The winery is located at 402 S. Melendres St. Hours are 1 to 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 1 to 6 p.m. Sunday. Call 527-5310.

RIO GRANDE THEATRE



"Taos Pueblo" by Irma Lee is on display at Mountain Gallery and Studios, the new home for Las Cruces Arts Association. The grand opening for the Downtown gallery, 138 W. Mountain Ave., will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3, in conjunction with the Downtown Art Ramble.

GALLERIES host muralist Karla Perry and photorealist Penny Simpson during For the Love of Art Month in February. Perry, a well-known area muralist, will have on display samplings of her clever and whimsical work designed to draw viewers into her own special world. Simpson, best known for her watercolor work, uses dramatic lighting and super realism to create dynamic three-dimensional imagery on canvas. An opening reception will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3, in conjunction with the Downtown Art Ramble.

The gallery is located in the lobby of the Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Call 523-6403.

MESQUITE ART GALLERY exhibits "iPhon-e-graphy" through February. Artist Mel Stone will exhibit iPhone photos she manipulated with free apps and printed on canvas. A reception will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4.

The gallery is located at 340 N. Mesquite St. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. Call 640-3502.

BRANIGAN CULTURAL CENTER presents the ArtForms Member Exhibition, opening with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3, during the Downtown Art Ramble. Art in many genres will be on display with music performed by American Indian flutist Randy Granger to enhance the exhibit.

The Branigan Cultural Center is located at 501 N. Main St. Hours are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Call 541-2154

ONGOING

THOMAS BRANIGAN MEMORIAL LIBRARY hosts "Art Inspires" created by the GFWC Progress Club of Las Cruces.

The library is located at 200 E. Picacho Ave. Hours are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday. Call 528-4000.

MESILLA VALLEY FINE ARTS GALLERY

features two local artists for February – Bert Gammill and Karin Bradshaw. Gammill is a multimedia watercolorist and oil painter who depicts farm animals motivated by her own livestock and subtle landscapes. Bradshaw's work depicts traditional Pueblo Indian designs burned into symmetrical gourds adorned with authentic gems.

The gallery is located at 2470-A Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla, across from the Fountain Theatre. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Sunday. Call 522-2933.

LA MESA STATION GALLERY presents "Miracles Do Happen!" with works

from 14-year-old local artist, Sam Cueto. Sam is paralyzed from the neck down but has learned how to create beautiful paintings using a laser attached to eyeglass rims. Under his direction, he guides a volunteer to apply oil paint to a canvas. Sam has been painting for several years and has a deep passion for the creating his art.

The gallery is located at 16205 S. Highway 28 in La Mesa. Hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday. Call 644-3756.

TOMBAUGH GALLERY of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Las Cruces presents "Arcs and Echoes" by contemporary painter Jill Somoza for February. The exhibit will run through March 2. The pieces chosen for this show were all done in the past two years. Before this, Somoza played more with overlapping panels, something she does less often now, opting for a more simple line. The curved wood has added another dimension in its simple line as well as for the shadow it casts.

The gallery is located at 2000 S. Solano Drive. Hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday through Friday. Call 522-7281.

NEW MEXICO FARM & RANCH HERITAGE MUSEUM displays "The World Around Us: The Artwork of Linda Hagen." Las Cruces artist Hagen's paintings are on display in the museum's Arts Corridor through March. The 33 paintings, mostly oil, reflect her love of horses and the outdoors. This exhibition demonstrates the connection between the land, the people, and the animals that are part of the landscape. Originally from Ohio, Hagen captures the tough and enduring agricultural lifestyle in her work, as well as the beauty of the American Southwest. The gallery is located at 4100 Dripping Springs Road. Cost \$2-\$4. Call 522-4100.

PRESTON CONTEMPORARY ART CENTER displays its final exhibition appropriately titled "The Last Picture Show." The exhibition is a juried regional exhibition of the works of 64 artists from southern New Mexico and El Paso. Through the show's submission fees, the Preston was able to raise \$2,475 for La Casa.

"The Last Picture Show" will run concurrently with the PCAC November Exhibition through Feb. 17. The Preston Contemporary Art Center is located at 1755 Avenida de Mercado in Mesilla. Hours are noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Call 523-8713.

NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY ART GALLERY displays "Glitteropolis!" Art collective Meow Wolf travels into Las Cruces to unveil the magical and visceral art experience filled with oddity, surreality, glam and glitz. The show will run through Feb. 18.

The NMSU Art Gallery is located in D.W. Williams Hall on the NMSU campus. Hours are noon to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday. Call 646-8036.

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Tickets at: 575.646.1420

EventsCalendar

FRI. 2/3

1 to 3 p.m. "My Masterpiece" reception, Mesilla Valley Fine Art Gallery, 2470A Calle de Guadalupe. Members of the co-op gallery feature pieces that represent works by famous artists. Free. Call 522-2933.

5 to 7 p.m. Downtown Art Ramble, along Downtown Main Street. Area galleries host receptions and open new exhibits. Tis Ramble is a part of the month long celebration of "For the Love of Art Month," and includes music performed by American Indian flutist Randy Granger.

5 to 7 p.m. Randy Granger concert, Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main St. In conjunction with the Downtown Art Ramble. Free. Call 541-2154.

7 p.m. Game night, Corbett Center Student Union Auditorium, New Mexico State University. Part of NMSU Black Programs' Black History Month celebration. Free. Call 646-4208.

7 p.m. Howling Coyote Coffeehouse & Open Mic, Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St. A jam session for local musicians. Free. Call 523-6403.

7 to 10 p.m. Live classic country music by The Spur Ride Band, Cattleman's Steakhouse, 3375 Bataan Memorial West. Cost \$5. Call 649-7165.

7 to 10 p.m. Coffeehouse and Open Mic Night, Las Cruces GLBTQ Center, 1210 N. Main St. Enjoy talents of musicians, poets comedians, drag queens and other performers. Free. Call 635-4902.

7:30 to 10:30 p.m. Mikey's Sheesh-Ka-Deesh, Mikey's Place, 3100 Harrelson St., is featuring an eclectic mix of dance performances and music from the 1940s to the present. The show will include refreshments, wine from Amaro Winery and art from SumArt Art Co-op. Cost \$10. Visit www.mikeysplacem.com.

Playbill

Opening

Shadowlands
Las Cruces Community Theatre
313 N. Main St.
523-1200
\$7-\$10
Opens Friday, Feb. 3

Last Chance

The Sisters Rosensweig
Black Box Theatre
430 N. Main St.
523-1223
\$7-\$10
Runs through Sunday, Feb. 5

8 p.m. Shadowlands, Las Cruces Community Theatre, 313 N. Main St., production. Based on the true story of C.S. Lewis, the world-renowned author of "The Chronicles of Narnia." Cost \$7-\$10. Call 523-1200.

8 to 10 p.m. Big Band Dance Club, Court Youth Center, 402 W. Court Ave. Dance to ballroom, country, swing and Latin styles. Free dance lesson with paid admission at 7 p.m. No dance partner necessary. Beginners, singles and couples welcome. Cost \$7. Call 526-6504.

SAT. 2/4

9 a.m. to noon, Pet adoptions, Las Cruces Farmers & Crafts Market, Downtown Main Street. Available are dogs, cats, puppies and kittens. Cost \$50-\$75. Call 382-0018.

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 and much more. Free. Email fcmarket@las-cruces.org.

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Pet adoptions, Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave. Available

are dogs, cats, puppies and kittens. Cost \$50-\$75. Call 382-0018.

10 a.m. to noon, Book signing, COAS Books, 317 N. Main St. Polly Evans, Susan Gomez, Teral Katahara, Lucille Tully and Ellen Young will sign copies of "Ascent: Five Southwestern Women Poets." Free admission. Call 532-9239.

10:30 a.m. Storytellers of Las Cruces, COAS Bookstores, 317 N. Main St. and 1101 S. Solano Drive. Douglas Jackson will be the storytellers at the Downtown location, and Sonya Weiner will be the storyteller at the Solano COAS store. COAS will give coupons for free books to all children who attend. Free. Call 526-8377.

11:30 a.m. to noon, Magic Carpet StoryTime, Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main St. Free. Call 541-2154.

Noon to 3 p.m. Seed Share, Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo Road, Suite M. Pick up seeds, share seeds and talk with other growers. Free. Call 640-4288.

2:30 p.m. "Youth in Film," Court Youth Center, 402 W. Court Ave. Initial meetings will discuss the program and the inaugural Youth in Film Film Festival. Free. Call 541-0145.

3:30 p.m. New Mexico State University women's basketball vs. Nevada, Pan American Center, NMSU campus. Call 646-1420.

5 to 6 p.m. Beginning drum class, My Place Jewell, 140-A Wyatt Drive. Learn the basic Middle Eastern rhythms. Cost \$2. Call 526-9509.

7 p.m. New Mexico State University men's basketball vs. Louisiana Tech, Pan American Center, NMSU campus. Call 646-1420.

SUN. 2/5

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday Growers Market, Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo Road. Featuring local vendors. Free. Call 523-0436.

For the Love of Art highlights

Art celebration continues with events all around Las Cruces

Bulletin Staff Report

The celebration of all things art officially kicks off with the opening of the ArtForms Member Exhibition at the Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main St., 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3, during the monthly Downtown Art Ramble. American Indian flutist Randy Granger will be performing that evening.

Also opening Friday, Feb. 3, – and on display through the month – will be an exhibit by the New Mexico Watercolor Society, Southern Chapter, under the theme of "For the Love of Southwest Gates and Doorways," at the Blue Gate Gallery, 311 N. Main St.

Photographs illustrating performances of the season past by Peter Herman will be exhibited at the Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Main St.

At the Thomas Branigan Memorial

Library, the Southwest Calligraphy Guild will exhibit "For the Love of Lettering," calligraphy with mixed media, with a reception from 4 to 6 p.m. during the Downtown Art Ramble.

After the ramble, from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m., Mikey's Place, 3100 Harrelson St., is holding Mikey's Sheesh-Ka-Deesh, an eclectic mix of dance performances and music with wine from Amaro Winery and art from SumArt Art Co-op. Tickets are \$10 and proceeds benefit the Performing Arts Scholarship.

The Artists of Picacho Hills will hold their "For the Love of Art" show at the Picacho Hills Country Club, 6861 Via Campestre, from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5. More than 20 artists working in a variety of media will be together to display and sell their works.

Details about these and other activities, including studio tour maps, are in the For the Love of Art Month Event Guide, distributed at locations around Las Cruces and Mesilla. It may also be downloaded from the website www.artformsmn.org.

Noon to 4 p.m. For the Love of Art in Picacho Hills, Picacho Hills Country Club, 6861 Via Campestre. The Artists of Picacho Hills are hosting a show with original fine art of many varieties available for purchase. Free. Visit www.artistsofpicachohills.com.

652-3019 or Karo Myers at 520-2954.

7:30 p.m. Literary open mic, Palacio Bar, 2600 Avenida de Mesilla. Bring three poems or five minutes of prose to read. Free. Call 521-7311.

7:30 p.m. A night of soul music remixes, Corbett Center Student Union Auditorium, New Mexico State University campus. Featuring artists who have taken modern songs and changed the lyrics to a gospel theme. Part of NMSU Black Programs' Black History Month celebration. Free. Call 646-4208.

7:30 p.m. Immigration speaker series, College of Health and Social Services auditorium, New Mexico State University campus. Matthew Jacobson of Yale University will present "Race, Immigration and Citizenship in the United States: The Irish Experience as Racial Odyssey." Free. Call 646-4601.

7:45 to 9:30 p.m. Argentine Tango Group, First Christian Church, 1809 El Paseo Road. Beginners, singles and couples over 21 are welcome to join the Big Band Dance Club. Cost \$8-\$10. Call 642-1699.

WED. 2/8

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Farm Volunteer Day, Mountain View Market Farm, location undisclosed. Call 523-0436.

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 and much more. Free. Email fcmarket@las-cruces.org.

12 to 1 p.m. "Losing Weight through Sensible Nutrition and Exercise," Mountain View Market Co-op, 1300 El Paseo Road, Suite M. Rosa Lopez is a registered dietitian with the New Mexico Department of Health and will be available for free individual sessions as well. Free. Call 523-0436 or email cherylneeley@gmail.com

6 p.m. Art history lecture, Health and Social Sciences auditorium, New Mexico State University campus. Presented by art historian Jonathan D. Katz. Free. Call 646-8036.

6:30 p.m. Stitch & Visit meeting, Hastings, 2350 E. Lohman Ave. Creative ideas and good conversation are shared. To participate, bring a portable craft. Free. Call 525-1625.

7 p.m. Film Las Cruces, Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St. Includes screening of "Made in New Mexico" documentary. Free. Call 523-6403.

7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Balanced Living Book Club, Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo Road, Suite M. Led by life coach Siddeeq Shabazz. Free. Call 510-459-2671.

THU. 2/9

9 a.m. to noon, Fiber Club, My Place Jewell, 140-A Wyatt Drive. Cost \$2. Call 526-9509.

5 to 6 p.m. Beginning belly dance class, My Place Jewell 140-A Wyatt Drive. Learn to dance and use props. Great exercise for the body and mind. Cost \$2. Call 526-9509.

7 p.m. Open mic night, Corbett Center Student Union Auditorium, New Mexico State University campus. Hosted by Dana Gilmore, featured on HBO's "Def Poetry." Part of NMSU Black Programs' Black History Month celebration. Free. Call 646-4208.

7 to 8 p.m. Civil War talk, New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road. Author and historian John Taylor of Albuquerque will discuss New Mexico's role in the Civil War. Cost \$2. Call 522-4100.

8 to 10 p.m. Big Band Dance Club Valentine's Day dance, Court Youth Center, 402 W. Court Ave. Dance ballroom, country, swing and Latin styles to the High Society Orchestra. Cost \$7-\$9. Call 526-6504.

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AtTheMovies

Getting under the skin

Spanish film lends a kinky twist to revenge

Review by **Jeff Berg**

For the Las Cruces Bulletin

Famed Spanish director Pedro Almodóvar's newest film, "The Skin I Live In" nearly rendered me immobile – and not because I loved it.

Flush with his usual flourishes of brilliant color, great camera angles and shots; I found the story/script to be quite lame, even if it is a fantasy piece.

The story follows Dr. Robert Ledgard (Antonio Banderas), a rather mad doctor with an unusual bedside manner. He's not someone who you'd want to ask you to turn your head and cough.

In his architecturally perfect home/clinic, he is working to develop a new kind of artificial skin, one that will respond to touch, but is not flammable or pain provoking in the literal sense.

However, it is not for humankind that the not-so-good doctor is conducting his experiments, but rather it is for a kinky sort of revenge.

Some years earlier, his wife was severely injured and burned in a car crash. Although given the best care available, she happens upon her image in a mirror one day and promptly throws herself out the nearest window.

Overcome with grief, Ledgard becomes a

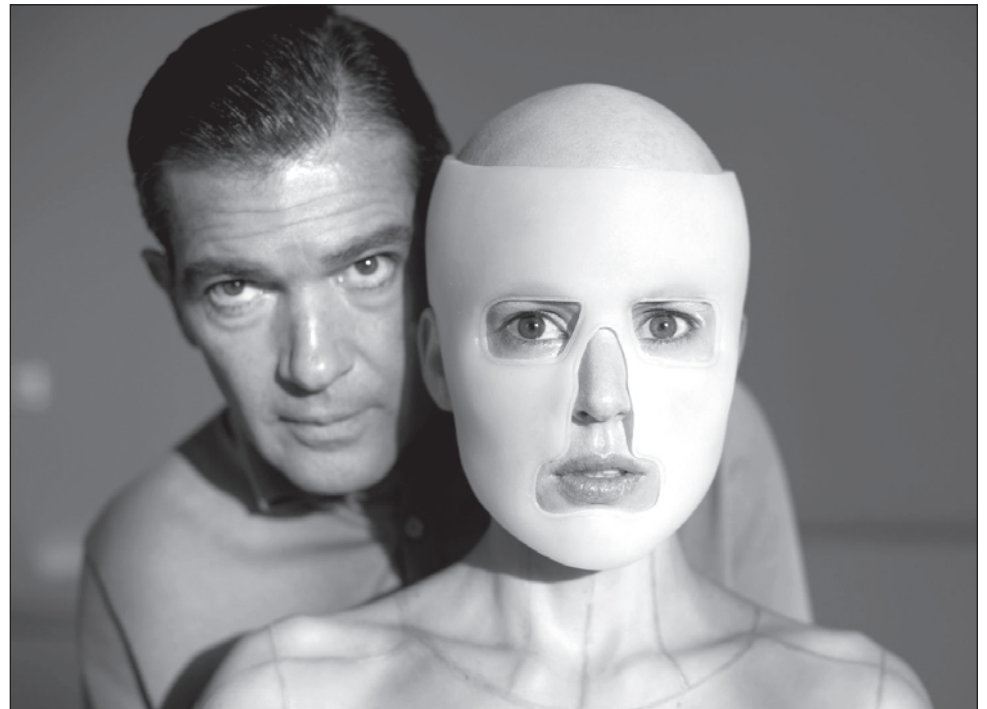
Dr. Frankenstein like character, working to find the cure. But he needs a live patient (of course). The skin grafts he creates work on rodents (four-legged), but who will he get to be a real guinea pig?

Alas, quite by accident, comes Vicente. In a moment of drug-infused stupidity, Vicente took advantage of Robert's daughter, thus disqualifying her for a chaste wedding night.

Revenge heaped upon revenge, Robert kidnaps Vicente and not content with just imprisoning him and working on his flesh, Vicente eventually becomes the stunningly beautiful Vera.

Most of the process is alluded to, rather than shown, allowing for a great Hitchcock-type thread of suspense to run through the film. Vicente/Vera is somewhat dispassionate about what has happened to him/herself, but escape is not an option, due to Ledgard's monitoring and the evil assistant in the form of Ledgard's housekeeper, the devoted witch-like Marilia.

Ledgard is somewhat happy with his creation, and feigns love for her, which actually just amounts to a sexual longing for the new, almost virginal Vera. Ledgard's sick criminal brother, dressed in a tiger suit has already assaulted her and been dispatched by the doctor for his efforts.



Antonio Banderas and Elena Anaya star in "The Skin I Live In," a Spanish language film that resembles a slightly twisted, heavily sexualized Dr. Frankenstein.

Vera is more or less willing to use her body to enable her escape.

The film is replete with numerous mysteries and plot contrivances. Is that an incest overtone I detect over there? Is this a salute to the female body as was suggested by a lesser reviewer than I? Not hardly. Maybe a salute to its form, but not its function. Is Vicente really wanting to become a woman (he was not gay or bisexual prior to this). What's with the brother in the tiger suit?

Oddly, I also found the film to be unintentionally funny at times. The mild laughter I felt was not at inappropriate times or out of nervousness, it was from the fact that I felt the script was so unnatural, that I had a hard time accepting it.

There is plenty of sex and physical beauty

in this film, again oddly, reserved only for the younger handsome characters. Anyone older is suggested to be crone-like and scolding, including Ledgard's mother and a fellow physician who has doubts about Ledgard's sanity and drops out of the project.

After a fashion, I found the film to be somewhat tiresome, and began to wonder how women would react to this film, which I feel has a misogynistic bent to it at times.

All in all, I can't say "The Skin I Live In" is similar to the one I live in. Almodóvar has done some extraordinary work in the past, but the present leaves something to be desired.

Jeff Berg, jeffberg@lascrucesbulletin.com, extols the pleasure of the flesh at every opportunity.

North Dakota's claim to fame

'Fargo' is a Coen brothers comedy classic

The CineMatinee for 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4, is "Fargo" (1996, 98 minutes, rated R).

Joel and Ethan Coen, the brothers who have co-written, directed and produced "Blood Simple," "True Grit," "No Country for Old Men" and "The Big Lebowski" and have hit a home run with "Fargo."

Joel's wife, Marge Gunderson, (Frances McDormand) is the pregnant police chief of Brainerd, Minn. It's 1987, based on a true story, and I'm not sure whether it's winter or not, but there's snow everywhere. People are cold and cars need jump starts. The Coens know the territory well, as they grew up there.

Most crimes around Brainerd probably fall into the illegal snowplowing category, but Marge has got a triple homicide on her hands and is handling it with good old-fashioned Midwestern calm.

It all started when feckless Jerry Lundegaard (William H. Macy) got himself into a heck of a lot of debt. Lundegaard is a loser. It's written all over his smiling, car salesman's face. And it's clear that he'd never be able to make a living if he weren't working for his father-in-law (Harve Presnell), a wealthy jerk who can barely stand to look at Lundegaard because he's such a loser.

So Lundegaard's hatched a scheme to shake down his father-in-law for \$1 million dollars

by having two thugs kidnap his wife. Surely dad will come through to save his daughter.

As in "Blood Simple," "Fargo" is about a crime that goes from bad to worse and is getting funnier and funnier. The Coen's haven't been this sharp, focused and fluid since their first film.

It's grisly, dark, funny and well-paced, but not at all showy. There's a great scene with a wood chipper. And the acting is wonderful and the humor is as dark as a moonless Minnesota winter night. Review from www.sfgate.com.

CineMatinee is a unique blend of movies presented by the Mesilla Valley Film Society which showcases unique films, past and present, often with an emphasis on life in the West – the new West, Old West or anything in between – and "movies that missed us," notable films that never had a lot of publicity.

The series is designed to show area residents that film is a form of art and education as well as entertainment. At least one film a month for this series has a New Mexico "connection," drawing from the vast pool of movies made in the state (nearly 500) or perhaps featuring a star/story from New Mexico talent.

Unless otherwise noted, screening time is 1:30 p.m., and admission is \$4 for everyone except film society members who are admitted for \$1.

The Fountain Theatre is located at 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, one-half block south of the Mesilla Plaza. For more information, call 524-8287.

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Look Who's Dancing! *Shakes its groove thing*

Photos by Nicolas Bañales



New Mexico State University DanceSport performed during the fourth annual Look Who's Dancing! to help raise money for the competitive dance team.



Austin "No Doubt" Trout and Ariel Freilich danced the West Coast Swing to Michael Jackson's "Smooth Criminal."



Moises Guerrero and Ceci Vasconcellos perform at the Oñate Performing Arts Center Jan. 27, for Look Who's Dancing!



Bank '34 President Jeffrey Silva geeked out with NMSU junior Kimberly Richardson.



Debbie Calderon and Luciano Orozco took home the first place Mirror Ball.

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Dancing Downtown at the Nifty Fifties Benefit

Photos by Nicolas Bañales



The Nifty Fifties Benefit Show had two sold out shows on Sunday, Jan. 29, at the Rio Grande Theatre.



Josh Heras and Megan Thompson watched film "Desert Demonz." screened at the Benefit show.



Elizabeth Acosta, 9, poses next to a Model T.



Remember Then, a 50s tribute band, rocked the stage during the Rio Grande Theatre.



Marilyn Monroe, played by Angelica Apodaca, adds to the nostalgia of the 1950s.



Jo Lofton, who finished school in 1957, stands next to a 1950s Chevy classic.

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Bringing Las Vegas to Cruces

The Passion Ultra Lounge is the new kid in town

By **Amanda Green**
Las Cruces Bulletin

My experience with the club scene began while I was living in Seattle as a broke college student. In the Northwest, that usually meant \$2 domestics, a sticky dance floor and a selection of fried bar food – if you were lucky. As long as the liquor was cheap and the bass kept pumping out obnoxious rhythms, you didn't dare ask for more – especially not decent cuisine.

Once I moved to Las Cruces, I was struck by the active nightlife, as long as you knew when and where to find it. A collection of bars and clubs, usually with a restaurant attached, was trendier than I had

expected. It's almost required to be served a great meal with your choice of wells.

The new Passion Ultra Lounge, located within the Ramada Palms de Las Cruces Hotel & Conference Center, 201 E. University Ave., took that expectation to a whole new level. "We're going to shock this city a little," said Tim Girard, co-owner of the new club and restaurant, which has burst from the likes of the Las Vegas strip into its new home near New Mexico State University.

Inspired by a night out at Mandalay Bay's Rum Jungle, owners Girard, Jamie Dougill and Mike Coronado joined forces to create a posh, 3,400-square-foot nightclub that also serves some wicked good eats.

Passion masquerades as a hip café during the day, serving a lunch menu of burgers, wraps and salads, all for under \$10. Their cuisine is a fusion of the cultures in the area, including Southwestern, Asian and Mediterranean influences on an otherwise classic menu. They were even willing to make my lunch choice veggie friendly, allowing me to opt for a side salad instead of fries.

Their Falafel Pita could give the Middle East a run for its money. Crisp on the outside, but incredibly soft on the inside, the chickpea patties were the perfect complement to the soft, warm pita.

The bar counter top is part

of an incredible lighting system throughout the club that includes LED cubes, overhead lighting that respond and change to match the music being played, color-changing metal backdrops and chandeliers along the walls, which look like flowing water one minute and blazing fire the next.

Did I mention they take your order on an iPod or iPad? This place is almost too cool.

The dinner menu, which starts at 5 p.m., expands the choice of cuisine to include an impressive selection of steak and seafood.

Once the clock strikes 9 o'clock, the restaurant transforms into a vividly colored, super hip nightclub, illuminated by an incredible ambiance. There is a stage, which hosts karaoke Monday nights and provides space for live music or an enthusiastic DJ.

Appetizers are available until midnight.

Passion's owners are also taking over the management of Sabor, the existing restaurant inside the Ramada, and plan on recreating the menu as well as offering special events.

"Our aim is to breathe new life into the space and to provide a fresh energy," said Girard.

Passion offers special VIP packages for birthdays, bridal showers and just-because parties, with rates based on groups and personalized packages. Rent an entire room or a booth for any special occasion.



The Passion Ultra Lounge, 201 E. University Ave., serves lunch, dinner and a taste of the Las Vegas nightlife.

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Aaron Henry Diaz
 Foundation for
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A century later, our state continues to be a mecca for the arts. Las Cruces itself has blossomed into a center for talent – great

examples lie inside our museums' walls this month.

A different type of centennial celebration is taking place at the Las Cruces Museum of Art (MoA), where a rare gathering of pieces will show together. We encourage you to join us at "New Mexico: 100 Years of Art," which will reveal more than 60 works from New Mexican artists spanning the past century. We are proud to announce this exhibit will travel to other museums after it concludes April 12.

This evening, the foundation will be hosting a gallery opening of the event for our friends of the museums. If you are not a yet a friend, we encourage you to join to enjoy our gala events and have access to the perks of being a member of a Smithsonian-affiliated museum system. Log on to www.flcm.blogspot.com to find out more information.

Besides the opening at the MoA, Friday's Downtown Art Ramble-goers will have plenty of other new exhibits to explore.

The Branigan Cultural Center will hold two exhibitions this month, with a spotlight on local artists. The first event, "For the Love of Art," presents work from local artists in a variety of media. The month-long celebration includes performances by musicians, dancers and poets from our area. The second exhibit is works from the Doña Ana County Sculpture Class, a group of students exploring the many avenues sculpting has to offer. Come support our local artists during the ramble and attend the reception at 5 to 7 p.m. at the Branigan Cultural Center.

In other exciting news, the Story Corps RV is coming back to Las Cruces. Our board would like to encourage all Las Cruces to participate in the largest oral history project ever. Start thinking of your story now, and visit our blog during the next few weeks for more information.

Planning for the new Museum of Nature and Science Downtown is progressing with great strides. Signage and color schemes are being developed, and construction in the new building may begin as soon as this month. The opening is still on track for November of this year.

Construction has begun at the Railroad Museum to make the 1909 wooden caboose located there accessible to the public. The restoration project has begun and the board is pleased to say this great piece of history should be open and ready to explore during Railroad Days this April.

The new Friends of the Las Cruces Museum board has been working diligently the past month to develop new strategies to make our museum system even better. We are busy creating a new foundation logo, re-organizing the museum membership system and developing fresh ideas for events the public can enjoy.

Whether you can trace your family name back to local street monikers or are a transplant into the southwest landscape, we invite you to come enjoy what the Las Cruces museums have to offer.

Aaron Diaz is the president of Foundation for Las Cruces Museums. Jennifer Perez contributed to this article.



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SUNDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 5, 2012. Table with columns for time slots (5:00-11:30) and rows for various TV channels (PBS, CBS, ABC, FOX, NBC, CW, WGN, ESPN, ESPN2, USA, TNT, TBS, COM, LIFE, FOOD, HGTV, A&E, HIST, TLC, DISC, ANPL, FAM, DISN, NICK, AMC, SYFY, CNN, CNBC, MSNBC) listing their respective programming.

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NIP 'N' TUCK Alterations Hems • Zippers Replaced • Wedding Alterations Pillow Covers Made From Needlework 642-3106. Tue. & Thu. - 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. 121 Wyatt Dr. Suite 19 Southwest Plaza www.polylieth.com/nipntuck

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WEDNESDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 8, 2012. TV schedule grid with channels and program titles.

THURSDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 9, 2012. TV schedule grid with channels and program titles.

Sudoku

Complete the grids below so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively. It is a game of logic, not math, and there is only one solution per puzzle. Have fun and exercise the gray matter. Tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

BEGINNER

3x9 grid for Beginner Sudoku puzzle.

CHALLENGER

3x9 grid for Challenger Sudoku puzzle.

EXPERT

3x9 grid for Expert Sudoku puzzle.

BEGINNER

CHALLENGER

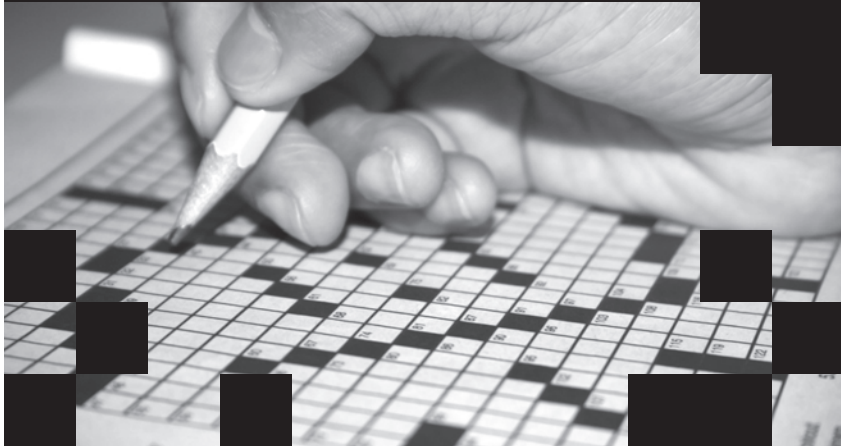
EXPERT

3x9 grid showing last week's solution for Beginner level.

3x9 grid showing last week's solution for Challenger level.

3x9 grid showing last week's solution for Expert level.

BrainGames

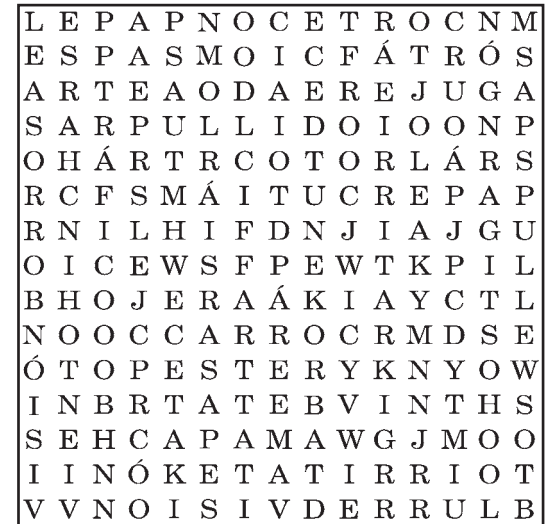


Word Salsa

Circle these English words and their Spanish equivalents that appear in the grid horizontally, vertically, diagonally and backward. Encierre estas palabras en inglés y sus equivalentes en español que aparecen al revés, horizontal, vertical y diagonalmente.

THAT'S ANNOYING

- | ENGLISH | SPANISH |
|----------------|-----------------|
| BLURRED VISION | VISIÓN BORROSA |
| BROKEN | ROTO |
| LEAKY | AGUJERADO |
| PAPER CUT | CORTE CON PAPEL |
| RACCOON | MAPACHE |
| RASH | SARPULLIDO |
| SPASM | ESPASMO |
| TO IRRITATE | IRRITAR |
| TO PESTER | HOSTIGAR |
| TO SWELL UP | HINCHARSE |
| TRAFFIC | TRÁFICO |
| WIND | VIENTO |



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Crossword Puzzles

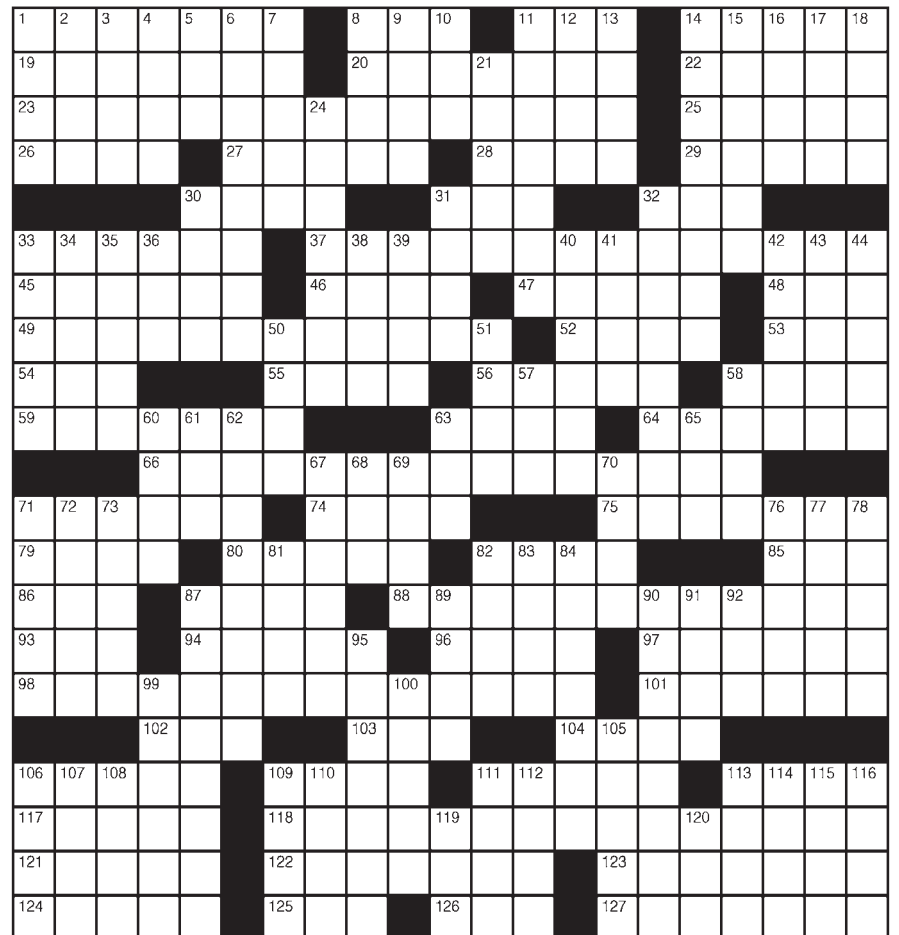
Diagramless, 21 x 21

Like a regular crossword but with an added challenge. Sleuths must also create the diagram and figure out where the numbers and black squares go.

- | ACROSS | DOWN |
|--|--|
| 1 Alternative to plastic | 1 Social stratum |
| 5 Apple boss | 2 "He's ___ nowhere man" (Beatles lyric) |
| 9 Chevron competitor | 3 Shoulder bone |
| 10 Tunnel | 4 Goes with security |
| 11 A-line line | 5 XF makers |
| 12 Departed | 6 Bouquets |
| 13 Video | 7 Pig out |
| 14 Advocate | 8 Charger |
| 15 Last Jewish month | 16 Greyhound, e.g. |
| 16 Stationed | 17 Shoot for, with "to" |
| 17 Pop-ups, e.g. | 18 Melodious |
| 20 Break out | 19 Address |
| 22 ___ de force | 21 Tumor |
| 24 Banquet | 22 Strengthen, with "up" |
| 25 Unspecified number | 23 Looking honest |
| 26 First-rate | 26 Cooking meas. |
| 27 "Guilty," e.g. | 28 Marge's father-in-law on "The Simpsons" |
| 29 Domain or realm | 30 One kind of bonds |
| 32 First-aid item | 31 German resort town: Bad ___ |
| 35 Relating to people who have lost status | 33 Balaam's mount |
| 36 Difficult economic times | 34 Fed. construction overseer |
| 38 Toned | 37 "___ say!" |
| 41 Addis Ababa's land (abbr.) | 39 Scream, shout and go nuts over... |
| 42 Game ragout | 40 Big load |
| 43 Pueblo brick | 44 Feathery wrap |
| 46 Words of understanding | 45 Outback runner |
| 49 Varnish ingredient | 46 Book size |
| 50 Thrifty | 47 Long or red? |
| 52 Middle Eastern nation | 48 Arctic transport |
| 55 Relative | 50 ___-de-cologne |
| 56 Expression of approval | 51 Wayside stop |
| 58 Old aromatic ointment | 53 Buttonhole, e.g. |
| 59 Acquire | 54 Fled |
| 60 Jolt of electricity | 57 Go with, often uninvited |
| 62 Stagnate | 59 Joke |
| 63 Stop sign command | 61 Kangaroo rat |
| 64 It may be easily bruised | 63 Torpedo |
| 65 Catullus composition | 66 Dishonor |
| 66 Bit of parsley | 67 Pushed a boat along, at Oxford |
| 69 Above | 68 Awaken |
| 72 Catcall | 70 Corpulent |
| 73 Gray wolf | 71 Conundrum |
| 74 Reunion attendee | |
| 75 Assayers' stuff | |
| 76 Arizona city | |
| 77 Bridge site | |
| 78 First family's home | |
| 79 Attendee | |

EAT MY WORDS

- | ACROSS | DOWN |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1 Accompanies | 1 Different |
| 8 Character on "The A-Team" | 2 Window ledge |
| 11 UFO crew | 3 Corp. bigwigs |
| 14 Brother of Rebecca | 4 Old music halls |
| 19 Do little or nothing | 5 Stick up |
| 20 Driveway stain, perhaps | 6 Traitor |
| 22 Beatles song from "The White Album" | 7 Trapping gadget |
| 23 Junk carrying fruit? | 8 Wee thing |
| 25 Paroxysm | 9 Rivers in Mexico |
| 26 "Lohengrin" heroine | 10 RN's forte |
| 27 Joyce Kilmer classic | 11 Literary afterwards: var. |
| 28 Lena of "Chocolat" | 12 Novelist Morrison |
| 29 Kind of duck | 13 "South Park" kid |
| 30 Well in France | 14 Well-read elite |
| 31 Fam. member | 15 Spinning |
| 32 Damaged mdse. tag | 16 Shuttlecock |
| 33 Fatality faker | 17 Soothing plant |
| 37 Freeing a pungent plant? | 18 Dodger, in MLB jargon |
| 45 ___ State Building | 21 Clipped |
| 46 Very wide shoe width | 24 Most nervous |
| 47 Meager | 30 Baby-feeding follow-up |
| 48 Light starter? | 31 Coffin holder |
| 49 Force exerted by a fruit? | 32 Put that out of your mind |
| 52 French possessive | 33 Enliven |
| 53 SRO indication | 34 Last of Socrates? |
| 54 That's nasty! | 35 Pitcher Warren |
| 55 Quit it! | 36 Letter starter |
| 56 Barry Levinson movie | 38 Miguel's money |
| 58 Pockmark | |
| 59 Cure-all | |
| 63 Places to stay the night | |
| 64 AEC word | |
| 66 Herb's organic processes? | |
| 71 Cocktail crustacean | |
| 74 Squirmly catches | |
| 75 Under the most negative circumstances | |
| 79 Paint layer | |
| 80 Winged | |
| 82 Honey | |
| 85 Coloration | |
| 86 Operate | |
| 87 Few: pref. | |
| 88 Mushroom stem? | |
| 93 Put into action | |
| 94 Erect, temporarily | |
| 96 Inca land | |
| 97 Brain box | |
| 98 Veggies' contemporaries? | |
| 101 Incursions | |



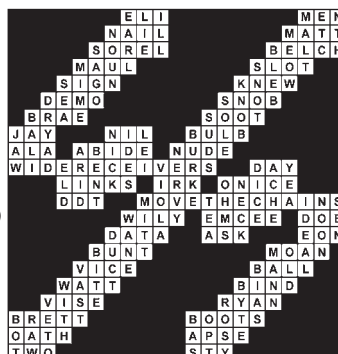
- | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| 39 Sign on for another hitch | 68 Got together | 92 Panama preposition |
| 40 Playground retort | 69 Early sch. | 95 In on |
| 41 Title | 70 "I Remember Mama" character | 99 Twisting force |
| 42 Early anesthetic | 71 Rub hard | 100 Wind: pref. |
| 43 "Dallas" name | 72 Family dwelling | 105 "Still Me" writer |
| 44 Poker pot | 73 Indian royalty | 106 Hindu deity |
| 50 Actor Morales | 76 Valerie Harper sitcom | 107 Math subj. |
| 51 Writer Buchanan | 77 Sullenly ill-humored | 108 James ___ Jones |
| 57 Incoming, as a train (abbr.) | 78 Heads of France | 109 Loan letters |
| 58 Display model | 81 Wood: pref. | 110 Cries of discovery |
| 60 Somewhat | 82 Three from Berlin | 111 Hastens |
| 61 Machinery part | 83 Architect Saarinen | 112 Asian nursemaid |
| 62 Trellis | 84 Corundum relative | 113 Writer Ambler |
| 63 ___ now or never! | 87 Church player | 114 Costa ___ |
| 65 Part of Austral. | 89 Chooses | 115 Brewer's grain |
| 67 Baseball grouping | 90 Lacking in development | 116 Out of the wind |
| | 91 Inside info | 119 NASA partner |
| | | 120 Buckeyes' sch. |

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

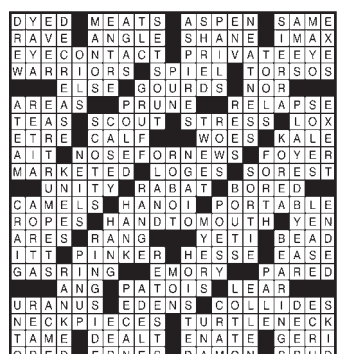
Word Salsa



Diagramless



Face It



CRYPTOGRAM

O P F H W C Z F Y O P W E S K C X E X K H
 P F O K Q U Y U X Z F K M T F W T U F
 E K Y K , P F C W X Y P F E P K Q A P E
 P F O K Q U Y T F W A K K Y R X E
 R K M M F S U W N X H A E P F N F K .

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:
 Now here's a familiar and basic diet law: food that tastes the best has the most calories.



AtTheMovies

A fight for faith and survival

‘The Grey’ is a powerful reminder of mortality

Review by **Amanda Green**
Las Cruces Bulletin

It's been a while since my expectations of a film were met by the reality of the events unfolding on-screen in a darkened theater.

Realistic about my movie choices for the weekend, I usually end up watching multiple trailers before deciding which film to donate my two hours to.

As a fan of Liam Neeson's past roles, ("Love Actually," "Kinsey" and "Taken") I was interested in seeing him in this new, action-hero sort of role. He wasn't the guy I'd ever expect to fill such fast-paced shoes. He's not the youngest or most athletic actor, but I found myself struck from the very beginning of the film by his genuine intensity.

Neeson plays Ottway, a man charged with killing wolves sniper-style in the oil fields of Alaska to prevent the animals from harming the drillers. The bitterly cold tundra is inhabited by those Ottway describes in a letter he writes as, "ex-cons, fugitives, drifters, a-holes; men unfit for mankind."

The letter is read aloud as the audience watches Ottway struggle with loss, loneliness and his eventual decision to end it all by sticking a rifle in his mouth and reaching for the trigger.

Unable to off himself as he hears the howl of a wolf in the distance, the audience is left wondering why he has a sudden change of heart. Instead of leaving a bloody red mess in



Liam Neeson gives an incredible performance in "The Grey" as Ottway, an oil-rig roughneck who must struggle to survive after his plane crashes in the Alaskan tundra.

the snow, Ottway ends up on a plane with his fellow roughnecks over the Great White North.

The plane crashes, with some of the most effective scenes I've ever seen. They were short clips; moments in time that shot the films intensity through the roof. Ear-shattering audio, the screaming of the engines and the panic of the passengers was an incredible experience, especially on the big screen. I had to remind myself, more than once in the few minutes, I was still on the ground.

Once the lights come back, and the dark destruction of the failing plane vanishes, we are left with Ottway in a field of white. He finds a handful of survivors, immediately faced not only with the task of keeping warm or freezing, but of the sudden, aggressive arrival of a

pack of wolves.

These aren't your every-day Jack London wolves, but enhanced and enlarged by the magic of clever CGI and puppetry to turn them into monsters. Animal activists have already gone up in arms over the use of the canines, though I doubt they've actually seen the film. If they had, they'd have discovered "The Grey" was more about battling the elements or the vicious shadows.

By using very few glimpses of the creatures, often only teeth or fur, fear transcended the physical animal and became far more relative. Ultimately, the film was not about killing wolves, but about fighting fear, finding faith and understanding how precious each breath is.

Every death is a singular, tragic and unrepeatable event. There's an extraordinary scene early on in which, just after the crash, Ottway

gently encourages a dying man to let go and accept his fate as his fellow survivors look on in horror. An hour in, you start to realize the small but powerful moment was a template for the entire movie.

With plenty of gore and action, usually expected from co-writer and director Joe Carnahan, known for his gritty cop thriller, "Narc" and testosterone hyped "Smokin' Aces," his ambitious take to this film, was an excellent change of pace. "The Grey" comes to terms with what it really takes to survive when everything is against you.

As Ottway is the group's resident wolf expert and an all-around badass, he becomes the default man in charge. This does not sit well with Diaz (Frank Grillo), a macho ex-con who challenges Ottway's quiet authority every chance he gets. Other survivors include family man Talget (Dermot Mulroney), a cowardly loudmouth Flannery (Joe Anderson) and the quietly clever Henrick (Dallas Roberts). Rather than freezing to death or be brutally killed as the wolves move closer, the men resolve to trek across the tundra to a distant tree-lined mountain, hoping to encounter either civilization or at least better cover along the way.

One by one they get picked off suddenly, as they might in a sadistic, horror film. The audience knows time is coming to an end, but can't quite guess how or where. The entire film is driven by this unknown, and sometimes it feels like a lawnchair mounted on a rocket. You know it's bound to crash, but it's going to be one hell of a ride.

Neeson was remarkable. Supported by an all-male cast, he stands alone in his self-reinvention as a credible and magnetic action hero. "The Grey" can't help but evoke memories of Neeson's real-life tragedy, the loss of his wife Natasha Richardson in a freak skiing accident in 2009. Neeson brings that hard-won understanding of his own mortality to a painfully vivid life on screen, turning what could have been a stock manly man role into something much deeper.

"The Grey" is an incredibly realistic portrait of grief, mourning and of the moral obligations we have to one another as living, breathing beings.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
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| UNDERWORLD AWAKENING SHOWING IN 3D DAILY 12:30 2:45 5:00 7:30 9:45 (R) \$2 UPCHARGE NO PASS OF ANY KIND | | CONTRABAND DAILY 11:50 2:20 4:50 7:20 10:00 (R) | | ONE FOR THE MONEY DAILY 2:40 5:10 7:30 9:40 SAT-SUN 12:20 (PG13) NO PASS OR DISCOUNT | | CONTRABAND DAILY 2:10 4:40 7:15 9:50 SAT-SUN 11:40 (R) | | ALVIN THE CHIPMUNKS DAILY 2:30 4:45 7:10 9:30 SAT-SUN 12:20 (G) | |
| We Bought A ZOO DAILY 12:15 3:15 6:15 9:15 (PG) | | Beauty and the Beast 3D SHOWING IN 3D DAILY 12:00 2:30 7:05 9:30 (G) NO PASS OF ANY KIND | | EXTREMELY LOUD INCREDIBLY CLOSE DAILY 3:10 6:40 9:30 SAT-SUN 12:15 (PG13) | | THE GREY DAILY 2:00 4:40 7:20 10:00 SAT-SUN 11:20 (R) NO PASS OR DISCOUNT | | RED TAILS DAILY 3:00 7:15 10:00 SAT-SUN 12:00 (PG13) | |
| MISSION IMPOSSIBLE GHOST PROTOCOL DAILY 12:00 3:30 6:35 9:35 (PG13) | | Beauty and the Beast SHOWING IN 2D DAILY 4:50 (G) | | UNDERWORLD AWAKENING DAILY 2:10 4:50 7:25 10:00 SAT-SUN 11:35 (R) | | THE WOMAN IN BLACK DAILY 2:40 5:10 7:30 9:50 SAT-SUN 12:20 (PG13) NO PASS OR DISCOUNT | | CHRONICLE DAILY 3:30 6:25 9:15 SAT-SUN 12:35 (PG13) NO PASS OR DISCOUNT | |
| SHERLOCK HOLMES A GAME OF SHADOWS DAILY 12:00 3:30 6:35 9:35 (PG13) | | BIG MIRACLE DAILY 11:30 2:05 4:40 7:15 9:50 (PG) NO PASS OR DISCOUNT | | VIDEO 4 1005 S. EL PASO ALL SEATS ALL TIMES \$3.00 | | HAPPY FEET DAILY 4:40 7:00 9:20 SAT-SUN 2:20 (PG) BREAKING DAWN DAILY 4:40 7:20 10:00 SAT-SUN 2:00 (PG13) NEW YEAR'S EVE DAILY 4:40 7:20 10:00 SAT-SUN 2:00 (PG13) JACK AND JILL DAILY 4:45 7:10 9:30 SAT-SUN 2:10 (PG) | | BRING THIS COUPON TO THE VIDEO 4 AND SEE THE MOVIE OF YOUR CHOICE FOR ONLY \$1.00/PER PERSON GOOD FOR UP TO 5 PERSON WED. & THURS ONLY!! VIDEO 4 1005 S. EL PASO | |

Film Review

An impressive storyline and incredible casting makes "The Grey" one of the best films I've seen all year. Bring it on 2012!

Grade A+

THE GREY

Starring: Liam Neeson

Rated: R

Running time: 117 minutes

Director: Joe Carnahan

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AtTheMovies

Picking the Flicks



Movie information from www.rottentomatoes.com. Thumbs-up based on a 5-point scale.

Contraband

Rating: R
Plot Overview: To protect his brother-in-law from a drug lord, a former smuggler heads to Panama to score millions of dollars in counterfeit bills.
Starring: Mark Wahlberg, Kate Beckinsale
Director: Baltasar Kormákur



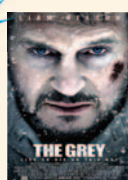
We Bought a Zoo

Rating: PG
Plot Overview: Set in Southern California, a father moves his young family to the countryside to renovate and re-open a struggling zoo.
Starring: Matt Damon, Scarlett Johansson
Director: Cameron Crowe



The Grey

Ratings: R
Plot Overview: A man leads an unruly group of oil rig roughnecks when their plane crashes into the remote Alaskan wilderness.
Starring: Liam Neeson
Director: Joe Carnahan



Man on a Ledge

Ratings: PG-13
Plot Overview: An ex-cop and now wanted fugitive stands on the ledge of a high-rise building while a New York Police Department negotiator tries to talk him down.
Starring: Sam Worthington
Director: Asger Leth



Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close

Rating: PG-13
Plot Overview: A 9-year-old searches New York City for the clues left behind by his father, who died in the World Trade Center on 9/11.
Starring: Thomas Horn, Tom Hanks
Director: Stephen Daldry



Haywire

Ratings: R
Plot Overview: A black ops super soldier seeks payback after she is betrayed and set up during a mission.
Starring: Gina Carano, Ewan McGregor
Director: Steven Soderbergh



Underworld: Awakening

Rating: R
Plot Overview: The vampire Selene escapes imprisonment to find herself in a world where humans have discovered their existence and are conducting an all-out war to eradicate the immortal species.
Starring: Kate Beckinsale
Director: Mans Marland, Bjorn Stein



Beauty and the Beast

Rating: G
Plot Overview: Belle, whose father is imprisoned by the Beast, offers herself instead and discovers her captor to be an enchanted prince.
Starring: Paige O'Hara, Robby Benson
Director: Gary Trousdale, Kirk Wise



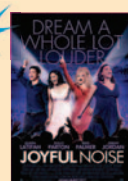
Red Tails

Rating: PG-13
Plot Overview: To help win WWII, the untested African-American pilots of the experimental Tuskegee training program take to the skies to fight for their country.
Starring: Terrence Howard
Director: Anthony Hemingway



Joyful Noise

Rating: PG-13
Plot Overview: Two choir members have differing opinions on how to win the national choir competition.
Starring: Queen Latifah, Dolly Parton
Director: Todd Graff



Mission: Impossible – Ghost Protocol

Rating: PG-13
Plot Overview: The IMF is shut down when it's implicated in the bombing of the Kremlin.
Starring: Tom Cruise, Jeremy Renner
Director: Brad Bird



The Descendants

Ratings: R
Plot Overview: An indifferent husband and father of two girls is forced to re-examine his past and embrace his future when his wife suffers a boating accident off of Waikiki.
Starring: George Clooney
Director: Alexander Payne



One For the Money

Ratings: PG-13
Plot Overview: A born-and-bred Jersey girl convinces her sleazy cousin to give her a job at his bail bond company as a recovery agent.
Starring: Katherine Heigl
Director: Julie Anne Robinson



Chronicle

Ratings: PG-13
Plot Overview: Three high school students make an incredible discovery, leading to them developing uncanny powers beyond their understanding.
Starring: Dane DeHaan, Michael B. Jordan
Director: Josh Trank
OPENS FRIDAY, FEB. 3



Big Miracle

Ratings: PG
Plot Overview: A small town news reporter and an animal-loving volunteer race to save a family of gray whales trapped by rapidly forming ice in the Arctic Circle.
Starring: John Krasinski, Drew Barrymore
Director: Ken Kwapis
OPENS FRIDAY, FEB. 3



The Woman in Black

Ratings: PG-13
Plot Overview: A young lawyer travels to a remote village where he discovers the vengeful ghost of a scorned woman is terrorizing the locals.
Starring: Daniel Radcliffe
Director: James Watkins
OPENS FRIDAY, FEB. 3



New this week
on DVD
 Tuesday, Feb. 7

A Warrior's Heart

Rating: PG
Genre: Action
Starring: Kellan Lutz, Ashley Greene
Director: Michael F. Sears

A Very Harold & Kumar 3D Christmas

Rated: R
Genre: Comedy
Starring: John Cho, Kal Penn
Director: Todd Strauss Schulson

Anonymous

Rated: PG-13
Genre: Drama
Starring: Edward Hogg
Director: Roland Emmerich

Top Grossing Jan. 27-29

- 1** The Grey (Week No. 1) \$19,700,000
- 2** Underworld Awakening (Week No. 2) \$12,400,000
- 3** One for the Money (Week No. 1) \$11,500,000
- 4** Red Tails (Week No. 2) \$10,400,000
- 5** Man on a Ledge (Week No. 1) \$8,000,000
- 6** Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close (Week No. 2) \$7,000,000
- 7** Contraband (Week No. 3) \$6,700,000
- 8** The Descendants (Week No. 11) \$6,400,000
- 9** Beauty and the Beast 3-D (Week No. 3) \$5,300,000
- 10** Haywire (Week No. 2) \$4,000,000

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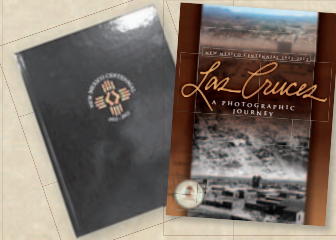
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Mañana isn't good enough anymore

Rachel Christiansen

Operation: Fabulous



When I first moved to New Mexico, a local informed me that I now live in "the land of mañana." At this point, I was either too young, or too Texan, to grasp the meaning of this.

Now that notion of "I'll just do it tomorrow," permeates nearly every aspect of my life. The only time I ever complain about it is when deadlines approach.

Recently, I have let that attitude seep into an area of my life that just can't wait until tomorrow: My health.

I am a culprit of telling my friends and coworkers, "I will start my diet tomorrow," or next week, or after whatever pre-planned function where I know there will be delicious – albeit fattening – foods.

I realized, however, this is usually just something I say to ease the guilt of eating something I know I shouldn't, and I'm not fooling anyone.

Tomorrow hardly ever comes with regard to dieting and exercise. There's always going to be some excuse as to why it can't happen.

So, how do we get over all those convenient excuses to just jump in and do it?

The answer may be a simple one: Support. Instead of individually trying to tackle the hurdles of being healthy, try it with a network of supporters.

Myself, along with about 15 others, have made the commitment to stop making excuses and start making changes when we met at La Buena Vida Women's Club to face the ugly truth of that first weigh-in and measurement recording.

We were all given the assignment to name an accountability partner. An accountability partner is a person – preferably not a spouse or partner – who will support and encourage you throughout the challenge and maybe meet you at the gym once or twice a week.

The idea behind choosing someone from the outside is the people to whom we are most close may just be the ones allowing those unhealthy decisions.

You can share with this person your small triumphs, and maybe get some advice. After all, success can't be achieved without small failures – it's human nature.

It's also in my nature to want to win. A little competitive sport with fellow challengers never hurt.

All the participants have decided to make the next six months ones of healthy decisions, for all different reasons.

If you need some motivation to start living a healthier lifestyle, you can meet some of the challengers and see what their reasons are on pages D4-5.

What these pictures reveal is what we hope to change by the summer.

Wish us luck.

Bring it on accountability partner. Share your diet successes and failures with me at health@lascrucesbulletin.com.

Fighting childhood obesity

Insurance company awards grant to jump start effort

By **Rachel Christiansen**
Las Cruces Bulletin

When a small group of people are trying to do a really big thing, they deserve some attention – and maybe a helping hand.

The fact is childhood obesity is a problem nationally and within the walls of our own community.

Amy O'Donnell, a motivated Mayfield High School senior, has taken it upon herself to take action and prove to Las Cruces' youth that "being healthy isn't that hard."

"I've always been involved in different things that keep me in shape, but I've seen younger people becoming more and more inactive," O'Donnell said.

Joining forces with the Junior League of Las Cruces, of which O'Donnell's mother, Shirley, has been a member for the past 11 years, Spring into a Healthy Me will focus on educating elementary and middle school-aged children and their families on making healthier life decisions.

Shirley O'Donnell said the Junior League of Las Cruces began to refocus its energy from promoting literacy programs to fighting childhood obesity several years ago when it started to become a prominent issue.

The Junior League of Las Cruces currently holds about 52 members, and is a chapter of the Association of Junior Leagues International Inc., one of the largest volunteer organizations in the world.

"It started with Kids in the Kitchen, a program of the league which aims to teach kids how to make healthy snacks for themselves, and I really wanted to expand on that idea," O'Donnell said.



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Rachel Christiansen

Amy O'Donnell, a senior at Mayfield High School, is enlisting the help of fellow Girl Scouts, the Junior League of Las Cruces and community members to fight childhood obesity. Her efforts will merit the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest honor a Girl Scout can receive.

Spring into a Healthy Me will be a free community event focusing not only on better cooking and shopping decisions, but also on staying healthy through getting enough exercise and staying active.

"Things like Zumba are really fun and popular right now, so I'm going to try and get a Zumba instructor to come help," O'Donnell said.

Amy O'Donnell has been a Girl Scout since the first grade, she said, and through her efforts with the Junior League, is attempting to achieve the Gold Award, which is the highest honor a girl scout can be given.

Amy O'Donnell already received her Bronze

and Silver awards for previous community work.

Enlisting the help of organizations, such as the Key Club and fellow Girl Scouts members, Amy O'Donnell said she has been proactive in planning the event.

Already applying for and receiving a grant in the amount of \$500 from the United Healthcare Heroes program to get started, O'Donnell said the event is still a work in progress, and she is currently seeking out community volunteers who will jump on board.

"The Junior League of Las Cruces and its 'Spring into a Healthy Me Event' was selected
See **Obesity** on page D2

A new kind of treatment

FDA finally approves, but will it catch on?

By **Rachel Christiansen**
Las Cruces Bulletin

The answer to the cancer mystery may lie within teaching our own immune systems how to fight the disease.

That's exactly what the recently released prostate cancer treatment, called Provenge, aims to do.

Provenge had been in clinical trials for the past 10 years, and last year was approved for sale by the Food and Drug Administration, according to Dr. Bishnu Rauth, owner of New Hope Cancer Center.

Rauth has been practicing medicine for the past 30 years, 17 of those in Las Cruces with New Hope, and says he believes Provenge is "the future of cancer treatment."

"I've always felt that the biggest advantage is looking at how we use the body's own immune system to actually fight cancer," Rauth said. "This is a completely different way to treat

See **Hope** on page D2



Dr. Bishnu Rauth, of New Hope Cancer Center, takes a minute out of his busy schedule Wednesday, Feb. 1, to discuss the benefits of using Provenge, a new prostate cancer treatment, of which he is the only doctor in the region currently administering.

Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Rachel Christiansen

Help for those who need it most

NMSU educates generation of social workers

New Mexico State University offers a number of specialized programs to prepare students to provide services to abused and neglected children and their families. These include the Child Welfare Scholar Program and the Child and Advocacy Studies minor.

Child Welfare Scholar Program

The School of Social Work at NMSU collaborates with the New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Department Protective Services Division (PSD) to provide training to increase the number of social workers available to provide services to children subjected to or at risk of child abuse and neglect within their families. Child Welfare Scholars receive specialized course work and training in child welfare, including a one-year placement in a supervised field practicum setting within a CYFD/PSD county office.

Child Welfare Scholars must have an interest in and commitment to do challenging work that will make a positive difference in the lives of children and their families. Scholars receive a stipend, and, in return, must be willing to accept employment with CYFD/PSD in counties where there is the greatest need for qualified social workers. Interested applicants must first be accepted into the social work program at NMSU before applying to be a Scholar.

CAST Minor

The Child and Advocacy Studies (CAST) minor is an undergraduate, interdisciplinary, 18-hour minor promoting knowledge and skills to improve the outcomes for maltreated children in New Mexico. The CAST minor, a joint effort between the College of Agriculture, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences and the College of Health and Social Services, is housed within the School

of Social Work.

The need to train students to competently address child abuse and neglect is great. In Fiscal Year 2011 the State of New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Department received over 32,000 reports of child abuse and neglect and screened in 55 percent of the reports for further investigation. Of those reports investigated, more than 23 percent were substantiated for either physical neglect, physical abuse or sexual abuse.

Students in the CAST minor will develop skills in policy analysis, forensic interviewing and advocating for abused and neglected children among other topics.

The CAST minor is comprised of three core courses and three electives, worth three credits each for a total of 18 credits required for the minor. Students must have a GPA of 2.75 or higher, be admitted into the CAST minor and satisfy all application requirements. Applications are accepted twice a year and students may begin taking courses in either the Fall or Spring semesters.

Reporting abuse or neglect

It is important for every person to take child abuse and neglect seriously, to be able to recognize when it happens, and to know what to do when you see it. In fact, it's more than important: It's the law. The New Mexico Children's Code (32A-4-3 NMSA 1978) requires "Every person ... who knows or has a reasonable suspicion that a child is an abused or a neglected child shall report the matter immediately."

"Any person who suspects child maltreatment is occurring should call PSD's Statewide Central Intake (SCI) at 855-333-SAFE (7233) or #SAFE from a cell phone.

When making a report of abuse or neglect, you may choose to remain

anonymous. However, reporters are encouraged to provide information about who they are because it can be of great assistance in the investigation process. And, if reporters leave their names and addresses, they can be notified by SCI as to whether or not the report was accepted for investigation.

The reporter's name remains confidential unless ordered to be released by a court of law. In rare cases, a reporter could be required to testify in court if such testimony is necessary to protect the child.

While every effort is made to protect a reporter's identity, PSD cannot guarantee that an alleged perpetrator will not figure out who has made the report.

Occasionally, parents or alleged perpetrators are able to guess who reported the abuse based on the nature of the report. In these cases, PSD's role is to attempt to redirect the alleged perpetrators and engage them in focusing on the concerns for the child.

As a reporter of abuse or neglect, it is important to include as many details about the suspected maltreatment as possible. In order for a report to be screened in for investigation, you must be able to provide enough information so that the county office conducting the investigation is able to find the child.

Even if you don't know the name and address of the child and/or parents, you may be able to provide descriptive information such as the child's school, parent's work place or vehicle license plate which will enable PSD to follow-up and could, ultimately, help to protect a vulnerable child.

For more information on the Child Welfare Scholar program or the CAST minor, call the School of Social Work at 646-2143.

This article was compiled by Madeline Gillette, senior project manager in the School of Social Work, and Shelly Bucher, project director in the School of Social Work.

Obesity

Continued from page D1

as a HEROES grant recipient because it demonstrated an understanding of the health risks related to childhood obesity and how to raise awareness among youth and in the community," said Beth Soberg, CEO of United Healthcare of New Mexico. "This initiative exemplified the overall mission of the HEROES program in the goal of educating children on how to be healthy for life."

If you are interested in helping or volunteering for the Spring into a Healthy Me event, call Shirley O'Donnell at 642-1058.

Hope

Continued from page D1

the patient."

A first-ever vaccine cancer treatment, Provenge works by training a patient's immune system cells to recognize and attack invading prostate cancer cells.

Rauth is currently the only doctor in the region to administer the treatment, and said in the past two months of obtaining clearance to do so, treated two patients.

"They are doing well, but to fully know the extent of which it's working takes about six to nine months," Rauth said. "It takes time, because the body has to work to recruit immune system cells that will recognize the prostate cancer."

Rauth said the treatment will probably catch on, once the results start being documented within the community of physicians, but there still are some obstacles standing in the way of making it the new wonder drug.

For one, it is incredibly expensive. For the standard three treatments, the bill comes close to almost \$100,000. A pretty penny, even in the age of sky rocketing health care costs.

Fortunately, most Medicare companies have agreed to cover it. A cancer treatment causing nearly no side effects that has proven life-extending results, seems like a walk in the park compared with that of its onerous chemotherapy counterpart.

Provenge has received criticisms for being so expensive while studies have shown a life-extending period of only four months.

"You're talking about survival data, and four months is a lot if a person wasn't going to live in the first place," Rauth said. "This is an actual survival benefit that we don't normally see in other cancer treating protocols."

Another obstacle, Rauth said, is that it's time consuming to get approved to actually administer the treatment.

"We take the patient's blood, we send it to a company called Dendreon, and they program the patient's cells to fight the cancerous cells," Rauth said. "They send it back, and we put it back into the patient."

Could this really be the next treatment for other deadly cancers? Rauth seems to think so.

"We will start seeing this being looked into for other cancers, in fact, it already is," Rauth said.



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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.

CARING BRIDGE SUPPORT GROUP

Caring Bridge, an activity support group for adults in recovery from mental illness, meets from 4 to 6 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.

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP

A family caregiver support group meets from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursdays at Café España in the Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces, 705 S. Telshor Blvd. Co-facilitators with many years of experience in senior-care issues will be on hand.

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 who have been 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.

STROKE SURVIVORS SUPPORT GROUP

A stroke survivors support group meets at 1 p.m. the first Thursday of the month at Munson Senior Center, 975 S. Mesquite St. For more information, call 528-3000.

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., in the library.

The group also has a big-book meeting at 2 p.m. Fridays at Newman Center, 2615 S. Solano Drive. For more information, call Wayne at 647-5684.

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.

WATER AEROBICS CLASSES

Water aerobics classes will be held at 1 p.m. each Monday, Wednesday and Friday in a shaded outdoor pool at The Village at Northrise, 2880 N. Roadrunner Parkway. Cost is \$3 per session or \$35 monthly.

For more information or to register, call Pam at 382-8218 or sfurandfeathers@aol.com.

WORKSHOP ON SEX IN THE LATER YEARS

Andrea Dresser will present a workshop titled "Sex Does Not Retire," from 2 to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7, at Branigan Memorial Library, 200 E. Picacho Ave. Myths, misconceptions and realities will be discussed at this free, fun and factual workshop on sexuality during mid-and-later years of life. For more information, call 448-1350.

BRAIN INJURY GROUP

The Brain Injury Group meets from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. each Friday at the Housing Authority of Las Cruces, 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.

LOW VISION SUPPORT GROUP

A low vision support group meets from 9:30 to 11 a.m. the first Tuesday of the month, except during the summer, at the Mesilla Park Recreation Center, 304 W. Bell Ave., and from 2:30 to 4 p.m. at Munson Senior Center, 975 S. Mesquite St. Facilitator is psychologist Cheryl Black.

For more information, call 528-3000.

RED CROSS CPR, FIRST-AID CLASSES

The American Red Cross will be offering CPR and first-aid classes at its Las Cruces location, 1301 E. Griggs Ave., the first and third Saturday of each month in 2012. Participants are asked to register by the Tuesday before the class.

For more information or to register, call 800-733-2767.

TRANSPLANT SUPPORT GROUP

The Southern New Mexico Transplant Support Group (TRIO) meets from 6:30 to 8 p.m. the second Thursday of the month at MountainView Regional Medical Center, 4311 E. Lohman Ave., in the conference room located on the right side at the entrance to the cafeteria.

For more information, call Susan at 496-2627.

HATHA YOGA

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.

Heart of my Life Ball

Do you know a woman who is living a heart healthier life? Tell us her story.

MountainView Regional Medical Center's Healthy Woman program would like to feature her during our first "Heart of my Life" Ball on February 25, 2012. If chosen, your nominee will be able to dress up and participate in the The Heart of My Life Fashion Show, sponsored by Emerald Isle Boutique. Ten finalists will be chosen to strut their stuff while their stories of courageous transformation are told. The woman with the most inspiring story will be awarded a special prize package. All nominees will be entered into a drawing for a beautiful outfit from the Emerald Isle Boutique.



It's easy, just complete the nomination form (below), write a short legible description of her life change and return them along with a color photo to Audrey Hartley, Healthy Woman Coordinator, MountainView Regional Medical Center, 4311 East Lohman Ave, Las Cruces, NM 88011 or email: audrey.hardman-hartley@mountainviewregional.com by Friday February 3.

Please limit your nominations to women who have experienced heart disease, or reduced their risk of heart disease, because of heart healthy changes they have made (200 words or less).

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Nominee: _____ Age: _____

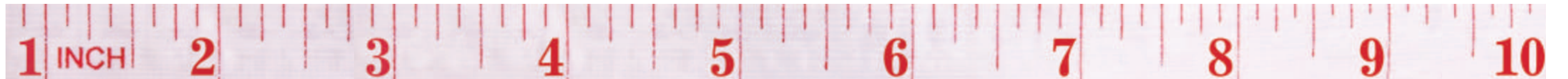
Address: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____ Cell: _____

Age: _____ Dress Size: _____

Meet the challengers



Samantha Roberts

Starting Weight
115.8

Reason for joining challenge: Samantha said she feels at this point in her life, she is so close to reaching her ideal fitness and body type and would like the group's support to lose those last few pounds before her wedding in May.



Beth Sitzler

Starting Weight
161.4

Reason for joining challenge: Beth participated in last year's weight-loss challenge, and said it was valuable because of what she learned, but is once again unhappy with her weight and needs the help of others to stay motivated and reach her goal weight.



Amanda Green

Starting Weight:
257

Reason for joining challenge: Amanda said she is sick of telling herself the typical excuses of not having time or being too tired to workout, and the challenge gives her an audience who expects results, and that's what she plans on giving them, one pound at a time.



Daniel Bassman Basaldua

Starting Weight
220.4

Reason for joining challenge: Daniel joined the weight-loss challenge to not only support his wife, but also to get in better shape so he can feel better about himself and live a healthier life for his family.



Rose Palacio

Starting Weight
188.2

Reason for joining challenge: Rose got back into working out in August 2011, after a knee injury left her thinking she couldn't exercise and lose the weight she wants to. Once the good-feeling of exercising kicked in and she heard about the challenge, she thought it poses realistic goals in a fun way by providing the group support. Rose has now regained the hope of eating better so that by the end of the six months, she will fit into a smaller dress size.



Courtney Degler

Starting Weight
158.6

Reason for joining challenge: Courtney said she is joining the challenge to feel better about herself and be able to be more active with her two children. She said as a single mom, she's making it a goal to make the time for more healthy activities that the whole family can enjoy. It's about all the little daily choices that will add up to make a big difference to Courtney, such as parking farther away from the store and choosing water or teas instead of sodas.



Rachel Christiansen

Starting Weight
144.8

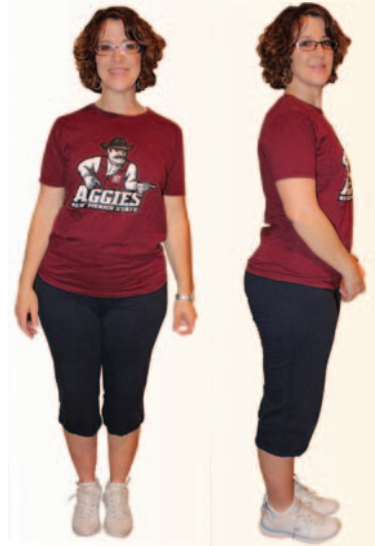
Reason for joining challenge: Rachel has struggled with being borderline overweight for the past few years, and after losing 25 pounds since the summer of 2011, she wants to continue on the path to try and be in the best shape of her life.



Theresa Montoya Basaldua

Starting Weight
245.8

Reason for joining challenge: Theresa was a participant of last year's weight-loss challenge, and was able to lose 30 pounds and change her life. However, as time went on over the next six to nine months, she said she had a hard time maintaining that healthy lifestyle and would like to go back to feeling better for her herself and her family.



Terry Bierwirth

Starting Weight: 170.2

Reason for joining challenge: Terry said she has recently been suffering from back and joint pain, and would like to not only exercise to strengthen these areas, but also lose weight to feel more comfortable in her clothes. Terry said she is committed to losing weight until she feels better mentally and physically, no matter if it's 10 or 20 pounds.



Ashley Butler

Starting Weight
131

Reason for joining challenge: As a criminal justice major at New Mexico State University, Ashley said she hopes to one day be at the federal level of law enforcement, and said in order to do that, she needs to be in top physical shape. At the urging of other friends who were joining the challenge, Ashley decided to jump on board and start laying the groundwork for these future goals.



Christine Logan

Starting Weight
168.8

Reason for joining challenge: Christine said without the support of a group, it is easier for her to justify dieting "later." She said being at a healthier weight will be better for her knees and joints and she wants to be more comfortable in her clothes. She has a goal of working out at least three times a week, and plans on doing some kind of exercise daily.



Christina Suesbrich

Starting Weight
135.8

Reason for joining challenge: This is Christina's first time joining a weight loss challenge, and has been a member of La Buena Vida Women's Club for the past year. She said she wants to incorporate dieting with her exercise to lose weight and feel better about herself.

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To participate or for more information about the Las Cruces Bridal & Special Events Showcase, call Helping Hands at 522-1232. To place an ad in this Perfect Southwest Weddings 2012, call the Las Cruces Bulletin at 524-8061.

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Noise exposure is one of the most common causes of hearing loss, and one of the most widespread occupational hazards in the United States. A single shot from a shotgun, experienced at close range, may permanently damage your hearing in an instant. Repeated exposures to loud machinery may, over an extended period of time, present serious risks to your hearing.

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Children's Church Sun: 10:30 a.m.
Wed Prayer & Bible Study: 7 p.m.
Pastor Linvell Tisdale
6160 Moongate • 382-0386

Bethel Second Baptist Church

Reverend Gregory Arthur
Sunday:
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 a.m.
Wednesday:
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405 E. Hadley Ave. • 523-7850
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Buddhist



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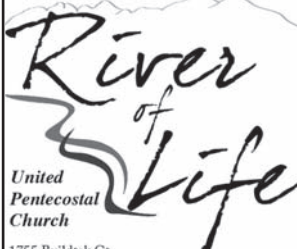
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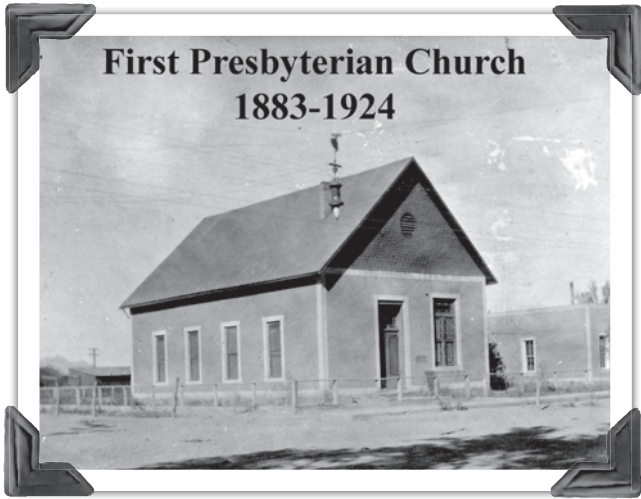
Pentecostal


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THE LAS CRUCES
Bulletin
welcomes submissions of local church events and activities.

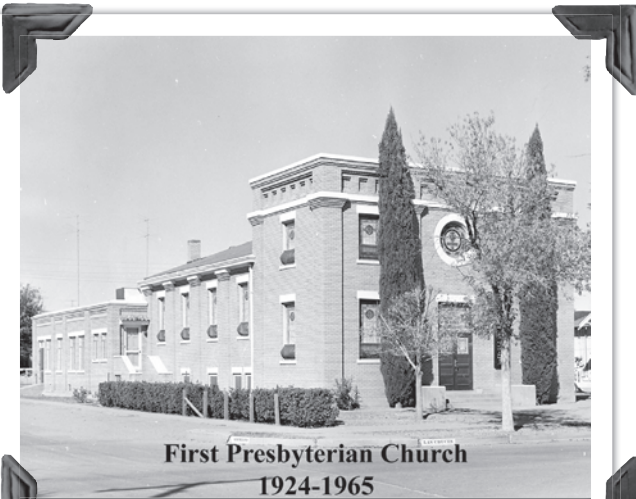
Centennial Spotlight

1 9 1 2 - 2 0 1 2



**First Presbyterian Church
1883-1924**

The first Protestant church in the city, First Presbyterian Church of Las Cruces was originally housed in a building on Las Cruces Avenue, which is now the location for the Las Cruces Boys & Girls Club.



**First Presbyterian Church
1924-1965**

The church outgrew its first location and was moved to Armijo Street.



In 1965, the church moved to its current home at 200 E. Boutz Road. A staple of the community, the church serves 350 to 400 congregants and conducts numerous community outreach endeavors.

First Presbyterian has a rich history

Church has served area for more than 120 years

By **Beth Sitzler**
Las Cruces Bulletin

Before New Mexico became a state, First Presbyterian Church of Las Cruces served the Mesilla Valley as a place of worship and community outreach.



P THE PENTECOSTALS OF LAS CRUCES
United Pentecostal Church International

L Sunday Worship Service
11 a.m.

C Monday Prayer
7 p.m.

W Wednesday Mid-Week Service
7 p.m.

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www.UnityofLasCruces.org

"This church has a long, rich history," said Rev. Norman Story, pastor of the church since 2003.

First Presbyterian Church was first established in the late 1800s in Mesilla, ministering to both the local Hispanic and Anglo population. The two groups then split in 1883, with the Spanish congregants staying in Mesilla and the Anglos heading to Las Cruces.

"In its early days, it was the only Protestant church (in the area)," Story said. "And since those early days, the church has always been very active in the community."

At first serving about four or five congregants, Rev. Mathieson sold windmills to help support the mission. Soon, more and more people joined, and the church's first building was constructed on Las Cruces Avenue - where the Las Cruces Boys & Girls Club is located - thanks to \$200 raised by the Women's Presbyterian Board of Missions.

As the years passed, First Presbyterian Church grew, so much so that it moved locations on a few occasions. In 1965, it came to its current

home at 200 E. Boutz Road.

"The church remained involved with local civic organizations," said Story, adding that the congregation is an avid supporter of the Gospel Rescue Mission. "We understand that our call is to make a difference in the community. Las Cruces is our home, and we've been called to show that God loves his people.

"It's always been the mission of the church to serve the community. To feed the hungry and the needy. Beyond our walls is where we're called to serve."

Story said an important focus of First Presbyterian Church is to help community children in need, even if they or their families aren't members of the congregation.

"Our children's programs impact a lot of kids," he said. "We do whatever it takes to help these kids be successful."

One such program is Salt & Light, which celebrated its 20th anniversary in January. The program, held every Wednesday night, offers children the opportunity to learn about the Bible, enjoy a meal



A band entertains guests during the Salt & Light 20th anniversary celebration held at First Presbyterian Church of Las Cruces in January. Since the church's establishment in 1883, it has worked to reach out to those in the community in need, especially children.

and even spend time doing homework.

"Some neighborhood kids will walk over for it," Story said. "It's a safe place where they'll be fed and loved. This program makes a difference in the lives of a lot of kids."

As the 30th pastor of First Presbyterian Church - for 50 years the congregation was considered an outpost church and the pastors didn't stay longer than two years - Story said he has been charged with figuring out how to keep the Gospel, which doesn't change, alive in a society that is constantly changing.

"How do we live faithful

lives?" he asked.

To better serve the community, Story said First Presbyterian Church added a Saturday service, which is more contemporary and includes a potluck. Story has also conducted baptisms in French, Spanish and other foreign languages with a translator to reach various demographics.

"We have a community of Cameroon students who worship with us, and they've held a Cameroon service here," he said.

Story said the church has also reached out to Pueblo Glacia, a Spanish-speaking Presbyterian mission, and lets

its members use the church facility.

"We'll even worship together," he said.

As the church moves into its 129th year of existence, Story said the church and its 350 to 400 congregants will renew their focus on community outreach, including rebuilding the church's relationship with the New Mexico State University community and enhancing its music program, which features events open to the community.

"There is still a tremendous need in Las Cruces and we will participate in that," he said.

Church News

EASTERN STAR ENCHILADA DINNER

Las Cruces Chapter No. 20, Order of the Eastern Star, will host a red enchilada dinner from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11, at the Aztec Masonic Lodge, 180 E. Boutz Road. The dinner is \$7 for adults and \$3.50 for children under 12. Take outs will be available. For more information, contact 521-9736 or ntredhead@gmail.com.

DOCUMENTARY SHOWING

The Israel Committee and Mensch Club of Temple Beth-El will show the documentary "Pillar of Fire: A Television History of Israel's Rebirth" at 2 p.m. Sundays, Feb. 12, 19 and 26, at the temple, 3980 Sonoma Springs Ave. The series is in English and the films are open to all for free. For more information, call 524-3380.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR CONCERT

The Watoto African Children's Choir will hold a concert at First Baptist Church of Las Cruces, 106 S. Miranda St., at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7. A love offering will be accepted at the free event. For more information, call 524-3691.

BENEFIT DINNER

Knights of Columbus

Fourth Degree and the Catholic Charitable Fund will sponsor a benefit enchilada dinner from 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 12, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 2755 E. Idaho Ave. Plates are \$6.

FREE VALENTINE'S DAY WEDDINGS

Unity of Las Cruces, 125 Wyatt Drive, will hold free Valentine's Day weddings from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday,

Feb. 14. For more information, call 523-5592 or visit www.unityoflascruces.org.

NMSU GOSPEL CONCERT

The New Mexico State University Gospel Choir will hold a Gospel Celebration Concert at 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 12, at the Atkinson Recital Hall on the NMSU campus. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. For tickets, call 635-7538.

A groundbreaking new school



A groundbreaking ceremony was held for the New America School-Las Cruces Thursday, Jan. 26. The school is located at 207 S. Main St., and is set to open in August. New America School-Las Cruces will be a charter school for students whose first language is not English. The school will also offer night classes for anyone who wants to obtain a high school education.

Donating to the Mission of Mercy

Delta Dental of New Mexico has so far given \$32,000 to Mission of Mercy. Pictured at the check presentation Saturday, Jan. 7, are Steve Moran with the New Mexico Dental Foundation Board of Directors; Dave Warren, Mission of Mercy fundraising chair; Marty Poel, Mission of Mercy event chair; Walt Bolic, CEO of Delta Dental of New Mexico; and Greg LoPour with the New Mexico Dental Foundation Board of Directors. For more information, visit www.nmdentalfoundation.org.



Health Briefs

Free dental care

Bright Star Dental will provide free dental care from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3, during Dentistry From the Heart. Patients will have a choice of a free cleaning or filling on a first-come, first-served basis. In addition to Dr. Brian Gilbert and his team from Bright Star Dental, Dr. Samperi of the Children's Dental Clinic in Las Cruces will be providing free dental care. Students from the New Mexico State University Pre-Dental Society will also volunteer their time.

The event is open to anyone ages 18 and over with a valid, government-issued photo ID. A brief health history is required and patients must be prepared to wait their turn for care. The waiting area is outdoors, so bring a jacket or a blanket if it is chilly.

Patients must park at nearby Young Park on Walnut Street and take the free shuttle to the dental office. The shuttle will begin service at 6 a.m.

DACC Nursing Program news

The Doña Ana Community College Nursing Program announced it will host a site review for continuing accreditation of its associate degree in nursing program. You are invited to meet the visit team and share your comments about the program in person at a meeting scheduled from 2 to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 15, at DACC, 3400 S. Espina St., Room 293 of the Health and Public Services Building.

Nursing program grant

New Mexico State University's School of Nursing was selected as one of 52 schools to receive grant funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation New Careers in Nursing Scholarship Program (NCIN). During the 2011-12 academic year, NMSU will receive \$50,000 to support students in the school's accelerated "Roadrunner" program who are traditionally underrepresented in the field of nursing.

The NCIN Scholarship Program was launched in 2008 by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing to address the national nursing shortage, develop a diverse professional nursing workforce and fuel the pipeline of nurse faculty and leaders.

Oñate students visit state legislature

Five Oñate High School students who are members of the OHS Advocates in Action student club were in Santa Fe Jan. 22-25 to attend Disability Rights Awareness Day during the current session of the New Mexico Legislature. The students also attended training and lectures "surrounding the issues confronting those with disabilities in New Mexico," said Las Cruces Public Schools recreational therapist Thea Kavanaugh.

Participating students were Seth Lujan, Jeff Kellner, Lindsay Jacobs, Hunter Tomlin and Megan Giles.

The students, accompanied by Kavanaugh and OHS teacher Shannon Vermillion, "got to observe the current legislative session in both the House and the Senate, received a tour of the Roundhouse, and met with state officials and the general public to bring awareness about disability issues," Kavanaugh said.

Pennies for patients

Central Elementary School is currently raising money for the Pennies for Patients campaign. The goal is \$1,000, said teacher Renee Perry. The fundraiser continues through Wednesday, Feb. 29.

If the school reaches its fundraising goal, Principal Eloisa Solis and physical education teacher Tommy Esparza will have to "chase, catch and kiss a live chicken at the school," Solis said.

Perry said students are collecting change from family, friends and teachers and out of their own pockets for the 2012 Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Pennies for Patients campaign.

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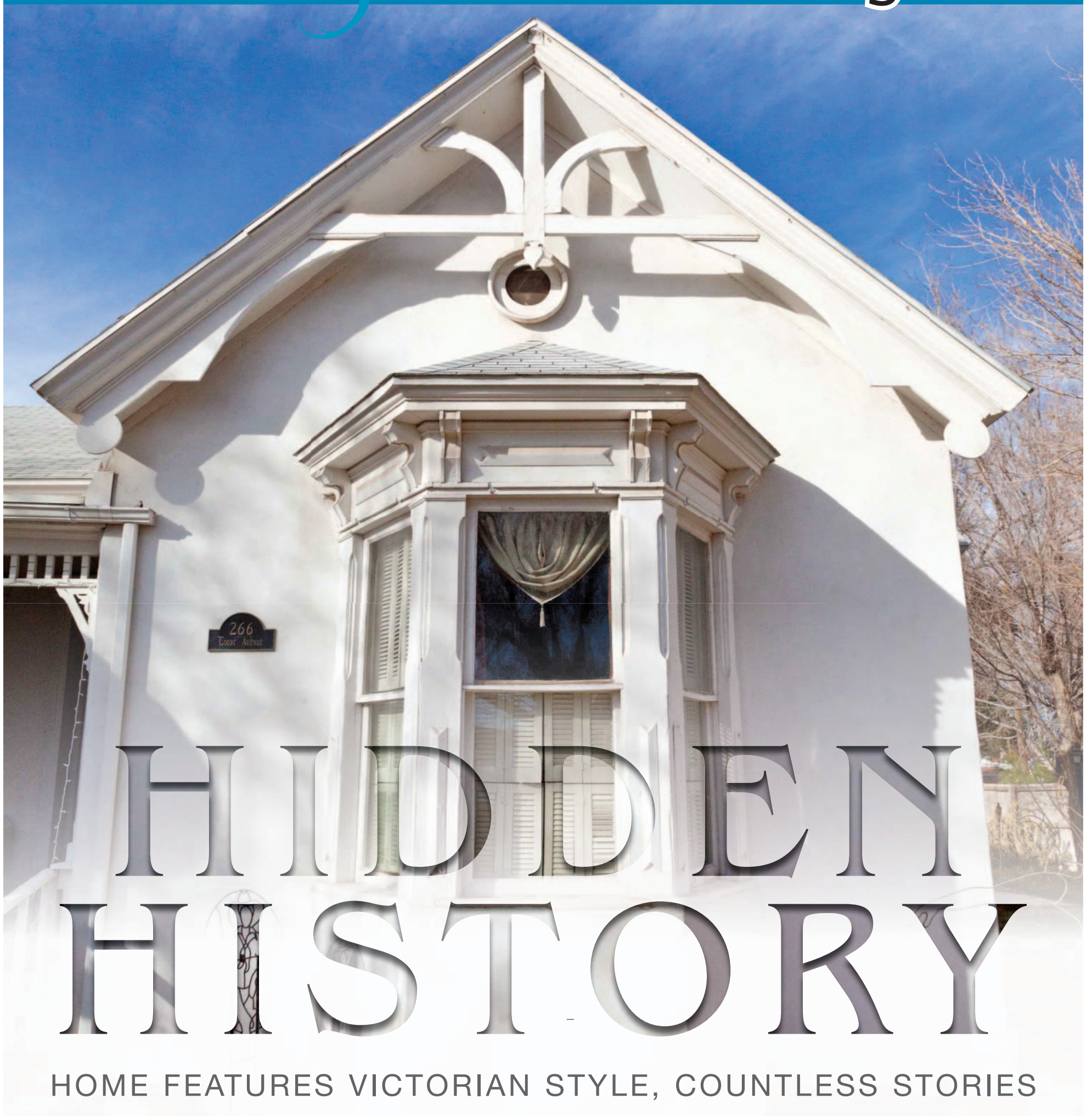
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See featured home on pages E2-3

Centennial Spotlight

1 9 1 2 - 2 0 1 2



Photos by Teague Williams



A stove set in exposed brick was added in the 1950s.



The home at 266 W. Court Ave. was built in 1870 for William L. Rynerson, a wealthy man during that time period.



The kitchen will receive a facelift from the current owners, but its charm and historic references will remain.



The former parlor was transformed into a master suite.



A bar area can be found in the covered porch.



A living room is centered around a fireplace and features ornate windows with the original hardware.



A tiled, covered porch is attached to the back of the home.

Centennial Spotlight

1 9 1 2 - 2 0 1 2



Adobe meets Queen Anne style

Historic home unique in the Las Cruces landscape

By **Beth Sitzler**
Las Cruces Bulletin

Tucked behind a cinder block wall and lush greenery off Court Avenue is a Victorian Queen Anne style home so hidden, those passing by may miss its ornate trim, elaborate rake and fine detailing if they're not paying attention.

Built in 1870, the home at 266 W. Court Ave. may be better known as the Rynerson House, named after William L. Rynerson, a wealthy miner, rancher, farmer and former district attorney for the Third Judicial District during the late 1800s.

Rynerson purchased the land off Court Avenue in 1867 for \$300. On it, he had the approximately 3,000-square-foot home built. While the home was made with a familiar building material, adobe, it featured a style rarely seen in the Mesilla Valley.

"It's an adobe home, but it was designed so that it doesn't look like one," said Jud Wright, current owner of the historic home. "It has a limestone foundation, which is unusual for this area, but it allows the house to constantly breathe."

The only adobe Queen Anne style home in the United States, the property exchanged hands only a few times until Jud Wright and his wife Anna Pérez-Wright purchased the home in 2009.

"We bought it because we wanted to be part of the Downtown revitalization and be part of the excitement. It was also a place where we could be a part of the arts community," said Jud Wright, adding that the couple live and operate their business, Del Valle Design & Imaging, from the residence. "That was something that we wanted, a place to work and live."

After purchasing the property, the Wright family inherited all of the closing papers on the home, showing in chronological order who owned it.

"It was dilapidated at one point, and it was turned into a frat house," Jud Wright said. "The house was then finally restored."

A small gate guards the tiled pathway into the property. On the other side of the cinder block wall – which occupies the space that used to feature a white picket fence – guests are transported to a lush yard of grass and plants.

Details

Featured home

266 W. Court Ave.

Square footage

About 3,000

Acres

.5

Bedrooms

Three

Bathrooms

Two and three quarters

Fireplaces

One

Special features

Built in 1870, the home features a Victorian Queen Anne style and is the only adobe structure of this style still in existence in the United States. The historic home also includes several of its original materials and ornate detailing.



Rynerson House was built in Victorian Queen Anne style.

"One of the previous owners was a Master Gardener," said Jud Wright, adding that the property includes iris, tulips, roses and jasmine. "Sometimes they come up and sometimes they don't."

A small set of stairs goes to the uniquely curved, covered patio. A great area to sit and enjoy the scenery, the patio features some of the original architectural features, such as the ornate trim and gingerbread.

Through the front door, guests are greeted by a brightly lit sitting room. The Wrights said the trim throughout the home was originally dark, but at some point, someone painted it white to brighten the space.

"We don't know what the interior of the home really looked like because there isn't a floor plan," Jud Wright said. "(This sitting room) was originally small. Some of the other rooms were added over the years."

Because the previous owners kept the home well maintained, the only major renovation the Wright family had to do was update the property's electrical, heating and cooling systems.

"We like to feel like we're caretakers of history," Jud Wright said. "We feel like that was the reason we were brought to this home."

Near the entrance are double doors that lead to the parlor – now the Wrights' master suite. A former doorway to the front patio was transformed into built-in shelves while a bay window rests on the adjacent wall.

"Most of the windows (like the bay window) still have lead glass and their original mechanics, which still work," said Jud Wright, adding that many of the home's original ornate lamps still hang.

A dressing area leads to the bathroom. The tiled bathroom has a more modern appearance, although the Wrights did install a stained-glass window from the original St. Genevieve's Church.

Beyond the sitting room is another sort of living room, this one featuring 14-foot ceilings to match Rynerson's unusually large frame, the Wrights said.

"Rynerson was just under 7 feet tall," Jud Wright said. "He had this home built for him, so the doors are taller than those of that time."

Grand windows repeat the same detailed column appearance found along the fireplace in the room, which was remodeled in the 1930s. During that era, the Wrights said, the then owner of the home divided the residence into three separate living quarters and rented them out to separate families.

This renovation included the addition of another bedroom.

"This room isn't adobe," Jud Wright said. "It's frame and brick, but it features a similar window. What's interesting is the crawl space doesn't go under this room."

A door in the in the living room leads to an old bedroom, which is now used as a den and TV room by the Wright family.

"Sometime after the home was built, the walls were moved to allow for three bathrooms to be put inside the home," Jud Wright said.

While the home originally ended there, in the 1950s a kitchen was added, replacing the former one that was turned into a bathroom. The kitchen was painted in bright splashes of yellow, purple and blue – a stark contrast to the rest of the home's color scheme.

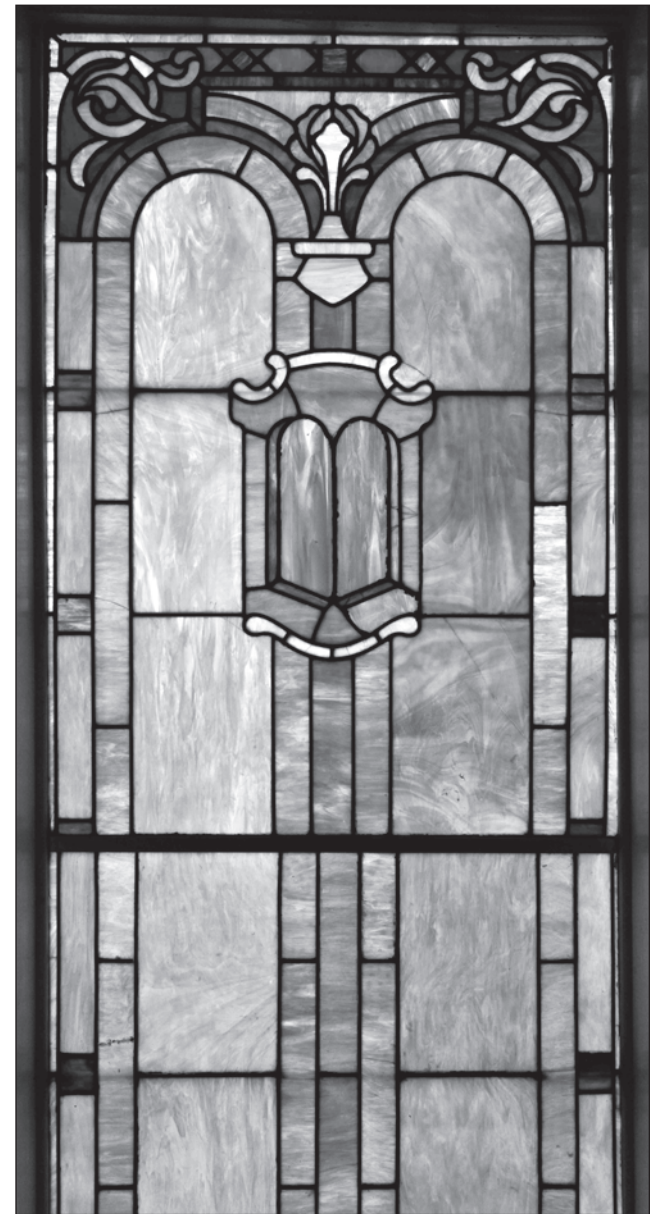
Although the kitchen offers a feeling of comfort, the Wrights said they plan to soon remodel the space, allowing for more modern amenities while maintaining its rich feeling.

Also added in the 1950s was the dining room. Featuring a stove set against a wall of exposed brick, the dining room also includes double doors to the enclosed porch.

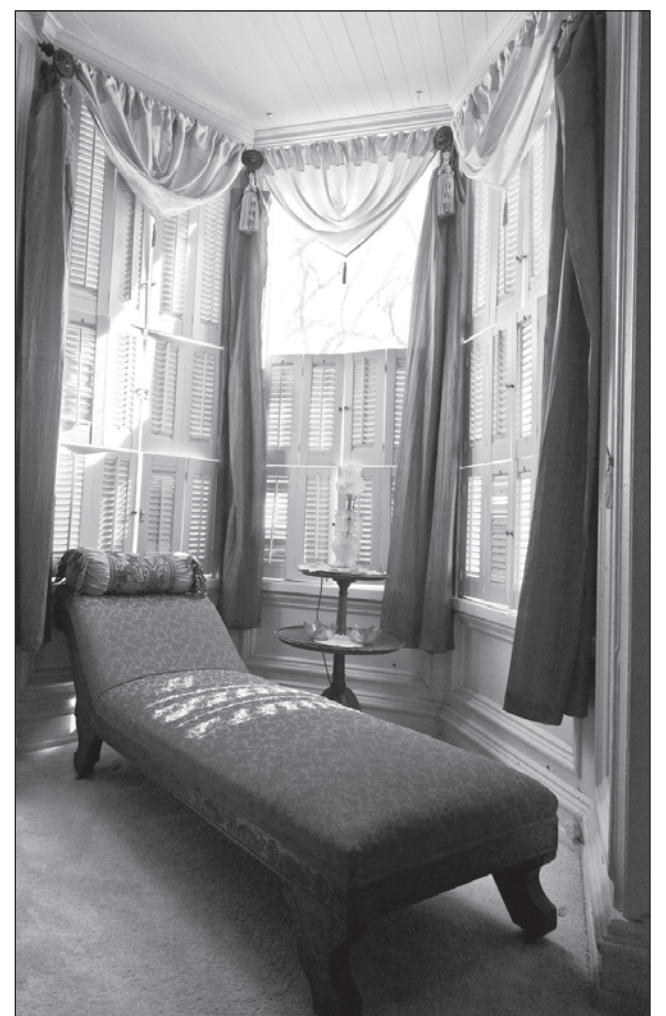
Previously screened in, the porch featured tiled walkways among various vegetation and was a remodeling project the Wright family undertook. From adding insulation to trim that matched the historic home, the porch became a fun place to escape to, complete with a bar.

Behind the home, where the old pump house and windmill once stood, is a two-story building that includes the laundry facility and a studio apartment the couple rents. The property also includes the company's printing facility.

While Rynerson only lived in the home for two years, he left an elegant architectural reminder of a time many don't remember.



Stained glass from the original St. Genevieve's Church can be found in the master bathroom.



An 1800s chaise lounge rests in a bay window.

Hakes Brothers celebrate



Members of Hakes Brothers presented tradesmen and contractors of the year awards during an appreciation luncheon held Friday, Jan. 27, at Building Industry Association of Southern New Mexico. The luncheon, catered by Dickey's, was a way for the building company to say "thank you" to its more than 20 vendors, tradesmen and contractors for their hard work.

Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Beth Sitzler

New Realtor joins Steinborn & Associates

Steinborn & Associates Real Estate announced Friday, Jan. 17, that Alex Uranga has joined the growing company of Steinborn Inc. Realtors.

"My main goal in working with Steinborn & Associates Real Estate is to represent the team in the most professional and ethical way possible. I want to make every customer's real estate transaction a wonderful moment to remember," Uranga said.

"We would like to welcome Alex to Steinborn & Associates Real Estate and are very pleased to have him. He brings a lot of energy and knowledge of the South Valley areas so we know he will be a great team member," said John Hummer, owner/qualifying broker of

Steinborn & Associates Real Estate.

For more than 45 years, Steinborn & Associates Real Estate has served the real estate needs of southern New Mexico. It is the largest and most successful real estate firm in southern New Mexico comprised of an independent residential division who is a member of Leading Real Estate Companies of the World, a commercial division affiliated with TCN Worldwide and a property management division managing more than 300 properties. Steinborn & Associates Real Estate has a team of positive sales associates who are dedicated to providing superior service to their customers.

For more information, visit www.steinborn.com.

The clock is ticking

Commercial systems offer several benefits



Mellow Honek
Living Better Solar Powered

Last month, I wrote about the changes to incentives for residential systems. This month, I am focusing on the changes and extra benefits affecting commercial systems.

We have seen a big increase in businesses interested in reducing or eliminating their electric bill. Tens of megawatts of solar generating power were added in Doña Ana County, not to mention the hundreds of jobs and other economic benefits. All those solar panels will quietly and cleanly produce electricity from sunrise to sunset for the next 30 to 50 years.

This year is already proving to be even bigger than the last. 2012 begins with the 30 percent federal and 10 percent state tax credits intact. You still receive great production incentives that pay for the generation of electricity, in addition to the savings for making the electricity your facility uses. So you haven't missed out on the powerful incentives driving this growth.

In addition to the tax credits and electricity savings, businesses have an extra benefit. Businesses can take advantage of a 50 percent bonus depreciation on the purchase of the solar asset, which is added to the accelerated MACRS five-year depreciation schedule.

So let's look at how the new solar production incentives work for business owners in 2012. The Medium Solar Program (10kW to 100kW) is now divided into four "timed" tiers during the next two years. As you can see in the accompanying chart, the first two tiers offer a higher production incentive than the Small System Program (under 10kW).

The chart describes the tiers for medium systems, their timing and value. The application dates refer to when the application is accepted by El Paso Electric Co. The value per kilowatt hour (kW/h) is how much you are paid for each kilowatt hour of electricity generated by your solar PV system. Again, this is in addition to the electric bill savings

Solar incentives

| Tier | Medium System Application Dates | Value per kW/h |
|------|---------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 | Jan. 1 – June 30, 2012 | 12¢ |
| 2 | July 1 – Dec. 31, 2012 | 9¢ |
| 3 | Jan. 1 – June 30, 2013 | 6¢ |
| 4 | July 1 – Dec. 31, 2013 | 4¢ |

you realize from the power generated by your solar PV system.

One big change is all new contracts issued under this production incentive program terminate on Dec. 31, 2020. So the sooner your system is active, the greater the benefits of the program. The value per kW/h at the time you enter the program remains in effect for the duration. So the lower pricing in each tier only affects new entrants into the respective tier.

Here's an example of how much you could make from a 20-kW system, according to the Medium System Program. A reasonably optimized system should generate approximately 36,500 kW/h per year. You receive financial benefits from two programs.

Using the first tier in the REC program shown in the chart, the 20kW system generates \$4,320 in REC payments per year. Let's consider the average commercial electric rate for a small facility this area is 14.6 cents per kilowatt hour. When you calculate the direct electric bill savings you expect to receive from generating your electricity, then your annual electric bill is reduced by another \$5,300. The total annual value from the two programs is \$9,620.

This is still a great time to go solar. Incentives are still strong, solar panel prices are down, but the clock for this program started ticking on Jan. 1. Perhaps this is the year you discover what many others in New Mexico have already learned. All energy comes from the sun and it makes sense – dollars and cents.

Mellow Honek is a managing member at Sunspot Solar Energy Systems LLC, a Las Cruces solar photovoltaic systems contractor featuring New Mexico made products. For more information on the power of solar, call 541-3533 or visit www.sunspotenergy.com.



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Mixing styles for an eclectic look is a big trend in 2012.

What's hot in design for 2012?

Rustic, eclectic and metallic all big this year



Maureen Villmer
Practical Design

Maybe it's because of our economy, but rustic chic is coming into furniture stores and show rooms nationwide. Maybe it's intentional or maybe it's not; either way, the look of combining flea market finds and antiques with rustic furniture is making a comeback.

Maybe a greener, more environmentally safe bet is also backing this up. So, rework and repurpose what you have and be one of the biggest trendsetters in interior design for 2012.

Recycling itself is hot. Taking old pieces and turning them into something new and different is not only fun but economical and creative.

Eclectic antiques will stand out in a crowd. There's an emphasis on antique pieces from 1920s through the 1950s as well as pieces made to look like originals. The trend is leaning toward basic pieces that don't have a lot of decoration. The emphasis is on letting the furniture shine rather than the accessories.

Mixing and matching pieces is very popular. We are recycling past looks by mixing older pieces with newer and fresher

ones. We are no longer doing a "matchy-matchy" thing. The current trend is the blending of style types and materials. The combination of classic and contemporary elements looks fresh and interesting.

Colors with shades of blue, green and red are very hot, especially when accompanied with a black or white background in fabrics. When these black-and-white background fabrics are used, large graphics and designs are used with them. These colors and designs make accessories pop.

Here are some new colors from Sherwin Williams that you might try: try a combination of colors like Barcelona Beige, Camelback, Black Fox and Special Gray. Another group of colors that adds drama is Bamboo Shoot, Expressive Plum and Tri-corn Black. Another color combo from Sherwin Williams that can add tranquility to your space is subtle colors called Silver Mist, Gateway Gray and Wool Skein. I'm sure someone named these colors so they conjure up images in our minds. Adding updated colors is a great way to freshen your home for 2012.

The popularity of metal is on the rise today. 2012 design trends are taking metal beyond the kitchen. It's turning up in the living room, den and bedroom and with furniture. It's also popular in accessories such as picture frames, wall art and more.

A big trend is metallic being used in accessories, paint, fabrics and wall coverings. They are soft muted bronze, copper,

warm gold, silver and platinum colors.

As you walk through retail stores, pay attention to what colors are being presented. Whether it's a car dealership, home furnishing store, clothing store or an iPad case, color is all around us. It is intriguing to see the new tones that are prominent for the new year.

This year is a time for new and innovative designs and techniques. We are not restricted to following style category strictly, but rather, we're bringing our own perspective and personality to living spaces.

Maureen Villmer is an interior designer in Las Cruces with 35 years of experience. If you have questions you would like answered in her column, email her at maureenvillmer@hotmail.com, visit Environs Interior Design on Facebook or call 496-7605.

Home Sales Scoreboard

LAS CRUCES AREA

| | This Week | Last Week | Same Week Last Year |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|
| Homes Sold New | 2 | 0 | 5 |
| Homes Sold Existing | 8 | 15 | 17 |
| Pending Home Sales (All) | 157 | 149 | 160 |

| | This Week | Last Week | Same Week Last Year |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|
| Average Days on Market (All) | 213 | 109 | 198 |

| | This Week | Last Week | Same Week Last Year |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|
| Median Price New | \$262,600 | N/A | \$155,000 |
| Median Price Existing | \$146,000 | \$163,500 | \$152,000 |

| | This Week | Last Week | Same Week Last Year |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|
| Total Homes on Market (All) | 1,087 | 1,106 | 1,062 |
| Real Estate Agents | 386 | 386 | 406 |

"Homes" include detached single-family homes, townhomes and condominiums

Source: Las Cruces Multiple Listing Service (MLS)* for the period 01/23/12 -01/29/12
* MLS is wholly owned by the Las Cruces Association of Realtors
** Unknown per LCAR

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Mouse pads improve daily life

Computer accessory takes the spotlight in some unusual ways

By **Beth Sitzler**
Las Cruces Bulletin

The world was changed in 1936 with the invention of the first computer – a binary electrically driven mechanical calculator created by Konrad Zuse.

The world was changed yet again with the invention of the first personal computer in the 1970s, allowing everyday people to have access to these powerful, mechanized brains.

While it may not have been changed, the world definitely improved with the invention of the mouse pad in 1982.

A seemingly insignificant accessory, the mouse pad offered users several benefits. In addition to higher speed and more precision with the mouse, the pad also minimized the amount of debris collected on the ball, which would interfere with its operation. It protected the user's work surface from becoming scratched or worn as well as provided their hand and wrist with comfort.

Throughout the years, the mouse pad has seen a few changes. From vinyl board cover to silicone rubber surfaces, the mouse pad has been changed to enhance the mouse function.

Possibly the most common mouse pad is the foam variety with a non-slip bottom and cloth top. Relatively inexpensive to produce, this type of mouse pad is often given away as promotional material with a business' logo and contact information printed on top.

No matter your type of mouse pad, over time, it can become worn, damaged and just plain ratty. Replace that old dingy mouse pad with a fresh new one – your mouse will thank you – and reuse it in some creative ways.

1. Pad your furniture legs: Wood and other hard-surface flooring have become the latest craze in recent years because they are allergen free and easy to care for. A problem with these types of flooring is they can become damaged

by heavy furniture. Protect your floors by cutting pieces of an old mouse pad and gluing them to the bottom of your furniture's legs. These pieces of mouse pad can also be used to help level a wobbly chair or table.

2. Make gardening more comfortable: If your time in the garden results in achy knees, give your joints extra padding with leftover mouse pads. The right size to fit under your knees, set them down next to your work area. If you want to ensure your knees are always well protected, attach the mouse pads directly to your work pants with fabric glue or good ol' Duct tape.

3. Place under a houseplant: Setting your potted plants on top of a mouse pad is beneficial for two reasons. First, as with the furniture legs, the mouse pad will help prevent scratches and scuffs caused by the pot upon the surface it rests. Second, the pad will help absorb water spills, leaving the surrounding area dry.

4. Use as a hot pad: The next time you're shorthanded on hot pads, use a mouse pad instead. It is the perfect size for your casserole dish,

coffeepot or serving platter. Also, its non-slick surface will stop these dishes from moving around on the table. When using a mouse pad as a hot pad, it is best to select one that is foam with a cloth top.

5. Create a stamp: The next times the kids are bored, give them a crafts project using old mouse pads transformed into stamps. Trace cookie cutters onto the mouse pad and cut out the shapes. When you're done, the shapes can be dipped into different color paints and pressed onto paper. This project is especially handy when making your own wrapping paper.

6. Add some cushion: Sometimes you just need some extra padding on that wooden bench, bar stool or folding

chair. An easy way to do so is with a stack of old mouse pads. Two or three is all it takes to give you a bit of added cushion. An added bonus: the clingy traction on the bottom of the mouse pad will keep it from sliding around.

7. Give your drink a coaster: Non-sliding and moisture friendly, a mouse pad is the perfect material to make your own drink coasters. As with your stamps, use a cookie cutter as a

trace and cut out a shape. This shape can be anything you want – circle, square, hearts – as long as it covers the bottom of your glass.

8. Make protective "feet": Has the circular stopper on your cabinet doors worn off? Are your appliances missing their "feet"? Is that heavy TV ruining your wooden entertainment center? Keep these items protected and harm free with mouse pads. Just cut the pads into small circles or strips and attach them to your cabi-

nets, appliances and other heavy items.

9. Get to sanding: Create your own thick, non-skid pad for sanding with two mouse pads. Simply glue the two pads together, so they are face to face, and a sheet of sand paper.

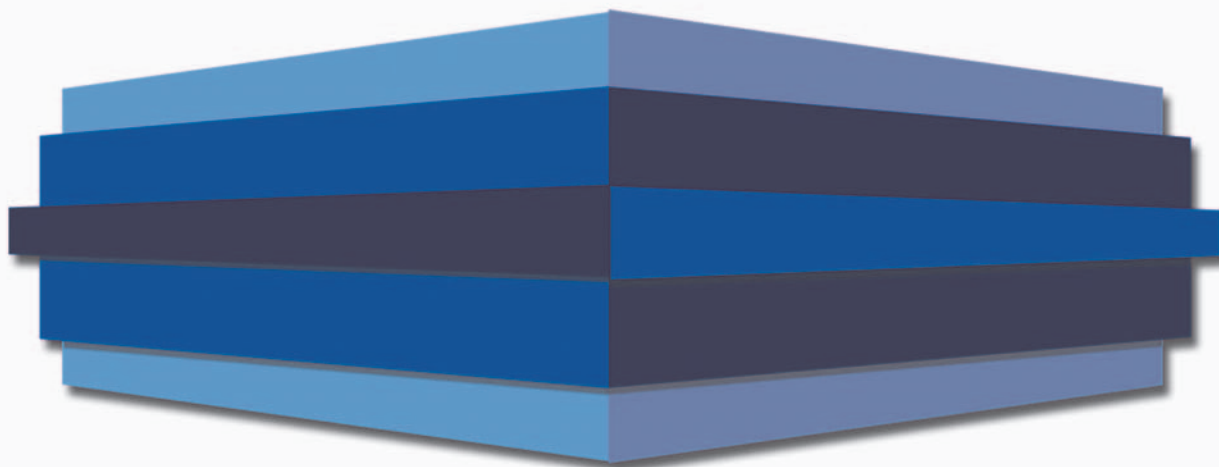
10. Open a jar: How many times have you had to struggle to open that new jar of pasta sauce to no avail? After searching through the drawer for your trusted – but misplaced – cap snaffler (that flat rubber disk that gives allows you to better grip to jar lid), you may resort to some other tactics. If running the jar under warm water or giving the sides of the lid a few gentle whacks against the countertop don't work, get your mouse pad. Basically a cap snaffler, the no-slip surface of the mouse pad will allow you to more easily twist off the lid.

“ A seemingly insignificant accessory, the mouse pad offered users several benefits. ”



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U-Socket to the future

Outlet cover provides space for USB ports

By **Beth Sitzler**
Las Cruces Bulletin

As technology has improved, changed and become a bigger role in our everyday lives, so too has its accessories.

While at first all you'd need for your at-home computer was a mouse pad and container of floppy disks, nowadays, with iPads, iPods, iPhones, laptops, desktops, digital cameras, MP3 players and e-readers, the cords, cases, carriers and chargers have multiplied.

With this multiplication of necessities also comes a greater need for storage and outlet space. There are numerous gadgets and storage containers available to help keep everything neatly in its place, however, a home only has so many wall outlets.

Because many devices today have USB port chargers, skip the outlet adapter and plug them directly into an U-Socket.

What is it?

Dubbed "Your Outlet to the Future" by manufactures FastMac, the U-Socket debuted in 2010 and was quickly named "One of the Best Tech Ideas" of that year by the New York Times.

The U-Socket is a duplex AC receptacle with two built-in USB ports that can be used to charge your electronic devices without taking up precious outlet space for gadgets with traditional power plugs. This way, four items can be plugged into the wall simultaneously.

In addition to its convenience, the U-Socket is also considered five-star energy efficient. Because it is designed to only put out power through the USB ports with something is connected to them, there won't be any vampire

power – wasted electricity also known as standby power. This will save users money on their energy costs, as much as \$20 per year, according to manufacturers.

The U-Socket is easy to use, energy efficient and not to mention stylish. It comes in about 10 different colors, including almond, ivory and wood panel. Buyers can also select the shape of the outlets – circular or square.

The U-Socket is compatible with iPod, iPhone, iPad, tablets, smartphones, Blackberry, Nintendo, PSP, Bluetooth headsets, digital camera, Kindle, Nook, GPS and anything else with a built-in USB port.

How does it work?

The U-Socket works like any other electrical outlet. Possibly the most difficult aspect of the gadget is installing it yourself.

A manual accompanies the U-Socket, detailing how to correctly and safely install the outlet cover, which requires the use of a flat-head screwdriver, Phillips screwdriver, needle-nose pliers and an optional wire stripper and voltage tester.

Before installing the U-Socket, it's important that users turn off the power through the main electrical service panel. If people aren't comfortable installing their own U-Socket, a trained electrician should be brought in to do the job.

To install the gadget, the desired outlet must have a 14-gauge or larger wiring and a



16-cubic-inch or larger single gang electrical box.

Where can it be found?

The U-Socket can be purchased online at websites such as www.amazon.com and <http://fastmac.com>.

How much does it cost?

The U-Socket costs \$20 to \$25.



TechLanyards is the extension cord you can wear.

Fashion or tech accessory?

TechLanyards, created by Las Crucen Julian Ledesma, combine the fashionable and functional characteristics of a lanyard with the convenience of an extension cord.

Each lanyard is an extender cable that is useable when the two ends are broken apart. The extender cables are compatible with your Apple gadgets, including iPod and iPad, as well as USB devices. They provide users an extra 3 feet.

In addition to their functionality, TechLanyards can also be customized to display advertising on the connector. For a cost of about \$10, they make great promotional products for businesses.

TechLanyards can be purchased in either black or white.

For more information, visit www.techlanyards.com or visit the product's Facebook page.

Featured gadget: U-Socket

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Featured broker: *Joe Arnone*

Following when opportunity strikes

Broker Joe Arnone takes unexpected path to success

By **Beth Sitzler**
Las Cruces Bulletin

Sometimes, when opportunity comes knocking, you have no choice but to follow its lead – just ask Joe Arnone, owner/broker of EXIT Realty Horizons.

Originally from Aguilar, Colo., Arnone, the youngest of seven children, said growing up he was on track for a career in criminology.

“I never thought about real estate,” he said of his current profession. “That path didn’t cross my mind.”

His criminology dreams hit a glitch, however. After graduating with his associate degree in criminology from Trinidad State Junior College and earning a bachelor’s degree in sociology and criminology from Northern Colorado State University, Arnone discovered the Colorado State Patrol Academy was postponed six months.

The would-be cadet was between jobs when he ran into a friend who told him about a local residential appraiser in need of an apprentice.

Realizing the rare opportunity in front of him, Arnone said he began taking classes and earned his residential appraisal license.

“I started (doing home appraisals) and realized I loved it,” he said.

Arnone said he was still set on joining the patrol academy and pursuing his criminology aspirations – that was until the academy was canceled yet again.

Continuing his efforts in residential appraisals, within two years another unexpected opportunity came along when the mother of a close friend asked for his assistance selling a



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Beth Sitzler

After joining real estate 12 years ago, broker Joe Arnone purchased EXIT Realty Horizons with fellow Realtor Chris Harrison in 2010. Since taking it over, the duo has increased the company’s agents from 24 to 38.

subdivision she was representing.

“She asked me to get my (real estate) license,” he said. “I got it and I did well in it.”

“The closer the time came for the academy to begin, I knew that I had to make a decision. I loved selling homes and (I love) the people I worked with, so I decided to continue with real estate.

“Something was telling me to do this.”

Enjoying being his own boss, Arnone ventured to northern New Mexico and bought an appraisal and real estate company with a friend. Six years ago, with three years of operating his own business under his belt, Arnone once again made a move, this time from Raton to Las Cruces.

Focusing on real estate since coming to the City of the Crosses, Arnone joined EXIT Realty Horizons.

“There was an opportunity here in Las Cruces,” he said. “It was a transition – the topography and population alone. I went from a place with a population of 11,000 to a place with over 80,000. It’s quite different, but I loved it. The people were really inviting. It wasn’t hard to start a business here.”

Getting his feet wet and helping Las Cruces homeowners’ dreams come true, Arnone decided to take another career leap in 2010. On Aug. 1, 2010, Arnone and fellow EXIT Realtor Chris Harrison purchased the franchise from then owners Kathy and Chuck Olson.

“We had been given a great opportunity by the Olsons,” he said.

Since taking the real estate company over, the duo has increase its agents from 24 to 38.

“Our agents make our job easier,” Arnone said. “They’re reliable and self-sufficient.”

Arnone said the duo has also increased the company’s technology and training “leaps and bounds,” including a new fast-track program for incoming agents.

“The atmosphere is so upbeat and so happy,” he said. “Everyone is happy here.”

After 12 years in the real estate business, Arnone is now giving back to his industry. In 2011, he joined the Las Cruces Association of

Details

Featured Broker

Joe Arnone

Company

EXIT Realty Horizons

Phone

- 532-5678 (office)
- 644-6300 (cell)

Address

3529 Foothills Road

Education

- Associate degree in criminology, Trinidad State Junior College
- Bachelor’s degree in sociology and criminology, University of Southern Colorado

Organizations

- Las Cruces Association of Realtors
- Realtors Association of New Mexico
- National Association of Realtors

Realtors Board of Directors and has recently been nominated as the Southern New Mexico MLS treasurer.

“Something told me that it was time to step up and get involved,” he said. “I just wanted to be a part of the association and give back to the association because it’s been good to me.”

Describing his time on the board as “a positive experience,” Arnone said the downturned housing market has made being fiscally responsible more challenging, but that hasn’t stopped the association from improving.

“Our MLS is doing an unbelievable job, technology wise,” he said.

As he starts his second year of his three-year term on the board, Arnone said he sees things beginning to pick up as the market improves.

“I think, since we’re being so fiscally responsible, we’re becoming stronger each day,” he said.

He said his efforts on the LCAR Board of Directors will also transition to his work at EXIT.

“I think my position and being on the board has helped me be a better leader,” he said. “Every day, I learn something new. And I can pass that wisdom onto my agents and my clients.”

Making a new year’s resolution to improve his time management, Arnone said “the future is limitless.”

“I know our brokerage will really grow,” he said. “I want us to be the No. 1 brokerage in town – maybe not in terms of numbers, but more in reputation. What I want is when people want to sell their home, EXIT is the first place they call.”

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Bulletin



Arnone, also a board member of the Las Cruces Association of Realtors, represents homes throughout the Mesilla Valley, including the residence at 5578 Camino Escondida.

Make macarons for loved ones

Out-of-the-chocolate-box ideas for Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day usually brings to mind a box of chocolates for your sweetheart. As delicious as solid milk chocolate hearts and raspberry creams are, how about something a little different this year?

Matthieu Chamussy, certified executive pastry chef and chef instructor in the Baking & Pastry Program at The International Culinary School at The Art Institute of California - Inland Empire, suggests a wonderfully French confection for this Valentine's Day: the macaron.

Not to be confused with the shredded coconut dessert macaroons, macarons have become increasingly popular stateside. Some news articles say it may be overtaking the cupcake as the "au courant" "must-have confection." If you search online for macaron gift boxes you can find a number of options ranging from \$20 for a dozen to \$90 for 35 from a high-end retailer.

If you want to try making your own meringue-based treat, Chamussy offers up his recipe below for pink, heart-shaped macarons encircled with raspberries for this Valentine's Day. Chamussy, born and raised in Paris, learned the art of bread and confection making from his grandfather early on and had the opportunity to learn from the prominent French pastry chef Francois Payard. Since then, Chamussy has worked all over the world including Paris, New York and Los Angeles.

When trying out the recipe, Colleen Johnson, lead instructor in the Baking and Pastry Program at The International Culinary School at The Art Institute of California, said, "macarons look fairly simple, but there are a lot of tricks that you will learn with practice."

"Let your egg whites sit out at room temperature for 48 hours. I like to use a ceramic bowl and put a cloth over my whites. I also suggest grinding your almond flour and powdered sugar really well in a food processor, and



then sifting it," said Johnson, who also teaches a mastering macarons course at a cookware retailer in Costa Mesa, Calif.

Even if your first attempt at baking macarons is imperfect, Johnson said presentation is another important element of the culinary arts.

"Proper presentation and plating can make even the tiniest morsel of dessert seem sumptuous and something to be savored," she said.

For a plated dessert-like heart-shaped macarons: "I like clean lines and color. So I would say a pink macaron would look simply great on a white plate," she said. "Or, if you want to give your treats as a gift, I'd put them in long, thin cellophane tube and tie both ends with a lovely ribbon."

Another great way to make this dessert even more special is to serve it with a glass of champagne, prosecco or cava, Chamussy said.

Valentine's Day Macarons with Raspberries

Mixture 1:
2/3 cup almond flour
2/3 cup confectioners' sugar
1/4 cup egg whites
Red food color

Mixture 2:
2/3 cup granulated sugar
1.3 fluid ounces water
1/4 cup egg whites

Finishing touches:
Fresh raspberries
Raspberry sauce
Rose petals

Preheat oven to 300. For mixture 1, sift the almond flour with the confectioners' sugar, stir until combined, set aside. Stir the red food color into the egg whites. Add the colored egg whites to the almond flour and confectioners' sugar, set aside covered with plastic.

For mixture 2, in mixer bowl, or in a stainless-steel mixing bowl, start whisking the egg whites slowly. Mix the granulated sugar with water in a pot, set on stove to boil. When the syrup reaches 238 degrees, remove from stove. Start whisking the egg whites on high speed, add the syrup slowly in a steady stream onto the egg whites. Let mixture whip for four minutes. When mixture is done, it should be dense, glossy, very similar to a marshmallow.

Fold in 1/3 of mixture 2, into mixture 1, making sure the

mixture looks homogenous.

Fold in the rest of mixture 2 into mixture 1, folding a little more energetically. Put this mixture in piping bag with a round tip.

On a parchment paper, draw heart shapes, spacing them out evenly to facilitate heat circulation in oven. This will be used as a stencil. Place another sheet of parchment on top. Pipe the mixture following the traced heart, making sure not to pipe too thick in order to preserve that heart shape. Start with the outside of the heart, finishing with the inside of the heart. Let set at room temperature approximately 30 minutes until a "skin" is formed on the macaron.

Bake in the preheated oven, making sure to leave the door of the oven partially opened for the first 13 minutes of the baking process. Close the door after 13 minutes and bake another 10 minutes. Rotate. Bake another 8 to 12 minutes depending on macaron size. They should be set up, not moving at all on the sheet and with no extra color. Let cool one hour. The macaron should gently come off the paper and be slightly moist in the center.

To finish the dessert, you will need two macaron shells. Place one upside down; start placing fresh raspberries on the edges, trim them if necessary to make them sit straight. Fill the inside with a good quality jam of your choice. Place the other side of the macaron on top of the raspberries. Decorate with a fresh rose petal (organic preferably), and a fresh raspberry. Serve with a good quality vanilla ice cream and a raspberry sauce.

Find an efficient update

Three green trends for 2012 home remodeling

For some homeowners, remodeling projects are regular occurrences to keep their homes looking fresh. Sometimes, that means smaller changes such as a new coat of paint or changing a light fixture. Other times, more substantial changes are needed. Determining those changes can be a challenge, but looking at the potential return on investment is a great way to prioritize.

Bathroom remodeling offers a 68.7 percent return on investment, according to a National Association of Realtors survey. One way to add value to a bathroom remodel is to pick bathroom fixtures that are more efficient than what you currently have installed. Americans are going green in many areas of life, whether with more energy-efficient light bulbs, hybrid cars or by recycling more regularly. Bathroom fixtures are no different.

Here are three reasons why you should consider going green with your bathroom modeling project:

1. Products may be outdated. Toilets made before 1994 use anywhere from 3.5 gallons to 8 gallons per flush (gpf), while new EPA WaterSense labeled high-efficiency toilets can work beautifully on a modest 1.28 gpf. Not sure of your toilet's vintage? Look at the underside of the tank lid - the date of manufacture is often stamped into the

porcelain. In the shower, the typical showerhead installed in California homes built after 1994 uses as much as 2.5 gallons per minute. At that rate, your eight-minute shower consumes a whopping 20 gallons of water.

2. Savings to be had. Compared to 3.5 gpf toilets, TOTO's Aquia One-Piece Dual Flush High-Efficiency Toilet has a flushing system that enables homeowners to select the level of water used each time the toilet is flushed - 1.6 gallons for bulk waste or .9 for liquid. The approach provides exceptional water savings paired with outstanding performance. A family of four can save more than \$90 annually on their water bill, and \$2,000 over the lifetime of the toilet.

If you replace a typical 2.5 gpm showerhead with a TOTO high-efficiency Trilogy Showerhead, you will experience the same luxurious shower, yet consume a responsible 14 gallons, saving 20 percent of the water used by older models.

Even something like a faucet can contribute to water savings. TOTO's Silas Widespread Lavatory Faucet is a WaterSense labeled lavatory faucet that consumes a responsible 1.5 gallons per minute without sacrificing an ounce of performance. Its design has a classic contemporary elegance with a graceful,



Something as simple as changing your faucet will help you save money and update the appearance of your bathroom.

curved spout.

3. Be a trendy homeowner. A whopping 68 percent of builders surveyed by the National Association of Home Builders say that energy-saving technologies and features including low-E windows, energy-ef-

icient appliances, and LED lighting will be common along with other green features like engineered wood products, and water-saving plumbing fixtures such as dual-flush toilets and low-flow faucets by 2015. Start now and you'll be ahead of the curve.

Get ready for the next SeedShare

Free event promotes growing local varieties not found in stores

By **Beth Sitzler**
Las Cruces Bulletin

With temperatures in the 70s, it may feel like spring is just around the corner, and along with it all of those beloved outdoor activities, including gardening.

Those looking to get a head start on their planting as well as meet others with a similar interest can attend the SeedShare from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4, at Mountain View Market Co-op, 1300 El Paseo Road, Suite M.

"There definitely has been an increase in interest (in the SeedShare)," said Jon Simmons, director of the SeedShare and the local Seed Bank. "I think more people are interested in gardening and they want to learn how to save seeds as well as have a bigger variety to plant."

Now in its third year, the SeedShare, a free community event, provides participants with seeds to grow as well as a place for them to donate their leftover seeds to be enjoyed by others.

"I'd love for people to bring me in seeds, but it isn't required," said Simmons, adding that they are interested especially in local varieties of corn, squash, melon, chile and tomato.

During the SeedShare – which is held twice a year, in the beginning of spring and fall – tables in the Community Room of Mountain View Market will be scattered with the various locally grown seeds as well as an optional potluck for those who bring a dish. Simmons said while a SeedShare following has begun to form, the event is also ideal for those new to the area or new to gardening.

"This will help them figure out how to grow things here," he said.

Available will be various spring cool-weather crops, such as beets, lettuce, spinach, arugula and sweet peas, and common summer plants, including tomatoes, chile, squash and melons, as well as numerous herbs.

"People will be able to get seeds to things they can start in pot now and things they can plant right away," he said. "Our motto is 'Take what you can use.'"

"A common thing that we run out of is zucchini. People like it and it grows well here. It's the second most popular seed to tomatoes."

The Seed Bank will provide about 72 varieties of its collection of about 200, which are stored in Simmons' home. All of the varieties are open pollinated plants, also known as heirloom plants, which aren't hybrid or genetically modified.

Details

SeedShare

When

Noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4

Where

Mountain View Market Co-op
1300 El Paseo Road, Suite M

Cost

Free

Contact

640-4288
jonsimmons@hotmail.com

"Locally grown seeds adapt to our environment," Simmons said. "We want to keep these seed varieties alive and introduce them to people who are interested in gardening and also introduce them to kids."

Simmons said the commercial seed industry has cut back on the number of varieties it offers, usually limiting the supply to those that are most popular and profitable.

"We're trying to keep alive the variety of seeds out there," he said. "The varieties getting reduced are part of an ecological issue because competition helps keep plants healthy. But also, it's an issue because of the sure joy of tasting something that you've never had before, something that isn't sold in stores because it can't be shipped."

"If seeds are not grown in the environment, the plant can go extinct. They can't just be kept in a refrigerated vault."

To help keep these local varieties thriving, Simmons said the Seed Bank is in need of volunteers who are willing to grow the seeds he provides and bring the produced seeds back.

"They just have to allow one fruit to mature and gather its seeds and bring those back to me," he said. "It doesn't cost a lot and it doesn't take away from what they're already growing. We

“We want to keep these seed varieties alive and introduce them to people ...”

JON SIMMONS,
SeedShare director



Esther Armijo goes through a variety of seeds during the SeedShare held in 2011. This year, the SeedShare will not only connect community members to free seeds, it will also help promote the environmental benefits of growing local varieties.

just need committed people.

"If you're looking for a good seed to start with, contact me or come to the SeedShare. To return the seeds, they can drop them off at the co-op or come to any of the seed events throughout the year."

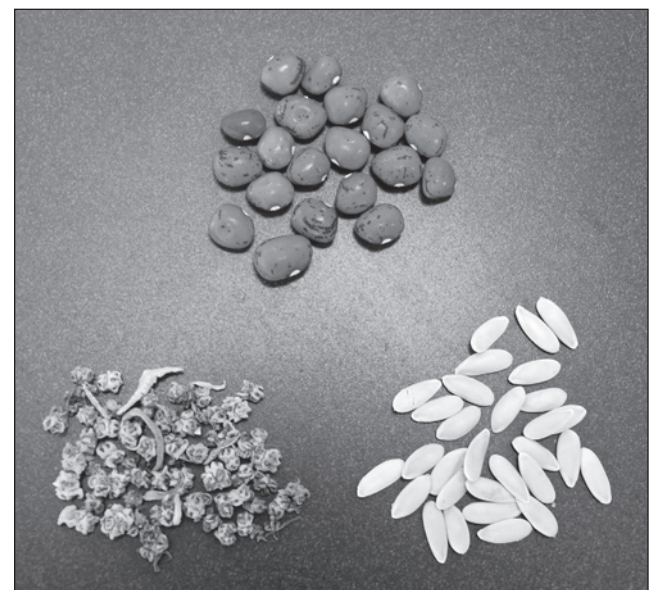
In addition to the SeedShare events, Simmons said the Seed Bank will also attend Earth Day, the Las Cruces Farmers & Crafts Market and the Growers Market, held at Mountain View Market, to spread the word about growing local produce and provide the public with important information, such as a planting chart for Doña Ana County.

"People can also sign up to receive emails or text messages about what they can plant that week," he said.

Simmons said he would like to expand the SeedShare program and Seed Bank to include a tree-planting program. He said a similar association in the Phoenix area plants about 500 fruit and nut trees a year, a feat he would one day like to accomplish.

"It helps strengthen the local food shed," he said. "I'd like to eventually see us do that here, too."

For more information, contact Simmons at 640-4288, jonsimmons@hotmail.com or visit the SeedShare's page on Facebook.



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Beth Sitzler

Interested in growing heirloom chard originally from a family farm in Anthony, N.M., an unnamed lima bean variety or a brightly colored melon known as Larry's Big Canary? Visit the SeedShare from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4, at Mountain View Market Co-op, 1300 El Paseo Road, Suite M.

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ChileKnights

Sweets for your sweetie

Fiery dishes add spice on Valentine's Day

Sunny Conley
Chile Knights



"Candlelight reflections ... the hint of rose petal with our wine"
— Don Miller, Las Cruces

Pucker up chileheads! It's time to give your sweet some heat. Valentine's Day is just a cupid kiss away and there is no better way to celebrate than to share chile chocolate treats with your sweetheart.

Depending on your mood, prepare the offerings mild, medium or extra hot. Or go with the whole pepper and deliver it sizzling and sassy. Your "cute stuff" will be love-struck.

Valentine's Day: It's all about makin' memories and these flamin' recipes are guaranteed to keep palates and hearts aflutter.

Romancing Chile Chocolate Salsa Chili

A touch of chocolate is what makes this chili a sweet treat.

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 onion, diced
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1/2 cup green chiles, roasted, stemmed, seeded (if desired) and diced
- 1 (14-ounce) package taco seasoning mix
- 2 pounds lean ground beef
- 1 (28-ounce) can diced tomatoes
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 2 cups water
- 1 (16-ounce) chunky (thick) salsa (favorite)
- 1/2 cup semi-sweet chocolate pieces
- 1/2 cup slivered almonds
- 1 (15-ounce) can pinto beans, drained

In a large pot, heat oil over medium heat; add onion and garlic. Cook and stir until onions are tender, about 3 minutes. Add chiles, taco seasoning mix and ground beef. Cook beef, stirring often, about 5 minutes or until browned.

Add tomatoes, cinnamon, water, salsa, chocolate chips and almonds. Stir to combine. Bring to a boil; reduce heat and simmer 45 minutes. Stir every 10 to 15 minutes to combine the flavors. Add beans and heat an additional 15 minutes. Makes 8 servings.

Smoochin' Good Dessert Tacos

- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper or more to taste
- 4 (8-inch) flour tortillas
- 1 tablespoon butter, melted
- 2 cups chocolate ice cream
- 2 kiwifruit, peeled and cut into strips
- 1 pint strawberries, hulled and sliced

- 1 cup whipped topping or frozen whipped topping thawed

Combine sugar, cinnamon and cayenne pepper. Brush tortillas with melted butter; sprinkle evenly with sugar mixture.

Shape 4 sheets of aluminum foil into 4-inch balls on a baking sheet. Place tortillas, butter side down, on foil; press to resemble taco shells.

Bake at 350 degrees for 10 minutes or until crisp. Cool completely on foil on baking sheet.

Remove tortillas; fill evenly with ice cream, kiwifruit and strawberries. Dollop with whipped topping. Garnish each with a dried chile pepper or sprinkle with crushed chiles de arbol or tepin.

Be Mine Fudge Chocolate Tacos

- 12 taco shells
- 2 cups milk chocolate chips or semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 6 cups vanilla ice cream
- 1/2 cup caramel ice cream topping
- 1/2 cup chocolate ice cream topping
- 1 tablespoon New Mexico red chile powder
- 1 cup nuts, any variety, chopped

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Heat taco shells for crispness as directed on package. Line baking sheet with waxed paper. In a 4-cup microwavable bowl, microwave chocolate chips on high 1 minute. Stir vigorously every 15 seconds. Microwave 15 seconds longer or until chips can be stirred smooth.

Carefully dip open side of each taco shell into melted chocolate, using spoon or brush to get chocolate on inside of shell; hold shells above bowl to let excess chocolate drip off. Stand shells upside down on waxed paper-lined baking sheet and immediately place into refrigerator to let chocolate harden.

Allow ice cream to soften enough to make it easier to spoon into the taco shells. Carefully fill each shell with about 1/2 cup ice cream. Place in freezer to harden. Mix ice cream toppings with red chile powder. Just before serving, drizzle with ice cream topping mixture and sprinkle with chopped nuts.

Romancing Habanero "Sauced" Chocolate Brownie Coffee Cake

Delivers a powerful punch without the nasty bite.

- 2 eggs
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 cup flour
- 2 tablespoons cocoa powder
- 6 hot red chile pods puréed (see recipe below)
- 1 teaspoon (or more if you dare) habanero hot sauce



Sweet heat takes on new meaning with chocolate brownie coffee cake "sauce" with habanero.

Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Sunny Conley

- 1/2 cup margarine spread
- 1/2 cup walnuts or Mesilla Valley pecans, chopped
- 1/4 cup melted chocolate chips (I put chips in a microwaveable cup with a tablespoon of water; microwave just until the chips begin to melt and stir)
- 1/4 cup chocolate chips
- 1 tablespoon vanilla
- Cool Whip, aerosol whipped cream, or real whipped cream

For the chile purée, remove stems, seeds and veins from 6 New Mexican hot dried red chiles. Cut in pieces (I use kitchen scissors). Soak in boiling water 20 minutes. Blend in blender with a small amount of the "soaking"

water, enough to create a paste-like texture.

Note: It's okay if small chile bits remain. Cream eggs and sugars. Add flour, cocoa powder and chile paste. Stir well. Add margarine, melted chocolate chips and then whip. Add nuts, chocolate chips and vanilla. Stir. Pour into a greased 9-by-9-inch glass pan and bake in a slow oven at 325 degrees for 35 minutes or until center top springs back when touched lightly with finger. Serve topped with whipped cream sprinkled with crushed red pepper. Tastes great with a cup of hot brew.

Sunny Conley, a former Las Cruces, is an award-winning cookbook author and food columnist. If you have a chile recipe or idea to share, contact Conley at sunny.conley@gmail.com.

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Water Resources Administrator Eric R. Lopez; Las Cruces Utilities Director Jorge Garcia; Las Cruces Utilities Board Vice Chair Adrian Hansen; Wastewater Facility Crewman Harold Wright; Wastewater Facility Crewman Steve Cristo; and Assistant City Manager Mark Winson accept two Good Housekeeping awards from the New Mexico Water and Wastewater Association Wednesday, Jan. 25.

Local utilities earn awards

Honors given for efficiency, cleanliness and knowledge

The Water Resources Section of Las Cruces Utilities accepted two Good Housekeeping awards from the New Mexico Water and Wastewater Association (NMWWA) Wednesday, Jan. 25, for the West Mesa Industrial Park Lagoon System and the East Mesa Water Reclamation Facility.

Award winners are chosen by the NMWWA based on cleanliness of the facility, efficient operation of facility and knowledge of the operation of the facility.

The West Mesa Industrial Park Lagoon System facility was put into operation in October 2000 and treats 110,000 gallons per day from the West Mesa Industrial Parks businesses. Based on a joint study by the Las Cruces Utilities staff and New Mexico State University agricultural staff, it was determined the best use for the effluent of this lagoon system is discharge onto 80 acres of natural desert vegetation by a sprinkler system.

This facility is unique in its design in that it uses fine air diffusers to aerate all four lagoons, rather than the (inefficient) surface aerators found in most wastewater lagoon systems. The fine air diffusers are extremely efficient in providing air and in the use of electricity.

The East Mesa Water Reclamation Facility, near the corner of Lohman Avenue and Sonoma Ranch Boulevard, was put into operation in December 2009 and treats 284,000 gallons per day from both domestic and businesses. The reclaimed water (effluent) from the facility is used for a golf course, parks and median irrigation. This facility is also featured on the 75th annual Rocky Mountain Water Environment 2012 calendar.

"The Water Resources Section is very proud of the Wastewater Facility Operations staff for their hard work and dedication to exceeding the committee's view of the Facilities," said Water Resources Administrator of Las Cruces Utilities Eric R. Lopez.

“ The Water Resources Section is very proud of (the staff) for their hard work ... ”

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