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VOLUME 44 • NUMBER 50

No site yet for 911 call center

Seven locations being scrutinized by advisors

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

Officials are holding off on making a decision to pick a location for a new 911 call center until consultants finish evaluating the pros and cons of seven sites.

According to the consultants, all the sites have strengths and weaknesses with information still to be collected, so a final recommendation is yet to come from the team, which is headed by Las Cruces architect Steve Newby.

Although a 5.25-acre former RV park off Avenida de Mesilla, west of Interstate 10, did score highest on a preliminary ranking of the sites, the others are still in play. The other sites include two pieces of land owned by Doña Ana County by its government center on Motel Boulevard, a City of Las Cruces proposed safety campus and three other privately owned lands – at the corner of Lohman Avenue and Sonoma Ranch Boulevard, at Sonoma Ranch Boulevard near Doña Ana Community College's East Mesa campus and at Sonoma Ranch Boulevard and Thurmond Road.

The city and county were scheduled to hold a joint meeting on the sites Thursday, Dec. 6, but it was cancelled to give the consultants more time to collect information on the sites. Also cancelled was a meeting Monday, Dec. 10, of the Mesilla Valley Regional Dispatch Authority (MVRDA).

In previous presentations, Newby and his staff said, whatever location is picked, there will likely be some kind of issue – topography, accessibility to utilities and clearance for emergency communications.

Also complicating the decision are federal Homeland Security requirements, based on lessons learned from the 9/11 attacks.

The current center is near the old county courthouse in a former bank building constructed in 1961. Quarters are cramped for its 48 employees and the electrical system is overloaded.

See **MVRDA** on page A10

Home for the holidays

Egyptian mission finished for more than 400 troops

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

At two Las Cruces ceremonies and another in Bernalillo County, Gov. Susana Martinez welcomed home more than 400 men and women in the New Mexico National Guard who have spent the past nine months in Egypt as part of a peacekeeping mission.

Family members who attended the ceremonies said they couldn't have wished for more this holiday season.

While the Mesilla Board of Trustees has missed Sam Bernal during the deployment, he was especially missed by his daughter Carmen.

"It was hard for me," she said at the first welcome home event Saturday, Dec. 8, at the Las Cruces Convention Center. "This is best feeling ever to have him back. Me and my dad have a special bond."

For Bernal, the return home was also a chance to meet his new future son-in-law, Jimmy Mitchell, in person, instead of by Skype. Bernal also would get up at 3 a.m. in Egypt to participate in Mesilla trustee meetings by Skype.

In terms of his feelings about being back home, Bernal said it was hard for him to put them into words.

"It's just good to be back with the family," he said. "The family is the heart of everything."

Although their mission was primarily for training Egyptian forces, the unrest in the Middle East did cause worry for family members during the deployment and relief upon their return.

See **National Guard** on page A15



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Steve MacIntyre

Gov. Susana Martinez holds 11-month-old Hailey Lucero as the infant's dad, Sgt. 1st Class Patrick Lucero looks on proudly Wednesday, Dec. 13, at the Las Cruces National Guard Armory. Lucero and his fellow soldiers returned from a nine-month tour of duty in Egypt. For more photos of welcome home ceremonies, see page A14.

Council ready for new impact fees to begin

Home-builder association seeks delay until economy improves

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

The majority of Las Cruces city councillors said at a work session Monday, Dec. 10, they weren't convinced they should put off impact fees for roads and drainage until the housing market rebounds.

Yes, the local housing market is starting to come back following the housing bubble collapse in 2008, but local companies need more time to regain lost ground, said Steve Chavira,

managing director of the Las Cruces Home Builders Association (LCHBA).

Beginning Jan. 1, 2013, impact fees would be assessed on new residential and commercial construction for roads and drainage, primarily arroyo crossings.

Saying the fees would add thousands to the cost of new construction, LCHBA representatives asked the council to postpone the fees or use different ways to get developers to build roads in new areas.

Councillor Olga Pedroza countered she

believed the pace of new construction is more affected by the economy than fees. Without the fees, the city often has to pay for completing roads or putting in drainage structures, Pedroza said, which takes away money that could be used for needs in her district characterized by older, established neighborhoods.

"All those things cost money," she said. "It's very, very difficult to say it's (for) some other outfit, not us."

Chavira said the LCHBA understands

See **Impact fees** on page A10

NEXT WEEK

NMSU classes wind down

Regents meet at 9 a.m. Friday, Dec. 14, the last official day of classes following a week of finals.



\$1



WHAT'S INSIDE

Opinions.....	A4-6	Classifieds.....	B16
Coming Up.....	A8-9	Movies.....	C7,18-19
Sports.....	A19-25	Restaurant Guide.....	C10-11
Looking Back.....	A26	TV Listings.....	C13-16
Senior Activities.....	A28	Brain Games.....	C17
Obituaries.....	A30-31	Health & Well Being.....	D1-5
Business.....	B1-11	Church.....	D6-8
Legals.....	B12-15	Chile Knights.....	E11

BUSINESS

Farmers & Crafts Market transitions to new management





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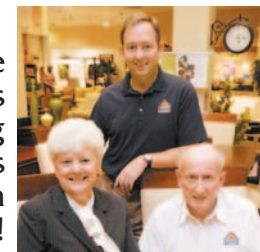
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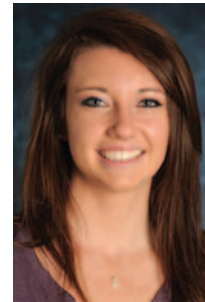
Edmonds



Giesler



Gray



Grau



Bortoletto



Reynolds



Ponce



Padilla



Lopez



McLaughlin



Villanueva



Sandoval



DeBry



Hasan

Fellowships

Robert Edmonds

College of Arts and Sciences
NASA Earth and Space Science Fellowship

Andrew Giesler

College of Engineering
Daniel P. Jenny Research Fellowship

Candace Gray

College of Arts and Sciences
NASA Earth and Space Science Fellowship

2012 Fall Outstanding Seniors

Katarina Cherise Grau

College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences

Angelina Serena Bortoletto

College of Arts and Sciences

Alyssa Reynolds

College of Business

Erika Janelle Ponce

College of Education

Kristina Padilla

College of Engineering

Cynthia Lopez

College of Extended Learning

Kara McLaughlin

College of Health and Social Services

Fabiola Muro Villanueva

International & Border Programs

Danielle Sandoval

American Indian Program

Robert DeBry

Master's Degree
College of Arts and Sciences

Nabeeh Hasan

Doctorate
College of Arts and Sciences



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Opinions

LAS CRUCES
 NEW MEXICO

RANKED
 the **BEST**

 "America's Top Places to Retire"
 2010 - AARP
 "Top 20 Town of the Future"
 2010 - Sunset Magazine
 "No. 6 - Best Performing Cities"
 2010 - Milken Institute


From the publisher

BY RICHARD COLTHARP

The fabric of Las Cruces

Ordinary people doing extraordinary things

In the past month, some things have happened that, combined, demonstrate the rich character of our hometown.

A city alight

On Nov. 17, Downtown Main Street reopened, and for the first time in more than 40 years, Las Cruces could drive three blocks along Downtown Main Street.

Then on Friday, Dec. 7, in conjunction with the City of Las Cruces tree-lighting ceremony, the Christmas lights along Main Street danced to merry holiday tunes.

If you have not yet done so, once it gets dark, get in your car and head to Main Street. Tune your radio to FM 101.5. Then drive up and down Downtown's three blocks.

My words can't accurately describe it, but the lights flicker and change color in unison with the music. There's a wide variety of songs, and the lights mirror their moods perfectly. I drove up and down several times, with help from the handy-dandy roundabout on the north end.

A big financial contribution from El Paso Electric Co., along with support from the City of Las Cruces, the Downtown Las Cruces Partnership and hundreds of dedicated volunteers, made the lights possible. Expect it to only get better in coming years.

It was a wonderful night all around Downtown. Las Cruces Community Theatre presented "White Christmas," the Downtown Art Ramble was in fine form and all the restaurants were packed.

A generation of people have worked for years to help bring Downtown to this point. The momentum is unstoppable now.

A city of champions

Austin Trout, WBA super welterweight champion, won a huge fight in the Big Apple, defeating Miguel Cotto in Madison Square Garden. We've long known we had a gem in "No Doubt" Trout. With his big win, televised on Showtime, a nation is learning about this great boxer.

Want to celebrate? A parade in honor of Trout will take place from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15. The route starts at Sierra Middle School (1700 Spruce Ave.), heads south down Walnut Drive, turns west onto Hadley Avenue and ends at the Police Athletic League Boxing Gym, 700 N. Solano Drive.

Six days after Trout's conquest, the Las

Cruces High School Bulldawgs won their seventh state football title. It's also the 13th state title for a Las Cruces Public Schools team since the It's Burger Time Golf Tournament Era started in 1993. LCPS teams have competed in 16 state title games in that time, demonstrating the value of the funds raised for those programs by generous and passionate Las Cruces.

Consider also the state basketball and football titles won by Mesilla Valley Christian School, and all the other state titles in other sports from all of our schools.

Also remember our New Mexico State University Aggies are the reigning Western Athletic Conference tournament champions in both volleyball and men's basketball.

A city that cares

If you're not familiar with Mesilla Valley Hospice, here's a brief description: Thirty years ago, a small group of people wanted to create a place where dying people and their families could share final days in comfort and dignity. A noble idea, but not so easy to accomplish. Yet, due to the dedication of many devoted individuals, the project has grown and flourished, and given peace to many people and their families.

All this time, the organization has depended on kindness and contributions and has never been forced to limit care. This year, that formula is being tested.

Facing a need to provide \$1 million in care, Mesilla Valley Hospice could have said, "We can't quite do that." It was more than the organization had ever provided.

Taking a leap of faith, however, its board decided to trust its history and trust the generosity of this community.

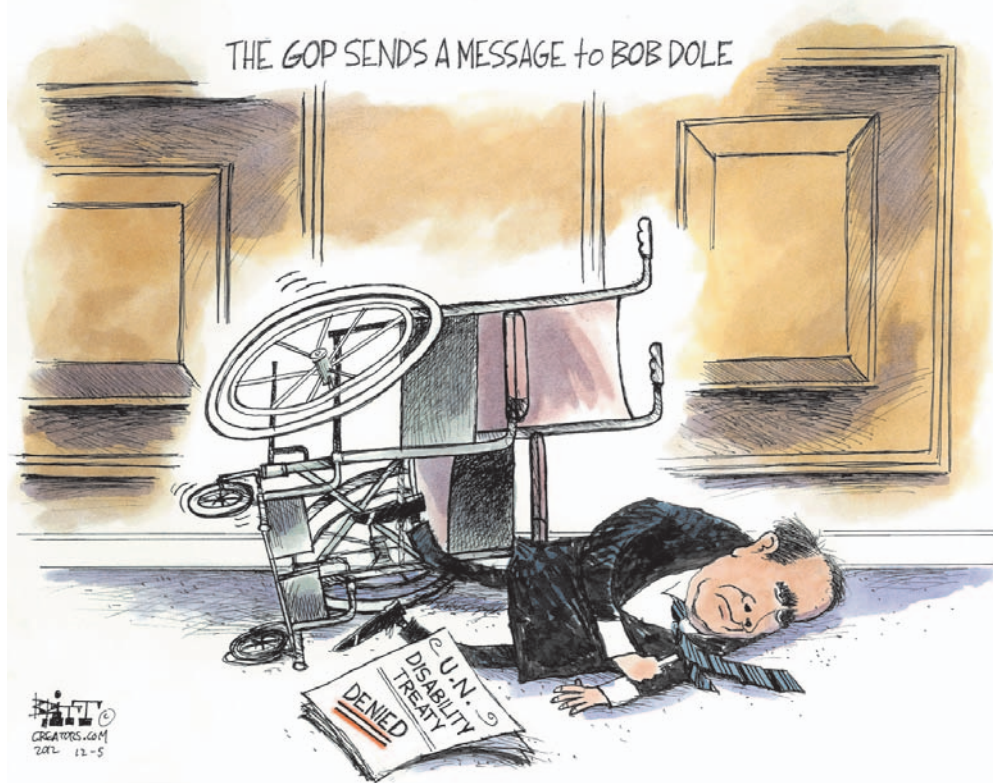
The care is being given but, so far, enough money has not.

You can help make that difference.

Donations can be sent to Mesilla Valley Hospice, 299 Montana Ave., Las Cruces, NM 88005. After all, this is the same community that, also in the last month, saw 21 amazing ladies raise more than \$160,000 for the March of Dimes in the 2012 High Heels for High Hopes event.

Each of these is impressive. Taken together, they are nothing short of amazing. Yet this is just one month in the life of our community: a city alight, a city of champions and a city that cares.

Life is good in Las Cruces.



Letters to the Editor

Who gets cut?

It was with great interest that I read Congressman Steve Pearce's guest column in the Dec. 7, Las Cruces Bulletin, giving the example of a family making \$50,000 a year, but spending \$78,000 a year, thus going into debt at the rate of \$28,000 a year, and how this action is linked to deficit spending and the so-called, approaching fiscal cliff.

I would like to know the exact nature of expenses that contributed to the \$28,000 a year deficit. Was the family's overspending on luxury automobiles, expensive vacations or travel, high-fashion clothing, private schooling and/or Ivy League university attendance, expensive food, drink and entertainment, expensive jewelry, a lavish home or homes/foreign residency and the latest electronic entertainment devices? Or was the debt incurred for medical expenses (health insurance, doctors, nurses, hospital, home health

care, nursing home care, hospice and medications), basic food, shelter and clothing?

There would seem to be a difference as to how to deal with the debt in both cases. If one family has their basic needs met and continue to live beyond their means that is one thing. If the other family must struggle to survive and has gone into debt to stay alive, that is another.

Pearce states we must stop spending money we do not have. I agree, but whose budget gets cut?

Ivan White

Kiwanis offer a thank you

The Kiwanis Club of Las Cruces recently held its 10th annual Christmas Can-Tree Drive and collected more than 1,300 pounds of food that was distributed to the Gospel Rescue Mission, El Caldito Soup Kitchen and Casa de los Peregrinos.

It is at times like these that the spirit of giving truly shines through. The Las Cruces community stepped up to the plate and unselfishly gave, hoping to brighten the Christmas holiday of those less fortunate.

Support from Oscar Andrade of the Pic Quik stores, Ralph and Carol Troeller and cash donations at the food drive site allowed us to add to the food donated by Las Cruces shoppers. Kiwanis would especially like to thank Eddie Tafoya and all of his employees at the Walmart store on Walton Boulevard for allowing us to collect food at their location.

Without their help, and the community's spirit of giving, the holiday season would be just another day on the calendar for some very deserving people in Las Cruces.

On their behalf, we thank everyone from the bottom of our hearts.

Jim Pudlewski

Kiwanis Club of Las Cruces

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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2012 "Business of the Year" Hispano Chamber of Commerce de Las Cruces

2010 "Community Arts Award" Doña Ana Arts Council

2009 "Small Business of the Year" Hispano Chamber of Commerce de Las Cruces

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

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

2006 "Newspaper of the Year" New Mexico Farm and Livestock Bureau

2005 "Business of the Year" Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce

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Doomsday approaches – or not

End-of-world scenarios seem to be never ending

Jay Miller
Inside the Capitol



This is the month the world is supposed to end. Doomsday prophets have been predicting it for centuries – at least since the ancient Sumerians, who thought a planet was headed toward Earth. But for some reason, December 2012 has become a very popular target.

So popular, in fact, that NASA has found it necessary to explain that the world as we know it will not end any time soon. It will not end because of the Mayan calendar, a polar shift, a meteor, a solar storm, a super nova, planetary alignment or a reversal in the rotation of the earth.

The most popular dates for The End are Dec. 21-25. Most popular of all is Dec. 21, possibly because it also is the winter solstice. There most likely were predictions for Wednesday, 12-12-12; possibly because it was the last time this century that such a duplication of numbers is possible.

Personally, I align with the group that considers such dates lucky. County clerks reported that 11-11-11 was a favorite day for obtaining marriage licenses. We'll have extra reason to celebrate the beginning of a new year because we will have once again averted the apocalypse.

NASA even ventured into dangerous philosophical territory by declaring that the world has been getting along just fine for more than four billion years, and that credible scientists see no threat associated with 2012.

The end of the 5,000-year-old Mayan calendar likely is what caused the fixation on the end of times. Various "authorities" began calculating the end date to be in late December 2012.

Several years ago, my wife and I visited Guatemala and Belize. Mayan guides in both countries already had grown tired of answering questions about their calendar ending. They began their presentations by saying Mayans know how to make a new calendar.

Another concern NASA addresses is an alignment of the Earth and Sun with the approximate center of the Milky Way Galaxy that will cause all sorts of calamities in December. Such alignment will occur – but it happens every December.

Then there is the polar-shift theory. Some believers say the Earth will start rotating the opposite direction. That would be

a calamity, but also impossible.

The magnetic poles do wander around irregularly but without doing any harm to the Earth. The magnetic poles do completely reverse every 400,000 years or so, but scientists don't think they have caused any harm to life on Earth.

As far as hits by comets and asteroids are concerned, NASA has a Spaceguard Survey to identify anything that might be heading our way. Results are reported daily on NASA's website for all to see.

What about Planet X headed our way? NASA says that if any planet left its orbit and headed toward Earth we would know a very long time in advance and it would be major news.

What about solar storms impacting us? NASA says solar storm activity peaks every 11 years and we are nearing a peak.

Communications are sometimes interrupted, but we are learning to build electronics capable of withstanding almost anything.

That pretty well takes care of anything related to NASA. It doesn't include political possibilities. A Third World War, said to be predicted by Nostradamus, could end in a nuclear holocaust. We have been able to avoid such an event. Terrorists could unleash the genie, but not likely on a scale that would destroy the world.

Earthquakes and weather events have become more numerous, leading some to predict Judgment Day is coming. Those predictions have been coming for a long time, and none appear likely to happen before the month ends.

What is happening, however, is that companies selling survival supplies are prospering. Their ads promote kits that last for a month to a year. That wouldn't do much for a worldwide, earth-shaking event, but the kits are bound to look good to people back East who have been without power since Sandy hit.

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

“ Personally, I align with the group that considers such dates lucky. ”



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ERRANDS
OR RUNNING
MARATHONS**



The public is invited to attend an Installation Kickoff for the

**Las Cruces City Hall
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A truly American Christmas

Columnist clings to cherished holiday fantasies

Michael Swickard
In My Opinion



"There is nothing sadder in this world than to awake Christmas morning and not be a child."

— Erma Bombeck

What was unthinkable in my childhood is now the norm. The majority of the country must fight the minority to continue Christmas. While Congress still calls it Christmas, the forces against Christmas assault the celebration of Christ every year.

It would appear Congress needs to vote again on the federal Christmas designation. What did the 1870 Congress mean when it voted Christmas a federal holiday? It would seem Congress in 1870, and every year thereafter, announced that the U. S. is a Christian nation.

Not that our nation does not welcome other religions. We, the majority do, but we, the majority, wish to celebrate Christmas. Our founding leaders on April 30, 1789, took their oath of office, the president, senators and members of the House of Representatives and then all together walked to a church where they all, yes all, prayed together.

There has not been a vote to remove the Christian nation, in fact, in 1954 the words, "under God" were added to the Pledge of Allegiance. We need clarification: can federal and state employees say, "Merry Christmas?" As important: can federal and state employees decide to not say "Merry Christmas?"

The "politically correct" (PC) crowd has browbeaten and threatened lawsuits on many government entities including public education. In most public schools, Christmas became winter holiday without a vote in Congress or the state legislature. Is that the will of the people?

This spilled over into the business community a couple of years ago. Citizens quelled it when they announced no Christmas greetings, no shopping from us.

The stores quickly caught on. They can also say "Happy Holidays," "Happy Hanukkah" or anything else, but they cannot omit Christmas greetings and still get our business.

I do not blame public schools for casting off Christmas songs, plays and pageants when our representatives and

senators do not stand up for Christmas. The legislators let unelected PC people force the dropping of Christmas.

I do not have any trouble with a separation of the story of the baby Jesus and students. I leave that to the parents and churches. However, in the effort to not say Christmas, traditional songs cannot be sung.

Also, Santa Claus is considered politically incorrect, so students are not permitted a classroom Santaesque "naughty or nice" song. Teachers are instructed in many school districts to have nothing to do with anything Christmas-centric.

A walk through your neighborhood school and into the classrooms will confirm that there is no dialog about the Christmas holiday including the who, what, when, where and why of Christmas included in all other federal and state holidays.

Until Congress repudiates Christmas, it is the law of the land and we take those days off. So when are we going to teach Christmas to the next generation of students as we teach Thanksgiving, Labor Day and Memorial Day?

Christmas is not required to be believed, but it still should be taught as part of the culture of being an American. Students who know the Fourth of July, Columbus Day, MLK Day, etc., should have some understanding of the intent of our founding leaders and the federal designation of Christmas.

Again, they do not have to celebrate being a Christian; they have to understand the identity of our nation. Maybe we should remove Christmas and everything Christian including "In God We Trust" from our money.

Let us have a vote in Congress and the New Mexico Legislature to find out what our leaders think. Those who want to adopt secular humanism instead of Christianity can vote so. As a nation of laws we are obligated to follow the results of the vote.

No more "getting around" the vote, we follow the vote. For me it will always be Christmas. Some of my most treasured memories are of Christmas with my family. Friends have come and gone, loved ones are around me while others passed. I do not wish to put Christmas on you, but will not let you take it from me. Perhaps it is time for all of our leaders to step up and vote this issue.

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

“Christmas is not required to be believed, it still should be taught as part of the culture of being an American.”

Letters to the Editor

Community college's critics ignore institution's benefits

I have read and listened to the continued criticism of the Doña Ana Community College. The articles and TV reports express "glittering generalities" to give DACC a bad name.

The individuals who continue their barrage on the college must realize they are simply downgrading the leading community college in New Mexico, and one that has received national accolades.

Administratively, the community college is in good hands. It is only necessary to look at the development of the institution, its student growth, facilities expansion, program diversity, community responsibility in job preparation and cooperation with business and industry. These are measurable results of a solidly and reliably run institution.

The nursing program lost its accreditation, but it is not the only nursing program to do so, as others lost their accreditation due to the same lack of dollars to keep masters-level instructors. It is unfair to use glittering generalities such as "the people," "the faculty," "the students," etc., to confuse the reading and listening audience into believing that they are speaking for large numbers, when, in fact, they generally represent only themselves.

Yes, there is unhappiness with the loss of accreditation, but it also represents a hard-working institution that does not shy away from its responsibilities. The nursing program will return, stronger and better. This has always been the result of "trial by fire." Not only with the program be better for its trials, but the entire institution will prosper.

DACC is a young institution, going on 40 years, while many of New Mexico's universities are more than 100 years old. Yet within those 40 years, DACC has established a loyal cadre of alumni that is spread throughout the nation; their annual alumni awards reception is testimony to that.

Doña Ana County, the City of Las Cruces and New Mexico are blessed with a strong educational institution that compliments its parent institution, New Mexico State University.

They need community support, not criticism. They need our citizens to speak out for – not against – a thriving jewel in southern New Mexico.

Patricio Quintana

BaxterBlack

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE



Pellets versus piles

Henry David Thoreau wrote a whole book about a pond and never got wet. He simply took the time to ponder.

I, too, find myself pondering life's mystery; like what is the purpose of a dewclaw? To measure the dew?

Why do horses have canine teeth? Were they once carnivores?

How do sheep tell each other apart?

Why do ants think they can drag a kibble of dog food back to the hill? Do they lack depth perception?

But last night, I lay awake pondering why cows make pies instead of pellets. If they did – make pellets, I mean – would they be like an elk, which is larger than a deer, or just sheep size? Or, what if they were as big as road apples and elongated like a rat? It would be dangerous to walk behind them.

I imagine the diligent hard-working cow veterinarian in the process of preg-testing, routinely lifting the cow's tail, sighting in and getting bonked by a fecal projectile.

The paramedics would haul him to the emergency room. The admitting-room nurse would write down CBC (Cow Biscuit Concussion) and ask about his insurance. Under the category of trauma, his policy would cover horn goring, hoof stomping, poll butting, tail slashing, cow kicking, bumper gumming and cud spitting, but no CBC.

Had bison evacuated two-foot-long logs, think how

much easier it would have been for the Indians and the settlers crossing the prairie. "Send young William out to gather an arm-load of dried buffalo sticks for the cooking fire, we'll have a wagon train of fun."

The shape of herbivore poop has had a significant influence on the development of certain human populations. Since deer, antelope and elk poop was pelletized, it forced the Native Americans to invent the rake, the sieve and the game of marbles (eventually leading to casino ownership), instead of the wheel. Therefore they had no Iron Age, Industrial Age or Technological Age; they had the Pellet Age.

I wonder if, by selective breeding and genetically inserting sheep DNA in cow chromosomes, could we manipulate cows colons to form pellets? If we can conquer this technology we could move on to dog and cat pellets, hamster BB's, skunk shot, badger ball bearings – but, I would stop before messing around with bird cloacal manipulation – it could be dangerous. We would have to carry armored um-shields instead of um-brellas and duck hunters would have to wear safety helmets.

I'm getting confused – where is Henry David when I need him?

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Graduating students in full regalia participate in the spring 2012 commencement ceremony at New Mexico State University.

New Mexico State University photo



Fall commencement set

More than 1,000 graduate Saturday, Dec. 15

New Mexico State University will honor 1,045 new bachelor's degree recipients and 397 advanced degree recipients at the fall 2012 commencement ceremony at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 15, at the Pan American Center.

The total number is 45 more than last year, according to the Registrar's Office.

Approximately 950 graduates, a few of whom actually finished their academic work last summer, are expected to attend the ceremony, along with family members, friends, the campus community and the general public.

Interim Provost Jay Jordan will present the degree candidates to Interim President Manuel Pacheco, who will officially confer the degrees and diplomas.

Instrumental music will be provided by the NMSU Symphonic Band under the leadership of Director of Bands Christopher Hughes. NMSU undergraduate music major Danielle Turner will sing "America the Beautiful," accompanied by Laura Spitzer, NMSU's pianist in residence. Rev. Dalene Fuller Rogers of Peace Lutheran Church will deliver the invocation.

The College of Arts and Sciences has the largest number of fall bachelor's graduates with 366, followed by business with 171, engineering with 150, ACES with 136, education with 86, extended education with 68 and health and social services with 68.

Master's degrees will be awarded to 320 students.

In addition to the 75 doctorates being conferred, two students are receiving Doctorate of Nursing Practice degrees – the first NMSU students to earn this degree. One Doctor of Economic Development and six Doctor of Education degrees are also being awarded.

The road to graduation has been longer for some students than for others.

Stephanie Salway graduated from Las Cruces High School in 1996. She attended

New Mexico Highlands University for two years, where she played soccer. A single mother of three daughters between the ages of 4 and 12, she has worked full time in retail for many years to support her family, pursuing her education part time along the way. She completed an associate degree at Doña Ana Community College in 2007 and has been chipping away steadily at her bachelor's degree in family and child science ever since.

She sees graduation as both an achievement in itself and a key to a future career.

"I'm passionate about helping people," she said. "I'm looking ahead toward a career helping families, children, perhaps pregnant teens, but in a job situation that gives me more time with my own family, too."

Charlene Carr, who grew up in Laguna Pueblo west of Albuquerque, arrived at NMSU in 2004. During her sophomore year, her parents were simultaneously deployed overseas, and she found herself split between family and school obligations.

As an undergraduate, she was chosen to be a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Research Scholar after participating in the university's RISE and MARC undergraduate research programs. In spring 2009, she finished her bachelor's degree in agriculture with an emphasis in soil science.

Carr is graduating this semester with a master's in plant and environmental science and a minor in applied statistics.

No tickets are required for guests to attend commencement; seating is available on a first come, first serve basis. Guests are encouraged to arrive early to avoid traffic congestion. Anyone requiring special assistance in the Pan American Center should call 646-4413.

For more information about NMSU commencement, visit www.nmsu.edu/commencement.

Christmas bird count important to science

More than 60,000 participate in annual event

The Audubon Christmas Bird Count (CBC), the longest-running citizen science wildlife survey in the world, will run from Friday, Dec. 14, through Saturday, Jan. 5, 2013, throughout North America, including 35 locations in New Mexico.

More than 60,000 volunteers nationwide are expected to brave the cold this year to add a new layer of data that will help shape conservation decisions in years to come.

This year, the CBC will undergo several significant changes. Most important, fees to participate in the count will be dropped to encourage greater participation, and the annual published report, "American Birds," will go digital in 2013, saving more trees for the birds. Christmas Bird Count information will also be available online in Spanish for the first time.

"We encourage birders of all ages and abilities to participate in this year's CBC," said Robert Templeton, who leads a scheduling effort for New Mexico's count. "Each counting group is led by one or more experts capable of identifying, by sight and sound, the birds in their area, so it's a great learning opportunity for less experienced birders as well."

Each CBC group counts in a specified area, sometimes driving, sometimes walking. Every bird that is seen or heard is identified and counted. At the end of the day, each group's count is collected and the data is sent electronically to the National Audubon Society.

Audubon's CBC has been called a "model" for citizen science by the journal Nature and is the leading source of long-term bird population data in the Americas.

After a year of devastating weather events, including severe droughts that have all but dried up Western rivers such as the Rio Grande and super-storms such as Hurricane Sandy, the topic of climate change has once again been brought to the forefront. Scientists rely on the trend data from the CBC to better understand how birds and the environment are faring in the face of climate change.

In a NASA-funded study published in Global Change Biology, data revealed migratory bird species can experience population losses up to 13 percent during extreme droughts.

"Dry years in northern New Mexico since 1996, especially 2000, 2002, 2003, 2011 and 2012, have adversely impacted

wildlife populations in many ways, by decreasing food supplies, water, and habitat," Stephen Fetting, wildlife biologist with the National Park Service, said. "Drought influences habitat quality and food availability for a whole suite of insectivorous and seeding-eating birds. Such drought-induced changes can have detrimental effects on nest success, chick survival and overall population numbers for birds."

"While good breeding seasons are often mixed among poor breeding seasons, making short-term bird population trends difficult to interpret, long-term trends from CBCs give us a much clearer understanding of the overall health of many of our bird species."

Bernard Foy, long-time Audubon New Mexico volunteer and leader of the CBC circle in Española for the past 21 years recently published a paper in the New Mexico Ornithological Society Bulletin. "Evidence for Decline in Wintering Dark-eyed Junco (Junco Hyemalis) in New Mexico" analyzed 50 years of New Mexico CBC data to assess long-term trends in wintering populations of dark-eyed Juncos.

Foy's analysis showed that juncos are declining as a wintering species in New Mexico, with some count circles showing steep declines.

In addition to the dark-eyed Junco, CBC results have shown that many birds that winter in the state are declining in numbers and analysis shows that their range is retracting north.

Additionally, New Mexico is now seeing birds that used to be quite rare in winter much more frequently as birds move northward from the south. For instance, twenty years ago it was almost unheard of to see the Common Yellowthroat wintering in New Mexico, but now these birds winter regularly in Las Cruces and sometimes up the Rio Grande corridor toward Albuquerque.

"Just how bad is the drought and how much is climate change really affecting sensitive bird species? Only time will tell," said Christopher Rustay, Albuquerque resident and Clayton CBC leader.

"But we need our citizen scientists to count in both good years and bad to help tell the story."

To find a count near you, view New Mexico's CBC Schedule at www.rioembudobirds.org/nmcbc.

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Coming Up

Giftwrapping raises funds

Mesilla Valley Habitat for Humanity will partner with Barnes & Noble Booksellers, 700 S. Telshor Blvd., in Mesilla Valley Mall, for a giftwrapping fundraiser through Monday, Dec. 24.

All proceeds benefit MVHH, which is seeking volunteers to wrap gifts at various shifts related to mall hours. Anyone who would like to volunteer or would like their gifts wrapped may call 525-0475.

Bosque park events announced

Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park, 5000 Calle de Norte, has announced its December events:

- 3 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays: Ranger-led nature hikes: Visitors can join a park ranger on a guided nature hike and learn about the history of Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park. Plants and wildlife that live in the park will be identified along the trail. Bring binoculars, water, sunscreen and wear hiking shoes.
 - 8:15 a.m. Saturdays: Bird tours: Visitors can join a park volunteer and learn about the birds found during the winter at Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park. Bring binoculars, water, sunscreen and wear hiking shoes. Tours last one to two hours.
 - 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 15: Holiday Plants into the New Year: Want to keep those poinsettias and other festive plants alive after the holidays? Master Gardener Sylvia Hacker will speak in the classroom and provide tips as to how to enjoy holiday plants well into the New Year.
 - 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 15: Food Mixes in a Jar: Gayla Weaver will speak in the classroom about how to make food mixes in a jar and give them as holiday gifts. Consider making the Country Chili Mix, Friendship Soup Mix, Cornbread Mix or the Cranberry-Oatmeal Cookie Mix to give as economical gifts. The mixes are fun to make and great to receive. Weaver is a home economist with the Extension Office.
 - 10 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 26 and Saturday, Dec. 29: Holiday Stories: Children and adults are invited to classroom talks about New Mexico culture during the holidays. Stories will be told and shared along with a craft activity.
- All events are free with a valid park pass. Daily entrance fee is \$5 per vehicle. Annual day passes are available for \$40. Winter hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday. The park is closed Mondays and Tuesdays through March. For more information, call LuAnn Kilday at 523-4398.

Breakfast with Santa Dec. 15

The Child Crisis Center of Southern New Mexico will host Breakfast with Santa from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 15, at the Cavalry Baptist Church, 1800 S. Locust St. Proceeds will benefit the center. Tickets are \$5. Photos can be taken with Santa for an additional \$5. The event is sponsored by Calvary Baptist Church

and the Kiwanis Club of Las Cruces.

For tickets or more information, call 525-1277.

Minnesota Club meets

Minnesota Club will have a holiday party at noon Wednesday, Dec. 19, at Golden Corral, 601 S. Telshor Blvd. All former Minnesotans are welcome to come enjoy some entertainment and socialize.

Parks & Recreation facilities close early Friday, Dec. 14

The City of Las Cruces Parks & Recreation Department's annual awards luncheon will be Friday, Dec. 14. As a result, the facilities listed below will close early that day:

- The Parks & Recreation Department administrative offices at Armando "Mondy" Castaneda and the Life Center will close at 11:30 a.m.
 - Meerscheidt Recreation Center will close at 5 p.m. Basketball games will still be played as scheduled.
- For immediate assistance, call Meerscheidt Recreation Center at 541-2563. For any park maintenance operations, contact dispatch at 526-0050. The TTY number is 541-2772.

Youth soccer league takes registration through Dec. 22

The Parks & Recreation Department is accepting registration for the Youth Indoor Soccer League at Meerscheidt Recreation Center, 1600 E. Hadley Ave. Registration ends Saturday, Dec. 22. The Youth Indoor Soccer League is composed of two divisions: pre-kindergarten through kindergarten (4 and 5 years of age) and first and second grades (6 and 7 years of age).

Cost is \$35 per participant, which includes a game jersey. All players must be issued a Parks & Recreation sports ID card to show proof of grade and age. All documentation will need to be submitted by each team before they can be scheduled for league play.

A new player/parent meeting will be held at 6 p.m., Jan. 10, 2013, at Meerscheidt Recreation Center. A coaches meeting will be held at 6 p.m., Jan. 17, at the center. Games are scheduled to begin the week of Jan. 19.

For more information, call Meerscheidt Recreation Center at 541-2563 or visit www.las-cruces.org. The TTY number is 541-2772.

Winter Wonderland event set at Vista College

Computer Career Center, a Division of Vista College, 850 N. Telshor Blvd., Suite K, will host Winter Wonderland, a free event for the public from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14, at its Las Cruces campus. Booths will be manned by faculty and staff will provide entertainment for the whole family including crafts, games, treats and pictures with Santa for the children.

"We are very excited to put on this first-time event for the community," said Lorena Castillo, campus director of the Computer Career Center.

"The holidays are a great time to celebrate all the good things that have happened this year, and the students and faculty would like to show everyone how appreciative we are of being a part of this wonderful community."




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Winter Wonderland will feature gift bags for the kids, hot chocolate, cotton candy, a "snowman toss," a recreation of Santa's workshop, a fishing booth and bowling. In addition, representatives from the Cosmetology Department will be there to do nail art.

"Our students and staff have done a wonderful job of embracing the holiday spirit by participating in food drives and really getting out there to support causes here in Las Cruces," said Adriana Duran, associate campus director for Computer Career Center.

For more information about the event or the Computer Career Center and its programs, call 556-1080.

City takes registration for Winter Camp through Dec. 21

The City of Las Cruces Parks & Recreation Section will be accepting registration applications for Winter Camp 2012 for students in kindergarten through seventh grades from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. through Friday, Dec. 21, at Meerscheidt Recreation Center, 1600 Hadley Ave. Cost is \$95, and includes the entire camp and a T-shirt. Payment must be made before the end of registration.

The camp will run from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the following dates:

- Wednesday through Friday, Dec. 26-28
- Monday, Dec. 31, and Wednesday through Friday, Jan. 2-4, 2013
- Monday and Tuesday, Jan. 7-8, 2013

Activities will include field trips, a medicine ball tournament, guest speakers and other fun events. Lunch will not be provided and participants are strongly encouraged to bring a sack lunch. Water and Gatorade will be provided.

To complete registration, parents or guardians must provide a copy of the child's birth certificate. Acceptable payment methods are cash, cashier's check, money order, traveler's checks and major credit cards. Debit cards are not accepted.

For more information, call the Meerscheidt Recreation Center at 541-2563. The TTY number is 541-2661.

Enjoy luminarias at Chihuahuan Desert Nature Park Dec. 15

The Asombro Institute for Science Education is giving the Chihuahuan Desert Nature Park some holiday cheer by lighting hundreds of luminarias along the Desert Discover Trail from 5 to 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15.

Visitors to the free event can stroll along the trail and also decorate their own luminaria to add to those on display.

The Chihuahuan Desert Nature Park is located northeast of Las Cruces. From Interstate 25 in Las Cruces, head east on U.S. Highway 70. Take the Mesa Grande Road exit (at Oñate High School). Make a U-turn under the highway to head west and stay in the right lane. Turn right (north) on Jornada Road. Follow Jornada Road for 6.4 miles and turn left at the Chihuahuan Desert Nature Park sign. Follow the entrance road to the parking area and trailhead.

The Asombro Institute for Science Education is a nonprofit organization dedicated to increasing scientific literacy by fostering an understanding of the Chihuahuan Desert. The Asombro



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Institute provides hands-on science education programs for more than 13,000 students throughout southern New Mexico and west Texas each year.

For more information, call 524-3334 or visit www.asombro.org.

FAALC hosts Christmas party

The Filipino-American Association of Las Cruces (FAALC) will host a Christmas party at 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15, at the Court Youth Center, Alma d'arte Charter High School, 402 W. Court Ave.

Admission is free, but donations are accepted. Santa will be in attendance, and guests are asked to bring a boxed item for each child attending. The child's complete name should be written on the box. Filipino desserts will be available.

For more information, call Ina at 202-8682 or Tommy at 642-7163.

Railroad museum offers Christmas ornament class

The Las Cruces Railroad Museum, 351 N. Mesilla St., will offer ornament-making classes from 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays, Dec. 15 and 22. Visitors can come in any time during the classes and make their choice of ornaments, including foam picture frames, Pearler beads (melty beads) and wooden trains suitable to be painted. The classes are open to all children ages 6 and older, with parental attendance encouraged. Suggested donation is \$1 per child.

For more information or to make a reservation, call Joanne at 647-4480.

Santa visits Mesilla Plaza

Santa Claus will visit children from Mesilla Elementary School on the Mesilla Plaza at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 19.

Mesilla merchants sponsoring the event will provide cookies, juice and peppermint candy canes. The kids also get an opportunity to whisper in Santa's ear about wishes, dreams and those absolute needs.

The public is invited.

For more information, email Ashley Echavarría at mesillaevents@comcast.net.

City to install solar lights at City Hall parking facility

The public is invited to attend an installation kickoff ceremony for the City Hall Parking Deck Solar Array at 3 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 18, at the upper level of City Hall's parking structure located at 700 N. Main St. Parking for the public is available at City Hall's

Main Street entrance.

The 105 kW (DC) photovoltaic array to be installed will also serve as shade structures on the City Hall parking deck's upper level.

City Council awarded the \$439,635 design/construct contract to Lynco Electric Co. Inc. of Las Cruces. Funding for the project is derived from 2009 New Mexico Finance Authority money for construction of the parking structure in the amount of \$137,700 with the balance funded through city capital funds. Once this project is completed in spring 2013, it is estimated that the city will save approximately \$23,000 a year on its electric bill.

For more information, call Merideth Hildreth at 541-2177.

Lunch & Learn about holiday plants

"Holiday Plants into the New Year" will be the topic at Lunch & Learn from noon to 1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 20, at Branigan Memorial Library, 201 E. Picacho Ave.

Master Gardener Sylvia Hacker will speak about how to keep poinsettias and other festive plants alive after the holidays. This month's program will include tips on how on how you can enjoy your holiday plants into the New Year and beyond. Bring a sack lunch.

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

City requests information on currently available housing

The City of Las Cruces is interested in gathering information related to housing that is currently available to, or has been modified, to accommodate persons with disabilities who currently reside in the city limits of Las Cruces.

The survey is available online through Friday, Dec. 21, at www.surveymonkey.com/s/YTVVMX3

The survey is intended to gather information on the number of units that accommodate persons with disabilities, either with or without modification.

For more information, call the Community Development Department at 528-3022. The TTY number is 528-3157.

Housing needs of disabled focus of city survey

The City of Las Cruces is interested in gathering information related to the housing needs for people with disabilities who currently live or desire to live inside the city limits. As part of the survey, the city is also looking to quantify the specific types of housing needs for persons with various disabilities in the community

and the prospects of creating a service to connect tenants with available units.

The survey is available online through Friday, Dec. 21, at www.surveymonkey.com/s/YRB5S5F

Hard copies are available at the Reference Desk at Thomas Branigan Memorial Library, 201 E. Picacho Ave.

If you have any questions or need assistance filling out this survey, contact Community Development Department at 528-3022 or TTY at 528-3157. Copies are available in various formats depending on your needs.

Checkpoints planned

The Las Cruces Police Department will conduct at least two sobriety checkpoints and multiple saturation patrols within city limits during the month of December.

LCPD sobriety checkpoints and saturation patrols are intended to reduce the number of motorists who drive while intoxicated.

Additional enforcement activities may include underage and party patrols.

The Las Cruces Police Department encourages those who plan on consuming alcoholic beverages to use a designated driver – someone who will not be drinking alcoholic beverages – for their transportation needs.

Anyone who needs a safe ride home from 5:30 p.m. to 3 a.m. Fridays, Saturdays or holidays can take advantage of Project Home, a program sponsored by Doña Ana County and Las Cruces Shuttle and Taxi. One or two people can receive a \$5 taxi ride home from anywhere within Doña Ana County. For up to four people the fee is \$10. Grant funding pays the balance of transportation charges.

For Project Home taxi service call 524-TAXI.

SAR chapter meets in January

The Gadsden Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution will hold its next chapter meeting at noon, Jan. 19, 2013, at Uno Chicago Grill, 2102 N. Telshor Blvd. New officers will be installed and some office responsibilities will be changed.

For more information, call Sam Bradley at 522-3479.

Skills USA open house


The SkillsUSA Automotive Club at Doña Ana Community College will host an Open Auto Shop Day from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14, in room C156 at the Technical Studies Auto Shop on the Central Campus of DACC, 3400 S. Espina St.

All proceeds from the event will benefit DACC's Automotive SkillsUSA Club.

For more information contact Wade Matthews at 527-7589 wmatthews@dacc.nmsu.edu.

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Impact fees

Continued from page A1

the needs the impact fees means to address, but they will add \$1,000 to \$1,500 on to a house when the city should be helping more people on the margin get homes. Delaying the impact fees would not only be good for the construction industry, but for the whole local economy, he said.

Max Bower, developer, said getting the financing for buying a house is already difficult in an area in which the medium household income is between \$35,000 and \$38,000. Adding the impact fees to the cost of homes puts them more out of reach, he said.

James Reedy, LCHBA president, said his group isn't against all impact fees, such as the one for public safety already in place, but developers are more experienced in building roads than the city.

Mayor Ken Miyagishima said getting developers to pay

for arroyo crossings has been a problem in the past. Mayor Pro Tem Sharon Thomas said she knows of two sections of Sonoma Ranch Boulevard that are still unfinished. Councillor Gill Sorg went further by giving a laundry list of roads that are incompletely or inconsistently built out by developers, such as Del Rey Boulevard, north Porter Road, Elks Drive and Mesa Grande Drive.

"I need answers about how we are going to build these roads," Sorg said.

There is a misconception, he said, that the construction industry in Las Cruces drives the local economy.

"Existing businesses attract people, which drives the home-building industry," he said.

Chavira acknowledged there have past problems with some developers, but the LCHBA is ready to work with developers to make sure they are done right.

Partially completed roads are the result of the first developers only building their share of the roads. Thomas said the city's good bond rating would mean getting good interest rates on

loans to build complete roads instead, which would attract other developers to the area with the new development areas.

"It actually promotes what you're trying to do," she said.

Nor is there good evidence that impact fees would slow down construction, Thomas said, and the local market currently has an over-supply of new homes for sale.

Councillor Nathan Small said the city's past history has plenty of examples where money has been pulled from other areas to fill in infrastructure gaps.

"I don't feel comfortable putting it off year by year," Small said. "It's going to have to be like ripping off the Band-Aid before the wound is completely healed."

Councillor Miguel Silva said he still favors an approach that would implement fees depending on the health of the economy.

"I'd rather see a more systematic approach," he said.

LCHBA also made a pitch for spending another year working on finding a better method for building roads and drainage in new developments.

The council will decide if the new impact fees get delayed until July 2013 at its next meeting Monday, Dec. 17.

In other business, the council learned that fire insurance rates may drop by as much as 10 percent with the new Insurance Service Office rating for the city – a rating of 2, which is next to the No. 1 rating and up two points from the 4 rating 10 years ago.

The council also heard a report from Holloman Air Force Base about its F-22 training that is creating more sonic booms than residents are used to experiencing.

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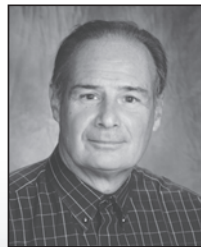
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Mara Archambault, M.D.
Internal Medicine



Joseph D'Antonio, M.D.
Internal Medicine



Thomas Hanson, M.D.
Internal Medicine
and Endocrinology



Jinyi Ling, D.O.
Internal Medicine



MVRDA

Continued from page A1

limiting MVRDA's ability to update its equipment. Also, it is located near a busy thoroughfare, which also puts the dispatch communications at risk if the building is struck by an automobile.

The consultants are recommending that the new facility encompass 25,726 square feet. The square footage estimates are based on staffing projections from 2013 through 2033.

Adequate space for the workers should offer the opportunity for hiring more dispatchers so they don't have to work the long shifts. Currently, staff at the center work 12-hour shifts that can even be longer at times, depending on the situation.

MVRDA Director Hugo Costa said there are eight dispatchers and four call takers. Costa said he will ask the state for the funding capacity to have 16 dispatch staff.

Newby said his ultimate design goal will be to create a better environment for the people doing this extremely stressful work.

The new 911 call center will start off with about 50 workers, but staff is expected to increase to 91 by the end of the second 10 years.

Originally, planners were looking at a large building, but they worked with staff to come up with more modest space requests where possible. The new building would need space for administration, training and support services, as well as the dispatch service.

The planning intends to provide a "quiet room" for workers to recover from psychologically traumatizing calls, such as death of a child.

Currently, the dispatchers work in a darkened room. The new center will have more light and let in a way that doesn't interfere with the dispatcher computer screens. Sometimes, the dispatchers can't tell what time of day it is because they are working in darkness.

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In the news

McMillan wins recount

State Rep. Terry McMillan, R-Las Cruces, will be returning to the Legislature after a two-and-a-half-day recount gave him victory over Democratic challenger Joanne Ferrary.

Doña Ana County Clerk Lynn Ellins declared McMillan the winner of House District 37 by eight votes Thursday, Dec. 6.

In last month's election, the race vote count was tied at 6,247 votes. The recount has McMillan winning with 6,267 votes to 6,259.

Under state law, if the recount had ended in a tie, the winner would have been determined by a game of chance such as a flip of a coin.

In 1996, a GOP primary race for a state Senate seat was determined by a coin toss.

The winner – William Payne of Albuquerque – is the No. 2 GOP leader in the Senate.

Democrats decide Senate leadership

At a closed-door caucus meeting in Belen Sunday, Dec. 9, state Senate Democrats nominated Sen. Pete Campos of Las Vegas, N.M., for the top position in the body, according to the Santa Fe New Mexican.

Campos, who has been in the Senate for more than 20 years, defeated three others to replace Senate President Pro Tem Tim Jennings, who was defeated in his re-election bid last month. Also running for the position were Linda Lopez of Albuquerque, Mary Kay Papen of Las Cruces and Howie Morales of Silver City. The entire Senate elects its president pro tem when the Legislature convenes in January.

Campos said he was honored by the nomination.

"I plan to be reaching out to every member of the Senate," he said. "I'll be calling every one."

An educator, Campos is the president of Luna Community College in Las Vegas. He currently is a member of the Senate Finance Committee.

Senate Democrats also re-elected Sen. Michael Sanchez of Belen as Democratic floor leader. He was unopposed for the position.

Democrats elected Sen. Tim Keller of Albuquerque as whip and, in an unusual move, freshman Senator-elect Jacob Candelaria as caucus chairman. Normally, freshman lawmakers do not win leadership positions.

Longtime Senate Democratic Whip Mary Jane Garcia of Doña Ana was defeated for re-election in the general election, while current Caucus Chairman David Ulibarri lost his primary race.

The president pro tem is considered the top position for a senator. But the job isn't considered to be as powerful as that of the speaker of the House. The president pro tem gets to preside over the Senate when the lieutenant governor – the official president of the Senate – is away.

But the main power of the president pro tem is getting to name and preside over the Committees' Committee, which selects committee members and chairpersons.

Campos and others interviewed Sunday said they didn't know the number of votes each pro-tem candidate received. Under caucus rules, the winner had to get a majority of members plus one. Because there will be 25 Democrats in the Senate, that number is 13. It's not clear yet whether any of the runners-up will attempt to form a coalition with the 17 Republican senators to win the pro-tem position. It will take 22 votes on the Senate floor to win the position.

This is the route Jennings took to win the position four years ago. In late 2008, Jennings lost the Democratic Caucus nomination to Cisneros for the pro-tem job. But because that position is elected by the full Senate, Jennings was able to form an alliance of conservative Democrats and all Republicans to win the post when the Legislature convened in January 2009.

NMSU education school keeps accreditation

New Mexico State University's College of Education continues to be nationally accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education.

"To be accredited shows trust in the institution to perform the duties they were trained to do," said James O'Donnell, interim associate dean of the College of Education.

NCATE is a voluntary teacher accreditation process that NMSU participates in to ensure that it is providing the highest quality education to future professional educators. The

Public Education Department in New Mexico is the formal body that approves all teacher education and licensure programs allowing NMSU to prepare professional educators.

The NMSU College of Education has been continuously accredited by NCATE since 1961, showing its commitment to future teachers and their students for more than 50 years.

NMSU College of Education Dean Michael Morehead said the NCATE accreditation process is the most rigorous in the nation. Its accountability system has been significantly ahead of others in the use of data-driven decision-making.

"We go through this accreditation process and national review to analyze our progress and to assist us in maintaining the quality of our programs," Morehead said.

The most recent accreditation review visit to campus was in November 2009. NCATE returned to campus during the spring semester this year for a follow-up Standard 2: Assessment System and Unit Evaluation Focused Visit and NMSU met NCATE's Standard 2 requirements.

The data the College of Education has collected in the past was largely based on what the State of New Mexico required for teacher assessments. NCATE takes the data requirements more in-depth, requiring disaggregation of data by program, not major.

NMSU's next accreditation review is scheduled for 2016-17. NMSU will review the value of reaccreditation as NCATE transitions to a new type of accrediting body, called the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation.

HAFB signs biomass pact

The Air Force entered into a license agreement with New Generation Biomass LLC Oct. 16 to explore development of a biomass renewable energy generation facility on Holloman Air Force Base.

The license grants New Generation Biomass limited access to approximately 80 acres on Holloman AFB to determine its suitability for the proposed Black Bear Biomass Energy Facility, which would provide up to 20 megawatts of energy to the El Paso Electric grid, from which the base purchases electricity.

The agreement could result in an Enhanced Use Lease, a tool through which the Air Force leases real property assets to developers seeking to partner in projects that will benefit all stakeholders. If approved, the lease would provide the installation with either cash or in-kind payments to help fund Holloman needs. The Air Force Civil Engineer Center, in San Antonio, Texas, manages the EUL program, and is partnering with Holloman AFB to develop the project.

The Air Force is working with the prospective developer and coordinating with government agencies to carefully consider the effects of the proposed facility, to include environmental impacts, energy benefits and long-term sustainability.

State Supreme Court hears Moongate appeal

Moongate Water Co. argued before the New Mexico Supreme Court Monday, Dec. 10, that the City of Las Cruces hurt its business when it annexed three subdivisions that were in Moongate's service territory.

Steven Tucker, a lawyer representing Moongate, said the water company lost \$3 million in potential customers.

Tom Bird, an attorney representing Las Cruces, said the Legislature intended there be competition for water service.

Public utility regulators in 1984 gave Moongate authority to provide water service in an unincorporated section near Las Cruces because the city wasn't providing service outside of city limits.



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CrimeStoppers



Robbery

Las Cruces Crime Stoppers is offering a \$1,000 reward for information that leads to the arrest of two suspects who committed an armed robbery at a local smoke shop.

Shortly after 8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 3, two men entered the SubHerbia store at 150 S. Solano Drive, threatened an employee with what appeared to be a handgun and demanded cash. The two men took an undisclosed amount of cash, left the store and

were last seen running east on May Avenue. Both suspects were described as wearing black hoodies.

No injuries were reported. Las Cruces Police are investigating this incident.

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

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

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Keep your wood stoves, furnaces, fireplaces safe

Care and maintenance are key precautions

The Las Cruces Fire Department wants this winter to be a safe one for all, and is offering these safety tips for the proper use of home heating systems, fireplaces and wood-burning stoves.

- Fireplaces, wood stoves and furnaces should be installed according to manufacturer's instructions and in accordance with all building codes.
- Have your heating system, water heater, stove and other fuel-burning appliances serviced yearly by a qualified technician.
- Change heating furnace filters often to increase efficiency and avoid overworking the system.
- Ensure adequate ventilation for fireplaces and wood stoves.
- Use only the fuel that's recommended for the specific fireplace or stove.
- Do not burn paper or paper products in a fireplace or wood-burning stove.
- Check chimney or stovepipes often for creosote buildup and clean when needed.
- Keep matches and lighters out of the reach of children.
- Use a metal container for removing ash and coals.

- Never dump hot ashes or coals into a dumpster or trash can.
- Operate portable heaters according to manufacturer's specifications and keep them, candles and cigarettes away from bedding, curtains and other combustibles.
- Never use a portable heater near bathtubs, showers or other water sources.
- Keep Christmas trees, decorations, furniture and other potentially combustible items away from fireplaces, wood-burning stoves and portable heaters.
- Extinguish fireplaces, candles, stoves and turn off all decorative lights prior to leaving home.
- Install a battery-operated carbon monoxide detector in your home.
- Never use generators, grills, camp stoves, chimineas or similar devices indoors.
- Keep a multipurpose, dry-chemical fire extinguisher in the home and know how to use it.
- Call 911 and vacate the building immediately if you smell gas, toxic fumes or in case of fire.

For more safety tips, visit the Las Cruces Fire Department online at www.clcfd.com.

Woman admits to stealing \$204,349 from local bank

Plea agreement will lessen jail sentence

In federal court Tuesday, Dec. 11, Kristy Sanchez, 38, of Las Cruces, pled guilty to a charge of embezzlement by a bank employee under a plea agreement with the U.S. Attorney's Office.

U.S. Attorney Kenneth Gonzales said Sanchez pled guilty to embezzling \$204,349 of funds belonging to the Bank of the West between 1999 and 2009.

During that period, Sanchez was employed as a customer service manager at the bank's branch on South Telshor Boulevard in Las Cruces.

In her plea agreement, Sanchez admitted that she manipulated bank records to conceal

her fraudulent conduct.

Under the terms of the plea agreement, Sanchez will be sentenced to 12 months of imprisonment, which may include six months of home confinement. Sanchez also will be required to pay \$204,349 in restitution. She also will be prohibited from participating in the affairs of any insured financial institution.

Sanchez was released on her own recognizance pending her sentencing hearing, which has yet to be scheduled.

This case was investigated by the Las Cruces office of the FBI, and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Aaron O. Jordan of the U.S. Attorney's Las Cruces Branch Office.

Gurley honored by Molina



Becky Beckett of the National Alliance on Mental Illness and Gayle Geis-O'Dowd of Molina Healthcare of New Mexico join Ron Gurley in receiving his Community Champion Award from Molina Healthcare Tuesday, Dec. 11, in Albuquerque. Gurley's advocacy for services to people with mental illness and protection of their rights earned him the award.

Bingham: Supportive community helps base

Range still provides unique test abilities

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

While military spending is expected to be reduced, White Sands Missile Range has many qualities to keep it active in testing new technology, Commander Brig. Gen. Gwen Bingham said at the Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce's annual military luncheon, Thursday, Dec. 6.

WSMR is the largest land facility in the U.S. military, Bingham said, which is one of the reasons the range has hosted Network Integration Evaluations (NIE) held twice a year.

NIE brings more than 4,000 soldiers and civilians to the range to test how well new systems – especially wireless technology – works in exercises in which the soldiers spend weeks living on the base's grounds playing both allied forces and insurgents. NIE is seen as a cost-effective way to ensure that the Pentagon doesn't spend money on systems that don't work well in the field.

That's part of being good stewards of tax dollars, Bingham said.

The range's expertise in handling technology in desert conditions and testing facilities that can be found nowhere else also attracts programs, such as the NIE, Bingham said.

The large land mass in proximity to a large base housing soldiers – Fort Bliss – has made WSMR the ideal place for the NIE. WSMR's footprint covers 3,200 square miles in parts of Doña Ana, Otero, Lincoln, Sierra and Socorro counties.

"The NIE is not going away," she said. "It keeps the military from wasting money on systems that don't work. And when it comes to testing and evaluation, we have capabilities, many of which can't be replicated. In fact, we have a number of facilities unique to White Sands Missile Range."

Also unique to WSMR is the strong support the base gets from surrounding commu-

nities, Bingham said. She noted the recently held Thanks Team WSMR event, in which the chamber treats soldier and staff to food and family entertainment.

"I was truly blown away by it," she said. "I've never seen a community do anything like that for a base."

This also helps WSMR stay vital, Bingham said.

"I truly believe we can accomplish more by working together as a team of teams," she said.

Bingham's presentation covered a number of other programs and test efforts at the range, illustrating how the range provides test support for all branches of the U.S. military as well as other governmental organizations, foreign governments and commercial customers.

White Sands Missile Range is also the home of the 2nd Engineer Battalion. A fighting force about 500 strong, the soldiers of the 2E are trained in route clearance, demolition, emplacement and removal of obstacles and minefields, bridging, missions support and headquarters operations.

Since arriving at WSMR in 2008, the battalion has already seen one full deployment cycle: soldiers from the battalion being deployed to both Iraq and Afghanistan. Now the engineers are once again seeing action, with several companies deploying to Afghanistan.

"Three of the five companies in that battalion are deployed to Afghanistan" she said. "That means we have children living on our base who will be spending Christmas without their fathers."

With the future requiring energy independence, WSMR is working toward becoming energy independent with the construction of solar energy arrays. Expected to be completed in January 2013, WSMR will soon be home to the Army's largest solar farm. The 4 megawatt-generating solar farm is expected to cover around 20 percent of the range's annual power use.

The range's long history of testing began with the test of the world's first atomic bomb in 1945, and continued when parts of captured German V2 rockets arrived by railroad to be reversed-engineered, making it the birthplace of both the Atomic Age and the U.S. space



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Todd Dickson

White Sand Missile Range Commander Brig. Gen. Gwen Bingham speaks at the Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce's annual military update luncheon Thursday, Dec. 6, at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum.

program.

Over the years, space systems testing at WSMR grew, including providing support and testing from the Pershing II ballistic missile to the space shuttle.

In support of the evolving war on terror, WSMR is the location of continued testing and development of systems, including communications and networking, precision weapons, counter weapons of mass destruction technology, and weapons and equipment used by both the common soldier and special operations forces.

As a joint installation, WSMR is home to both a Naval and Air Force detachment, which conduct testing for their respective branches, as well as participating in integration testing between the services. By helping the different branches of the Department of Defense develop better methods of sharing tactical information, White Sands is helping maintain not just a strong Army, but a strong multi-service military, Bingham said.

"We're about more than missile testing," Bingham said. "There is so much more to this pearl."



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Governor welcomes home National Guard troops

Photos by Steve MacIntyre

A television news crew interviews Staff Sgt. Adam Isleib and his father, Charlie Isleib, at the Las Cruces National Guard Armory Wednesday, Dec. 12, upon his return to Las Cruces with his fellow soldiers from a nearly yearlong tour of duty in Egypt.



Staff Sgt. Tom Briggs was reunited with his 7-month-old son John Briggs at the armory Wednesday. The welcome home was one of two held in Las Cruces for National Guard soldiers returning from the Egyptian deployment.



Sgt. Juan Rodriguez and his son Aidyn Rodriguez laugh with fellow soldiers Saturday, Dec. 8, at the Las Cruces Convention Center after their welcome home.



Gov. Susana Martinez welcomes home Army Spc. Brian Haworth.



Master Sgt. Sam Bernal stands with his wife Beatrice Bernal and his two grandchildren, Ethan Coomes and Jordan Childers, at the Las Cruces Convention Center.

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Salvador and Alethea Sandoval spent their first anniversary on duty in Egypt.

National Guard

Continued from page A1

"I cried forever and hugged him forever," Bernal's daughter said about his return home a few days before.

For Sgt. Melissa Gonzales, the deployment meant separation from her 2-year-old daughter Isabel and 9-year-old son Devyn. She has another son, 17-year-old Joshua who lives in Arizona, and she planned to make a surprise visit to him the next day.

"It's been very hard," Gonzales said of being away from her children for so long. "I've been sent about three other missions before, but they were for only for a month at the most."

Being in Egypt was the most foreign place Gonzales said she's ever been – especially in terms of culture and the role of women in society, especially women in the military.

"I appreciate the privileges we have here much more," she said. "It's good to be home."

For two specialists, Salvador and Alethea Morales, the two newlyweds were deployed together and even had married housing provided for them.

"Everybody told me I've very lucky because that almost never happens," she said about being deployed with her husband.

The couple first met in college and she said she joined the Guard after he did to better understand what being in the Guard was about for her new husband.

Although they were in the same place on their first anniversary, they were on different schedules. But Alethea Morales said a trip to the Holy Land made up for it and visiting places she only read about in the Bible will hold special memories for her.

Salvador Morales said there is one really good thing about being back in the United States – the food.

"We had good food when we were there, but it just didn't taste the same," he said.

About 45 guardsmen remain overseas.



The audience says a prayer at the end of the ceremony.



Sgt. Melissa Gonzales holds her daughter Isabel, 2, and son Devyn, 9, by a Christmas tree in the Las Cruces Convention Center Saturday, Dec. 8.

Las Cruces Bulletin photos by Todd G. Dickson

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Celebrating the season at the Christmas Tree Lighting

Photos by Zak Hansen and David Salcido

A sea of people gathered between Branigan Memorial Library and the City of Las Cruces City Hall the evening of Friday, Dec. 7, to join in the festivities of the annual Las Cruces City Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony.



Members of the Doña Ana Youth Choir donned Santa hats and serenaded the excited crowd with Christmas and holiday songs.



Las Cruces City Councillor Greg Smith counts down the lighting of the city Christmas Tree, as members of the Doña Ana Youth Choir look on in anticipation.



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Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Todd Dickson
 New Mexico State University regents Kari Mitchell and Mike Cheney start off the last listening session Friday, Dec. 7, for students, faculty and community members to give their advice about how to conduct the search for the next NMSU president.

NMSU community desires next president be focused

Aggie boss should not be stepping stone

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

The next New Mexico State University president should be:

- Truly committed to the land-grant university's mission to "educate the working class"
- Care more about making NMSU a great university for serving that mission instead of serving his or her career advancement
- Run NMSU with greater transparency
- Be Gerald Thomas

Of course, the former NMSU president from 1970 to 1984 isn't about to return, but faculty and long-time university supporters are telling regents they should find someone like Thomas, who guided the institution into broader academics while maintaining NMSU's customs and culture.

The comments came at the last of several listening sessions Friday, Dec. 7, in the Corbett Center Student Union as regents prepare to begin another presidential search process.

Along with students, the group was uniform in reminding regents they should try to find a university president who appreciates – and has an understanding of – the people and cultures of New Mexico.

Since 1994, when James Halligan ended his 10-year tenure as president, NMSU has had four permanently hired presidents and five interim presidents, counting the two times

William Conroy was interim president.

University supporters and alumni said the university's identity, mission and goals are no longer clearly defined.

To find a president that would be a good fit for NMSU, several recommended that the regents forgo the common step of hiring a president search firm.

Local businessman David Ikard said he thought the search need not even go beyond the NMSU system.

"The next president already works here – or should be," Ikard said.

John Kutinac, president of the Alumni Association, said the regents should pay close attention to whether presidential candidates truly connect with the community.

"If the next president makes those connections, the rest will follow," he said.

Several faculty said the next president needs to be more open to hearing input from the professors and instructors, with greater transparency in how administrative decisions are made.

In a time of limited state resources, some said the president's primary role should be fundraising and pursuing outside funding.

Several highlighted the diversity of faculty, staff and students at NMSU.

"If you choose a president that serves more than eight years, then you have done your jobs and I congratulate you," Ty Begaye, a Navajo student, told the regents.



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- Empty grease containers before they get full.
- Provide employees with proper training for grease disposal and clean-up.
- Scrape food residue from dishes, pots, pans and utensils and put it in the garbage, before washing and rinsing.

NOT THIS:

- Hose down floors or parking areas; run-off associated with cleaning activities is a violation of the Clean Water Act and local storm water ordinances.
- Empty grease containers down the drain.
- Pour oils or fat down the drain.
- Rinse grease down the drain.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
 Daniel Hermosillo, Las Cruces Utilities Pollution Prevention, 575-528-3653 or Peter Bennett, Public Works Department, Project Development 575-528-3075



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A birthday to remember

Part 3: Historic changes



Jim Hilley
Deflections

A half century after Herb Wimberly was hired in 1961 to manage the New Mexico State University Golf Course, the former golf coach and course manager has a lifetime of memories to share.

Wimberly said one of the most memorable events at the course was the 1968 NCAA Golf Championships.

"Way back then, places for the tournament were hard to come by," Wimberly recalled. "The tournament wasn't considered that big."

"We did some things here that really changed the tournament, changed the face of the tournament."

All of the scorekeeping up until then was done with pencil, paper and "maybe little small adding machines," Wimberly said.

The 1968 NCAA tournament at the NMSU Golf Course was "the first golf tournament in the history of golf that was ever completely computerized," Wimberly said.

"One of the students, Michael Day, a student in computer science then, wrote the program," Wimberly said. "People were absolutely flabbergasted to be able to have tournament results and pairings for the next day in probably a half an hour."

Wimberly said he'll never forget the "big unit" they brought up to the clubhouse, which had been expanded to accommodate the tournament.

"When they hit a key on it, it made a big clanging noise," he said.

"To be able to take information and enter it on a computer and then have it run off, it was kind of interesting."

"People were gathering around as the person worked it. Scores would come in and he's sitting there with this big monster looking machine. He'd hit the keys and enter the score of a person and it was really something."

"The computer lab at PSL ran off the results for us."

Much has changed since those days. "Of course, now, everything is instantaneous with scores and things like that," Wimberly noted.

"That program that Mike wrote was part of the NCAA championship activity after that. They took the program and, certainly, modified it as technology improved, but we started it all off right here at this golf tournament."

Wimberly can tell many tales about the golf course, and is obviously proud of his part in the history of golf at NMSU.

"There have been so many good things, many, many positive things," he said. "I have been fortunate to have this team and there have been countless people who have come through and played golf and graduated."

See **Historic** on page A23



The Las Cruces High School Bulldogs celebrate their victory after defeating Sandia High School 35-28 Friday, Dec. 7, at Wilson Stadium in Albuquerque, to claim the New Mexico 5-A football state championship. For more photos from the championship game, see page A20.

Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Adria Malcom

Aggies face undefeated Lobos

NMSU visits Albuquerque Saturday, hosts rivals Wednesday

By **Jim Hilley**
Las Cruces Bulletin

Connecticut couldn't do it. USC couldn't do it. Even perennial mid-major power George Mason couldn't do it.

Nobody has yet tarnished the No. 20 University of New Mexico Lobos 10-0 unbeaten season.

There can be little doubt, however, that the Lobos will not let their guard down when the New Mexico State Aggies (5-4) visit the Pit in Albuquerque at 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15. In November 2011, NMSU shocked UNM in the Pit, 62-53.

"I am sure they won't forget that we beat them there and our guys won't forget that they beat us here," Aggie coach Marvin Menzies said.

Following the Aggies visit to UNM, the Lobos make the trip to the Pan American Center at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 19.

It will be a very different Aggie team visiting Albuquerque this year – Wendell McKines, Hamidu Rahman and Hernst LaRoche have moved on to play professional basketball in Europe, and Christian Kabongo is but a distant memory. The only returning starter for the Aggies will be senior forward Tyrone Watson.

The Lobos are putting a different team on the court, as well. Gone are Drew Gordon, A.J. Hardeman and Philip McDonald. Back from last year, however, are guards Tony Snell, who averaged 21 points against the Aggies last year, Jamal Fenten, Demetrius Walker and Kendall Williams.

Menzies said he is concerned about the Aggies young point guards – sophomores K.C. Ross-Miller and Terrel De Rouen – facing the Lobos experience in the back court.

"They have really solid point guard play right now and our point guard play has been a little sporadic," Menzies said. "We have talent there, but we just haven't put it all together yet for a complete game."

Menzies thinks the Aggies front court can play up with the Lobos, however.

"I think there are some pretty good matchups over the rest of the lineup," he said. "Even

See **Aggies** on page A23



The Lobos will certainly not have forgotten Bandja Sy, however. It was his block and layup with seconds to go that helped seal UNM's fate.

LCHS defeats Sandia 'Dawgs are champs

Photos by Adria Malcolm



Las Cruces junior linebacker Sam Denmark makes an interception during the third quarter of the class 5-A championship game against Sandia Friday, Dec. 7, at Wilson Stadium in Albuquerque. The Bulldawgs defeated Sandia 35-28, earning their first championship since 2008.



Aeneas Reynolds celebrates a play in the fourth quarter.



Coach Jim Miller talks to his team on the sidelines.



Sophomore defensive back Bryan Lujan tackles Sandia wide receiver Dillon Boyd.



Senior Rudy Guerra shouts words of encouragement to his fellow players after being ejected.

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'Siju' Shabazz TKOs Villafuerte

Las Cruces fighter makes pro debut in Albuquerque

By **Whitney Billings**
For the Las Cruces Bulletin

New Mexicans are proud of champion Austin Trout, who has paved the way for future boxers coming out of Las Cruces – boxers such as Sejuoula “Siju” Shabazz, who scored a second round TKO over the Duke City’s Ricky Villafuerte in his pro debut fight Friday, Dec. 7, in Albuquerque at the Route 66 Casino.

“People are recognizing that talent comes out of Las Cruces. Before, they thought fighters from Cruces were Neanderthals,” trainer Louie Burke said.

The light heavyweight Shabazz had a successful amateur boxing career, taking the New Mexico Golden Gloves seven times. In 2007, he won gold at the U.S. National Tournament and the National Golden Gloves.

He also served as an Olympic alternate for the 2008 U.S. National Team, after finishing runner-up at the U.S. qualifiers. However, in the 2012 London Olympic qualifying match, he lost to New York’s Marcus Browne.

Pressure is on Shabazz because he follows so closely in Trout’s footsteps. Trout and Shabazz have proven to be very supportive of one another. Trout even postponed his parade in Las Cruces so he could be present for his friend’s first pro fight.

The parade for Trout will be Saturday, Dec. 15. “It was important for me to be at Siju’s first fight because this is a new beginning for him and I could not miss the start of a new chapter in my bro’s life,” Trout said of his decision to postpone the parade.

The same team and family who represent Trout also represent Shabazz.

“Austin and Siju have supported each other and raised each other to an elite level,” Burke said. “Without the support of family and friends, it is almost impossible to be successful.”

Although the support of family and their team is crucial, it is ultimately up to the fighters as individuals to maintain focus.



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Whitney Billings
Sejuoula “Siju” Shabazz, in the red trunks, TKO’d Ricky Villafuerte in the second round during their match Friday, Dec. 7, at the Route 66 Casino in Albuquerque.



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Trout parade set Saturday, Dec. 15 Hero’s welcome planned

Las Cruces will celebrate Austin Trout’s victory over legendary Miguel Cotto with a championship parade from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15.

The parade will begin at Sierra Middle School, 1700 Spruce Ave., head south on Walnut Drive, turn west onto Hadley Avenue and end at the Las Cruces Police Athletic League (PAL), 700 N. Solano Drive.

Trout’s career took a monumental turn Saturday, Dec. 1, when Trout defeated Cotto in a unanimous decision at Madison Square Garden in New York City. It was Cotto’s first loss in the Garden. More than 1.4 million viewers tuned into the fight on Showtime, making the event the highest-rated fight in the network’s history.

“Walking into Madison Square Garden was something that I can’t describe,” said Louie Burke, Trout’s trainer. “It’s the biggest mecca in the sports world, and it’s been just a marvelous journey. Austin is a true professional, and I’ve never seen him quit. Ever.”

Organizers of the parade are working with the City of Las Cruces, the Convention & Visitors Bureau and other community members to put on an event that honors Trout and gives him the homecoming he deserves.

“I think it’s about time that Austin gets recognized,” Burke said. “I’ve seen him mature into a man, and now he’s become a superstar, but he’s remained humble and he recognizes his community and where he’s from.”

As the parade comes to an end at PAL, Trout and his camp – including Burke, strength and conditioning coach Shukree Shabazz, camp coordinator Moose Gomez and fiancée Taylor Hardardt – will be on hand at the gym to visit with Las Cruces about the amazing journey.

Saturday will be an entire day of celebration for Trout in Las Cruces, as the professional boxer assists with the Las Cruces Bike Giveaway from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Sisbarro Dealerships, 275 W. Boutz Road. The event is open to the public.

For more information about the parade, call Daniel Sambrano at 405-8929.

Onthegreen

Ask not what golf can do for you

Ask what you can do for the course



Charlie Blanchard
Golf Doctor

Just about four years ago, I wrote a column (in this very space) reminding the good people who own and run our golf courses that they have an obligation to do so in the most professional manner possible, and take pride in the results.

"These folks – greens superintendents, owners, directors, club managers, PGA professionals and others – are the compensated local representatives of the golf industry. It is their responsibility to see to it that things are done right. In business and the military it's called professionalism, with attention to detail," I wrote.

I also offered a number of suggestions for them to consider. I must say the feedback was interesting – from both sides.

More than one golf course honcho was offended by my column, and the idea that they were being urged to do some things that might mean spending more money. They had a good point.

On the other hand, I received some of the highest praise and support from some of the most experienced individuals in the golf industry, who agreed that folks in the golf business need to be far more customer focused than they are now – another good point.

As these conversations were unfolding, I couldn't help but think that we, the local golfers, also have an obligation, not only to the sport of golf, but to the golf courses we play on. If the owners, managers and head pros are expected to conform to the highest standards possible, we golfers should be held to high standards as participants.

Golf is supposedly a gentleman's game of

honor, in which golfers are expected to adhere to an ennobled and enlightened code of etiquette and rules. I've always believed that we golfers should step onto the golf course with the understanding that our behavior should be genteel and respectful.

I don't see it happening quite like that.

What I'm offering below, is a set of suggestions for us all to consider as we enjoy the wonderful world of golf.

First, lets pick up our pace of play. Yours truly gets some guff about being deliberate, as I take a few extra seconds to check the yardage. I'm now doing this more efficiently. But then, I realize that for every second I spend with my rangefinder, a few of my buddies are spending five minutes looking for their lost ball or lost thrown club.

Try to be ready to play when it's your turn. If you take any more than 45 seconds to hit a shot or make a putt, once you have your club and are standing at your ball, it's too long. When you leave your cart, take one or two extra clubs to be sure you don't have to return to the cart and waste time fidgeting around getting your preferred club.

Walk at a steady pace, always being conscious of the folks behind you. Then, after you've hit your shot, walk briskly back to the cart, put your club in the bag and move on. Don't stand there obsessively cleaning and polishing your clubs, while folks behind (and with you) are getting more impatient.

I was brought up to behave in a manner that does not inconvenience or distract other folks. Needless to say I get annoyed when others on the golf course grossly ignore other folks out there, totally oblivious of whether they're inconveniencing everyone else because of their slow movements.

If you are a slow player, invite those behind you, who play faster, to go through. Course marshals can also improve the pace of play

by encouraging guests and members to play "ready golf." We can do better.

Next, we need to be attentive to repairing ball marks on the green. Golf Digest's recent research revealed that only about one-third of golfers who hit the green repaired their pitch mark. A few repaired more than one mark. Golfers at private courses were found to be slightly more attentive.

The survey disclosed that at one public course zero out of 54 golfers who missed the green didn't repair any pitch mark at all. Then we complain about all the ball marks we have to putt through.

All it takes is just becoming conscious about maintaining the condition of the golf course instead of being completely self-absorbed and preoccupied with our own selfish world.

Notice where your ball dented the grass, repair it and then fix another. We need to do better.

While we're on the subject of caring for the golf course, how about replacing divots? A lot of people new to golf don't know about repairing the damage to the turf from divots. We need to educate them.

Quite simply a divot is a portion of grass, still attached to the dirt beneath it, that is gouged out by the sole of a golf club scooping it from the ground. Divots are a part of golf, and good golfers need to produce a divot if they are going to expect a good iron shot.

Good golfers go get their divots and replace them on the spot where it was removed from the turf. If we have a clean piece of turf – a "toupee," we can simply put it in the depression that our club made. Otherwise we can just fill it in with sand that is supplied on the cart. If you use a pull cart, keep some sand with you. This is basic etiquette and the golf course will be more playable for all of us.

I play the golf courses in Las Cruces several times a week and I can't help but notice all the trash that accumulates around these courses.

Wrappers, cigarette butts, beer cans and bottles, food boxes and paper. We can do a much better job by using the trash containers.

Let's abide by our state slogan, "toss no mas." Then, let's pick up the stuff that we see, and not ignore it. We can do better.

When it comes to golf carts, we need to be more careful, too. Most golf courses adhere to the "90 degree" cart rule, which means proceeding along the cart paths until you are 90 degrees opposite from your ball, and then proceeding directly to it. Courses are generally lax or generous in enforcing that rule, but it certainly is a good idea to use the cart paths as much as possible, rather than running over and ruining the same grass as every other cart has done. Carts need to be kept out of desert areas and out of native habitat, grasslands and wetlands.

Golfers should have some respect for the operation of the carts themselves, and not drive like maniacs. It always amazes me when I see smashed plastic, broken windshields, out-of-whack wheels and burn marks on the vinyl seats of many golf carts. That simply adds up to golfers being ignorant and careless. My traditional advice about carts goes like this: "Don't drink and drive; don't even putt." We can do better.

I don't know about you, but I expect to have canisters full of sand in the golf carts, the edges of bunkers trimmed neatly, fresh holes cut every single day, helpful and courteous golf course personnel, prompt service by the beverage cart, ground under repair lined off and tee markers aligned in the direction of the hole we're playing. Is that too much to expect?

The truth is, most golfers probably expect and deserve those things. In return, we, as golfers, should consider the golf course as important, precious ground. We should care for it and respect it to the best of our ability.

C'mon guys and gals, let's do better. Happy holidays.

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

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Sharollette Shanks

Sharollette Shanks is a 17-year-old senior at Oñate High School. She plays point guard on the Lady Knight's basketball team. This season she has averaged 11 points, four assists and four rebounds. Shanks is a leader on and off the court. She cares about others and, most important, sets a good example for others to follow.

Shanks is a dedicated student with a 3.75 GPA. When not on the basketball court or in the classroom, Shanks enjoys hanging out with friends and teammates.

ATHLETE

of the WEEK

Bandja Sy

Senior, Basketball

Senior forward Bandja Sy helped the Aggies to their first road win of the season with his second career double-double, 11 points and a career-high 14 rebounds in the 58-52 win at South Alabama, Saturday Dec. 4. Sy also had a season-high two steals including a vital swipe in the final 20 seconds en route to the victory. In 38 minutes of action, Sy added two assists and had a season-best six free throw attempts.

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Quarter horses burst from the starting gate, during last season's racing schedule at Sunland Park Race Track and Casino in Sunland Park, N.M. The 2012-13 season got underway at the track on Friday, Dec. 7.



Sunland Park racing begins

Average purse to be more than \$210,000

Sunland Park Racetrack and Casino recently unveiled its \$16 million live horse racing season that began Friday, Dec. 7, and continues through April 16, 2013.

The 76-day meet will provide a number of prestigious stakes races for horse racing fans in southern New Mexico and west Texas.

Racing enthusiasts will relish an enviable purse distribution of more than \$16 million. According to a Sunland Park press release, average daily purses during the new meet are expected to exceed \$210,000.

The meet's highlight is the \$800,000 Grade III Sunland Derby to be run March 24, 2013. The 11th running of the Kentucky Derby prep race will be the culmination of a stakes-filled card worth more than \$1 million.

Last year's 1 and 1/8 mile classic was won by Daddy Nose Best for trainer Steve Asmussen. Julien LeParoux piloted the winner for owners Mary and Robert Zollars.

The \$800,000 Sunland Derby is an integral part of the new point system for entry into the 2013 Kentucky Derby. The winner of Sunland Park's biggest race will receive 50 qualifying points.

The runner-up earns 20 points, followed by 10 for third and 5 points for fourth. Fifty

points will be extremely valuable for a Kentucky Derby candidate.

Mine That Bird won the 2009 Kentucky Derby following a fourth place finish in the Sunland Derby. The \$130,000 Mine That Bird Derby (formerly named the Borderland Derby) will be held in his honor. The lucrative event on Feb. 23, 2013, will serve as the main local prep for the \$800,000 Sunland Derby.

"Our effort in making Sunland Park racing a more prominent signal has been very successful. Last year's Sunland Derby day was a record breaker," Sunland Park Director of Racing Dustin Dix said.

"The upcoming season looks very promising strengthened by terrific stables. We are also excited about the Sunland Derby being an important part of the new Kentucky Derby qualifying point system."

The lucrative Sunland Derby (Gr. III) day program also includes the \$200,000 Sunland Park Oaks, The \$85,000 La Coneja Stakes, the \$85,000-added Harry Henson Handicap, the \$85,000 guaranteed New Mexico Breeders' Derby, the \$85,000 guaranteed New Mexico Breeders' Oaks and the \$85,000 guaranteed Bill Thomas Memorial Stakes for open horses racing six and one-half furlongs.

Franklin is All-American

Aggie receiver earns SI honorable mention

New Mexico State wide receiver Austin Franklin has been named an SI.com Honorable Mention All-American.

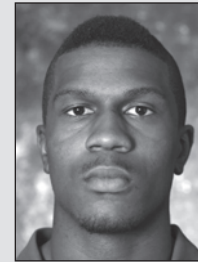
Franklin, a sophomore from Dallas, had one of the best seasons for a wide receiver in school history and is now the 13th football player in school history to earn All-American honors.

"It feels good to be honored as an All-American," Franklin said. "I just want to thank God, my friends, my family, my teammates and coaches for all the support."

"I think this is great for Austin," head coach DeWayne Walker said. "You could see him mature not only as a football player but as a person this season. These types of accolades are not only good for Austin but good for our program, showing that we are

recruiting the right players and are continuing to grow this program."

Franklin led the Aggies in receiving in 2012, with 74 catches for 1,245 yards, averaging 103.8 yards receiving a game and 6.17 catches a contest. He also ranked eighth in the nation in receiving yards per game and 33rd in catches per game. Franklin was second in the league in receiving yards per game, catches per game and all-purpose yards per game. His season numbers rank as the third most receiving yards in a single season in school history. Franklin recorded seven 100-yard receiving games and a 200-yard receiving game during the season, while catching a team-high nine touchdowns, helping him lead the team in scoring as well. He was also named a Biletnikoff semi finalist.



FRANKLIN

Aggies

Continued from page A19

that one (the back court match up) could be a pretty good one if our guys come to play well, so we'll see how it shakes out."

Two matchups that may give the Lobos problems are those with 7-5 freshman center Sim Bhullar and high-flying guard Daniel Mullings, who had yet to find his role the last time these two teams played.

Menzies said neither team needs any extra

reminders of the importance of these games.

"I don't think you really need any motivation when you play the Lobos," Menzies said. "It is really an innate motivator when you play

“ We'll be motivated to play, as I am sure they will. ”

MARVIN MENZIES,
NMSU basketball coach

your in-state rivals. We'll be motivated to play, as I am sure they will."

Saturday's game is available on CBS Sports Network and Wednesday's game will be broadcast on Aggievision. Both games can be heard on the Aggie Sports Network and KGRT-FM 104 in Las Cruces with the "Voice of the Aggies" Jack Nixon,

and the pregame show starts 30 minutes prior to tip. The games are also available in Spanish with Edgar Gardell on Vista-FM 98.7.

Historic

Continued from page A19

Some are on the tour – Rich Beem, Bart Bryant, Tom Byrum. So many people have graduated and become very successful.

"That's an ongoing highlight for me, to look and see how many people came through this thing and how well they are

doing at golf. Many of them in the golf profession, and others in all facets of business.

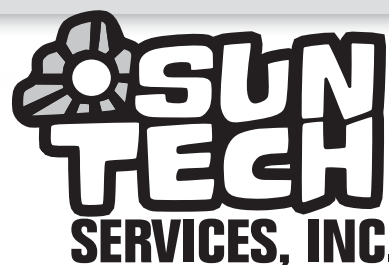
"It was a joy to promote golf, to have a place where people could come and take lessons and learn golf and make it an activity they can enjoy through their lives."

It was also a joy for this reporter to listen to Wimberly tell the story.

Thank you, Herb.

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Aggie Insider

Court chameleons

Aggie basketball teams seem to find a different way to win games each year



Jack Nixon
Jack's Corner

How many different teams has Marvin Menzies had at New Mexico State?

Actually, what I am asking is how many different types of teams has he had here in the Mesilla Valley?

Some coaches have an approach that they just don't waver from, same type of players to fit one system, etc. Not Menzies.

This year's squad is winning in a different manner than previous editions – they are winning with defense.

Menzies' first team was basically Wendell McKines and left-over Reggie Theus recruits. They were a score first, then rebound, it was a squad that was loaded with scoring power, Martin Iti and Hatila Passos, Justin Hawkins and Herb Pope on the wings and Fred Peete, Jahmar Young and Jonathan Gibson in the backcourt. So, offense was the main focus of that WAC Championship team. Gordo Castillo was a freshman on that team, as well.

Menzies' first NCAA entrant got a lot of mileage out of their "22 approach," which involved pressing in back court and the falling back into a zone defense at critical points of the game. The shooters were around then, but that zone was a key element in beating Nevada on its home court in the WAC tourney semis

and then stopping Utah State in the title game.

The following year, defense was more of a vague ideal, with injuries keeping the Aggie starting lineup in flux and forcing project players into bigger roles than they were ready for. The 2012 season saw the Aggies return to the NCAA tournament with a mix of senior experience and role players who had the right chemistry.

This year, the Aggies are stopping people and getting points from a different source each night. The most consistent scorer has been a guy who hasn't eaten anything solid since the day after Thanksgiving. Daniel Mullings will be eating mashed potatoes and milk shakes for a couple more weeks, but his personal grit has led him to double figure scoring five times in nine games. But he has not been an unstoppable force; no one has that role this year.

The consistency has come from the team's defensive play. Night after night, Bandja Sy has been thwarting opposing forwards, Sim Bhullar's shot blocking has changed shots inside game after game and Tyrone Watson and Mullings have been regular stoppers. Fans of Aggie basketball through the decade have called for stronger defensive play and now they have it.

"Defense wins championships," coaches say.

The Aggies are stoppers this year; let's see if they are champs as well.

Aggie athletes strive to reflect well on Las Cruces

In age when money can be the bottom line in college sports, old values aren't forgotten



Kathy Rodolph
Softball Head Coach

In the volatile climate of NCAA conference realignments and multi-million dollar television deals for NCAA Division I conferences, I think it might be important to reclaim the traditional virtues of college athletics.

Traditionally, college athletics gives a campus and community a rallying point. Everyone can cheer on their local college sports teams and it gathers all – young or old, engineering major or liberal arts major.

We all can root on the Crimson and White in victory and in defeat, because they reflect our student body and our community.

College athletics also gives Las Cruces a national presence. I can't tell you how many Aggies I've discovered during my travels for recruitment or competition over the years. Whether it's Seattle, San Diego, Tampa, Fla., Denver, Phoenix, Utah or Los Angeles, Aggie alumni are vocal about their pride for our university and seek us out to deliver that message anytime they find a fellow Aggie.

The student athletes train and compete 20 hours a week while maintaining rigorous class loads. Most of these student athletes will only go "pro" as accountants or nurses or engineers or teachers or doctors or lawyers. They represent the student body and work hard.

This is the beauty of college athletics: Young people exhibiting hard work, talent, loyalty and service to the community. While they are not always perfect, it is

not their time to be.

It is their time to learn, grow and mature into the adults we all know they are capable of becoming. They are young people who bleed Crimson and White and give us all their very best in season or out of season.

People who can root for. People who reflect the values of a community.

Aggie softball seeks to represent the virtues of college athletics. We work diligently to wear Crimson and White with pride always. We train hard, we study hard and we believe that our responsibility is to give back to the community of Las Cruces; the community we love and represent.

So far this semester, we have volunteered more than 600 hours of community service in Las Cruces. We teach young girls softball, we read at elementary schools, we helped teachers promote "Red Ribbon Week," we spoke at the City of Las Cruces summer camps, we lit luminarias for breast cancer awareness, we helped the Rio Grande Rotary's "Dress a Child" efforts, we participated in the Junior League's Fitness Fest, we take notes for special needs students on campus, we work with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwestern New Mexico, and we welcomed in new Aggies at freshmen move in for all dormitories.

We are still two months away from Aggie softball's 2013 season. We believe we have the personnel, character and potential to make this a dream season. While we may not be part of the \$30 million TV contracts, we will set our sights high and compete against those who do.

Happy holidays, and we look forward to seeing you at the ball field in February.

Upcoming

In Aggie Athletics

Saturday, Dec. 15

Men's Basketball

New Mexico
Albuquerque
4 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 18

Women's Basketball

New Mexico
Las Cruces
6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 19

Men's Basketball

New Mexico
Las Cruces
7 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 21

Women's Basketball

University of Missouri-KC
Las Cruces
6:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 22

Men's Basketball

Missouri State
Las Cruces
7 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 29

Men's Basketball

UT-Arlington
Arlington, Texas
6 p.m.

Women's Basketball

UT-Arlington
Las Cruces
6:30 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 31

Men's Basketball

Louisiana Tech
Ruston, La.
6 p.m.

Women's Basketball

Louisiana Tech
Las Cruces
6:30 p.m.



Aggie student-athlete spotlight



Sim Bhullar
Freshman
Men's basketball

Freshman center Sim Bhullar scored 12 points on 6-of-7 shooting in the win at South Alabama, Tuesday, Dec. 4, in only 16 minutes. It was his third double-digit game of the season and the

Aggies' first road win of the year.



Jasmine Rutledge
Junior
Women's basketball

Junior guard Jasmine Rutledge earned a career-high nine points from the free-throw line (9-for-13) in the loss at UTEP, Wednesday, Dec. 5. She tied a season-high eight rebounds

and finished with 11



Danesia Williamson
Sophomore
Women's basketball

Sophomore guard Danesia Williamson went 6-for-6 at the free-throw line at UTEP, Wednesday, Dec. 5. She picked up a three and finished with a team-high

13 points. She added four rebounds, steal and an assist in the loss.

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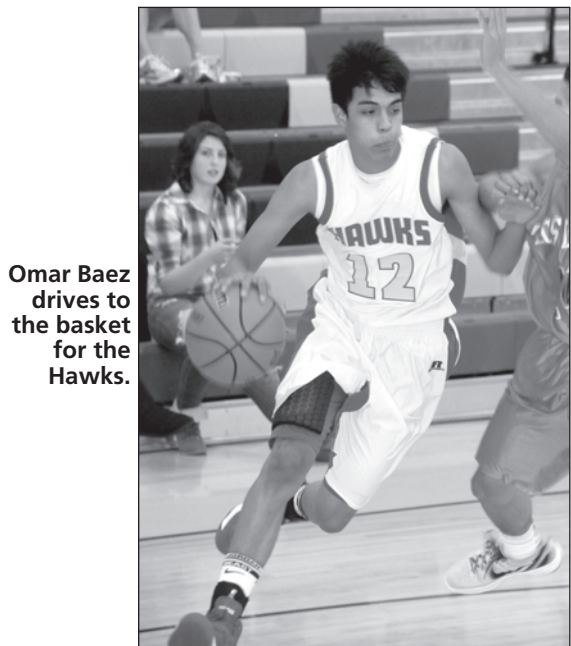
THE LAS CRUCES
Bulletin

Hawks vs. Los Lunas *CHS edged at home*

Photos by Steve MacIntyre



The Centennial High School Hawks' Tristan Quintanilla puts up a shot over Los Lunas High School players Aaron Sais and Quintin Mullins Saturday, Dec. 8, at Centennial High School. The Hawks fell to Los Lunas 42-39.



Omar Baez drives to the basket for the Hawks.



The Hawks build team spirit.

WAC adds baseball affiliate

The Western Athletic Conference announced that an invitation for affiliate membership has been issued to and accepted by Northern Colorado to join the conference in baseball starting with the 2013-14 academic year.

"We are pleased to announce the addition of Northern Colorado to the WAC baseball family," said WAC Interim Commissioner Jeff Hurd. "UNC will be a great fit with the other baseball teams in the league. We expect that they will match up well."

Northern Colorado is coached by Carl Iwasaki, who has been with the program since 2011. Iwasaki has compiled a 51-65 record while at UNC. Last year, Iwasaki led his team to a 27-33 record and a fourth place finish at the Great West Conference Tournament.

The addition will give the WAC a total of eight teams for baseball as the Bears will join CSU Bakersfield, Chicago State, Grand Canyon, New Mexico State, Sacramento State, Seattle U and Utah Valley in 2014.

H I G H S C H O O L SportsSchedule

Centennial High School

Dec. 13-15.....Boys Basketball.....at Grants Basketball Tournament.....TBA
Girls Basketball.....at Grants Basketball Tournament.....TBA
Dec. 14-15.....Wrestling.....at LCHS Wrestling Tournament.....TBA
Tuesday, Dec. 18.....Girls Basketball.....Riverside High School.....7 p.m.



Las Cruces High School

Dec. 14-15.....Girls Basketball.....at Moriarity Basketball Tournament.....TBA
Wrestling.....LCHS Wrestling Tournament.....TBA
Saturday, Dec. 15.....Swimming (coed).....at Alamo Invitational.....10 a.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 18.....Boys Basketball.....at Santa Teresa High School.....7 p.m.
Girls Basketball.....at Deming High School.....7 p.m.
Dec. 21-22.....Swimming (coed).....at APS Mini Invite.....9 a.m.



Mayfield High School

Dec. 13-15.....Boys Basketball.....at Albuquerque Academy Tournament.....TBA
Girls Basketball.....at Rio Rancho Basketball Tournament.....TBA
Dec. 14-15.....Wrestling.....at LCHS Wrestling Tournament.....TBA
Friday, Dec. 21.....Boys Basketball.....at Carlsbad High School.....5 p.m.
Girls Basketball.....at Carlsbad High School.....7 p.m.



Oñate High School

Dec. 13-15.....Girls Basketball.....at Joe Armijo Tournament (Alb. Acad.).....TBA
Dec. 14-15.....Wrestling.....at LCHS Wrestling Tournament.....TBA
Saturday, Dec. 15.....Boys Basketball.....Hobbs High School.....4 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 18.....Boys Basketball.....at Riverside High School.....7 p.m.



Mesilla Valley Christian Schools

Dec. 13-15.....Girls Basketball.....at Mountain Top Tournament.....TBA
Friday, Dec. 21.....Boys Basketball.....Tornillo High School.....7 p.m.



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Looking Back

This week in the history of the Mesilla Valley



Jim Hilley
Reflections

100 years ago

1912

• In a letter to the Rio Grande Republican, James G. Stuart told how he had purchased a "run down 100-acre farm," four miles south of Las Cruces "devoid of improvements other than 35 acres of 15-year-old apple trees." Stuart said the first year he had to buy alfalfa to feed his horses, but by the second year he sold his apple crop for \$11,000, nearly the purchase price of the farm. "I think the Mesilla Valley offers the greatest opportunity to make a living from the soil of any place I have ever heard of," he wrote.

• T.M. Litton of Rincon purchased the Cash Meat Market and the Faulkner Meat Market with the intention of operating both businesses.

75 years ago

1937

• Dudley Doolittle, general agent of the Wichita Farm Credit Administration, announced Frank Haynor of Las Cruces was named director at large for the Farm Credit Board for the Wichita District.

• The Rio Grande Theatre was showing Eddie Cantor in "Ali Baba Goes to Town," and Joe Pennar in "The Life of the Party."

• The Aggie basketball team fell to the visiting University of Southern California Trojans 68-41 in the first of two games the teams would play in Las Cruces.



Las Cruces enjoy the sloppy, quickly melting results of a snow storm in this wintry photo from the late 1940s or early 1950s.

New Mexico State University Library Rio Grande Historical Collections photo

• Theodore Ponce Alvarez of La Union, a junior at the state college, received an appointment to West Point Military Academy on the recommendation of U.S. Sen. Dennis Chavez.

50 years ago

1962

• At a meeting of a planning committee, civic and business leaders concluded Las Cruces "must move forward the idea of a new high school" in the city. Tom Mayfield, superintendent of Las Cruces Schools, presented statistics revealing that in 1954 there were 6,883 students in Las Cruces and

in 1961 there were 11,755. In 1954, there were 832 high school pupils while in 1961 there were 1,862.

• The Las Cruces High School Bulldogs lost two games to the Hobbs Eagles, 75-59 and 56-49.

• The New Mexico State University basketball team dropped a couple of games, losing to Western New Mexico 78-74 and to the University of New Mexico 71-51.

25 years ago

1987

• While the county planning and zoning

commission prepared to meet to decide whether to issue a special use permit for a radio tower on top of Picacho Peak, it was determined the final decision might belong to the Federal Aviation Administration, which had strict regulations concerning towers near airports.

• A storm brought in more than four inches of snow and record low temperatures, closing schools and causing accidents in the Las Cruces area.

• The Aggies nipped the University of Texas at El Paso 58-57 in the Pan American Center in front of 12,947 fans. Virgil Harris led the Aggies with 20 points, while Willie Joseph pitched in 13.

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

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We have thousands of photographs that are missing identification and we need your help to identify them. If you have any information about this photo, please contact us at 575-646-3839 or archives@lib.nmsu.edu

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Early German rockets fail during tests

Effort to prove 'hollow earth theory' provided chance for experiments



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

"Germans Plan First Rocket Flight With Pilot," the New York Times headlined an Associated Press story on Dec. 18, 1932.

"In an attempt to further the practical development of rocket flying," the story reported, "the city authorities, the police and the governor of Magdeburg district have decided to grant permission for the first ascent of a rocket device occupied by a pilot."

The city of Magdeburg would contribute half of the \$4,000 needed to build the 25-foot tall rocket; the Magdeburg Bank would loan the remainder.

"The rocket, which is expected to reach an altitude of 3,000 feet, is to return to the grounds by the means of a large parachute that unfolds itself automatically, and the pilot, after leaping out of the fiery sky ship, is to be brought down by a parachute," the New York Times stated.

Rudolf Nebel, a World War I combat pilot, was the rocket's "inventor," but at the time he had little experience. Hermann Oberth had hired Nebel in 1929 to work in Berlin on rocketry for Fritz Lang's film "Frau in Mond" ("Woman in the Moon"). German ex-patriate Willy Ley wrote in "Rockets, Missiles, and Space Travel" that Oberth "did not make certain whether Nebel had the qualifications," such as "in working with aluminum and magnesium alloys or at least with liquefied gases."

According to Ley, Nebel later revealed "he had been graduated in a hurry during the war because he had volunteered for the air arm (of the military), and that after the war he had never worked as a designing engineer but for some time as a salesman of mechanical kitchen gadgets."

The German Rocket Society/Society for Space Travel, or VfR, would build what was called the "Pilot Rocket," even though Ley said the passenger wasn't really a pilot "since he did not do anything" except "jump out with his own parachute."

Nebel was secretary of the VfR; Wernher von Braun and Oberth were members. Ley, Nebel, and Jacques Valier were three of the founders. Valier, in 1928, had built the world's first rocket car, funded by automaker Fritz von Opel. On Sept. 27, 1930, the VfR had begun using the Raketenflugplatz, a "former German military base" in Berlin, to experiment, said the website raketenflugplatz.com.

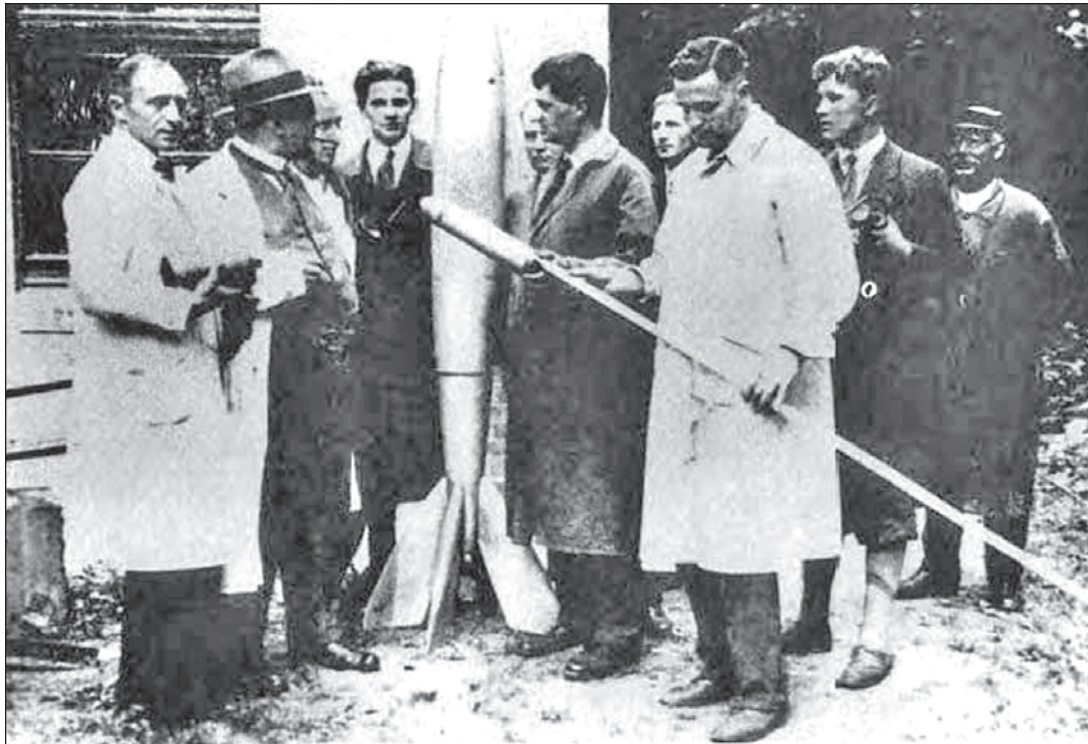
"Berlin now has a rocket flying field with an area of about two square miles," the New York Times reported on March 8, 1931. The story mentioned "references in the German press" regarding "discussions of the possibility of rockets," and warned of the "extraordinarily dangerous character of the experiments now being carried on at the Berlin rocket flying field."

By October 1931, the VfR had developed a water cooled combustion chamber "to feed an aluminum engine that burned 160 gallons of liquid oxygen and gasoline per second for 200 seconds," raketenflugplatz.com said. Members next designed dual tanks to separately hold, and then feed, liquid oxygen and gasoline.

The Magdeburg rocket was not Nebel's idea. One day, Fritz Mengerling, an engineer with the City of Magdeburg, "showed up at Raketenflugplatz espousing a crackpot theory (dreamed up by someone else) that the apparent form of the universe was an illusion and the surface of the earth was on the inside of a sphere!" Michael Neufeld documented in "The Rocket and the Reich" (Smithsonian/1995). "By developing a large rocket one could prove this thesis."

The theory, Ley said, "began like a story by Jules Verne. A mentally decrepit 'philosopher' had written a badly printed pamphlet about the true shape of the universe, in which he insisted that the earth is the universe, that we live inside a hollow globe of the dimensions of the earth, that there is nothing outside that globe, and that the universe of the astronomers is only an optical illusion."

Since every crank can find some fellow cranks, the 'hollow earth philosophy' had found some too, among them an engineer named Mengerling. He conceived the idea of testing the hollow earth theory by means of a rocket. If a rocket going vertically



Rudolf Nebel, left, is pictured with German rocketeers including (second from right) Wernher von Braun, 19 at the time, and professor Hermann Oberth (to the right of the rocket).

New Mexico Museum of Space History Archives

upward crashed – proof would be established."

Von Braun, among others, "emphatically rejected the theory." Nebel, however, "saw this idea as a new opportunity for raising money." They would launch during the next Pentecost.

"It looked like something in which we did not like to see the VfR involved," Ley said.

They didn't worry for long. Ley pointed out Nebel informed them the project "was to be entrusted to him personally (and not the VfR," even though the members would be the labor.

It was Mengerling who convinced Magdeburg to fund the project, even though the government didn't buy the Hollow Earth theory. Ley said they did "welcome ... scientific achievement," and the rocket would be "the crowning feature of a kind of city-wide holiday" during Easter 1933.

The Magdeburg Project failed. Neufeld, in "Von Braun: Dreamer of Space, Engineer of War" (Knopf/2008), called Nebel "more of a con man than an engineer."

"We all began to work feverishly although we knew that it would be impossible to get such rockets ready in the time interval agreed upon," Ley wrote. "But it meant an opportunity to build large rockets without being handicapped by lack of funds."

The VfR began building at Christmas 1932. A motor was

tested on March 9 and "could be heard for miles," Ley said. A test three days later "exploded at the instant of ignition; the concussion was so bad that the eyeballs of the observers pained considerably." Another motor exploded on April 3.

At a June 9 launch, Ley said "the rocket began to rise slowly" up the 30-foot "launching rack ... built in a cow pasture." The rocket never cleared the rack, and simply slid back down. "Another attempt two days later was spoiled by a leaky gasket." The engine "roared" for 2-½ minutes, but never developed thrust. A June 13 launch "ended prematurely" when the rocket, rising only to six feet, "popped" a vent screw.

On June 29, because rain "had warped the wooden launching rack," the rocket caught as it came off the guide and launched "almost horizontally," making a "belly landing 1,000 feet" away.

The Magdeburg government wasn't impressed. "In return for partial fulfillment of his promises," said "To A Distant Day: The Rocket Pioneers" (University of Nebraska/2008), "Nebel received only partial payment."

Michael Shinabery is an education specialist with the New Mexico Museum of Space History. He can be reached at michael.shinabery@state.nm.us.

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SeniorActivities

SENIOR PROGRAMS

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

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

Spanish, woodcarving and quilting.

For registration information, call 528-3000.

THE VOYAGERS TRAVEL CLUB

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

Trips currently being booked include:

- **Laughlin/Riverside**

Casino: Jan. 11-14, 2013. four days, three nights. Cost: \$289 double, \$330 single.

- **Australia/New Zealand cruise:** March 4, 2013, 13 days, 12 nights. Inquire at Voyagers office.
- **San Antonio, Texas:** May 5-11, 2013. Cost: \$620 double, \$800 single.
- **Eastern Mediterranean Cruise:** June 15-23, 2013. Nine days, eight nights. Call for details.
- **Niagara Falls/Toronto:**

Sept. 23-26, 2013, four days, three nights. Cost: \$1,647 double.

- **Mississippi Steamboat Cruise:** Nine days, eight nights. Nov. 8-16, 2013. Inquire at Voyagers office. For more information, call Helen Glover at 528-3166.

AARP DRIVER SAFETY PROGRAM

AARP Driver Safety Program courses are open to drivers age 55 or older.

A certificate issued upon successful completion of the four-hour course may qualify the participant for a discount on insurance, depending on the driver's insurance policy. Cost is \$12 for AARP members and \$14 for nonmembers, paid at the door the day of class.

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

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

The next available class is from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 21, at the Village of Northrise, 2880 N. Roadrunner Parkway, in the Hallmark building.

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

60+ SENIOR AQUATICS CLASS

Senior Aquatics classes for seniors age 60 and older are from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at the Las Cruces Aquatic Center, 1401 E. Hadley Ave. Participants are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Registration with senior programs is required. Suggested donation is \$1.

60+ T'AI CHI CLASSES AT MUNSON CENTER

T'ai chi classes for seniors age 60 and older are from 3 to 4 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St. Classes are drop in.

Registration with Senior Programs is required. Suggested donation \$1.

THE NETWORK VOLUNTEER CENTER

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

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

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

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.

50+ SINGLES BREAKFAST CLUB

The 50+ Singles Saturday Morning Club meets at 9 a.m. the first and third Saturday of the month at Furr's Family Dining, 2340 E. Griggs Ave. Cost of the breakfast buffet is

\$6.69. The club is intended as a way for singles age 50 and older to meet new people.

SWINGING DANCERS

The Swinging Dancers of Munson Center will meet at 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15, at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St. Couples, individuals and guests are welcome. Entertainment will be provided by Mark Coker.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m., dancing begins at 7 p.m. Cost is \$6.

For more information, call 528-3000.

BINGO TWICE A WEEK AT LEGION POST 10

American Legion Post 10, 1185 E. Madrid Ave., hosts bingo on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Doors open at 3 p.m., and bingo starts at 6:30 p.m. Coverall blackout pays \$1,000. Food and sodas are available.

For more information, call Chaplain Lawrence Orvis at 526-9139.

GOING SOLO SINGLES

Single seniors; join Going Solo Seniors. The group is a way for seniors to meet new friends and stay active. Activities include dining out, potlucks, game nights and day trips.

For more information, call Judy at 522-6543, Judy at 527-2723 or Rosalie at 527-4891.

HEALTH & BENEFITS INFORMATION, COUNSELING

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

For more information, call 528-3301.

BINGO MONTHLY AT SAGECREST NURSING CENTER

Sagecrest Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, 2029 Sagecrest Court, is offering bingo from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. the third Wednesday of each month. Seniors must present their Senior Programs ID cards.

For more information, call 541-2550 or 541-2553. The TTY number is 541-2772.

MEN'S 8-BALL TOURNAMENT

An 8-ball tournament for men ages 50 and older is held the last Wednesday of the month at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St. Sign up is from 8 to 9 a.m. and play begins at 9:15 a.m. Cost is \$3 per person. Gift cards are awarded to first- and second-place winners.

For more information, call 541-2550.

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Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Todd Dickson

Brian Erickson, American Civil Liberties Union's Regional Center for Border Rights policy advocate, begins his analysis of resources put into border security for a gathering Sunday, Dec. 9, at the First Christian Church, marking the anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights passed by the United Nations Dec. 10, 1948.

Border rights questioned

Advocates push for immigration reforms

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

The government is putting inordinate resources into border security that could be less in demand if the United States reforms its immigration policies, speakers at an anniversary event said Sunday, Dec. 9, for the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which was passed by the United Nations Dec. 10, 1948.

Neil Harvey, director of New Mexico State University's Center for Latin American and Border Studies, said the declaration essentially said all people are created equal and have civil rights, regardless of where they are migrating to in order to find a better life.

Harvey said he's concerned the upcoming national debate on immigration reform will become too focused on border enforcement,

and not on making the path to citizenship more humane.

Brian Erickson, policy advocate for the American Civil Liberties Union's Regional Center for Border Rights, said the federal government has doubled the number of Border Patrol officers since 2000, and these more than 21,000 officers don't even include agents for Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and other law enforcement resources.

The FBI's own statistics, Erickson said, show that border communities – such as El Paso, for example – are among the safest in the nation. Erickson said the immigration debate should shift the focus from the criminalization of migration to appreciating the value of migrants to the country.

"What unites us is more than what divides us," he said.

Donations given to El Caldito



Hostesses Camille Fanelli, Paula Aquino and Lori Plasencia rest during a recent holiday open house at El Caldito Soup Kitchen that also served as a canned food and toy drive. More than 75 people from community groups participated, including Mesa Grande Estates Neighbors and Las Cruces for Nebraska fan club. The soup kitchen expects to have served more than 100,000 meals by year's end.

Don't get burned buying wood

As the weather turns cooler, the New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA) is reminding people who plan to buy firewood to know what to look for before buying.

NMDA's Standards and Consumer Services Division (SCS) regulates New Mexico's Weights and Measures Law, which addresses how firewood and other commodities must be advertised and sold.

"This time of year, you might see some roadside firewood sellers using some pretty loose terms – face cord, loose cord, Albuquerque cord, truckload, load, rack, pile – but none of these are actual legal units of measurement," said Ray Johnson, SCS assistant division director. "Since it's impossible to know whether you're getting a fair deal or not when you buy

firewood labeled in these ways, people should look for firewood sold by the cord or fraction of a cord."

State law requires firewood to be advertised and sold by the cord or fraction of a cord. A cord is legally defined as 128 cubic feet of wood, commonly seen in a tight stack 4 feet wide by 4 feet high by 8 feet long with logs stacked parallel to one another.

State law allows firewood sellers to sell lesser amounts of wood by weight, but the seller must declare the price-per-cord equivalent.

Firewood buyers who suspect state law was broken may contact NMDA by visiting www.nmda.nmsu.edu/scs or by calling NMDA's Standards and Consumer Services Division at 646-1616.

PHOTOS WITH SANTA THIS SATURDAY DEC. 15TH 10:00 - 2:00



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CAFé looks back, plans ahead



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Todd Dickson

Members of Comunidades en Acción y de Fé (CAFé) watch a photo montage of accomplishments from the past year Saturday, Dec. 8. A faith-based community activism organization, CAFé has been involved in issues ranging from voter registration and turnout to helping children of undocumented immigration apply for deferred status under President Barack Obama's executive order. Saturday's meeting was for planning the coming year's activities, which will include lobbying the Legislature and Gov. Susana Martinez.

Las Cruces named as a top visitor destination

Award based on travelers' impressions

Las Cruces has been named a recipient of Sports Leisure Vacation's 2012 Outstanding Visitor Experience award, placing the city among other top U.S. destinations.

The Sacramento-based tour operator published the announcement in the December issue of Courier magazine, the official publication of the National Tour Association. The awards were given based on the feedback of travelers.

"The CVB is especially pleased with this award since we have set customer service as a top priority for working with the industry," Las Cruces Convention & Visitors Bureau Executive Director Phil San Filippo said. "The award is especially exciting considering the other

destinations that were named alongside Las Cruces."

La Jolla, Calif.; Victoria, British Columbia; Bryce Canyon, Utah; and the Big Island of Hawaii also were selected.

New Mexico was also represented in the attractions category, earning awards for Carlsbad Caverns National Park and the International Balloon Fiesta.

Sports Leisure Vacations has conducted several tours to Las Cruces, including one in 2009 and two in 2011. They will likely return again in 2014.

For more information, contact the Las Cruces Convention & Visitors Bureau at 541-2150 or cfaivre@las-cruces.org.

NMSU recognized for diversity commitment

NMSU top producer of minority degrees

"Diverse Issues in Higher Education" has ranked New Mexico State University's health professions and related programs among the top producers for Native American and Hispanic degree recipients in the nation.

NMSU ranks No. 10 nationally in the number of degrees awarded to Native American students in graduate health professions and related programs, and 23rd in the nation for undergraduate degrees awarded to Hispanic students in health professions and related programs. NMSU ranked No. 1 for the number of master's level public health degrees awarded to Native American stu-

dents, and 11th for the number of undergraduate nursing degrees awarded to Hispanic students.

NMSU continues to be recognized among the top 50 universities in the nation for awarding degrees to both Native American undergraduates and Native American master's students across all disciplines, according to "Diverse Issues in Higher Education." NMSU ranks 43rd in undergraduate degrees and 32nd for master's degrees.

Rankings are based on the review of 2010-2011 preliminary data submitted by the university to the U.S. Department of Education.

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Neighbors We've Lost

FARIDE FAVER CHÁVEZ DIENER MILLER CONWAY

Faride Faver Chávez Diener Miller Conway was born September 10, 1939 in Shafter, Texas, to Delfina Rede Faver and Tiburcio "Bucho" Faver. She passed away at home on December 6, 2012. Faride moved to Las Cruces, New Mexico with her widowed mother and it was here her mother married E. E. Chávez and joined the Chávez clan and where she welcomed two sisters into her life, Denise and Margo.

Faride was a graduate of both Las Cruces High School and Ft. Collins, Colorado High School. She had moved to Colorado when she married Bill Diener. They had four children, Marla, Mardel, Mitchell and Mo.

She is survived by her loving husband, Joseph R. Conway and

her children: Marla Diener, Mardel Kalinowski, Mitchell Diener and Mo Diener. She is also survived by sisters Denise Chávez (Daniel Zolinsky) and Margo Chávez-Charles (John Reeder).

Her parents, Delfina Rede Faver Chávez, Tiburcio Faver and E.E. Chávez, preceded her in death. She is survived by her Chávez and Faver cousins throughout the U.S.

She is also survived by her grandchildren: Michael Petrie (Becci), Mary Spilski (Shad), Jarrad Kalinowski (Amy), Brandon Kalinowski (Alisha), Jason Kalinowski, Aaron Kalinowski and April Kalinowski.

Great grandchildren include: Mickey McConnell, Nina Petrie, Alexandra Petrie, Ryan Petrie, Koden

Kalinowski, Joshua Kalinowski, Abby Kalinowski, Eliah Kalinowski and Matthew Kalinowski, who was born two days before her passing.

Faride's Conway family includes Joe's children: Joseph Conway, (Darlene), Daniela Conway, Christa Davis, Betina Parker and Annette Romero (Isadore).

Grandchildren include Serina Kristjhan, Paul Horwat, Daniel Horwat, Yolonda Davis, Lonnie Davis, Jr., Athena Tacoronte, Allyssa Tacoronte, Monika Tacoronte and Bobby Michelle Romero

Faride's family extends from Far West Texas across the Southwest. Her legacy as the matriarch of a large, robust and vital family is a measure of the beauty and profundity of her life.



Deeply loved by all who knew her, whether it be the Sensational Seven, high school classmates from Las Cruces High School, or fellow students from Holy Cross School here in Las Cruces, her life touched so many.

Faride had a multifaceted and rich life and career as a policewoman, detective, owner of a security guard business, a bail bond business, was a licensed professional massage therapist and a talented bead artist, interior decorator and chef. She is legendary for her warmth, generosity and the

open embrace of her heart and home. All who knew her respected her wit, honesty, grace and dignity.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations may be made to the Faride Faver Chávez Conway "F.F.C.C." Educational Fund, set up in her name at First New Mexico Bank in Las Cruces, 3000 East Lohman, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88011. Account # 62445420. Attention: Susan Prewitt. 575-556-3005.

At Faride's request cremation has taken place. A Celebration of her life will take place Saturday, December 15 at 1:00 p.m. at Baca's Funeral Chapel.

Entrusted to Baca's Funeral Chapel of Las Cruces 575-527-2222. For online condolences log on to www.bacasfuneralchapel.com



DEATH NOTICES

HARTFORD

Thomas W. Hartford, 78, loving husband, stepfather and step grandfather entered eternal life at Casa Bella on Monday, December 3, 2012 after a long illness.

Services have been held. Memorials may be made to Safe Haven Animal Sanctuary, 840 El Paseo Rd. Ste. C., Las Cruces, NM 88001. Arrangements by Getz Funeral Home. 575-526-2419

AGUIRRE

Maria Isabel Aguirre, 12, passed away on Tuesday, December 11, 2012.

Visitation is scheduled for Sunday, December 16, 2012 at La Paz - Graham's Funeral Home Chapel from 6 to 7 p.m. with a rosary to begin at 7 p.m. Funeral service will be on Monday, December 17, 2012 in the chapel at 10 a.m. with interment to follow at Missionary Ridge Cemetery in Mesquite.

Arrangements are with La Paz - Graham's Funeral Home. 575-526-6891

ARREOLA

Adriana Alejandra Hernandez Arreola, 39, passed away on Saturday, December 8, 2012.

Services have been held. Arrangements with La Paz - Graham's Funeral Home. 575-526-6891

YANEZ

Joseph Roman Yanez, 47, passed away on Sunday, December 9, 2012.

Services are pending with La Paz - Graham's Funeral Home. 575-526-6891

BROWN

Mr. Eslie Emerson Brown, 81, passed away Monday, December 10, 2012.

Arrangements are with La Paz - Graham's Funeral Home. 575-526-6891

MAESE

Gloria Maese, 65, of Las Cruces, New Mexico, died Wednesday, December 5, 2012 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She was born Dec. 20, 1947 in Las Cruces.

Gloria is survived by a host of family and friends.

A rosary will be prayed at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 27, 2012 at Getz Funeral Home. A memorial mass to celebrate her life is at 10 a.m. on Friday, December 28, 2012 at St. Genevieve's Catholic Church with Rite of Committal to follow at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens Cemetery.

Arrangements by Getz Funeral Home. 575-526-4219

TILGHMAN

Ruth Virginia Tilghman, 93, passed away Wednesday, December 12, 2012 at home.

Arrangements are with La Paz - Graham's Funeral Home. 575-526-6891

PARRILL

Charlotte Parrill of Las Cruces, New Mexico, died Tuesday, December 11, 2012 at Mountain View Regional Medical Center.

Services are pending at Baca's Funeral Chapels of Las Cruces. 575-527-2222

TORRES

Lazaro Torres, age 82 of Las Cruces, New Mexico, entered eternal life Sunday, December 9, 2012 at his home surrounded by his loving family. Lazaro served his country honorably in the U.S. Army during the Korean and Vietnam Wars and retired in 1973 after 20 years of service.

Visitation for Mr. Torres will begin at 6 p.m., Thursday, December 13, 2012 in Baca's Chapel of Prayer, 300 E. Boutz Road where the Evening Service is scheduled for 7 p.m. Burial with full military honors will be held at 2:30 p.m., Friday, December 14, 2012 at Fort Bliss National Cemetery, Fort Bliss, Texas.

The Torres Family has entrusted their loved one to the care of Baca's Funeral Chapels of Las Cruces 575-527-2222.

HICKS

Linda A. Hicks, 74, of Las Cruces, New Mexico, passed away on December 7, 2012 at her home. At her request cremation has taken place and services will be held at a later date. Arrangements are with Getz Funeral Home and Getz Family Crematory. 575-526-2419

ALVAREZ

Ernesto Alvarez, 93, of Las Cruces, New Mexico, died Tuesday, December 11, 2012 at his home. Services are pending at Baca's Funeral Chapels of Las Cruces. 575-527-2222

CARRASCO

Jesus A. Carrasco, 75, passed away Tuesday, December 11, 2012.

Arrangements are with La Paz - Graham's Funeral Home. 575-526-6891

APODACA

It is with deep sorrow and heavy hearts that we announce the passing of our beloved mother, daughter, companion, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend, Christine A. Apodaca, 48, of Las Cruces on Tuesday, December 4, 2012 at Mountain View Regional Medical Center.

Services have been held.

Entrusted to Baca's Funeral Chapels of Las Cruces and Sunset Crematory. 575-527-2222

VILLAGAS

Our beloved mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend, Emilia "Chemi" M. Villagas, 81, of Doña Ana, New Mexico, left her dwelling place on earth and entered eternal life to be with her heavenly Father, Wednesday, December 5, 2012 at her home surrounded by her loving family.

Services have been held.

The Villegas Family has entrusted their loved one to Baca's Funeral Chapels of Las Cruces to direct funeral services. 575-527-2222

RAMIREZ

La señora Josefina Ramirez de Radium Springs fallecio el Jueves, 6 de Diciembre, 2012 en Las Cruces a la edad de 73 años.

El servicio a terminado. Su cuerpo va hacer cremado y sus cenizas van a descansar en Mexico.

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THURMAN

Mary Alice Thurman, 68, of Las Cruces, New Mexico, entered eternal life Sunday, December 9, 2012 at her home.

Survivors include one son, Patrick Thurman of Colorado Springs, Colorado and a daughter, Linda Marie Thurman of Waxahachie, Texas; numerous grandchildren as well as nieces and nephews.

At her request cremation will take place and services will be held in Cuba, New Mexico at a later date.

Entrusted to the care of Baca's Funeral Chapels and Sunset Crematory 300 E. Boutz Road, Las Cruces. 575-527-2222

SOLARCZYK

Frank Stanley Solarczyk, 82, passed away Wednesday, December 12, 2012 at La Posada Mesilla Valley Hospice.

Visitation is scheduled for Friday, December 21, 2012 at La Paz - Graham's Funeral Home Chapel from 5 to 8 p.m. There are no other services scheduled.

Arrangements are with La Paz - Graham's Funeral Home. 575-526-6891



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Time to shop smart



Alta LeCompte
Around the valley

It's getting to the point where we don't have to be math geniuses to figure out the number of shopping days remaining.

For Chanukah, it's last chance time: The Festival of Lights ends Sunday, Dec. 16.

Christmas, Thursday Dec. 25, is starting to make some procrastinators itchy. Kwanzaa starts the following day.

Time to apply some tried and true, and some questionable, business practices to hit our shopping targets and finish all the other holiday-related tasks.

Be aware of real costs

Since the real cost of shopping includes our time and gas spent driving to distant stores, shopping near home makes good financial sense.

A full-page Shop Local game board appearing in the Las Cruces Bulletin, Friday, Dec. 7, and Friday, Dec. 14, can be a road map to having fun and saving money while supporting local businesses.

The game, sponsored by the Las Cruces Green Chamber of Commerce, makes it easy to discover and support some local businesses that may be new to you or enjoying the camaraderie of visiting your old favorites.

Each destination offers discounts or other incentives, and, when you complete and turn in your game board, you're eligible to win a prize.

Since the participating businesses include a number of restaurants, you can be super efficient, shopping and dining on the same excursion.

Research and prepare

The game board is a great place to start your planning. You may also want to check the websites of local businesses to find special offers and holiday hours.

See **Shop** on page B2

INSIDE

Recalling 50s drought

Farmers drilled deep.....B2

In Good Company

Batteries included B4

Profile

Lawyer puts family first B5

Market to be privatized

City and vendors negotiating terms

By **Alta LeCompte**
Las Cruces Bulletin

The Las Cruces Farmers & Crafts Market, which incorporated as a nonprofit organization Oct. 25, is negotiating with the city to finalize terms of the market's independence.

David Dollahon, chief planning administrator for the City of Las Cruces, said the city took over management of the market in the 1990s at the request of vendors.

Don Kelly of Don Diego's World Famous Popcorn, the recently elected market president, said the transition back to private status should be completed in spring 2013.

Dollahon was reluctant to discuss a timeline, indicating transition talks have just begun.

Kelly said bricks and mortar businesses located Downtown are joining city and market officials to address issues related to the transition, including safety and access to businesses located in Main Street buildings.

He said a transition document would need to address "who does what and when."

"The biggest thing is the matter of funding – when and how does the city stop collecting fees and how will payments be made to the city for expenses it incurs during the transition," Kelly said.

See **Farmers Market** on page B9



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Alta LeCompte

Shoppers pack the Downtown Las Cruces Farmers & Crafts Market, Saturday, Nov. 24.

Businesses play Santa Claus

Annual projects benefit local families

By **Alta LeCompte**
Las Cruces Bulletin

In good years and bad, local businesses share their blessings each holiday season with members of the community who are less fortunate.

The long-standing tradition of holiday giving goes back many years for some. U.S. Bank Coats for Kids is marking its 18th year.

Karen Bailey, senior vice president of U.S. Bank, has championed the Coats for Kids program throughout its history.

She said a bank employee saw the program in another city and asked if she would be interested.

Bailey said when she answered yes, he replied, "Go do it."

Social workers and counselors from the Las Cruces Public Schools, Hatch Public Schools and the Gadsden School District help

identify children, birth through the 5th grade, who need a coat.

Bailey said the social workers know the families well and know those who have younger siblings also in need of warm winter clothing.

The event has grown steadily over the years and now provides more than 3,000 coats to children who attend the annual distribution at the bank. Thanks to generous donations of new and used coats and cash, no child is turned away.

"When I suggested doubling the distribution to 2,000, everybody looked at me like 'Are you crazy?'" Bailey said.

"We're very grateful to the community. It's been wonderful."

Like many programs in Las Cruces, Coats for Kids, has been embraced by many business

See **Santa** on page B2



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Alta LeCompte

Minerva Diaz, manager of Club Fitness, stands beside an angel tree that will benefit children at Jardin de los Niños. Members and the public are invited to choose one of the 80 ornaments and shop for the child whose name and wish list are attached. Diaz said gifts should be returned to the tree in the lobby at 3850 E. Lohman Ave. by Wednesday, Dec. 19.

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Farmers recall drought

River ran dry, so farmers drilled deep

By **Marvin Tessneer**
Las Cruces Bulletin

The current drought that keeps hanging on has been bringing back memories, some second hand, of the drought of the 1950s, considered the worst in recorded history.

Mesilla Valley farmer Robert Faubion remembers his father, Carl, discussing how farmers survived that historical drought. It was a combination of things that permitted farmers to continue raising crops during the 1950s, he said.

- **Well drilling.** “A lot of wells were put in during that time in the valley,” he said.
- **Modifying crop patterns.** “Switching to less water-intensive use crops like cotton and small grains, I heard my dad say,” Faubion said.
- **Working with neighbors.** “If a neighbor downstream didn’t have a well, another farmer would work with the Elephant Butte Irrigation District to share the water, and use the irrigation district’s ditches to transfer the water,” he said. “I understand that the irrigation district is doing that again this year.” “But the main thing during the

1950s was the installation of ground water wells,” Faubion recalled his father saying. “Now a lot of those old wells have to be repaired.”

“In the 1950s, when there was no surface water, there was a big push to drill wells,” Tommy Simpson, who farms west of Las Cruces, recalled.

But some farmers who didn’t like the idea of irrigating with wells sold their land and moved to Blythe, Calif., where they could irrigate with water from the Colorado River Basin, he said.

His father, Clyde, and his grandfather, T.L., raised cotton, alfalfa and corn silage. During the drought, they also bought some neighboring farms and put in wells.

“Farming’s always a risky business,” Simpson said. “But they took a risk, and it worked. One year, I heard, they got only 3 inches of surface water.”

Adrian Ogaz was farming in the Hatch area at that time. His son, Dickie, remembers that many farmers left their farms for places including California, to look for jobs in aircraft plants and shipyards to take care of their families.

“I was just a kid then, but as I remember for four or five years there was no river surface water,” Ogaz

said. “I remember one year there was only 2 inches of surface water. All I know, it sure was dry.”

And farmers needed to maintain their wells because during September 1955 the reservoirs’ storage was depleted. On Sept. 12 the storage in Elephant Butte was 62,200 acre-feet. For Caballo, the storage that year on Sept. 12 was 3,820 acre-feet, according to Filiberto Cortez, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation El Paso office director.

“During 1955, the bureau released only 219,000 acre-feet,” Cortez said. “Our average release is about 650,000 acre-feet.”

An acre-foot of water covers one acre of land a foot deep and contains 325,900 gallons.

Stuart Meerscheidt was in the irrigation pump conditioning business during the 1950s drought, and he believes that 1,000 wells were drilled during that water-stressed period.

“In 1955, during the middle of the drought, I had three pump installation rigs going,” he said. “And I was just another irrigation pump company. It was kind of a mad house here to keep pumping when the surface water was finished.”

But most of the farmers were able



New Mexico State Library, Archives and Special Collections photo

Lowry Hagerman in the mid-1950s photographed this scene of drought conditions south from Divisa at Osita Ranch, N.M. The image is part of the Hagerman Family Papers Collection.

to survive, he said.

“Of course, we didn’t have so many pecan orchards then,” he said. “Ninety percent of the pumping was for cotton, corn, alfalfa, chile and lettuce.”

But even with the heavy ground

water pumping during the 1950s drought, the water table didn’t drop. Well drillers went down an average of 75 to 80 feet in the Hatch Valley and 120 to 150 feet in the Mesilla Valley, according to Meerscheidt’s recollection.

Shop

Continued from page B1

A shopping list can help ensure you stay on task and don’t forget anyone.

Multi-task

Here’s the most questionable “best practice”: Multi tasking. Psychologists and business consultants assert it’s physically impossible. Of course, they’re right in the context of any given micro second.

But when it comes to holiday shopping, multi-tasking can be great fun and actually save a lot of time.

Here’s how it works. You keep your list of gift recipients handy while running errands. Then you let serendipity take over.

For example, one recent weekend I needed to buy dog and wild bird food, check on the availability of pecan shells for mulching the baby Afghan pines and take a photo Downtown.

I planned a route that would take me in a direct circle to and from home, packed my holiday shopping and mailing lists and set out for adventure.

The first stop was San Saba at 1655 W. Amador Ave., where there were no pecan shells, but lots of pecans.

I browsed in the gift shop for two guys on the list who are students of Native American culture and found wall hangings for both. The ladies at the counter packed them in extra-sturdy boxes for shipping, and I was on my way.

Next stop was Horse N Hound Feed N Supply at 901 W. Amador Ave. for the dog and bird food. With several horse daughters and granddaughters on my list, I figured this would be a great place to pick up a gift for the one remaining cowgirl on my list. (The other cowgirls’ gifts were previously purchased at the annual Potter’s Guild of Las Cruces sale.)

Horse N Hound displays so much high-quality Western wear, jewelry and accessories, as well as pottery and home accessories, it was hard to choose. So I bought two.

Chatting with friendly staffers who helped me search and then gift wrapped my selections made the experience a pleasure, not a chore.

The bottom line was, I got unique gifts and left in an even better mood than when I arrived. Mood elevation is a seldom-mentioned but very real benefit of shopping locally. And as we know, feeling good about a task increases our productivity.

Heading Downtown to shoot a photo, I stopped at the Truck Farm at 645 S. Alameda Blvd.

Justin Hawman gathered up all the gourmet chile, pecan and cocoa products I selected for a gift basket. The big prize here was the prize-winning Besito Caliente, a blackberry and chile sauce made with berries grown by the Hawmans. It’s a unique gift, and one I’ve heard is the secret ingredient in the world’s best margarita.

Speaking of Besito Caliente Margaritas, La Posta de Mesilla features the beverage. The restaurant also houses a shop full of colorful cooking accessories and food items that make wonderful gifts. Isn’t multi-tasking fun?

Delegate and celebrate

Trying to cram baking, canning or crafting into your last minute schedule could be a direct route to disaster. Instead, why not delegate the job to a local business. Check the Shop Local game board for galleries and boutiques. Or visit the Las Cruces Farmers & Crafts Market Wednesday or Saturday morning Downtown.

While we employ these and other habits of highly effective shoppers, let’s remember why we’re shopping in this very special season.

How we get our shopping done is far less important than why we’re doing it.

The shopping is about giving. The season is about love.

That’s why I’d like to share some of that love with the crafters and cooks, artists and vendors, business owners and their friendly, knowledgeable staffs who bless our lives 52 weeks of the year.

Thank you for being a very special part of what makes life good in Las Cruces.

Santa

Continued from page B1

partners. Sponsors include KVLC-FM101 Gold, D2 Designs, the Community Action Agency and Comet Cleaners, which cleans donated coats.

Distribution day, held Nov. 17 this year, always is a festive event at the bank headquarters at 277 E. Amador Ave.

“I was here at 6 (a.m.) and we started at 7:30,” Bailey said.

The army of volunteers that showed up to direct families and help them choose coats was treated to Starbucks coffee and doughnuts from Bosa Donuts.

Kids receiving coats were treated to candy canes from Santa, milk from Prices Creameries and cookies from Pro’s Ranch Market.

All families received free hotdogs and drinks from the Wienerschnitzel wagon as they exited.

“Sonic does a live remote broadcast every year that raised almost \$10,000,” Bailey said. “People come by and honk. They give cash, including large donations, and coats.”

“With everybody doing their little niche and all of us working together, we do make a difference.”

Ashley Furniture’s “All I Want for Christmas” project is in its eight year helping local families who have suffered a life-altering event and aren’t able to furnish their homes.

“A dealer in Phoenix started the program,” Wanda Bowman, co-owner of Ashley Furniture HomeStore said. “He said it was so rewarding to be able to give families Christmas when people are under pressure to provide for their children.”

Bowman said the Las Cruces store collects letters and an independent panel of six readers chooses recipients. The readers include community professionals such as clergy,

police and teachers.

The store receives about 150 to 200 letters a year, she said.

Ashley responds by giving anything from a recliner to complete living room sets. Many families need bedroom furniture, she said.

She said the store has been through some tough years, but its commitment to the program hasn’t wavered.

“One year, we didn’t have a Christmas party,” she said. “The employees chose to do this.”

The furniture typically is delivered Dec. 24 to locations in Las Cruces and Doña Ana County and as distant as Deming and Alamogordo.

“We would love for every business in Las Cruces to do something like this,” Bowman said. “We wouldn’t mind at all if all the other furniture stores copied me. I like to see people care about their fellow man.”

U.S. Bank and its partners and Ashley are just two of many Las Cruces businesses that volunteer time, talent and treasure to make the season bright for others in the community.

In addition many who own or work in local businesses, contribute their time, talent and treasure to organizations that help others during the holiday. These include:

- Las Cruces Home Builders Association, whose members prepared Thanksgiving food boxes for families of local school children
- Rio Grande Rotary, which sponsored Dress the Child
- The Rocket KXPZ 99.5 FM collecting survivor supply items for the apocalypse, which will be donated to Mesilla Valley Community of Hope
- Las Cruces Association of Realtors, whose members packed turkeys and pies for those in need at Thanksgiving, and will be distributing food at Christmas as well.

By the Numbers



Building Las Cruces



Dunkin' Donuts

Las Cruces Bulletin photo by David Salcido

Construction begins on the new Dunkin' Donuts at 2513 N. Main St. The result of an agreement between Salt Lake City-based company Sizzling Platter and Canton, Mass.-based Dunkin' Brands Inc., it is one of nine new stores slated for the Las Cruces and El Paso markets in the next five years. The store is expected to open in spring 2013.

Recent projects featured in Building Las Cruces

Publish date	Building	Address	Contact
Dec. 7	O'Reilly Auto Parts	2500 W. Picacho Ave.	417-829-5727
Nov. 30	White Sands Federal Credit Union	2755 N. Main St.	647-4500
Nov. 23	Western Heritage Bank	230 Alameda Blvd.	541-0058
Nov. 16	City of Las Cruces Intermodal Transit Center	Southwest corner of Alameda Boulevard and Lohman Avenue	541-2500
Nov. 9	Eyes of the Southwest and Surgeons	2810 N. Telshor Blvd.	523-2020

Our numbers

Digital gift card buyers

26.7 percent

Average of digital gift cards sold in December between Dec. 21 and Dec. 24, 2011

Dec. 12

Strongest day in 2011 for online sales of plastic gift cards

3 to 5

Number of days, on average, for gift cards purchased online to reach consumer mailboxes

Dec. 19

Highest sales day in 2011 for retailers offering both plastic and digital gift cards

Source: www.internetretailer.com

Gas update

Monday, Dec. 10

Average retail gasoline prices in New Mexico have **fallen 7 cents** per gallon in the past week, **averaging \$3.17** per gallon. This compares with the national average that has **fallen 4.8 cents** per gallon in the last week to **\$3.34** per gallon.

New Mexico prices **Monday, Dec. 10**, were **21.6 cents** per gallon higher than the same day one year ago and are **19.2 cents** per gallon **lower** than a month ago. The national **average** has **decreased 12.2 cents** per gallon during the last month and stands **5.5 cents** per gallon **higher** than this day one year ago.

1. Sam's Club	2711 N. Telshor Blvd.	\$2.97
2. Dylan's	1900 N. Main St.	\$2.99
3. Bradley's	920 El Paseo Road and 1260 El Paseo Road	\$3.01
4. Valero	2695 W. Picacho Ave.	\$3.03
5. Pilot	2681 W. Amador Ave.	\$3.03

Source: www.newmexicogasprices.com, as of Monday, Dec. 10

Adventure Travel Airfare Watch

FROM EL PASO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	LOWEST AVERAGE ONE-WAY FARE	CARRIER
Albuquerque	\$129.80	Southwest
Atlanta	\$246.60	US Air
Austin	\$132.60	American
Chicago	\$349.60	US Air
Dallas-Love	\$191.80	Southwest
Houston	\$145.30	United
Las Vegas	\$102.60	American
Los Angeles	\$152.80	American
Phoenix	\$91.80	US Air
San Antonio	\$108.60	American
New York City	\$201.10	American
Orlando	\$180.60	American
San Diego	\$132.60	American
Seattle	\$261.60	US Air
Washington, D.C.	\$182.60	American
London	\$1,458.30	US Air
Paris	\$2,361.20	British Air
Rome	\$1,703.80	British Air

Source: Adventure Travel *Prices effective Dec. 18-25 *Restrictions apply* Holidays

Money

Comparing the U.S. dollar

Euro

\$1.29349 in U.S. dollars
0.77310 per U.S. dollar

Mexican Peso

\$0.07813 in U.S. dollars
12.79900 per U.S. dollar

Japanese Yen

\$0.01216 in U.S. dollars
82.24002 per U.S. dollar

Canadian Dollar

\$1.01267 in U.S. dollars
0.98749 per U.S. dollar

Source: www.msn.com as of Monday, Dec. 10



Market snapshot

For the week of Dec. 3 - 7, the market reports:

Index	Started	Ended	Change	% Change	% YTD
DJIA	13025.58	13155.13	129.55	1.0	7.7
Nasdaq	3010.24	2978.04	-32.20	-1.1	14.3

Strong: Technology, health care, industrials

Weak: Financials, telecoms

Source: <http://briefing.com>



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THE LAS CRUCES
Bulletin

In Good Company: *Batteries Plus*

Batteries included

One-stop shop fills every electronic need

By **David Salcido**
Las Cruces Bulletin

We've all been there, or know somebody who has. It's Christmas morning and the kids are ripping through the colorful gift wrap to get to the treasures held within. Excitement fills the room as the latest gadget is revealed.

Then the realization strikes. This technological marvel requires batteries, but mom and dad were so busy getting ready for the big day, they overlooked that most important of details. Excitement rapidly turns to disappointment.

This scenario doesn't have to take place.

There's a locally owned company in Las Cruces poised to help. Batteries Plus, conveniently located near Best Buy and Staples on Lohman Avenue, has everything you need to keep "batteries not included" from ruining your holidays.

That's no mean feat in this modern technological age, according to owner Loren Stone. "Everybody thinks that when it comes to batteries, it's just alkaline and that's it," he said. "In fact, there are actually 40,000 different batteries available, both commercial and non-commercial, available to consumers."

"The same goes for lighting, because lighting has become more of a technology than it once was when you could go into your local drugstore and buy 100-watt bulbs."

"There's education involved for both batteries and light bulbs," adds wife and co-owner Linda Stone. "That's why we provide the sort of customer service where we educate the consumer and give him all the different choices,

so he can make the best purchase to suit his needs."

Customer service is what it's all about for the Stones, who believe it's the No. 1 way to keep their competitive edge in the wide sea of mega department stores. As an example, they claim that the largest portion of their business comes from seniors, because they have a lot of battery needs but may not be savvy enough to navigate the choices without help.

"Hearing aids, cell phones, laptops, whatever, they may not feel as comfortable buying batteries for them, but they can come in here and get the service along with it," Loren Stone said. "If they have a wheelchair or scooter, we'll test the old ones and, if necessary, sell them a new one, then install the batteries for them at no extra cost. Full customer service is our policy. We have great word of mouth."

Another asset that makes Batteries Plus unique in the battery and light bulb markets is the store's on-site tech center where cordless tool battery packs can be tested and rebuilt.

"Drill packs, vacuums, anything portable, we can rebuild it at about half the cost of what it would be to buy a new one," Loren Stone said. "And usually with a higher quality cell than what was originally in there. All of our guys are trained and we have the equipment on-site to do it."

"We all need to be experts, so that when our customer walks through the door, we can determine his need and find a resource to fill that need," said Linda Stone, whose background took her from the corporate credit world to marketing for major electronic companies in

Details



Batteries Plus

Owners

Loren and Linda Stone

Address

2240 E. Lohman Ave., Unit 3

Website

www.batteriesplus.com

Phone

525-2355

Las Cruces Bulletin photo by David Salcido

Linda and Loren Stone own and operate Batteries Plus, with their capable staff Roberto Alvidrez, Caleb Richardson and Orlando Gonzales.

her home state of New York, before she decided to open her own shop two years ago.

Her husband, originally from California, has a background in sales, both international and domestic. He claims the couple had been looking for 15 years before settling on the Batteries Plus franchise.

"I look at all franchises as serfdoms," he said. "There's a lord and you're the serf. They have the product and you work the land. That's really the way it is, so it's basically trying to find one that has a good support system and works with its people."

Getting the word out to consumers, however, has been a little more difficult, even after two years.

"I think people who have experienced our customer service are extremely satisfied and they will come back," Linda Stone said.

"Getting people to come in to check us out, as opposed to going online to order what they need, that has taken some time."

Loren Stone nodded in agreement.

"People think, 'Oh, this is a small store, they can't get the kind of volume of a larger store.' That's not true. We're specialized, but we carry thousands of different batteries," he said.

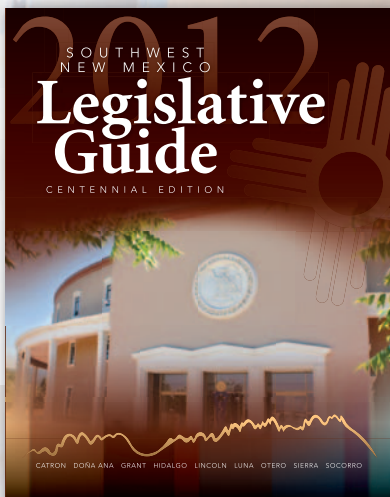
"Uninterrupted power supplies for security systems," Linda Stone said. "Batteries for toys, button batteries, we have them all."

"We have 150 different cell phone batteries in stock alone," Loren Stone said. "We also have the biggest selection of ATV and motorcycle batteries in the city."

He added one more morsel for thought: "We have a constant sale of alkaline batteries going on," he said. "Twenty-four AA batteries for \$7.99. That's the best price in town."

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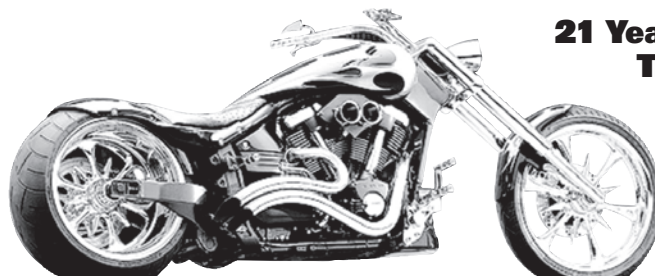


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Profiles

Joshua Dwyer: Attorney chooses long-term goals

Family, community come first

By Alta LeCompte
Las Cruces Bulletin

When he finished high school, Josh Dwyer made a decision that postponed his entry into college and law school for more than four years.

He wasn't walking away from higher education. He had excelled in high school where he lettered in basketball four years, represented his school in statewide academic competitions and sang in the choir.

Instead, he was walking into a commitment.

Dwyer, an attorney who joined the Las Cruces office of ScottHulse PC this fall, decided to put his life on hold to administer physical therapy to his older brother, Christian, who had sustained spinal and brain injuries in a vehicle accident.

While Christian was in rehabilitation in their hometown of San Antonio, Texas, Dwyer spent nine months learning the therapy techniques his brother needed.



DWYER

Dwyer said he was the most available of his seven siblings to take on the responsibility. The others were all in school or college at the time.

"It seemed like a timely opportunity," he said. "I knew I wanted to go to college and law school, but also knew the window for working with him was a small window. The college and law school windows would be open for a long time."

Dwyer said he learned from his parents to take a long view of life.

"They taught us the important things in life aren't always the immediate things," he said.

Opportunities unfold

Dwyer's opportunities came later, when he received the Lois Bohler Scholarship to attend law school at Regent University in Virginia Beach.

He and his wife Amber, a registered nurse, decided the City of the Crosses would be good place to raise their family of three.

They moved to Las Cruces in September 2009.

Dwyer established a law practice specializing in estate planning. He later joined Holt Mynatt Martinez PC and soon was recruited by ScottHulse.

He said he was attracted to the firm and the firm apparently was interested in him because they shared values, including the importance of commitment to community.

Practice crosses borders

He said estate planning continues to be a large part of his practice and he is gaining exposure to interstate and international work.

"We have clients in Juárez and northern Mexico," he said. "The work sometimes involves estate planning for their U.S. properties."

As a team, ScottHulse attorneys with a variety of specialties are able to bring a complete picture to clients when presenting legal advice, he said.

Specialties include manufacturing, aerospace and defense industries, farm and ranch, inbound and outbound transactions and exports.

"The firm is working on

expanding in El Paso and Juárez, not just with business development, but also with involvement in the civic and cultural aspects of the communities," he said.

Dwyer said he expects people will become increasingly mobile from state to state and internationally.

The law firm's role includes educating clients, especially smaller businesses, about opportunities across state and national borders.

"Our clients in Texas and New Mexico are missing part of their potential customer base if they don't consider branching out into the other state," he said.

Family comes first

As a family, the Dwyers enjoy hiking adventures and weekly worship at home.

Each child selects a hymn for family worship, and they all contribute musically.

Dwyer plays guitar, son Braden the piano and sax and "our daughter fancies herself a drum player," he said.

The entire family volunteers in the Grace Covenant Church nursery.

Details

Josh Dwyer
Attorney
ScottHulse PC

Family

- Wife Amber
- Daughters Delaney, 9, and Avalyn, 5
- Son Braden, 12

Education

- Bachelor's degree in political science, Texas A & M University
- Law degree, Regent University

Organizations

- Rio Grande Rotary
- Mesilla Valley Hospice board member
- Southern New Mexico Estate Planning Council vice president
- Estate Planning institute 2012 planning committee
- Las Cruces Home Builders Association
- Grace Covenant Church nursery volunteer, Sunday School teacher, Widows and Orphans Care ministry, Men's Bible study

Select and submit your nomination for

2012 Small Business of the Year

NOMINEES

January
Break an Egg

February
Wright Jewelers

March
Kelly Services

April
Zeffiro New York Pizzeria

May
Gift Baskets by G

June
Heart of the Desert
Pistachios & Wine

July
Econo Pro Painters

August
No recipient

September
COAS Books

October
Barb's Flowerland

November
LifeSupport Medical

December
Kosh Solutions

Business name: _____

Nominator (no anonymous nominations will be accepted): _____

Please write brief paragraphs on the following criteria. Give specific examples for each.

1. Contributions to community welfare

2. Participation in community activities

3. Promotion of business progress in community

4. Professional development and advancement opportunities for employees

5. Demonstration of leadership in business community

6. Support of the strategic vision of the Chamber

Please return nominations to the Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce no later than Jan. 1, 2013, or by mail to P. O. Box 519, Las Cruces, NM 88004-0519, or by fax at 527-5546.

*For additional space, attach to a separate sheet of paper.



Briefs

Convergys to hire 2,500 in U.S.

Convergys Corp., which operates a call center at 4201 Del Ray Blvd., has announced the availability of 2,500 full-time jobs in the United States, to be filled through mid-January 2013.

Jim Crossland, Las Cruces site manager, said local residents interested in learning more about careers with Convergys can call 882-4717.

"Walk-ins are always welcome," he said, adding that Convergys currently employs 160 and plans to hire 100 additional staff.

The company's national employment drive offers interested applicants the choice of work-at-home or contact-center-based opportunities. Employees earn between \$9 and \$12 per hour or more, with health benefits and enjoy time off and tuition reimbursement.

Applicants should be computer literate, have exceptional communication and interpersonal skills and desire a job that can turn into a long-term career. Experience in customer service, sales or technical support is preferred for certain positions. A strong work ethic and commitment to excellence are also desired. A college degree is not a requirement.

More information is available at www.careers.convergys.com.

NMSU's Entrepreneurship Institute accepting applications

New Mexico State University's Entrepreneurship Institute is now accepting applications from inventors, technologists, researchers and small business owners for its Entrepreneur Ventures Program next spring.

The deadline to submit an application is Jan. 14, 2013. Those selected will receive specialized support and resources to help start and grow businesses and commerce.

According to Sara Sanders of the Arrowhead Center, services for the Entrepreneur Ventures Program are customized to fit the client's needs. The program's services include feasibility, market and industry assessments. Applicants accepted into the program are chosen based on a variety of factors, including the degree to which their proposal promises to contribute to economic

development in New Mexico.

Those interested can find the business assistance form at <http://arrowheadcenter.org>. Forms should be submitted to Sanders at npirayes@nmsu.edu by the Jan. 14, 2013 deadline. For more information, call 646-7036.

Arrowhead high school named semi-finalist in \$1 million contest

Arrowhead Park Early College High School was recently chosen as one of 75 semi-finalists in Samsung's third annual, \$1 million national education contest, Solve for Tomorrow.

The students earned a video creation kit, which includes a Samsung camcorder and laptop and Adobe editing software to create videos that address Samsung's challenge: Show how science or math can help improve the environment in your community. For their project, the class will study national and local drought conditions and their economic impact on farming in the area. The students will take an active role in finding solutions and raising awareness in the community.

Fifteen schools will win technology grants worth approximately \$40,000 and their videos will be placed on Samsung's website for the public voting round.

Computer Career Center presents Winter Wonderland

Computer Career Center, a Division of Vista College, is hosting Winter Wonderland, a free event for the public from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14, at the Las Cruces Campus, 850 N. Telshor Blvd., Suite K.

Booths will be manned by faculty and staff and will provide entertainment for the whole family, including crafts, games, treats and pictures with Santa for the children.

Winter Wonderland will feature gift bags for the kids, hot chocolate, cotton candy, a snowman toss, a re-creation of Santa's workshop, a fishing booth and bowling. In addition, representatives from the cosmetology department will do nail art.

For more information about the Las Cruces campus of Computer Career Center, a Division of Vista College, and its programs, call the campus at 556-1080.

24 New Mexico teachers receive \$44,600 in grants

Twenty-four New Mexico teachers and schools in 15 communities have been awarded Wells Fargo Teacher's Partner Program grants totaling more than \$44,600. The program, which marks its fourth year, joins Golden Apple Foundation of New Mexico with Wells Fargo to help create educational opportunities for students.

Teachers submitted applications between September through October for consideration. Nearly 110 school-wide and individual classroom grant requests were received and a committee comprised of Golden Apple Foundation Fellows, Wells Fargo employee team members and community leaders reviewed the grant requests and made recommendations for 24 grants. Teachers in 15 communities across New Mexico will receive grants including 14 public schools, four charter schools and six private schools.

City circulates accessible housing survey

The City of Las Cruces is gathering information related to the housing needs for people with disabilities who currently live or desire to live inside the city limits.

As part of the survey, the city is also looking to quantify the specific types of housing needs for persons with various disabilities in the community and the prospects of creating a service to connect tenants with available units.

The survey is available online through Friday, Dec. 21, at www.surveymonkey.com/s/YRB5S5F. Paper copies are available at the Reference Desk at Thomas Branigan Memorial Library, 201 E. Picacho Ave.

For more information or assistance filling out the survey, contact the Community Development Department at 528-3022 or TTY at 528-3157. Copies are available in a variety of formats.

Select and submit your nomination for

2012 Business of the Year

NOMINEES

January

Advanced Care Hospital of Southern New Mexico

February

Las Cruces Toyota

March

City of Las Cruces

April

Mesilla Valley Mall

May

Radio of Las Cruces

June

Dion's

July

Bank of the West

August

Directory Plus

September

Pic Quik

October

El Paso Electric

November

Mesilla Valley Maze

December

Arbors of Del Rey

Business name: _____

Nominator (no anonymous nominations will be accepted): _____

Please write brief paragraphs on the following criteria. Give specific examples for each.

1. Contributions to community welfare

2. Participation in community activities

3. Promotion of business progress in community

4. Professional development and advancement opportunities for employees

5. Demonstration of leadership in business community

6. Support of the strategic vision of the Chamber

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*For additional space, attach to a separate sheet of paper.



Hiking Sierra de las Uvas inspires support

Recreation opportunities attract businesses, jobs



Chris Erickson
State of the Economy

I've found a new favorite hiking trail. It's out to the Valles Canyon Petroglyphs, part of the proposed Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument.

I've been out there three times in the last couple of months. First with a group of monument supporters led by City Councilor Nathan Small, then twice again with friends and family. It's a great hike; 5 miles round trip, with just enough rough terrain to give you a sense of accomplishment.

The Organ Mountain-Desert Peaks National Monument, which Valles Canyon is part of, is to be located on three separate pieces of federal land currently managed by the

Bureau of Land Management. The monument would include three complexes: the Organ Mountains, the Sierra de las Uvas and Robles Mountains and the Greater Potrillo Mountains. Local landmarks would see greater protection under the proposal. Among these would be Aden Lava flow, remnants of the Butterfield Trail west of town and a cave that legend says was used as a hideout by Geronimo.

Originally proposed to be a wilderness area, the current plan is for a national monument to be administered by the BLM. The proposal would allow current use, such as grazing and hunting, to continue.

National monument status would protect the designated lands from certain types of threats. Among the most significant of these would be housing developments, off-road vehicles and a proposed power-line corridor. Any of these could significantly affect the aesthetic value of the sites, thereby, reducing the potential for recreation.

My delight in the Valles Canyon trail illustrates, in a small way, how a national monument can contribute to economic development. It provides recreation for us locals, but also provides entertainment, so important for attracting businesses. Business managers want to live somewhere that's fun. We don't have Disneyland or the Pacific Ocean, but we do have mountains, cultural sites and hiking trails.

A new national monument could help the tourist industry. We shouldn't get carried away here. Most tourists to our area are on the way to somewhere else. Very few travel to Las Cruces to see Las Cruces. But if we can convince some of those passing through to stay a little longer, perhaps spending an extra night, then that can be considered a success. A new national monument would help with this.

National parks and monuments contribute

to property values in much the same way that living near an ocean or lake shore does. Those living right on at the boundary benefit most, with the benefits trailing off quickly on property further away. On this count, designating the Organ Mountain as national monument would have the greatest impact.

The petroglyphs of the Uvas, craters and lava flows of the Potrillos and scenic beauty of the Organs are self-evident. The current proposal protects current uses, including ranching activities, so those who fear economic dislocation needn't worry. Why we are seeing such resistance to national monument designation is beyond me.

Visit www.organmountains.org for more information.

Christopher A. Erickson, Ph.D., is a professor of economics at NMSU. Hiking is among his favorite activities. The opinions expressed here may not be shared by the regents and administration of NMSU. Erickson can be reached at chrerick@nmsu.edu.

Save the date

FRI. 12/14

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. "Preparing Communities for Animal, Plant and Food Incidents Workshop," will be presented by NMSU's Dona Ana County Extension Office at Gerald Thomas Hall Room 336, on the NMSU campus. The event is free. RSVP by calling 525-6649.

6 to 8 p.m. Computer Career Center presents "Winter Wonderland" at 850 N. Telshor Blvd. Free entertainment for the whole family, including crafts, games, treats

and pictures with Santa. For more information, call the Computer Career Center at Vista College at 556-1080.

FRI. 12/21

4 p.m. Monthly High Tech Consortium (HTC) of Southern New Mexico meeting will be held at the Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces, 705 S. Telshor, San Rafael Room. Hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be served. For more information, call Richard Majestic at 521-0018 or email rmajestic@msn.com.

Water woes continue unabated

Forecast calls for neutral precipitation

By **Marvin Tessneer**

Las Cruces Bulletin

The drought continued its grip during November in southern New Mexico, which registered barely a trace of rain, state climatologist David DuBois said.

The rain that arrived on Nov. 19 measured a mere .01 of-an-inch on DuBois' gauge on the New Mexico State University campus, or .45 of-an-inch less than normal.

The total precipitation as of Jan. 1 this year is 5.38 inches, 60 percent of normal.

The average temperature during November,

55.62 degrees, was the warmest on record. The temperature hit 81 degrees on five days during the early part of the month.

"The weather forecast is for continued neutral precipitation conditions through the winter and into the spring," DuBois said. "Snow in the higher elevations is already behind schedule, a lot less than normal."

The mountain snow readings, in comparison with normal, are:

Sangre de Cristo Mountains, 16 percent; Rio Chama Basin, 29 percent; and Pecos River, 8 percent, DuBois said.



City of Las Cruces Building Permit Report Dec. 2-8

Las Cruces Home Builders Association

PERMIT NO.	PERMIT TYPE	OWNER	ADDRESS	CONTRACTOR	TOTAL FEE	VALUATION
20126694	CINDERBLOCK WALL	JOSE ANGEL GARCIA	222 S WILLOW ST.	CROSS TOWN CONSTRUCTION	\$35.34	\$1,000
20126742	CINDERBLOCK WALL	JESUS & JUDY E. SILVA	800 SANDELL ROAD	APPROVED ROOFING	\$71.94	\$7,500
20126695	REROOF	KEVIN W. & EVELYN M. GRASSEL	2222 LARAMIE DRIVE	GS ROOFING	\$101.42	\$12,504
20126712	REROOF	SHERRY LYNN TEGMEYER	2848 DIAMOND SPRINGS DRIVE	B AND L ROOFING INC.	\$74.89	\$8,000
20126713	REROOF	ALFONSO & HILDA A. MESTA	1470 PARKER ROAD	ALFONSO & HILDA A. MESTA	\$40.69	\$1,500
20126714	REROOF	HUBERT E. & BARBARA A. HOUSEKNETCH	429 DARTMOUTH AVE.	A & A ROOFING INC	\$88.59	\$10,326
20126721	REROOF	SINGER-HINES INC.	2337 DON ROSER DRIVE	JAQUSS R B CONSTRUCTION	\$43.08	\$2,600
20126738	REROOF	BARRY E. & SYLVIA A. HENDRICKSON	620 CANYON POINT ROAD	ERASMO'S ROOFING LLC	\$64.53	\$6,242
20126745	REROOF	DARREL K. HADLEY	712 STAGECOACH DRIVE	G BISHOP ROOFING LLC	\$84.31	\$9,600
20126747	REROOF	ELENA ESCOBEDO & JOHN E. ESCOBEDO	515 S MESQUITE ST.	APPROVED ROOFING	\$52.51	\$4,200
20126755	REROOF	RT VELOZ LLC	1681 HICKORY LOOP	GARCIA'S ROOFING CO. INC.	\$106.17	\$13,311
20126761	REROOF	BRENDA PADILLA	3308 CHIMNEY ROCK ROAD	ERASMO'S ROOFING LLC	\$51.21	\$3,979
20126768	REROOF	JAVIER G. & SILVIA TERRAZAS	1615 CAMINO DEL REX	FIVE STORIE CONSTRUCTION	\$46.04	\$2,000
20126800	REROOF	PAUL M. & MARIA P. BARTLETT	5501 CENTURY LANE	GS ROOFING	\$80.46	\$8,946
20126814	REROOF	CARLTON L. TEDRICK & CARMEN E. TRUSTE	3655 CANYON RIDGE ARC	TRIBUTE DEVELOPMENT LLC	\$97.86	\$11,900
20126708	RES NEW SINGLE FAMILY	HAKES BROTHERS LLC	4201 HERMIA COURT	HAKES BROTHERS CONSTRUCTION LLC	\$4,881.24	\$271,912
20126717	RES NEW SINGLE FAMILY	SIERRA NORTE LAND HOLDINGS LLC	3693 SANTA MARCELLA	R HINES CONSTRUCTION LLC	\$2,983.22	\$190,486
20126731	RES NEW SINGLE FAMILY	MESILLA VALLEY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY	7556 SIERRA ALTA PLACE	DRF CONST AND PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT	\$4,646.18	\$134,234
20126732	RES NEW SINGLE FAMILY	MESILLA VALLEY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY	7568 SIERRA ALTA PLACE	DRF CONST AND PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT	\$4,659.48	\$142,024
20126743	RES NEW SINGLE FAMILY	SAIGH & SON LLC	711 SOMBRERO COURT	SOUTHERN COMFORT BUILDERS	\$1,695.48	\$150,224
20126766	RES NEW SINGLE FAMILY	STEVEN J. GUERRA	4355 YAVAPAI COURT	JOSE DE JESUS HERNANDEZ	\$4,715.34	\$174,742
20126784	RES NEW SINGLE FAMILY	GL GREEN & ASSOCIATES LLC	1013 CALLE GRIEGA	GL GREEN AND ASSOCIATES	\$4,743.62	\$191,306
20126785	RES NEW SINGLE FAMILY	GL GREEN & ASSOCIATES LLC	1037 CALLE GRIEGA	GL GREEN AND ASSOCIATES	\$4,770.78	\$207,214
20126801	RES NEW SINGLE FAMILY	EVANS REALTY HOLDINGS LLC	4343 ISLETA COURT	HAKES BROTHERS CONSTRUCTION LLC	\$4,795.70	\$221,810
20126734	RESIDENTIAL ADDITIONS	ARTHUR J. & ELIZABETH F. WESTBERG	3082 CAMINO REAL	MESILLA VALLEY CONSTRUCTION	\$80.05	\$8,877
20126741	RESIDENTIAL ADDITIONS	LOUIS CHAVEZ ET UX	1095 CIRCLE DRIVE	JOSEPHINE B. CHAVEZ	\$30	\$300
20126803	RESIDENTIAL ADDITIONS	JESUS A. & BERTHA I. JIMENEZ	900 DELTA DRIVE	JESUS A. & BERTHA I. JIMENEZ	\$40.69	\$1,500
20126822	RESIDENTIAL ADDITIONS	GERALD P. & MARY L. SCHURTZ	315 W BROWNLEE AVE.	PERRY CONSTRUCTION	\$30	\$28,660
20126696	ROCKWALL	ROBERTO E. & ROSARIO MEDINA	4207 WINCHESTER ROAD	PANCHO'S FENCING	\$73.50	\$1,470
20126707	ROCKWALL	LAURIE B. & KYLE J. BUSKO	4799 CALLE DE NUBES	HERNANDEZ FENCING	\$41	\$820
20126779	ROCKWALL	GL GREEN & ASSOCIATES LLC	1013 CALLE GRIEGA	SOUTHERN COMFORT BUILDERS	\$40.40	\$808
20126780	ROCKWALL	GL GREEN & ASSOCIATES LLC	1037 CALLE GRIEGA	SOUTHERN COMFORT BUILDERS	\$117.60	\$2,352
20126818	ROCKWALL	MESILLA VALLEY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY	7556 SIERRA ALTA PLACE	E AND R CONTRACTORS	\$221.95	\$4,439
20126819	ROCKWALL	MESILLA VALLEY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY	7568 SIERRA ALTA PLACE	E AND R CONTRACTORS	\$307.25	\$6,145

* Information provided by LCHBA from information provided by City of Las Cruces and Doña Ana County permit offices

Hispano Chamber recognizes 33 students

Silva speaks at quarterly middle school event

By **Ceci Vasconcellos**
For the Las Cruces Bulletin

The Hispano Chamber of Commerce de Las Cruces held its quarterly Middle School Student Recognition Program Wednesday, Dec. 5, at the Doña Ana Community College East Mesa Branch auditorium, honoring 33 students from area middle schools.

The evening's program included keynote speaker Austin Silva, a Harvard-trained cognitive engineer whose family lives in Las Cruces.

Rebecca Madeja, an eighth-grader from Las Cruces Catholic Schools, collected her third award, having won this award in consecutive years.

"I try to be a good leader, help other kids, and be a good friend," Madeja said. "And get good grades, of course."

For most kids, this was their first Hispano Chamber award.

Brianna Lopez, a seventh grader from Lynn Middle School said, "I was very surprised when

my teacher told me I won. But it's hard work to get this award and I'm very proud."

Sixth grader Faheem Zahir, whose favorite subject is math, thought it was his good behavior and helping other people that helped him earn his award.

The longtime recognition program honors one student from each grade at each of the 11 middle schools in the Las Cruces School district. The students are nominated by teachers and a principal based on academic achievement, extra curricular activities and community involvement, and receiving the award is quite a feat.

The auditorium was filled with proud families, community dignitaries and representatives from the school system. Eighth-grader James Martin from Lynn Middle School said, "I'm really honored and it's great to be recognized. All my hard work paid off!"

Silva delivered a speech that resonated positively with the kids. The 22-year-old Sandia National Laboratory engineer stressed the im-



Las Cruces Public Schools Superintendent Stan Rounds and members of the Hispano Chamber de Las Cruces congratulate Christian Perez and other students from Mesa Middle School at the Middle School Student Recognition Program, Wednesday, Dec. 5.

Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Todd Dickson

portance of "exploring options, keeping grades high and taking advantage of the resources around you."

Silva speaks from experience having benefited from scholarships awarded by the New Mexico Lottery and Sandia Laboratories fellowship.

The awards are presented by the Hispano Chamber Education Committee in support of its vision to promote and enhance academics, business and cultural awareness in education. For more information about this program or the Hispano Chamber, call 524-8900 or email office@hispanochamberlc.org.

Warren Buffet wants to be your Realtor Hedge funds want to be your landlord

Gary Sandler's
Real Estate Connection



Warren Buffett, the chairman and CEO of Berkshire Hathaway, announced in October that he is ready to launch a new nationwide real estate franchise designed to "deliver value to the residential real estate industry."

The franchise will be known as Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices.

The new company, which will open its doors in 2013, is a partnership between HomeServices of America Inc., owned by MidAmerica Co. (a subsidiary of Berkshire Hathaway), and Brookfield Asset Management of Canada.

HomeServices of America is the nation's

second-largest, full-service residential brokerage company, and one of the country's largest providers of integrated real estate services. Its 4,000 agents served three markets before becoming a MidAmerica affiliate in 1998, and has since grown to 16,000 agents in 21 states. Last year alone, the company produced more than \$32 billion in sales and made \$3 billion worth of mortgages.

Brookfield Asset Management owns the Prudential Real Estate and Real Living Real Estate brands, with more than 53,000 agents in more than 1,700 locations nationwide. The combined networks posted more than \$72 billion in residential real estate sales in 2011. Brookfield is also a 100-year-old global asset manager with more than \$150 billion in assets under management.

Buffett isn't the only one who thinks now is a good time to invest in real estate. Hedge

funds and investment firms are also on the hunt for future gains.

Deep-pocketed cash buyers have purchased tens of thousands of homes in the Phoenix area since 2009. Their mass purchases have reduced the available inventory of homes, driving up prices as much as 40 percent in some areas. It is estimated that large investors now own nearly 225,000 homes in and around the Valley of the Sun.

According to recent reports, investment firm Colony Capital of Santa Monica, Calif. won an auction by the federal government to purchase 970 foreclosed homes in California, Arizona and Nevada from Fannie Mae for \$176 million. This year, Colony partnered with New York's Blackstone Real Estate and Scottsdale-based American Residential Properties to purchase in excess of 3,000 Phoenix-area homes.

These "mass" purchasers share one common goal: profits. Most hedge funds and investment companies plan to hold on to

their single-family acquisitions for five to seven years, renting them out at market rates until prices rebound. Investors are counting on a combination of low purchase prices and high rents to provide a sizeable return on investment while renting the properties, followed by a considerable profit when the properties are eventually sold.

One doesn't have to be a billionaire or own a hedge fund to invest in real estate. Moms and pops have the same opportunities as the big guys, just on a smaller scale. Perhaps you may be the next mom or pop to jump on the bandwagon. If you are, it probably won't be long until I ...

See you at closing!

Gary Sandler is the president of Gary Sandler Inc., Realtors in Las Cruces and the host of Gary Sandler's Real Estate Connection, broadcast 4 to 6 p.m. each Monday on KSNM-AM 570. Sandler is the 2007 and 2010 recipient of the New Mexico Broadcasters Association's Talk Show Host of the Year award. Questions or comments may be directed to Sandler at 525-2400 or gary@garysandler.com.

Mountains Fund Award winner touts board membership

Serving for the greater good of the community

CaraLyn Banks believes that serving is a responsibility everyone should embrace, yet she is often amazed when she sees both the service given by community members and the results in the lives of those in need.

"I've been surprised by the many individuals who make a difference in their own lives and the lives of community members just by serving and giving," Banks said.

What she is not surprised about is the fact that service and change go hand in hand.

"One of the best ways to get involved is to serve on a good nonprofit working board," she said.

Banks, an attorney and partner at Kemp Smith LLP, started on the United Way Board of Directors when she was new in town and a client suggested she try it. After serving as president of the board, she moved on to other organizations to make a difference, most recently serving at the Community Foundation of Southern New Mexico (CFSNM), where she was president of the board for two terms.

"Serving on a nonprofit board is a great opportunity to meet other people interested in philanthropic issues as I am," she said. "I

am able to share my expertise and learn from others while moving forward on life and community changing issues."

Banks was president when the CFSNM announced its merger with the Healthcare Foundation of Southern New Mexico (HFSNM). The two foundations announced the merge on Aug. 13, 2010, following a decision to increase impact by creating a combined foundation.

By merging the two foundations, the CFSNM now provides a more united public profile and maximizes the use of available talent and resources in order to serve donors better. The overall result of the merger protects the healthcare focus and legacy of the HFSNM while strengthening the mission of the CFSNM.

"It was a great move because of the combined resources and the increased impact we have been seeing," she said.

As an independent charity, the CFSNM stewards

philanthropic resources from institutional and individual donors to community-based organizations. The CFSNM manages 201 funds, including 42 special projects funds, 35 agency funds, seven donor advised funds, 20 unrestricted funds, 14 field of interest funds, 83 designated funds and 25 scholarship funds.

The CFSNM is a catalyst for significant community change by enabling people to create and help finance charitable funds that address a wide range of interests. In addition to managing funds and endowments, the CFSNM has several initiatives including the Unified Prevention! (UP!) Coalition for a Drug Free Doña Ana County and the Young Philanthropists, and is host to the Gen. M. Summer Science Institute and the J. Paul Taylor Symposium.

Because of her work within the CFSNM and the community, Banks was awarded the 2011 Mountains Fund Award during the Foundation's annual meeting in November, and while she is stepping off the board after two terms, she

plans to remain active on Foundation committees and with Springboard!, a scholarship within the CFSNM for women continuing their education.

"What started as an opportunity for me to meet people in the community turned into a life-changing experience," Banks said. "I would definitely encourage others to find a nonprofit working board that reaches out into the community and get involved."

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, Ph.D., at 575.521.4794.



Grateful for the journey and support

President and CEO of The Bridge of Southern New Mexico leaves post



Tracey Bryan
*Bridging the
workforce*

“Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.”

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

In 2007, that’s exactly what happened in this community when the business and economic development leaders went to work alongside educational leaders to increase high school graduation rates and workforce readiness.

Their decision to stay at the table for more than five years, to push through the barriers and engage in hard conversations, has changed Doña Ana County. And their decision to let me be a part of this amazing, groundbreaking work has changed me forever.

I will soon leave Las Cruces and my role with The Bridge of Southern New Mexico, and my heart is full of gratitude when I think about these past two and a half years. It would be impossible to fully thank everyone who has been a part of going where there wasn’t a path and blazing a trail that leads toward the outcomes we want for the future of our youth and our community. There’s still much more to do, but there is a huge group of people committed to seeing the journey through.

I have to start by thanking Toby Rue, who introduced me to The Bridge and its work, which led to one of the most amazing (and challenging) opportunities I’ve ever had.

It’s been a privilege to represent the innovative and visionary leaders who

serve on The Bridge’s Board of Directors: George Ruth (Citizens Bank), Davin Lopez and Les Baldock (Mesilla Valley Economic Development Alliance), Charles Garcia and Dr. Gilbert Kelley (TRAX), Robert Garza (City of Las Cruces), Suzanne Quillen (Advanced Care Regional Hospital), Wanda Mattiace (Adventure Travel), Kari Mitchell (Las Cruces Machine), Stan Rounds (Las Cruces Public Schools), Margie Huerta (Doña Ana Community College), Michael Morehead and Manuel Pacheco (New Mexico State University), Kiel Hoffman (Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce and Pioneer Bank), Rep. Andy Nuñez (the agriculture industry), Efren Yturralde (Gadsden Independent School District), Rico Gonzalez (El Paso Electric), J. B. Pruet (Northrise Ventures), Christine Anderson (Spaceport America) and Jeffrey Silva (Hispano Chamber of Commerce de Las Cruces).

Thank you for countless hours dedicated to advancing our work, for your unwavering support and for investing resources to ensure we accomplish what we’ve set out to do. Thanks also to Veronica Journey who was a great partner in helping us build a stronger infrastructure for The Bridge.

I’m also grateful to Gov. Susana Martinez, who recognized the potential in how this community worked together and has sought to replicate this collaboration statewide. What a legacy you all have built for New Mexico!

There’s also been a large group of businesses and education leaders (more than my word count allows me to name) giving their time and resources to invest in the Bridge and/or serve on Action Teams to develop a series

of connected initiatives to advance early college high schools, build the community’s capacity for mentoring, increase our ability to understand what works with data analysis and develop policy to support what we’re trying to accomplish. Your commitment and willingness to think “outside the box” – to do what has not been done before – is a constant source of inspiration.

I am grateful for getting to know and work with an even greater number of people who share The Bridge’s vision and who are working to improve education through a set of parallel initiatives: the Hispanic Education Initiative, the Education Committees of both the Greater Las Cruces and Hispano Chambers, the Children’s Reading Foundation, the Institute for Community Engagement’s Collective Impact Initiative, the LCPS Career and Technical Education Task Force, Innovate+Educate and the Southern Workforce Development Initiative. You are all forces to be reckoned with, and our students and youth need your voices and vision to help them see all that their future can be.

Finally, as this is my last column, I want to thank the Las Cruces Bulletin for the opportunity to share the accomplishments, challenges, research and work of so many tremendous people in this community.

God bless you all and may you have an incredible 2013!

Tracey Bryan was president and CEO of The Bridge, a nonprofit organization that brings together business, economic development, government and education to create a stronger, well-qualified workforce in Doña Ana County. The Bridge’s top priority is to increase the high school graduation rate in the county, and the nonprofit’s work has led to the creation of the state’s first Early College High School on the Arrowhead Center campus at New Mexico State University. To contact Bryan, email tbryan@dacc.nmsu.edu.



Farmers Market

Continued from page B1

Dollahon said the group first met Thursday, Dec. 6, and will continue to meet weekly. The Downtown Las Cruces Partnership is facilitating the process.

Partnership gets involved

“Most of the city’s actions are on hold as we work forward with the transition,” Dollahon said. “We will look at a lease for the market and a transition plan.”

When a transition plan and lease agreement have been crafted, the city will need to write an ordinance governing the new arrangement, since an ordinance defining the city’s role in market operations is currently on the books, he said.

“We have to work on transition issues first to identify what needs to be changed in the ordinance,” Dollahon said.

He said details are yet to be worked out for the two-block expansion of the market to the south where reconstruction of Main Street recently was completed. The new space is expected to accommodate about 80 additional vendors.

Dollahon said planning for the expansion would entail revising vendor placements for the entire seven-block market, open each Wednesday and Saturday morning.

Another issue that will get the group’s attention is the need to ensure parking for market visitors, Kelly said. Demand for parking Downtown peaks during the Saturday market.

Costs drive choices

Dollahon said the city’s strategic plan looked ahead to privatizing the market because expenses exceed revenue derived from vendor fees.

Planning for privatization began in June when the vendor’s elected a transition council and met with city officials June 25, Kelly said.

“The city talked with us about raising fees,” Kelly said. “Currently the market doesn’t pay for itself.”

Efforts to privatize the market got underway in earnest after the city said vendor’s space rentals fees of \$2 would have to go up. Kelly said fees would have had to increase under any management model in order to keep up with expenses.

He said vendors were asked to vote on whether fees should be set at \$6, \$8 or \$10. They chose the lowest option.

Higher fees would have enabled the market, a major Las Cruces tourist attraction, to do more marketing, he said.

Since vendors opted to keep the fee as low as possible, managing the market’s finances will be a challenge, Kelly said.

“We will have to be frugal,” he said.

“With city budget cuts in recent years, the city didn’t feel the current model for the future management was sustainable,” said Monty Sarvo, the farmers market corporation’s secretary, who is also in charge of marketing. “So many cities are letting go of managing their markets.”

Vendors vote for change

Sarvo said the vendors have voted on every decision along the way. The vendors last spring elected a council to work on incorporation and privatization.

He said block captains will circulate a new vendor survey this week to get more input regarding their needs and concerns.

Block captains, who work with interim manager and city employee Peggy Miller, historically have played a key role in market management at the ground level.

Miller said the goal of current negotiations is to maximize the market’s potential while not jeopardizing the bricks and mortar businesses Downtown on Main Street.

Kelly, a professional mediator, as well as a market vendor, said the emerging relationship is “a special and intricate partnership.”

“It’s just one big family, one city community,” he said. “When people go to the market, they feel that. When you go to the farmers market, you’re going to your neighbor’s house.”

It’s drive time

Obsession with sales can blind a business

By **Lou Wolter**
For the Las Cruces Bulletin

An observer can always tell a sales-driven business by what its owner thinks and talks about the most. If his chief concerns are cost, price and profit, his is a sales-driven business, not a market-driven one.

Not that cost, price and profit aren’t important to a market-driven business, but they’re not the sole basis for the business decisions of a market-driven venture.

It boils down to the term “driven.” To the degree that an entrepreneur is overly focused on how much she or he makes and what it costs her or him, their thinking will be too limited to consider all the important things that really determine costs and profits – and the more limited their choice of alternatives and actions when the inevitable challenges arise.

To the degree an entrepreneur is limited in their business thinking, they’re being driven by the business rather than leading it.

The driver’s seat

A market-driven business orients all its energies and resources toward satisfying consumer needs and desires over the long term – not just for today.

When the market is the driver, methodology matters. Rather than hustling a product into stores to make a quick buck, a market-driven company wants sustainability in its customer base, and it invests the energy and planning into designing products and services that achieve that. A successful market-driven strategy yields long-term profitability.

When sales dominate an entrepreneur’s perspective, short-term gains are the goal. The business invests all its resources in advertising its products and boosting sales so it can make the most amount of money in the shortest time. Long-term success is tougher for a sales-driven company because its vision is myopic.

Matter of survival

To make sound decisions that help a business survive over time, a business needs to understand what it wants to become and how it plans to get there. Vision and mission statements can clarify the focus, but that’s just the beginning.

In addition to mission statements, market-driven companies have strategic plans that help them anticipate events, rather than just react to whatever life throws at them. An analysis that considers the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats a business faces – the so-called SWOT analysis – empowers the business with knowledge and control.

A strategic plan should try to visualize the company three years down the road and draft a map for how to reach that destination.

Entrepreneurs who make decisions based on a far-sighted plan are leading rather than reacting; those who make decisions without a plan might not have a business in three years.

Lou Wolter is a principal with Vickers & Wolter Integrated Thinking. He is co-author of “Navigating Organization” and has taught at many universities, including New Mexico State University. Finance New Mexico is a public service initiative to assist individuals and businesses with obtaining skills and funding resources for their business or idea. To learn more, visit www.financenewmexico.org.



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Flipping the switch at the Sacred Power opening

Photos by David Salcido

Sacred Power Director of Southern New Mexico Operations Paul Hufziger holds the proclamation as SCI Project Supervisor Lucas Kiser cuts the ribbon and members of the Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce Conquistadores look on.



Conquistadore Troy Tudor, City of Las Cruces Director of Economic Development Christine Logan and Conquistadore Doug Boberg congratulate SCI Hufziger.

Shop Local, be a winner



Carrie Hamblen, executive director of the Las Cruces Green Chamber of Commerce, outlines details of the Dec. 15-31 Shop Local game to manager Patti Gruessing of Lulu's, 1800 Avenida de Mesilla. Shop Local players will receive discounts at 30 locally owned businesses. Game boards may be found in the Friday, Dec. 7, and Friday, Dec. 14, Las Cruces Bulletin and are available at the Green Chamber office, 125 N. Main St., or www.crucesfirst.com.

Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Alta LeCompte



Mary Iadicco reads the Conquistadores' proclamation Thursday, Dec. 6, as Troy Tudor and Rick Altamirano look on, during the Sacred Power ribbon cutting at the Southwest Environmental Center.

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Holidaying at the Business After Hours

Photos by Alta LeCompte



Diaz announces a winner in a drawing at the business after hours.



Minerva Diaz, manager of Club Fitness, greets guests at the Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce holiday business after hours event Friday, Dec. 7, at the club, 3850 E. Lohman Ave. Suite 200.



Valerie Alberson of J.E. Service, Adam Alberson of MMJ's Pawn, Troy Tudor of the Greater Chamber and Kate Theisen of Sunspot Solar Energy



Members of the New Mexico State University Gospel Choir hit a high note in their musical celebration of Christmas.



Aaron Barbara of LNG with Christopher Gurule and Crystal Holguin of Holiday Inn Express



Laura Arriga, Valerie Arriga and Lupe Rios of Sagecrest Nursing & Rehabilitation Center hang out at the front desk during the business after hours, which was catered by the new Jason's Deli.



Bobbie Green conducts the New Mexico State University Gospel Choir in music of the season.

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LEGAL NOTICES

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

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 a one month right of redemption.

Pamela A. Carmody,
Special Master
PO Drawer 16169
Las Cruces, NM 88004-6169
575-642-5567

Pub # 12571
Dates 12/14, 12/21, 12/28, 2012
and 1/4, 2013

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF DOÑA ANA
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
COURT**

Cause No. CV 2012 - 02028
Judge Steven L. Bell

**FIRSTLIGHT FEDERAL
CREDIT UNION, Plaintiff,**

v.

**MICHAEL D. AVELAR and
LETICIA B. AVELAR, hus-
band and wife, Defendants.**

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned Special Master will, on the 10th day of January, 2013, at 10:00 a.m., at the east entrance of the Doña Ana County District Court, located at 201 W. Picacho Avenue, Las Cruces, New Mexico, sell and convey to the highest bidder for cash all the right, title and interest of the above-named Defendant in and to the following real property located in said County and State:

LOTS 9 AND 10, BLOCK 34, COUNTRY CLUB MESA ADDITION, IN THE CITY OF LAS CRUCES, COUNTY OF DOÑA ANA, STATE OF NEW MEXICO, AS SHOWN AND DESIGNATED ON THE PLAT THEREOF, FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK OF SAID COUNTY ON OCTOBER 29, 1953, RECORDED IN BOOK 7, PAGE(S) 46, PLAT RECORDS, DOÑA ANA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO,

with a Parcel ID Number of 02-05066, and which currently has the street address of 1520 Sacramento St., Las Cruces, New Mexico 88001-2100.

Said sale will be made pursuant to the Judgment on the Pleadings, Decree of Foreclosure, Order of Sale, and Appointment of Special

Master, entered on December 5, 2012, in the above-entitled and numbered cause, which, among other things, was a suit to foreclose a note and mortgage against all secured real property by the above Plaintiff and wherein Plaintiff was adjudged to have a lien against the above-described real estate in the sum of \$44,189.61, on which post-judgment interest shall run at 5.125% per annum until satisfied in full, which the Special Master calculates to be a per diem of \$6.2047054 for 36 days to the date of the Special Master's sale (the "Sale"), for total post-judgment interest of \$223.37, together with attorney fees incurred and costs of sale to the date of sale, and a reasonable Special Master's fee. The Plaintiff has the right to bid at such sale and submit their 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 sale.

Bidders, to the extent that they do not have a judgment permitted to be bid in lieu of cash, must bid cash at the sale. The successful bidder will be given until the close of the second business day following the determination of the winning bidder to supply to the Special Master cash, certified check, or cashier's check in the amount of the bid. Failure to do so will void that bid, and the Special Master shall either accept the next highest bid, or the Special Master may, in her sole discretion, telephone each bidder who attended the sale, using the telephone number each bidder submits at the sale, and communicate a new date and time for a subsequent sale, without republication of any further notice. Responsibility for reception of notice of any subsequent sale is on the bidder submitting the telephone number.

Notice is further given that the above-described real estate and improvements located on such real estate will be sold subject to any and all patent reservations, easements, all recorded and unrecorded liens not foreclosed herein and all recorded special assessments and taxes that may be due. All prospective bidders are notified that they are responsible for making their own determination as to the extent and nature of the title being conveyed by purchase at the Special Master's sale.

DATED at Las Cruces, New Mexico, this 11th day of December, 2012.

/s/ Pamela A. Carmody
Special Master
P.O. Drawer 16169
Las Cruces, NM 88004
Telephone (575) 642-5567

Submitted by:

Kelly P. Albers
LAW OFFICE OF KELLY P.
ALBERS, P.C.
650 Montana Avenue, Suite D
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88001
Telephone (575) 527-9064

Pub # 12572
Dates 12/14, 12/21, 12/28, 2012
and 1/4, 2013

NOTICE is hereby given that on September 13, 2012, William J. Frost, 1109 W. Taylor Rd., Las Cruces, NM 88007, filed application numbered LRG-15389-

POD2 with the State Engineer for Permit to Change Location of Well within the Lower Rio Grande Underground Water Basin in Doña Ana County by discontinuing the use of well LRG-15389-POD1, located on land owned by the applicant within the NE1/4 SE1/4 of projected Section 27, T22S, R01E, NMPM and using proposed well LRG-15389-POD2 to be drilled to an approximate depth of 180 ft. below ground surface with 6-inch casing located within the NE1/4 SE1/4 of said Section 27 on land owned by the applicant at approximately X=1,463,540 Y=496,891 ft. (N.M.S.P., Central Zone, NAD83) for the continued diversion of 6.75 acre-feet per annum of shallow ground-water combined with surface water from the Elephant Butte Irrigation District, or as determined by the Third Judicial District Court, for the irrigation of 1.5 acres of land owned by the applicant located within Pt. SE1/4 of said Section 27. Wells LRG-15389-POD1 and proposed well LRG-15389-POD2 are located approximately 850 ft. east northeast of the intersection of Taylor Rd. and N. Valley Dr. at the physical address of 1109 W. Taylor Rd., northwest of Las Cruces, NM. Well LRG-15389-POD1 will be properly plugged.

Any person, firm or corporation or other entity having standing to file objections or protests shall do so in writing (objection must be legible, signed, and include the writer's complete name, phone number and mailing address). The objection to the approval of the application must be based on: (1) Impairment; if impairment, you must specifically identify your water rights; and/or (2) Public Welfare/Conservation of Water; if public welfare or conservation of water within the state of New Mexico, you must show how you will be substantially and specifically affected. The written protest must be filed, in triplicate, with the State Engineer, 1680 Hickory Loop, Suite J, Las Cruces, NM 88005-6598 within ten (10) days after the date of the last publication of this Notice. Facsimiles (faxes) will be accepted as a valid protest as long as the hard copy is hand-delivered or mailed and postmarked within 24-hours of the facsimile. Mailing postmark will be used to validate the 24-hour period. Protests can be faxed to the Office of the State Engineer, (575) 524-6160. If no valid protest or objection is filed, the State Engineer will evaluate the application in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 72 NMSA 1978.

Pub # 12573
Dates 12/14, 12/21, 12/28, 2012

**RESOLUTION AND
PROCLAMATION OF
REGULAR
SCHOOL DISTRICT
ELECTION**

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Las Cruces School District No. 2 ("Board" and "District," respectively), in the County of Doña Ana and the State of New Mexico, has determined that a regular school district election ("Election") be held on February 5, 2013, pursuant to the School Election Law, NMSA 1978, §§ 1-22-1 through 1-22-19;

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that three (3) positions on the Board are to be filled at the Election by submitting to the qualified registered electors of the District the names of the candidates qualified to appear on the ballot for election to such positions; and

WHEREAS, the persons who desire to fill such positions on the Board shall be required to file declarations of candidacy or declarations to be a write-in candidate, all in accordance with the School Election Law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE LAS CRUCES SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2, CONSTITUTING THE GOVERNING BODY OF SAID DISTRICT, IN THE COUNTY OF DOÑA ANA AND THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. On the 5th day of February, 2013, there will be held in the Las Cruces School District No. 2, Doña Ana County, New Mexico, a regular school district election for the purpose of submitting to the qualified, registered electors of the District the names of the candidates for the three (3) positions to be filled on the Board.

Section 2. At the Election, the following positions on the Board shall be determined by the qualified, registered electors of the District:

Position 1: for a four-year term commencing March 1, 2013

Position 2: for a four-year term commencing March 1, 2013.

Position 3: for a four-year term commencing March 1, 2013.

Only those qualified electors residing in Board Member District 1 shall be eligible to vote for one of the candidates for Position 1. Only those qualified electors residing in Board Member District 2 shall be eligible to vote for one of the candidates for Position 2. Only those qualified electors residing in Board Member District 3 shall be eligible to vote for one of the candidates for Position 3.

Section 3. A declaration of candidacy for a position on the Board to be filled at the Election shall be filed with the Doña Ana County Clerk, the proper filing officer, during the period commencing at 9:00 a.m. on December 18, 2012, being the third Tuesday in December and ending at 5:00 p.m. on the same day, pursuant to Section 1-22-7.

Section 4. In making a declaration of candidacy, the candidate for a position on the Board to be filled at the Election shall submit a sworn statement of intent in substantially the form provided in Section 1-22-8.

Section 5. A person who desires to be a write-in candidate for a position on the Board to be filled at the Election shall file with the Doña Ana County Clerk, a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate before 5:00 p.m. on January 1, 2013, being the thirty-fifth day preceding the date of the Election, pursuant to Section 1-22-18(C).

Section 6. A person is a qualified elector of the District if on the day of the Election he or she is a citizen of the United States, at least 18 years of age, and a resident of the District. In order to vote, qualified electors of the District must have previously registered with the Doña Ana County Clerk or any voter registration agent, in accordance with law. Any qualified elector of the District who is not now registered and who wishes to vote at the Election should register prior to 5:00 p.m. on January 8, 2013, being the twenty-eighth day immediately preceding the Election, during regular business hours and days of business, at the office of the Doña Ana County Clerk at the Doña Ana County Government Center, in Las Cruces, New Mexico, or by any voter registration agent at a designated agency, as provided in NMSA 1978, Sections 1-4-48 and 1-4-49.

Section 7. The polls for the Election will be open between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. on the day of the Election.

Section 8. The Voting Districts for the Election shall be as follows:

Voting Location
Polling Places
Election Precincts
Board Member District

#1
Mayfield High School
Lobby
1955 N. Valley Drive
22 San Andres
23 Mayfield
83 Elks Club East
84 Carlton
88 Southwind
90 Camelot Gardens
30 Alameda
31 Alameda
1

#2
New Covenant Fellowship
20 Holy Cross Road
24 Highland
25 Holy Cross
1

#3
Grace Covenant Church
3111 N. Main Street
26 Country Club
89 Elks Club South
99 Elks Club West
1

#4
Sierra Middle School
Room 331
1700 East Spruce
27 Loma Heights West
33 Encantada
34 Sierra
91 Loma Heights East
1

#5
Booker T. Washington
Elementary School Cafeteria
755 E. Chestnut
28 Washington East
29 Washington West
32 Lucero
35 City
92 Hadley
1

#6
Hermosa Heights Elem. School
Lobby
1655 East Amador
36 Hermosa Heights West
41 Bradley West
93 Hermosa Heights East
2

#7
MacArthur Elementary School
Lobby

655 North 4th Street
37 Court
38 MacArthur
39 City Center
40 Valley
56 Mesilla Park North
57 Mesilla Park South
108 South Valley
2

#8
Lynn Middle School
North Hallway
950 S. Walnut42 Bradley East
43 Old Armory
44 Lynn West
2

#9
Conlee Elementary School
Library
1701 Boston
45 Lynn South
46 Conlee North
47 Bellamah
94 Lynn North
2

#10
Las Cruces High School
Front Office Lobby
1755 El Paseo
48 Valley View
49 Las Cruces
78 Tortugas
101 Tombaugh
2

#11
University Hills Elementary
School Cafeteria
2005 South Locust
50 University Hills West
51 University Hills East
52 Conlee South
53 University Baptist
58 University Park
3

#12
Las Alturas Fire Station
4145 Cholla Drive
6 Organ South
54 University Campus,
77 Mission Bell
79 Mesquite North portion
within LCPS district)
104 Las Alturas
110 A Mountain East
114 Las Alturas South
120 Bishop Cap
3

#13
Hillrise Elementary School
Library
1400 South Curnutt
68 Ridgecrest
69 Majestic Ridge
70 Telshor
103 Foothills
113 Roadrunner South
3

#14
Hillrise Elementary School
Library
1400 South Curnutt
71 Candlelight
72 University Terrace
73 Buena Vida
3

#15
Tombaugh Elem. School
Office Foyer
226 Carver Road
7 Pecan Valley North
55 Mesilla Park
96 Pecan Valley South (portion
within LCPS District)
3

Pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 1-22-12 (C), in the event that only one candidate has filed a declaration of candidacy for each position to be filled at the Election, no declared write-ins have filed for any position and there are no questions or bond issues on the ballot, the county clerk shall perform the duties of the precinct board and no other precinct board shall be appointed. Voting on

the day of the Election shall be by paper ballot as provided in Section 1-22-10(G).

Absentee voting will be as described in Section 10 herein.

Section 9. Voting on the day of the Election shall be by a voting system defined in NMSA 1978, Section 1-9-1(B). At least one voting system shall be used at the polling place for each Voting District.

Section 10. Pursuant to the Absent Voter Act, NMSA 1978, §§ 1-6-1 through 1-6-18, the Absent Voter Precinct Act, NMSA 1978, §§ 1-6-19 through 1-6-23, and Section 1-22-19, qualified, registered electors may also vote absentee at the office of the Doña Ana County Clerk during regular hours and days of business, from 8:00 a.m. on January 11, 2013, being the twenty-fifth (25th) day preceding the Election, until 5:00 p.m. on February 1, 2013, being the Friday immediately prior to the Election. Absentee voting shall be by paper ballot, pursuant to Sections 1-6-8, 1-6-9, and 1-22-19.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 13th day of November, 2012. President, Board of Education [District Seal] Attest: Secretary, Board of Education

**RESOLUTION
AUTHORIZING AND
DIRECTING
SCHOOL ELECTION
PROCEDURES**

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Las Cruces School District No. 2 ("Board" and "District," respectively), on its own motion, has by its Resolution and Proclamation of Regular School District Election ("Resolution and Proclamation of Election") adopted this 13th day of November, 2012 ordered that at the election to be held within the District, Doña Ana County, New Mexico, on the 5th day of February, 2013 ("Election"), there shall be submitted to the qualified, registered electors of the District the candidates for positions to be filled on the Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE LAS CRUCES SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2, CONSTITUTING THE GOVERNING BODY OF SAID DISTRICT, IN THE COUNTY OF DOÑA ANA AND THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. The Resolution and Proclamation of Election shall be published once in public proclamation form, in full, in English and Spanish, in the Las Cruces Bulletin or the Las Cruces Sun News, Las Cruces, New Mexico, being a newspaper having general circulation within the District. The publication shall be made before December 17, 2012, which is fifty (50) days before the date of the Election. In addition, there shall be published a school election notice meeting the requirements of Section 1-22-11 of the School Election Law, NMSA 1978, §§ 1-22-1 through 1-22-19, made once each week for two successive weeks, with the last publication being made within seven (7) days, but not later than two (2) days before the date of the Election. The proper filing officer shall include in said notice the name

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THE LAS CRUCES
Bulletin

LEGAL NOTICES

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

of each candidate for a position to be filled on the Board and the names of the precinct board members of the District.

Section 2. Pursuant to Section 1-22-4, the Superintendent of Schools of the District ("Superintendent") shall file the Resolution and Proclamation of Election with the Doña Ana County Clerk as the County Clerk of Record ("County Clerk of Record"), who also shall serve as administrator of the Election, pursuant to Section 1-22-12, and who shall be responsible for publishing the proclamation as described above. The Superintendent shall also obtain from the County Clerk of Record executed copies of the Certificate of Filing of Resolution and Proclamation of Election.

Section 3. Pursuant to Section 1-22-10, the County Clerk of Record shall prepare the ballots for the Election, which shall be printed by the thirtieth (30th) day preceding the Election. The printed ballot shall contain the name of each candidate and the position on the Board for which he or she is a candidate. The ballot shall be printed in a form in substantial compliance with the provisions of Section 1-22-10, and in compliance with the provisions of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended. The cost of printing the ballots shall be paid by the District.

Section 4. The names of the candidates for election to the Board shall be submitted to all registered electors on a single ballot, except as provided herein.

Section 5. The voting systems to be used shall use a paper ballot listing the name of each candidate and the position for which he or she is a candidate. The ballot shall be printed in English and Spanish in clear type, in black ink on white material. The County Clerk of Record is requested to provide the required quantity of paper ballots for use in the Election, pursuant to law.

Section 6. Pursuant to the Absent Voter Act, NMSA 1978, §§ 1-6-1 through 1-6-18, the Absent Voter Precinct Act, NMSA 1978, §§ 1-6-19 through 1-6-23, and Section 1-22-19, qualified registered electors may also vote absentee at the office of the Doña Ana County Clerk during regular hours and days of business, from 8:00 a.m. on January 11, 2013, being the twenty-fifth (25th) day preceding the Election, until 5:00 p.m. on February 1, 2013, being the Friday immediately prior to the Election. Absentee voting shall be by paper ballot, pursuant to Sections 1-6-8, 1-6-9, and 1-22-19.

Section 7. Except as otherwise provided herein, the manner of conducting the Election and all other election procedures relating thereto shall be as provided by the School Election Law and the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended.

Section 8. The Superintendent and the officers of the District shall be and they hereby are authorized and directed to take all action necessary and appropriate to effectuate the provisions of this resolution and the Resolution and Proclamation

of Election.

Section 9. All action heretofore taken by the Board, the Superintendent and the officers of the District not inconsistent with the provisions of this resolution and the Resolution and Proclamation of Election directed toward the calling and conducting of the Election shall be, and the same hereby is ratified, approved and confirmed.

Section 10. All acts, motions or resolutions, or parts thereof, inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent only of such inconsistency.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 13th day of November, 2012.

[District Seal]

President, Board of Education
Attest:
Secretary, Board of Education

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF DOÑA ANA
SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATE
LAS CRUCES SCHOOL
DISTRICT NO. 2**

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Board of Education of the Las Cruces School District No. 2 ("Board" and "District," respectively), in Doña Ana County, New Mexico, does hereby certify that the foregoing pages are a true and complete copy of the record of the proceedings of the Board, constituting the governing body of the District, had and taken at a duly called regular meeting of the Board held at the School Board Room, School Administration Building, Las Cruces, New Mexico on the 13th day of November, 2012, convening at the hour of 6:30 p.m., insofar as they concern the Resolution and Proclamation of Regular School District Election and the Resolution Authorizing and Directing School Election Procedures, copies of each being therein set forth, as recorded in the book of official records of the proceedings of the District, kept in the office of the Superintendent of Schools, and that the meeting therein shown was duly held, the persons therein named were present at the meeting as shown, and the proceedings were duly had and taken as therein shown.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the District, affixed this 13th day of November, 2012.

Secretary, Board of Education
[District Seal]

**RESOLUCIÓN Y
PROCLAMACIÓN DE
ELECCIÓN
REGULAR DE DISTRITO
ESCOLAR**

CONSIDERANDO QUE, la Junta de Educación del Distrito Escolar Núm. 2 de Las Cruces ("Junta" y "Distrito," respectivamente), en el Condado de Doña Ana y el Estado de Nuevo México, ha determinado que se llevará a cabo una elección regular de distrito escolar ("Elección") el 5 de febrero, 2013, conforme a la Ley de Elecciones Escolares, NMSA 1978, §§ 1-22-1 a 1-22-19;

CONSIDERANDO QUE, la Junta ha determinado que en la Elección se llenarán tres (3) posiciones en la Junta por someter a los votantes habilitados

del Distrito los nombres de los candidatos habilitados para aparecer en la balota para elección a tales posiciones; y

CONSIDERANDO QUE, las personas que quieren llenar tales posiciones en la Junta se requieren someter declaraciones de candidatura o declaraciones de intento de ser candidato por escrito, todo conforme a la Ley de Elecciones Escolares.

AHORA, POR LO TANTO, LA JUNTA DE EDUCACIÓN DEL DISTRITO ESCOLAR NÚM. 2 DE LAS CRUCES, EL CUAL CONSTITUYE EL CUERPO GOBERNANTE DE DICHO DISTRITO, EN EL CONDADO DE DOÑA ANA Y EL ESTADO DE NUEVO MÉXICO RESUELVE:

Sección 1. El 5 de febrero, 2013, se llevará a cabo una elección regular en el Distrito Escolar Núm. 2 de Las Cruces, Condado de Doña Ana, Nuevo México, con el fin de presentarles a los votantes habilitados del Distrito los nombres de los candidatos para las tres (3) posiciones que se llenarán en la Junta.

Sección 2. En la Elección, las siguientes posiciones en la Junta se llenarán por los votantes habilitados del Distrito:

Posición 1: por un plazo de cuatro años comenzando el 1 de marzo, 2013.

Posición 2: por un plazo de cuatro años comenzando el 1 de marzo, 2013.

Posición 3: por un plazo de cuatro años comenzando el 1 de marzo, 2013.

Solamente esos votantes habilitados y viviendo en Miembro de la Junta Distrito Número 1 serán elegibles para votar por uno de los candidatos para Posición 1. Solamente esos votantes habilitados y viviendo en Miembro de la Junta Distrito Número 2 serán elegibles para votar por uno de los candidatos para Posición 2. Solamente esos votantes habilitados y viviendo en Miembro de la Junta Distrito Número 3 serán elegibles para votar por uno de los candidatos para Posición 3.

Sección 3. Una declaración de candidatura para una posición en la Junta que se llenará en la Elección se presentará al Doña Ana County Clerk, el oficial apropiado de registración, durante el período comenzando a las 9:00 a.m., el 18 de diciembre, 2012, siendo el tercer martes en diciembre, y terminando a las 5:00 p.m. el mismo día, conforme a Sección 1-22-7.

Sección 4. Al declarar la candidatura, el candidato para una posición en la Junta que se llenará en la Elección someterá una declaración jurada de intento en forma sustancial como proveniente en Sección 1-22-8.

Sección 5. Una persona que quiere ser candidato por escrito para una posición en la Junta que se llenará en la Elección presentará al Doña Ana County Clerk, una declaración de intento de ser candidato por escrito antes de las 5:00 p.m. el 1 de enero, 2013, siendo el día trigésimo quinto que antecede la fecha de la Elección conforme a Sección 1-22-18(C).

Sección 6. Una persona es votante habilitado del Distrito si en el día de la Elección él o ella es ciudadano(a) de los Estados Unidos, tiene por lo menos 18 años de edad, y es residente del Distrito. Para votar, los votantes habilitados del Distrito deben haberse registrado previamente con el Doña Ana County Clerk o cualquier auxiliar de registración conforme a la ley. Cualquier votante habilitado del Distrito que no esté registrado ahora y que desea votar en la Elección debe registrarse durante las horas hábiles antes de las 5:00 p.m. el 8 de enero, 2013, siendo el día vigésimo octavo (28th) inmediatamente antes de la Elección, en la oficina del Doña Ana County Clerk en el Doña Ana County Government Center en Las Cruces, Nuevo México, o por cualquier agente de registración de votantes en una agencia designada como proveniente en NMSA 1978, Secciones 1-4-48 y 1-4-49.

Sección 7. Los sitios de votación para la Elección permanecerán abiertos entre las 7:00 a.m. y las 7:00 p.m. el día de la Elección.

Sección 8. Los Distritos Electorales para la Elección serán los siguientes:

Lugares
De
Votación
Sitios de Votación
Recintos de Elección
Miembro de La
Junta Distrital

#1
Mayfield High School
Lobby
1955 N. Valley Drive
22 San Andres
23 Mayfield
83 Elks Club East
84 Carlton
88 Southwind
90 Camelot Gardens
30 Alameda
31 Alameda
1

#2
New Covenant Fellowship
20 Holy Cross Road
24 Highland
25 Holy Cross
1

#3
Grace Covenant Church
3111 N. Main Street
26 Country Club
89 Elks Club South
99 Elks Club West
1

#4
Sierra Middle School
Room 331
1700 East Spruce
27 Loma Heights West
33 Encantada
34 Sierra
91 Loma Heights East
1

#5
Booker T. Washington
Elementary School Cafeteria
755 E. Chestnut
28 Washington East
29 Washington West
32 Lucero
35 City
92 Hadley
1

#6
Hermosa Heights Elem. School
Lobby
1655 East Amador
36 Hermosa Heights West
41 Bradley West

93 Hermosa Heights East
2

#7
MacArthur Elementary School
Lobby
655 North 4th Street
37 Court
38 MacArthur
39 City Center
40 Valley
56 Mesilla Park North
57 Mesilla Park South
108 South Valley
2

#8
Lynn Middle School
North Hallway
950 S. Walnut 42 Bradley East
43 Old Armory
44 Lynn West
2

#9
Conlee Elementary School
Library
1701 Boston
45 Lynn South
46 Conlee North
47 Bellamah
94 Lynn North
2

#10
Las Cruces High School
Front Office Lobby
1755 El Paseo
48 Valley View
49 Las Cruces
78 Tortugas
101 Tombaugh
2

#11
University Hills Elementary
School Cafeteria
2005 South Locust
50 University Hills West
51 University Hills East
52 Conlee South
53 University Baptist
58 University Park
3

#12
Las Alturas Fire Station
4145 Cholla Drive
6 Organ South
54 University Campus,
77 Mission Bell
79 Mesquite North portion
within LCPS district)
104 Las Alturas
110 A Mountain East
114 Las Alturas South
120 Bishop Cap
3

#13
Hillrise Elementary School
Library
1400 South Curnutt
68 Ridgecrest

69 Majestic Ridge
70 Telshor
103 Foothills
113 Roadrunner South
3

#14
Hillrise Elementary School
Library
1400 South Curnutt
71 Candlelight
72 University Terrace
73 Buena Vida
3

#15
Tombaugh Elem. School
Office Foyer
226 Carver Road
7 Pecan Valley North
55 Mesilla Park
96 Pecan Valley South (portion
within LCPS District)
3

Conforme a NMSA 1978, Sección 1-22-12(C), si sólo un candidato ha presentado una declaración de candidatura para cada posición que se llenará en la Elección, no hay candidatos por escrito para ninguna posición, y no hay preguntas o emisiones de bonos en la balota, el County Clerk ejercerá las funciones de la junta de recintos y ninguna otra junta de recintos será nombrada. La votación en el día de la Elección se llevará a cabo usando balotas de papel como proveniente en Sección 1-22-10-(G).

La votación ausente sera según se expresa en la Sección 10 aquí.

Sección 9. La votación en el día de la Elección se llevará a cabo usando un sistema de votación definido en NMSA 1978, Sección 1-9-1(B). Se colocará, por lo menos, un sistema de votación en el sitio de votación de cada Distrito Electoral.

Sección 10. Conforme a la Ley de la Votación Ausente, NMSA 1978, §§ 1-6-1 a 1-6-18, la Ley de Recinto de Votación Ausente, NMSA 1978, §§ 1-6-19 a 1-6-23, y Sección 1-22-19, votantes habilitados podrán votar ausente en la oficina del Doña Ana County Clerk durante las horas y en los días hábiles desde las 8:00 a.m. el 11 de enero, 2013, siendo el día vigésimo quinto (25th) antes de la Elección, hasta las 5:00 p.m. el 1 de febrero, 2013, siendo el día viernes que antecede inmediatamente la Elección. La votación ausente se llevará a

cabo usando balotas de papel conforme a Secciones 1-6-8, 1-6-9, y 1-22-19.

APROBADA Y ADOPTADA este día 13 de noviembre, 2012.

Presidente, Junta de Educación
[Sello de Distrito]
Atestiguado:
Secretaria, Junta de Educación

Pub # 12574
Dates 12/14, 2012

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF DOÑA ANA
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

No. PB 2012- 95
Judge: Arrieta

**In the Matter of the Estate of
PATRICIA Y. LAWRENCE,
Deceased.**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Robert H. Lawrence has been appointed personal representative of this estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present their claims within two months after the date of the first publication of this notice or the claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented either to the undersigned personal representative at the address shown in this notice or filed with the court.

The attorney for the personal representative is Bradford H. Eubanks of the law firm of Martin, Lutz, Roggow & Eubanks, P.C., P.O. Box 1837, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88004-1837.

DATED this 6th day of December, 2012.

/s/ Robert H. Lawrence
Personal Representative
19886 West Vale Lane
Yorba Linda, CA 92886

Pub # 12576
Dates 12/14, 12/21, 2012

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF DOÑA ANA
PROBATE COURT**

No.: 12-0258
Judge Alice M. Salcido

**IN THE MATTER OF THE
ESTATE OF ANNEEN LAUB,
Deceased**

Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Kathy Kitchens, LLC was appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Anneen Laub, deceased, without bond in an informal probate of the Estate of Anneen Laub, deceased. All persons having claims against this Estate must present their claims within two months after the date of first publication of this Notice or the claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented to the Personal Representative c/o Law Office of Katherine N. Blackett, PC, Post Office Box 2132, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88004-2132, or filed with the Doña Ana County Probate Court, 845 N. Motel Boulevard, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88007.

Dated this 6th day of December, 2012.

Kathy Kitchens, LLC
s/
Personal Representative
By: Kathryn R. Kitchens, managing member
Post Office Box 14122
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88013

Prepared by:

LAW OFFICE OF KATHERINE
N. BLACKETT, P.C.

Katherine N. Blackett
Attorney for Personal
Representative
Post Office Box 2132
255 W. Hadley Avenue, Las
Cruces, New Mexico 88004-
2132
(575) 526-3312 telephone/
(877) 457-7213 facsimile

Pub # 12575 12/14, 12/21, 2012

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF DOÑA ANA
PROBATE COURT**

No.: 12-0258
Judge Alice M. Salcido

**IN THE MATTER OF THE
ESTATE OF ANNEEN LAUB,
Deceased**

**TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS OF
ANNEEN LAUB, DECEASED**

**NOTICE OF INFORMAL
APPOINTMENT
OF PERSONAL**



City of Las Cruces
PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

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

Description	Number	Pre-Bid/ Pre-Proposal Meeting	Due Date / Time
Management and Operation of the Safe Caf� Re-solicitation	12-13-394	Non-mandatory January 4, 2013 / 10:00 am 6121 Reynolds Drive Las Cruces, NM	January 17, 2013 / 4:00 pm

Please use this link to access all City of Las Cruces solicitations:
<http://www.govbids.com/scripts/nm1/public/OpenBids/viewopentitles1.asp?agency=1757&AgencyName=City+of+Las+Cruces>

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

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

Pub # 12580
Dates 12/14, 2012

LEGAL NOTICES

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

REPRESENTATIVE AND INFORMAL PROBATE

Kathy Kitchens, LLC, Personal Representative of the Estate of Anneen Laub, deceased, hereby, gives the following notice:

1. By Order filed December 4, 2012, the Court informally appointed Kathy Kitchens, LLC, Post Office Box 14122, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88013,

as Personal Representative of the Estate of Anneen Laub, deceased, to serve without bond, in an informal probate, and admitted Decedent's original Last Will and Testament, dated January 6, 2009, to probate herein; thereafter, Letters Testamentary and Acceptance were issued to Kathy Kitchens, LLC (hereafter "Personal Representative").

2. No bond was required by the Court and none has been filed.

3. The Court where the papers concerning the administration of the Estate are on file is: Probate Court, County of Doña Ana, 845 N. Motel Boulevard, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88007; Case No.: 12-0258.

4. The Estate is being administered by the Personal

Representative in accordance with the provisions of the Uniform Probate Code as adopted in New Mexico.

5. Interested persons within the meaning of NMSA 1978, § 45-1-201(A)(26) (2011) are entitled to receive from the Personal Representative information regarding the administration of this Estate, and can petition a court of competent

jurisdiction in any matter relating to the Estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

6. The attorney for the Personal Representative is the Law Office of Katherine N. Blackett, PC, Post Office Box 2132, 255 W. Hadley Avenue, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88004, telephone: (575) 526-3312.

Dated this 6th day of December, 2012.

s/ Kathy Kitchens, LLC, Personal Representative
c/o Law Office of Katherine N. Blackett, PC
Post Office Box 2132
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88004
Telephone: (575) 526-3312/
Facsimile: (877) 457-7213

Pub # 12577

Dates 12/14, 12/21, 12/28, 2012 and 1/4, 2013

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO
IN THE PROBATE COURT
DOÑA ANA COUNTY**

No.
Judge Alice M. Salcido

**IN THE MATTER OF THE
ESTATE OF CAROL JEAN
REHDER, DECEASED.**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of this estate. All persons having claims against this estate are required to present their claims within two months after the date of the first publication of this Notice or the claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented either to the undersigned Personal Representative in care of The Darden Law Firm, P.A., P.O. Box 578, Las Cruces, New Mexico, 88004-0578, or filed with the Probate Court of Doria Ana County, New Mexico.

Dated this 10th day of December, 2012.

/s/ Jeannine P. Miller,
Personal Representative

/s/ Steven A. Miller,
Personal Representative

THE DARDEN LAW FIRM,
P.A.
Attorneys for Personal Representative
P.O. Box 578
Las Cruces, New Mexico
88004-0578
(575) 541-6655 (telephone)
(575) 524-2059 (fax)

Pub # 12578
Dates 12/14, 12/21, 2012

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT THE Regular Meeting of the Mesilla Valley Public Housing Authority (MVPHA) Board of Commissioners will be held at the Housing Authority's Conference Room located at 926 S. San Pedro Street, Las Cruces, NM, on Tuesday, December 18, 2012 at 2 p.m. for the following approvals: Minutes from a Work Session on Nov. 28, 2012 and a Work Session on December 4, 2012; Resolution 2012-32, Independent Auditor's Reports; Resolution 2012-33, Employee Manual revisions; Resolution 2012-34, Mission Statement and Goals (FY 2013); and Resolution 2012-35, Revisions to the Housing Choice Voucher Program Administrative Plan. Election of Chair and Vice Chair and other such items may be included on the Board agenda.

An agenda for this meeting may be obtained from MVPHA 24 hours prior to the meeting date. If you should need an accommodation for a disability to enable you to participate in this meeting, please contact MVPHA at least 48 hours before this event at 575-528-2000.

DATED at Las Cruces, New Mexico, December 12, 2012.

Ms. Robbie Levey, Interim Executive Director, Mesilla

Valley Public Housing Authority

Pub # 12579
Dates 12/14, 2012

NOTICE is hereby given that on September 24, 2012, Tom J. Bagwell and Denise K. Bagwell, 205 Old Mill Road, Las Cruces, NM 88007, filed application numbered LRG-1273 POD2 with the State Engineer for Permit to Change an Existing Water Right within the Lower Rio Grande Underground Water Basin in Dona Ana County by drilling a new well to be located within the NW1/4 NE1/4 NW1/4 of Section 25, Township 21 South, Range 1 West, NMPM, and more specifically described where Latitude and Longitude intersect at 32° 27' 33.69"N, 106° 53' 56.06"W NAD83, on land owned by the applicant, to supplement existing well LRG-1273 located within the NW1/4 NE1/4 NW1/4 of Section 25, Township 21 South, Range 1 West, NMPM, and more specifically described where Latitude and Longitude intersect at 32° 27' 35.01"N, 106° 53' 55.99"W NAD83, on land owned by Thomas and Shawna Runyan, for the continued diversion of an amount of water reserved for future determination by the May 24, 1999 Order of the Third Judicial District Court, Dona Ana County, State of New Mexico, combined with surface water from the Elephant Butte Irrigation District, for the irrigation of 2.01 acres of land, owned by the applicant, located within the NE1/4 NW1/4 of Section 25, Township 21 South, Range 1 West, NMPM. The site for proposed supplemental well LRG-1273 POD2 is located north of Las Cruces, NM and may be found at the property address of 205 Old Mill Road.

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

Pub # 12581
Dates 12/14, 12/21, 12/28, 2012

POSTCARDS
from the **PAST**

The Las Cruces Bulletin is looking for postcards for our "Postcards from the Past" weekly feature. If you have any old postcards that feature Las Cruces and Southern New Mexico, bring them to our office at 840 N. Telshor, Suite E Monday through Friday 9 am to 5 pm, or call Rachel at 524-8061. We will scan your postcard and return it to you immediately. We will record your name and recognize you for your contribution when the postcard appears in our paper.

THE LAS CRUCES
Bulletin

- Local News
- Local Features
- Local People

Classifieds

LOST & FOUND

LOST PET? Check first at the Animal Services Center of the Mesilla Valley at 3551 Bataan Memorial West (Sonoma Ranch exit off of Hwy. 70 East) for your furry friend. Need a furry friend? Come see us to adopt - there are many great animals that need a loving family! Open 7 days a week. 382-0018

SPECIAL NOTICES

Drop off your frayed or worn out American flags to Ray McCorkle at the VFW Post 3242, 2001 N. Mesquite for proper disposal. Post is open weekdays at 4 p.m., Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays at noon.

HELP WANTED

Experienced housekeeper wanted. References required. Call 575-522-8986 after 9 a.m.

CPA firm seeking an experienced tax professional to prepare and review individual and business tax returns from February 1 through April 15, 2013. The ideal candidate will have four or more years of individual and business tax return preparation experience and the ability to prepare and be responsible for tax returns that can be filed without extensive additional review. The possibility of work outside the tax season also exists for someone with the right skills, experience and interests, and the hope is that this position will be recurring in subsequent tax



The City of Las Cruces has openings for

EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

GAS SERVICES
Full-Time, Regular
Pay Rate:
\$14.56 per hour
Closing Date:
12/20/2012

For more information on these and other current listings, please visit our website at www.las-cruces.org

For those that wish to apply, computer kiosks are available at the City of Las Cruces Human Resources Department, 700 N. Main, Suite 2200, Monday thru Friday from 7:30 am to 5 pm.

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seasons. Compensation is competitive and commensurate with experience. Send resume to 715 E. Idaho Ave., Bldg. 1A, Las Cruces, NM 88001

HEALTH CARE NAVY RESERVE. Serve part-time. Elite training. Great pay & benefits. Sign-on bonus up to \$20K. \$ for education. Call Monday - Friday 800-354-9627

DRIVERS NEEDED

Drivers: SIGN-ON BONUS, Great Pay, Benefits! No-Touch Freight. Weekly Pay. CDL-A w/3yrs OTR Exp. Wild West Express: 1-877-212-8703

FURNITURE

Furniture refinishing and repair complete. All wood products repaired like new. Call Albert 575-652-9410.

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES

Antique dolls for sale. Serious inquiries please. Roswell, NM 575-623-6964

STEREOS, TV'S, VIDEO

We carry a selection of used stereo speakers, EQs, turners, turntables, small color TVs cassette, reel and CDs at Mountain Music. 2330 S. Valley Dr. 523-0603.

GARAGE & YARD SALE

Yard Sale - 1713 Calle de Suenos. Saturday, December 15, 8 a.m. Tools,



Administrative Assistant, General, AggieVision/KRWG-TV

(Req#0600883): AggieVision/KRWG-TV seeks a part time (20hrs/week.) Admin Asst, General to support the AggieVision organization which is responsible for broadcasting live NMSU athletic events. Duties include but are not limited to: Answering the telephone, greeting the public and direct visitors. Receive, respond to and problem-solve, establish and maintain files. Purchase supplies and monitor inventory. Assist support in other areas when needed. One (1) year of experience related to the standard duties as outlined. To apply, visit <https://jobs.nmsu.edu>. Deadline for applications will be January 02, 2013. NMSU is an EEO/AA employer.

toys, tile, utility trailer & more.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
★ **Motherlode Thrift Store, 1103 W. Picacho Ave.** ★
★ **Sale - Saturday & Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** ★
★ **Best thrift store in the Southwest.** ★
★ **Something for everyone.** ★
★ **Bring this ad in for a 20% discount** ★
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

HUGE yard sale - Saturday, December 15, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., 4932 Modoc Trail. Many items including: jacuzzi tubs, sinks, dishwasher, refrigerator, freezer and many construction supplies. Lots of miscellaneous: TV's, handmade crafts and may household items. 575-642-5621

HEALTH & FITNESS

ATTENTION SLEEP APNEA SUFFERERS with Medicare. Get FREE CPAP Replacement Supplies at NO COST, plus FREE home delivery! Best of all, prevent red skin sores and bacterial infection! Call 866-938-5101

ATTENTION DIABETICS with Medicare. Get a FREE talking meter and diabetic testing supplies at NO COST, plus FREE home delivery! Best of all, this meter eliminates painful finger pricking! Call 866-406-2158

Medical Alert for Seniors - 24/7 monitoring. FREE Equipment. FREE Shipping. Nationwide Service. \$29.95/Month CALL Medical Guardian Today 888-416-2099

A public service message from The Las Cruces Bulletin and the Federal Trade Commission. Tips for Consumers: Trying to lose weight? Many claims for diet products and programs that promise easy weight loss are false. To lose weight, eat healthy food and exercise.

PETS

Report Animal neglect and abuse confidentially. 382-9462

HOUSE FOR RENT

RENTALS
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3-Bedroom
4-Bedroom
Various Locations!
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www.noblelc.com

El Toro says, "Shop at BIG DADDY'S FLEA MARKET"
Open Saturday & Sunday
5580 Bataan Memorial East Hwy. 70 East of Las Cruces 575-382-9404

Owner seeks roommate(s) to share 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-story newer home on the East Mesa. Non-smokers preferred. 2 rooms available \$400/each plus utilities. Call 575-439-7548.

MOBILE HOME FOR RENT

Fairacres - Mobile Homes for rent. 2 bedroom/1 bath, water, sewer, garbage paid. No pets. No smoking. \$400/\$425 per month. One months rent security deposit. Call 575-647-5849.

3 bedroom, 2 bath on one acre, Hwy 70/Holman Rd. area. \$600/mo, \$600/dep, 575-642-2350.

MOBILE HOME FOR SALE

Encantada Park, spacious two bedroom/baths, new carpets, W/D, D/W & ext paint. Ref. & Evap. Air. Call 575-621-392 NO AGENTS

\$19,900 BRAND NEW Mobile Homes with Warranty! Wholesale Division. Open To The Public. Floorplans, Pictures, and Prices: www.TheHomeOutletAZ.com or Call for FREE Brochure: 1-800-887-9359

Tips for Consumers: A public service message from The Las Cruces Bulletin and the Federal Trade Commission. Buying a Mobile Home? Check on warranty coverage from the manufacturer, retailer, transporter, and installer before you buy.

COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT

For Lease Commercial Warehouse Space on W. Hadley. Approx. 600 sq. ft. to 2000 sq. ft. available. Garage doors, heat/A/C with restrooms. Please call 575-526-8116.

For rent - 1000, 2000, or 3000 sq. ft. units available. 901 S. Main St. Call 523-7637

For Lease 845 Spruce. 1250 sq. ft. \$995/month. Open space, beautiful ceramic tile with countertop bar and sink. Please call 575-526-8116.

For Lease Tilt Wall Commerical Warehouses with large garage doors, high bay ceilings, heat/A/C and restrooms. Three consecutive locations. 900 to 1250 sq. ft. For more information call 575-526-8116.

For Lease 1071 N. Solano. 1000 sq. ft. \$999/month. Reception area, waiting area, 3 small offices and large office/break area. Please call 575-526-8116.

REAL ESTATE

2.5 acre fenced property, home, corrals, wells. \$360,000 Value. Make offer. Call 575-312-9142

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We're on the air!
Join the Bulletin Staff on KSNM 570 for The Bulletin on the Radio
Thursdays from 4 to 6 p.m.

Stay Active:
Deliver THE LAS CRUCES Bulletin

Looking to get involved?
Want to earn some extra cash?
Delivering the Las Cruces Bulletin gives you an opportunity to work in your own neighborhood for just a few hours a week and earn some extra income. It's the ideal activity for students, retirees, even local charitable organizations that would like to earn some extra dollars for their groups.
If you're available Thursday afternoons and evenings, here's a great chance for you to deliver the Las Cruces Bulletin for the readers, and make some extra money for you.
Contact Alyce today at 524-8061 or alyce@lascrucesbulletin.com to learn how you can make a difference.

Vintage Wines/ Black Range Vineyards
2461 Calle De Guadalupe, Mesilla

10% off purchase

Let Them Eat Cake
2001 E Lohman Ave #136

10% off purchase

Mountain View Market
1300 El Paseo, Ste. M

Entry into a drawing for a \$50 gift certificate

Mesilla Valley Film Society
2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla

Free Bag of Popcorn with every gameboard

BatteriesPlus
2240 East Lohman Avenue #3

15 % discount on purchases

Happy Dogs Foods
Farmers' Market
Wednesdays and Saturdays

1/2 off of any purchase of a burger or hot dog

Ono Grindz
300 N. Main Street

20% purchase of a meal

MVS Studios
535 N Main St

30% off in-stock custom framing. For Christmas, needs to be in by Dec 20th

Malooly's Flooring Company
765 N. Valley Drive

In store Discount

Andele Restaurant
1950 Calle Del Norte, Mesilla

Free Dessert

Picture Frame Factory Outlet
382 South Walnut Street

10% first frame project, 20% off second.

Enchanted Gardens
270 Avenida de Mesilla

20% any item in the store

Better Life Pet Foods
365 Avenida De Mesilla

5% discount off of any store item, including special

Ceramics Plus of New Mexico
125 E. Idaho

1/3 off purchase



Las Cruces
GREEN CHAMBER of COMMERCE

presents

SHOP LOCAL LAS CRUCES

Save and Win Big!



Shop one or shop all. Have the store validate your visit, turn in your gameboard to the Las Cruces Green Chamber and you could win one of four prize baskets.

THE LAS CRUCES
Bulletin

BravoMic
Communications, LLC

crucesfirst.com

Emilia's on the Plaza
2290 Calle de Parian, Mesilla

Free Speciality Drink with Full Meal Purchase

High Desert Brewing Company
1201 W. Hadley Ave

Surprise Discount at time of purchase

Hubbard's Music and more
108 Wyatt Drive

30-40% discount off Guitars, 40 to 50% off Cymbals

Indoor Garden Supply
1001 South Solano Drive

10% off of any item

Lorenzo's Italian Restaurant
1753 E. University Ave

15% off purchase

Lulu Elements for Living
1800 Avenida de Mesilla, Mesilla

10% off purchase

Milagro Coffee y. Espresso, INC
1733 East University Avenue

10% off any roasted coffees

Miguel's Restaurant
1140 E. Amador

10% off of a meal purchase

Nambe Mills, Inc
2109 Calle De Parian, Mesilla

Surprise Discount at time of purchase

San Saba Pecans, LP
1655 West Amador Avenue

Great gift baskets & so much more!

Spirit Winds
2260 Locust

10% off purchase

OMPC/The Shed
810 South Valley Drive

Discount on selected specials (\$9.99 on Crab Cake Eggs Benedict or Chile con Queso Steak and Eggs)

ABW Living Tree Community Health & Wellness Center
210 W. Las Cruces Ave.

15% off of a massage

Upcycle Outdoor Living
Farmers' Market
Wednesdays and Saturdays

10% off purchase

Las Cruces Bulletin
840 N. Telshor

Buy our Las Cruces centennial book and get the statewide centennial book free!

Bravo Mic Communications
101 Perkins Drive, Suite A

Entry into a drawing for a Bravo Mic Merchandise

RULES OF PLAY: No purchase required at any of the listed businesses. One game sheet per household. Game sheets must be received at the Las Cruces Green Chamber offices (125 N. Main, inside the GreenWorks building) no later than Friday, January 18th at 5pm. Game sheets can be mailed in or dropped by. Mail game sheets to Las Cruces Green Chamber of Commerce. Attn: Shop Local Las Cruces, 125 N. Main Street, Las Cruces, NM 88001. In the case of a multiple submissions, winning game sheets will be grouped accordingly and a winner will be chosen from each group. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th places. Players must get the validation from the business in the matching square in order for it to count. For more Information, email carrie@nmgreenchamber.com or call 575-323-1575. GOOD LUCK and SHOP LOCAL LAS CRUCES!

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____

Shop Local Las Cruces Event
dates: December 15th to the 31st

Money Spent Locally Stays Local.
Invest in the Community.
Keep New Mexico One-of-a-Kind.

Arts & Entertainment

© 2012 LAS CRUCES BULLETIN

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2012

C1

Artists work for social change C3



A slow, painful 'Death' C7



Sandwich spot opens near campus C11



The new Yuletide classics C18

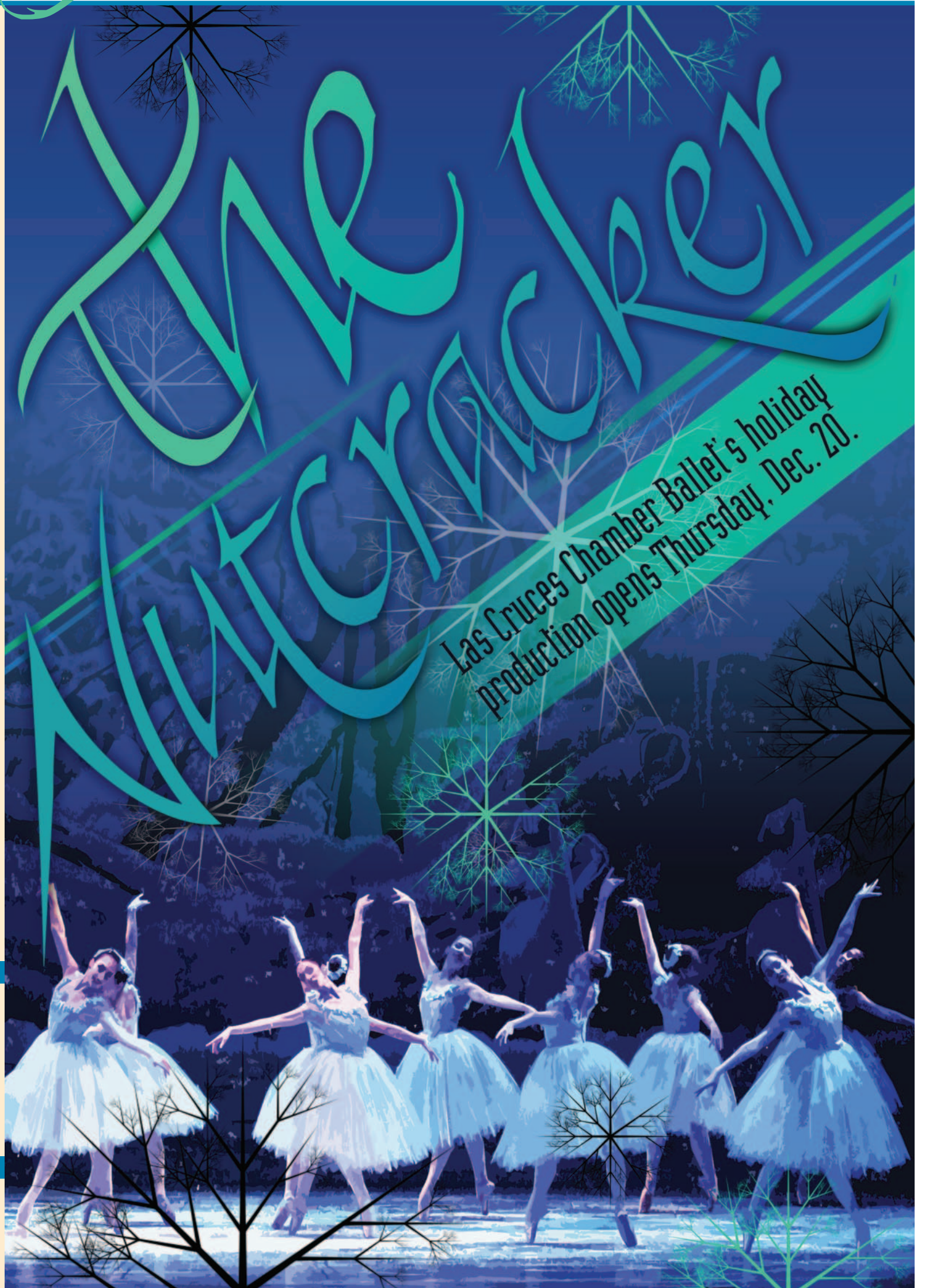
INDEX

Featured Artists.....C3
Galleries.....C5
Calendar.....C6
Featured Band.....C9
Restaurant Guide.....C10-11
TV Listings.....C13-16
Brain Games.....C17
Movies.....C7, 18-19

NEXT WEEK

Movies of the year

Counting down the best flicks of the year, and the most anticipated films of 2013.



Las Cruces Chamber Ballet's holiday production opens Thursday, Dec. 20.

Get 'cracking on the holiday spirit

LCCB presents the Nutcracker Ballet

By **Zak Hansen**
Las Cruces Bulletin

Believe it or not, some of us still aren't in the holiday spirit.

Well, for those of us still trimming the tree on Christmas Eve (sure to stay clinging to life in the living room until St. Patrick's Day) there's a surefire way to change that. The Las Cruces Chamber Ballet presents its annual production of "The Nutcracker," sure to get even the biggest grinchers among us into the holiday spirit.

The LCCB "Nutcracker," now in its 29th year of production, opens at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 20, at Atkinson Recital Hall, 1075 N. Horseshoe Drive, on the New Mexico State University campus.

The LCCB's mission is to provide dance students in southern New Mexico the opportunity to perform and develop their talents in a semi-professional academy setting. The LCCB's artistic director is Kevin Self, a professional dancer and choreographer turned instructor. He is joined by Ballet Mistress Charlene Manning and Assistant Ballet Mistress Laura Vecchione.

The LCCB is a nonprofit organization, and relies on its board of directors, volunteers, sponsors and community members – rather than federal funding or grants (it receives neither).

"The LCCB is solely community-oriented," said Kevin Self, instructor, choreographer and

artistic director of the LCCB "Nobody gets paid for anything in the Chamber Ballet. Everybody volunteers, and that's the only way it's survived."

And survive it has. The LCCB is the longest continually operating ballet company in New Mexico.

"Thirty-five years ago, Michele (Self) opened Michele's Dance Academy," said Kevin Self. "Five years later, she realized her dancers had nothing to dance in, so she started the Las Cruces Chamber Ballet."

Since then, LCCB has not only given local dancers a place to hone their talents and perform their passion, but has provided Las Cruces and southern New Mexico with great programming – including this timeless holiday classic.

"The Nutcracker" ballet is based on an 1819 story called "The Nutcracker and the Mouse King" by German writer and musician E.T.A. Hoffman.

In 1882, Peter Ilych Tchaikovsky was commissioned to compose a ballet based on the story by the Imperial Theatres of Russia. He took 10 years to complete it.

When Tchaikovsky's ballet finally premiered in St. Petersburg more than a century ago, it was met with harsh criticism. While the music was applauded, many disliked the unconventional choreography, as well as the large number of children in the cast. It was rarely performed after that.

In 1934, "The Nutcracker" was produced in London, heralding the age of its rebirth and growth into one of the most popular and beloved ballet productions worldwide.

“The LCCB is solely community-oriented. Nobody gets paid for anything in the Chamber Ballet. Everybody volunteers, and that's the only way it's survived.”

KEVIN SELF,
artistic director of the LCCB

Details

"The Nutcracker" by the Las Cruces Chamber Ballet

When

- 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 20
- 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 21
- 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 22
- 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 23

Where

Atkinson Recital Hall, 1075 N. Horseshoe Drive (on the NMSU campus)

Cost

\$19 to \$21

- Pan American Center Ticket Office
- all Ticketmaster outlets
- www.ticketmaster.com

Call

527-1893

Choreographer George Balanchine produced "The Nutcracker" performed by the New York City Ballet in 1954. Balanchine's production was immediately loved, and since has become the longest-running ballet in dance history. More than 200 ballet companies across the nation produce "The Nutcracker" each year.

The LCCB's Nutcracker has followed a similar trajectory. The first production was Act I alone, with a cast of 30. Last year's production had a cast of more than 70, and all four shows are annually sold out.

The ballet is not static, and the program changes each year, however slightly.

"Every year, we trim the program down to the strengths and talents of our dancers," Self said. "It's always a new beast, but we love it."

Next year, for the LCCB's 30th annual production of "The Nutcracker," Self said "people can expect some big, big surprises."

"But that's all I'm going to give away right now," he said.

Get your tickets early for what has become a Las Cruces holiday tradition – an evening of dance and music could be the best Christmas present of all.

EL PASO ELECTRIC HOLIDAY LIGHT SHOW

Cruise downtown Las Cruces
and see the all new light display!
Tune your FM radio to 101.5

DEC. 7 - JAN. 6
6 - 11 P.M. NIGHTLY










Alexa Garcia applies part of the inscription to a mural painted by Artists for Social Justice.

Photo by Stephen DeGiulio



Featured group: *Artists for Social Justice*

A call for collective artistic activism

Public art group calls for border reforms

By **Zak Hansen**
Las Cruces Bulletin

Art often has a message, a meaning; it is rarely done for purely aesthetic reasons. There is some type of fire or passion behind it that compels the creator, the painter, the sculptor, the poet or the writer to make external what was before internal.

Now, a group of politically-minded students, teachers and individuals from around the community have formed a group bent on having their voices, and the voices of the oppressed, heard.

Artists for Social Justice, an offshoot of the Aggie Solidarity group at New Mexico State University, advocates for economic justice and political transformation through public arts projects.

Aggie Solidarity, founded two years ago at NMSU, is a student group dedicated to "the struggle for social and economic justice" at home and abroad.

"Aggie Solidarity," reads the group's manifesto, "is a student group dedicated to the proliferation of leftist ideas and political action concerning campus, local and global issues.

"We recognize the need for radical solutions to the critical problems created by capitalism and inequality, and we stand in solidarity with the working class, the oppressed and those seeking social and economic justice. We aim to encourage positive change through peaceful activism and education, raising issues affecting students, faculty and staff at NMSU."

The Artists for Social Justice project began two months ago, in October.

"We wanted to create a group of artists who wanted to change the face of public art in our community into something more politically conscious," said Denali Wilson, founder of Artists for Social Justice and a member of Aggie Solidarity.

Their first project, a large mural, was painted during November under the overpass near Kohls, on the east side of Triviz Drive.

According to Wilson, the approval process was grueling. "This piece was proposed by Aggie Solidarity," she said, "but the city didn't like the piece, because it has a serious, political aspect. They didn't want to cause problems, because we were doing it through a city-funded program (Keep Las Cruces Beautiful)."

This reluctance on the part of the city only encouraged



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Zak Hansen

Members of Artists for Social Justice sit beneath their completed mural along North Triviz Drive.

Wilson and her group to work harder to make themselves heard.

"We feel that the public art in Las Cruces should be something political," she said. "Just because the City has a say in it doesn't mean it should be pacified or compromised art. We were unwilling to compromise our design."

The design features, in the background, a maquila (factory) that is shipping over goods. In the foreground, there are the agricultural workers, harvesting the goods sent across the border to the U.S. Along the wall, two boys sit peering through a crack.

"Our group's reason for painting this mural," Wilson said, "is in direct and serious criticism of the global neo-liberal policies that have really divided these two countries, Mexico and the U.S."

The inscription the group chose to sign, rather than individual or group signatures, is the following passage, in both English and Spanish, "Beware the wall: a fortress soon a prison makes. Painted for the end of all that divides and conquers. Question capitalism, question nationalism." Five primary artists worked on the mural, with about 20 more individuals doing "whatever they could," Wilson said.

"We aren't primarily a student art group," she said. "We are a student political group expressing our concerns to the public through art, in this case. The message, not the image, was the most important part."

To view their work and form your own opinion, stop and see the mural at the northern end of the Triviz Drive walking trail.

MAIN STREET DOWNTOWN
DOWNTOWN
It's Really happening

UPCOMING EVENTS

FRI. DEC 14	3 P.M.
Fantastic Fridays	Branigan Library
FRI.-SUN. DEC 14+16	(SUN. 2 P.M.) 7 P.M.
Los Pastores	Rio Grande Theatre
FRI. DEC 14	7:30 P.M.
Voz Vaqueros Christmas Concert	St. Paul's United Methodist
FRI.-SUN. DEC 14-16	(SUN. 2 P.M.) 8 P.M.
Irving Berlin's White Christmas	LC Community Theatre
SAT. DEC 15	9 A.M.
LC Farmers & Crafts Market	Downtown Main St.
SAT. DEC 15	9 A.M.
LED Holiday Card Workshop	LC Branigan Cultural Center
SAT. DEC 15	10 A.M.
Book Signing - Alan Riehl	COAS Bookstore
SAT. DEC 15	10 A.M.
Ornament Classes for Kids	LC Railroad Museum
SAT. DEC 15	10:30 A.M.
Storytellers of Las Cruces	COAS Bookstore
TUE. DEC 18	10:30 A.M.
Read to Me - stories for ages 3-5	Branigan Library
TUE. DEC 18	10:30 A.M. +6:30 P.M.
Branigan Book Club - The Informationist	Branigan Library
WED. DEC 19	9 A.M.
LC Farmers & Crafts Market	Downtown Main St.
THU. DEC 20	10 A.M.
Toddler Time! Stories for kids 1-3	Branigan Library
THU. DEC 20	Noon
Lunch & Learn - Holiday Plants in the New Year	Branigan Library
THU. DEC 20	6:30 P.M.
Club del Libro Carlos Fuentes - El Libro de Arena	Branigan Library

EL PASO ELECTRIC HOLIDAY LIGHT SHOW

DEC. 7 - JAN. 6

6 - 11 P.M. Nightly

DOWNTOWN MAIN ST.

Tune in to 101.5 FM for Music!



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.

SPONSORED BY:



Details

Artists for Social Justice

Website

www.fallmuralproject2012.wordpress.com

'White Christmas' is a holiday dream

Irving Berlin's classic comes to the LCCT stage

Review by **Gerald M. Kane**

For the Las Cruces Bulletin

Before entering the Las Cruces Community Theatre to see its current production of Irving Berlin's "White Christmas," (and I hope you will), you really need to leave your memories of the famous Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye, Rosemary Clooney and Vera-Ellen 1954 movie production outside.

Do not cross the threshold with expectations that this production has a Hollywood-sized budget, or that lush orchestrations will accompany the performers, or that you will see amazing panorama shots and vistas full of dozens of extras filling the scenes. Don't expect that the costume department of Paramount Pictures worked overtime to produce couture fashion with the most expensive fabrics, or that the sets will match the location shots replicating Broadway and Vermont.

If you follow this simple instruction, and just sit back, you are in for a delightful evening of theater, full of Berlin's most memorable melodies that will most certainly put you in the holiday spirit.

The cast of the Las Cruces Community

Theatre sings and dances their hearts out. Once you get used to it, the "canned" music track used in this production does its job in keeping the performers on key and in time to the music. Truth be told this does take some getting used to, but after a couple of songs, it makes no difference!

At first, I was concerned that the performers would not end their dances on time or would have to rush their singing to keep up with the music. But the truth is that this talented, large ensemble cast is so well rehearsed that this was a needless worry on my part.

The longer-than-usual show moves along at a brisk pace, thanks to excellent direction by Patrick Payne, assisted by Joe Pfeiffer, clever and varied choreography by Janet Mazdra (who also plays one of the leads with her ever present smile and superb comic timing), music direction by Robby Randall and orchestral engineering magic by Tom Warren.

For me, one of the nicest elements of reviewing local theater is discovering performers who have not appeared in very many productions and are given the opportunity to glisten like the star on top of the proverbial holiday tree.

Such is the case with Amelia Medina, who literally bursts on the Las Cruces theater scene

and steals this show with her rendition of Berlin's famous "Let Me Sing a Happy Song." She is a "keeper," and I look forward to seeing Amelia perform in additional productions.

There are so many moments in "White Christmas" to treasure. I was impressed by the chemistry between the two male leads Brandon Brown (with a completely fictitious bio in the program – something Barbra Streisand did when she opened on Broadway) and Charles LeCocq, whose work I admired in "Red Ryder." Brown's rendition of "Count Your Blessings" is especially touching!

Janet Mazdra and Carrie Klofach play their roles with the appropriate "cuteness." Their articulation is clear. Their comic timing is excellent. Monte Wright as the retired general / innkeeper is sincere and heartwarming.

The production numbers are staged with thought and danced with enthusiasm by a talented ensemble. "I Love a Piano" in particular is a show-stopper, followed closely thereafter by "Blue Skies" and "Let Yourself Go."

One final note to LCCT's management. It would be helpful if they announced before the start of the production, in addition to turning off cell phones, that it is illegal and discourteous to film any part of the production on cameras

or phones with LCD displays. Such discourtesy hinders the appreciation and attention of audience members. We sat behind two proud relatives who filmed an entire production number featuring a young child. I am certain that they had no idea of how much their actions interfered with our view of the stage and diminished our enjoyment of the show.

In sum, the 50th anniversary season of the Las Cruces Community Theatre continues to please. I can't wait to see the next LCCT production, directed by Black Box Theatre Producer Ceil Herman – Agatha Christie's long-running mystery, "The Mousetrap."

Irving Berlin's "White Christmas" runs Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sunday afternoons at 2 p.m. at the Las Cruces Community Theatre, Las Cruces Avenue and Main Street, through Sunday, Dec. 23rd. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$9 for students/seniors/military, \$8 for groups of 10 or more, and \$7 for children six and younger. Reservations for "White Christmas" can be made online at www.lcctnm.org, or by calling 523-1200.

Gerald Kane has reviewed theater, music, opera, film and books for NPR stations and newspapers in New Orleans, Phoenix and Kansas City as well as for the Las Cruces Bulletin. A former member of the American Theatre Critics Association, he is the Rabbi Emeritus of Temple Beth-El in Las Cruces and teaches "Jews on Screen" at NMSU.

The Met comes to the Southwest HD performances are broadcast live

Review by **Gerald M. Kane**

For the Las Cruces Bulletin

One Saturday afternoon in the mid-1950s, when I was 10 or 11 years old, I misbehaved. Instead of being permitted to go outside to play with my buddies, my Mom "grounded" me to my room.

"Listen to the Metropolitan Opera" she said. "That will fill up your time."

At the time, decades ago, she had no idea of what a gift she had given me. I became "hooked." Most Saturday afternoons, for more than 30 years, I listened faithfully and enthusiastically to these live performances broadcast directly from the stage of the Metropolitan Opera House in New York, introduced by the dulcet tones of Milton Cross. I was able to hear the "best of the best" – from Richard Tucker to Leontyne Price, to Rise Stevens, Birgit Nilsson, and on and on. I learned about the stories of the operas. I studied the elements of the music of each important opera composer. On rare occasion, I even attended performances and waited at the stage door in bitter winter cold temperatures to get autographs of the performers.

Eventually, the longtime sponsor of the broadcasts, Texaco, stopped its funding of the broadcasts and my habit diminished.

Over the past 12 summers, it has been my privilege to review the Santa Fe Opera for this publication. As our community has grown, more and more opera fans have moved to the area, and have been gracious in their praise of my opera reviews. A number of our readers have written to me, urging me to review the Metropolitan opera performances that are satellite fed in HD, to movie theaters around the world. I was reluctant to do so because the closest venue was a theater on the far east side of El Paso, but finally asked and received approval from the Bulletin publisher and the arts editor when we discovered that the Met in HD was available at the Cinemark Theatre on Remcon Circle in El Paso, right off the Mesa exit – a relatively short drive from Las Cruces.

In short, my first encounter last Saturday morning (11:00 a.m. – and lasting for four(!) hours) turned me into a convert, and I shall be returning to review several additional perfor-

mances presented in this unique format.

The opera was "A Masked Ball" by Giuseppe Verdi, selected, along with other Verdi operas on the occasion of this year being the two hundredth anniversary of the composer's birth.

Thanks to the internet, the Metropolitan Opera and Fathom Productions, which distributes the performances, make cast lists, plot summaries and preview features, as well as advance ticket purchasing very easy and user friendly.

When one factors in the costs of transmission, the actual ticket price to see a live production at the Metropolitan Opera (not including travel from Las Cruces), the \$20 admission charge is quite a bargain. The sound is extraordinary. The camera work is thoughtful and perfect. Acclaimed soprano Deborah Voigt served as the perfect host for the Met, interviewing the performers between acts as we watched the backstage crew change the elaborate and intricate sets.

Going up to Santa Fe each summer provides a bonus insight, because some of the technical staff and artists are a part of these Met productions.

In the case of "A Masked Ball," David Alden, whose directorial work I so admired this past summer in "Maometto II," oversaw this cinema noir-like, updated production. Soprano Stephanie Blythe, whom we saw in "Albért Her-ring" and "Alceste," played the pivotal role of the fortune teller Ulrica.

All in all, this experience is memorable and close enough to warrant support and attendance from the Las Cruces opera loving community. I know there are other venues where similar productions are screened, but they are not "live." The spontaneity adds to the appreciation and delight.

For more information and a schedule of upcoming performances, visit www.metopera-family.org/metopera/liveinhd/LiveinHD.aspx.

Gerald Kane has reviewed theater, music, opera, film and books for NPR stations and newspapers in New Orleans, Phoenix and Kansas City as well as for the Las Cruces Bulletin. A former member of the American Theatre Critics Association, he is the Rabbi Emeritus of Temple Beth-El in Las Cruces and teaches "Jews on Screen" at NMSU.

December brings changes

Setting the stage at DAAC

By **Kathleen Albers**

For the Las Cruces Bulletin

They say change is good, but do they also say how much work it involves? We've had a lot of changes at the Doña Ana Arts Council and the Rio Grande Theatre over the last few months. Staff members have left, new ones have come on board and Main Street is now open. It all adds up to new faces around the office, lots of traffic cruising down Main Street and lots of events at the Rio Grande Theatre. And it is good. It's all good.

This is my first Bulletin article, as David Salcido, who penned a column for years, recently left his position as Rio Grande Theatre Manager to become a staff writer for the Las Cruces Bulletin. We sincerely wish him the best and know that his love for the Theatre will keep him involved with us, perhaps not for 60 plus hours per week like before, but to attend events and help us promote our beloved landmark.

So the task of writing this column falls on my shoulders, as I am the interim director of the Doña Ana Arts Council. (Interim for how long? Not sure, but I'll keep you posted.) For those of you who do not know what we do, one of the Arts Council's primary responsibilities is to manage and operate the historic Rio Grande Theatre at 211 N. Main St., in Downtown Las Cruces.

In addition to this major responsibility, we provide arts education programs, arts festivals such as the Renaissance ArtsFaire and the Las Cruces Arts Fair, support services for arts organizations and artists and present a variety of performing artists on stage at the Theatre. We're a busy organization.

Come by our office upstairs at the Rio Grande Theatre, go online at www.Las-Cruces-Arts.org or check us out on Facebook if you want to find out more.

Holiday offerings abound at the Rio Grande Theatre during December.

While you are strolling down the newly opened Main Street admiring the beautiful holiday lights, stop by the Rio Grande Theatre to see "Los Pastores," another

Centennial treat with a long cultural history here in the Southwest.

"Los Pastores," directed by Oscar Perez with a cast of local actors, is a lovely Nativity play told through the eyes of the shepherds. It runs this weekend, Dec. 14 to 16. Friday and Saturday shows are at 7 p.m., and the Sunday matinee is at 2 p.m. There is no charge for admission, but donations are accepted to help defray expenses.

Or if you're just looking for something to do with the kids when they're out of school, come see the classic animated version of Dr. Seuss's "How The Grinch Stole Christmas" at 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 21 or 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 22. Doors open a half hour before showtime. No charge for kids of all ages. So come downtown, take in the festive atmosphere, grab a bite to eat at the newly opened Main Street Bistro and stay for the show.

Many folks fondly remember the Rio Grande Theatre as a place where they saw their first movie, or had their first kiss in the balcony. If you'd like to take a trip down memory lane, come visit the Theatre on Friday, Dec. 21 and Saturday, Dec. 22, when we'll be screening classic holiday movies at nostalgic prices – \$3 general admission and \$1 for children 12 and younger.

Come see Frank Capra's iconic 1946 film "It's a Wonderful Life" 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 21. Or you can join us for "White Christmas," the holiday classic starring Bing Crosby, at 4 or 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 22.

Finally, if you were lucky enough to catch the Mesilla Valley Chorale's Holiday Potpourri concert on Sunday, Dec. 9, you know what a treat it was. The Mesilla Valley Chorale, under the expert direction of Nancy Ritchey, found a home at the Rio Grande Theatre and supports us every year by donating the proceeds of their Holiday concert to the Theatre fund to keep the 'ol gal looking good and sounding beautiful.

Thank you, Nancy. Thank you, choir members. And thank you, audience.

It's all good. Happy holidays!

Kathleen Albers is the Interim Director of the Doña Ana Arts Council. Contact Albers at infodaac@daarts.org or 523-6403.

Galleries & Openings

LAST CHANCE

UNSETTLED GALLERY announces the second annual "Border Artists & Friends Go Ornamental" show, a fundraiser for Jardín de los Niños. The "Border Artists & Friends Go Ornamental" show will be a unique and extravagant take on the holidays and the concept of ornaments, decoration and holiday cheer. Joining the Border Artists will be a prestigious group of "friends" – accomplished artists who have created work solely for this event.

The show will be on display through Saturday, Dec. 15.

Unsettled Gallery is located at 905 N. Mesquite St. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and by appointment. For more information, call 647-8053.

OPENING

THE TOMBAUGH GALLERY presents Micah Pearson's "Digital Dreams," a show that moves through space and time, melding the realistic and the fantastical and demonstrating the potential for artistic expression using mixed-media including photography, hand drawing and

digital modeling and manipulation. The exhibit will run through Jan. 30, 2013. An artist's reception will be held at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14.

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

NEW MEXICO FARM & RANCH HERITAGE MUSEUM

presents "Mesilla Valley Weavers: Threads Through Time." This diverse exhibition features 44 different woven works from the artists of the Mesilla Valley Weavers Guild. A special opening reception with refreshments will be held at the museum from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14. The exhibit will be in the arts corridor through March 2013.

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

ONGOING

BRANIGAN CULTURAL CENTER presents "Life in Reflection: The Photography

of Mary Daniels Taylor," a retrospective exhibit of Mesilla artist Mary Daniels Taylor.

Taylor was an avid historian and photographer, and "Life in Reflection" is a peek into her journeys from candid shots of her children, beautiful landscapes and mesmerizing portraits of people she found on her travels. Taylor, who passed in 2007, was the wife of state Rep. J. Paul Taylor, who retired from the legislature in 2004. The exhibit will remain up through Jan. 26, 2013.

The cultural center also presents "Pueblo to Pueblo: The Legacy of Southwest Indian Pottery." Pueblo pottery is a beautiful artistic tradition of the American Southwest. It serves as a form of cultural identity for the Pueblo people while reflecting on influences from outside of the communities. "Pueblo to Pueblo" displays more than 100 years of artifacts that date from mid-19th to mid-20th centuries. The exhibition is drawn solely from the collections of Union Station and the Kansas City Museum.

The Branigan Cultural Center is located at 501 N. Main St. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. For more information, call 541-2154 or visit www.las-cruces.org/museums.

THE CUTTER GALLERY

presents new works by Lyuba and Aleksander Titovets. Aleksander is Siberian born and was educated in St. Petersburg, Russia, where he received a master of fine arts from St. Petersburg University College of Fine Arts. Lyuba began painting at 5, and she received her bachelor of arts and master of fine arts in the University College of Fine Arts in St. Petersburg, where she worked in stage and costume design, and was involved in the development of an art history program.

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

LAS CRUCES MUSEUM OF ART

proudly presents "Las Cruces Collects," an exhibition of pieces from private art collections in the Las Cruces area. The pieces of four collections – from David Sudimack and Phil Born, Ammu and Rama Devasthali, David Sorenson and Charles Townley – will be on display through Jan. 19, 2013.

The Las Cruces Museum of Art is located at 491 N. Main St. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. For more information, call 541-2137 or visit www.las-cruces.org/museums.

MESQUITE ART GALLERY

is hosting a special holiday exhibit. Three artists – Wanda

Fuselier, Greta Berger and Luke Tumblin – will show new items with a Christmas or holiday theme. These range from ornaments made from found objects, fused-glass ornaments and the art of a very young talent.

The Mesquite Art Gallery is located at 340 N. Mesquite St. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call 640-3502.

THE POTTERIES OF MESILLA

is having its annual fall exhibit and sale. New ceramic works and paintings are exhibited by Jeanne Rundell and Janice and Bill Cook.

The gallery/studio is located at 2260 Calle de Santiago, two blocks from the Mesilla Plaza, west of the Basilica of San Albino.

The Potteries store hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. For more information, call 524-0538.

NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY ART GALLERY

presents "Rematerialized." The exhibition includes a group of nine contemporary artists from the United States and Canada who challenge conventions about what art can be, what art can be made from and how one operates as an artist. Their work focuses on the use of objects, performances and spaces, recycled, reapplied, recast, recombined and re-contextualized from the everyday material world. Exhibition runs through Jan. 11, 2013.

The University Art Gallery is located in D.W. Williams Art Center at 1390 E. University Ave. Gallery hours are noon to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday. For more information, call 646-2545 or visit www.nmsu.edu/artgal.

MESQUITE ART GALLERY

will exhibit a number of historical photos in conjunction with the end of the state's centennial year.

Mesquite Art Gallery is located at 340 N. Mesquite St. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call 640-3502.

MESILLA VALLEY FINE ARTS GALLERY

will feature local artists Bert Gammill and Naida Zucker for the month of December.

Gammill is a multimedia artist primarily working in watercolor and oil. Her sketches are motivated by her own livestock and the subtle landscapes of the Southwest.

Zucker's current endeavor is the mixed-media combination of gelatin monoprinting (hectography) with digital photography to produce a one-of-a-kind art piece.

The gallery is located at 2470-A Calle de Guadalupe, across from the Fountain Theatre. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Sunday. For more information, call 522-2933.

EL PASO ELECTRIC GALLERY

will display the works of award-winning

conceptual artist Marilyn Sahs for the month of December. A professional, working mixed-media artist who spent her formative years in Cuxhaven, Germany, and now resides in Santa Fe, Sahs' work can best be described as "eclectic, sometimes playful, sometimes erotic and often complex."

The El Paso Electric Gallery is located in the lobby of the historic Rio Grande Theatre at 211 N. Main St. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call 523-6403.

MOUNTAIN GALLERY

will feature the Las Cruces Arts Association's miniatures show, in addition to co-op members' work. This show will run through the end of January 2013.

Mountain Gallery is located at 138 Mountain Ave. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. For more information, call 652-3385.

NOPALITOS GALERIA

is pleased to present "Entwined Freedom," which includes works by Abby Osborne, Krista Kozel and Sarah Spina.

The exhibition runs through Sunday, Dec. 30.

Nopalitos Galeria is located at 326 S. Mesquite St. Gallery hours are 3 to 7 p.m. Friday and noon to 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. For more information, call 202-2476.

M. PHILLIP'S GALLERY

will host artist W. Bruce Stanford to show his limited edition "New Mexico Buckle Set," which will be available in either bronze or sterling silver. Check out Stanford's other buckles, jewelry and bronze sculptures. Also available will be art glass Christmas ornaments.

M Phillip's Gallery is located at 221 N. Main St. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call 525-1367.

MAIN STREET GALLERY

presents "2 Sisters One Show" featuring Nancy Frost Begin and Susan Frost Hansen. The show runs through December.

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

DOÑA ANA COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER

will display more than 100 original pieces of student artwork from the Las Cruces and Gadsden public schools. The exhibit includes paintings, etchings, photographs and drawings. The student art shows have been a rotating fixture of Doña Ana County's main lobby since 2000.

The Doña Ana County Government Center is located at 845 N. Motel Blvd. Galleries are located in the main lobby. For more information, call 525-5801.



"Ships," by Micah Pearson, is now on display at the Tombaugh Gallery as part of his show "Digital Dreams." An artists reception will be held at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14.

EventsCalendar

FRI. 12/14

6 p.m. Lighting of the Christmas Tree and Late Shopping, Old Mesilla Plaza. Watch the lighting of the Christmas tree while thousands of luminarias light the plaza and surrounding streets. Several shops will stay open late. Free. Call 524-3262, ext. 116.

7 p.m. Los Pastores, Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St. Get into the spirit of Christmas with this lovely story of the Nativity, told through the eyes of the shepherds. Presented entirely by local, non-professional talent, the performance includes choral music, solos, duets and quartets accompanied by piano, brass, guitars and other string instruments. The songs are in Spanish with the script translated to English. Free. Call 523-6403 or visit www.riograndetheatre.com.

7 p.m. Live music with Soulshine, Amaro Winery, 402 S. Melendres St. Free. Call 527-5310.

7:30 p.m. Mayfield High School Choir concert, First Presbyterian Church, 200 E. Boutz Road. The concert will begin with Madrigal Singers and Varsity Orchestra performing selections from "Phantom of the Opera," followed by the traditional procession with singers, trumpets and hand bells. All choirs will perform traditional and non-traditional holiday music, including caroling with the audience. Free. Call 527-9415.

7:30 p.m. Voz Vaqueros Christmas Concert, St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 225 W. Griggs Ave. Voz Vaqueros, the Singing Men of Las Cruces, present its Christmas program under the direction of Gerry Shurtz. Come out and enjoy the unique sound of a men's chorus. Free.

7:30 to 10:30 p.m. Contra Dance featuring the Muletones, Zia Middle School, 1300 W. University Ave. Presented by the Southern New Mexico Music and Dance Society (SNMMDS), a nonprofit organization that sponsors dances and music jams. No partner needed. Lessons begin at 7:30 p.m. Beginners welcome. Cost \$6. Call 522-1691 or visit www.snmmds.org.

8 p.m. Irving Berlin's White Christmas, Las Cruces Community Theatre, 313 N. Main St. The Las Cruces Community Theatre presents its production of the musical version of the classic film. This is the first production of "White Christmas" to ever be produced in New Mexico. Cost \$10 for adults, \$9 for students, seniors and military, \$8 per seat for groups of more than 10 and \$7 for children 6 and younger. Call 523-1200.

8 p.m. Winter concert, Atkinson Recital Hall, 1075 N. Horseshoe Drive on the NMSU campus. The Las Cruces High School Band will perform its winter program. Free, but a donation is requested to help the band pay for its spring trip. Call 527-9400, ext. 6733.

SAT. 12/15

8 a.m. Breakfast with Santa, Mesilla Valley Mall, 700 S. Telshor Blvd. For children 12 and younger. Includes meal, goodie bag, T-shirt, a meet and greet with Santa and a chance to win prizes, including a Santa sack full of toys. Tickets available at the customer service booth. Cost \$7. Call 521-4409.

9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Las Cruces Farmers & Crafts Market, Downtown Main Street. Wide variety of arts and crafts, food, fresh produce, unique fine art. Free. Email fcmarket@las-cruces.org.

9 to 11 a.m. LED holiday card workshop, Las Cruces Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main St. Make a holiday card that glows. Using a special type of conductive paint and LED lights, create holiday cards that illuminate with touch. The Cultural Center is partnering with Southern New Mexico Science, Engineering, Mathematics and Aerospace Academy (SEMAA) to offer this workshop for kids ages 9 to 12 interested in science, creativity and card making. All materials provided. Pre-registration is required. Free. Call 541-2154.

9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Deck the Halls: Christmas Carols and Crafts, New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road. Children will decorate a cowboy stocking, learn holiday songs and bake stained-glass cookies. We will explore some merry history while enjoying the festively decorated museum. Cider and cookies will be provided as a snack. Pre-registration is required. Open to children with at least one parent or adult. Cost \$5. Call 522-4100.

10 a.m. to noon, Book signing, COAS Bookstore, 317 N. Main St. Author Alan Riehl will be signing his books "Levels" and "The Nativity." Free. Call 524-8471.

10 a.m. to noon, Ornament Classes for Kids, Las Cruces Railroad Museum, 351 N. Mesilla St. Drop by any time and make your choice of ornaments. Several types of ornaments will be available, including foam picture frames, Pearler beads and wooden trains to paint. Open to all children 6 and older, with parental attendance encouraged. Suggested donation per child \$1. Call 647-4480.

10:30 a.m. Storytellers of Las Cruces, COAS Bookstores, 1101 S. Solano Drive and 317 S. Main St. Sarah Addison will be the storyteller at the Downtown location, and Florence Hamilton will be the storyteller at the Solano location. Free. Call 524-8471.

1 to 2 p.m. NMSU University Art Gallery talk, D.W. Williams Art Center, 1390 E. University Ave. Join NMSU Art Gallery Director Stephanie Taylor as she describes the artists and works included in the exhibition "Rematerialized." Participant comments and questions are encouraged. Free. Call 646-2545.

2 p.m. Voz Vaqueros Christmas Concert, Good Samaritan Society Auditorium, 3025 Terrace Drive. Voz Vaqueros, the Singing Men of Las Cruces, present their Christmas program under the direction of Gerry Shurtz. Come out and enjoy the unique sound of a men's chorus. Free.

3 p.m. Singing Out holiday concert, Peace Lutheran Church, 1701 E. Missouri Ave. Singing Out, a Las Cruces LGBTQA chorus, presents its holiday concert, "Share the Love." Tickets available at Spirit Winds, from a chorus member or at the door. Cost \$10. Call 202-1364.

5 to 7 p.m. Light Up the Desert, Chihuahuan Desert Nature Park, 56501 N. Jornada Road. The desert will shine bright in the heart of the nature park with hundreds of luminarias to ring in the holiday season. Decorate your own luminaria to add to the Desert Discovery Trail. Free. Call 524-3334.

7 p.m. Los Pastores, Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St. Get into the spirit of Christmas with this lovely story of the Nativity, told through the eyes of the shepherds. Presented entirely by local, non-professional talent, the performance includes choral music, solos, duets and quartets accompanied by piano, brass, guitars and other string instruments. The songs are in Spanish with the script translated to English. Free. Call 523-6403 or visit www.riograndetheatre.com.

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SUN. 12/16

1 to 6 p.m. Mesilla Valley Bosque Anniversary and Holiday Event, Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park, 5000

Calle del Norte. There will be activities for young and old alike at the park, including photography, live music, light refreshments, luminarias, a nature hike and an appearance by Santa Claus. Cost \$5 per vehicle standard entry fee. Visit www.mvbosquefriends.org.

2 p.m. Irving Berlin's White Christmas, Las Cruces Community Theatre, 313 N. Main St. The Las Cruces Community Theatre presents its production of the musical version of the classic film. This is the first production of "White Christmas" to ever be produced in New Mexico. Cost \$10 for adults, \$9 for students, seniors and military, \$8 per seat for groups of more than 10 and \$7 for children 6 and younger. Call 523-1200.

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3 p.m. Mesilla Valley Concert Band holiday concert, Atkinson Recital Hall, 1075 N. Horseshoe Drive on the NMSU campus. The 100-member Mesilla Valley Concert Band will present a holiday concert, featuring guest artists Madera Winds in a Doppler two-flute concerto; "Russian Christmas Music" and "Lincolnshire Posy;" and marches and holiday tunes. Free. Call 644-3653.

3 p.m. Singing Out holiday concert, Peace Lutheran Church, 1701 E. Missouri Ave. Singing Out, a Las Cruces LGBTQA chorus, presents their holiday concert, titled "Share the Love." Tickets available at Spirit Winds, from a chorus member or at the door. Cost \$10. Call 202-1364.

5 to 7 p.m. Sparkling wine tasting, Saratoga Room, 1763 E. University Ave. Champagne and sparkling wine will be served with cheeses, fruits and crackers. Guests receive 20 percent off a meal at Lorenzo's Pan Am. Cost \$15. Call 521-3505 or 496-1415.

TUE. 12/18

8 p.m. Open reading, Palacio Bar, 2600 Avenida de Mesilla. SPLAT (Society for Poetry, Literature and Alternative Theatre) open reading and anniversary party. Bring three poems or five minutes of prose. Sign up at 7:30 p.m., readings begin at 8 p.m. Call 521-7311.

WED. 12/19

9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Las Cruces Farmers & Crafts Market, Downtown Main Street. Wide variety of arts and crafts, food, fresh produce, unique fine art. Free. Email fcmarket@las-cruces.org.

7 p.m. Big Band on the Rio Grande Christmas Concert, Good Samaritan Auditorium, 3035 Terrace Drive. The program will include various holiday standards such as "Winter Wonderland," "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" and "Let it Snow." Free. Call 373-2188.

THU. 12/20

7 p.m. The Nutcracker Ballet, Atkinson Recital Hall, 1075 N. Horseshoe Drive on the NMSU campus. Las Cruces Chamber Ballet presents its 29th annual production of the holiday classic. Cost \$19-\$21. Call 527-1893.

8 p.m. Irving Berlin's White Christmas, Las Cruces Community Theatre, 313 N. Main St. The Las Cruces Community Theatre presents its production of the musical version of the classic film. This is the first production of "White Christmas" to ever be produced in New Mexico. Cost \$10 for adults, \$9 for students, seniors and military, \$8 per seat for groups of more than 10 and \$7 for children 6 and younger. Call 523-1200.

FRI. 12/21

1 p.m. "How the Grinch Stole Christmas," Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St. Come to the Rio Grande Theatre for an afternoon of holiday family fun featuring the classic Dr. Seuss adaptation "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" and more. Doors open a half hour before show time. Free. Visit www.riograndetheatre.com.

6:30 to 9:30 p.m. An evening of jazz and blues, Ump 88 Grill, 1338 Picacho Hills Drive. With Jazzman Ross on trumpet, Dr. Jack on guitar and more. Free. Call 647-1455.

7 p.m. Holiday Carols with John Nagem, Amaro Winery, 402 S. Melendres St. Free. Call 527-5310.

7 p.m. The Nutcracker Ballet, Atkinson Recital Hall, 1075 N. Horseshoe Drive on the NMSU campus. Las Cruces Chamber Ballet presents its 29th annual production of the holiday classic. Cost \$19-\$21. Call 527-1893.

7 p.m. "A Christmas Carol," Oñate Performing Arts Center, 5700 Mesa Grande Drive. Return to a classic tale this holiday season with "A Christmas Carol," presented by the Alamo Academy of Ballet and the Las Cruces School of Music and Dance. Cost \$15 adults, \$10 students and children. Call 437-3810.

8 p.m. Irving Berlin's White Christmas, Las Cruces Community Theatre, 313 N. Main St. The Las Cruces Community Theatre presents its production of the musical version of the classic film. This is the first production of "White Christmas" to ever be produced in New Mexico. Cost \$10 for adults, \$9 for students, seniors and military, \$8 per seat for groups of more than 10 and \$7 for children 6 and younger. Call 523-1200.

SAT. 12/22

9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Las Cruces Farmers & Crafts Market, Downtown Main Street. Wide variety of arts and crafts, food, fresh produce, unique fine art. Free. Email fcmarket@las-cruces.org.

10 a.m. to Noon Ornament Classes for Kids, Las Cruces Railroad Museum, 351 N. Mesilla St. Drop by anytime and make your choice of ornaments. Several types of ornaments will be available, including foam picture frames, Pearler beads and wooden trains to paint. Open to all children 6 and older, with parental attendance encouraged. Suggested donation per child \$1. Call 647-4480.

10:30 a.m. Storytellers of Las Cruces, COAS Bookstores, 1101 S. Solano Drive and 317 S. Main St. Louise O'Donnell will be the storyteller at the Downtown location, and Sonya Weiner will be the storyteller at the Solano location. Free. Call 524-8471.

Noon. "Tubachristmas 2012," Downtown, Griggs and Main Streets. A concert of carols with an ensemble of approximately 40 low brass, including tubas and euphonium players from New Mexico State University, the public schools and the community. Call 646-3114.

1p.m. Man-made natural rainbow, Young Park, 1905 E. Nevada Ave. A 600 to 800-foot natural rainbow will be created in the sky over the park, in conjunction with the end of the Mayan calendar. The event serves as a fundraiser for La Piñon Children Crisis Center. Free. Call 373-9566.

1 p.m. "How the Grinch Stole Christmas," Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St. Come to the Rio Grande Theatre for an afternoon of holiday family fun featuring the classic Dr. Seuss adaptation "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" and more. Doors open a half hour before show time. Free. Visit www.riograndetheatre.com.

4 p.m. "White Christmas," Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St. "White Christmas" starring Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye. Doors open a half hour before show time. Cost \$3 adults and \$1 children 12 and younger. Visit www.riograndetheatre.com

7 p.m. The Nutcracker Ballet, Atkinson Recital Hall, 1075 N. Horseshoe Drive on the NMSU campus. Las Cruces Chamber Ballet presents its 29th annual production of the holiday classic. Cost \$19-\$21. Call 527-1893.

7 p.m. "A Christmas Carol," Oñate Performing Arts Center, 5700 Mesa Grande Drive. Return to a classic tale this holiday season with "A Christmas Carol," presented by the Alamo Academy of Ballet and the Las Cruces School of Music and Dance. Cost \$15 adults, \$10 students and children. Call 437-3810.



AtTheMovies

'Death of a Samurai'

'Hara-Kiri' is a harsh and unconvincing film

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

Bah, humbug for this picture, which offers a 12-minute rendition of a young samurai warrior trying to commit ritual harakiri during the first 30 minutes of the picture, using a bamboo sword at a house of warriors because he had tried to ask them for compassion to help a sick woman and child. Or if you find the requisite closing fight of one man (read that ominously as "one man" as the guy in the movie trailers says when introducing a Hollywood action thriller) with another bamboo sword against dozens of extremely cautious samurai warriors convincing, then this movie is for you.

"Hara-Kiri: Death of a Samurai" was originally shot and released in 3-D, which might have added something to the film, but probably not. It is not in 3-D at the Fountain Theatre.

What we do have is a 2-D samurai film with a twist. Told partially in flashback, the film takes place in the 1600s. A young man, Motome, has approached a house of samurai warriors wanting to do an honorable undertaking, due to poverty and no hope and shame upon his family. He wants to commit harakiri (ritualistic suicide).

During those times, of course, this was seen as something of great honor and a whole ceremony was created to attend to such things. The deed is agreed to, the time is selected and the other warriors prepare their courtyard with the required accrements and costumes, including a special one for the one who wants to slice open his own stomach.

However, at the last moment, Motome asks for what amounts to a last cigarette. He asks for a little more time, one day, a few hours, from the feudal lord. It turns out that he doesn't want to kill himself. Rather, he has come to them for help and compassion, a bit of money to use to help the sick and dying woman and child. You can guess the outcome of his request (see paragraph one of this review).

Moving forward, another man, Hanshiro, appears at the warrior's lair (partially shave my head and live with men? Where do I sign up?), the home of the man's feudal lord.

Suspecting another "suicide bluff" by an unemployed samurai, the lord tells the story of Motome, to which Hanshiro



Ebizô Ichikawa stars in "Hara-Kiri: Death of a Samurai," the latest from prolific and controversial director Takashi Miike, now playing at the Fountain Theatre.

adds a missing piece – Motome's real motive in coming to the house of the samurai.

He also offers another missing piece. The feudal lord's three best men are missing and unaccounted for. This is unheard of, and during the telling of his tale, Hanshiro tosses out the three men's top knots. To lose this part of one's hairdo is a shame worse than death we are told.

Action ensues.

"Hara-Kiri: Death of a Samurai" does offer some awesome cinematography, and even a touch of seasonal weather, as snow showers are prevalent throughout. And director Takashi Miike, a most prolific director who makes several films a year, does put an unusual twist into an oft told story, and there is a

touch of melodrama and striking costuming, but the story is unconvincing and harsh.

In the press, Miike notes that "foolishness and sadness" are a couple of the things that attracted him to the film, noting "... even after seeing this film, you feel pity for the tragedy of the main character and feel the sadness that makes tears of compassion and sympathy for somebody else's problems flow from your eyes."

I can't say that I had that feeling myself, but maybe you will. But I doubt it.

"The Christmas you get, you deserve." jeffberg@lascrucesbulletin.com



FILM REVIEW

Hara-Kiri: Death of a Samurai opens Friday, Dec. 14, for a week run at the Fountain Theatre in Mesilla. In Japanese with subtitles, it is two hours long and definitely not for the younger set.

GRADE

D-

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Holiday arts, crafts and gifts at Christmas on Camino Real

Photos by Steve MacIntyre



One-year-old Brandon Salazar shows his excitement as he prepares to take his first carriage ride during Christmas on the Camino Real Saturday, Dec. 8.



Chris Garcia takes part in an art workshop and paints a New Mexico-themed gourd ornament.



A stage coach driven by Pete Paulson was part of the activities at the Camino Real Christmas.



Las Cruces artist Sarah Spina chats with guests at the Nopalito's gallery.



Marjorie Houston holds one of her painted gourds.

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Handcrafted decorative crosses made by Garcia stand on display.

The Music Scene



Oliver Charity, leader of Captain Jookie, will take the stage with his compatriots Friday, Dec. 14, just in time to save the world.

Featured Band: *Captain Jookie*

The anti-Apocalypse rock

Local legends reunite to save the world

By **Zak Hansen**
For the Las Cruces Bulletin

The end of the Mayan calendar, alleged to be Friday, Dec. 21, is nearly upon us, and the tension grows as we sit and wait to see what, if anything, will happen.

There are the believers, hoarding water and canned goods in their closets.

There are the skeptics, laughing off the threat of annihilation as superstition, quietly hoping they're right.

There are the middle-rovers, hesitant to commit one way or the other, lest they be wrong and mocked, or wrong and, well, vaporized.

Then there are those who are doing something to change it.

One Las Cruces band, however, is not content to cower with the believers in fear, waiting for the end in makeshift shelters, nor are they willing to scoff along with the cynics.

On Friday, Dec. 14 – exactly one week before the possible apocalypse – Captain Jookie returns to the stage after more than a

year-and-a-half with one mission: To save the world.

Their flyer says it all: "Captain Jookie will not allow the world to end."

Captain Jookie, a mainstay in the Las Cruces music scene, has been performing with the same members for more than 13 years. Vocalist Oliver Charity is joined by Scott Guthrie on guitar, Will Sadler on bass and Dave Wheeler on drums.

When asked to describe their sound, Charity is hesitant to categorize it.

"It's tough to really say we have a 'sound,'" he said. "We really play anything – from the smoothest jazz to the heaviest metal."

"This is the first band I think any of us have been in where all four members really have a say in what we play, what they'd like to try and the talent to do it well."

Captain Jookie has been laying low as of late, though, given the demands on each member outside of the band.

Wheeler recently recovered from brain surgery, and is doing well, and Sadler works tirelessly as a sound engineer for KW Sound.

Charity and Guthrie, when they aren't playing in Captain Jookie, keep busy and musically sharp performing with The Liars and Bofus, two other Las Cruces rock legends.

Their return to the stage to save the world isn't their first reappearance after a hiatus, though. Captain Jookie last performed one year ago, almost to the date. Before that show, it had been nearly three years.

That all may change soon though, Charity said. "The plan from here on out is to play a show every month, or every six weeks," he said. "We're the kind of guys that, if we need to do it on our own, we procrastinate. But if you give us a date and a place to play, we'll be there to play."

Join us Dec. 14 at Hurricane Alley to see if, in fact, Captain Jookie can rock away Armageddon. If they do, you'll be glad you were there to watch our saviors.

And if they don't achieve their stated goal and attain savior status?

Well, at least you got in on one last great rock show.

Newly Released

Taylor Swift

Album: Red
Current Single: Red
Genre: Country



Mumford & Sons

Album: Babel
Current Single: Babel
Genre: Alternative

Bruno Mars

Album: Unorthodox Jukebox
Current Single: Young Girls
Genre: Pop

One Direction

Album: Take Me Home
Current Single: Kiss You
Genre: Pop

Top 10 singles Tuesday, Dec. 11

- 1** **Diamonds**
Rihanna
- 2** **Locked Out of Heaven**
Bruno Mars
- 3** **Die Young**
Ke\$ha
- 4** **One More Night**
Maroon 5
- 5** **Ho Hey**
The Lumineers
- 6** **Some Nights**
fun.
- 7** **Home**
Phillip Phillips
- 8** **I Cry**
Flo Rida
- 9** **Let Me Love You (Until You Learn to Love Yourself)**
Ne-Yo
- 10** **Gangnam Style**
PSY



Top 5 albums

- 1** **Glee: The Music, The Christmas Album**
Glee Cast
- 2** **Christmas**
Michael Bublé
- 3** **Red**
Taylor Swift
- 4** **The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey Soundtrack**
Howard Shore
- 5** **The Lumineers**
The Lumineers



Source: www.billboard.com and iTunes

Details

Captain Jookie

When
10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14

Where
Hurricane Alley

Cost
\$5

Contact
www.facebook.com/captainjookie

RestaurantGuide

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Starving students seeking subs?

Jimmy John's opens in Las Cruces

By Zak Hansen
Las Cruces Bulletin

Just in time to serve starving scholars late into the night of finals week (and celebrants already finished with those pesky tests), a national sandwich chain has opened its doors just across the street from New Mexico State University.

Jimmy John's opened Tuesday, Dec. 11, in the plaza located at 901 E. University Ave. "We make real fresh, real fast sandwiches," said Chris Lyons, general manager of the first Las Cruces location. "Everything is cut, sliced, prepared and baked in-house. It's a really great product."

Jimmy John's offers 8-inch subs with all the options you'd expect from a sandwich shop, but Jimmy John's uses freshly baked French bread, fresh veggies and meats sliced each and every day in store. I recommend the Vito - genoa salami, provolone, capicola, onion, hot peppers (by request only, so request them), lettuce and tomato, topped with an Italian vinaigrette.

before heading out for a night on the town, Jimmy John's also offers Plain Slims - any of their original subs, minus the veggies and sauces. What really sets Jimmy John's apart from other sandwich spots is its ability, or willingness, to send sandwiches to its customers who can't (or won't) make the trip. "What makes us special is our delivery," Lyons said. "We deliver incredibly fast, and we deliver very late."

Indeed, Jimmy John's stays open far later than any other sandwich spot in town, by several hours. They open their doors at 11 a.m., and don't close until 3 a.m. "We get a lot of late studiers and bar crowd coming though," Lyons said. "It's a real fun, real lively place with a great atmosphere."

Too tired to leave your bed to eat lunch? Jimmy John's is the only place in town that's got you covered - as long as you're in the University Park area. "We are really excited," he said. "In our delivery zone, we have Memorial Medical Center, the whole NMSU campus, the Doña Ana Community College campus, Las Cruces High School and the Las Cruces Convention Center. We have a really nice delivery zone there."

Details

Jimmy John's
Address
901 E. University Ave.
Phone
373-1555
Hours
11 a.m. to 3 a.m.
Contact
www.jimmyjohns.com

underwear, all from the safety and comfort of your own couch. Outside of the area? Looks like you'll have to put on pants and leave the house to enjoy one of these great sandwiches. For now, "We are hoping to grow in the area, in Las Cruces and then on toward El Paso," Lyons said. "That's in the works."

According to Lyons, Jimmy John's is currently the second-fastest-growing national restaurant chain, opening more than 200 locations in the last three years. In operation since 1983, the first Jimmy John's opened in Charleston, Ill., "to add to students' GPA and general dating ability." There are now more than 1,200 Jimmy John's spread across 40 states - and counting. The University Avenue location is the first Jimmy Johns in the region, and only the fourth in the state - three opened in the Albuquerque area last year. If you're in the mood for a sandwich, midday or late-night, look no further than Jimmy John's.



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Zak Hansen
Jimmy John's, a national sandwich chain, opened its first location in southern New Mexico Tuesday, Dec. 11, just across the street from the NMSU campus at 901 E. University Ave.

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Four-legged festivities at Critter Christmas

Photos by Zak Hansen

Dakota, a blue/red heeler mix, gave a ride to Santa and an elf during the third annual Critter Christmas Thursday, Dec. 6, at the Las Cruces Convention Center.



Zac Egan from Better Life Pet Foods gives Mortimer Dudley a Christmas treat.



Pax, a Kuvasz, remains patient as Henry, a Chihuahua, tries to say hello.



Diane Greenholdt and Kathy Lawitz, executive director of the Doña Ana Humane Society



Lexy Townsend and Puggy

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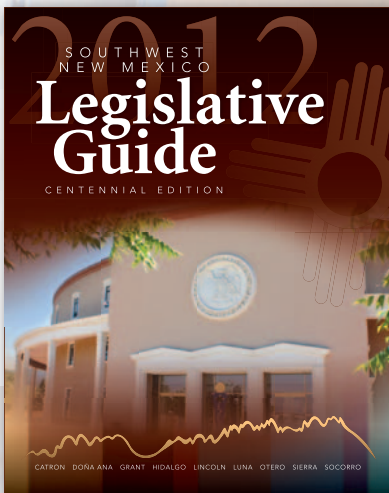


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All proceeds from the event benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwestern New Mexico, a local nonprofit organization dedicated to providing children facing adversity with strong and enduring, professionally supported 1-to-1 relationships that change their lives for the better, forever.

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Television Listings

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Sports News Movies

FRIDAY EVENING		DECEMBER 14, 2012													
		5:00	5:30	6:00	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
PBS	22	News	PBS NewsHour (N)	Business	Need	Wash.	Moyers & Company	Live From Lincoln Center (N) (CC)	World	T. Smiley					
CBS	3	CBS	News	Jeopardy	Wheel	Rudolph, Reindeer	Virginia	The Elf	(:01) Blue Bloods	News	Letterman	Ferguson			
ABC	7	News (N)	ABC	News (N)	Ent	Last Man	Malibu	Shark Tank	(:01) 20/20 (CC)	News (N)	Nightline	Jimmy Kimmel Live			
FOX	8	KFOX News	Big Bang	Big Bang	Kitchen Nightmares	Fringe (N) (CC)	KFOX News	Two Men	30 Rock	Mother	Simpsons				
NBC	9	News (N)	News	News (N)	News	Blake Shelton-Xmas	Take It All (N) (CC)	Dateline NBC (N)	News (N)	Jay Leno	J. Fallon				
CW	14	Ricki Lake	Access	Million.	** "Prancer Returns" (2001, Drama)	TMZ (N)	Baggage	Excused	Rules	Rules	'Til Death				
WGN	15	Funny Home Videos	Mother	Mother	Mother	Mother	WGN News at Nine	Funny Home Videos	Rules	Rules	30 Rock	Scrubs			
ESPN	26	SportCtr	NBA	NBA Basketball	Boston Celtics at Houston Rockets.	NBA Basketball: Grizzlies at Nuggets	SportsCenter (N)	SportsCenter (N)	NBA	NFL Live					
ESPN2	27	NFL Kickoff (N)	College Football: NCAA FCS Division I, First Semifinal	SportsCenter (N)	SportsCenter (N)	NBA	NFL Live								
USA	31	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Burn Notice (CC)	CSI: Crime Scene	CSI: Crime Scene	CSI: Crime Scene					
TNT	32	The Mentalist (CC)	*** "The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring" (2001) (CC)	(:45) ** "The Forbidden Kingdom" (CC)	Tuxedo										
TBS	33	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Payne	Payne	Worse	Worse	*** "The Hangover" (2009) Bradley Cooper.	(:18) ** "Men in Black II"						
COM	35	Daily	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	(:43) *** "The 40-Year-Old Virgin" (2005) (CC)	Demetri Martin.	E. Mirman	** "Jackass 3.5"							
LIFE	39	Secrets, Royal	"Holly's Holiday" (2012) Claire Coffee.	"Undercover Christmas" (2003) (CC)	(:02) "Holly's Holiday" (2012) (CC)										
FOOD	40	Restaurant: Im.	Diners, Drive	Diners	Diners	My. Din	My. Din	Diners	Diners	Diners	My. Din	My. Din			
HGTV	41	Hunt Intl	Hunt Intl	Famous House	Celebrity Homes	Hunters	Hunt Intl	Hunt Intl	Home Strange	Hunters	Hunt Intl				
A&E	43	Duck D.	Duck D.	Duck D.	Duck D.	Duck D.	Duck D.	Duck Dynasty (CC)	Duck D.	Duck D.	Duck D.	Duck D.	Duck D.	Duck D.	Duck D.
HIST	44	American Pickers	American Pickers	American Pickers	American Pickers	American Pickers	American Pickers	How the	How the	American Pickers	American Pickers				
TLC	45	Say Yes	Say Yes	Say Yes	Say Yes	Say Yes	Say Yes	Brides	Brides	Say Yes	Say Yes	Brides	Brides	Say Yes	Say Yes
DISC	47	Gold Rush (CC)	Gold Rush - The	Gold Rush (N) (CC)	Behind the Scenes	Gold Rush (CC)	Behind the Scenes	Gold Rush (CC)	Behind the Scenes	Gold Rush - The					
ANPL	50	Monsters Inside Me	Raised Wild (CC)	Raised Wild (CC)	Raised Wild (CC)	Raised Wild (CC)	Raised Wild (CC)	Raised Wild (CC)	Raised Wild (CC)	Raised Wild (CC)					
FAM	51	Year Without Santa	Santa Claus, Town	*** "Toy Story" (1995) Tim Allen	The 700 Club (CC)	"The Christmas List" (1997) Mimi Rogers.									
DISN	52	Good	Good	Good	Good	Phineas	Good	Dog	Dog	"Disney's A Christmas Carol"	Phineas	Dog	Good		
NICK	54	Peter	Rugrats (In Stereo)	Sponge.	See Dad	Full H'se	Nanny	Nanny	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	George	George	
AMC	57	**** "White Christmas" (1954) Bing Crosby.	(:45) **** "White Christmas" (1954) Bing Crosby. (CC)	** "The Lake House" (2006)											
SYFY	59	Syfy Anniversary	WWE Friday Night SmackDown! (N) (CC)	Haven "Reunion"	Dark	Dark	Haven "Reunion"	"Almighty Thor"							
CNN	62	E. B. OutFront	Anderson Cooper	Piers Morgan	Anderson Cooper	E. B. OutFront	Piers Morgan	Anderson Cooper							
CNBC	63	Report	Trading	Millions	Millions	Crime Inc.	American Greed	Mad Money	Crime Inc.	American Greed					
MSNBC	64	Hardball Matthews	The Ed Show (N)	Rachel Maddow	Lockup Tampa	Lockup Tampa	Lockup Tampa	Lockup Tampa	Lockup Tampa	Lockup Tampa					

SATURDAY MORNING		DECEMBER 15, 2012											
		5:00	5:30	6:00	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30
PBS	22	PBS NewsHour (CC)	Builder	Martha	Thomas	Mr. Rogers	W'dwright	Best of Joy	Fine Art	Quilt	Sewing	Liv'g	
CBS	3	No.1	Paid Prog.	CBS This Morning: Saturday (N) (In Stereo) (CC)	Doodlebop	Doodlebop	Busytown	Busytown	Liberty	Liberty			
ABC	7	Storms	Reporter	Good Morning El Paso	Good Morning America	Good Morning America	Hanna	Ocean	Explore	Rescue			
FOX	8	King	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Defrosting	Eco Co.	Best Gift	House	Yng- Skin	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.
NBC	9	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Today Chef Sandra Lee; Today's weekly	rewind.	Noodle	Pajanimals	Poppy Cat	Justin	LazyTown	Wiggles		
CW	14	Tummy	EasyMeals	Free	In Style	Rescue	Rescue	Spike	P. Rangers	Transform.	Justice	WWE	Dragon
WGN	15	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Matlock (CC)	Matlock (CC)	Law Order: CI	Law Order: CI	Law Order: CI			
ESPN	26	SportsCenter (CC)	SportsCenter (CC)	SportsCenter (CC)	SportsCenter (N) (Live) (CC)	Football							
ESPN2	27	Nation	English Premier League Soccer	First Take (N) (In Stereo) Live (CC)	SportCtr	SportCtr							
USA	31	Defrosting	Cook Safe	Paid Prog.	CleanHome	Burn Notice (CC)	NCIS (In Stereo) (CC)	NCIS "Short Fuse"	NCIS (In Stereo) (CC)				
TNT	32	Law & Order (In Stereo)	Law & Order	Law & Order	Law & Order (In Stereo)	Leverage (CC)	Rizzoli & Isles (CC)	"Road to Perdition"					
TBS	33	Earl	Earl	Jim	There Yet?	Browns	Payne	Payne	Jim	Raymond	Raymond	** "Evan Almighty"	
COM	35	Paid Prog.	Insanity!	Comedy	(:36) *** "Hot Fuzz" (2007) Simon Pegg. (CC)	(:36) * "Mallrats" (1995) Shannen Doherty. (CC)	Beerfest						
LIFE	39	Perfect Bra	Paid Prog.	EasyMeals	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Cindy C	Secrets, Royal	"Deck the Halls" (2005)			
FOOD	40	Barbecue	Guy's, Bite	Be.- Made	Be.- Made	Paula	Not My	Pioneer	Trisha's	Giada	Chopped		
HGTV	41	Bryan	Elbow	Buying and Selling	Property	Property	BathCrash	BathCrash	YardCrash	Kit. Crash	Hse Crash	Hse Crash	
A&E	43	Criminal Minds (CC)	Criminal Minds (CC)	Criminal Minds (CC)	Criminal Minds (CC)	Flip This House (CC)	Flipping Vegas (CC)	Flipping Vegas (N)					
HIST	44	Modern Marvels (CC)	Modern Marvels (CC)	Apocalypse Man (CC)	Decoding the Past	Nostradamus: 500 Years	Later (CC)						
TLC	45	Zumba Fit	Paid Prog.	Jillian	Paid Prog.	Property Ladder (CC)	Property Ladder (CC)	Property Ladder (CC)	Deck Halls				
DISC	47	Zumba Fit	Cook Safe	Patient Ed (CC)	Property	Fast N' Loud	Scot quits.	Fast N' Loud (CC)	Chopper Live: Road to Revenge				
ANPL	50	Hillbilly Handfishin'	Must Love Cats (CC)	Cats 101	Oicat. (CC)	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced				
FAM	51	Dr. Seuss's	Grinch	Drummer	Drum Boy	Nestor	Pinocchio's Christmas	Miser Brothers	1st Snow	Xmas	Frosty's		
DISN	52	Suite/Deck	Suite/Deck	Fish Hooks	Phineas	Little	"Mickey's Twice Upon"	Doc McSt.	Mickey	Never Land	Phineas	Gravity	
NICK	54	Parents	Parents	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	Turtles	Kung Fu	T.U.F.F.	SpongeBob	
AMC	57	Rifleman	Rifleman	*** "Warlock" (1959) Richard Widmark, Henry Fonda. (CC)	(:15) *** "High Plains Drifter" (1973) (CC)								
SYFY	59	Cook Safe	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	DeepClean	Twi. Zone	Twi. Zone	Twi. Zone	** "My Bloody Valentine" (2009, Horror) (CC)	Primal (CC)			
CNN	62	Early Start	Sat. Morn	CNN Saturday Morning (N)	Bottom	CNN Saturday Morning (N)	CNN Newsroom (N)						
CNBC	63	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	3x Faster	Clean	No.1	Cindy C	Medicare	Paid Prog.	New Keurig	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.
MSNBC	64	Weekends-Witt	Up W/Chris Hayes (N)										

SATURDAY AFTERNOON		DECEMBER 15, 2012											
		11:00	11:30	12:00	12:30	1:00	1:30	2:00	2:30	3:00	3:30	4:00	4:30
PBS	22	Hometime	MotorWeek	NMSU	This Old House Hr	P Allen	Garden	Kitchen	Mexico	Mexican	Lawrence Welk		
CBS	3	Liberty	Paid Prog.	College Basketball	Crossroads Classic -- Butler vs. Indiana.	Boxing					Defrosting	Paid Prog.	
ABC	7	Recipe	Food	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Wipeout (CC)	Juice and Lose!	ESPN Sports Saturday (N)					
FOX	8	30 Rock	Paid Prog.	'70s Show	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	** "Chill Factor" (1999) Cuba Gooding Jr. (CC)	*** "Shrek" (2001)					
NBC	9	AAA	Defrosting	Action Sports	From Breckenridge, Colo. (N)	Golf PNC Father/Son Challenge, First Day. (N)	AAA	No.1					
CW	14	Yu-Gi-Oh!	Yu-Gi-Oh!	Animal	Adventures	Mystery	Edgemont	Edgemont	Edgemont	Edgemont	Bloopers	Bloopers	
WGN	15	Law Order: CI	Law Order: CI	Law Order: CI	Law Order: CI	Law Order: CI	Law Order: CI	Law Order: CI	Law Order: CI	Law Order: CI			
ESPN	26	College Football	Gildan New Mexico Bowl -- Arizona vs. Nevada. (N) (Live)	College Football: NCAA Division II, Final	SpoCenter	College Basketball: Crossroads Classic	SportCtr						
ESPN2	27	NCIS "Dead Air" (CC)	NCIS "Cracked" (CC)	NCIS (In Stereo) (CC)	NCIS "Recruited" (CC)	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU						
TNT	32	(10:00) *** "Road to Perdition"	*** "American Gangster" (2007) Denzel Washington. (CC)	*** "The Town" (2010) (CC)									
TBS	33	(10:00) "Evan Almighty"	** "Tommy Boy" (1995) Chris Farley. (CC)	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	King	King				
COM	35	(10:37) ** "Beerfest" (2006) (CC)	(:38) * "Deuce Bigalow: European Gigolo" (CC)	(:39) *** "Beverly Hills Cop" (1984) Eddie Murphy.									
LIFE	39	"Deck the Halls" (2005)	*** "His and Her Christmas" (2005) (CC)	** "A Very Married Christmas" (2004) (CC)	"Holly's Holiday" (2012)								
FOOD	40	Challenge	Restaurant: Impossible	Best Thing	Best Thing	Diners	Diners	Iron Chef America	The Next Iron Chef				
HGTV	41	Love It or List It (CC)	Love It or List It (CC)	Celebrity Holiday	Celebrity Holiday	Celebrity Homes	Celebrity Homes	High Low	Hunt Intl				
A&E	43	Be the Boss (CC)	Be the Boss (CC)	*** "The Shawshank Redemption" (1994, Drama)	Tim Robbins. (CC)	Storage	Storage						
HIST	44	Earth 2100 U.S. experts foresee catastrophes.	Last Days on Earth	Deadliest threats. (CC)	First Apocalypse	Dinosaurs' mass extinction.							
TLC	45	Undercover Boss (CC)	Undercover Boss (CC)	Undercover Boss (CC)	Undercover Boss (CC)	Undercover Boss (CC)	Undercover Boss (CC)	Undercover Boss (CC)	Undercover Boss (CC)				
DISC	47	Revenge	Chopper Live: The Revenge	Amish Mafia (CC)	Amish Mafia (CC)	Moonshiners (CC)	Moonshiners (CC)	Moonshiners (CC)	Moonshiners (CC)				
ANPL	50	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced				
FAM	51	Jack Frost	** "Rudolph and Frosty's Christmas in July"	** "Disney's A Christmas Carol" (2009)	*** "Toy Story"								
DISN	52	Good Luck	Good Luck	Dog	Dog	Wizards	Wizards	Good Luck	Good Luck	Austin	Shake It	Dog	Dog
NICK	54	Power	Parents	Parents	Parents	Kung Fu	Kung Fu	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	Victorious	Victorious	
AMC	57	High Plains	(:45) *** "Miracle" (2004, Drama) Kurt Russell, Patricia Clarkson. (CC)	(:45) **** "Miracle on 34th Street" (1947, Fantasy) (CC)									
SYFY	59	(10:30) *** "Primal" (2010) (CC)	* "The Hills Have Eyes 2" (2007, Horror)	"Zombie Apocalypse" (2011) Ving Rhames. (CC)	The Dead								
CNN	62	Your Money (N)	CNN Newsroom (N)	Gupta	CNN Newsroom (N)	The Situation Room							
CNBC	63	Paid Prog.	Defrosting	Insanity!	Top Chef	Paid Prog.	EZ Guitar	Cook Safe	Cindy C	WEN Hair	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.
MSNBC	64	Weekends-Witt	MSNBC Live (N)	MSNBC Live (N)	MSNBC Live (N)	MSNBC Live (N)	Caught on Camera	Caught on Camera	Caught on Camera	Caught on Camera	Caught on Camera	Caught on Camera	Caught on Camera

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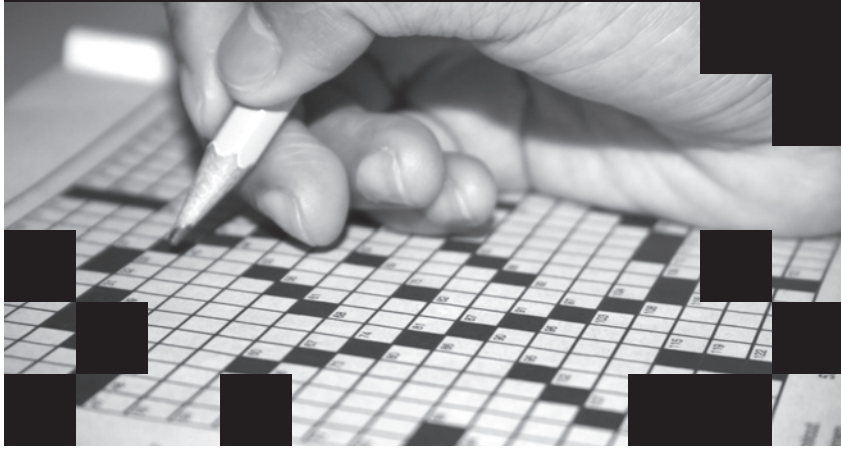
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Word Salsa

Circle these English words and their Spanish equivalents that appear in the grid horizontally, vertically, diagonally and backward. Encierre estas palabras en inglés y sus equivalentes en español que aparecen al revés, horizontal, vertical y diagonalmente.

SOMETHING TO SAY?

ENGLISH
TO ANNOUNCE
TO CONFESS
TO CONFIDE
TO DIVULGE
TO EXPLAIN
TO INFORM
TO NOTIFY
TO OFFER
TO PREACH
TO RELATE
TO SPEAK
TO TEACH

SPANISH
ANUNCIAR
CONFESAR
CONFIAR
DIVULGAR
EXPLICAR
INFORMAR
NOTIFICAR
OFRECER
PREDICAR
RELATAR
HABLAR
ENSEÑAR

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09/29

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

Crossword Puzzles

Diagramless, 21 x 21

Like a regular crossword but with an added challenge. Sleuths must also create the diagram and figure out where the numbers and black squares go.

ACROSS

- 1 Fully conscious
- 6 North Atlantic hazards
- 9 Wedding VIPs
- 12 Exemplar of stiffness
- 15 Flowers
- 18 Earth visitor
- 19 ___ Juan Capistrano
- 22 Mouseketeer Funicello
- 25 Wedding token
- 26 Gang's ground
- 27 Audiobooks personnel
- 28 Pastel red
- 29 Bay window
- 30 Catch in a lie
- 31 Pizzas, e.g.
- 32 Actress Ekberg
- 33 Mimic
- 34 Brits' raincoats
- 35 Cars
- 36 Land of Port-au-Prince
- 39 Antlered grazer
- 40 Korbut and others
- 41 Transmission cells
- 43 Making a mess of
- 46 Male-female separation
- 48 Tracy of "Boys Town"
- 49 Teheran man
- 50 Part of IOU
- 51 Available buyer
- 52 Garbo of "Queen Christina"
- 53 Fit of anger
- 54 Intermediate learning inst.
- 55 Architect Jones
- 56 Gemini half
- 57 Donkey's bray
- 60 Military bigwigs
- 61 Italian car maker
- 62 Waldorf-___ Hotel
- 64 Vow
- 65 Portray in words
- 66 Looking long
- 67 Dolt
- 68 Toy soldier
- 69 Formed drops
- 71 Bearlike
- 72 Referred pain, e.g.
- 77 Adolescent
- 78 Group psyche

DOWN

- 1 DNA part
- 2 Marry
- 3 Lincoln or Burrows
- 4 Beer barrel
- 5 Make a boo-boo
- 6 Mineral supplement
- 7 Yap or kisser
- 8 Kind of panel or power
- 9 Produced offspring
- 10 "Water Lilies" painter
- 11 U-boat detector
- 12 Bane of dogs
- 13 Alda and King
- 14 Cousin of a marten
- 16 Go-between
- 17 Putting pedal to metal
- 19 Hearts and clubs
- 20 Type of code
- 21 Gridiron org.
- 23 Like non-fiction?
- 24 6th sense
- 26 Small groups
- 28 Treat
- 29 At hand
- 31 ___ Hills, IL
- 32 Foretell
- 34 Gibson of "Hamlet"
- 35 Author of "Ragged Dick"
- 36 Coloring agent
- 37 BMW rival
- 38 High dudgeon
- 40 As soon as
- 41 Boss!
- 42 Greeted and escorted
- 44 Coast
- 45 Press coverage
- 46 Maddox and Norman
- 47 Touch tenderly
- 49 Kind of stew
- 52 Tiny pests
- 53 Gershwin song
- 54 Witticism
- 55 Tax-sheltered \$\$
- 56 "___ of Athens"
- 57 Is down with
- 58 Operatic showpieces
- 59 ___ City (Chicago)
- 60 Big constrictor
- 61 Vijay Singh's homeland
- 63 Man in the field
- 65 "Mona ___"
- 68 Crossword pattern
- 70 Sandra of "Gidget"
- 71 Manipulates
- 73 Behold
- 74 Blaster's letters
- 75 Expression of derision
- 76 I problem?

63 ACROSS

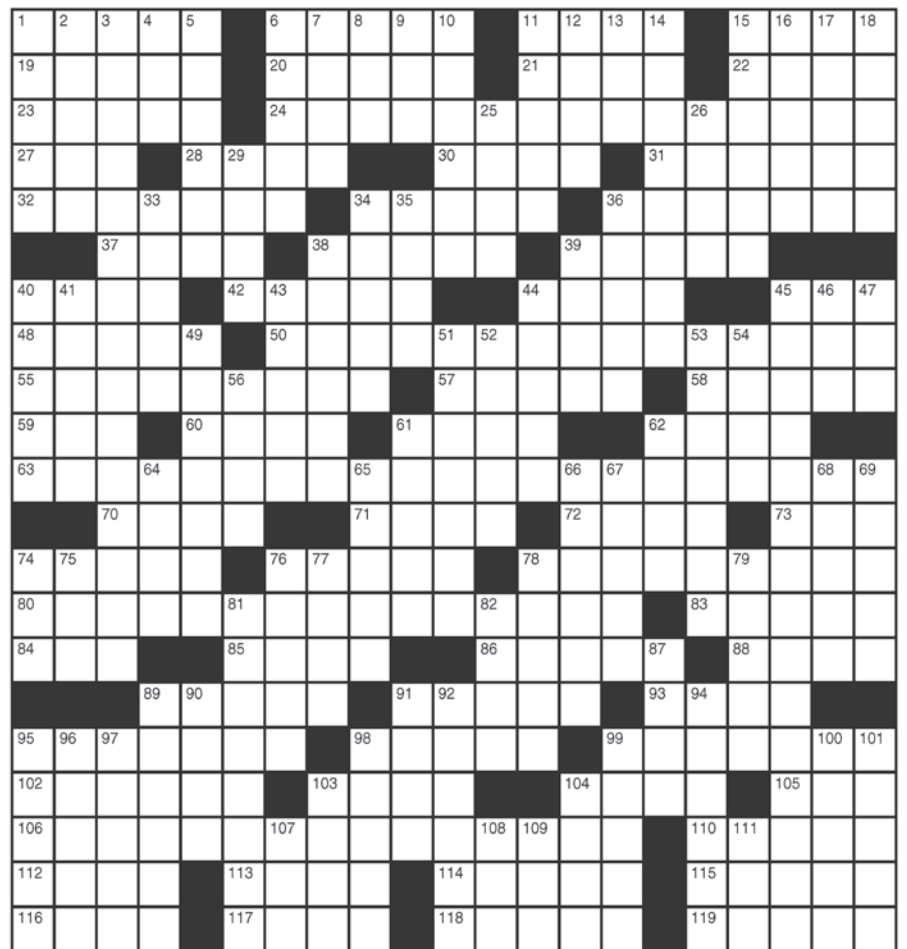
ACROSS

- 1 Behind bars
- 6 Covertly place
- 11 Give way suddenly
- 15 Mustachioed surrealist
- 19 Solo
- 20 Hawaiian veranda
- 21 Pop choice
- 22 Blue flag
- 23 Puts down on the tarmac
- 24 Brando film
- 27 Before of yore
- 28 "The Music Man" setting
- 30 Express longing
- 31 Vin of Hollywood
- 32 Catch phrases
- 34 "Something to Talk About" singer
- 36 Yield
- 37 So that's it!
- 38 Lacy houseplants
- 39 Reno or Jackson
- 40 Flutters
- 42 Actress Hayek
- 44 Pathogen
- 45 Mermaid's milieu
- 48 Guiding philosophy
- 50 MacMurray film
- 55 Merchants
- 57 Thompson and Watson
- 58 Pound part
- 59 College yell
- 60 Taylor of "Mystic Pizza"
- 61 Palindromic address
- 62 Writer Lardner
- 63 Theme of this puzzle
- 70 Spineless
- 71 City south of Moscow
- 72 Axton or Wilhelm
- 73 NIMBY part
- 74 Change gears
- 76 Easygoing behavior pattern
- 78 Stop shooting!
- 80 Holden film
- 83 Frisco griddler
- 84 Tycoon Turner
- 85 Tombstone marshal
- 86 Profound depth
- 88 Saxophonist Getz
- 89 "The Hunting of the ___" (Carroll poem)
- 91 "The Last Supper," e.g.
- 93 Sworn statement
- 95 Old-time lounge lizards
- 98 Record material
- 99 Stadium spot
- 102 Honda model
- 103 Diminutive

- 104 "Scarface" star Paul
- 105 Genetic letters
- 106 Bogart film
- 110 Starring roles
- 112 E-mail confirmation
- 113 ___ Roberts University
- 114 Total reversal
- 115 Saint-Nazaire's river
- 116 Plays for a sucker
- 117 Animal quarters
- 118 Too soon
- 119 Ed who played Lou Grant

DOWN

- 1 "The Alienist" author Carr
- 2 Winglike
- 3 Gable film
- 4 Bring to a halt
- 5 Craving
- 6 Deere products
- 7 Actress Turner
- 8 Syn.'s opposite
- 9 Uh-uh!
- 10 Neckwear accessory
- 11 Barely sufficient
- 12 Written reminder
- 13 Ginger ___
- 14 I ask your forgiveness
- 15 As the crow flies
- 16 Got to one's feet
- 17 Tablet choice
- 18 Weaver's fiber
- 25 Mental ability
- 26 Hunky-dory
- 29 Works of praise
- 33 Or else, in music
- 34 Romulus' twin
- 35 Part of U.A.E.
- 36 Jacks and queens
- 38 Welk's accordionist
- 39 Napoleon victory site
- 40 Oft-quoted Yogi
- 41 First-stringers
- 43 Ms. Rogers St. Johns
- 44 "___ Shelter," Rolling Stones hit
- 45 Kelly film
- 46 & so forth
- 47 Nautical assent
- 49 Of eyelashes
- 51 Not mess with
- 52 Cyberspace letters



- 53 Dampen
- 54 Sisters
- 56 Guitar riff
- 61 Edible mushroom
- 62 Beams
- 64 NFL officials
- 65 Tidy loose ends
- 66 Supermodel Tiegs
- 67 Oodles and gobs
- 68 Chick of jazz
- 69 Shock jock Howard
- 74 Fast flyer, for short
- 75 Dimension of color
- 76 Skiers' transport
- 77 Wars of the Roses side
- 78 Conspiracy group
- 79 Dukes
- 81 Bit of cheeky moisture
- 82 Differ slightly
- 87 In short order
- 89 Piglets
- 90 Soft-toy substance
- 91 Wisc. neighbor
- 92 One and only
- 94 Armpit
- 95 Taiwan Strait island
- 96 Sore points
- 97 Embarrassing display
- 98 Perfume bottles
- 99 Bugs or Easter follower
- 100 Agassi of tennis
- 101 Stun gun
- 103 Thom of shoe stores
- 104 Blackbird
- 107 Anger
- 108 Actress Hagen
- 109 Continental abbr.
- 111 Dawn goddess

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

Word Salsa

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

Diagramless

BAJA TRON ISAAC BOBS
DIVA COIFFING MORAL
OIL ANTEROOM FONDLE
SAO DISASTER LOUISE
OLGA CURTEST UNSNAP
SLITS PER AMY
YETIS DISCOVERERS
SILKY PHONOLOGY
CLICK EDITING
LAPLACE
RIVETED EIGHT
FILIPINOS NOAHS
TABLETENNIS OZAWA
TON MAC EWERS
ONTAPE REMOVES SAGE
LEASER ATALANTA RAT
EASER PARENTAL SAT
DRIER LIONELS OBEY
OMAR SNARE FLEE
FEST

Fruit No More

AMBROSE TOMEI STRAFED
MARTNER ILEAC CRULLER
PLANE GEOMETRY RESPIRE
LONGS LUIGI DUBS GIG
ENDS LORD ENROBE SHES
REY PUN ORTON KAAAT
WINGTIP SHOES STOLE
SKILLING ADE SEA SOFIA
ANNLEE RAREEST BEARSUP
HOCKEY ATHEEL COMMIT
LBJ PILOTLIGHTS AES
EATERY TETRAS BSIDE
POTHERB CARTER METRIC
ASPEN ASA EER CRISES
MURRE GLIDERROCKER
INTL ANILS AAA DOS
ARNE ESSENE ARMY DUST
PUT BATH MEROE AORTA
ANEMONE FLEXIBLEFLYER
CORONER AINGE ONATEAR
ENSNARE YETIS TIARSIALS

CRYPTOGRAM

R QOYE VOYQDPZ FDCRV IOKS TRQWVL
STO CRARUYO GOOMWVL ZTO FRZ R
AMDAI UOARPZO ZTO GOMS ZD FDPVB PK

RMM BRE.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

It's a pity pistachios and almonds often fight so much. Apparently, their goal is to drive everyone nuts.



At The Movies

The twelve flicks of Christmas

These are the new Yuletide classics

By Zak Hansen
Las Cruces Bulletin

There's no disputing the merits of classics like "Holiday Inn," "Miracle on 34th Street" and "It's a Wonderful Life," but those have had the spotlight long enough – it's time to hand things off to the new guard.

Let's face it: If you've seen any one of literally hundreds of sitcoms over the last, say, five decades, you're already familiar with the narrative of "It's A Wonderful Life." So ingrained is it in the cultural consciousness, everyone has had their take on it, from Barney to Beavis and Butthead.

This list covers the best of the last three decades, the holiday flicks that generations X and Y either grew up with, or learned to love later in life. The films here run the gamut from family fun to decidedly darker fare, just in case your Christmas is a bit too jolly.

12. Rare Exports (2010)

This Finnish fantasy export watches like a cross between a Santa origin story and John Carpenter's "The Thing."

A group of reindeer herders are displaced when excavations begin on a mountain to open the "largest burial mound in the world," but the grave's occupants are still alive.

Locals are killed, reindeer are slain and supplies and children begin to disappear, as the supernatural being ignores rewarding the virtuous in favor of punishing the naughty.

A funny and surprisingly spooky holiday horror, definitely not for the kiddos.

11. Love, Actually (2003)

Witness the loves, losses and lives of eight couples in London in the month leading up to Christmas. Some are falling in love; some are falling out. Some love the right people and don't know it; others love the wrong people and, well, don't know it.

A huge cast and a number of stories to keep track of, "Love, Actually" is an ambitious, if slightly sappy, rom-com for the holidays.

10. Bad Santa (2003)

Willie T. Stokes, played by Billy Bob Thornton, is a miserable, drunken and lecherous conman who works holiday seasons as a mall Santa, robbing department stores after-hours and spending the remaining months of the year a boozy wreck in Miami Beach.

That changes (sort of) as Willie befriends a troubled kid, albeit hesitantly, while the security boss of their Phoenix target figures out their plot.

Crass, offensive and – occasionally – heartwarming, this is a hilarious holiday treat for the "grown-ups" alone.

9. Elf (2003)

Buddy the Elf, an orphan raised at the North Pole, is sent to find his true identity after his hugely disproportionate size once

again wreaks havoc at Santa's shop. Upon arriving to New York, Buddy discovers his father is on the naughty list.

Watching Buddy acclimate to his new surroundings in the big, bad city is great, and Will Farrell's charming but witless man-child schtick has never been funnier.

8. Gremlins (1984)

I swear, it counts.

In this 1984 horror/holiday/comedy, a boy receives a Mogwai, a mysterious (and creepy/cute) new pet for Christmas. There's only three rules – no water, no food after midnight and no bright light. Guess what? He breaks them almost immediately, unleashing holiday havoc in the form of these mischievous little monsters.

This one was hugely popular upon its release, and really holds up after all these years. At the time considered too scary for many kids, "Gremlins" seems positively tame by today's standards.

7. Die Hard (1988)

"Now I have a machine gun. Ho ho ho."

Bruce Willis, who rocketed into action superstardom after this 1988 powerhouse, stars as John MacLane, an NYPD cop who inadvertently finds himself in the middle of a hostage situation during his wife's company Christmas party in Los Angeles. Alan Rickman is great as German terrorist Hans Gruber.

There are enough spills, thrills and kills in this one to satisfy action-hounds, and more bad one-liners than you can shake a pine tree branch at. Yippee-ki-yay ...

6. The Muppet Christmas Carol (1992)

Under the direction of Brian Henson, son of puppeteer and Muppets-creator Jim Henson, is a comedy/musical adaptation of Charles Dickens' classic Christmas tale. All of your favorite Muppets make an appearance, Gonzo is "a blue, furry Charles Dickens who hangs out with a rat" and Michael Caine gives a turn as the skinflint Scrooge.

Also, Statler and Waldorf, everyone's favorite balcony haters, make an appearance as the ghosts Marley: "It's good to be heckling again ... It's good to be doing anything again."

5. Scrooged (1988)

Another retelling of Dickens' classic story, "Scrooged" stars Bill Murray as Frank Cross, ultra-cynical television executive at IBC networks.

When Cross gives the green light to a live broadcast of "A Christmas Carol," his own life starts to look a little too much like the story they're telling.

Murray is at his acerbic best – "I get it. You're here to show me my past, and I'm supposed to get all dully-eyed and mushy. Well, forget it, pal, you got the wrong guy!"

4. Home Alone (1990)

"Keep the change, you filthy animal ..."

The movie that made Macaulay Culkin a household name, "Home Alone" still stands as the highest-grossing live-action comedy of all time.

Culkin plays Kevin McCallister, an 8-year-old boy who wishes his overbearing family would disappear for Christmas – and they



seem to, when they leave for vacation and he is ... well, you get the idea.

Kevin spends his vacation defending the home from bumbling burglars in hilarious, and quite frankly, brutal ways. If you were born in the '80s, you know how big a deal this movie was to you.

3. The Nightmare Before Christmas (1993)

Certainly the only entry on this list that doubles as a great Halloween movie.

Directed by Harry Selick and co-written by Tim Burton, "The Nightmare Before Christmas" follows Jack Skellington, pumpkin king of Halloweentown, finds Christmas Town and attempts to bring it to his citizens – who can't quite get the hang of it.

Even two decades later, "Nightmare's" stop-motion animation is breathtaking and its songs (scored by Danny Elfman) are as memorable as the first time. A timeless spooky twist on the Christmas season.

2. National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (1989)

The epitome of the dysfunctional family Christmas, join the Griswolds as they cope with feuding families, cheap bosses, bumpkin cousins, yuppie neighbors, uncooperative Christmas lights and a rampaging squirrel. In the last two decades, this one's become a classic, setting the ground for countless imitators.

The best moment comes with Clark Griswold's expletive-laden speech to his family. "We're gonna press on, and we're gonna have the hap, hap, happiest Christmas since Bing Crosby tap-danced with Danny (...) Kaye."

1. A Christmas Story (1983)

The mother of all Christmas movies. Set in the 1940s, little Ralphie Parker only wants one thing for Christmas: an official Red Ryder carbine-action, 200-shot range model air rifle.

First, though, he has to convince his parents, teachers and even Santa that he won't blind himself with the toy.

One of the first films to honestly portray the best and worst aspects of a less-than-perfect family holiday, "A Christmas Story" has it all: heart, humor and humility, and never treads into sickly sweet territory.

If you haven't seen this movie, what happened? Must've shot your eye out.

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		TAKEN 2 DAILY 5:05 7:30 10:00 SAT-SUN 2:40 (PG13)		PARANORMAL ACTIVITY 4 DAILY 4:45 7:15 9:50 SAT-SUN 2:20 (R)		SINISTER DAILY 4:40 7:20 10:00 SAT-SUN 2:00 (R)	
		END OF WATCH DAILY 7:25 10:00 (PG13)		BRAVE 4:45 SAT-SUN 2:20 (PG)			



AtTheMovies

Picking the Flicks



Movie information from www.rottentomatoes.com. Thumbs-up based on a 5-point scale.

Skyfall

Rated: PG-13

Plot Overview: James Bond returns to investigate an attack on MI6 by former operative Raoul Silva, but this time the stakes are personal.

Starring: Daniel Craig, Javier Bardem

Director: Sam Mendes



Life of Pi

Rated: PG

Plot Overview: A young man survives a sea disaster and enters into an unexpected epic journey with the only other survivor, a Bengal tiger.

Starring: Suraj Sharma, Irfan Khan

Director: Ang Lee



Taken 2

Rated: PG-13

Plot Overview: In Istanbul, retired CIA operative Bryan Mills and his wife are taken hostage by the father of a kidnapper Mills killed while rescuing his daughter.

Starring: Liam Neeson, Famke Janssen

Director: Olivier Megaton



End of Watch

Rated: R

Plot Overview: Two young officers are marked for death after confiscating a small cache of money and firearms from the members of a notorious cartel.

Starring: Jake Gyllenhaal, Michael Peña

Director: David Ayer



Wreck-It Ralph

Rated: PG

Plot Overview: Ralph is a video game villain who turns his back on being the "bad guy" and tries to become a hero.

Starring: John C. Reilly, Jack McBrayer

Director: Rich Moore



Rise of the Guardians

Rated: PG

Plot Overview: The Nightmare King threatens to cover the world in darkness, so the Guardians join together with Jack Frost to stop him.

Starring: Jude Law, Hugh Jackman

Director: Peter Ramsey



Lincoln

Rated: PG-13

Plot Overview: "Lincoln" depicts the president's last months in office as he attempts to end the Civil War and reunite the country.

Starring: Daniel Day Lewis, Tommy Lee Jones

Director: Steven Spielberg



Red Dawn

Rated: PG-13

Plot Overview: When Spokane, Wash., is invaded by a foreign army, a group of young people band together to defend their hometown.

Starring: Chris Hemsworth, Josh Peck

Director: Dan Bradley



Killing Them Softly

Rated: R

Plot Overview: Three guys rob a Mob card game, wrecking the local criminal economy, and are tracked down by a brutal enforcer.

Starring: Brad Pitt, Ray Liotta, James Gandolfini

Director: Andrew Dominik



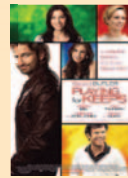
Playing for Keeps

Rated: PG-13

Plot Overview: A romantic comedy about a down-on-his-luck soccer star who comes home to pick up the pieces of his former life.

Starring: Gerard Butler, Jessica Biel

Director: Gabriele Muccino



Breaking Dawn II

Rated: PG-13

Plot Overview: The final chapter in the wildly successful Twilight Saga follows Bella as she begins her life as a vampire and a mother, and an ancient clan declares war on the Cullens.

Starring: Robert Pattison, Kristen Stewart

Director: Bill Condon



Argo

Rated: R

Plot Overview: As the Iranian revolution reaches a boiling point, a CIA "exfiltration" specialist concocts a risky plan to free six Americans.

Starring: Ben Affleck, Bryan Cranston

Director: Ben Affleck



Brave

Rated: PG

Plot Overview: Determined to make her own path in life, Princess Merida defies a custom that brings chaos to her kingdom.

Starring the voices of: Kelly Macdonald, Billy Connolly

Director: Mark Andrews



Sinister

Rated: R

Plot Overview: Found footage helps a true-crime novelist realize how and why a family was murdered in his new home, though his discoveries put his entire family in the path of a supernatural entity.

Starring: Ethan Hawke, Juliet Rylance

Director: Scott Derrickson



Paranormal Activity 4

Rated: R

Plot Overview: A family witnesses strange and terrifying events when a mysterious woman and child move in down the street.

Starring: Katie Featherston, Brady Allen

Directors: Henry Joos, Ariel Schulman



The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey

Rated: PG-13

Plot Overview: Bilbo Baggins is sent on a quest by Gandalf the Grey to retake the Dwarf Kingdom of Erebor, long under the control of the dragon Smaug.

Starring: Ian McKellen, Martin Freeman **Director:** Peter Jackson

OPENS FRIDAY, DEC. 14



New this week on DVD

Tuesday, Dec. 18

Pitch Perfect

Rated: PG-13

Genre: Comedy, Musical

Starring: Anna Kendrick, Brittany Snow

Director: Jason Moore

Premium Rush

Rated: PG-13

Genre: Action

Starring: Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Michael Shannon

Director: David Koepp

Resident Evil: Retribution

Rated: R

Genre: Science Fiction

Starring: Milla Jovovich, Michelle Rodriguez

Director: Paul W.S. Anderson

Total Recall

Rated: PG-13

Genre: Science Fiction

Starring: Colin Farrell, Kate Beckinsale

Director: Len Wiseman

Top Grossing Dec. 7-9

- 1 **Skyfall** (Week No. 5) **\$11,000,000**
- 2 **Rise of the Guardians** (Week No. 3) **\$10,540,000**
- 3 **The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part II** (Week No. 4) **\$9,200,000**
- 4 **Lincoln** (Week No. 5) **\$9,115,000**
- 5 **Life of Pi** (Week No. 3) **\$8,300,000**
- 6 **Playing for Keeps** (Week No. 1) **\$6,000,000**
- 7 **Wreck-It Ralph** (Week No. 6) **\$4,904,000**
- 8 **Red Dawn** (Week No. 3) **\$4,261,000**
- 9 **Flight** (Week No. 6) **\$3,130,000**
- 10 **Killing Them Softly** (Week No. 2) **\$2,748,000**

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How does one really know?



Bob Nosbisch
Getting the Word Out

A major decision by Dave and Jaki McCollum this year has prompted some questions in the minds of a few of my friends.

They have asked me, "How does a person really know when it's time to retire?"

Another question that has come up is, "If you meet more retired people now than in past years, is there a reason for this crossing of paths or is it mere coincidence?"

I really don't have the answer to either question, but I also find myself reflecting more on these questions now than in past years.

Friday, Dec. 7, I saw retired New Mexico State University government professor James Brooks on the NMSU campus. He checks his mail in the morning and so do I, so it was not unusual to run into him. Brooks had drilled constitutional law into my head a few decades ago and he was one of my favorite professors.

I asked him on Friday how he knew it was time to retire. He said he divided his life by the number 26. For the first 26 years of his life, he was in school, which culminated in the earning of his doctorate. For the next 26 years, he taught at various institutions of higher learning in Tennessee, Missouri and New Mexico. So, he knew that at age 52, it would be time to do something else with his life and he has done exactly that.

Retirement has offered him the opportunity to travel more, take more hikes in the desert and go on more bicycling trips. Brooks said he knew of several colleagues who stayed in their jobs "just a little while longer" and when that little while ended, they would stay "just a little while longer" until some of them suffered health problems and were not able to fully enjoy retirement.

Saturday, Dec. 8, my wife and I saw Jim and Elaine McKinney, two friends with whom we and several other Las Cruces had visited Nienburg, Germany, in 1997 as part of the Las Cruces-Nienburg Sister Cities organization. I knew Jim had retired some years ago from NMSU and I learned Saturday night that Elaine had retired some years ago, too.

We had not seen the McKinneys for several years, so we updated each other on our families, how our children (now young adults) were doing, etc.

See **Retirement** on page D4

INSIDE

Holiday stress

Staying calm in the chaos.....D2

Science professor honored

Neuroscience research helped.....D4

Menorah lighting

Marking the start of ChanukahD8

Lending Jardín a hand

Finding the best way to help the children

By **Lorena Sanchez**
Las Cruces Bulletin

Jardín de los Niños has always been a staple during the holidays – helping to give back to children and families in need.

Jardín offers 35 different services to children and families including therapeutic child care services, specialized care for developmental delays, early learning opportunities, experiential learning opportunities, comprehensive family services, family advocacy, promoting literacy, after school services, transportation and more.

"We have a five star child care program – the highest level – which speaks to the quality of the services," said Director Shirley Jaquez. "We offer therapeutic and comprehensive services to homeless or near-homeless children and their families."

Sisters Anna Waldschmidt and Beth Daddio founded the organization in 1994 and began offering services a year later out of Peace Lutheran Church.

As Jardín became filled to capacity, it became apparent these types of services were desperately needed in the community.

A capital campaign for a new building was started and in 2001 Jardín moved into its current location on 999 W. Amador Ave.

Services are provided to children from 6 weeks to 10 years old.

"The number of homeless children has increased," Jaquez said. "Homeless children are getting younger and younger. The economic downturn has impacted (families) greatly. It's a challenge to provide services to all the children that need it."



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Lorena Sanchez

Artist Francisco Romero's mural on a wall in the lobby of Jardín de los Niños acts as the background for the Plant a Seed, Help a Child Grow campaign. The metal tree is a piece of art designed by Craig VanDomelan, which will display the names of those who donate \$500 to Jardín beginning in January 2013. This is just one way the public can help the organization.

There are even waiting lists at times for those in need of services. From 2011 to 2012, the organization provided services to 1,285 children and 622 families.

"There is no set time limit on how long a family can stay here," Jaquez said. "Families are provided with case management and they set goals. Once those goals are accomplished, they move on."

The purpose is to allow families to work

toward improving their circumstances to offer their children a stable and safe environment.

"Our children are at higher risk for abuse and neglect, and poverty and crisis are part of the cause," Jaquez said.

Jardín is calling on the community's generosity this holiday season and into 2013 to provide much needed holiday spirit to the families.

See **Jardín** on page D4

Be a Santa to a Senior grows

750 seniors in need this holiday season

By **Lorena Sanchez**
Las Cruces Bulletin

Home Instead Senior Care is continuing its holiday tradition of Be a Santa to a Senior, a program meant to bring holiday joy to seniors in the community living alone or in poverty.

"It's a program we started eight years ago," said Ariel Kannady, Be a Santa to a Senior and Home Instead client care coordinator. "We give gifts to seniors in need, low-income seniors or those who are alone for the holidays."

Sadly, in the Mesilla Valley, demand for this service is high. This year, 750 seniors are in need of a gift, 100 more than last year.

"Seniors are a big part of this community, they have so much to offer," Kannady said. "Normally, the children get a lot of attention (during the holidays), but we also need to recognize the seniors in our community."

Kannady took over the program four years ago.

"Ariel (Kannady) quickly developed a passion for it," said Jan Wimsatt, franchise owner. "She's helped everyone stay sane, calm and collected."

Wimsatt said the program is supported nationally by Home Instead. With help from local



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Lorena Sanchez

Joel DuBois, 11, and Ethan Neeley, 10 design Christmas gift bags for the Be a Santa to a Senior program. Gifts received for the program will be placed in gift bags designed by students from Desert Hill Elementary and delivered to area seniors living alone or in poverty.

organizations and agencies that work with and help seniors who are in need, the program is able to accumulate a list of individuals in the community who need some extra attention.

"We have 750 names, but there's probably

twice that amount of elderly people in our community who are overlooked," Wimsatt said. "These are men and women who used to have family traditions and gatherings."

See **Santa** on page D4

Coping with a stressful holiday season

Flexibility and simplicity are key to staying relaxed

By **Lorena Sanchez**
Las Cruces Bulletin

It's inevitable; with the holidays comes stress.

It's not enough to stick to an everyday work and home routine, but adding the extra expense of shopping, crowds and other holiday engagements can take a lot out of someone.

"Stress can have multiple negative affects," said Dr. Eugene Sun, chief medical officer at Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Mexico. "It can inhibit the efficiency of sleep, decrease appetite, cause anxiety and raise cholesterol. An increase in stress hormone levels, epinephrine – the type the body naturally makes."

There tends to be an increase in stress during the holiday season, which Sun attributes to a number of factors.

"Our lives are busy as is," he said. "The holidays are a time to celebrate and spend time with family and that is imposed on our busy schedule. It can also be a time when families are apart, 'the holiday blues.'"

The best way to deal is to prioritize and simplify, Sun said, which can help organize the chaos of the season.

"It's OK to pick your top five (holiday gatherings) you get invited to (to attend)," Sun said. "Simplify. People get caught up in the hustle and bustle. Take 15 minutes (for yourself) to go for a walk."

Allowing time by oneself, especially during the holidays, is helpful in decompressing.

Prioritizing also means allowing for some indulgence.

"I think the holidays are a special time, where we do it special foods," Sun said. "Take it in balance and moderation. And make sure you're exercising."

With an abundance of things to do, it's understandable that some things might be pushed, but it doesn't have to disappear completely.

"It can be as simple as walking three or four times a week, or

just enjoying some quiet time," Sun said.

Food is good in moderation, but it shouldn't be used to deal with stress.

"Don't use it as a comfort," Sun said. "Keep the mind and body active without over stimulating it."

Sun suggests what he enjoys doing with his own family, playing games.

Ultimately, coping with the stress of the holidays comes down to being flexible, whether it's with your exercise regime, diet or time.

"Having that flexibility is key," Sun said. "It has to be balanced. Habits are great."

Schedules allow you to set time aside to do what you need to for yourself, but don't stress if you can't make it to the gym for a day or two, (or miss something on your schedule).

"It's such a great time of year. It's my favorite time of year because I get a bit of extra time to spend with family. Focus on that time with your loved ones, don't stress too much."

The Mayo Clinic offers some additional tips for coping with stress during the holidays:

- **Acknowledge your feelings.** If someone close to you has recently died or you can't be with loved ones, realize that it's normal to feel sadness and grief. It's OK to take time to cry or express your feelings. You can't force yourself to be happy just because it's the holiday season.
- **Reach out.** If you feel lonely or isolated, seek out community, religious or other social events. They can offer support and companionship. Volunteering your time to help others also is a good way to lift your spirits and broaden your friendships.
- **Be realistic.** The holidays don't have to be perfect or just like last year. As families change and grow, traditions and rituals often change as well. Choose a few to hold on to, and be open to creating new ones. For example, if your adult children can't

come to your house, find new ways to celebrate together, such as sharing pictures, emails or videos.

- **Set aside differences.** Try to accept family members and friends as they are, even if they don't live up to all of your expectations. Set aside grievances until a more appropriate time for discussion. And be understanding if others get upset or distressed when something goes awry. Chances are they're feeling the effects of holiday stress and depression, too.
- **Stick to a budget.** Before you go gift and food shopping, decide how much money you can afford to spend. Then stick to your budget. Don't try to buy happiness with an avalanche of gifts. Try these alternatives: Donate to a charity in someone's name, give homemade gifts or start a family gift exchange.
- **Plan ahead.** Set aside specific days for shopping, baking, visiting friends and other activities. Plan your menus and then make your shopping list. That'll help prevent last-minute scrambling to buy forgotten ingredients. And make sure to line up help for party prep and cleanup.
- **Learn to say no.** Saying yes when you should say no can leave you feeling resentful and overwhelmed. Friends and colleagues will understand if you can't participate in every project or activity. If it's not possible to say no when your boss asks you to work overtime, try to remove something else from your agenda to make up for the lost time.
- **Take a breather.** Make some time for yourself. Spending just 15 minutes alone, without distractions, may refresh you enough to handle everything you need to do. Take a walk at night and stargaze. Listen to soothing music. Find something that reduces stress by clearing your mind, slowing your breathing and restoring inner calm.
- **Seek professional help if you need it.** Despite your best efforts, you may find yourself feeling persistently sad or anxious, plagued by physical complaints, unable to sleep, irritable and hopeless, and unable to face routine chores. If these feelings last for a while, talk to your doctor or a mental health professional.

Seven ways to a healthy home

Make wellness a priority

During the winter months, it's important to take extra care of your home, your family and especially yourself.

In addition to taking steps to prevent cold and flu viruses that are common at this time of year, you should also pause to relax and recharge, if only for a few minutes each day.

There are a number of simple, yet impactful ways to keep the entire household in good health.

Pencil in cleaning

Routine household cleaning keeps clutter – and germs – at



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bay. Corral loose items into decorative bins and baskets, then use disinfecting wipes on common high-touch areas such as faucets, door knobs and light switches to reduce the spread of viruses and bacteria. Be sure to dust regularly, as dust particles often contain pet dander, chemicals or other irritants that have the potential to aggravate allergies. If you have any sensitivity to cleaning products, try a natural solution of equal parts water and distilled white vinegar to clean everything from windows to appliances.

The power of a shower

Installing a new shower head can go a long way in improving your frame-of-mind, whether you use your shower to awaken your senses on a cold winter morning or relax at the end of a long day.

For the dogs

Pets are extensions of our families and should be treated as such – even when it comes to bathing. These four-legged friends have the tendency to bring many allergens into the home. To minimize this problem, dogs should be bathed regularly and wiped down with a damp cloth when they come in from outside.

Sweeping surprise

It turns out that the machines we rely on to clean our floors and furniture may actually be making them dirtier. A recent study by researchers from Queensland University of Technology in Brisbane, Australia found that many vacuums – especially older models – actually suspend harmful allergen particles in

the air, increasing our exposure to them. If you have an older vacuum, consider upgrading to a new one with a HEPA (High-Efficiency-Particulate-Air) filter, which releases less dirt and bacteria into the air than a standard model. Regardless of the age, clean your vacuum regularly to ensure a healthier sweep.

Door etiquette

Dirt and pollen are often brought into a house on the shoes of guests and family members. Adding a door mat on both sides of a door and having everyone promptly remove their shoes upon entering can significantly cut back on what is being tracked inside. The Carpet and Rug Institute estimates that up to 80 percent of dirt and allergens can be caught with a washable door mat.

Air it out

One area many homeowners might not consider when it comes to a healthier home is the mattress. Although changing your sheets weekly is an important ritual, delay putting on clean linens to allow time for mite-friendly moisture to evaporate. Now you'll have a clean mattress to go along with your clean sheets.

Winter workouts

The perfect prevention for winter illness is exercise. According to Neil Schachter, a professor of pulmonary and critical care at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, any kind of moderate daily exercise can improve lung and immune function by enhancing the ability of virus. If you can't get outdoors for a daily walk during the colder months, consider purchasing a treadmill or stationary bike, beef up your workout video library or pick up an active game.

December is _____ Month

International AIDS Awareness • National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention (3D) • Safe Toys and Gifts

F.Y.I.

AIDS stands for Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome. AIDS is not something you inherit from your parents. You acquire AIDS after birth. The term "immuno" refers to the body's immune system, which includes all the organs and cells that work to fight off infection or disease. AIDS occurs when your immune system is "deficient," or isn't working the way it should. It is a syndrome that is a collection of symptoms and signs of disease. AIDS is a syndrome, rather than a

single disease, because it is a complex illness with a wide range of complications and symptoms. Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome is the final stage of HIV infection. People at this stage of HIV disease have badly damaged immune systems, which put them at risk for opportunistic infections (OIs). AIDS is diagnosed when one or more specific OIs, certain cancers or a very low number of CD4 cells are present. Someone who has AIDS will require medical intervention and treatment to prevent death.

Sources: www.nationalwellness.org, <http://healthfinder.gov>, www.aids.gov

Healthy Happenings



TOPS MEETING CHAPTER 381

Take Off Pounds Sensibly Chapter 381 is open to new members of all ages at its Thursday morning meetings, which start with a private weigh-in from 10 to 10:30 a.m. Weigh-ins are followed by group discussions of weight loss, dietary help and nutrition. The group meets at Trails West Senior Community Clubhouse, 1450 Avenida de Mesilla, in the main room.

For more information, call 523-6240.

TOPS MEETING CHAPTER 219

Take Off Pounds Sensibly Chapter 219 meets from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Thursdays. This support group assists members in achieving and maintaining healthy weight loss goals.

For location information, call Doris Fields at 524-7461.

ART OF RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP

Art of Recovery, a support group for adults in recovery from mental illness, meets from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays at the Bridge, 2511 Chaparral St.

The group matches those in need of support with volunteers to help build bonds, share experiences and create arts and crafts to sell in a supportive environment.

For more information, call Kathy or David at 522-6404 or email bridge@nmsu.edu.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS

Overeaters Anonymous is a 12-step, spiritual program for those with a desire to stop eating compulsively. There are no fees. The program meets at 7 p.m. Mondays at Unity of Las Cruces, 125 Wyatt Drive. Enter

through the back door.

Overeaters Anonymous is also offered at noon each Wednesday at St. James Episcopal Church, 105 Saint James St. For more information, call Wayne at 647-5684.

GLBTQ CENTER OFFERS SUPPORT

The Las Cruces GLBTQ Center, 1210 N. Main St., provides a variety of groups and services for Las Cruces' gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning community.

For more information, call 635-4902, email info@newmexicoglbtqcenters.org or visit www.newmexicoglbtqcenters.org.

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. The facilitator is Dolores Hendricks. For more information, call 528-3000.

HIV SUPPORT GROUP

A Las Cruces HIV Support Group meets from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays at the Las Cruces GLBTQ Center, 1210 N. Main St. The group offers advocacy and support for those infected with or affected by the HIV virus, and focuses on the rebuilding of community, outreach, education, self-advocacy and wellness. For more information, call Seth at 621-0681.

BRAIN INJURY GROUP

The Brain Injury Group meets from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. each Friday at the Mesilla Valley Public Housing

Authority, 926 S. San Pedro St. Each meeting features games, movies, artwork, music, books, puzzles, coffee and conversation.

For more information, call Dolores Garcia at 805-1301.

NEEDLE EXCHANGE

The Families & Youth Inc. Needle Exchange Program, located at 1320 S. Solano Drive, seeks to reduce HIV and hepatitis C by decreasing the circulation of unclean syringes and helps drug users overcome addiction by providing information on available drug-treatment services.

The office is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. The service is confidential and no appointments are needed.

For more information, call Stefano at 556-1549.

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.

T'AI CHI CHIH AT MOUNTAINVIEW

MountainView Regional Medical Center, 4311 E. Lohman Ave., offers T'ai Chi Chih sessions taught by Rose J. Alvarez-Diosdado from 9 to 10 a.m. Mondays and Tuesdays, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Mondays and from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. Tuesdays.

Sessions are taught in the Women's Resource Room, and are free to Senior Circle and

Healthy Women members, or a \$2 donation is requested.

Free classes are also available to Senior Circle and Healthy Women members from 11 a.m. to noon Wednesdays at Encantada Park, 1000 Coyote Trail.

For more information, call 505-359-5256 or 312-8320, or email rositaad4@gmail.com.

CO-DEPENDENTS ANONYMOUS

Adult Children of Alcoholics/Co-Dependents Anonymous meets at 10:30 a.m. Saturdays at the Arid Club, 334 W. Griggs Ave. The one-hour meetings are intended to help those raised in alcoholic or dysfunctional family situations deal with their issues and move on to a healthier, happier life through a 12-step program. For more information, call 647-5684.

YOGA CLASSES AT UU METHODIST

Olivia Solomon is offering yoga classes for all levels from 9 to 10 a.m. Tuesdays and from 8:45 to 9:45 a.m. Thursdays at the University United Methodist Church, 2000 S. Locust St. For more information, contact Solomon at 522-5350 or wildyoga@yahoo.com.

YOGA CLASSES BY BETH LEBLANC

Gentle yoga sessions for men and women taught by Beth LeBlanc are from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Mondays and 11 a.m. to noon Fridays at Enchanted Park, 1000 Coyote Trail.

Laughter Yoga Exercise, taught by LeBlanc, is from 9 to 10 a.m. Thursdays at Curves, 3291 Del Rey Blvd.

Sessions are free to Senior

Circle and Healthy Women members, or a \$2 donation for others. For more information, call 522-0011 or 640-7614.

YOGA CLASSES

Karen Nichols is offering 90-minute yoga classes for adults and upper teens at 6 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays at My Place Jewell, 140-A Wyatt Drive. Donations in excess of space rental benefit Jardín de los Niños. Participants should bring a yoga mat and any props they may need. Classes are suitable for all levels of experience.

For more information, email Nichols at karen_f_n@yahoo.com or leave a message at 882-4943.

PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP

A Parkinson's Support Group is held from 10 a.m. to noon the third Tuesday of each month at Southwest Sport and Spine, 1181 Mall Drive.

For more information, call John at 702-217-0450.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

If you drink, that's your business. If you want to stop drinking and can't, that's ours.

For more information including a schedule of meetings, call 527-1803.

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

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

- 11:30 a.m. each Thursday at Sunset Grill, 1274 Golf Club Road. for more information, call Jan at 522-7133.

- 6 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month at Arbors of Del Rey, 3731 Del Rey Blvd. Respite care available during meeting. For more information, call Nicky or Michael at 382-5200.

- 6 p.m. the third Thursday of each month at the Village at Northrise, 2884 N. Roadrunner Parkway, in the Desert Willow Building. For more information, call Bonnie at 556-6117.

The Alzheimer's Association – New Mexico Chapter has offices in the Richardson Building, 101 N. Alameda Blvd., Suite 7.

For more information on Alzheimer's disease and the Alzheimer's Association, call the organization's 24-hour hotline at 800-272-3900, or the Southwest Regional Office at 647-3868.

HEARING LOSS ASSOCIATION

The Hearing Loss Association of America Las Cruces Chapter meets at 1:30 p.m. the third Saturday of each month at Munson Senior Center, 975 S. Mesquite St.

For more information, call Bert Heger at 532-0413 or email halascruces@yahoo.com.

TAIJI QIGONG DANCE

Mei Ling Po McKay is offering a slow and relaxed moving meditation exercise with gentle elements of dance from 11 a.m. to noon Tuesdays and Fridays at My Place Jewell, 140-A Wyatt Drive. Donation is \$4. Classes are suitable for all levels of experience.

For more information, email McKay at harmef@zianet.com or call 382-8978.

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Jardín

Continued from page D1

"The holidays are a way the community can help children who are less fortunate," Jaquez said. "These children are in poverty so they don't have the normal traditions families have. For them, Christmas is just another day."

Without the community, Jardín is unable to provide the help these children need, costing Jardín \$600 a month, per child.

"Without the community support we wouldn't be here," Jaquez said.

The cost includes providing meals and care to children, which in turn gives parents the opportunity to search for a job or get an education.

"I want to thank the volunteers at Jardín and our donors," Jaquez said. "They are instrumental in keeping us open and providing services to needy children."

There are several ways to help Jardín de los Niños:

1. Purchasing 2012 Holiday Cards: Cards can be purchased at the facility or La Tienda de Jardín, 335 La Colonia Ave. The cost is \$12 for 10 cards. There is a variety to choose from. Proceeds from the holiday cards support the organization by providing preschool, child care and after-school programs for homeless or near-homeless children.

"Every year, Jardín sells holiday cards to increase funding," Jaquez said. "With grants being fewer, we're relying on our donors."

For more information, call 522-2111.

2. Shopping at La Tienda de Jardín: The store is a ladies boutique and thrift store. Its mission is to support the programs and services provided by Jardín de los Niños.

Pam Egan, a customer at the store, said she would always run in to give donations or

buy the holiday cards, but has been amazed at the set up and selection in the store.

"They have a beautiful store," she said. "I'm always looking for an organization to donate to. Nonprofits are hard to run. The community is what keeps it alive."

Egan brought along her friend Sue Hutchins for the shopping trip.

"It's my first time at the store," Hutchins said. "This is the best of three worlds: supporting Jardín, shopping and bargains."

Donations to the store are always accepted including gently used or new clothing, jewelry, accessories, shoes, handbags, furniture, linens, artwork, small appliances, seasonal items and more.

For more information, call 541-9746.

3. Adopt-a-Family for Christmas: Those who choose to participate are asked to choose the size of family they would like to adopt.

Names of the children, their ages, size and toy preference will be provided. One toy and one new outfit are asked for each child.

Monetary donations are also accepted and Jardín will make the purchases.

Their parents will wrap the gifts for them so they can be part of the experience.

For more information, call 522-2111.

4. Plant a Seed, Help a Child: Set up in memory of co-founder Waldschmidt, the program allows the public to purchase a metal leaf. The metal leaves are a part of metal piece of artwork created by artist Craig VanDomelan in the lobby of Jardín de los Niños.

Each leaf is a \$500 donation. The name of the donor, business or family will be placed on the tree with their leaf for one year. The program will begin in January 2013, but donations and reservations are now being accepted.

"I know we make a difference," Jaquez said. "We're all passionate about what we do and we want to continue to provide services."



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Lorena Sanchez

Jan Wimsatt, Home Instead Senior Care franchise owner, stands with Jan Martinez and her fifth-grade class from Desert Hills Elementary, who helped design the gift bags for the Be a Santa to a Senior gifts.

Santa

Continued from page D1

Wimsatt said in its first year, eight years ago, Be a Santa to a Senior helped 120 seniors.

"As word got out, more of the agencies and civic organizations (informed us) of more seniors who were being overlooked," Wimsatt said.

Since then, the amount has grown tremendously, but that has a lot to do with the need in the community for this type of service, Wimsatt said.

"There's a lot of need," Kannady said. "It's always nice to thought of and know someone in the community cares enough about you to help."

Kannady and Wimsatt tell of extreme examples of generosity, such as a business that donated a stove, or someone who donated a mattress, but in reality, Kannady said, all the seniors are really asking for are socks, sweaters and blankets.

"The amount our community is willing to give back is amazing," Kannady said. "It's what Christmas is all about."

Anyone interested in buying a gift holiday shoppers are asked to pick a tag off the special Be a Santa to a Senior Christmas tree located inside Mesilla Valley Mall between Buckle and American Eagle Outfitters. Once a shopper has bought a gift on the list they are asked to return it unwrapped to the Mall Service Center, along with the tag attached.

Another option for those interested in helping is for an organization, business or group to adopt a group of seniors to buy gifts for. Tags can be delivered to a business. For businesses or groups adopting a group of seniors, gifts can be picked by Home Instead once purchased to make the process as easy as possible.

Gifts should be returned unwrapped so they can be inspected and because students from a local school, this year Desert Hills Elementary, decorate gift bags for the seniors.

For more information, call Kannady or Wimsatt at 522-7133.

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Retirement

Continued from page D1

They shared stories of their travels, especially to Ireland, their eyes lighting up and their smiles widening. Through their facial expressions and vocal tones, it was quite obvious they were happy with their decisions to retire.

I don't know which route my other friends will choose – retirement in the near future, retirement in the distant future or perhaps a conscious effort not to think about the "R" word for now. I'm hoping,

though, that they will really know when it is time to retire and do things they have always wanted to do.

On a different note, this is my last column for the Las Cruces Bulletin. I have been extremely fortunate to work with some amazingly outstanding people at the newspaper. So Lorena, Rachel, Natisha (former Bulletin employee), Richard, Dave and Jaki, please accept my attitude of gratitude. It has been fun!

Bob Nusbich is a senior program specialist in the Department of Public Health Sciences at New Mexico State University

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'It's a Wonderful Life'

Doug Roby belts it out as Clarence, Angel Second-Class, in St. Paul's United Methodist Church's musical production of "It's a Wonderful Life." The musical, based on the popular Christmas film, took place Friday and Saturday, Nov. 30-Dec. 1.

Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Whitney Billings



Café Salud bids farewell to 2012



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Lorena Sanchez

Café Salud celebrated its last gathering of the year Tuesday, Dec. 4, at St. Luke's Care Clinic. The "café" is a joint venture between the clinic and the New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH) to spread awareness about the importance of being cautious and staying healthy. For its final gathering, guests were educated about Hepatitis C and offered free, rapid HIV screenings. Refreshments and music were also part of the event.

"Our first year was very successful," said Saul Hernandez, a health educator with the NMDOH. "It's been a great way to help a part of the community that gets left behind."

AAAS honors NMSU professor

Serrano named 2012 Fellow

New Mexico State University Regents Professor Elba Serrano has reached a pinnacle in her career. Serrano was recently named as a 2012 Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

She will be recognized in a ceremony along with 700 other honorees at the Fellows Forum on Saturday, Feb. 16, 2013, in Boston, where she will receive a certificate and a blue and gold rosette for her accomplishments.

"This is a wonderful recognition of Dr. Serrano and reflects well on the ability of NMSU to attract top quality faculty to our university," said NMSU Interim President Manuel Pacheco. "Our congratulations go to her."

Election as a fellow of AAAS is an honor bestowed upon members by their peers. Fellows are recognized for meritorious efforts to advance science or its applications.

"NMSU has provided me with the opportunity and resources to achieve recognition for fulfilling my professorial duties. I'm especially honored and grateful to have worked with the students at NMSU," Serrano said.

Serrano, a neuroscientist in the College of Arts and Sciences, will be recognized for her contributions to neuroscience, research, teaching and service, as well as program leadership and efforts to diversify the fields of science, technology, engineering and math, or STEM.

"The college shares great pride in this recognition of one of our faculty," said Christa Slaton, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. "This is a well-deserved honor bestowed by her peers and a testament to Dr. Serrano's leadership and outstanding achievements in research."

Serrano directs NMSU's National Institutes of Health Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement program (RISE). The program aims to diversify the ranks of research leaders by increasing the number of underrepresented minority students who achieve a doctoral degree in a biomedical and/or biobehavioral discipline.

She also serves as a principal investigator and director for NMSU's Building Research Achievement in Neuroscience (BRAiN) program, which prepares students in the Southwest and Rocky Mountain region for careers in neuroscience research. The program is supported by an NIH grant from the Blueprint Program for Enhancing Neuroscience Diversity through Undergraduate Research Education Experiences (BP-ENDURE).

Serrano's research focuses on the development of the nervous system, disorders of hearing and balance and brain injury. She has a special interest in neuroethics and has been teaching courses in science and ethics for more than 15 years.

Since joining NMSU in 1991, Serrano has brought in more than \$15 million in external research funding, taught more than 2,000 undergraduate and 500 graduate students and served as research mentor for more than 100 NMSU students who have pursued bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees while working in her laboratory.

Her honors include a Ford Foundation Fellowship, an AAAS Lectureship in Women in Science and Engineering, the

NMSU Roush Award for Excellence in Teaching and an NMSU Hispanic Student Organization Outstanding Professor Award. Additionally, she has been recognized as an NMSU Millionaire Researcher yearly since fiscal year 2008, and was appointed an NMSU Regents Professor in 2009.

Two other AAAS Fellows have been elected for their achievements at NMSU: Regents Professor Glenn Kuehn, from the chemistry and biochemistry, and Regents Professor Marvin Bernstein, from the biology departments. Both professors retired this year.

"Dr. Bernstein hired me, and both Dr. Kuehn and Dr. Bernstein were very instrumental when I was a young assistant professor in helping me develop my career here, so my achievements have benefited from great mentors," Serrano said.

Serrano also acknowledged her parents for the role they played in her accomplishments. "The first persons I called when I received the news, even before I told my husband, were my parents. They were really, really excited for me," Serrano said. "Because I work with so many students, I see every day how much parents and families can influence a student's desire to complete college. I wanted to thank my parents

as soon as I got the news."

Additionally, she recognized them for the many sacrifices they made, so that their daughters could achieve a college education.

"My father is an Army veteran who worked another 35 years after serving for 20 years as a sergeant in the US military," Serrano said. "My mother worked as well, and she always told us an education will give us a good lifelong income. Both my parents were able to go to college much later in life (my father with the GI Bill) and I am very proud of them. Without their support I doubt I would have become a scientist and professor."

Serrano received her undergraduate degree in physics from the University of Rochester with a minor in chemistry. She completed her Ph.D. in biological sciences at Stanford University and trained as a postdoctoral researcher at Stanford Medical School and at University of California-Los Angeles School of Medicine.

"NMSU is a land-grant, minority-serving institution that provides terrific educational and research resources," Serrano said. "Everything that I've been able to do is recognition for NMSU and the quality of our institution. I am privileged to work with fine colleagues who are equal to the best at any university. I thank the NMSU students, staff and faculty for creating the environment that allowed me to succeed in my profession."

AAAS is the world's largest scientific community, serving some 261 affiliated societies and academies of science, and 10 million individuals.



SERRANO

Did you know nearly 20% of people over the age of 65 struggle with depression and other issues?



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Informal: 11:00 a.m.
Classes for All: 9:45 a.m.

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THE LAS CRUCES

Bulletin

welcomes submissions of local church events and activities.

Church News

CHRISTMAS GOSPEL CONCERT

The New Mexico State University Gospel Choir, under the direction of Bobbie Green, will hold a Christmas Gospel Concert from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14, at Phillips Chapel, 638 N. Tornillo St. This will be a fundraiser to help restore the 100-year-old African-American church. Clarence Fielder, historian and church steward, will introduce the choir. Coffee, hot chocolate and cookies will be served. For more information, contact Fielder at 524-7210 or boleary@nmsu.edu.

CHANUKAH AT TEMPLE BETH-EL

Temple Beth-El, 3980

Sonoma Springs Ave., invites the public to join in its Chanukah celebration during the Shabbat family service at 5:45 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14. The service will include the telling of the Chanukah story and singing Chanukah songs. Participants are encouraged to bring their Chanukah menorah to light. A potluck dinner will follow the service and will feature latkes. For more information, contact 524-3380 or rabbi@tblc.org.

TOY DRIVE

Sierra Vista Community Church, 514 Telshor Blvd., will hold a toy drive for local charities through Sunday, Dec. 16. Community members are asked to donate new, unwrapped toys and books for infants through teens. For more

information, call 526-9535.

LA GRAN POSADA

"La Gran Posada" will be held at 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, beginning at the south end of Downtown Main Street and continuing to the St. Genevieve Monument. Bishop Ricardo Ramirez of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Las Cruces invites the community to the procession. After, there will be prayer, songs, a piñata and refreshments.

UNITY CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Unity of Las Cruces, 125 Wyatt Drive, invites the community to the following Christmas services:

- 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 16: Third Sunday

- in Advent, potluck and caroling after service
 - 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 23: Fourth Sunday in Advent
 - 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 24: Christmas candlelighting service
 - 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 30: Burning Bowl service
 - 10:30 a.m. Jan. 6, 2013: 12th Night, White Stone service
- For more information, visit www.unityoflascruces.org.

ADVENT DAY OF REFLECTION

Holy Cross Catholic Church, 1327 N. Miranda St., will hold a Day of Reflection and Prayer for community members to prepare themselves for Christ

coming into their lives at Christmas from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 17, in the gathering space and 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 19, in the Providence House Conference Room. Services will include reflection, fellowship, Mass and healing. A light meal will be provided. For more information, call 523-0167.

JUST BELIEVE

Sierra Vista Community Church, 514 N. Telshor Blvd., will hold "Just Believe: A Children's Christmas Musical About Trusting in God" at 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15, and 10 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 16. Admission is free. For more information, call 526-9535.

ADVENT AT PEACE LUTHERAN

Peace Lutheran Church, 1701 Missouri Ave., will hold Advent services at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 19. Christmas Eve service will be at 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 24, and Christmas Day service will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 25. All are invited to attend. For more information, call 522-7119.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT EL CALVARIO

El Calvario United Methodist Church, 300 N. Campo St., invites the public to its 10:30 a.m. bilingual Sunday worship services during Advent. A Christmas program will be held at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 23, and Praise Sunday will be at 10:30 a.m. Dec. 30. For more information, call 524-1230.

UNITY BOOK STUDY

Unity of Las Cruces, 125 Wyatt Drive, holds a book study group from 10 a.m. to noon Tuesdays. The current book discussed is "The Third Jesus," by Deepak Chopra. For more information, call 523-5592 or visit www.unityoflascruces.org.

PEACE LUTHERAN PRAYER GROUPS

Peace Lutheran Church, 1701 Missouri Ave., offers two prayer groups. A centering prayer group meets weekly at 8 a.m. Saturdays for 20 to 30 minutes. Gathering for Prayer meets Monday afternoons from 4 to 5 p.m. For more information, call 522-7119.

MEN'S CATHOLIC FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

Catholic men are invited to attend a men's Catholic fellowship breakfast from 8 to 10 a.m. the second Saturday of the month at Delicias del Mar, 1401 El Paseo Road. The monthly gathering is an opportunity for men to fellowship with other Catholic men and renew themselves spiritually. The time will consist of praise and worship, teaching on male spirituality, fellowship and breakfast. The fellowship is sponsored by the Cathedral of Immaculate Heart of Mary in collaboration

with other Mesilla Valley Catholic parishes. The cost of the breakfast is \$5. For more information, call 524-8563.

GOOD NEWS THRIFT STORE

The Good News Thrift Store, 144 Wyatt St., is now accepting donations, which are tax deductible. Free pick up is available. The store, which helps women after they leave prison, is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. For more information, call 649-2922.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES VOLUNTEERS

Catholic Charities Store, 2205 S. Main St., is looking for volunteers. Helping at the store is a way to contribute to reduce poverty in our community by making available clothing and household items that can be purchased at low prices or for free through our voucher program managed by our partners. For volunteer opportunities, call 527-0500 or 523-7577.

PRAYER AND LIFE WORKSHOP

Our Lady of Guadalupe Prayer Center, 5480 Lassiter Road, will hold a Prayer and Life Workshop in English by Father Ignacio Larranaga from 1 to 3 p.m. Wednesdays. For 25 years, the workshop has changed lives and opened doors to a rich prayer life for participants. For more information, call 647-1117.

SPIRITUAL HEALING

Our Lady of Guadalupe Prayer Center, a Roman Catholic community, offers spiritual healing programs and ministry. Holy Mass is held weekdays at 11:15 a.m. at 5480 Lassiter Road. Also on Mondays, the Healing Prayer Team meets to pray for anyone who is interested. If you or someone you know would like to meet with the team, call 647-1117 for an appointment.

DIVORCECARE

Sonoma Springs Church, 3940 Sonoma Springs Ave., now offers an ongoing DivorceCare support ministry from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays. The ministry is devoted to helping people find support, healing and becoming whole again. Child care is available. For more information, call 526-4907.

OPEN SPIRITUAL GROUP

The Association for Research and Enlightenment (ARE) Edgar Cayce Studies holds group meetings from 10 a.m. to noon every Thursday. The meetings are hosted by local chapter leader Linda Aragon and are open to the public. Anyone seeking spiritual study, knowledge and awareness is encouraged to attend. There is no fee. For more information and location, call 382-6400.



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- University: Twisting the Truth (Stanley)
- Youth: Not a Fan for Teens (Ideman)
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Sunday School 9 a.m.
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Interested in being on our worship services page? Call 524-8061 for details.

Celebrating Chanukah at the Chabad Menorah lighting

Photos by Steve MacIntyre



Meier Schmuckler, 4, eats a Jewish jelly donut, or suganiyot, at Albert Johnson Park Sunday, Dec. 9, during a Chanukah concert and Menorah lighting held by the Chabad of Southern New Mexico.



Las Cruces Mayor Ken Miyagishima wore a yarmulke as he spoke during the event.



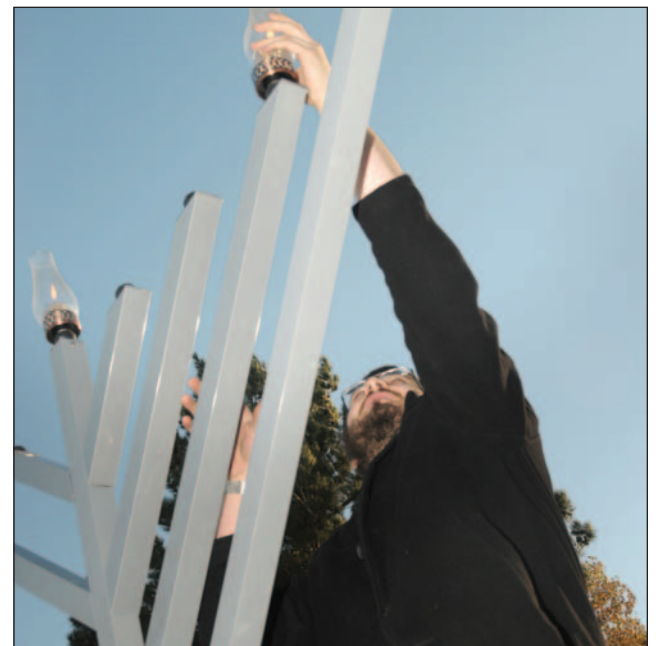
Daniel Berry from Brooklyn, N.Y., performed with Choni G.




Las Cruces resident Mildred Morris supported the Jewish community on her 81st birthday Sunday.



Jewish pop artist Choni G from South Africa performed.



Rabbi Barry Schmuckler lights the 9-foot Menorah.



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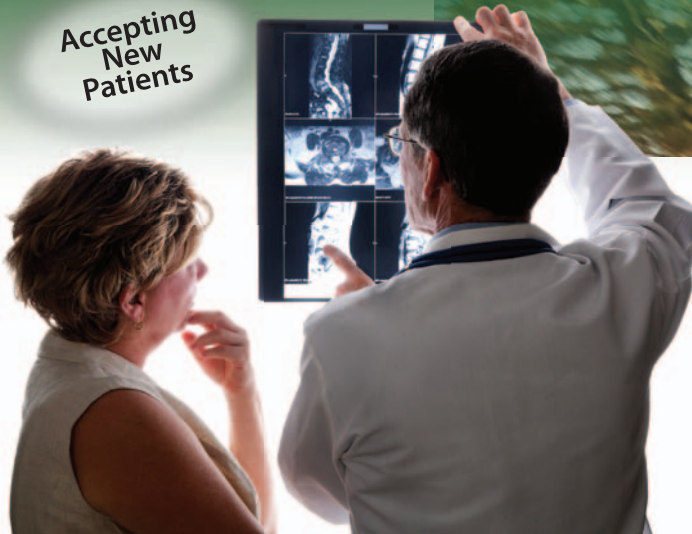
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See featured home on pages E2-3



**A Tuscan
HOME
for the holidays**

Spacious Camino Escondida residence offers a feeling of warmth, comfort

Featured home: 5531 Camino Escondida

Photos by Steve MacIntyre



The home at 5531 Camino Escondida was built by JB Stearns in 2006.



The great room features 16-foot ceilings and large windows to bring in the view.



An informal living room gives residents a place to kick up their feet.



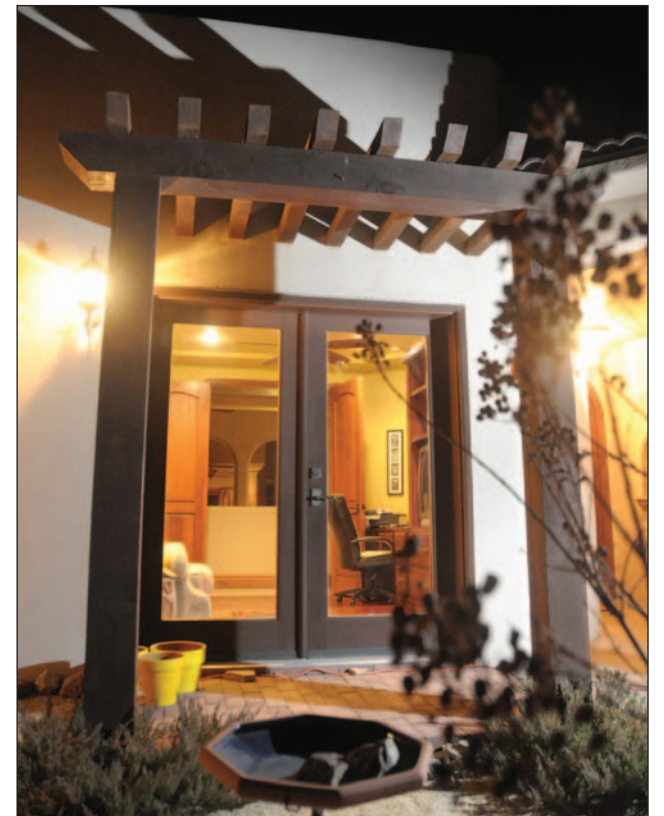
Rich wood and swirling granite give the kitchen a feeling of warmth.



An old dresser was turned into cabinetry for the master bathroom.



An 8-foot, custom-made door graces the entrance of the 3,048-square-foot home.



One of the four bedrooms includes access to the front courtyard, which overlooks the Mesilla Valley.

Comfort in every Tuscan detail

Residence combines livability with a rich styling

By **Beth Sitzler**
Las Cruces Bulletin

When Bob and Joanne O'Grady moved to Las Cruces, they were originally on their way to retire in Pensacola, Fla. After discovering the Tierra Verde subdivision, they decided to stay in the Mesilla Valley.

Drawn to the open spaces and majestic scenery, the couple said their once-empty neighborhood began to fill.

"It got crowded, so we sold our home," Bob O'Grady said.

Searching for a new spacious place to call home, the O'Gradys read about the not-yet-developed Tierra Escondida subdivision, located off Tellbrook Road in the Las Alturas area.

"We liked the mountain views and the large lots," Bob O'Grady said.

The couple purchased the 1.3-acre lot at 5531 Camino Escondida and hired JB Stearns of Stearns Custom Homes to build their home.

The couple wanted their dream home to have a Tuscan style with specially designed elements that suited their lifestyle and needs. They received inspiration for their abode several years earlier after touring a lavish home in the Colorado Ridge subdivision.

"We loved it, but it was much bigger," Bob O'Grady said. "We took elements from that and worked on a draft."

"I liked the open spaces and I wanted to use every room, and we do," Joanne O'Grady said.

In 2006, the 3,048-square-foot residence was completed, and it was everything the couple wanted – warm, inviting, comfortable yet stylish and peaceful, even on those loud, stormy nights.

A gravel driveway leads up a slight slope to

the driveway of the O'Gradys' home. A path leads to an antique gate – one of many from Palomas, Mexico, used around the house – encased in a rock wall, a feature the couple saw in a book on Tuscan architectural elements.

"(The courtyard) is great for watching sunsets at night," Joanne O'Grady said of the area that overlooks the valley.

The arched front door is 8 feet tall and was custom made for the home, as were several of the interior doors, Bob O'Grady said.

At the entrance, a large tile medallion in white, black, tan and grey covers the floor.

"I like the black and white design. We used that throughout," Joanne O'Grady said.

Bob O'Grady said another element used throughout the home was unique ceiling designs. He said each room has something special, from tray ceilings in the bedrooms to faux finishes on the barrel-vaulted ceilings that line the halls.

"My daughter did the faux finish," Joanne O'Grady said.

Her daughter also painted a mural of a woman on the wall outside one of the four bedrooms. The bedroom, enclosed by French doors, was converted by the couple into a den and home office. A built-in desk and entertainment center, created by the same carpenter who did the doors, lines a wall. The room also features a door to the front courtyard.

At the center of the home, surrounded by arches and concrete pillars, is the great room – a combination of the living and dining rooms in a large, shared space. In the middle of the space, dividing the two uses, is a pilotless fireplace that turns on with a push of a button, Bob O'Grady said.

Located at the back of the living room is a built-in bar with wine refrigerator.

The great room leads into the kitchen and

an informal living room. The kitchen features a warm design with some specific elements the couple requested, such as the large island with wood top.

"We wanted to do something different than granite throughout," Bob O'Grady said.

The couple did use granite on the other countertop, which gives the room a touch of warmth and complements the richness of the wood floors and custom cabinetry.

Bricks line a wall that features a window into the dining room. Joanne O'Grady said she wanted the brick put in as a nod to Mississippi, where the couple originally was going to retire and is well known for its brick buildings.

The informal living room is where the couple can be found "hanging out and watching TV." A fireplace with concrete mantel is located in the corner. Six large, arched windows cover a wall overlooking the backyard and Organ Mountains.

"We pushed the house as far back as we could so we could get that slight elevation for a better view," Bob O'Grady said.

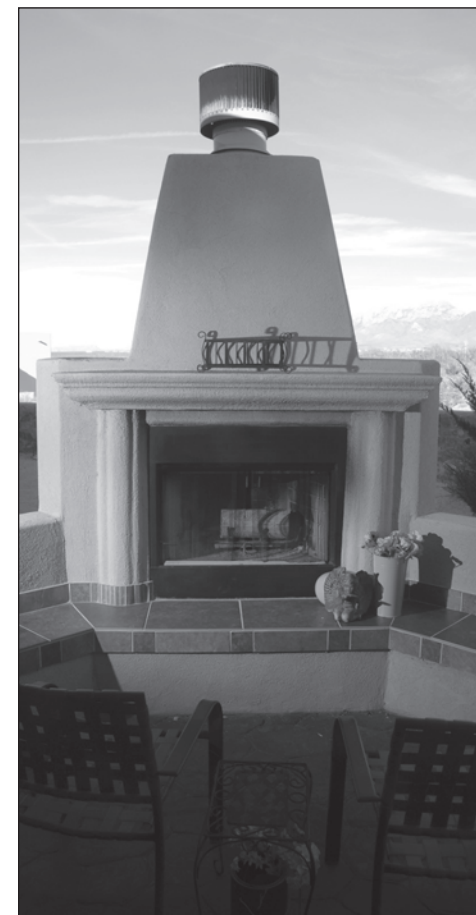
Also located in this area are two bedrooms and a half bathroom. The half bathroom features faux-finished walls, which Joanne O'Grady created herself using tissue paper. While one of the bedrooms is used as a craft room, the other is a guest room with a private bathroom.

The home features a split-bedroom floor plan, and the master suite is on the other side of the home. Joanne O'Grady did another textured wall in the master bedroom, this time showcasing light, purplish colors. The room also includes a door to a private, brick-lined courtyard.

The bathroom is accessed through an arched entryway – no door. A white claw-foot bathtub is placed in the corner of the yellow

room with white wainscoting. The couple has his-and-hers sinks, each featuring their own design unique to the individual. For example, one showcases a white, square sink bowl while the other has a typical sink bowl atop an old dresser converted into cabinetry.

Out back, stamped and stained concrete lines the covered porch. Flagstone leads to a pond with waterfall. The jewel of the backyard, however, is the fireplace with bancos. Two chairs rest in front of it, allowing the couple to enjoy its warmth while taking in the majestic scenery of the place they call home.



Residents can enjoy an outdoor fireplace.

Details

Featured home

5531 Camino Escondida

Square footage

3,048

Acres

1.3

Bedrooms

Four

Bathrooms

Two and a half

Fireplaces

Three

Price

\$499,000

Special features

Custom made home, Tuscan style with various wood detailing including 7-inch-tall wooden floor boards, ceilings ranging from 9 to 16 feet and view of the Organ Mountains as well as the Mesilla Valley

Contact

Elaine Szalay at
650-5151 or 524-8788



A claw-foot bathtub is located in the large master bathroom. The space features a doorless entry to the bedroom area.

Coffee saves the day

Roasted beans are life blood and a handy solution

By **Beth Sitzler**
Las Cruces Bulletin

In January 2013, I will have been with the Las Cruces Bulletin for four years – shocking, right?

A fledgling journalist freshly out of college, I was fortunate enough to get a job in my chosen career field a matter of weeks after I graduated. Sure, I had no idea what I was doing – working for the campus newspaper and university communications helped, but now I was swimming with the big fish – but I'd like to think I caught on quickly, with only minimal coaching and prodding required.

When I'm out and about town, taking photos or interviewing people, I often am asked about my background. I gladly tell curious strangers about my hometown, what brought me to Las Cruces, what kept me in Las Cruces and why I chose the glamorous field of journalism.

My go-to answer for that last inquiry is simple: I got into journalism because I enjoy writing and I've always asked a lot of questions – aka I'm nosy.

Yes, I'm the type of person who will ask you 20 questions about yourself, not to be annoying, but just because I want to know. As a kid, I would listen to “the grown-ups” talk around the table, fascinated by their insight into various topics that I had no clue about. I probably should be ashamed to admit it, but I get a thrill flipping through the occasional gossip magazine, learning about the scandalous life of some celebrity who has no idea I exist and, deep down, I really don't care about.

Subconsciously, however, I think I got into this profession because I'm a good student. Growing up, I didn't really enjoy sports – I did ballet, mostly – and I didn't belong to any extracurricular organizations. I showed up, paid attention in class, turned my work in on time and got the best grades I could.

I guess it's only natural then that I would gravitate to a field that is so deadline heavy. I'm that weird kind of person who enjoys it – I like knowing what I have to do and by when.

The structure comforts me, and I feel a great sense of accomplishment when I cross whatever task off my to-do list.

Being in such a deadlines-are-your-everything industry, however, can be stressful. It requires impressive time-management skills, especially when you're juggling multiple projects at once, as we at the Bulletin are right now.

It also requires energy and motivation. Sure, you can find inspiration in the works of Plato or the awe-inspiring image of the sun rising over the Organ Mountains. To keep themselves going, some choose to meditate, some choose to yell. I, on the other hand, turn to coffee.

Knowing there is going to be a hot cup of coffee goodness if I drag myself out of bed is sometimes all the encouragement I need to get up and going in the morning.

In the middle of the afternoon, when my computer turns into a spiraling box of jumbled words, demanding emails and overall unhappiness, a quick trip to a nearby coffee shop fixes my woes.

So, here's to you, coffee, you beautiful concoction of burnt beans ground into a fine powder mixed with plain ol' water. I'd be able to live without you, but why would I want to?

If you, too, enjoy basking in the goodness of coffee, here are some other ways you can further add it to your everyday life. Even if you're one of “those people” who don't drink coffee, you can still benefit from having it around.

1. Freshen your breath: Forget breath mints, use coffee beans to freshen your breath. This trick might seem unusual, but to get clean smelling breath when you don't have access to a toothbrush, mouthwash or breath mints is to suck on a whole coffee bean. After a few minutes, you'll be ready to go.

2. Deodorize your freezer: Has your freezer developed a funk you just can't get rid of? Banish the odor by placing a couple of bowls with used or fresh coffee grounds into the freezer overnight. In the morning, remove the bowls and you'll notice the unpleasant stench will be gone. If you want to really enhance the smell, add a few drops of vanilla to the coffee

grounds.

3. Fill a beanbag: A good way to keep the kids busy during those uneventful days at home is by creating a tossing game using beanbags. Light and pliable, the bags won't hurt if one accidentally hits someone. You can make your own beanbags using some leftover fabric and a cup or two of coffee beans. A quick sewing project, beanbags take only minutes to make and offer endless fun.

4. Fertilize plants: After you've made a pot of coffee, it's probably second nature to toss that sopping filter into the trash. Don't! Those used coffee grounds are actually a precious addition to your acidic-loving plants. Full of essential nutrients, the coffee grounds can be used to fertilize your rosebushes, azaleas, rhododendrons, evergreens and camellias. It's better to use the grounds from a drip coffee-maker versus those from a percolator because they will be richer in nitrogen.

5. Help worms thrive: Your flowerbed isn't the only thing that will benefit from a helping of coffee grounds. A cup of used coffee grounds will help keep bait worms wiggling all day. Mix the grounds into the soil of your bait container before the worms are added. They, too, will benefit from the nutrient-rich crushed beans.

6. Keep cats out of your garden: While worms and acidic-loving plants love used coffee grounds, cats can't stand the stuff. To stop a cat from doing its business in your garden, spread a mixture of orange peels and used coffee grounds around your plants. The pungent smell will keep the cats away, plus, it's a great fertilizer.

7. Clean your hands: I don't know about you, but I hate the smell of onions on my hands. As a cooking novice, I've come to discover how great freshly cut onions are in my soups and ground meat – getting the stench off my hands, however, is always a challenge. Next time I handle onion, or other strongly smelling food such as garlic and fish, I will banish their odor with coffee beans. Simply put the beans in your hands and rub them together. The oils released from the beans will absorb the gross smell. When you're done, wash your hands with warm, soapy water.

8. Exfoliate your skin: The change in

weather can often lead to dry skin. The best way to remove that unpleasant epidermis is by exfoliating. A great everyday item you can use to exfoliate is coffee grounds. Just place the grounds on your skin and rub it in using a circular motion. When you're done, wash off the grounds and follow up with your favorite moisturizer.

9. Stop stinky shoes: If you're one of the millions of people who suffer from stinky feet, there is help. Rather than buying those expensive – and often times foul-smelling – shoe and foot sprays, get help from used coffee grounds. It might seem weird, but place the grounds in your shoes. The grounds will absorb the smell, making your shoes more nose friendly. You can freshen your feet by soaking them in a mixture of warm water and coffee extract.

10. Make your hair shine: Lackluster hair doesn't have to ruin your day. Get your locks shiny and bouncy, without spending all of your cash, by using coffee grounds. Used coffee grounds can be used like shampoo to wash your hair. After you rinse them out, you'll notice a difference.



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Rich Coffee-Caramel Sauce

1 cup granulated sugar
1/4 cup water
2 tablespoons agave nectar
5 tablespoons unsalted butter
1 tablespoon pure vanilla extract
1 1/2 teaspoons sea salt
Juice of 1 lemon
2 tablespoons espresso powder dissolved into 2 tablespoons boiling water

Combine sugar, water and agave nectar in a heavy medium saucepan; stir well. Cover, and boil until sugar has dissolved (about 5 minutes), stirring once or twice. Cover again, and boil until bubbles are large and mixture is thick (4 minutes). Uncover, and continue

boiling 6 minutes or until mixture is golden.

Remove pan from heat; place bottom of hot pan in cold water. Carefully add the butter, vanilla, and salt (the mixture will bubble and hiss); stir with wooden spoon. Stir in lemon juice and espresso powder mixture. To use right away, let the sauce cool slightly to thicken. For later use, let stand at room temperature for up to one day. If the sauce hardens, warm in microwave until soft (about 15 to 25 seconds).

To serve, fill a waffle cone with 1/2 cup frozen yogurt. Drizzle 1 tablespoon sauce over the frozen yogurt; top with 1 teaspoon toasted almonds. Repeat with the remaining cones. Store leftover sauce, covered, in the refrigerator for up to a week. (Recipe adapted from www.health.com.)

Gadgets for Christmas

Stock loved ones' stockings with these whimsical devices

By **Beth Sitzler**
Las Cruces Bulletin

The countdown to Christmas is quickening, and before we know it, these last 11 days will whoosh by.

If you're among the many holiday shoppers, myself included, who are doing less shopping and more feet dragging, now is the time to get to it. While a lot can happen in 11 days, it's better to make the effort now before the sand runs out.

Easier said than done, I know. Sometimes the biggest struggle is just deciding what you want to get someone. To help you get through the holiday shopping madness, here are five stocking-stuffer ideas your loved ones will enjoy.

1 Kuhn Rikon silicone butterfly whisk

Kuhn Rikon, a Switzerland-based company that has crafted kitchen and cooking tools for more than 70 years, manufactures an abundance of whisks – 16, to be exact – each promising to fill whatever need the consumer has.

The galaxy spring whisk, for example, is great for bouncy, up-and-down motion, making it perfect for whipping volume into egg whites or cream. The cutely named frog whisk is “a wizard” at mixing liquids faster and forcing air and volume into them. The flat-bottomed silicone tornado whisk, on the other hand, is ideal for

whisking anything from roux to gravy.

One Kuhn Rikon whisk you should especially take note of is the silicone butterfly whisk. Brightly colored and featuring a butterfly-like design, this whisk is said to give users more power with less effort.

Not just ideal for whipping egg whites and cream, it is an all-purpose whisk and is safe to use on nonstick cookware. It is also heat safe to 500 degrees and dishwasher safe.

The Kuhn Rikon silicone butterfly whisk costs between \$13 and \$18, and can be found in the cookware aisle of stores such as Sears as well as online at <http://kuhnricon.com> or www.williams-sonoma.com.

2 Herb Savor Pod

Do you have a loved one who is practically obsessed with fresh herbs and using them in their daily meals?

If they don't have the space for an herb

garden, the next best thing is to help them keep their cut herbs fresher for longer. The Herb Savor Pod, a product of Prepara Kitchen Tools, prolongs the life of herbs for up to three weeks.

Simply remove the clear cover and insert the fresh herbs. Rinse off the herbs and remove the bottom to drain the water, if necessary. Gently pat the herbs dry and replace the cover. Remove the stopper plug and fill the water well with fresh water.

Because the herbs are partially in water, they will stay fresh longer. Help prolong their life even more by changing the water on a regular basis.

Designed for everything from basil and parsley to thyme and rosemary, the herb savor pod also can be used to keep asparagus fresh longer.

When you're done, toss the herb savor pod into the top rack of your dishwasher.

The herb savor pod costs about \$11 for one and \$30 for a set of four. This gadget can be purchased online at www.chefscatalog.com or www.buy.com.

3 Bar10der

Give the bartending novice in your life a hand behind the counter.

The Bar10der is a unitool for at-home bartenders that consists of 10 essential tools every barkeep needs. Similar in design to a Swiss Army Knife, it includes:

- Standard knife
- Channel knife
- Stirrer
- Strainer
- Corkscrew
- Bottle opener
- Muddler
- Reamer
- Jigger
- Zester

With this handy gadget by his or her side, any would-be mix master will no longer have dig through kitchen drawers and cabinets to find what they need to create one-of-a-kind cocktails.

The Bar10der, the brainchild of Josh Salles and Geoff Curley, costs \$50 and can be purchased online at www.dailygrommet.com.

4 Fauvette Bird Speaker

This gadget gives new meaning to birds chirping.

The Fauvette Bird Speaker, created by ChicBuds, a stereo and ear bud company that mixes fashion and function, is just what it sounds like – a bird-shaped speaker that can be used to enhance the sound of your iPod, iPhone, MP3 player, computer and any other listening device.

This small, portable speaker fits into the palm of your hand, but offers loud, clear sound thanks to its 2-watt amplifier capabilities. The gadget is designed to sit, or perch, if you will, on your device and includes a standard 3.5mm stereo jack.

The Fauvette Bird Speaker includes a built-in lithium-ion rechargeable battery and will play for up to four hours on a single charge.

A gadget more for the ladies in your life, it comes in pink and blue. There are also bejeweled varieties in black, gold, silver and hot pink.

The Fauvette Bird Speaker costs about \$40 and can be purchased at Bed, Bath & Beyond as well as online at <http://chicbuds.com>.

5 Squirrel nut grinder

If birds and music aren't your loved one's thing, how about a nut grinder shaped as a squirrel?

A product of Classic Kitchen Basics, this novelty squirrel, dubbed “Hazel,” is designed to grind shelled nuts such as pecans, walnuts, almonds and peanuts.

To use, simply lift the acorn lid and fill the hopper. Rotate Hazel's tail clockwise to coarsely chop the exact amount of nuts you need. The nuts will fall into the glass jar below, which has an 8-ounce capacity. The jar also features measurements in cups and milliliters.

Created from cast aluminum with a steel grinder, Hazel can be washed by hand using soap and a soft brush or sponge. The glass jar of this nutty squirrel is dishwasher safe.

The squirrel grinder costs about \$32 and can be purchased online at www.cooking.com and www.chefstools.com.



Featured gadget: Stocking stuffers

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In the holiday spirit at the LCHBA Installation & Awards Party

Photos by Beth Sitzler



Pat Bellestri was presented the 2012 Member of the Year award by 2011 winner Jen Baca as LCHBA President Jim Reedy looks on.



Las Cruces Home Builders Association Managing Director Steve Chavira welcomes guests to the 2013 Installation & Awards Party Friday, Dec. 7, at the association office.



Past New Mexico Home Builders Association President Randy Crowder installs the 2013 LCHBA Board of Directors.



LCHBA 2013 President Jennifer Sandoval is pinned by Alesia Dutton.



Reedy gives Farrell Thurston, last year's Builder of the Year recipient, a hug after he is named this year's winner.



Associate of the Year winner Eli Estrada receives his award from Reedy.

Home Sales Scoreboard

LAS CRUCES AREA

	This Week	Last Week	Same Week Last Year
Homes Sold New	2	3	3
Homes Sold Existing	11	30	11
Pending Home Sales (All)	149	195	158

	This Week	Last Week	Same Week Last Year
Average Days on Market (All)	77	104	130

	This Week	Last Week	Same Week Last Year
Median Price New	\$170,000	\$157,900	\$161,500
Median Price Existing	\$72,000	\$162,450	\$142,250

	This Week	Last Week	Same Week Last Year
Total Homes on Market (All)	1,084	1,098	1,132
Real Estate Agents	399	399	366

"Homes" include detached single-family homes, townhomes and condominiums

Source: Las Cruces Multiple Listing Service (MLS)* for the period 12/03/12-12/09/12
 *MLS is wholly owned by the Las Cruces Association of Realtors
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'Tis the season to do it yourself

Get a personalized touch with homemade ornaments, decoration

By **Beth Sitzler**
Las Cruces Bulletin

The stores are packed and traffic is heavy – it's the holiday season.

While the holidays bring with them bouts of shopping and countless meals, it's also a time that many decide to get crafty and make their own decorations and ornaments.

Stella Sanchez, assistant manager of the local Hobby Lobby, said the holiday season is the busiest time of the year for the craft store.

"We have so much that a customer can make," she said. "You can go from one corner of the store to the next and find so much to do."

Sanchez said everyone from children to adults can get into the do-it-yourself holiday spirit. From ornament packs designed for entire classrooms to unbreakable ornaments, it's easy to get the kids involved in the Christmas decorating.

Often times, Sanchez said, adults go for large-scale projects, such as wreaths.

"Styrofoam balls are big. We sell a lot of those," Sanchez said. "You can add anything to them – beads, sequins, paint."

Quilting is also a popular Christmas-time project, with many people creating them as gifts for loved ones, Sanchez said.

Creating your own decorations and ornaments doesn't have to require countless hours and an abundance of talent.

"Even a picture frame, you can doll that up with what we have and make it into something that's personalized," Sanchez said.

Sanchez said Hobby Lobby is equipped with assistants to help customers come up with decorating ideas and answer their questions.

"I make a lot of bows for wreaths," she said.

Even though the holidays evoke images of red, white and green everything, holiday decoration themes do change every year.

"I've noticed that wild animal prints are big this year. We even have poinsettias in animal print," Sanchez said. "Last year it was peacock. This year, everything from ribbon to ornaments are in animal print. We even have animal print wrapping paper and gift bags."

No matter your decorating fancy, take the time to make some memories this holiday season by creating your own decorations and ornaments. Use resources such as Hobby Lobby, Pinterest and decorating greats Martha Stewart and Better Homes and Gardens for ideas. Here are just some of the possibilities:

Styrofoam balls

You really can create anything with Styrofoam balls. The squishy yet sturdy sphere is great for not only sequins and beads, but it also can be wrapped in colorful yarn. Here are just two of the many projects you can do with Styrofoam

Glitter stars:

- Styrofoam balls, any size
- Glitter spray paint or regular paint
- Toothpicks, optional

Attach the Styrofoam ball to a stick and, in a well-ventilated area, cover it with the glitter spray paint or regular paint. Make sure every part of the ball, even around the stick, is well coated with the paint.

After it has dried, cover the ball with toothpicks to create its points. This step can be skipped if you like your star as is.

Your glitter star can be turned into a Christmas tree ornament by adding ribbon to it, or it can be used in a centerpiece.



Christmas tree:

- Multiple Styrofoam balls, any size
- Paint
- Toothpicks

After determining the size of your Christmas tree, paint your Styrofoam balls. If going for a traditional tree, use green paint. If you want something unconventional, choose whichever color you like.

Arrange the balls to form a base and attach them with toothpicks. Continue working your way up until a tree shape is formed.

You can fancy up your tree by adding sequins as ornaments or by attaching a star created from toothpicks and spray painted gold to the top.

Existing ornaments

If you have boring, round Christmas tree ornaments lying around, you can jazz them up by transforming them into something more special. It's a great way to reuse old ornaments collecting dust, not to mention a chance to flex your creative muscle.

Painted ornaments:

- Clear glass ornaments with removable top
- Acrylic paints, various colors
- Small plate
- Newspaper

After your work surface is sufficiently covered in newspapers, remove the tops of your glass ornaments. Squirt in your choice of colors, picking two or three coordinating colors. Move the ornament around until the entire inside is covered.

After your ornament is to your liking, place it upside, with the open end down, on the paper plate. Let the excess paint drain out for about 15 minutes. When it's drained and dried, replace the top.

Glitter can also be added, because, in the words of my new office mate, "You can use glitter on anything."

Paisley ornaments:

- Colored glass ornaments
- White paint pen

Use the white paint pen to draw swirls, dots or stars over the surface of the colorful Christmas tree ornament. Write someone's name to make it more personalized.

Unusual ornaments

Here are some suggestions on how to use those everyday items you find around the house to make Christmas tree ornaments.

Puzzle ornaments:

- 6 puzzle pieces
- Super glue or a hot glue gun
- Spray paint or acrylic paint
- Ribbon

Select six puzzle pieces of the same shape and link them together or stack them on top of each other. Use the super glue or hot glue gun to keep them in place.

Paint the puzzle pieces. Create a loop from a length of ribbon and glue it to the back of the ornament.

Pinecones:

- Pinecones
- Paint
- Glitter
- Paper clip

Straighten a paper clip and bend it into a hook on the end. Weave the top of the pinecone through the hook and dip it into paint. You can then roll it in glitter while the paint is still wet. Let the pinecone hang until it dries.

Homemade Porcelain

- 3 cups white glue
- 3 cups cornstarch
- 1 tablespoon white vinegar
- 1 tablespoon glycerin
- 2 tablespoons of canola oil

In a mixing bowl (or non-stick pan), mix 3 cups of white glue and 3 cups of cornstarch. Add white vinegar, glycerin and canola oil. Blend thoroughly with a wooden spoon. Heat in a microwave oven.

Cook in a microwave-compatible receptacle for 2 to 3 minutes on high. Stop every 30 seconds to mix.

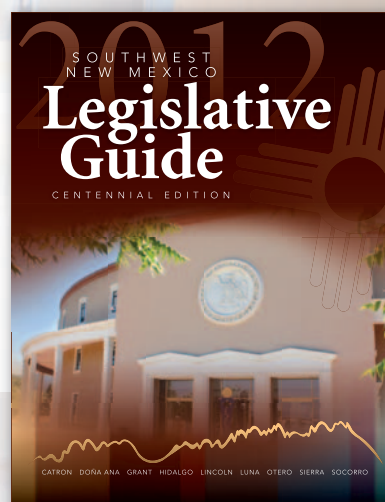
During the last 30 seconds, stop every 10 seconds to check the consistency of the mixture. As soon as the dough becomes thick and lumpy (like ricotta cheese), remove from the oven.

Coat your working surface and your hands with cold cream or hand cream. Knead the dough until it has cooled. It can be quite hot to begin with, so take care. The dough is sticky and lumpy at first, but as you knead it, it becomes smooth and supple. Make a large ball and store it in an airtight container for 24 hours before using it.

Source: <http://thejunkwave.com>

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Caring for your Christmas tree

How to provide your tannenbaum with the best treatment

Gary Guzman
Gardening Guru



It is already Christmas tree time. There are so many choices. You can go with artificial, potted live and cut. I'll skip through the artificial.

First are potted live trees. You can choose from several varieties such as Eldarica (Afghan, Mondale), Aleppo, Italian stone, Austrian black pine and piñon. These are some of the

most commonly available trees that will actually survive in the Las Cruces and southern New Mexico climate. These plants are listed by approximate rate of growth and size, Eldarica being the largest and fastest to the piñon being the slowest.

If you choose one of these to plant outside after the holidays, keep in mind the mature width and height of each. Too often I see some of the Afghan pines planted or already growing up into telephone lines or creeping up and over neighbor's yard. Keep in mind the larger the tree the larger the root system will be. These roots can up heave foundations, sidewalks, rock walls and tap into leach lines or sewer systems.

When keeping these indoors, it is advised not to leave them in for more than two weeks. The longer they are inside, the

more they acclimate to the warmer temperatures. Try to use the coldest room in the home or close the heating vent to that room. Do not place tree near a fireplace or heating stove.

It is important to keep the soil moist. One of the easiest ways to do this is by using ice instead of water. This action will slowly saturate the root ball without making a mess.

The weather has been very mild this year, but after the holidays, it is still best to let your tree slowly acclimate to the colder outside temperatures before planting it in its final location.

Generally, two weeks or more on a patio or porch with an overhang would be a good location before planting it out in the yard. This action will help the needles "harden off" before being subjected to the freezing temps. Be sure to use compost and root stimulator. Do not fertilize it until you see new growth appear in the spring.

Now we have cut trees. Whether you go out and cut your own or buy one locally, it is important to make sure you make a fresh cut right before you place it in water. You should notice your tree taking up a considerable amount of water the first time you fill up your basin.

It is a good idea to have your tree hosed off to help remove dust, mud or the occasional insect that may hitch a ride and make its way into your home.

Cut trees that are commercially available are usually grown on farms specifically for the Christmas season, so don't feel guilty when purchasing one of the trees. The varieties available are typically Frasier fir, Noble fir and Douglas fir, among others.

The Frasier seems to stay greener a little longer than the Noble, but the Noble has branches that can hold heavier and larger ornaments. The Douglas fir tends to be very dense and can dry out rather quickly if in a warm environment. As mentioned earlier, it is best to close the heating vent in the room that the cut tree is displayed in. This will help keep your tree from drying out and becoming a fire hazard.

Again, when choosing a cut tree remember to insist on a fresh cut and store your tree in water immediately. Mini lights are generally OK to use on cut trees, however, it is recommended never to leave the lights on the tree while you are away from home. LED lights are preferred. Although they are more expensive, they will pay for themselves over the long haul with the amount of electricity used.

After the holidays, your cut tree, as well as any other clean yard waste, can be mulched and turned into compost by the city. Remove any wire or nails before taking material to the recycling center. For more information, visit www.las-cruces.org and click on the recycling links.

Gary Guzman, owner of Guzman's Color Your World Gardening Centers, can be reached at gary@lascrucesbulletin.com.

We've got our GAME FACE on!



Got your GAME FACE on?

Send pics to
ads@lascrucesbulletin.com



Potted or cut, give your Christmas tree the care it needs to thrive during the holidays.

Why are my windows all wet?

Before replacing, consider these sources of moisture

Miles Dyson
Living Green



The Christmas season is in full swing. We are just seeing the first cool crisp air of winter move in to our valley.

We have the doggies set up with special indoor cozy areas. Those semi-tropical patio plants have migrated inside to the kitchen. Our homes are cozy warm with furnaces and fireplaces cranked up, and with the long, dark nights, it feels great to spend even more time inside the house. It is so nice inside our house we invite a few friends and family over to enjoy the warmth of the holiday season. All is merry and bright!

But wait – there is a problem. Look at my windows – there is water all over them and it's running down on the paint and ruining the windowsill. The other morning, when the temp dipped below freezing, there was frost on the windows – ice inside my house! My windows must be junk – I'll have to see if I can afford to get them replaced.

Wait – before we throw money at the problem, let's learn a little more about what is going on. Condensation – which can appear as a light coating of water, water droplets, frost, ice or some combination of the four – forms on any surface when the temperature of the surface is less than its dew point temperature. For example, if the temperature of the glass in a window is 50 degrees and the dew point temperature for the glass is 55 degrees, condensation will form on the surface of the window glass.

The air in your home, at any given temperature, is capable of holding a certain amount of water vapor within it – warmer air can hold more water as vapor. When the maximum amount of water vapor is within the air, that is referred to as saturation. This is also known as 100 percent relative humidity and the temperature of the air has reached what is known as dew point temperature.

Dew and frost is beautiful on grassy fields or rooftops, but we sure don't want it on the inside of our windows. We know the problem involves moisture levels inside the house and the surface temperature on the inside of our windows. Armed with this information, we can work to reduce or eliminate interior window condensation. The first step is to identify and reduce possible moisture sources in the home.

If you have lived in your home for several years, and winter condensation suddenly becomes a problem, a key suspect may be your furnace system. One of the main byproducts of fuel combustion is water vapor. If your furnace heat exchanger is cracked or damaged, combustion gases, including water vapor and carbon monoxide, may be introduced through the air ducts of your home. This can be a very dangerous situation. You should get the help of a good heating and air conditioning technician to check carbon monoxide levels in the home and to do a thorough inspection of your heating equipment if you note this type of change.

The air temperature and moisture level is not the same in each room of your home. Bathroom, laundry and kitchen ar-

reas typically have higher humidity conditions at certain times of the day. On the other hand, surfaces in living or working areas where the relative humidity is low have less opportunity for the formation of condensation.

Opening curtains and blinds in these problem rooms will increase warm air circulation to window surfaces and limit condensation build up. These rooms will also require controlled fresh air circulation in winter – that means running bath and laundry ventilation fans or range hoods for 30 minutes or longer after showers, washing clothes or doing dishes. Many bathroom type vent fans do not move the amount of air they should (50 CFM or more) due to poor installation. This is common, even in new homes. Call an HVAC technician or energy rater to do testing to make sure air is actually moved when fans are running.

Moisture and condensation problems are often dependant on occupant habits. Drying clothes on hangers in the bath or laundry room, growing lots of plants indoors, having lots of pets, home schooling the kids or taking care of shut in family members (yes, each person in the home is putting more water in the air just by breathing) all increase moisture levels in a home. In each case, more fresh air ventilation may be required to reduce condensation.

Poor window installation and aging or settling of house walls can create air leaks around window frames that cool interior window surfaces and increase condensation. Look for and caulk or seal any gaps or openings where the window frame meets the wall or where cover trim is gapped. An energy rater or auditor can locate problem air leaks around windows with blower door and/or infrared camera testing.

Almost any type of window can have condensation issues if conditions are right. Windows with better insulating or thermal resistance properties will have less chance of forming moisture on the inside surface. Older single pane, metal frame windows have the worst thermal performance. Newer fiberglass, wood frame or vinyl windows with insulated dual panes provide the best thermal break to keep inside surface temperatures closer to the interior air temperature of the home.

The National Fenestration Rating Council has developed a standardized methodology for determining the potential formation of condensation on a window called Condensation Resistance. According to the NFRC, Condensation Resistance is reported on a scale of 1 to 100. The higher the number, the better a product is at resisting condensation. This tied closely to the overall thermal performance or insulating value of a window unit reported as the U-value.

This is good information if you are selecting windows for a new home. Replacing windows in an existing home usually won't make sense for utility bill reduction or for condensation problems due to the high cost of the units and the installation. Of course, if windows no longer open, seal or latch securely and cannot be repaired – it's time to do some window shopping.

I hope you and your families have a joyous Christmas and a great 2013!

Miles Dyson is the owner of Inspection Connection LC - Professional Home Energy Rating and Home Inspection Services in Mesilla Park and can be reached at 202-2457. Dyson is a RESNET certified Home Energy Rater and ASHI certified Home Inspector.

“ Poor window installation and aging or settling of house walls can create air leaks around window frames that cool interior window surfaces and increase condensation. ”

Stop cockroaches

Don't let them in your home



Scott Svenheim
ACE Pest Detective

Everyone has heard it before: Cockroaches will survive a nuclear blast. While that may be a bit of a stretch, there's no doubt these pests are a hardy bunch. Just ask anyone who has ever tried to get rid of a roach infestation.

Beyond the ick factor, cockroaches pose a health hazard. Allergens found in cockroach feces, saliva and body parts can cause allergic reactions or trigger asthma symptoms, especially in children. Cockroaches transport microbes on their bodies that cause diseases and have been found to spread 33 kinds of bacteria, including E. coli and salmonella, which can cause food poisoning or gastroenteritis, six parasitic worms and more than seven other types of human pathogens.

Cockroaches were here long before humans ever arrived. Scientists estimate that they originated more than 280 million years ago, and have been around so long due to some strange behavior and survival tactics, according to the National Pest Management Association. For example, they spend three-quarters of their time resting and can live through temperatures as cold as 32 degrees.

Cockroaches breathe through little holes in each of their body segments. So they don't depend on their mouths or heads to breath and can survive up to a full week without their heads. A headless roach will eventually die of thirst because it can't drink. Another odd fact about cockroaches is that they can hold their breath for 40 minutes and survive half an hour under water.

Some roaches are even known to take part in a favorite human pastime: drinking alcohol. The American cockroach is attracted to alcoholic beverages, especially beer. They're most likely attracted by the alcohol mixed with hops and sugar, the association said.

One thing is for sure, we're all grateful that the world's largest roach, which is six inches long and has a 1-foot wingspan, lives in South America. Around these parts, we generally see them from half an inch to 2 inches long.

Considering all their survival instincts, it's no wonder a roach infestation is hard to eradicate. Here are some preventative steps to take:

- Keep food sealed and stored properly.
- Clean daily, in particular the kitchen, to prevent crumbs and trash buildup.
- Store garbage in a sealed container and dispose of it regularly.
- Seal all cracks and holes in homes, including entry points for utilities and pipes since they can serve as entranceways for the pest.
- Keep basements and crawl spaces well ventilated and dry.

If those steps don't work, call in the professionals because, as you can see, those cockroaches will be around for a long time otherwise.

Scott Svenheim, an expert for Truly Nolen of America, has 25 years of experience in the pest control industry. Svenheim brings an informative as well as unique and entertaining perspective to consumers' pest problems in the 21st century. Founded in 1938, Tucson, Ariz.,-based Truly Nolen of America is one of the largest family owned pest control companies in the United States. For more information or to ask your local expert a question about insects and insect prevention, visit www.trulynolen.com or call 915-591-9864.

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Getting to know: *Citizens Bank of Las Cruces mortgage team*

Making the American Dream possible

Regulation changes, long hours worth the joy of happy customers

By **Beth Sitzler**
Las Cruces Bulletin

They say there is no rest for the weary. The same can be said of the hard-working mortgage department at Citizens Bank of Las Cruces.

Led by Residential Real Estate Lending Vice President Jerome Dodson, the four-member team at Citizens Bank has a reputation for getting things done in a timely, professional manner, which requires late hours, work taken home and visits to the office on the weekend.

"There is no such thing as banker hours in this department," said Shelly Jett McEntire. "We're the last to leave, and we'll take files home."

"We have a reputation of getting things done."

It was this reputation that attracted McEntire to the company. Originally working for the financial side of a banking business in Alamogordo, she moved into the mortgage department 13 years ago, which moved her to Las Cruces.

"I thought it would be interesting," she said of her switch to the mortgage business.

While working with another bank, McEntire said she often would hear people talk about Citizens Bank and how it treated its employees, as well as its customers.

"I thought, if ever a position opened up, I would apply for it," said McEntire, who began working with the bank about a year ago. "Citizens Bank is the place to be in mortgages in Las Cruces."

Eddie DeArmond, who has been in the mortgage business since 1996, was recruited to Citizens Bank more than six years ago.

"I actually was in the insurance field. A friend of mine was a mortgage broker and said I would be perfect for this," said DeArmond, who has a bachelor's degree in administration and a double major in financing and real estate.

Under DeArmond for sometime was Latson Munn Jr., who joined Citizens Bank as a teller in 2004 and quickly moved to becoming DeArmond's processor before becoming a mortgage loan originator in May.

"I heard there was more opportunity to get higher up and advance in the mortgage department," Munn Jr. said.

The team said a typical work day begins with checking emails and returning phone calls before they start reviewing files and meeting with customers and real estate professionals.

"There is a pipeline of loans that are in different stages,"

McEntire said.

"It's all about prioritizing," DeArmond said. "It's amazing how fast the day flies in this business."

Time management and keeping everyone happy can be a challenge, a challenge made worse by the constant changes to regulations and guidelines.

"This is a highly regulated industry," McEntire said. "It takes time to learn all of the changes."

The mortgage industry is regulated by Freddie Mac, Fannie Mae, the Federal Housing Administration and the Department of Veterans Affairs. Citizens Bank also has its own rules, as do private investors.

"We get emails with a lot of changes," McEntire said. "We have to make sure we're in compliance with everyone."

While regulations change on a weekly basis, this is better than when they would change on a daily basis in 2005, DeArmond said.

"If they had enforced the rules they already had in place (before the housing market downturn), we would not be where we are today," he said. "They went from not enforcing the rules to over enforcing."

Despite the constant changes and various hoops placed in their way, the team has noticed business pick up.

"It seems like it has stabilized, but we still are seeing short sales and foreclosures," said DeArmond, adding that he believes interest rates will remain stable in 2013 until possibly the summer, when they might increase.

While sales have picked up recently, the price of homes has decreased.

"Right now, \$130,000 to \$150,000 is the average," Munn Jr. said.

"With the lower rates, all of the people who couldn't buy homes can buy them now," McEntire said.

When it comes to the most enjoyable aspect of the business, the team agreed that one thing stood out the most: seeing their customers get into a home.

"People come back and thank you," said DeArmond, adding that one gentleman was so grateful he cried while thanking him over the phone.

"Sometimes they've gone to another place and got denied and you made it happen," Munn Jr. said. "They become so overjoyed."

"It just really love my job. I love doing loans and I love the department and where I'm at," McEntire said. "(Homeownership) is the American Dream. It's very rewarding."

Details

Team members

- Eddie DeArmond, mortgage loan officer
- Latson Munn Jr., mortgage loan originator
- Jerome Dodson, vice president
- Shelly Jett McEntire, mortgage loan officer

Phone

647-4100

Website

www.citizenslc.com



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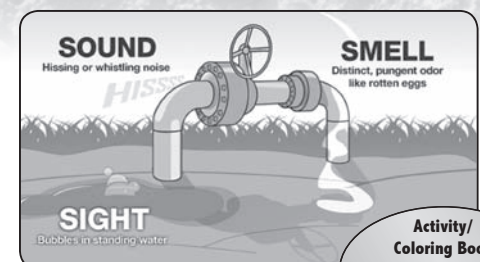


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ChileKnights

Dress up your holiday sides

Dash of spice goes a long way

Sunny Conley
Chile Knights



Rarely do we have difficulty deciding what to serve as a main entrée for a Christmas Eve or Christmas Day dinner. The dilemma is the side dishes.

Although I appreciate the traditional accompaniments – green bean casserole, mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes and cranberry sauce – they are often Thanksgiving Day dinner repeaters. Yawners!

I tire of the same ol', same ol'. So this year, I'm jazzing 'em up. How about Blitzen's brussel sprouts tossed with serrano peppers and pepper bacon, the works made crunchy with Mesilla Valley pecans (and a bit tipsy with white wine), or Santa's grilled corn and toasted peppers underscored with salty feta cheese?

And, it also being Chanukah, I include two chile-charged kugel recipes – apricot-habanero and green chile pine nut eggplant. Each can be served as a main entrée or as one hot and tasty side.

Wishing fellow Chilehead aficionados a happy and safe holiday.

Blitzen's Brussel Sprouts

2 serrano peppers, stemmed, seeded and sliced
1/2 pound brussel sprouts, stemmed and sliced
4 slices pepper bacon, chopped or sliced diagonally
1/4 cup Mesilla Valley pecans, unroasted, chopped
(consider using the chile spiced version for more heat)
2 tablespoons white wine
Salt and pepper to taste

Heat a large pan to medium heat and add bacon. While bacon is cooking, heat a small pot of water and bring to a boil. Add brussel sprouts and boil for 2 minutes. Remove from heat, drain and add to a bowl of ice water (ice water preserves the green color and stops the cooking process). When bacon is just starting to get crispy, add pecans and serrano peppers and mix. Cook about 5 minutes. Add brussel sprouts and sauté about 10 minutes, or until sprouts are done to your preference (al dente is best). Add white wine and salt and pepper. Let wine reduce by half and serve in a festive holiday bowl. Makes 4 to 6 servings. (Recipe adapted from <http://jalapenomadness.com>.)

Santa's Toasted Corn and Roasted Pepper Toss

Note: Recipe can be doubled.
4 ears of corn, do not shuck
1 large red bell pepper, stemmed, seeded and chopped
1 (5-inch-long) zucchini, sliced in half lengthwise
1/2 cup red onion, chopped
1/2 cup cilantro, chopped
1 jalapeño or serrano chile pepper, stemmed, seeded and minced
1 teaspoon ground cumin (best if you toast whole cumin seeds then grind)
1/4 cup crumbly salty cheese such as feta or cotija
2 tablespoons olive oil
2 tablespoons lime juice
Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste

Prepare your grill for high, direct heat. Oil the grill grates. Rub a little olive oil over the bell pepper. Place the corn in their husks and red bell pepper directly on the grill grates. Cover the grill.

Turn corn occasionally, so entire husk is blackened. Turn the red bell pepper occasionally until the skin is blistered on all sides, about 15 to 20 minutes. (Time will vary according to grill.)

For about the last 5 minutes of grilling time, rub olive oil over the zucchini pieces and place them directly on the grill grate, cut side down. Using tongs, turn them over when grill marks appear. Grill another minute or two.

Place corn kernels, chopped bell pepper, chopped zucchini, red onion, cilantro and jalapeño or serrano pepper into a large bowl. Add the cumin, olive oil, lime juice and crumbly cheese. Mix gently. Salt and pepper to taste. Serve chilled or at room temperature. Makes 4 servings.

Green Chile Pine Nut Eggplant Kugel

1 (1-pound) eggplant
1/2 cup water
1/4 teaspoon salt
1 medium white onion, diced
1/3 cup pine nuts
1 teaspoon garlic, crushed (about two small cloves)
1 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil
1 (4-ounce) can medium-hot green chiles, diced (or substitute fresh roasted)
1 egg
2 egg whites, beaten lightly
1 1/2 cup crumbled matzos
Salt and pepper
2 tablespoons margarine, to dot the top

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Peel eggplant. Cut in small pieces and put in microwave dish with 1/2 cup water and 1/4 teaspoon salt. Cover dish, microwave on high 8 to 10 minutes. Drain water and mash the eggplant with fork. Sauté onion and pine nuts with garlic and oil till golden brown. Add chiles and salt and pepper to taste. Add mashed eggplant to the sautéed vegetables, then crumble the matzo and add in the beaten egg mix. Place mix in lightly greased (extra virgin olive oil) 9-by-9-by-2-inch pan or a similar-sized casserole dish and bake for about 30 minutes until golden brown. Makes 8 servings. (Recipe adapted from <http://recipebridge.com>.)

Apricot-Habanero Kugel

1 (16-ounce) package wide egg noodles
1 (18-ounce) jar apricot preserves
6 eggs, beaten
1 cup melted butter
1/4 teaspoon habanero powder
1/2 cup white sugar



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Sunny Conley
Get creative with holiday side dishes – make 'em hot and sassy!

1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 pinch salt
1 (16-ounce) container cottage cheese
2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Grease a 9-by-12-inch baking dish. Bring a large pot of lightly salted water to a boil. Add egg noodles and cook for 8 to 10 minutes or until al dente; drain.

In a large bowl, stir together the apricot preserves, eggs, butter, habanero powder, sugar, vanilla extract and salt, and mix to thoroughly combine. Fold in the cottage cheese and noodles, and spoon the mixture into the prepared baking dish.

Bake in the preheated oven until the center of the kugel is cooked and set, about 50 minutes. Remove the kugel and top with Cheddar cheese, return to the oven and bake until the cheese is browned and bubbling, about 10 minutes. Let the kugel rest for 10 minutes before serving. Makes 8 servings.

Sunny Conley, a former Las Cruces, is an award-winning cookbook author and food columnist. If you have a chile recipe or idea to share, contact Sunny at sunny.conley@gmail.com.



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Breaking a sweat at the MVHFH half marathon

Mesilla Valley Habitat for Humanity photos

Volunteer Brenda Massad hands out T-shirts before the start of the Las Cruces Half Marathon, held to benefit the Mesilla Valley Habitat for Humanity Sunday, Dec. 2.



Racers take off from the starting line.



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MVHFH volunteers Mary Lou and Homer Brown get things organized before the half marathon, held for the third year, the first time benefiting the nonprofit.

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