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# THE LAS CRUCES Bulletin

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## Hello hawks at Centennial

High school name marks NM's 100th

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

When the new \$100 million high school now under construction north-east of the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum on Dripping Springs Road opens its doors in fall 2012, it will be in the midst of the 100th anniversary of statehood.

So, while there was originally much support for naming the school Dripping Springs to denote its sense of place, Las Cruces school board members said at a special meeting Tuesday, March 8, that another name gained interest in the polling for the school's name – Centennial.

Board member Bonnie Votaw said she was like a lot of people, originally favoring the Dripping Springs name, until she thought about how the new high school was the only major school to open in New Mexico during the centennial year.

"Next year is New Mexico's birthday," Votaw said. "I am awestruck by that prospect. I love our history. I love our state. I love our birthday."

In looking for a new high school name, Las Cruces Public Schools received 532 suggestions of names and mascots in an online community survey conducted in February. The top results from that survey were then submitted to all LCPS middle-schoolers in a second survey. The top five names chosen by 1,254 middle-schoolers were Centennial, Desert View, Dripping Springs, Mountain View and Organ Mountain. The students also voted on a mascot, with the top five offered being mountain lion, coyote, hawk, mustang and wolf.

Board President Connie Phillips said she favored hawks because she believed it would be a strong symbol and there are many hawks seen flying in the area northwest of Tortugas Mountain. Because one school already had wolves as mascots and coyotes were not seen as strong, the board chose hawks.

Those decisions came relatively easier compared to the discussion about school colors.

The board originally was set on just red and black, but the centennial theme raised

See **High School** on page A11



Local favorite Gordo Castillo is congratulated after posting his first-ever double-double in his final home game Saturday, March 5, in the Pan American Center. The Aggies beat Nevada 77-68 to secure the third seed in the Western Athletic Conference Tournament in Las Vegas, Nev., that began Wednesday, March 9. Another local product, Madison Spence, also played her last home game Saturday. The women's team also qualified for WAC Tournament play. See more coverage in the Sports section on page A15.

## Libyan crisis more than just increased gas prices

Two NMSU students feel events

By **Jimmy Currier**  
For the Las Cruces Bulletin

With news reports of protests, a budding revolution shown nightly on television and gas prices inching higher each day, more Americans are beginning to take notice of the events in Libya.

Libya, an oil-rich nation in North Africa, is embroiled in a revolution much like the ones in Egypt and Tunisia. What are the people clamoring to the streets, risking their health, income and fortune for? Freedom. Freedom from Col. Muammar al-Gaddafi, who has ruled the country with an iron fist for 42 years.

Although Las Cruces is an ocean away from Libya, the news reports and videos on YouTube and Al-Jazeera hit close to home to at least two Las Cruces because Libya is their home.

Mossa Alsoussia and Najib Salem are graduate students at New Mexico State University.

Alsoussia of Al Bayda is studying computer science, while Salem of Tripoli is pursuing communication studies. The two have taken part in demonstrations, along with other Libyan and Arab students, in front of NMSU's Corbett Center Student Union.

See **Libya** on page A11

## Spaceport effort resets under new leadership

Scrutiny of Spaceport America progress and spending begins

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

With only two days at the job as the new spaceport executive director, Christine Anderson and the newly reformed New Mexico Spaceport Authority board met Tuesday, March 8, to review Spaceport America's finances.

With such a large project, the finances can be confusing. For example, Spaceport America's price tag is often put at around \$200 million.

But with 12 of 13 construction bid packages out, the amount

currently being spent on the first phase of Spaceport America is \$113 million, which includes the runway, terminal hangar, an operations and firefighting facility, fuel and water storage, wastewater treatment, electricity hookup, basic access roads and other initial infrastructure.

This threw off new board member David Buchholtz, a bond attorney, who noted the \$200 million figure is used in press reports.

Money to be spent in the future includes such things as the

See **Spaceport** on page A11

### NEXT WEEK

### WHAT'S INSIDE

### HOMES & SOUTHWEST LIVING

#### Legislature enters home stretch

Wins and losses begin to take shape as 60-day session winds down



\$1



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**Mmmmm, pecan delights more than pies,**  
E5





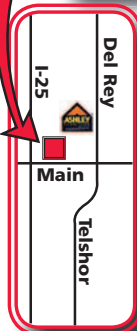
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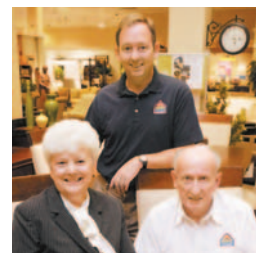
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# Washing away the pain



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Niki Rhynes

Vanessa Monge helps at a car wash fundraiser by Oñate High School students and faculty at Families & Youth Inc. Sunday, March 6. Monge is a co-worker of Yesenia Solis, mother of Jerry Zamarripa, an 18-year-old Oñate football player hospitalized for a week before dying Feb. 26 from injuries in an assault at a party.

# Protesting law change



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Niki Rhynes

Sandra Correa and Araceli Alvarado gathered at Las Cruces City Hall, Monday, March 7, to protest the state House bill to stop issuing drivers licenses to illegal immigrants. See story on page A23 for more on the legislation.

# Wilson to run for Senate

## Congresswoman announces candidacy

Former U.S. Rep. Heather Wilson announced her candidacy for the U.S. Senate in 2012 at a manufacturing plant in Albuquerque Monday, March 7.

In her announcement, Wilson, a Republican who served in Congress for 10 years, called on her generation to step up to the challenges America faces.

"America is a very special place, a place we are blessed to call home," Wilson said. "But today, America is at risk. Our free market system. Our exceptionalism. Our economy. Our tradition of limited government. All under assault. We face great challenges, but we are a great

nation. With your help, we will meet those challenges. With your help, we will restore fiscal responsibility. With your help, we will strengthen American culture. With your help, we will maintain a strong national defense. Let us be the next generation that meets the challenge and allows the greatness of America to endure."

A recipient of numerous public service awards for protecting taxpayers and promoting free enterprise, Wilson received Distinguished Public Service Awards from the CIA and the Director of National Intelligence upon leaving the Congress.



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# Opinions

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## Guestcolumn

BY TODD G. DICKSON

### No country for old ways New industries – including filmmaking – should be seen as educational motivation

Sometime in the coming week, the Legislature will get done with debating non-budgetary issues such as driver's licenses and state necklaces and get down to the brass tacks of closing the \$450 million budgetary shortfall.

Part of the budgetary debate has been what to do about the state's generous support of the film industry. It's one of the few issues in which there are surprising champions and critics. Many conservatives don't like the film incentives, which they equate to a government subsidy, but I'd venture that a good number of them don't like these liberal Hollywood types coming in to our fair state.

Paradoxically, there are a good number of liberals dissing the film incentives because they see it as a crass example of "government welfare for business." Yet, some of the strongest supporters for keeping the film incentives come from some of the more conservative areas of the state, because, well, there were big film productions recently shot there, which made the local hotels and restaurants very happy for a while.

On The Bulletin on the Radio show, I had the pleasure of asking Gov. Susana Martinez about her position on the film "tax credit" – which she promptly corrected me as it being a "subsidy." I thought she was taking a reasonable position in that Martinez said she felt the state should reduce the level of support rather than setting a cap, something that I heard suggested by a number of area lawmakers. Martinez said her concern about setting a cap was that she didn't want the film industry to go away.

However, a cap does appear to be the direction that the Legislature is headed. Lawmakers have passed legislation to limit film incentives to \$45 million a year, roughly 10 percent of the projected shortfall. Capping the film incentives can be dicey. A recent article in Detroit Free Press looked at film incentives nationally in the context of Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder's proposal to cap film incentives at \$25 million. That report found that when Mississippi capped its film incentives at \$20 million, film production in that state dropped dramatically.

Recently, Philip Lewis, a professor at New Mexico State University's Creative Media Institute, sent a guest column to newspapers making the case for looking at how film production fits in with New Mexico's educational system.

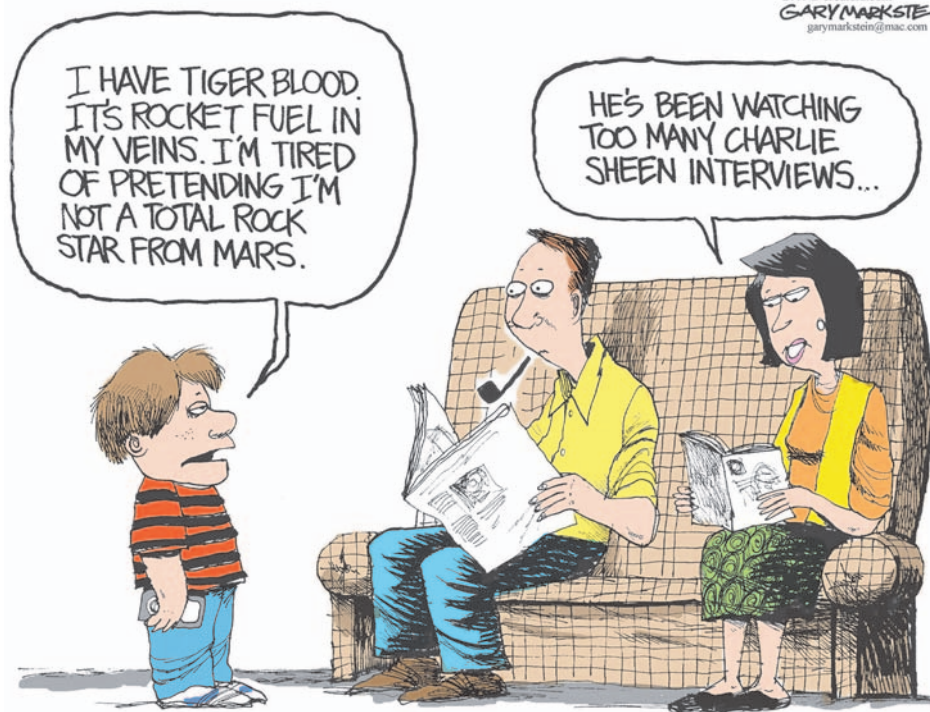
"We now have more than 12,000 students enrolled in media arts degree programs of one sort or another throughout our college and university system statewide," Lewis wrote. "At many of these institutions these programs have the greatest enrollment growth of any program they offer."

Lewis noted that CMI alone has almost 400 students currently enrolled in its program to professionally train them for film production work, as well as related fields in computer graphics and animation.

I would like to take his argument a step further. We've had a lot of news lately of efforts like the spaceport and Sapphire Energy's algae-based fuel development. I believe regional economic opportunities like those drive the interests of local students. If a young person sees that he or she can find good work down the road at Spaceport America or at a bio-refinery, they just might pay a little more attention in science class.

To me, the film industry provides an opportunity to reach students who like making films or animation on computers. If they believe they can find work in that industry – especially with a training resource like CMI – it may just provide that additional motivation to keep them in school because there may be a pay-off in the end if they stick it out.

Now, as someone who enjoys finally seeing good film and television produced in New Mexico, I have to admit that I have selfish reasons for wanting the industry to stick around. As a former resident of Albuquerque, I've enjoyed seeing the Duke City double for Phoenix and even El Paso in "Crazy Heart" and "No Country for Old Men," both award-winning films – a far cry from when only really bad movies were made in New Mexico. I must also confess that I really enjoy "Breaking Bad" being made here. I would hate to see that remarkably dark comedy-drama decide to set up shop in another state.



## Letters to the Editor

### Cuts will hurt women

Republicans in the House of Representatives voted on a budget in mid-February that will deny millions of women access to basic health care, contraception and cancer screening. By voting to defund Planned Parenthood and eliminating support for Title X, the federal family planning program for low-income women, that provides birth control, breast and cervical cancer screenings and testing for HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases, they have insured that many of these services will now be unavailable to millions of women.

In New Mexico, Planned Parenthood provides services to thousands of families in New Mexico. The clinics provide a broad array of services including Pap smears, breast exams, all contraceptive methods, colposcopies, STD testing and treatment, male services, referral for mammograms, tubal ligation and vasectomies.

New Mexico has the highest teen pregnancy rate in the United States. Our rate is 93 per thousand, making it 30 percent higher than the national average which is 71 per thousand. Only 2 percent of these teen mothers graduate from college, 40 percent from high school. This is not only life-long economic deprivation for them, but for the state. The children born to teen mothers are more likely to have health problems at birth and do poorly in school and later life.

Approximately 49 percent of all New Mexicans are considered medically underserved. Nearly half of all pregnancies are unintended. About 237,000 women need contraception and of those 139,000 need publicly funded contraception. Of course, the proportion of New Mexicans without health insurance and the high poverty rate in the state, make public provision of health services of utmost importance.

Vicki Simons

### A historical note

I really enjoy the Looking Back historical column in the Las Cruces Bulletin.

Recently I was reading an out-of-print book, "The Guide to New Mexico Mountains" by Herbert E. Ungnade. I read the following:

"Students, W. I. Isaacks and O. B. Metcalfe ascended the Organ Needle, the highest summit (9,012 feet) of the Organ Mountains in 1904. Supposedly this was the first time in history that someone climbed the highest peak in the Organ Mountains. The two men from the New Mexico College of Agriculture & Mechanic Arts erected a pole with a flag that waved on the mountain peak for years."

Are there any photos of and further info on this event? I would love to see a picture in your column. Thanks so much for reading.

Greg Lennes

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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# Acrimony, animosity, hyperbole: State Legislature back to normal

## Solons tussle over film tax credits, immigrant driver's licenses

**Jay Miller**  
Inside the Capitol



The New Mexico Legislature finally is beginning to act like its old self. The House passed a budget bill on a 35-34 vote, two weeks after its planned mid-session action.

The bill contained the extra revenue from a \$45 million cap on film industry rebates negotiated the weekend before between House Speaker Ben Lujan and Republican leaders.

The film rebate cap was seen as a loss for Lujan but it still wasn't enough to get Republican votes for the budget bill. The Democratic hope is that it will be enough to get Gov. Susana Martinez's signature on the budget.

The votes on the budget and film rebate cap were accompanied by hours of rancorous debate. At one point, House Republican whip Don Bratton of Hobbs called a fellow House member a liar for noting that the oil and gas

industry receives bigger tax breaks than the film industry.

Much of the acrimony centered around comparison of tax breaks and which industries are using scare tactics to keep their good deals. The truth is that all sides of every tax break issue use scare tactics – usually either the threat to move to another state or to go out of business.

Movies and TV are highly mobile operations. They have been known to pick up and move to another state during a shoot if they get a sweeter deal elsewhere. The oil industry isn't as mobile. It has to drill where the oil is.

Legislative efforts to prevent national corporations from declaring New Mexico profits in states with lower corporate tax also have been met with threats to move. But it is unlikely a Walmart is going to miss out on a

good market just because of a slightly higher tax. It has stores in every state.

Plenty of animosity also came to the fore over the effort to take drivers licenses away from illegal aliens. The subject is a top priority of Gov. Martinez but the bill was killed on a tabling motion in a House Committee.

Rep. Andy Nuñez, who became an independent at the beginning of this session, was successful in convincing the House to pull the bill out of committee and onto the floor for debate. The process is known as "blasting" a bill out of committee.

It is attempted once or twice almost every session but seldom is successful because it usually is a move by the minority party and the vote almost always is along party lines. So why waste time trying? Usually it is a case of wanting to get everyone on record concern-

“ The truth is, all sides of every tax break use scare tactics. ”

ing a controversial issue that might come in handy during the next election

Taking drivers' licenses from illegal aliens has been the No. 1 issue for Gov. Martinez this session. She has paid for radio ads and automated phone calls during the session on the issue. Getting Democrats on record in marginal districts can be good campaign fodder.

Nuñez, who was elected as a Democrat, was accused by Democrats of following orders from our Republican governor. Nuñez insisted it was his own idea.

"Dangerous" is a term that has been thrown around by both sides on the drivers' license issue. Democrats warned House members that blasting a bill out of committee sets a dangerous precedent by weakening the status of committees.

Martinez claims aliens with driver's licenses are dangerous. Rep. Eleanor Chavez, of Albuquerque, counters that. Martinez is dangerous. It's just another example of the hyperbole floating around this session.

At this point, it appears the heat will be on for the remainder of the session. The controversial bills now are in the Senate, which until this year had been the more conservative and volatile of the two houses. Now, with the turmoil in the House, it appears the Senate may seem more liberal and stable.

Jay Miller may be contacted at [insidethecapitol@hotmail.com](mailto:insidethecapitol@hotmail.com).

## Letters to the Editor

### Reading list for Swickard

In his Feb. 18 column on global warming, Michael Swickard says, "Let me see that (temperature) over a couple of centuries of data." Brian Fagan, on page 25 of his 2004 book "The Long Summer" has a graph showing temperature and carbon dioxide (CO2) concentration for the last 420,000 years.

Scrunched up against the right modern-times end of the graph is a huge spike in CO2 and an out-of-phase temperature increase. On page 24, Fagan has another graph showing climate over the last 10,000 years. Fagan's book is available at Branigan Library, call number 551.6 Fag 2004. Many other graphs showing temperature and CO2 for various lengths of time can be found in other books shelved nearby

Swickard complains, "Climate advocates have no target." On the contrary, the target of no more than 350 parts per million CO2 and no more than 2 degrees centigrade temperature increase has been widely publicized. See, for example, [www.350.org](http://www.350.org).

Swickard says, "In the 1970s it was called global cooling." He doesn't cite a reference. In an earlier column, he said he had heard a speaker at a 1970s Earth Day rally decry global cooling. I think Swickard has conflated two memories. One memory of a 1970s Earth Day rally and another memory of the lively 1980s public discussion of nuclear winter. For nuclear winter, see R. P. Turco, et. al. 1983. "Nuclear winter: global consequences of multiple nuclear explosions." *Science* 222:1283-1292. This paper received a lot of attention in popular journalism.

For a survey of the alleged 1970s global cooling panic, see John Fleck, 2009: "The great global cooling myth and the politics of science." *Skeptical Inquirer* 33(3): 20-21, available online

at [www.cscicop.org](http://www.cscicop.org).

Also of interest is Gilbert N. Plass, 1956: "Carbon dioxide and the climate." *American Scientist* 44: 302-316, available online at [www.americanscientist.org](http://www.americanscientist.org). A condensation and discussion of Plass's paper is in *American Scientist* 98: 58-67 (Jan.-Feb. 2010), wherein it is stated that mathematician Jean-Baptiste Fourier wrote in 1824 (more than 180 years ago) about excess CO2 causing harmful climate warming.

Alice Anderson

### Tax lightning unfair

I would like to thank new state Rep. Dr. Terry McMillan for his outstanding work on the issue of tax lightning.

It did not matter to McMillan that my wife had worked for his opponent's campaign. McMillan nevertheless spent 90 minutes on a Sunday afternoon at our house going over court decisions and other materials pertaining to tax lightning. Then, McMillan continued his research in Santa Fe, reviewing the legislative history on the issue and discussing it with colleagues. Finally, McMillan introduced a bill that would fix the tax lightning problem, which now forces thousands of homeowners in the state to pay more than their fair share in real estate taxes, and has precipitated thousands of costly property assessment appeals. McMillan's bill is pending in the House, where a committee hearing on it is scheduled for Saturday, March 12. Tax lightning victims should let McMillan and his

colleagues know that they appreciate and support his efforts.

Three different judges have declared the legislature's current tax lightning law unconstitutional. Even the attorney for the state's 33 county valuation protest boards has said the law is unconstitutional.

In ordering me to pay a 68 percent year-to-year increase in my property taxes, the Doña Ana Protests Board admitted: "We tend to agree with the property owner's estimation that he is carrying an unequal, and thus unfair, tax burden." The board said it was required to order such large unfair increases until the law is changed. Fortunately, in my case District Court Judge Manuel Arrieta reversed the board's order and declared the law unconstitutional. My assessment is being corrected and the increase limited to 3 percent. Tax lightning victims hope the Doña Ana Assessor will now follow the lead of the Bernalillo County Assessor and correct all of the county's tax lightning assessments.

William J. Berman

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— PUBLIC HEARING —

### Fees and Charges/Facility Use Policy

The City of Las Cruces will hold a public hearing for the Parks & Recreation proposed 2011-2012 Fees and Charges/Facility Use Policy. Residents are invited to give input on proposed changes which include fee adjustments for the programs and facilities. The hearing will be held during the regular Parks & Recreation Advisory board meeting.

**THURSDAY, MARCH 17**  
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# A second set of licenses

## Why not use Mexican-issued documents?

**Michael Swickard**  
In My Opinion



In the discussions about giving New Mexico driver licenses to people from Mexico who are in the United States without legal status, we are not hearing the core issue. This simple fact is being ignored: people from Mexico already have valid Mexican driver licenses. Those Mexican driver licenses are valid in New Mexico so they can legally drive in the United States using their Mexican drivers license, although it does alert authorities that they are not a citizen of the United States.

It is hard to use a Mexican drivers license to register to vote in New Mexico. Other than that I do not know why New Mexico has issued more than 80,000 driver licenses to people who already had a valid Mexican drivers license.

In the debate about giving a second set of identity papers to people not in our country legally, one of the reasons said was to ensure that those people could be identified. Why not just look at their Mexican drivers license? The answer is these people do not wish to present credentials showing they do not have legal status. So they decide that it is better to conceal their identity.

Is it not a crime to conceal identity? What happens to me if I conceal my identity from the police? They cannot get me to jail fast enough. Our society breaks down if some people can legally conceal their identity while others cannot. Do they have a right to conceal their identity that as a citizen I do not?

More importantly, the New Mexico license is not being used to drive; it is being used as a backdoor bid for sanctuary in our country. They want a different drivers license to give them tacit U. S. citizenship. Giving a second set of identity papers to people in our country without legal status has nothing to do with driving and everything to do with giving sanctuary to populations from Mexico.

Should they be able to come to our country outside of the legal process? The legal answer is no, while the political answer is that

it depends upon the politician as to if our rule of law should apply. There is a political advantage to some politicians to ignore some laws. Me, I say to uphold the law or repeal the law but never just ignore laws. Soon we become a nation not of laws.

One of the most problematic issues is the under-economy or informal economy where goods and services are bartered and no taxes are collected. People living in the informal economy do not wish to pay taxes so they hide their income and their status, thereby keeping for themselves all of the taxes that otherwise would have been collected. We law-abiding citizens then must pay our share, and theirs.

While some people in our country without legal status might want citizenship, if our country does another round of amnesty, it will come as a rude shock as it did to people in the Reagan generation that quite a few people in the informal economy do not want to become legal citizens and have to pay taxes.

We are left with the sanctuary question. Our country has been and is now the beacon shining a light of freedom for all people in the world to see. Abraham Lincoln, in his message to Congress in 1862 wrote, "We hold the power, and bear the responsibility. In giving freedom to the slave, we assure freedom to the free honorable alike in what we give, and what we preserve. We shall nobly save, or meanly lose, the last best hope of earth."

I am especially in awe of people who come to our country in search of freedom and opportunity. We are a big country with enough room for any and all who wish to come. Our only requirement is that they do so overtly and legally. We are open to those who want to be free. But to become an American carries the responsibility of our laws. Let no one cheat the American people. Let all who yearn to be free come and join us.

Let us defeat those who would tear our laws apart.

*Michael Swickard is co-host of radio talk show News New Mexico 6 to 9 a.m. Monday through Friday on KSNM-AM 570 in Las Cruces. Swickard may be contacted at michael@swickard.com.*

# BaxterBlack



ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

## Missouri's dog fight

Last fall, the animal rights groups put Proposition B on the ballot in Missouri. The bill was written to reduce the number of breeding kennels that produce usually purebred puppies for pet stores. The bill was opposed by the Missouri Veterinary Association, the American Kennel Club and other animal-related groups. The bill failed in 111 counties and passed in three. The three were St. Louis and Kansas City. That was enough. It passed.

The main thrust of the animal rights groups support was that, according to them, breeding kennels produce an estimated 2-million puppies a year and animal shelters in the U.S. euthanize an estimated 2-million dogs a year. Therefore people should adopt abandoned dogs instead of purchasing new puppies. That is an altruistic suggestion but, do we have the right to deprive citizens of choosing their own puppy or kitten?

To carry this logic on, should we disallow new housing to be built in Florida because people are abandoning their homes in Ohio?

The debate over Prop. B was an emotional one. It

involved many issues and "shadings" regarding the seriousness of the problem and the motives of both sides. But both sides would agree that if animals are abused, abusers should be punished.

The substantive argument revolved around required enforcement of laws already in place that are administered by the state and veterinarians under the guidance of the USDA. The emotional argument incorporated examples of abuse and incendiary claims of malnutrition, greed and unhealthy conditions. Which, of course, is already against the laws in place.

Which begs the question, why are responsible pet owners being restricted from obtaining a pet of their choice, because irresponsible people abandon their dogs which often have to be euthanized by the pound?

Where is the ACLU? What's next? Cars?

Whenever Toyota has a recall and can't sell all their inventory, should General Motors and Ford be forced to reduce their production until Toyota cleans up their act?

Where is Thomas Jefferson!

Eminent domain is based on the principle that

your private property may be taken from you for the public good. The animal rightists who support of Prop. B use that same insidious logic when they restrict the public's right to choose, in order to punish the irresponsible and ignorant.

Where's the NRA? To use their specious reasoning to limit all purebred kennels because we have to euthanize 2-million abandoned dogs a year, flies in the face of the rights of every American.

Where is the Supreme Court?

But I am one who believes there is more to this than animal cruelty. I suspect that the animal rightists have a deeper motive – the intention to limit or deprive or eliminate all of us from having pets.

This is based on their idea that humans do not have the right to "own" animals. I go back to the archives and quote the president of the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS): "We have no problem with the extinction of domestic animals. They are creations of human selective breeding."

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

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# Guest Columns

## A model of planned growth Metro Verde exemplifies council's commitment

By **Gil Sorg and Olga Pedroza**  
For the Las Cruces Bulletin

As Las Cruces Mayor Ken Miyagishima pointed out in his recent State of the City Speech, the City of Las Cruces has done a good job in stewarding its finances during the current economic downturn. He also pointed to the council's commitment to openness, transparency and accountability in all activities, and to the wide range of positive initiatives currently under way in the city.

As city councillors representing two very different districts, we share the mayor's enthusiasm for the strong commitment to quality of life among all sectors of our community, and a new spirit of cooperation that includes citizens, the building industry, elected officials and city staff.

We would like to point to one example of that commitment and cooperation, a project that can serve as a template for new development in the years to come.

On Feb. 7, the City Council passed an ordinance approving a Planned Unit Development (PUD) named Metro Verde South, which will be built north of U.S. Highway 70 on the East Mesa. This plan reflects residents' desire that the city grow in a sustainable, livable manner using good growth principles. Phased-in development of this PUD will take several years and occur in small sections so that the least amount of land will be disturbed, thus reducing dust problems.

The Metro Verde development has added many features that will make it especially attractive. Land use will be mixed so that people can live, work, go to school, and shop in the same nearby area. Every resident will be within one-third mile of a park or trail. There are several park areas and additional open spaces connected with paths and walkways. This connectivity will provide a variety of options for transportation. Residents will be able to choose to drive, walk, bicycle, or take public transit. The sidewalks will be wide and separated from traffic. Ten percent of the housing will be affordable.

Several Low Impact Development (LID) concepts will also be included, such as storm-water harvesting, permeable pavement to reduce rainwater runoff and adding more trees. In addition, the overall plan – as negotiated with city staff and approved by council – has an additional 13 required "green" elements, including solar or tank-less water heaters, low water-consumption fixtures, more insulation, storm-water harvesting and white, reflective surfaces on flat roofs. Solar PV will be recommended, not just allowed.

The water drainage system will use waterways that retain natural vegetation, protecting storm-water quality and ensuring aquifer recharge. The developer has agreed to install "purple pipe" for future use of recycled waste-water for the nearby golf course and parks.

This kind of community will reduce congestion, generate good-paying jobs, meet energy goals and protect rural areas and green spaces. These features will make the residents proud to live in this neighborhood, and Las Cruces will be proud to have this development as part of its city.

We applaud Metro Verde's developers for their creativity and cooperation in creating this project. Clearly, they have also studied the market, and know that new homebuyers are looking for the kind of cost savings and livability that Metro Verde will provide.

As councillors we are committed to providing these same opportunities to all residents, wherever they live. New development and the creative revitalization of our older neighborhoods are two sides of the same coin, and both part of our commitment to a Las Cruces that is safe and provides a high quality of life for everyone. By working together on projects like the Metro Verde development, we can most effectively expand our resources while preserving the qualities that make Las Cruces such a special place to live.

*Gil Sorg and Olga Pedroza are Las Cruces City Councillors.*

## Invest in young children to enhance education reform Metro Verde exemplifies council's commitment

By **Allen Sanchez**  
For the Las Cruces Bulletin

There's great wisdom in the notion of saving for a rainy day. But it takes just as much wisdom to realize when it's raining. Here in New Mexico, fully 80 percent of our fourth-graders do not read at grade level. It's time to make better and smarter investments in our children. Despite our current budget crunch, we actually have the money and a solution.

One of the best ways to make sure our kids start school on the path toward success is to make sure they have a continuum of high-quality early care and education services beginning at birth. That means making sure they have access to high-quality child care and pre-kindergarten. It means making sure their parents have the information they need to navigate their child's developmental stages. We also need to make sure our kids have access to health care so any developmental issues can be caught and addressed early.

Numerous long-term studies have shown that children who receive high-quality early childhood services do better in school and are more likely to graduate and go to college. They are also less likely to need remedial or special education

services, less likely to come into contact with the juvenile justice system, and less likely to become teen parents. Numerous prominent economists have taken up the cause of early childhood care and education because the return on investment to society is so great.

In the grand scheme of things, we're not even talking about a lot of money. In fact, we have enough money in our Land Grant Permanent Fund for the programs I'm suggesting. At more than \$9 billion, we have the second largest permanent fund of this kind in the nation. Every year, the fund grows as new money comes in from land use and income on investments.

Every year we also take out a small percentage of the fund and spend it on important programs like K-12 education. Because we take out much less than is put back in, the fund has grown significantly over the years. This is a wise way to use the fund because we want the principal to earn money for future generations.

The governor's office has expressed concern that this proposal would raid the permanent fund \$3 billion. While the increased

distribution is likely to slow the growth of the fund, it is very difficult even with the most drastic assumptions to derive the administration's estimated \$3 billion decline. Economist Kelly O'Donnell has estimated that the fund is likely to continue to grow to the tune of more than \$14 billion over the next 10 years.

Only the voters can decide to take more money out of the Land Grant Permanent Fund. We do that by amending the state constitution. First, though, we need the Legislature to pass legislation to put the question on the general election ballot in 2012. We also need the Legislature to change some of the language in our laws that define education.

We need to do this, and we need to do this now. It's raining and it's been raining for a long time. The principal of the fund will still be available to support education and other programs into the future.

*Allen Sanchez is the executive director of the New Mexico Conference of Catholic Bishops, CEO and President of St. Joseph Community Health, and is currently leading a coalition of groups called Invest in Kids Now.*

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Qualified city residents are being sought to serve on the City of Las Cruces Ratepayer Advisory Committee (RAC), which is an ad hoc City board. The RAC will function as a ratepayer advisory board in City utility rate hearings before the Las Cruces Utilities Board on behalf of the City's residential and small commercial customer rate classes. The RAC will file testimony and evidence at rate hearings on behalf of the city's residential and small commercial customer ratepayers, and will represent their interests in the Utilities Board rate proceedings.

**TO QUALIFY FOR APPOINTMENT AS A MEMBER OF THE RAC, A RESIDENT MUST BE:**

A registered voter and a Las Cruces utilities customer for at least one year. Also, applicants cannot be an elected official, have been appointed to public office, be a current City employee, be a contractor or consultant or have a contractual relationship with the City for the benefit of the Las Cruces Utilities.

**APPLICANTS SHOULD HAVE SIGNIFICANT TECHNICAL EXPERTISE IN ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING FIELDS:** Banking and finance, business, economics, engineering, related utility management, or any other skills or experience that may be of value to the rate making process.

People interested in applying for the RAC should call the city clerk's office at (575) 541-2115. People who are hearing impaired can call (575) 541-2182.

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## Coming Up

### Astronomy open house at NMSU

The New Mexico State University Department of Astronomy will hold an observatory open house at the NMSU campus observatory at 8 p.m. Friday, March 11. Astronomy personnel on hand will be professor Chris Churchill and graduate assistants Jacqueline McCleary, Kenza Arraki, Mark Gleed and Meredith Rawls.

Early in the evening, Jupiter and Mercury will be viewable in the west. Later in the evening, Saturn will be viewable in the east. The moon will be crescent in the southwest, a phase excellent for detailed telescope viewing of the mountains and craters. This is the most beautiful season of the year for the stars, nebulae and star clusters. The constellation of Orion is in its full glory, as is Sagittarius, the Pleiades, Taurus and the Gemini twins. In Orion, the staff will train telescopes on the Orion Nebula, a nursery for new stars and many other "jewels" of the sky.

Everyone is welcome and children are especially welcome to attend.

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

### Oñate band holds mattress sale

The Oñate High School Band will hold a mattress sale fundraiser from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 12, in the OHS band room.

Mattresses are available in twin, queen, king and full sizes and come in a number of styles. All mattresses are new and fully warranted. Profits

from the sale will go to the OHS Band. For more information, contact Shawn Silva at 527-9430 or [ssilva@lcp.k12.nm.us](mailto:ssilva@lcp.k12.nm.us).

### Winter gathering

The first New Mexico Man-REACH Winter Gathering will be from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday, March 13, at the GLBTQ Center, 1210 N. Main St. The event is a day of food, fun and friendship intended to promote community and empowerment in a safe space. Conversation will cover topics ranging from intimacy to whatever participants care to bring up. There will be opportunities to explore spirit, relationships and just relax.

For more information, call the center at 635-4902.

### Camera club meets

The Doña Ana Camera Club will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 15, at the Southwest Environmental Center, 275 N. Downtown Mall. The meetings offer technical presentations, friendly suggestions for improving member photos, travelogues, networking, competitions and other activities for a spectrum of photographers and abilities. For more information, visit [www.dacamclub.org](http://www.dacamclub.org) or call 532-1919.

### Primetimers meet

Primetimers, a division of New Mexico Farm Bureau, will meet from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, March 15, at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road. The group will hear

Gary Esslinger, manager of Elephant Butte Irrigation District, Phil King, hydrology consultant to EBID, and Samantha Barncastle, legal counsel to EBID discuss the current problems for Mesilla Valley water users.

This meeting open to all. Lunch is \$10 and includes meal, dessert, beverage and a tip.

### Noted journalist speaks at NMSU

Alma Guillermprieto, recognized as one of the world's leading Latin American journalists, will visit New Mexico State University to speak about the violent drug war taking place in Mexico at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 16, at the Corbett Center Student Union Ballrooms. The speech is free and open to the public. Guillermprieto, known for her political and cultural writing, has written for The New Yorker, is a MacArthur Fellow and winner of the George Polk Award for Foreign Reporting. For more information, call 646-2005.

### Senior, vets expo

The Southwest Senior Lifestyle Exposition & Veterans Banquet will be Friday and Saturday, March 18-19 at the Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave. The theme will be "Military veterans and the Greatest Generation."

More than 80 booths and displays will feature products, services and information regarding health, travel, home improvement, autos and RVs.

Donations taken at the door will go entirely to disabled American veterans causes.

The expo will feature mini seminars on reverse mortgages by Citizens Bank and Financial planning by Toby Rue the Social Security Administration and other event sponsors.

For more information, call Keith Whelpley at 642-8888.

### German club meets

Friends of the German Language (Freunde der deutschen Sprache) will meet at 7:15 p.m. Thursday, March 17, at Breland Hall, Room 170 A, on the New Mexico State University campus. The group will view the first part of the German-language feature film "Der letzte Patriarch" (2010). The cast includes famous German actors Mario Adorf and Hannelore Elsner. For more information, call Christine at 524-2530 or Heike at 522-5393.

### Gardeners lunch

"Roses, Roses, Roses" is the topic at this month's Lunch & Learn program from noon to 1 p.m. Thursday, March 17, at Branigan Memorial Library, 200 E. Picacho Ave., in the Roadrunner Room. Guests area encouraged to bring their own lunch and learn how to grow the best rose varieties for Las Cruces. Lunch & Learn is a free monthly program co-sponsored by the Doña Ana County Master Gardeners and Branigan Memorial Library. For more information, call 647-4394 or email [slh303@yahoo.com](mailto:slh303@yahoo.com).

### Press women hold April conference

The New Mexico Press Women, a nonprofit organization, will host

its annual conference April 8-9 in Las Cruces, and donations are being sought for the group's fundraising silent auction. The auction raises money for two \$750 college scholarships, awarded annually to New Mexico students pursuing careers in journalism, public relations, writing, photography or other related fields.

For more information, contact Sue Walton at 505-338-3004 or [swalton@sandiaprep.org](mailto:swalton@sandiaprep.org).

### Audubon Society seeks teacher nominations

The Mesilla Valley Audubon Society has announced the opening of nominations for the 14th Lorraine Schulte Excellence in Teaching Award. The award of \$250 will be presented to a teacher who excels in encouraging children to care for the environment.

Applicants are asked to list the objectives of the teacher's program along with a brief description of teaching techniques, program activities and a simple evaluation of the outcome. Grade levels and number of students should be included. Anyone can nominate a teacher, kindergarten through grade 12 by completing a brief explanation. Self-nominations are also accepted. The deadline for nominations is March 19.

For more information or to obtain a copy of the application, call Lorraine Schulte at 524-7029 or email [mljs47@gmail.com](mailto:mljs47@gmail.com).

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# Finding something new at the Bridal Showcase event

Photos by Niki Rhynes

Patty Aguirre and bride-to-be Maña Martinez check out the variety of goodies at the Cupcake Hut booth while attending the Las Cruces Bridal and Special Event Showcase held at the Las Cruces Convention Center, Sunday, March 6.



Peggy Tanzy gets her picture taken while modeling her wedding dress that she special ordered from Emerald Isle Boutique, which offers personal shopping consultations and specializes in non-traditional dresses.



The Cupcake Hut booth showed off creative cupcakes and delicate frosting decorations.



Beauty consultant Frankie Lawrence stands in front of the Mary Kay booth at the Las Cruces Bridal and Special Event Showcase.



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**Bulletin**

# Libya

Continued from page A1

The demonstrations were designed to bring awareness to the plight of the people in Libya.

"He (Gaddafi) has been in the country for 42 years and the country is nothing in the whole world," Alsoussia said. "Libya doesn't have a good education system. We don't have a health-care system. People are dying in Libya and we can't express our opinion clearly. Libya is a rich country, but he steals the money. He and his sons control everything."

Salem would like to make a living as a journalist in his home country. He likes how American journalists have the freedom of the press. In Libya, any derogatory comments about Gaddafi or the government will earn a journalist a trip to prison or even death.

"We want the freedom to speak out and to say anything that you like," Salem said. "We don't want to be afraid of the government. Currently, all stories must be approved by the government. Each newspaper has a gatekeeper. They look for something bad."

Alsoussia and Salem are both attending NMSU on scholarships financed by their government – the very government they are protesting.

"We don't care (about Gaddafi cutting the scholarship)," Salem said. "We want Libya to get its freedom."

Alsoussia explained that freedom to him means allowing Libyans to know who they are.

"We need to have a good system in Libya and to make sure

the children know their culture and history," he said. "He (Gaddafi) changed the history of Libya to his side. Libyan children need to know what their ancestors did."

Alsoussia continued to explain that freedom meant a good education system, a constitution and being able to make a living. Alsoussia said he won't return to his homeland if Gaddafi remains in power. Salem, however, says he will return regardless if Gaddafi still has a stranglehold on the country.

"I miss my family and my friends. I miss Libya," Salem said. "I don't care if Gaddafi is in power."

While communication is difficult, Salem said he talks with his family via telephone every two weeks.

"Sometimes he (Gaddafi) cuts the connection," he said. "He cut off the Internet. And you just have one channel in Libya and that's his channel."

While Alsoussia and Salem are worried about the events in their country, they are living lives similar to most Americans.

Alsoussia said he enjoys spending time with his friends, playing soccer and watching television, particularly "Family Guy," "Seinfeld" and "SpongeBob SquarePants." He also can be found walking back from class, humming the tunes of some of his favorite Country music stars such as Rascal Flatts and Taylor Swift.

Salem said he enjoys spending time with his friends and travelling, often making trips to Texas and California.

"We are like every human being. We like soccer. We get hurt. We laugh. We cry," Alsoussia said. "We are just ordinary people. This guy he destroys the Libyan image and gives the wrong idea of Libyans. We are innocent people."

# High School

Continued from page A1

the question about whether the school colors should also be those of the New Mexico state flag – gold and red.

Part of the concern stemmed from gold being a more expensive color to produce when it came to school band and sport uniforms. Superintendent Stan Rounds noted that he worked at two school districts – Hobbs and Alamogordo – that had gold in their school colors and he acknowledged that it can be more costly depending on the shade of gold.

Votaw said she still wanted the colors to coincide with the state colors and offered the suggestion of gold and red with black accents. Board member Maria Flores offered red and black with gold accents. In the end, the board decided to send that back to the new school's students to choose from those three colors which would be dominant or an accent color.

When the new high school opens it will likely be for just freshmen and maybe sophomores because most students now in one of the district's current three full high schools will likely want to stay where they are, said Herb Torres, associate superintendent for operations. Las Cruces High School opened in 1925, Mayfield High School in 1965 and Oñate High School in 1988.

Votaw suggested that a time capsule be buried at the new school on Jan. 6, 2012, the day New Mexico turns 100. She said the event could also include a walk-through of the new school for interested residents.

Congress admitted New Mexico as the 47th state in the Union on Jan. 6, 1912. The admission of the neighboring state of Arizona the following month completed the contiguous 48 states. New Mexico's centennial events will begin with a kick-off celebration in Las Cruces at the Downtown SalsaFest Aug. 28.

# Spaceport

Continued from page A1

visitor centers and a paved southern access roads, said Richard Holdridge, a returning board member from Deming who is NMSA's board chairman. The southern road access is especially critical to Spaceport America's success and for expanding the economic development reach of the project, he said.

Sid Gutierrez, a former NASA astronaut and the chief of safety at Sandia National Laboratories, noted there also was significant spending in the planning stages for developing the spaceport.

Holdridge acknowledged that one of the first orders of business for the new board and director – at the direction of Gov. Susana Martinez – is to hire an independent outside auditing firm to review the spending so far.

Holdridge emphasized that an audit doesn't mean that anything wrong has been done and that an audit reflected sound business practices. Actually, he said he felt the project was in good shape with the first phase more than three-fourths completed with a \$6 million contingency fund intact.

Making an introductory visit to the new board and director was George Whitesides, CEO and President of Virgin Galactic, Spaceport America's anchor tenant that will be flying space tourists out of the terminal hangar at least twice daily.

Whitesides assured the board that Virgin Galactic remains committed to Spaceport America, noting that his company is making a \$400 million investment to develop the spaceliner fleet that will take passengers to suborbital space.

"We are all making a very big investment together," Whitesides said.

He also said testing of the carrier and rocketship continue to progress, but added that safety will be Virgin Galactic's top priority and will dictate when the passenger operations begin in earnest.

Irvin Diamond, a new board member and CPA from Albuquerque, said he wants to see the project's whole budget and business plan with a good accounting of money spent so far and where those monies come from. The business plan, he said, should include when the project starts seeing money coming in and less support from the state.

Because it was the board's first meeting – only Holdridge and Ben Woods of New Mexico State University remain from the previous board – much of the meeting centered on the history of the spaceport project.

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# Cernan saw peace on Earth

## Purdue graduate was last man to set foot on the Moon

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

During early spaceflights, little things alleviated big frustrations.

"We had to take some chewing gum, Dentyne chewing gum, on Gemini IX, just to keep our mouth refreshed," Gene Cernan said in a 2007 NASA oral history. "We couldn't take toothpaste and toothbrushes, because what are you going to do with the toothpaste? Well, we're going to swallow it. Oh, you can't swallow it."

Cernan, born on March 14, 1934, made three spaceflights, his final one as Apollo 17 commander. Before climbing into the lunar module Challenger, he left man's last footprints on the moon.

"We leave as we came and, God willing, we shall return with peace and hope for all mankind," The Associated Press reported Cernan said.

"I never even thought about (my words) until I was crawling up, basically crawling up the ladder," Cernan said in the Dec. 11, 2007, oral history, on the 35th anniversary of his lunar landing.

Cernan was at Purdue University when he "received his commission through the Navy ROTC Program," the website [jsc.nasa.gov](http://jsc.nasa.gov) said. In October 1963 NASA chose him among 14 astronauts. In 1966 he piloted Gemini IX, becoming "the second American to walk in space." He was outside the capsule for two hours and 10 minutes. Subsequently, he was "backup pilot for Gemini 12 and ... backup lunar module pilot for Apollo 7," and later "backup spacecraft commander for Apollo 14."

Cernan's second flight was in May 1969, as Apollo 10 Lunar Module pilot. He descended "to within (eight) nautical miles of the lunar surface," [jsc.nasa.gov](http://jsc.nasa.gov) said, "demonstrating that man could navigate safely and accurately in the moon's gravitational fields."

Apollo 17 launched on Dec. 7, 1972, "the first manned nighttime launch," said [jsc.nasa.gov](http://jsc.nasa.gov). Four days later, Cernan and Silver City native Harrison Schmitt touched down at Taurus-Littrow.

"(I) waited a long time for Dec. 11, 1972, to come around," Cernan said. "I'm flying. A lot of people think we pressed a button and let the thing fly itself. There's no way I'm going to go all the way to the moon ... and let a computer land me on the moon. The arrogance of a pilot, particularly naval aviators, is too great to allow that to happen. Nobody ever landed on the moon

other than with their own two hands and brain and eyeballs."

Cernan and Schmitt "landed in a narrow box canyon among the jumbled ridges of the Taurus Mountains, an area that is scientifically rich because of its varied geology," said "Men From Earth." Cernan shut down the engine at about nine feet above the surface, he said in the oral history, "because if you don't ... you land with the descent engine running full-blast at high power" and "the backpressure could explode the lunar module." He likened the final fall to "going over a bump in a country road, you go up, come down, when you shut the engine down, boom, and you hit. Not real hard, but with a thump."

"That's where you experience the most quiet moment a human being can experience in his lifetime. There's no vibration. There's no noise ... The dust is gone. It's a realization, a reality, all of a sudden you have just landed in another world ... and what you are seeing is being seen by human beings, human eyes, for the first time."

Cernan and Schmitt made three walks and, said [jsc.nasa.gov](http://jsc.nasa.gov),

"established several new records for manned space flight." Among them were longest flight, and longest time in lunar orbit and on the surface. The flight lasted 301 hours and 51 minutes. The Apollo 17 command module America orbited for 147 hours and 48 minutes; Ron Evans was the CM pilot. Cernan and Schmitt spent 22 hours and six minutes on the moon, and brought home the "largest lunar sample," 249 pounds of rocks and soil.

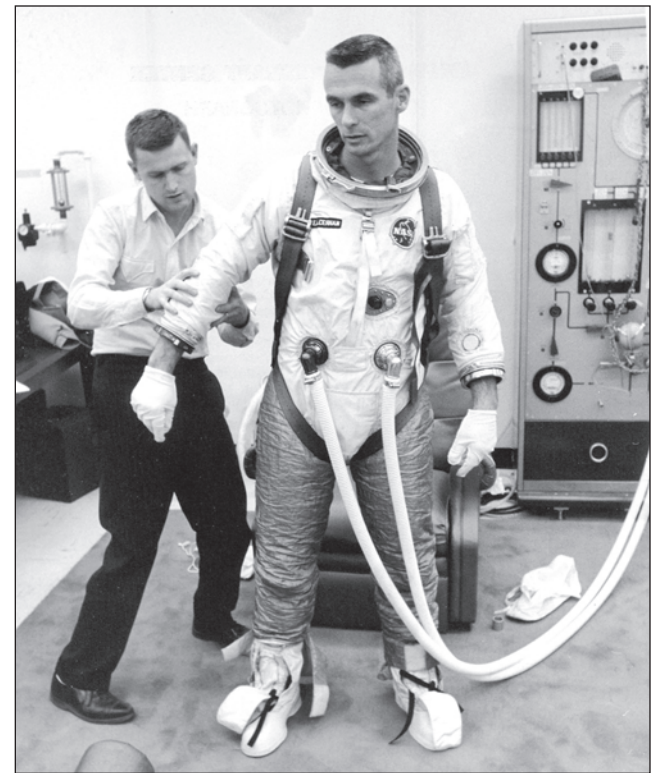
During their first foray, Cernan advised Schmitt "to take it easy until you learn to work in one-sixth g," said "Apollo 17 at Taurus-Littrow" (NASA). Schmitt, a geologist from New Mexico, was used to picking up Earth rocks and became frustrated as he initially "fumbled, stumbled and fell."

Manned lunar flights were over after Apollo 17; the year before, the Congress had cut \$42.1 million from the program's budget.

"We knew that Apollo 17 was going to be the last mission, probably well over a year before we flew," Cernan said. "Nineteen and 20 had been cancelled very early on. Eighteen was certainly a possibility."

Cernan said he believes if others could have stood "alongside me on the surface of the Moon and look(ed) back home, where you see no religious borders, no cultural borders, no color borders ... you just see an Earth with the bright blues of the oceans and the land, and we live here together. I've got to believe the world (would know) no political difference. I got to believe the world would truly be a better place to live."

Cernan proudly pointed out that his alma mater had



NASA photo  
**Gene Cernan prepares to test equipment that he will use during a space walk on Gemini IX.**

graduated 22 astronauts, including Gus Grissom, Roger Chaffee and Neil Armstrong.

"Purdue has always had a great reputation for aeronautics," Cernan said. "No one can touch Purdue."

In addition, many were Navy pilots, including on the first Space Shuttle flight as well as the first flight after the Challenger disaster.

"Why was the first American in space a naval aviator? Why was the first American to orbit the Earth - why did he wear Navy wings of gold? He's a Marine, a naval aviator," Cernan said. "Why was the first step taken on the moon by a naval aviator? Why were the last steps left on the moon left by a naval aviator? Why were five out of six lunar landings commanded - commanded, that's important - by a naval aviator? Why was the seventh, Apollo 13 that didn't land on the moon, commanded by a naval aviator? Why was the first Apollo flight, period, that was in Earth orbit commanded by Wally Schirra, a naval aviator?"

Cernan retired a Navy captain in 1976 after 20 years of service.

Michael Shinabery is an education specialist and Humanities Scholar with the New Mexico Museum of Space History. Shinabery may be contacted at [michael.shinabery@state.nm.us](mailto:michael.shinabery@state.nm.us).

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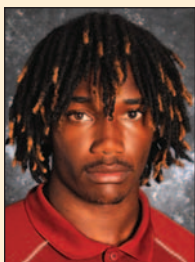
## House not just another job seeker



**Jim Hilley**  
Bulletin in  
the Zone

Davon House is looking for a job. Not the kind of job where you punch in 8-to-5, but one on the professional football field.

The former New Mexico State defensive standout and All-WAC performer recently competed at the NFL Combine. House, a two-time All-WAC first-team selection and four-year starter for the Aggies, was one of 300 players invited to the combine in Indianapolis, Ind.



**HOUSE**

At the combine, the best college football players in the country worked out and went through a variety of drills in front of scouts from the 32 NFL teams.

The combine was no vacation, House said.

"It was only four days, but they were long, tiring days," House said. "It was waking up at 4:30 every morning and literally going to bed at midnight."

House reportedly did well in several of the workouts, including the three-cone drill where he posted a time of 6.65 – sixth-best among defensive backs. He also posted a fifth-best among defensive backs in the 60-yard shuttle run. House showed good strength in the bench press and displayed impressive speed.

House said that several teams are interested in taking a longer look.

"There are a lot of teams that are interested in me," he said. "At the combine, I interviewed with a majority of the teams and they all liked me and said good things about me."

"This Thursday, I have a personal workout with the Eagles at Aggie Stadium and then we have another personal workout with the Jacksonville Jaguars in late April."

House said he does not really have a preference for where he plays "as long as they pay me."

House also reflected back on his days with the Aggies, and talked about the change in coaches.

"The coaching change affected the program a lot; it was two different coaching styles," he said.

"Coach (Hal) Mumme is a different person, with Mumme you would love to practice, he made practice fun and exciting, when (DeWayne) Walker came it was all business, it was work."

"Both of the coaches made me a better player, because they taught me how to love football and enjoy practice – which was Mumme days – and then it was all business when coach Walker came."

See **House** on page A14

## Aggies sweep UNM Lobos

### Timely hits, errors lead to NMSU win

By **Jimmy Currier**  
For the Las Cruces Bulletin

New Mexico State swept the Battle of I-25, defeating New Mexico 9-4, Tuesday evening at Presley Askew Field. A crowd of 800, including a boisterous student body, cheered the Aggies (11-2) to victory.

Senior Dan Reid went six innings allowing only two runs to earn his third victory in as many starts for NMSU.

Junior Zach Voight, who came into the game batting .444, busted the game open for the home club with a three-run triple to right field in the fourth inning giving the Aggies a 4-0 lead.

The Aggie offense pounded out nine hits and was assisted by four Lobo (3-10) errors, which led to four runs.

Aggie head coach Rocky Ward acknowledged that the errors contributed to the victory, and while he was happy with the win, he knows his team can play better.

"The first four innings we should have scored nine. We kept giving away at-bats," he said. "It was a below-average performance offensively. We had a bad at-bat every inning and we've been trying to work on that. You take their mistakes away and I think we still win but it's going to be pretty close."



The Aggies' second baseman Parker Hippi looks at a pitch during the NMSU's 9-4 win over the UNM Lobos Tuesday, March 8, at Presley Askew Field.

New Mexico State University photo

With one out in the sixth inning and the bases loaded, Lobo second baseman Kyle Steiner couldn't handle Parker Hippi's possible double play grounder, allowing Chuck Howard to score. In the eighth inning, Lobo shortstop Alex Albritton committed two errors, eventually leading to three Aggie runs.

The Aggies didn't have a clean game defensively either, committing an error and a wild pitch in the eighth inning leading to two Lobo runs.

Regardless of how the win was earned, Ward recognizes the importance of defeating UNM.

"We swept the in-state rival

and that's a big deal," he said. "It goes a long way to how you carry yourself over the state for the next year and it's a big deal in recruiting."

Ward described starting pitcher Reid's performance as outstanding.

The British Columbia native constantly stayed ahead in the count and had a firm command of the plate, striking out three batters and issuing no walks.

"I got to get ahead early in the count because it gets them off their game," Reid said. "If I'm falling behind, then they can look for one pitch and in this yard they can take it out so if I put them in a

hole 0-1, 0-2, they got to fight my pitches off. Getting ahead of every batter makes it easy on me."

Reid cruised through the first five innings, allowing only two singles. In the sixth, he got into a tight spot, allowing two singles and hitting a batter with two outs to load the bases. Quay Grant made him pay belting a two-run single, but then gave him a gift by trying to stretch his single into a double.

"I was just trying to stay calm under pressure," Reid said. "It was still a close game and the pressure was on them to score. He was just trying to make things happen."

See **Sweep** on page A14

## Local teams among NM's best

### Mayfield's experience may give Trojan's edge

By **Craig Massey**  
Las Cruces Bulletin



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Craig Massey  
**Las Cruces High School relief pitcher Luis Escobedo delivers to a La Cueva hitter Saturday, March 5, at Apodaca Park.**

The District 3-5A baseball race always is competitive and features some of the best high school baseball played in the state.

This year is no exception, although there appears to be a new frontrunner. While Oñate and Las Cruces High change much of their roster, Mayfield returns seven regular players from last year.

"Mayfield has the most experience coming back," said LCHS coach Gil Padilla. "Oñate doesn't have many players back, but Coach Reyes will get them going. Gadsden and Alamogordo are improved. I still think it's the best district in the whole state."

"This district is tough every year," said Mayfield coach Miguel Gomez. "Cruces and Oñate both have good, young talent. They have good programs and are well coached. It should be a tight race again."

The three teams will take part in the annual New Mexico Invitational March 17-19 at Apodaca Park. The action begins with Oñate

taking on Ysleta at 11 a.m. March 17. Other first-round games on Thursday are: Mayfield versus Deming at 1:30 p.m.; Hobbs versus Rio Rancho at 4 p.m.; and LCHS versus Doherty at 6:30 p.m.

Second-round games are Friday, March 18, and the final-round games are Saturday, March 19, with the championship game set for 5:30 p.m.

### Mayfield High School

The Trojans did well last year as a young team, compiling a 19-9 record. But the return of seven regulars has Gomez and his squad hoping for bigger things in 2011.

Of the seven returnees, five of them are still underclassmen (juniors). The seven include pitchers Jacob Gomez, Adrian Garcia and Austin Escalante, outfielders Zane Ortega and Luis Carreon, and infielders Jordan Lunsford and Lucas Ogas.

Mayfield, which entered this week with a 6-2 record, is coming off of a huge win over Eldorado last weekend in Albuquerque.

See **Baseball** on page A14

# House

Continued from page A13

“That’s how it’s going to be on the next level – it’s going to be all business.”  
 Next up for House will be the annual pro-day at Aggie Memorial Stadium on March 28. At pro day, scouts will look at House and other graduating players, and what House called “old timers,” – former players still hoping for that elusive job in professional football.  
 According to an NMSU press release, websites including nfldraftscout.com and nfldraft101.com have House being picked in the late second or early third round in the upcoming NFL draft that begins on April 28. ESPN draft guru Mel Kiper Jr. has House listed as the 62nd best player available in the NFL draft, which would put him in the late second round.

# Sweep

Continued from page A13

Reid was lifted in the sixth inning for Roswell native Justin Cooper, who went 1-2/3 innings. Gerardo Renteria finished the eighth inning and Scott Coffman closed the game.  
 Voight, much like the rest of the Aggies, was a little perplexed with lefty Lobo freshman Sam Wilson’s pitches. Wilson racked up seven strikeouts in four innings, including two to Voight, who only had two coming into the game.  
 Voight caught on to Wilson’s timing in the fourth inning and cleared the bases with a triple that hopped by right fielder Logan Lippert.  
 “Most of it is a team thing,” Voight said. “We started to wear him down and get the pitches we could handle. We got guys to

the plate and some decent looks.”  
 Voight said he was glad to help the Aggies “run this state.”  
 “It’s pretty big,” he said. “I’m a new guy and to come in here and take two from them is pretty special. It’s pretty cool to do it the first year I’m here.”  
 In the eighth inning, another “Z” – sophomore Zac Fisher – delivered a two-run single, making it 9-4.



AGUAYO

Ryan Aguayo and Andrew Lyon led the Aggies with two hits apiece. Howard crossed the plate three times and walked thrice.  
 Tuesday night’s sweep just wasn’t for state bragging rights. There were also family bragging rights on the line. Aggie junior Tanner Waite, of Westminster, Colo., walked in the sixth inning and later got to say hello to his cousin Steiner at second base. Waite and Steiner’s grandparents came from Arizona to watch the game and admitted they were cheering for both teams.  
 “I have bragging rights and it was nice to play on the same field with him,” Waite said.  
 The Aggies hit the road to Corvallis, Ore., for a 2 p.m. game against Virginia Military Institute on Friday, March 11. The Aggies play Oregon State later that evening at 6:30 p.m. They will play the VMI Keydets again at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 12, and the Beavers again at 5:30 p.m. Sunday, March 13. Fans wanting to catch the Aggies at home will have to wait until Friday, March 18, when Indiana University-Purdue University-Fort Wayne visits Presley Askew Field. First pitch is at 6:05 p.m.

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# Baseball

Continued from page A13

“The kids are doing very well and we’re really happy with their performance,” Gomez said. “We’re getting better every day.”  
 Gomez said his team’s strengths are chemistry, leadership and pitching depth.

## Las Cruces High School

The Bulldawgs, who entered the week with a 3-4 record, return four regulars from last year, including Daniel Martinez, who recently was cleared to begin playing after suffering a severe knee injury early in the football season.  
 Martinez, who will pitch and play in the outfield, is joined by returnees Jeremy Buurma (catcher and pitcher), Josh Watson (outfielder and pitcher) and Jacob Cenicerros (third base).  
 “I would describe this as a blue-collar type of team,” said Padilla, who is entering his 12th season as head coach. “We’ve improved our pitching and we’re a team that will put the ball in play. We’re very patient and we have guys who can run a little bit.”

## Oñate High School

The Knights, who put together a 25-5 season last year and have been one of the top programs in the state in recent years, began the week with a record of 0-2-1. The tie came after the second game of a doubleheader at Albuquerque High last Saturday was called because of darkness. Oñate held a 7-5 lead in the game, but they had yet to play the bottom half of the inning.  
 Another Knight loss came when another game ended prematurely because of darkness (versus El Paso Franklin).  
 “We’re off to a slow start, but we’re young this year,” said Oñate coach David Reyes. “No excuses because we have a lot of potential. We’re going through growing pains, but we can have a very productive season.”  
 The Knights’ lone returning starter from last year is Wes Koerper, who is playing first base and seeing some action as a relief pitcher. Other key players are pitchers Adam Navarro, Mark Gonzalez and Joel Quezada, as well as third-baseman Mike Chavez.

# NM State Softball

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# NMSU beats Nevada at the Aggies Pan Am send-off

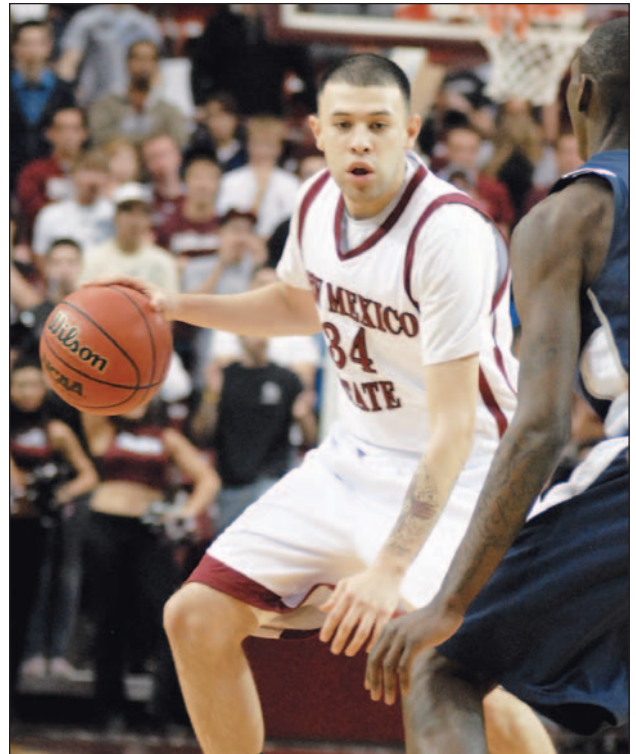
Photos by Niki Rhynes



Freshman guard Christian Kabongo drives on a Nevada defender.



Troy Gillenwater scored 21 points on the Wolf Pack Saturday, March 5, in the Pan American Center



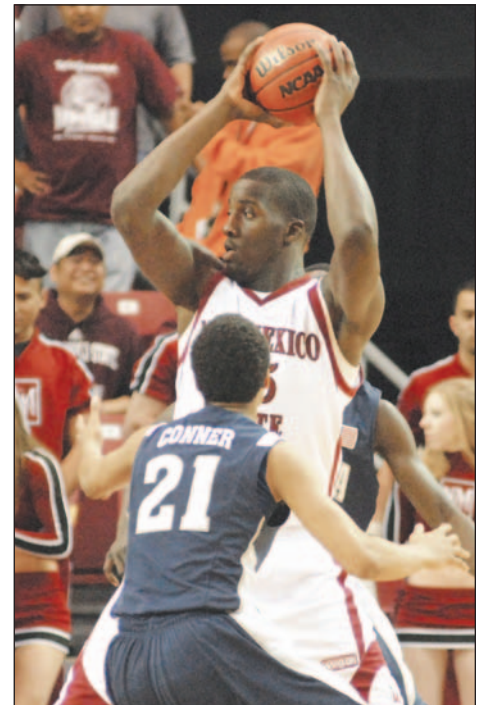
Gordo Castillo had his first career double-double in the Aggies' 77-68 win over Nevada. The victory secured the third seed in the Western Athletic Conference Tournament, March 9-12, in Las Vegas, Nev.

Sophomore center/forward B.J. West towers over Nevada's Derrell Conner.

Coach Marvin Menzies reacts to the action on the court.



"Chili" Nephawe cheers on the Aggies while getting some rest on the bench.



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# Aggie trio says farewell at the Final women's home game

Photos by Niki Rhynes



Aggie guard Madison Spence, a Mayfield High School graduate, scored 18 points and had four assists in her last game at the Pan American Center Saturday, March 5. NMSU defeated Boise State 82-51 and entered the Western Athletic Conference Basketball Tournament in Las Vegas, Nev., March 9-12, as the sixth seed. Also playing their last game at home were fellow seniors Danisha Corbett and Jasmine Lowe.



Jasmine Rutledge drives with the ball.



Redshirt junior Erica Sanchez from Chula Vista, Calif., plays defense against Boise State's Janie Bos.

Ariella McGhee dribbles in the paint against the Lady Broncos.

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 at the Government Center  
 located at 845 N. Motel Blvd.

I will provide an introduction to understanding your property assessment and the process for protesting your property valuation. I will be available to answer any questions or concerns regarding your property valuations.

*Andy Segovia*  
 County Assessor

**Community Meeting for Property Owners**

For more information or questions please call our office 575-647-7400  
[www.donaanacounty.org/assessor](http://www.donaanacounty.org/assessor)



# Aggie Insider



## Las Vegas memories

The New Mexico State Aggies have enjoyed success in gambling mecca



**Jack Nixon**  
*Jack's Corner*

The Aggie visits to Las Vegas resume again this weekend with the WAC Basketball Tournament. The city has a myriad of ways to amuse yourself, maybe too many. The Aggies won the Big West title in Las Vegas in 1994, claiming the title in the Thomas and Mack Center stopping UC Irvine by six, 70-64.

The game was played before noon West Coast time to appease ESPN. This posed a problem for the team and Aggie fans as the Crimson and White blew out host UNLV by 18, 82-64, in the late semifinal game the night before.

NM State was led by Rodney Walker, James Dockery and D.J. Jackson then, and survived a first-round scare on Friday with Nevada's Wolf Pack, 68-67.

The Aggies had a two-point lead with one second left and missed a free throw that didn't seem important, at the time. The Wolf Pack's Jimmy Moore threw the ball "baseball" style toward the other goal in what seemed like a hopeless last gasp. Moore's shot hit the front of the rim bounced straight up, taking the stomachs of all Aggie fans with it. The ball ricocheted back to mid-court allowing the Aggies to play another day.

The semifinal game versus the

Running Rebels was tied at half-time. Kebu Stewart was UNLV's star, but he wasn't enough. The Aggies match-up zone worked its magic and around 11 p.m., the title match was set. I said earlier that the Sunday morning start posed a problem for the fans, here is why. Anytime you beat the house in Las Vegas it is time to celebrate.

I ran into a group of fans that celebrated at a place called L.J.'s Sports Bar. It served great burgers and never put a stopper on the keg if you wanted a beer.

One thing led to another, stories of past wins and so forth led to an early morning return to the hotel for a quick turnaround for the chance to go to the NCAA Tournament.

I was so excited about the title game, I couldn't fall asleep. I eventually did, only to wake a few hours later, hoping a shower would be the elixir that would replace the sleep that wouldn't come.

The team was a little sleepy too and withstood a 3-point barrage from the UC Irvine Anteaters to travel on to the Midwest Regional against Oklahoma State.

The Aggie men have a winning streak in Las Vegas. They have beaten UNLV nine straight times, five of those in the glitter city. There are a lot of other stories surrounding Aggie games and postgame celebrations, but as they say, "what happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas."

## A milestone is more than just a number

Earning 400 wins is about the journey



**Kathy Rodolph**  
*Softball Head Coach*

By the time this prints, I may or may not have reached 400 career softball wins. I have numerous questions over the past week or so about what that means to me.

First, let's clarify that I only include my college wins in that figure. But my early experiences as a girl's varsity basketball coach in Tularosa and at Bowie High School helped mold my philosophy as a college coach - instill a work ethic and get the kids to give their best effort in everything they do. Simple.

Because if they embrace that philosophy we will win a lot of games and they will win the game of life.

What 400 means to me - great people. Dozens of young women who earned their degrees while competing in a sport they love. More than 30 of them coach right now.

Families who supported them and our program's philosophy.

The countless meetings about choices and consequences. Thousands of hours of dusty, sweaty practice. Rain. Tornadoes. Ice.

Tears of joy. Tears of frustration. Laughter. Passion. Embracing diligence.

The National Anthem. Statistics. Van rides. Bus Rides. Plane rides. Airport delays. Broken records. Broken bones and broken hearts.

The wedding invitations, the graduate school recommendations, the baby announcements, and the late-night phone calls when they might be unsure about what to do next.

The ball bounces left and the ball bounces right and sometimes you have nothing to do with the bounce, just your reaction to it. Hope renewed.

The milestone of 400 wins is an opportunity to reflect about a career choice, but most importantly it is about the journey and not the number itself.

This year's Aggies epitomize all of the best things about college athletics and they've earned 17 wins so far in a very young season.

Good enough to be the 12th-best record in NCAA

Division I softball. They have a championship spirit. The spirit every coach strives for their team to embody, yet is so elusive.

I am glad that this is the team that I will reach this milestone with, regardless of when it happens.

Join us in our journey as we host the No. 2 team in the country, the Arizona Wildcats and the No. 15 team in the country, the Nebraska Cornhuskers over the next two weeks.

As always, go Aggies!  
E3=OKC



## Aggie student-athlete spotlight



**Parker Hipp**  
Sophomore  
Baseball

Sophomore second baseman Parker Hipp earned WAC Hitter of the Week honors for the second time this year. He hit .571 (8-of-14) at the YMBL Cardinal Classic in Beau-

mont, Texas. Hipp tallied a double, a grand-slam and nine RBIs. He leads the WAC in batting average (.500), slugging percentage (.905), on-base percentage (.603), RBIs (23) and home runs (4).



**Madison Spence**  
Senior  
Women's Basketball

Senior guard Madison Spence averaged 17 points, 4 assists and 2.5 rebounds per game in a split against Idaho and Boise State. The senior bid farewell to Aggie fans with

18 points and four assists to lead NM State to its largest margin of victory of the season in an 82-51 victory over the Broncos.



**Orlando Superlano**  
Sophomore  
Men's Tennis

Sophomore Orlando Superlano was the only Aggie to win both singles matches he played, March 5-6. He defeated Aliaksandr Malko of Sacramento State 6-0,

6-4, March 5, and defeated Andre Vidaller of Arizona 6-2, 2-6, 6-3, March 6.

## This Week

### In Aggie Athletics

**Friday, March 11**

**Men's Basketball**  
WAC Tournament  
Las Vegas, Nev.  
TBA

**Women's Basketball**  
WAC Tournament  
Las Vegas, Nev.  
TBA

**Track and Field**  
NCAA Indoor Championships  
College Station, Texas  
All day

**Women's Equestrian**  
Auburn  
Manhattan, Kan.  
All day

**Baseball**  
Virginia Military Institute  
Corvallis, Ore.  
2 p.m.

**Baseball**  
Oregon State  
Corvallis, Ore.  
6:30 p.m.

**Saturday, March 12**

**Men's Basketball**  
WAC Tournament  
Las Vegas, Nev.  
TBA

**Women's Basketball**  
WAC Tournament  
Las Vegas, Nev.  
TBA

**Women's Equestrian**  
Kansas State  
Manhattan, Kan.  
All day

**Track and Field**  
NCAA Indoor Championships  
College Station, Texas  
All day

**Baseball**  
Virginia Military Institute  
Corvallis, Ore.  
2 p.m.

**Sunday, March 13**

**Baseball**  
Oregon State  
Corvallis, Ore.  
5:30 p.m.

**Monday, March 14**

**Women's Tennis**  
Idaho  
Las Cruces  
10 a.m.



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- Visit [NMStateSports.com](http://NMStateSports.com) or [UTEPAthletics.com](http://UTEPAthletics.com) and enter the 12-digit code located on the bottom of your receipt
- Your vote has been cast!

Voting runs from 9/1/10 to 5/31/11

**Voting as of Mar. 8**

**NMSU Aggies 64.4%**      **UTEP Miners 35.6%**

# Onthegreen

## Extend golfing boundaries Regulate emotions and show mental toughness

**Charlie Blanchard**  
Golf Doctor



During my years of performance coaching with golfers, I have been a proponent of “mental toughness.” For me that simply meant being able to produce under pressure and not choke. While there is much more to it than that, I have had pause to re-think the larger picture of mental toughness and revise some of my earlier observations.

Lately, I have been placing more emphasis on winning behaviors associated with emotional intelligence and emotional resilience. Previously, the emphasis was on structured thinking and “correct” thoughts. In recent years, however, research is strongly pointing to the fact that emotions rule performance.

Effectively managing your emotions may actually be golf’s new frontier.

Let’s say your prevailing emotions while playing competitive golf are anger and fear. Usually pessimistic golfers undergo a flux of conflicting feelings as they play, ranging from defeatism to frustration, both of which can have disastrous results. Research demonstrates that negative emotions can have the following consequences: less ability to think clearly; less efficiency in decision-making; reduced coordination; and higher cardiovascular stress.

Negative emotions tend to counter thoughts and efforts aimed at performing well, whether it be in sports or public speaking. You have your central nervous system – your brain directing your body – getting the signals crossed with your autonomic nervous system, which controls organs, glands and hormones.

A typical scenario might be excessive worry about an outcome – an approach shot to a green over water with the

tournament on the line, perhaps – where we’re asking our muscle memory to produce a great shot, but the sympathetic nervous system shoots out adrenaline and constricts our flexibility. Like having one foot on the gas and the other foot on the brake.

### What you can do

Theory and research aside, there are several things you can do which will elevate your ability to manage your emotions, ultimately resulting in your greater chance of success. One is disciplining yourself to have more positive emotions, despite past tendencies to get down and sour.

Do positive emotions just happen – are they random? Or can we choose them ourselves at different times and for different reasons?

You don’t have to be the victim of your past emotional breakdowns and disasters. With practice you can learn to create positive feelings for yourself. Researchers are telling us that learning to handle your emotions can make a big difference in whether or not you are successful in life. Just a few of the amazing consequences of healthy and positive emotions are: greater creativity; better problem solving and decision making; sharper thinking and memory; a healthier heart and immune system; improved performance; and, ultimately, a longer life span.

The very first thing to do is eliminate negative and demeaning self-talk, while detaching yourself from blaming, whining and complaining on the golf course. Most of the time when we complain about the course or conditions or weather or noise or wind – anything – it’s just a feeble attempt to wish away our own poor play.

If you are going to be undaunted by adversity – the true mark of the emotionally resilient player – you need to respond positively with self-nurturing thoughts, more focus and better play. This is a tall order, I realize, especially when you do it

“ ... there is a close tie between confidence and emotional regulation. ”

while avoiding trying too hard to do better, which, of course, is almost always counter-productive in golf.

If you’ve ever seen anyone panic as they’re about to give a speech you know it’s not a pretty sight. The speaker’s galloping anxiety, perhaps accelerated by uncontrolled irrational thoughts, becomes part of a classic “fight-or-flight” syndrome, where worry, tension, fear and panic all converge making the person virtually helpless to act calmly and rationally. It may get worse – “freeze-or-faint” may also be reactions.

### Tension is the enemy

Emotional tension is the enemy of the golf swing, and the emotions rule where tension is concerned. And golf is a rare game where the swing is allowed to occur voluntarily, not as the result of a reaction, say to a pitched ball. Negative thinking and negative feelings coexist and will handicap a golfer more than any course conditions or opponents. When you engage in rigid thoughts of “must,” “should,” “have to” you are simply jacking up the tension and making it harder to perform well. Any round of golf can be an emotional roller coaster if we fail to recognize the warning signs of maladaptive feelings, thoughts and tension.

It strikes me that there is a close tie between confidence and emotional regulation, one that we need to exploit if we are to make ourselves our own best friend on the golf course, rather than our own worst enemy. Just like positive, performance-enhancing emotions, confidence is something we choose, not something that just pops up in our game by happenstance.

Yes, you can take action to create your own confidence, and the happy anticipation that goes along with it. Start by practicing and warming up in a way that promotes the feel of solid contact and sinking short putts. So many golfers unthinkingly go to the range, pull out their driver and start wailing away. And then they’re left with one or two randomly lucky good hits. Start with half wedges and take your time. Next learn to manage your anxiety by personal affirmations (“I’m a good short putter”) and relaxed breathing – all self-directed moves to build your confidence.

When you’re on the golf course think of yourself as your own caddy. Caddies on tour don’t tear their players down; they build them up. Don’t be overly critical of yourself. Be your own caddy and coach yourself into good decisions and good shots. Make a choice to feel good about yourself regardless of the outcome of any single shot or round. If today didn’t go well, there is always tomorrow, and we can accept the challenge of changing what we didn’t like about yesterday. One of Annika Sorenstam’s first golf coaches Pia Nilsson put it best when she told Sorenstam, “Learn to guide your own emotions on the course and in life.”

*Dr. Charlie Blanchard is a licensed psychologist specializing in sports and leadership who works with PGA professionals and young golfers. While Blanchard is recuperating from a recent accident, the Bulletin will be running “classic” editions of his column.*

Mayfield High School

## High School

*Athlete of the Week*

### Nicole Gallardo



Nicole Gallardo is an 18-year-old senior at Mayfield High School. She is pitcher for the Lady Trojan varsity softball team. Gallardo went four of four in the season opener against El Dorado in El Paso. She hit two singles, two homeruns and had three runs batted in. Gallardo has played varsity softball since she was a ninth grader. She brings power to the plate. She has received a scholarship to play softball at Prairie View A & M University. Gallardo is a dedicated student, with a 3.0 GPA. She is a natural leader both verbally and by example. She brings positive energy to practice and the games. She enjoys hanging out with friends and family and coaching younger softball players.

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# Team doctor



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Niki Rhynes  
**New Mexico State University Athletic Hall of Fame recipient and team physician Dr. William Baker gave a short speech Friday, March 4, at the inductees' reception held at First Community Bank. Other inductees included former softball standout Danny Dunn and Aggie football star J.W. Witt.**

# SportsBriefs

## Gillenwater nabs basketball awards

New Mexico State junior forward Troy Gillenwater was named to the first team National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) All-District Six Team, the organization announced. Gillenwater was also named first-team All WAC for the first time.

"I'm very happy for Troy," head coach Marvin Menzies said. "He earned first team honors for his consistent play. His ability to score night in and night out helped us finish in the upper echelon of the conference."

Gillenwater leads the Aggies with a team-high 19.2 points and 6.6 rebounds per game. This is Gillenwater's first career all-district honor, and the fifth consecutive season an Aggie has garnered the award.

## Nohara, Hipp WAC hitters of the week

New Mexico State's Hoku Nohara has been named the Verizon Western Athletic Conference Hitter of the Week honors for Feb. 28-March 5. This is the first honor of the softball season and fourth of her career for Nohara.

Nohara, a senior infielder from Waimanalo, Hawai'i, recorded eight hits, including six home runs and 11 RBI, in five games at the Arizona State Wilson/DeMarini Invitational last weekend. She hit .500 on the weekend, with a .529 on-base percentage and a 1.625 slugging percentage. She hit a home run in four of the five games

and belted two homers in each of her final two games on the weekend.

Sophomore Parker Hipp has been selected as the Verizon Western Athletic Conference Hitter of the Week for the second time this baseball season by the WAC office for his play during the week of Feb. 28-March 6. He was also selected as WAC Hitter of the Week on February 21. As of March 6, Hipp led the WAC in batting average (.500), slugging percentage (.905), on-base percentage (.603), RBI (23) and home runs (4).

## Men's golf ninth in Fresno Classic

The New Mexico State men's golf team wrapped up play at the 2011 Fresno State Lexus Classic, Tuesday March 8, with its best team round of the tournament, a 9-over-par 369. The Aggies finished ninth overall with a three-round team score of 45-over par.

Senior Tim Madigan recorded the Aggies' only round of under par golf in the final round with a 4-under-par 68. Madigan carded five birdies on the day, finishing at 1-under par, 215 for the tournament and tying for fourth overall.

Junior Gaston De La Torre shot a final round score of 2-over-par 74 with four birdies and an eagle. He carded an eagle and a double eagle during the two-day tournament. De La Torre ended his tournament at 6-over-par 222, placing in a tie for 23rd. Junior Joon Lee wrapped up his tournament with

a 1-over-par 73, recording three birdies on the day. Lee finished tied for 33rd with a three-round score of 8-over-par 224.

San Diego State won the team title with a 3-over par, followed by Pacific (+29), Duke (+30), UC Irvine (+36) and UC Santa Barbara (+40). UC Irvine's Bryan Harris and Pacific's Alex Johnson tied for first overall for the individual title at 6-under par.

The Aggies will be back in action March 21-22 as they travel to Eugene, Ore., for the Oregon Duck Invitational.

## Equestrian team hits the trail

The New Mexico State Equestrian team hits the road this weekend, visiting Manhattan, Kan., to face Auburn and Kansas State, March 11-12. The Aggies are coming off a tough road trip at the Georgia Invitational two weeks ago. Currently on the season, the Aggies are 4-4 overall.

The Aggies last faced Auburn in 2010, falling 12-4. NMSU and Kansas State last hooked up in 2009 in Las Cruces, as the Aggies dropped a tough one 11-7.

NMSU will travel Laura Bostwick, Stephanie Gershon, Amy Lang, Emily McConnell, Chelsae Keyes, Brianna Raab, Erica Daniels and Samantha Stephens on the Hunter Seat side, while the Western team will be represented by Chelsea Campbell, Kyra Cruse, Megan Gould, Pamela Evans, Jessica Woolsey, Breanne Bertrand, Kate Goodwin and Tara Wilson.

# H I G H S C H O O L SportsSchedule

## Las Cruces High School

Through March 12	Tennis	at Carlsbad Tournament	TBA
Friday, March 11	Track (boys)	at Irvin Track Meet	2 p.m.
Saturday, March 12	Girls Track	at Burges Track Meet	9 a.m.
Thursday, March 17	Softball	Piedra Vista High School	6 p.m.
March 17-19	Baseball	at New Mexico Baseball Invite	TBA
March 18-19	Softball	at Southern N.M. Softball Tournament	TBA



## Mayfield High School

Through March 12	Girls Basketball	State Basketball Tournament	TBA
March 11-12	Tennis	at Carlsbad Tournament	TBA
March 17-19	Baseball	at New Mexico Baseball Invite	TBA
March 18-19	Softball	at Southern N.M. Softball Tournament	TBA



## Oñate High School

Through March 12	Boys Basketball	State Basketball Tournament	TBA
	Baseball	at Eastwood/Hanks Tournament	TBA
March 11-12	Softball	at Carlsbad Tournament	TBA
March 17-19	Baseball	at New Mexico Baseball Invite	TBA
March 18-19	Softball	at Southern N.M. Softball Tournament	TBA



## Mesilla Valley Christian Schools

Through March 12	Boys Basketball	State Basketball Tournament	TBA
Friday, March 11	Tennis	Emanuel Christian	3 p.m.
March 11-12	Softball	at Hot Springs	TBA
Tuesday, March 15	Tennis	Gadsden	3 p.m.
	Softball	Hatch	3 p.m., 5 p.m.
March 17-19	Baseball	at Dexter Baseball Tournament	TBA
Thursday, March 17	Softball	at Santa Teresa JV	3 p.m., 5 p.m.



The New Mexico High School 5-A and 2-A Basketball Championships will be played through Sunday, March 12, at the Santa Ana Star Center in Rio Rancho and at the University of New Mexico Pit in Albuquerque.

# NM STATE UNIVERSITY ATHLETE of the WEEK



## Hoku Nohara Senior, Softball

Senior infielder Hoku Nohara was named WAC Hitter of the Week after she blasted six home runs in five games. Nohara now has 14 homers this season and is on track to smash the single-season Aggie home run record of 17 set by current teammate Tiare Jennings in 2009. Now with 54 career home runs, Nohara ranks second all-time in the WAC, just eight homers behind leader Christina Clark who hit 62 while at Fresno State from 2003-06.



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# In the news

## Las Cruces PAL to hold boxing event

The Las Cruces PAL (Police Athletic League) Boxing team will compete in "Southwest Explosion No. 3," taking on competitors from around New Mexico, Arizona and west Texas this weekend.

The event will be held Saturday, March 12, at the Sammy Burke Youth Boxing Center, 700 N. Solano Drive. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the fights begin at 6:30 p.m. Male and female boxers from the age of 8 years old to 34 years old will be competing. Admission is \$10. Kids 4 and younger are free. All proceeds go to the Las Cruces PAL Boxing team.

## Brazile coming to NMSU March 14

Donna Brazile, one of the best known, most influential African-American women in modern American political life, will be speaking at New Mexico State University.

Brazile, a well-known Democratic political strategist, will appear at 7 p.m. Monday, March 14, in the Corbett Center Student Union Ballroom.



**BRAZILE**

Brazile's appearance is sponsored by NMSU Black Programs. She chairs

the Democratic National Committee's Voting Rights Institute and is a veteran of numerous national and statewide campaigns. Brazile made history as the first African-American woman to lead a major presidential campaign when she served as campaign manager for Gore-Lieberman 2000.

Brazile serves as an adjunct professor at Georgetown University and is a senior lecturer at the University of Maryland, resident fellow at Harvard University's Institute of Politics and the Senator Wyona Lipman Chair at Rutgers University Center for American Women in Politics.

## Reservations being taken for club fashion show

"Reservations and tickets are now available for GFWC Progress Club's annual Fashion Show and Luncheon at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 26, at Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces, 705 S. Telshor Blvd.

Memories from Then and Now will feature the latest fashions from Charlotte's, along with door prizes and raffle items and an opportunity to win a two-night vacation at one of three Heritage Hotels in Santa Fe.

Funds from this event support the club's two local scholarships, the GFWC-NM Harriett Donohoo-Dorothy Pendleton scholarship program and the Hugh O'Brian Youth Fellowship program.

Tickets are available at Charlotte's, 1900 S. Telshor Blvd., from

Madeline Justis at 522-0024 or Jo Banks at 532-1207.

## U.S. senators offer Katie's Law

U.S. Sens. Jeff Bingaman and Tom Udall have introduced legislation to expand efforts to collect DNA from serious criminal offenders.

The Katie Sepich Enhanced DNA Collection Act of 2011 incentivizes states to expand efforts to collect DNA from individuals arrested or charged with serious crimes. The bill is named after Katie Sepich, a graduate student attending New Mexico State University who was murdered in 2003.

"Unfortunately, no legislation will give Katie back to her family. But this bill will help deliver justice to criminals, while preventing crimes from ever taking place," Bingaman said.

"With this legislation, we give law enforcement the tools they need to help solve hideous crimes and keep Katie's memory alive by preventing heartbreaking tragedies like hers from happening in the future," Udall said. "As one of the first states to collect DNA from felony arrestees, New Mexico's program has proven effective in helping to catch dangerous criminals."

The legislation would authorize the Department of Justice to award two types of grants – one for a "minimum" DNA collection process and another for "enhanced" collection.

DNA collected from adults who are arrested or charged with certain serious crimes would be checked

# Pearce visits school



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Niki Rhynes  
Congressman Steve Pearce gets ready for a video interview at Sierra Middle School as student Janelle Perez, 13, sets up the camera Monday, March 7, in the school's media center.

against the FBI DNA database, known as CODIS. Those crimes include murder/voluntary manslaughter, sex crimes punishable by imprisonment for more than five years and crimes involving kidnapping/abduction punishable by imprisonment for more than five years.

Arrestees who have their DNA included in the federal database may have their records expunged if their conviction is overturned, they are acquitted or charges are dismissed or not filed within the appli-

cable time period. The bill provides that as a condition of receiving a grant, states must notify individuals who submit DNA samples of the relevant expungement procedures and post the information on a public website.

Meanwhile, Gov. Susana Martinez praised the New Mexico House of Representatives for voting to expand Katie's Law to require a DNA sample from anyone arrested for a felony in New Mexico. The bill passed by a margin of 55-13.

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# SPRING BREAK AT GYM MAGIC!!

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March 21-25  
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# Looking Back

## This week in the history of the Mesilla Valley

**Marvin Tessneer's**  
*Out of the Past*



Mesa; Hookey Apodaca, Mesilla; Henry Crownover, Hurler; Howard Ball, Deming; Clayborn Wayne, Mesquite; Marshall Fuller, Lordsburg; Tim Easterbrook, La Mesa; and Jules Van Dersarl, Dawson, N.M.

### 100 years ago

#### 1911

• It was decided during a meeting of Doña Ana County citizens to immediately begin work on a road connecting Las Cruces to the Texas border at Anthony, N.M. The road would follow the Santa Fe Road right of way to Mesilla Park and would connect to the "Pike," a beautiful avenue maintained by the agricultural college and the "Paseo" to Las Cruces and then by way of Alameda to Doña Ana.

• Area residents were eagerly awaiting a visit by former President Theodore Roosevelt on March 15. Roosevelt was expected to speak from the rear platform of the train at Mesilla Park and Las Cruces stations.

### 75 years ago

#### 1936

• Eight Aggies were to receive basketball letters at the state college, coach Jerry Hines announced. They were Lauro Apodaca, La

• Leeland Farms was expecting to ship 100,000 bunches of asparagus labeled "Leeland Farms, Las Cruces, New Mexico," thus giving the city wide exposure. The farm was noted for its quality onions, tomatoes, carrots, beets and turnips.

• At a meeting of the Isaac Walton League, R.P. Porter, chairman of the committee on the proposed bathing beach at Mesilla Dam, reported favorable progress was being made and expected the Works Projects Administration to approve the project.

### 50 years ago

#### 1961

• The New Mexico State University Aggies earned a share of the Border Conference basketball crown for the third straight year. However, 6-foot-9 center Billie Jo Price was declared ineligible for the NCAA playoffs as he was a "four-year man" and four-year players were not eligible for the tournament.

• The Lou Henson-led Las Cruces High School basketball team was gunning for



Photo reproduced courtesy of the New Mexico State Library Rio Grande Historical Collection  
**This hand-colored photograph shows the men's dormitory at New Mexico A&M as it appeared around 100 years ago.**

its third straight New Mexico high school basketball crown. The Bulldogs were to open their defense of the title against Roswell in Albuquerque. Bulldog fans were encouraged to get their names added to the "longest telegram in history," to surpass the previous year's telegram that contained 8,000 names.

### 25 years ago

#### 1986

• Homes Illustrated Manager Sid Lamkin (now Graft) was named Citizen of the Year by the Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce for the year 1985. Lamkin accepted her Nambé plaque from chamber President Vic Arnold in front of a packed house of chamber members

and guests. Chamber Member of the Year was Jim Botsford of Botsford Land Surveying.

• The New Mexico State Aggies failed to make a post-season tournament for the seventh straight year, but racked up some impressive firsts for coach Neil McCarthy: they finished above .500 in the Pacific Coast Athletic Association Conference; defeated Fresno State for the first time; won their first-ever PCAA tournament game; and made their first-ever appearance in the PCAA Tournament Championship game.

*Information gathered from NMSU Library's Microform Area and Archives and Special Collections. Edited by Jim Hilley.*



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# Senior Activities



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

## AQUATICS CLASS

Aquatics class (senior exercise class) with Nora Bailey is offered on a first-come, first-served basis from 11:30 a.m. to noon Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at Frenger Pool, 800 Parkview Drive. Donation suggested.

## AEROBICS CLASS

Aerobics class with Luis Ortega is at 9 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the Eastside Community Center, 310 N. Tornillo St. Donation suggested.

## HATHA YOGA

Yoga classes are held at the Benavidez Community Center, 1045 McClure Road. Nora Bailey, a certified instructor, leads Hatha yoga classes beginning at 8 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Donation suggested.

## BLOOD PRESSURE AND GLUCOSE CLINICS

Blood pressure and glucose clinics by Alpha Nurses are:

- 10 a.m. to noon, Monday, Benavidez Community Center, 1045 McClure Road

- 10 a.m. to noon, Tuesday, Mesilla Park Community Center, 304 W. Bell Ave.
- 9 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St.
- 10 a.m. to noon, Thursday, East Side Center, 310 N. Tornillo St. Donation suggested.

## CORE-FLOOR EXERCISE CLASS

Core-floor exercise classes with Lucille Garcia are held from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St., and from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. Thursday at Mesilla Park Community Center, 304 W. Bell Ave. Donation suggested.

## T'AI CHI CLASSES

T'ai chi classes with Jason Shoberg are held from 3 to 4 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St. Donation suggested.

## CHESS

Chess games are played from 8:30 a.m. to noon Fridays at the Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St. All are welcome. Participants are asked to bring chess sets, boards and clocks.

## CHINA PAINTERS

China painters class is

from 1 to 4 p.m. Mondays at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St.

## MAH JONGG

Mah Jongg is played from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursdays at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St.

## JEWELRY MAKING

Jewelry-making classes are from 1 to 4 p.m. Mondays, and Jewelry Lab is from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St.

## BINGO MANIA

Bingo Mania is from 12:30 to 2 p.m. Wednesdays at the Eastside Community Center, 310 N. Tornillo St. No money is involved. Donations of old and/or new knickknacks for prizes are welcome. Call 541-2305 or 541-2304 for more information.

## CANASTA

Canasta is played from noon to 4 p.m. Wednesdays at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St. All are welcome.

## HORSESHOES

Horseshoe-pitching practice is held from 1 to 3 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday behind Munson Center. For more information, call Burt Trujillo at 522-4849.

## PINOCHLE

Pinochle players meet from noon to 5 p.m. Fridays at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St.

## WATERCOLOR PAINTING CLASS

Watercolor painting class is held from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Mondays at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St.

## STAINED-GLASS

Beginning and advanced stained-glass class meets at 8 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and intermediate stained-glass class meets at 1 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St.

## WOODCARVING

Woodcarving class meets from 9 a.m. to noon Fridays at the Eastside Community Center, 310 N. Tornillo St.

## HANDS 'N' FEET CARD GAME

Hands 'n' Feet card game is from noon to 4 p.m. Thursdays at Eastside Community Center, 310 N. Tornillo St.

## TRAVEL CLUB

The Voyagers Travel Club is open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday at Munson Center. Trips currently

being booked include:

- **Albuquerque/Gathering of the Nations:** April 28-30. \$280 double, \$305 single
- **Mount Rushmore and Black Hills of South Dakota:** May 14-22. \$769 double, \$1,019 single.
- **T or C Ladies Spa Experience:** May 23-24, 2011, two days/one night \$190 double \$224 single
- **Alaska Cruise and Tour:** Sept. 7, 11 days/10 nights. Call for details.
- **Hawaii Cruise:** Nov. 5. Call for details.
- **Branson Show:** Nov. 12-20. \$869 double, \$1,109 single. For more information, call Helen Glover at 528-3166.

## DAY TRIPS

To register for a walking group or fishing trip, seniors must present their membership card along with payment. Checks must be made out to the City of Las Cruces. There is a minimum of eight participants and maximum of 10 to 13. For more information or to sign up, call 528-3000.

## WALKING GROUP

All walks depart from Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St., at 9 a.m. and return by approximately 11 a.m. In case of bad weather, walks will take place at Mesilla Valley Mall. Minimum participants eight, maximum

14. For more information, call 528-3000 from 8:15 to 8:30 a.m.

## SWINGING DANCERS

The Swinging Dancers of Munson Center meet at 7 p.m. Saturdays at Munson Center, 975 S. Mesquite St. Couples, individuals and guests are welcome. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$6. For more information, call 523-1871.

## THE THURSDAY BRIDGE CLUB

The Thursday Bridge Club meets for lunch and bridge at 11 a.m. each Thursday at the Las Cruces Country Club, 2350 N. Main St. Anyone who plays bridge is welcome. For more information, call Beverly Nelson 523-6106.

## INCOME TAX PREPARATION

The Southwest Tax Coalition is offering free tax preparation from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 8:30 a.m. to noon Fridays through April 14 at 3880 Foothills Drive. Evening hours are from 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. In addition, taxes will be prepared from 1 to 4 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Women's Intercultural Center, 303 Lincoln St. in Anthony, N.M. For more information, call 527-8799.

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Prepare for your big day with our comprehensive guide for planning weddings, anniversaries, quinceañeras and other special events. Features include tips on how to spread the news, how to find the right dress, choosing the right reception hall, choosing a photographer and a checklist of "to do" items leading up to the big day.

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## Rep. Smith flushes marijuana bill

### GOP freshman says more study needed on program

By **Steve Terrell**  
The New Mexican

Not very many people actually thought that medical marijuana would be a major issue in this legislative session.

True, Gov. Susana Martinez, whenever asked by reporters, said during last year's gubernatorial campaign that she opposed the program, which the state adopted in 2009 as a way for people suffering from certain maladies to make medicinal use of the drug. But not long after her inauguration Martinez made it clear that repealing medical marijuana was not high on her list of priorities.

Some activists became concerned last month, however, when freshman Rep. Jim Smith, R-Sandia Park, introduced House Bill 593, designed to shut down the program. Was there a chance the Legislature might really do it?

No there wasn't. And by early this

week Smith himself realized it. He issued a news release Tuesday, March 8, saying as much, and on Wednesday he confirmed that he'd ask to pull the bill, which had been scheduled for a committee hearing this weekend.

"I've spent time talking to (Rep.) Moe Maestas," Smith said, referring to the Albuquerque Democrat who in the past has carried medical marijuana bills.

He also said he'd talked with activists who back the program.

"I think there needs to be more information about the program," Smith said. "We really need to study it and get all the information available."

So instead of HB593, Smith will be pushing House Memorial 53, which he introduced this week. The memorial calls for the state Health Department to make a report on the program this year after the session is over.

The memorial notes that the original bill that established legal medical marijuana in the state called

for an annual report on the program. However, the department hasn't submitted any reports, apparently due to lack of funding, Smith said.

The study would consider "new developments in the field of medicine, appropriate age ranges for treatment of debilitating conditions with medical marijuana, the legal status of the unresolved conflicts between state and federal law, whether the use of marijuana for medical purposes has resulted in any increased criminal activity..."

The proposed study, which would be submitted to an interim legislative committee by October, also would look at "unresolved issues, problems and benefits and whether continuation of the program is justified."

Emily Kaltenbach, state director of the Drug Policy Alliance – which led the effort to establish the state's medical marijuana program – said she looks forward to the study and interim committee hearings. "We look forward to having that dialogue, sharing information and educating during the interim."

She said the study should include input from patients in the program, "We could make this a meaningful study."



## Senate passes driver's license bill

### What GOP calls a 'sham,' Democrats call 'compromise'

Bulletin Staff Report

The New Mexico State Senate amended and passed a compromise driver's license bill on a 25 to 16 vote after hours of debate late Wednesday, Feb. 9.

The bill that state Rep. Andy Nuñez, I-Hatch, succeed in getting passed in the House was amended in a Senate committee and Republicans are decrying the changes.

The amended bill still provides for stricter and tougher requirements for foreign nationals to obtain driver's licenses, according to Democrats. Included among the amendments is a six-month residency requirement as well as fingerprints for foreign nationals in order to be eligible for a New Mexico driver's license.

Sen. Tim Jennings, the sponsor of the amendments that passed, said he was surprised that the tougher requirements he proposed did not garner support from Republicans.

"My amendments were offered in good faith in addressing concerns about security issues," Jennings said. "On an issue as difficult, emotional and divisive as this one it is important to keep our minds open to compromise."

Republicans responded that the changes would still allow people in New Mexico without legal documentation to be issued New Mexico driver's licenses.

"Sixteen states have repealed their laws to give illegal immigrants their state's licenses for good reason," said the bill's Senate sponsor, John Ryan, who claims that 82,000 driver's licenses have been issued to illegal immigrants in New Mexico. "Foreign terrorists who boarded U.S. airlines and blew up the World Trade Centers on 9/11 had government issued IDs or driver's licenses. It has forever changed how we view foreign threats on our soil here in the U.S. This is a safety issue."

Gov. Susana Martinez responded to the amendments by saying "the bill in its current form is a sham and insults the intelligence of every New Mexican who wants to see this dangerous law overturned. New Mexicans deserve an up-or-down vote on a bill that will actually stop the issuance of driver's licenses to illegal immigrants to protect the people of New Mexico, rather than a sham bill designed to protect politicians from being honest with their constituents."

Neighbors We've Lost

DEATH NOTICES

### MOYERS

George Ova Moyers II, 60, of Hatch, New Mexico, passed away at MountainView Regional Medical Center Friday, March 4, 2011. Services are pending with La Paz-Graham's Funeral Home.

### DRASIL

Elaine Hartmann Drasil, 88, of Truth or Consequences passed away on Thursday, March 3, 2011, at Sierra Health Care Center. Services are pending with La Paz-Graham's Funeral Home.

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

## Ethics left out

### Despite push for reform, no corruption bills OK'd

By **Steve Terrell**  
The New Mexican

With less than two weeks left in this session of Legislature, some bills dealing with ethics, corruption and election reform are starting to see movement – though neither the House nor the Senate has yet to pass any major ethics measure.

The issue of corruption was a major theme of Gov. Susana Martinez's campaign last year. One of the two bills she recently highlighted at a news conference, House Bill 378, sponsored by Rep. Nate Gentry, R-Albuquerque, made it through the House committee process this week and is headed to the House floor.

The bill would increase penalties for corrupt officials convicted in court. It also would prevent convicted officials from becoming lobbyists and would put their state pensions in jeopardy.

Gentry said Tuesday, March 8, that the House Judiciary Committee amended HB378 so it no longer would impose mandatory jail sentences for those convicted of a "felony corruption offense."

The bill would spell out what crimes are considered "corruption offenses." Those include bribery, embezzlement, making or permitting false vouchers, tampering with public records and other crimes related to violating the public trust.

The bill would add an "enhancement" of one year to prison sentences for those crimes, Gentry said.

HB383, which would create a new public-corruption unit within the Department of Public Safety, still has not been heard in a committee. The bill, sponsored by Rep. David Doyle, R-Albuquerque, is assigned to both the House Consumer and Public Affairs Committee and the House Judiciary Committee.

Meanwhile, the sponsors of several campaign-finance disclosure bills have been working to combine at least two of them – HB491, sponsored by Rep. Joseph Cervantes, D-Las Cruces, and HB155, sponsored by Rep. Brian Egolf, D-Santa Fe. These bills are aimed at tightening reporting of campaign expenditures made by groups independent of a candidate's campaign organization.

The substitute, Egolf said, also includes parts of HB604, another campaign-contribution bill, co-sponsored by Egolf and Gentry. HB604, which is being pushed by the Santa Fe think tank Think New Mexico, would outlaw contributions from contractors and lobbyists.

## CrimeStoppers

### Robbery



Las Cruces Crime Stoppers is offering a \$1,000 reward for information that leads to the arrest of the suspect involved in the March 4 robbery of a woman who was preparing to deliver a daily deposit.

Shortly before 7 p.m. Friday, March 4, Las Cruces police were called to the World Finance Corp. at 590 S. Solano Drive. Officers learned that a 29-year-old employee of the business was about to enter her vehicle when a man grabbed the woman from behind and forced her to the ground.

The suspect then grabbed the bag containing the store's daily deposit and took off running. The suspect's direction of travel was unknown.

The victim was unable to provide an accurate description of the suspect other than to say he was wearing jeans and a hoodie sweatshirt.

Friday's incident was the

second robbery, or attempted robbery, in three weeks involving a World Finance Corp. employee. Just before 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 11, a World Finance employee was at Citizens Bank, 505 S. Main St., when two men assaulted the woman and attempted to steal the cash she was depositing.

The suspects in the Feb. 11 incident were unsuccessful in their attempt because the woman had already secured the cash in the bank's night depository.

Anyone with information on who may have committed either of these crimes is asked to call Las Cruces Crime Stoppers at 800-222-TIPS (8477) or send a tip via text message to LCTIPS (528477).

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



# march of dimes Team Zane 2011

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**Stacie Christiano**  
CEO Big Brothers Big Sisters  
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**Amanda Cruz**  
Exec Director Hispano Chamber

**Terra Van Winter**  
Executive Director for Mesilla  
Valley Hospice Foundation

**Savonne Griffin**  
Las Cruces Marketing  
FirstLight Federal Credit Union

**Miguel Silva**  
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**Isaac Chavez**  
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# www.LasCrucesCelebrityWaiter.com



Las Cruces Convention Center



## Apple versus oranges

**Samantha Roberts**  
Business Editor



This popular fruit comes in a wide variety of colors and flavors – ranging from sweet Fuji reds to tart Granny Smith greens. Apples have been said to “keep the doctor” away and are common gifts for teachers. But with technology spiraling out of control, apples have made an imprint in another market – technology – and the release of the new iPad 2 just shows how hungry Americans are for the fastest, smallest and newest innovations.

Don't get me wrong, I appreciate my high-speed Internet and remember the day when connecting to the World Wide Web required tying up the home phone line followed by a long range of obnoxious noises. But with the swiftness that Apple has been releasing products, I'm amazed that anyone can keep up. Just as soon as you get the newest and coolest thing, it's not new or cool anymore.

Can they slow down just a little bit?

I don't currently own an iPad, but seriously considered buying one a few weeks ago, when rumors of the iPad 2 began. These speculations caused me to postpone my purchase and consider other options, such as the enTourage eDGe dualbook, a dual-screen computer that offers an SD card slot and two USB ports, or the upcoming WePad, which is called the “most complete alternative to the iPad” and is expected to be less expensive. Other alternatives include:

- Spring Design Alex Ebook Reader
- Lenovo Skylight Smartbook
- Lenovo IdeaPad U1 Hybrid
- ExoPC (the iPad clone)

Each alternative has its pros and cons to the already-slim iPad. The new one is said to be 33 percent thinner and 15 percent lighter.

By releasing products so frequently, I can only guess that Apple is trying to capitalize on the “innovators” of the market. According to the Everett Rogers Technology Adoption Lifecycle model, this is only 2.5 percent of the buying market – people who have to keep up with the latest and greatest.

But is Apple leaving behind the other 97.2 percent?

I don't feel forced to look at my other options, but their quick output of new products frustrates me into wanting to look at them.

See **iPad 2** on page B2

## Mexican investors to visit

### Looking to increase businesses, revenue in the Mesilla Valley

By **Samantha Roberts**  
Las Cruces Bulletin

More than two dozen Mexican investors will visit Las Cruces as part of a Foreign Investment Trade Mission organized by the Hispano Chamber of Commerce de Las Cruces and New Mexico Economic Development Department Office of Mexican Affairs from 2 to 7 p.m. Friday, March 18, at the Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave.

This event marks the first trade mission in Las Cruces and the first bi-national event at the new convention center, said Peter Ibarbo, organizer of the trade mission and newly appointed chair of the Hispano chamber's Economic Development Committee.

Ibarbo said he wanted to bring the event to Las Cruces as an effort to fulfill the chamber's mission to promote culture.

“I have been involved in numerous (trade missions) before in Albuquerque,” Ibarbo said. “There has never been anything like this in Las Cruces. There are a lot of great opportunities Las Cruces has to offer. I hope the event captures additional businesses and showcases the region's assets.”

Trade sessions will be held from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. and include the following:

• **Table 1: Real estate development**

This table consists of prospects interested in viewing investment opportunities in projects involving hotel development, townhome development, condominium complex development, apartment complex development, gasoline station-convenience



The Foreign Investment Trade Mission, held Friday March 18, at the Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave., will be similar to The International Intercultural Education Fair and Forum (IIEEFF) held in Mexico.

store development and other similar commercial real estate opportunities.

• **Table 2: Restaurant and café development**

This table consists of prospects interested in viewing viable commercial properties to develop restaurants and cafes.

• **Table 3: Import and distribution**

This table consists of prospects interested in identifying joint-venture partners to expand their marketing channels and establish distribution centers. The products include wooden dowel, plugs and bungs manufacturing looking to partner with a U.S. company to establish a consolidated distribution center; infectious disease and environmental health hazard control kits; a buyer looking for a U.S. supplier for

national distribution in Mexico; corrugated cardboard packaging manufacturing looking to develop a market to possibly establish a processing plant in Las Cruces for local and international distribution; and a supplier development center looking to make contacts with potential maquiladora suppliers in the realm of metal stamping, machining, plastic injection and packaging

• **Table 4: Tourism and special events**

This table consists of prospects interested in partnering with travel agencies to promote weekend getaways to Copper Canyon, promote tourism in Chihuahua, Mexico as well as looking to coordinate special events

See **Mexican trade** on page B2

## 'Lotz' more subs in Las Cruces

### New sandwich eatery will be expanding into the area

By **Samantha Roberts**  
Las Cruces Bulletin

The Mesilla Valley is plentiful in Mexican eateries, but with 100,000 hungry people to feed, Danny Quintana believes more sandwich shops is what the City of the Crosses needs, specifically Schlotzsky's sandwiches.

“My goal is to feed a lot of Schlotzsky's to a lot of people,” said Quintana, who hopes to open his first Schlotzsky's store in El Paso this summer.

Quintana recently acquired the rights to develop Schlotzsky's in the El Paso-Las Cruces area, expanding to Alamogordo, and said he could not be more excited, and admits he remembers his first

Schlotzsky's encounter.

“I had my first Schlotzsky's sandwich in College Station, Texas, while attending Texas A&M,” he said. “I have always loved their food, and it's an exciting time for the company because there is a lot of rebranding going on. The new menu is going to be great.”

While progress may seem slow, Quintana said he is hopeful for Las Cruces to get its first Schlotzsky's – possibly his second store – soon.

“Las Cruces will get a Schlotzsky's eventually, I'm convinced about that,” Quintana said. “It is the perfect place for a Schlotzsky's. They deserve one, and it will do well, but the exact location will be based on growth and business factors.”

With a steady business climate, Quintana said Las Cruces has many of the factors he wants an area to have.

“Las Cruces has a lot of what we're looking for business wise and client wise,” he said. “The city is growing, schools are growing



Guests enjoy the newly remodeled Schlotzsky's in Waco, Texas, which represents the new branding of the restaurant and will be similar to Danny Quintana's locations.

and the town feels young.”

Although Quintana said he is just now scouting for land in El Paso, he hopes to have his first store open this summer.

“I have a lot to learn in my own business adventures,” he said. “I want to get (my first store) going and do it right and

then look at a second store. I am open to having several locations throughout El Paso, Las Cruces and Alamogordo.”

Quintana received a bachelor's degree in parks and recreation from Texas A&M, and attended the law school at the University of See **Schlotzky's** on page B2

### INSIDE

#### MVEDA gets the OK

City councils approves MVEDA payment despite concerns .....B7

#### Get a head start on college

Academic Readiness Center caters to incoming college students .....B10

#### Banker wants to say 'yes'

More on Gary Lenzo .....B16

# Mexican trade

Continued from page B1

in Las Cruces and identify vendors from Las Cruces that may want to showcase products at special events in Chihuahua, such as the Chihuahua Balloon Festival, ExpoAlimentab, ExpoMaquila, etc.

• **Table 5: Commercial space supply chain**

This table consists of commercial space supply chain coordinators interested in viewing potential suppliers for the commercial space industry. Areas of interest include construction of commercial space facilities, common area maintenance suppliers for commercial space facilities and tier 1/2 commercial space production inputs.

• **Table 6: Sister city agreements**

This table consists of four municipalities interested in establishing sister city agreement discussions with potential cities around the Las Cruces region. These cities include Guerrero, Cuauhtemoc, Meoqui and Chihuahua.

With a multi-faceted group of investors, Ibarbo said he is also inviting a widerange of businesses to the event.

“We are inviting the business community in Las Cruces to come with an established product that are looking to expand and make new contacts,” he said. “Companies who want to grow their market, such as real estate developers who would like to partner and bring hotels and condominiums.

“We are also reaching out to local agencies that are active in economic development and want to provide a platform in foreign investment.”

Registration for tables includes: \$500 for logo presence, an exhibitor’s table and an access pass for two persons to participate in the private lunch, business-to-business sessions and dinner; \$250 for an exhibitor table and an access pass for two persons to participate



During the trade mission, guest will be able to meet future investors and introduce their product to numerous businesses.

in the business-to-business session dinner; and \$100 for a banner sponsorship that will be positioned in a prominent place during the event. Admission tickets can also be purchased for \$17.50 to \$35 per person.

In addition to the tables, the event will also host a dinner at 6 p.m. and offer different levels of entry fees to cater to everyone’s needs. Tickets can be purchased for the business-to-business marketing session, dinner or both.

The dinner will include keynote speakers from the Commercial Space Committee, who will talk about the commercial-supply chain

for Spaceport America; Sacred Power, which will discuss alternative-energy developments; and Jose Louis Mauricio, who comes from the El Paso-Juárez area and founded La Red, a company that has helped to establish more than 100 businesses in El Paso.

“The Hispano chamber is partnering with the New Mexico Economic Development Department, the Mesilla Valley Economic Development Alliance and the Greater Las Cruces

## Details

### Foreign Investment Trade Mission

**When**

2:30 to 7:30 p.m.  
Friday, March 18

**Where**

Las Cruces Convention Center  
680 E. University Ave.

**Cost**

\$17.50 to \$35

**Contact**

- Hispano Chamber of Commerce  
532-9255
- New Mexico Economic Development Department  
505-827-0307
- Mesilla Valley Economic Development Alliance  
525-2852
- Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce  
524-1968

Chamber of Commerce,” Ibarbo said. “If you are a member of any of these groups, then you can get more information from them, or anyone can contact the Hispano chamber.”

For more information or to register, contact the Hispano chamber at 532-9255.

## iPad 2

Continued from page B1

If I had bought an iPad before I heard about the iPad 2, I would have been upset with my choice.

Steve Jobs said that just under 15 million iPads had been sold in the device’s first nine months on the market – more than

all other tablet PCs combined. Obviously they are doing something right, but if they slowed down and gave more early adapters the chance to spend our green, could that number have been larger?

*My search for the perfect tablet continues. Let me know if you are taking your chances on the iPad 2 ... email samantha@lascrucesbulletin.com.*

## Schlotsky's

Continued from page B1

Houston. After working in the investment world for several years, Quintana and his family moved to El Paso five years ago to be

closer to his father.

“Schlotzsky’s are much more prominent in central Texas,” he said. “After coming to El Paso, I realized that it was something this area is missing. I want to bring the great food to west Texas and southern New Mexico.”

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# Briefs

## Business students invited to compete for trip to New York City

Barnes & Noble Booksellers at New Mexico State University is inviting all undergraduate and graduate business students to team up and take part in the NOOKstudy Student Marketing Plan Contest in April.

Teams will put together a comprehensive marketing plan for the free NOOKstudy eTextbook reader and study application. NOOKstudy is an eTextbook application for computers. Three semifinal teams will receive a trip to New York City to present their marketing plan to a panel of judges, as well as one night's hotel accommodations and \$150 in spending money. The winning team will see their ideas incorporated into future marketing strategies, and each member of the winning team will receive a NOOKcolor, which allows users to read digital novels and magazines. The registration and submission deadline for the contest is April 1. For more information, visit [www.nookstudy.com](http://www.nookstudy.com).

## CATS to host a carwash fundraiser

Full Potential CATS (Concerned About Teen Sexuality) peer presenters and mentors of Las Cruces will have a carwash from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 19, at Go Burger, 1008 E. Lohman Ave., to raise funds to attend the STARS National Conference, a leadership and mentoring training conference.

CATS goal is to raise \$5,685 or more, allowing 15 members to attend the STARS National Conference in Fort Collins, Colo. Attendance at the conference will continue to equip them for the work they are doing in the local and surrounding communities.

## Door-to-door appraisals under way

Doña Ana County Assessor Andy Segovia and his staff have begun a state-mandated door-to-door reappraisal program of all properties within Doña Ana County.

Appraisers will be looking for both positive and negative changes to property values resulting from age, demolitions, renovations, improvements and/or additional structures. Office records will subsequently be updated to better describe each property and determine an accurate assessed value.

To accomplish a countywide door-to-door appraisal, several teams of appraisers will be

deployed to efficiently and systematically canvass all neighborhoods throughout both municipal and rural areas.

Assessor's staff will be making direct contact with property owners and/or leaving door hangers, letting the property owners know that the property has been reviewed.

All staff in the field will carry credentials and will travel in marked Doña Ana County Assessor's Office vehicles. All field appraisers will provide identification information upon request and will provide contact information so that any concerned resident can get quick, accurate answers to any questions or concerns about the appraisal process.

For more information, visit the Doña Ana County Assessor's Office at 845 N. Motel Blvd. or call 647-7400.

## HTC monthly meeting

The High Tech Consortium of Southern New Mexico announced that Donna Stryker, senior vice president of First New Mexico Bank, will be the featured speaker at this month's HTC meeting. Stryker has 36 years of experience in lending and banking and has worked through several ups and downs in the market since 1974 – at that time rates were 6 percent and you shook hands and signed a note and mortgage. She will discuss the current lending environment and rule changes and the implications for businesses and individuals.

Stryker graduated from prep school in Switzerland and lived in Saudi Arabia for several years. She has been a motivational speaker on the subject of blindness (her youngest son was born blind) and has co-authored documents and books for the education community.

The presentation will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Sunset Grill at Sonoma Ranch Golf Course Friday, March 18, at the monthly meeting of the HTC of Southern New Mexico.

For more information, contact Richard Majestic at [rmajestic@msn.com](mailto:rmajestic@msn.com) or 521-0018.

## Student takes on Talk Radio internship

New Mexico State University student Rachel Christiansen is spending the final semester of her undergraduate career in Washington, D.C., working as an intern with Talk Radio News Service.

Talk Radio News Service is a media outlet providing government, political and world news to 400 radio affiliates nationwide. Sponsored by the New Mexico Broadcaster Association, the semester-long internship has

Christiansen working full time as a political reporter covering events such as press briefings, hearings on Capitol Hill, press conferences and other governmental happenings in Washington. Christiansen began in January and has since had the opportunity to cover press conferences held by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Sen. John McCain and billionaire real estate tycoon Donald Trump. On a daily basis, Christiansen reports on the events, acquires audio clips, writes, shoots video, edits and posts content on the Internet. Talk Radio also closely follows New Mexico delegations, which requires Christiansen to prepare 30-second radio news packages for local stations.

Christiansen will graduate this May with a bachelor's degree in journalism and mass communication. She hopes to pursue a career in broadcast journalism and ultimately become a television news reporter.

## ARC board welcomes Ness

Erik Ness has been elected to the national board of directors of the Agricultural Relations Council (ARC), an organization of public relations professionals and organizations working in agriculture, food, fiber and other related industries. He was elected during the ARC annual meeting in Fort Meyers, Fla.

Ness recently retired from the New Mexico Farm and Livestock Bureau after a 30-year



NESS

career as the organization's director of communications and media relations. He currently serves as a columnist and broadcast commentator for the American Farm Bureau Federation, the nation's largest agricultural organization. He also serves on the board of Cowboys for Cancer

Research and the executive committee of the Advertising Federation of Las Cruces.

"Agricultural public relations is a different kind of animal," said ARC President Mace Thornton of the American Farm Bureau Federation, adding that public relations for agriculture is more important than ever. "This is the organization that really specializes in bringing PR people to the table in agriculture so we can talk about common challenges and discuss strategy and tactics."

ARC has been organized nationwide for more than 50 years and includes advertising agencies, public relations firms, universities, commodity organizations, publications, broadcasters and public affairs officers.

During his tenure at the Farm Bureau, Ness was twice recognized by the American Farm Bureau Federation with the Dave Lane Citation for excellence in media relations. He is a graduate of Alamogordo High School and New Mexico State University.

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Benefitting New Mexico's Future

## Ribbon cutting



**MMC Buzz, a toastmasters club, held its ribbon cutting at 7:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 8, at Memorial Medical Center to celebrate the official beginning of the organization.**

Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Samantha Roberts.

# University endowment earnings outpace peers

## NMSU leaders are pleased with results

Like many university endowments across the country, the New Mexico State University Foundation endowment saw increased returns in 2010 and averaged higher returns than many endowments of a similar size, according to a joint study by the National Association of College and University Business Officers and the Commonfund Institute released in February.

The average annual total net returns for institutions having endowments of \$101 million to \$500 million for fiscal year 2010 was 11.9 percent. For that same time period, the NMSU Foundation return was 13.5 percent. The endowment in total is valued at \$154 million.

"We are pleased to report these extremely positive investment results, since growing our endowment is perhaps the single most important role the foundation plays on behalf of New Mexico State University," said Dennis Prescott, foundation president.

The 2010 NACUBO-Commonfund Study of Endowments (NCSE) gathered data from 850 U.S. colleges, universities and affiliated foundations. The average return for endowments of all sizes also was 11.9 percent, which is in sharp contrast to the 18.7 percent reported during fiscal year 2009.

"These results are particularly gratifying, especially on the heels of the extremely challenging period we've all experienced in the financial markets," Prescott said.

The study also looked at participants' asset allocation and spending. The NMSU

Foundation's asset allocation model is heavily weighted to domestic stocks, international equities and fixed income. Only 21 percent is invested in the alternative market. This is a common practice among endowments of NMSU's size. Larger endowments tend to invest more in alternative markets. NMSU's spending rate, as a percentage of beginning market value, was 4.9 percent, which compares closely to the 4.5 percent overall average for all institutions participating in the study.

"The Foundation's Investment Committee has established a sound investment policy and asset allocation model appropriate for endowments of our size," Prescott said. "We will continue to look for ways to add value to the portfolio while appropriately managing downside risk."

The second annual NCSE for fiscal year 2010 is the result of a research partnership between NACUBO and Commonfund. Previously, the two organizations conducted separate studies of educational endowments' investment performance. NACUBO is a membership organization representing more than 2,500 colleges, universities and higher education service providers across the country and around the world. Commonfund Institute is dedicated to the advancement of investment knowledge and the promotion of best practices in financial management.

For additional information about the NMSU Foundation, visit [www.foundation.nmsu.edu](http://www.foundation.nmsu.edu).

# Farmers should expect to pump this spring

## Water shortage forecast for Mesilla Valley

By **Marvin Tessneer**  
Las Cruces Bulletin

The mountains snow pack accumulation has peaked for the winter, indicating another short water supply for Mesilla Valley agricultural producers, according to the National Weather Service and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

The storage levels at the two river reservoirs are down – 504,820 acre-feet at Elephant Butte, or 25 percent of a full reservoir and 24,890 acre-feet at Caballo, only 11 percent of capacity, the Bureau of Reclamation El Paso field office reported.

The projected Rio Grande flow from March to July at the San Marcial measuring station above Elephant Butte Reservoir does not indicate any extra water supply – 405,100 acre-feet, 70 percent of the 30-year average.

During the 2010 season, river surface water was so short that the Elephant Butte Irrigation District closed the gates at Caballo, where the irrigation water is released in September.

Normally, the district continues to release irrigation water until October. Ditch riders had diverted 282,000 acre-feet into EBID agriculture fields.

In January, the river flow was forecasted to be 89 percent of average, but the mountains that drain into the Rio Grande Basin did not receive any snow storms during January, which means the accumulations are down and they vary.

The report for the southern Colorado Mountains was 80 percent of average, and the Snow Telemetry SNOTEL recordings for the northern New Mexico mountains was 75 percent of average. The snow pack water content for the basin was 68 percent of normal.

The National Resources Conservation Service tracks snow packs and water content with 25 SNOTEL remote units at elevations of 8,000 to 12,000 feet.

### Details

Help support your farmers by celebrating National Agriculture Day Tuesday, March 15.

Based on these figures, the EBID is planning on maximum water allocation of one foot to 18 inches. The district does not plan to release water into the irrigation system until mid-April or May and plans to cut off irrigation in September, conserving water for delivery during the hot, high-demand months, the EBID headquarters announced.

With a normal runoff, the EBID grants farmers 3 acre-feet of water.

When river surface water is short, farmers have to turn to pumping ground water, which is expensive and increases operation costs. Farmers in the valley use electricity, natural gas and diesel fuel to pump water.

"It has been our policy at EBID to use all of our surface water to reduce the need for ground water, which is our drought reserve,"

EBID consultant J. Phillip King said in an earlier report. "So be prepared to supplement the reduced surface water supply with ground water. Farmers should service their wells and be ready to pump."

The district is also prepared to transfer well water among farmers through its conveyance system.

Farmers planted onions in fall and lettuce in winter. They are wetting their fields with well water to prepare the ground for chile planting, and cotton planting is scheduled for mid-April.

The drier conditions are traced back to the climate pattern known as La Niña.

The colder than normal water in the equatorial Pacific that defines La Niña

would favor the storm track that results in drier than normal weather conditions for southern and eastern New Mexico through this spring," according to the Weather Service.

“ It has been our policy at EBID to use all of our surface water to reduce the need for ground water, which is our drought reserve. ”

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Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Niki Rhynes

Jaylene Watkins McIntosh holds up a new jersey while coach of Americas soccer team holds up the teams old one at the youth soccer jersey swap, Thursday, March 3, at the Provencio/Van Dame Soccer Fields. The Border Region Coalition for a Drug Free Community held the youth soccer jersey swap in relation to the new policy that banned any tobacco and alcohol brands or references on jerseys.



The Americas soccer team posed for a group shot after receiving Aggie T-shirts from the New Mexico State University's women's soccer team.

# Jersey swap motivates youth to stay away from drugs and alcohol

## Community foundation exchanges non-compliant jerseys

Courtesy of the Community Foundation of Southern New Mexico

It was all soccer and all fun at the Provencio/Van Dame Soccer Fields Thursday, March 3, when the Border Region Coalition for a Drug Free Community (BRC) hosted a jersey swap.

Following outreach from the BRC, a Community Foundation of Southern New Mexico (CFSNM) initiative, Las Cruces Youth Soccer (formerly High Noon Soccer) incorporated a new policy banning tobacco and alcohol brands or references on players' soccer jerseys.

The new policy was made during mid-year of league play, and some teams with replica jerseys of professional Mexican soccer teams containing a specific beer brand were in need of new jerseys.

"We realized it was important to be aware of what these kids had

on their jerseys," president of Las Cruces Youth Soccer Frank Moreno said during the event. "We ruled that this policy will be in effect during all Las Cruces Youth Soccer play, including tournament play."

During the jersey swap, the BRC provided 37 new jerseys to replace those in violation. In addition, they awarded a jersey sponsorship to one new team as an introduction to an annual Drug Free Jersey Sponsorship Program, which will be developed this year.

"This is an exciting event because it is a solid example of the changes we, as a coalition, can bring

to the community," said Jaylene Watkins McIntosh, coalition coordinator for the BRC. "This jersey swap is what we are all about. Focusing on positive messages through a partnership that only makes the impact stronger."

During the jersey swap,

the New Mexico State University Women's Soccer Team handed out T-shirts and goodie bags and signed autographs. The BRC also handed out the Responsible Host Pledge!, asking parents to refrain from serving alcohol to minors or hosting parties for minors where alcohol is available.

*CFSNM is dedicated to helping the southern New Mexico community now, and in the future. Founded in 2000, CFSNM 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. CFSNM can advise you on how best to maximize contributions, no matter what size. For more information, visit [www.cfsnm.org](http://www.cfsnm.org) or call Luan Wagner Burn 521-4794.*



### For more info

The Unified Prevention (UP!) Border Region Coalition works to make sure that every child in Doña Ana County has the opportunity to live a life free of drugs and alcohol. For more information on how you can donate or become a member of the coalition, contact Jaylene Watkins McIntosh of the Community Foundation of Southern New Mexico at 521-4794 or email [jaylene@cfsnm.org](mailto:jaylene@cfsnm.org).



Joel Maldonado, 7, slips on his new jersey after swapping his old one that was sponsored by Corona.

McIntosh shows the Americas soccer team their new jersey.





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Florent Lescombes, president of Southwest Wines gathers with Lescombes employees to celebrate their one-millionth bottle of wine in August 2010.

## Southern New Mexico Pinot Noir gets second

### DH Lescombes 2009 Pinot Noir takes silver award

After tasting and evaluating more than 350 Pinot Noirs from across the nation, the judges of the ninth annual Pinot Noir Shootout and Summit have awarded a silver medal to New Mexico's DH Lescombes 2009 Pinot Noir. Sponsored by Affairs of the Vine and CRN Talk Radio, the awards ceremony took place at the Grand Awards Tasting Feb. 26 at the Hilton San Francisco Financial District.

With more than 350 types of Pinot Noir considered, the panel of judges said that the competition was fierce, and expressed amazement that there were so many stellar wines. "They used to say consistently good Pinot Noir was an oxymoron, but it has become a truism," said Rusty Gaffney, one of the judges and the undisputed "Prince of Pinot."

DH Lescombes 2009 Pinot Noir will take part in the Grand Awards Tasting, a blind tasting of 64 selected finalists by the attendees of the Pinot Noir Showdown.

DH Lescombes 2009 Pinot Noir is made by Southwest Wines of Deming, the largest winery in the state. The wine has a brilliant nose of oriental spice and jasmine, which livens up the dark, rich garnet color. A soft, silky texture releases flavors of blackberry, blueberry and hints of red berry. DH Lescombes 2009 Pinot Noir pairs well with wild game, duck and veal or foods with cream-based sauces.

Southwest Wines offers wine from five separate labels – DH Lescombes, Blue Teal, St. Clair, Voluptuous, De La Cruz and several specialty varieties. Although all of the wine is made in Deming, it's available throughout the southwest, including at the St. Clair Winery and Bistro locations in Albuquerque, Las Cruces and Farmington. The wines can also be experienced at the St. Clair Tasting Room in Deming, and from fine wine retailers throughout the region. St. Clair wines are also available on the Internet at [www.southwestwines.com](http://www.southwestwines.com).

## Council OK's payment

### City Councillors question economic development focus

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

The Las Cruces City Council approved paying \$200,000 to the Mesilla Valley Economic Development Alliance (MVEDA), but after debating whether the city should do more to help small business creation.

MVEDA CEO Davin Lopez told the council at its meeting Monday, March 7, that his organization acts as the marketing arm for Las Cruces and the area to attract businesses to the area. Companies MVEDA has helped the city attract include Alaska Structures, Sitel, Samson Equipment and SunEdison, he said.

Lopez said MVEDA also works with the local public schools and especially Doña Ana Community College to support workforce training for those jobs. MVEDA is currently working on 40 prospects and has assisted in the creation of 237 jobs so far this year.

That is already more than double the two previous years, which Lopez attributed to the recession.

"We have the potential of breaking 1,000 jobs this year," Lopez said.

Besides generating permanent jobs, attracting new businesses helps support the construction industry when the new operations are built, he said. MVEDA works very hard in seeking technology-based business development, he said.

"At the end of the day the product must have commercial value," Lopez said.

Mayor Pro Tem Sharon Thomas said she is concerned that MVEDA's approach is too narrow and contended that small business development is something the city should be putting its resources into because that is where the country is seeing more job creation. She cited a concept called "economic garden" and used Littleton, Colo., in which the city provides access to its resources to help new startups find customers and set routes or determine drive times.

"All I'm arguing for is that we look at this," Thomas said.

Councillor Dolores Connor said she agreed with Thomas that the city government could be doing much more to provide assistance to small businesses.

"It's time to reach out to these small businesses that don't have 250 employees for MVEDA to hold their hand," Connor said. "But the question today is whether we extend the contract (for MVEDA)."

Councillor Nathan Small said he believes that MVEDA is able to clearly demonstrate its value, but there also needs to be more done to support local businesses.

Besides efforts in Las Cruces, Lopez said MVEDA played a role in getting the Union Pacific railroad to relocate its large switching yard from El Paso to Santa Teresa, which

will generate 3,000 construction jobs and 600 permanent high-paying jobs.

But that also supports concerns by Councillor Miguel Silva that the city may be paying too large a share.

MVEDA is a public-private partnership that is supported financially by the City of Las Cruces, Doña Ana County, New Mexico State University, DACC, Las Cruces Public Schools, the Village of Hatch and more than 90 local businesses and organizations.

Silva noted that the county's payment to MVEDA is only \$100,000, half of what the city chips in.

Silva said he felt the city was not an equal partner with the county when it came to MVEDA.

"I support MVEDA very much, but I just want to see more equity," he said.

Silva said there is more economic development occurring throughout the county than when MVEDA was first created 16 years ago, and that he believed it was time to revisit how much each entity is contributing. As for the city and county, Silva suggested each pay \$150,000 instead.

Lopez admitted it's difficult to give precise economic development tracking because private industry is sometimes secretive.

Supporters of MVEDA told the council that the organization has played an important role in attracting businesses to the area, such as Alaska Structures choosing to expand here instead of Texas.

George Ruth, who has been on MVEDA's board for more than three years, said every government entity somehow benefits when a large employer comes to the area.

"We're all in this together," Ruth said. "If we bring a dollar to this region we all benefit."

Mayor Ken Miyagishima said maybe the city should have more than one representative on the MVEDA board since it pays more than any other entity.

In other business, the council also approved a Sustainability Action Plan for city government to increase energy efficiency, use more renewable energy, protect the water supply, reduce solid waste, prevent pollution, supporting local food networks, conserve habitats and encourage sustainable development and transportation options.

Connor was the lone vote against the plan, which was tabled at the last meeting, because she still had concerns about language in the plan and wanted to see more work done on it.

Councillor Gill Sorg said the plan couldn't wait because there is a looming energy shortage. Sorg said he believed that the concepts in the plan would also create jobs.

While no one was opposed to a sustainability plan, there were some residents who asked

Thomas Schuster, the city's sustainability officer, said the plan could be changed as circumstances change and noted that it didn't have the same legal authority as a city ordinance would.

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## Snippin' for success

### Upcoming ribbon cuttings

**Razzmataz**

When: 11 a.m. Friday, March 11  
Location: 3520 Foothills Road

**Law Office of Jill V. Johnson**

When: 9 a.m. Friday, March 18  
Location: 1730 Tierra De Mesilla,  
Suite 8

# The future could be bright

But area home sales are off to slowest start in four years

Closed Sale Production			
ALL HOMES	January	February	Total
2008	105	96	201
2009	69	84	154
2010	58	93	151
2011	60	76	136

Source: Las Cruces Association of Realtors

Pending Home Sales			
ALL HOMES	January	February	Total
2008	198	197	395
2009	146	179	325
2010	182	209	391
2011	127	191	318

Source: Las Cruces Association of Realtors



**Gary Sandler's**  
Real Estate  
Connection

The fact that home sales, both locally and nationally, have been on the decline is no surprise to anyone who pays attention to daily news reports. How much of a decline is something that's unique to each and every marketplace. Take the Las Cruces area for example.

The 136 closed sales of new and existing homes, town-homes and condominiums booked during the first two months of this year represent a 10 percent decline from the 151 closed sales reported during the first two months of last year, and a 32 percent decline from the 201 closed sales reported in 2008. While this year's March sales figures are far from complete, the main indicator of future closings indicates that the downward trend may continue – at least in the near term.

That indicator is known as the Pending Home-Sale Index. A sale is considered pending after a purchase agreement has

been signed, but before the transaction has closed. Since pending sales turn into closed sales approximately 30 to 60 days after a purchase agreement has been signed, the index is considered the best indicator of the number of closings that will take place one or two months into the future.

Buyers in our area have contracted to purchase more homes in February than they did in January, but not as many as they did last year.

What the future holds for the housing market is anyone's guess. Some who purport to be in the know predict that prices won't stabilize until this time next year. Others are confident that the stabilization now being experienced in some areas of the country will spread across the nation as we move toward summer.

One thing's for sure – the housing market won't be on the road to full recovery until the large number of distressed properties that have been driving down prices are disposed of once and for all.

Until that time, all bets are off.  
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 from 4 to 6 p.m. each Monday on KSNM-AM 570. Sandler is a member of the Board of Directors of the Downtown Las Cruces Partnership, and is the 2007 and 2010 recipient of the NM Broadcaster's Associations Talk Show Host of the Year award. Questions or comments may be directed to Sandler at 525-2400 or by emailing gary@garysandler.com.*

# China faces problems creating high value-added economy

Low wages can drive growth so far



**Chris Erickson**  
State of the Economy

China's success at economic development is well known. Its economy has grown by more than tenfold since 1978, when the current era of economic reforms first began. The Chinese manufacturing sector recently surpassed the United States as the world's largest. This success has raised fears that the United States is about to lose its predominance as global leader. Sometimes the media would have you think that China is about to take over the world. But China's continued growth faces a number of problems – rising wages, inflation, a weak financial sector, corruption – that make continued growth problematic.

China's has grown based on cheap labor, but wages in China are on the rise. Labor unrest and unionization is becoming more common. Working at Foxconn and Honda, for example, won large pay increases following strikes last summer. These wage increases are an inevitable side effect of China's rising affluence. The country's per capita income should catch up with the global average per capita income of \$11,000 in less than five years.

Rising incomes mean that China must transition from

“ Should  
China's growth  
falter, the political  
implications will  
be significant. ”

a low cost to a high value added producer if it is to sustain growth. But history tells us that this transition can be difficult for a developing country. Take, for example, Mexico. Between 1920 and 1970, Mexico grew rapidly until, around 1970 Mexico caught up with the global average and got stuck. Not able to transition to a high value added economy, Mexico has remained near the global average for 40 years.

China is aware of the problem it faces and has adopted policies in an attempt to make the transition. It has invested heavily into higher education and more recently, China has dramatically increased expenditure on research and development. It appears that China is trying to take a page out of the Japanese playbook, seeking to develop innovative products that can be competitive internationally, allowing it to transition from an assembly economy.

Another tactic adopted by China is to force its manufacturing partners to locate high value added facilities in China in exchange for access to Chinese markets. For example, Boeing agreed to produce parts of the 787 in China, including the rudder assembly, in exchange for an order placed by China for a large number of 787s.

A number of factors will complicate China's transition from a low wage country. Official inflation is running at 5 percent but unofficially is probably higher, maybe 10 percent. The banking sector is facing problems, suffering from nonperforming loans. Taken together, these two facts are putting stress on

China's financial system.

Thanks to its policy of one child, the country is one of the fastest aging in the world. Moreover, while China is home to some of the best universities in Asia, once you leave the elite schools, the second tier is not up to international standards. The one child policy coupled with inadequate seats in quality universities means that China faces a shortage of qualified young workers.

Government corruption remains a major concern. China is a heavily regulated economy, with banking and much of the manufacturing sector still controlled by government entities. China ranking 79th out of 175 countries according to Transparency International, well below high-income countries in Europe and North America.

China's transition to a high value-added economy is far from certain. The legitimacy of the current rulers depends on delivering continued growth. Should China's growth falter, the political implications will be significant.

*Chris Erickson is an associate professor of economics at New Mexico State University. His wife is a high school science teacher and his daughter attends Mayfield High School. The views expressed here are his own and may not reflect the views of the Regents or administration of NMSU.*

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# Innovation at Innoventure competition

Photos by Niki Rhynes



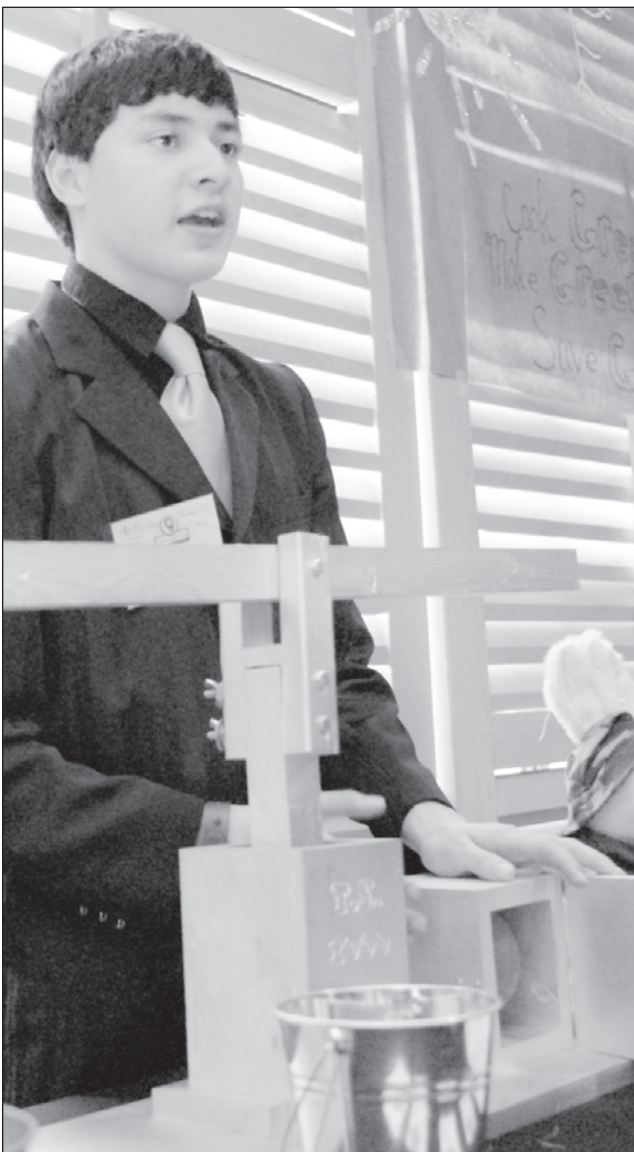
Keynote speaker Leticia Britos Cavagnaro from the Design School at Stanford University stopped by Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces during the annual Innoventure Competition held by New Mexico State University's Arrowhead Center Friday, March 4.



Lana Kimmel, 16, and Rebecca Brink, 15, of East Mountain High School in Sandia Park, N.M., stand next to the system they created to purify contaminated water into drinking water during the competition.



Ruidoso Middle School students Christian Castro, Alex Gomez, Adrian Reyes and Andres Aguirre explain a battery that runs off of waste to produce energy and electricity.



16-year-old West Las Vegas High School student Joshua Hidalgo explains how he created a trash compactor that not only compacts trash to be used as compost, but also compacts manure to make fuel.



Malachai Egan, Ty Stovall and Michael Romero



The beginnings of a plastic bag crochet project. Naomi Luna and Breanne Cunningham were offering plastic as a substitute to help decrease the amount of plastic bags that end up in the ocean and littering the earth.



Gabrielle Benavidez explains "Project Revolution" at the competition.





# City of Las Cruces Building Permit Report Feb. 25 - March 4

Building Industry Association of Southern New Mexico						
Permit #	Permittee	Owner	Project	Address	Value	Permit
20110922	Progreen Superior Coating & Roofing Inc.	William W. Iv and Donna J. McClellan	Reroof	2055 O'Donnell	\$8,500	\$78
20110942	Desert View Homes	Desert View Homes LLC	Res/New	2897 San Elizario Court	\$141,860	\$242
20110944	Flair Homes Inc.	D W Development LLC	Res/New	1636 Neleigh Loop	\$161,376	\$4,054
20110945	Veloz Homes Inc.	Camino Real Builder Inc.	Res/New	3522 Camino Verde	\$207,460	\$3,882
20110934	Oasis Lp Inc.	Juan Cordova & Dora M. Dominguez	Swimming Pool	2316 Aguirre Court	\$33,000	\$203
20110948	Sweetwater Homes LLC	KB and Elizabeth J. Chang	Res/New	7538 Monte Verde Place	\$180,236	\$1,776
20110946	Milliken Construction	Emilia Hart	Res/Alt	3301 Venus St.	\$5,000	\$57
20110956	TAJ & Ark LLC	Thomas V. and Shiny Nattakom	Comm/Alt	166 Roadrunner Parway	\$250,000	\$884
20110953	YCF Construction	Paul A. and Teresia M. Tanner	Reroof	4910 Garnet Place	\$7,079	\$69
20110950	Sweetwater Homes LLC	KB and Elizabeth J. Chang	Res/New	7534 Monte Verde Place	\$180,236	\$2,327
20110951	Hakes Brothers Construction LLC	Sonoma Ranch East II LLC	Res/New	4374 Calle Amarilla Arc	\$175,972	\$4,078
20110952	Hakes Brothers Construction LLC	Ornithes Inc.	Res/New	7586 Sierra Alta Place	\$169,740	\$1,758
20110968	B & L Roofing Inc.	Newman Company LLC	Reroof	1635 Don Roser Drive	\$5,000	\$57
20110966	B & L Roofing Inc.	Thomas Henry Giordano	Reroof	1914 La Jolla Ave.	\$4,200	\$53
20110973	Clayton Donnelly Roofing	Elsie P. Barry	Reroof	835 Creed Ave.	\$7,715	\$73
20110967	B & L Roofing Inc.	Heritage Ventures LTD Liability Co	Reroof	3133 Las Placitas	\$5,000	\$57
20110971	Summit Development	PI Holdings No. 1 Inc.	Res/New	4263 Lyra Court	\$285,688	\$4,266
20110972	Clayton Donnelly Roofing	Ernesto III and Marci Lee Nevarez	Reroof	5053 Avenida Del Sol	\$6,900	\$68
20110976	Erasmus's Roofing LLC	Manford Jr. and Karen Marie Fee	Reroof	2144 Sagecrest Ave.	\$7,685	\$73
20110984	Approved Roofing	Kurt M. Peterson	Reroof	1845 Thomas Drive	\$7,008	\$69
20110983	GS Roofing	Hector S. and Bertha Quiz	Reroof	886 Brownlee Ave.	\$3,700	\$50
20110980	G. Bishop Roofing LLC	Penelope Ann Hamlin	Reroof	1924 Del Mar Ave.	\$4,869	\$56
20110947	Vladymar E. and Jean K. Rayer	Estate of Elizabeth D. Sweetser	Res/Add	2466 El Dorado Court	\$2,000	\$46
20110993	Desert Hills Roofing	Lawrence A. and Breena S. Tafoya	Reroof	3027 Broadmoor Drive	\$7,550	\$72
20110994	LC Structural Inc.	LC Structural Inc.	Comm/New	720 E Chestnut Ave.	\$160,000	\$628
20110995	Gilbert Gamboa	Gilbert C. Gamboa and Elizabeth Chavez	Res/Add	525 S Esperanza St.	\$6,000	\$63
20111008	Hakes Brothers Construction LLC	Ornithes Inc.	Res/New	7581 Sierra Alta Place	\$186,960	\$1,787
20111002	Progreen Superior Coating & Roofing Inc.	James R. Hunsinger	Reroof	1205 Edgewood Ave.	\$6,900	\$68
20111006	Hakes Brothers Construction LLC	Sonoma Ranch East II LLC	Res/New	4370 Calle Amarilla Arc	\$186,960	\$4,097
20111004	Merlin Enterprises	William S. and Yvette A. Eschenbrenner	Comm/Alt	440 N Main St.	\$65,000	\$337
20111000	RA & J Construction	Willard B. and Sonja A. Wylie	Reroof	1617 Santa Monica Drive	\$2,500	\$42
20111031	Cesar A. and Margaret A. Marengo	Cesar A. and Margaret A. Marengo	Res/Add	740 Lariat Drive	\$600	\$31
20111034	Zipp Construction	Susan L. Williams	Res/Alt	2439 Columbia Ave.	\$10,000	\$87
20111040	Hakes Brothers Construction LLC	Ornithes Inc.	Res/New	7593 Sierra Alta Place	\$169,740	\$1,758
20111039	Hakes Brothers Construction LLC	Sonoma Ranch East II LLC	Res/New	4349 Del Prado Way	\$2,070	\$4,068
20111047	Wendel D Hall Drywall	Rosalba D. and Jaime Rodriguez	Reroof	1009 Avondale Drive	\$7,800	\$74
20111043	GMJ Enterprises	William M. and Tanya R. Merryman	Reroof	607 Lenox Ave.	\$2,250	\$41
20111058	Agustin Perez & Sandra Maese	Agustin Perez and Sandra Maese	Res/Add	2903 San Elizario Court	\$2,000	\$92
20111050	Fort Selden Builders	Charles and Nita R. Swartz Rev Trust	Reroof	2310 Kent Road	\$6,650	\$67
20111042	Regency Construction	Alden C. and Cherylee S. Tombaugh	Reroof	1844 Newton St.	\$4,000	\$51
20111037	G. Bishop Roofing LLC	Carl J. and Barbara Impellitier	Reroof	2111 Desert Greens Drive	\$13,736	\$109
20111023	Erasmus's Roofing LLC	Sara Tarin	Reroof	2229 Dakota Drive	\$1,600	\$42
20111059	Sweetwater Homes LLC	KB and Elizabeth J. Chang	Res/New	7526 Monte Verde Place	\$160,556	\$1,742

\* Information from the BIA-SNM is provided by City of Las Cruces and Doña Ana County permit offices



# Doña Ana County Building Permit Report Feb. 18-25

Building Industry Association of Southern New Mexico						
Permit #	Contractor	Owner	Project	Address	Subdivision	Permit
36343	D.R. Duran Construction	Daryl Cleveland	Res/Add	6645 Jackrabbit Road	N/A	\$240
36344	GS Roofing Inc.	David Blackman	Reroof	10025 San Marcos Court	Barcelona Ridge Estates	\$160
36345	Desert Hills Roofing	Andrew Walch	Reroof	6865 Via Emma	Via Emma	\$150
36346	Riviera Homes	Mesilla Bolson Properties LLC	Res/New	100 Apache Gold Loop	Franklin View Estates Phase 1	\$670
36347	Advanced Pools	El Mirador Subdivision	Swimming Pool	248 Avenida Mirador	El Mirador Subdivision	\$112
36350	Organ Vista Builders	Robert Ivey	Res/Add	5272 Redman Road	Cassidy at Sundance	\$1,090
36351	Self	Larry and Maryann Sowder	Res/Add	4865 Motherlode Trail	Miners Ridge Phase 3	\$100
36352	Self	Maria and Jose Villalobos	Res/New	6892 Aurora Place	Arroyo Acres No. 15	\$485
36358	Pools By Design	Conrad Rodriguez	Swimming Pool	5495 Thomas Moran Road	EBL & T	\$94
36359	Ned Tutor Builders	James N. Snell	Res/New	4546 Northwind Road	Snells Acres	\$876
36360	Self	Jerry and Lisa Vasquez	Res/New	9733 Hondo Road	N/A	\$699

\* Information from the BIA-SNM is provided by City of Las Cruces and Doña Ana County permit offices

**In Good Company:** *Academic Readiness Center*

# Teaching beyond grades

College readiness is more than just academic skills

By **Samantha Roberts**  
Las Cruces Bulletin

Being in the business of helping people succeed can be a large task, but Chris Nordquist, owner and developer of the Academic Readiness Center (ARC) is ready for the challenge.

"We are in the business of helping students succeed in college," he said. "We offer refresher courses that potentially allow incoming students to exempt lower placement courses, and score better on placement tests or at least take credit-bearing courses and succeed in them."

Nordquist said it is his hope that these courses will allow students to enter college on an even-playing field, adding that nationally 65 percent of students entering a community college place in at least one supplemental course and 40 percent of students entering a four-year university are also asked to take one similar course.

Not just for graduating high school seniors, ARC believes adults wanting to continue their education could also benefit from their services.

"Our customers are adults who are returning to college and may not be prepared or underestimate their abilities, and high school seniors who want to be ready for college," Nordquist said. "Being intimidated, adults will place themselves at the lowest skill set, but after a few weeks of a remedial course, they find they no longer need the service."

Nordquist said he also believes that for these kinds of reasons, his courses could provide a cheaper alternative to taking semesters of unnecessary courses.

Although most colleges, such as Doña Ana Community College, offer programs that help this group, many execute their courses as programs, which is another key difference to his business.

"(ARC offers) shorter and more individualized attention," he said. "The courses are not tailored around grades and tests. This is less about getting a certain score, and more about hands-on learning."

As the program begins to develop, Nordquist said he considers himself a learning coach rather than a tutor.

"A tutor helps you with assignments you already have, and a coach takes you where you want to be," he said, adding that his 20 years as a basketball coach makes him a more hands-on teacher, and he approaches class and practice with the same mindset.

"Practice is full of demonstrations, getting feedback and working with people. You will be working in these courses, anything from reading and writing to college awareness and time management. Awareness and confidence are intangible, but they can make all the difference."

When looking for an employee, Nordquist said he wants people who focus on others. Since they are in a business that caters to helping people, he said it is important for future employees to be able to streamline information while also realizing the main goal is the ones they are helping – not themselves.

Sitting on his business idea for a few years, Nordquist said the timing and business climate of Las Cruces has fostered the start of ARC.

"Las Cruces is healthy," he said. "More people are stepping out there and the climate is a good time to take a risk. There are great resources in Las Cruces, the town is inviting and open. It's easy to see that people are on the side of helping one another."

With his positive attitude, Nordquist said he also hopes his business accomplishes a few goals, such as reaching clients, moving into their own location and reaching out to surrounding areas in Las Cruces, but he also said he has kept one objective in mind.

"My main goal when I started the program was to meet a wide range of needs, from a simple evaluation to an overhaul of help," he said. "However, those that need the overhaul might benefit more from taking remedial courses at DACC. I am a little out of my comfort zone – being that this is my first business attempt – but I am getting help from peers and the community, similar to the help I hope to give to my clients."

For more information, call ARC at 635-3270.

## Q&A

**What inspired you to become an entrepreneur?**

The desire to create and develop something on my own, and a little of the risk

**What products and services do you offer?**  
College readiness and educational remediation services

**Who are your customers?**  
Graduating high school seniors and adults looking to return to college

**What do you think about the Las Cruces economy?**  
This is a great time to start a business and the community is very supportive.

**What business would you like to see in Las Cruces?**  
A youth fitness center that focuses on fitness more than competition



### Details

**Company**

Academic Readiness Center

**Phone**

635-3270

**Website**

www.getcollegereadyfast.com

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**El Prospero!**

HISPANO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE DE LAS CRUCES

## Profile

# Gary Lenzo: Honesty with clients, hold the extra sugar

## Local banker believes in his community and keeping small businesses thriving

By **Samantha Roberts**  
Las Cruces Bulletin

The building sits on Roadrunner Parkway, diagonal from MountainView Medical Center, and tends to customers' banking and financial needs. The building represents 123 years of excellence and is run by Marketing President Gary Lenzo.

Lenzo, who began working for Century Bank in July 2010, has been in the banking industry for more than 30 years – 17 of which have been in Las Cruces.

Century Bank, 141 S. Roadrunner Parkway, opened its doors in October 2010, but the institution began before New Mexico was a state.

"Our financial institution has banks throughout New Mexico. We have five banks in Santa Fe, one in Española, one in Albuquerque and now one in Las Cruces," Lenzo said, adding that they company hopes to open its newest branch in Rio Rancho.

With increasing strain for community banks to sell out, Lenzo said it is a constant pressure to "stay the way they are" and he emphasizes community.

"We are seeing banks go bigger," he said, "but people need a supply of culture and diversity. They need a choice."

Unlike large corporations, Lenzo also said community banks have a local presence, who has served on several local boards and been involved in many organizations.

"I have been fortunate enough to serve on numerous health care boards," he said. "I am also an active (Mesilla Valley Economic Development Alliance) board member."

In addition to his community service, Lenzo is also a graduate of Leadership New Mexico, a program that identifies current and emerging leaders throughout New Mexico, and was a Salute Award recipient.

Although he said he is not perfect, Lenzo admits that perfection is what he strives for.

"I would love to be perfect, but we all make mistakes," he said. "It's how those mistakes are dealt with that keep customers around. It's how things are fixed and avoiding that calloused lifestyle that Americans have adopted – the automated systems."

"In banks, we all sell the same

products and do the same things. "What makes me and my employees different at Century Bank is how we deliver those services. There is a great culture within our company, and people stay in this business to serve the customers."

While being a banker can lead to stigmas and negative connotations, Lenzo said he is really trying to work against that.

“... people need a supply of culture and diversity. They need a choice.”

GARY LENZO, Century Bank marketing president

"People think all bankers want to say no, as a general rule they just say no to everything," he said. "In reality, we would rather say yes (referring to the loan side), but sometimes limitations of what we can and can not do inhibit us from doing that. We want to help, we are on the customers' side."

Another misconception Lenzo hopes to change is that small banks can't provide the same technical amenities that larger corporations can.

"That's the beauty of technology," he said. "It creates an even playing field. We can provide every aspect that a larger bank can to customers and 99 percent of the (amenities) to our business customers. We can do it just as well or better."

"The world relies on technology, especially the younger generation – future customers."

Lenzo also said there are many other positive aspects to his job, such as meeting and interacting with a wide variety of new people and helping customers with their needs.

"Again, it's about doing what's right for the customers," Lenzo said. "We are in business to make a profit but not the quickest way. We want to take care of our customers who will in turn take care of us."

Those planning on entering the banking industry or wanting to start a business on their own should have a strong plan, according to Lenzo.

"It may sound cliché, but a good business plan can always help," he said. "Research and talking to people who have also been the industry is

beneficial. This will give yourself the gut-check necessary to be in business. And then stay optimistic."

What better place to do that than Las Cruces, he said, a city that fosters community and reaches out to everyone

"Las Cruces is better than a lot of places," Lenzo said. "There is a great future here, and although there are some current challenges to overcome in the housing market, the overall attitude is optimistic. I can't think of another place I would want to do this business in."

Lenzo said he also believes in upholding integrity and honesty, especially in the way Century Bank conducts business.

"Our main philosophy is integrity and honest dealing," he said. "It may not be what the customer wants to hear, but we are going to be honest with them. There is no sugar coating; we will be upfront and respectful."

## Details

**Gary Lenzo**  
Marketing president

**Company**  
Century Bank  
141 S. Roadrunner Parkway

**Education**  
Bachelor's degree in finance, University of Texas, Austin

**Organizations**  
Mesilla Valley Economic Development Alliance (MVEDA) board member

**Awards**  
Salute Award

**Website**  
www.centurynetbank.com

**Contact**  
• 521-2402  
• gary.lenzo@centurybnk.com



## Building Las Cruces



## Office complex

This building on Roadrunner Parkway, behind Las Cruces Imaging is expected to be completed at the end of March and will house professional offices. The building is the first platinum LEED certified building in southern New Mexico to be built.

Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Samantha Roberts

## On the Agenda

### Young Philanthropists to hold first 2011 event

The Young Philanthropists, an organization designed to foster philanthropy by bringing together young people in the community to learn about philanthropy and make annual grants to local nonprofits, will hold its first social networking event of the year from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 17, at the newly opened La Iguana in Downtown Las Cruces. The event will include complimentary food and drinks as well as music and door prizes. The Enchanted Life Foundation (ELF) is a sponsor for the event. Guests can attend the event for \$10. For more information, call 521-4794.

**Date:** Thursday, March 17

**Time:** 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

**Location:** La Iguana  
139 N. Main St.

**Contact:** 521-4794

### Educational meetings

Doña Ana County Assessor Andy Segovia has scheduled two educational community meetings Thursday, March 17, at the Doña Ana County Government Center, 845 N. Motel Blvd. The first meeting will take place from 9 to 11:30 a.m., and the second meeting will be from 5:30 to 7 p.m., both in the Commission Chambers. Segovia said he'll provide information about the assessment and protest processes. Anyone who owns residential or commercial property is encouraged to attend, as are livestock owners.

**Date:** Thursday, March 17

**Time:** 9 to 11:30 a.m.  
5:30 to 7 p.m.

**Location:** Doña Ana County  
Government Center  
845 N. Motel Blvd.

**Contact:** 647-7201

### Understanding Social Security Benefit seminar

Toby Rue, a financial advisor for Morgan Stanley Smith and Barney announces a seminar on understanding the benefits of Social Security at 2:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, March 18-19, at the Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave. The speaker will be Ray Vigil, a public affairs specialist at the Social Security Administration. Seating is limited. For reservations or more information, call 521-2377.

**Date:** Friday and Saturday,  
March 18-19

**Time:** 2:30 p.m.

**Location:** Las Cruces Convention Center  
680 E. University Ave.

**Contact:** 521-2377

### Sen. Bingaman to speak at E3 Green Jobs Forum

New Mexico State University's Arrowhead Center will host the E3 Green Jobs Forum, designed for employers, educators and employees around New Mexico from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 22, at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road. U.S. Sen. Jeff Bingaman will speak at noon. The event is free, but registration is required and can be made at [www.greenjobsforum-eorg.eventbrite.com](http://www.greenjobsforum-eorg.eventbrite.com). For more information, call 646-5265 or email [e3forum@business.nmsu.edu](mailto:e3forum@business.nmsu.edu).

**Date:** Tuesday, March 22

**Time:** 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Location:** New Mexico Farm & Ranch  
Heritage Museum  
4100 Dripping Springs Road

**Contact:** 646-5265

### Chamber seeks volunteers

Los Amigos of the Hispano Chamber of Commerce de Las Cruces are looking for volunteers to serve as ambassadors. An informational meeting will be held at 9 a.m. Wednesday, March 16, at Roberto's Mexican Food, 908 E. Amador Ave. Breakfast will be available and is optional. For more information, call Eldelisa at 915-731-2533.

**Date:** Wednesday, March 16

**Time:** 9 a.m.

**Location:** Roberto's Mexican Food  
908 E. Amador Ave.

**Contact:** 915-731-2533

### Sitel to hire additional positions

Sitel, a leading global customer care outsourcing provider, announced that it is actively expanding its call center facility in Las Cruces by more than 140 associates. Prospective applicants can attend an open house held from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 12, at Sitel, 2100 Summit Court. For more information, visit [www.sitel.com](http://www.sitel.com).

**Date:** Saturday, March 12

**Time:** Noon to 4 p.m.

**Location:** Sitel  
2100 Summit Court

## Not your father's shop class

### Programs in the Mesilla Valley area contribute to early workforce training



**Tracey Bryan**  
*Bridging the workforce*

Since September 2010, I've had the opportunity to get a first-hand view of the career and technical education (CTE) pathways offered by Las Cruces Public Schools.

Representing the business sector, I've been part of a task force that examined the districts' current career pathways, facilities and the policies and practices around them.

What I discovered is that career pathways have come a long way than when I was a high school student. They could, in fact, be a huge contributor to helping our county increase the number of students who graduate high school and a strong learning foundation for careers that require degrees, as well as industry certifications.

These pathways help youth get college credits under their belt while they are still in high school, so they can graduate from college sooner and at less expense. The graduation rate for students in the pathways is significantly higher than the general student population (87 percent versus 68 percent in 2009-10). Yet, a very small percentage of students are taking advantage of these pathways, and part of the work of the task force has been to examine why that may be.

In recent decades, we've defined educational success as a four-year degree. To be clear, there are CTE pathways that pave the way to four-year degree fields – engineering, bioscience, education, creative media, etc. However, across the country, only about one in three students reach that goal. We need to realize there are multiple definitions of success in education, such as certifications, two-year degrees, bachelor's degrees, master's degrees and doctorate degrees. Truly, in the 21st century workforce, a high school diploma simply isn't enough to access a career that has a solid income and future for growth and promotion. Jobs suitable for high school graduates are quickly diminishing.

These pathways present a unique opportunity for students.

You need to start the conversation on career and technical education by beginning with the end in mind. By definition, a career pathway is a journey that starts in school and ends in a job, right? According to "New Mexico's Forgotten Middle Skill Jobs: Meeting the Demands of the 21st Century Economy," a report by National Skills Coalition, the majority of jobs avail-

able in the state by 2016 will be for jobs that require more than a high school diploma, but less than a four-year degree. Almost half of future job openings will be in these fields.

These are people such as dental hygienists, medical lab technicians, plumbers, electricians, fire fighters, policemen, engineering technicians and architectural drafters. Projected salaries range from \$27,450 to \$111,000 – salaries that far surpass the state's median income and even some salaries that surpass four-year degree career fields. However, the report also predicts there simply won't be enough qualified candidates to fill those middle skills jobs. So the future job market is there.

While students are in school, there are a lot of benefits to these pathways. They are exposed to "real world" applied learning – geometry that relates to drafting, algebra that helps culinary arts students with recipes and English that relates to technical writing or even broadcast journalism.

Pathways include dual-credit courses – those courses that count for college credit and high school credit. Students benefit from CTE teachers who have held jobs in these career fields and can gain firsthand knowledge of what it takes to succeed in their chosen field.

Students also benefit from hands-on learning experiences with high-quality equipment both within their high schools and Doña Ana Community College where the dual-credit courses are held. DACC has a strong partnership with LCPS, and is very clear about its role in workforce development for the county and region.

Interestingly, the findings of the task force echoed a newly published report from Harvard on the power and impact of career pathways. The writers of the report said, "We are convinced that this pathways approach would significantly expand the numbers of young adults who earn a post-secondary credential in a timely fashion ... Today's best CTE programs do a better job of preparing many students for college than traditional academics-only programs."

Our task force is looking forward to the changes that will take place in the district's pathways. We are excited to see how bringing more youth into the pathways will change not just their futures, but also the future for businesses in our county.

*Tracey Bryan is 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](mailto:tbryan@dacc.nmsu.edu).*

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## SWIM CAMP

**March 21, 22, & 23**  
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**Ages 5 and up;** Beginners through  
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**March 21-25**  
**from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

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## Arts council happenings C4



## Meson de Mesilla reopens restaurant C11



## Take me back to the '80s C18



## A trove of treasures at the Arts Ramble C20

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TV Listings.....	C13-16
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### NEXT WEEK

**Las Cruces Arts Fair**  
Inaugural event brings the arts to convention center

A large background image featuring a close-up of a cowboy hat's crown, showing the intricate woven pattern and the top of a braided rope. The text "George Strait" and "Reba McEntire" is overlaid on this image. "George" and "Reba" are in large, black, serif font, while "Strait" and "McEntire" are in a smaller, gold, serif font. The word "Country legends make a stop in Las Cruces" is written in a black, sans-serif font at the bottom right of the page.

# George Strait

# Reba McEntire

Country legends make a stop in Las Cruces

# George and Reba in concert

## Two country music giants stride into Las Cruces

By David Edwards  
Las Cruces Bulletin

On Friday, March 25, in a little place called the Pan American Center, two country music singers plan to put on a show. The vocalists planning to take the stage that night are George Strait and Reba McEntire. You may not be familiar with them, so allow us to enlighten you.

Seriously, if you are reading this hoping to find out something new about Strait and McEntire, or the basic information about the concert such as when it starts, then I hope you already have your ticket because the show is sold out. And what's really been hanging me up is what I could possibly say that hasn't already been said about these two highly popular, heavily awarded and recognized superstars.

I suppose I am left with giving you their résumés, writing about their backgrounds and the appeal that each of them has. Just listing their accomplishments in the music field is a staggering task.

Who has the most No. 1 singles of any artist in history? One might think it was Elvis or The Beatles, but including all music charts, Strait has 57. With nearly 69 million units in record sales and 33 different platinum or multi-platinum albums, he has the most Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) platinum certifications in country music. He ranks third in all genres, behind The Beatles and Elvis Presley.

His first album was released in 1981, and four times in Strait's career a new album release has debuted at No. 1 on the Billboard 200 chart. New releases have debuted at No. 1 on the Top Country Albums chart 13 times.

Strait was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 2006 and last year was named the



George Strait will perform for a sold-out crowd of 12,750 Friday, March 25, at the Pan American Center. He headlines with country legend Reba McEntire and Lee Ann Womack will open.

Academy of Country Music's Artist of the Decade. He was nominated for the 12th time as this year's ACM Entertainer of the Year and Top Male Vocalist for the 20th time, making a grand total of 81 ACM nominations – an all-time record.

His last appearance at the Pan American Center in February 2007 was sold out as well and featured a young singer you also might have heard of – Taylor Swift.

McEntire – who has moved into that elite company of one-named celebrities and is known simply as Reba – is of the most successful female recording artists in history. She has sold more than 55 million albums worldwide, recorded 33 No. 1 singles and was recently recognized as the biggest female hit-maker in country music history by Billboard, Mediabase

and Country Aircheck.

She is the winner of 15 American Music Awards, 12 Academy of Country Music Awards, nine People's Choice Awards, seven Country Music Awards and two Grammy Awards. Reba has been nominated again as 2010 Female Vocalist of the Year by the CMA.

It was just announced March 1, that Reba will become one of the newest members of the Country Music Hall of Fame.

She is also an acclaimed film, TV and Broadway actress. Her television series "Reba" had a six-year run and her performance as Annie Oakley in the 2001 revival of the musical "Annie Get Your Gun" was critically acclaimed. She even played Nellie Forbush in "South Pacific" for a one-night only special performance

in 2005. She has appeared in 11 feature films.

Oh and by the way, if Strait and Reba weren't enough, the concert features another "obscure" singer named Lee Ann Womack. She has only sold more than 6 million albums and won two Grammys. She was nominated for Top Female Vocalist at the ACM Awards in 2009 and the debut single "Last Call" from her critically acclaimed current album "Call Me Crazy" was nominated for a Grammy in the Best Female Country Vocal Performance category. Womack, along with Strait, was nominated for "Musical Event of the Year" for "Everything But Quits" at the 2009 CMA Awards.

Learn anything new about these relative unknowns? I will also tell you that the concert is presented by the New Mexico State University Office of Special Events in conjunction with American Collegiate Talent Showcase (ACTS). ACTS is a nonprofit group started by local legend Barbara Hubbard that raises money to provide scholarships to provide opportunities for university students, both performers and those interested in working behind-the-scenes, to experience "hands-on" internships in their chosen fields.

Hubbard, who has had a nearly 30-year professional relationship with both Strait and McEntire, had a hand in bringing the concert to the Pan American Center. She booked her first Reba show in 1983 at the state fair in Albuquerque, and brought Strait to the Pan Am in 1985.

It's a big night for Las Cruces and a big show for the Pan Am – the highest-grossing show and the fastest sellout in at least 10 years, according to Scott Breckner, director of special events.

"We set an all-time record in gross receipts with over a million dollars," Breckner said. "Tickets were pretty much gone in an hour and a half to two hours. Between 10 a.m. and 10:01, there were 5,000 tickets cued up in the system to purchase – obviously the interest was just phenomenal.

"Clearly, Barbara's relationship and the ACTS program were critical pieces in making this show work, there's no doubt about it."

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# Featured Author: *Bryan Lindenberger*

## A writer before he knew words Las Cruces author finds use for stories beyond books

By **Samantha Roberts**  
Las Cruces Bulletin

Before he could even put words and sentences together, Bryan Lindenberger was telling stories.

"I couldn't even form complete sentences, and my parents said I would draw pictures – I would try to tell stories, Lindenberger said, "I couldn't wait to learn to read."

Lindenberger has come a long way from his amateur storyboards. He wrote his first book – a horror story – at age 17 and said his childhood shaped his writing.

"My dad was always very encouraging," he said. "He would

type my stories for me as I would talk. I was also an only child; I think that also drove the storytelling."

Instead of having siblings to constantly play with, Lindenberger said he would play alone in his room and make up elaborate conquests.

After completing his bachelor's, master's and Ph.D. – bachelor's degree in English from University of New Mexico and his master's and Ph.D. in rhetoric and professional communication from New Mexico State University – Lindenberger went on to fill many shoes at NMSU, such as writing a website and facilitating the use of storytelling to enhance business and education.

"I brought storytelling to early childhood research and business development because I think everyone can benefit from telling his or her story," he said. "If you approach a business as storytelling, you are more relatable to your (target consumers). And professors use storytelling in their lectures."

Lindenberger also reaches out to child care workers and encourages them to develop their own story. He said these people can benefit from this because it could lead to pursuing extended education and wanting more from their jobs, such as a promotion.

Lindenberger said his work at NMSU has enabled him to approach writing as a "serious" hobby, which allows him to write the way he wants.

"Since I have a steady income, I don't have to rely on selling a certain number of books," he said. "It takes the pressure off, and if I sell 50 or 5,000 copies of a book it's OK. It is all on my own terms. There is no second-guessing if I should write something a certain way. There is no worrying

about everyone else's opinions, such as the audience, my agent, publicist, readers, etc. I am free with my own thoughts."

Lindenberger's newest book, "Aaron Bluecastle," follows two knights who were named after his sons Blake and Trenton Ulrich. Although he started the book more than 10 years ago, Lindenberger said he used this time to draw from others characters and perfect his newest children's novel.

While the book is classified as action-adventure, Lindenberger emphasizes the story is a realistic fantasy.

"'Aaron Bluecastle' is a children's book that incorporates medieval folklore and customs," he said. "Although it has a somewhat mythical feel, the book does not include magic, wizardry or sorcery. It is the swords without sorcery. I left out the elements of magic because I feel the fantasy detracts from something more grounded that the book is trying to portray."

While the knights are on their conquest to find a precious missing sword, they are being followed by three peasant girls Nora, Dora and Jasmine, who believe finding the family heirloom will lead to the discovery of their missing mother.

Lindenberger admits that Nora, Dora and Jasmine have appeared in some of his other stories, but fit the best in "Aaron Bluecastle."

There are also several themes throughout



Local author Bryan Lindenberger wrote an action-adventure book for children titled "Aaron Bluecastle."

the story, including honor, patriotism and lending a hand, all of which Lindenberger believes are important lessons for his audience.

"The book could really appeal to anyone," he said. "There are core values depicted throughout the book and although it is silly at times, it honors what is important."

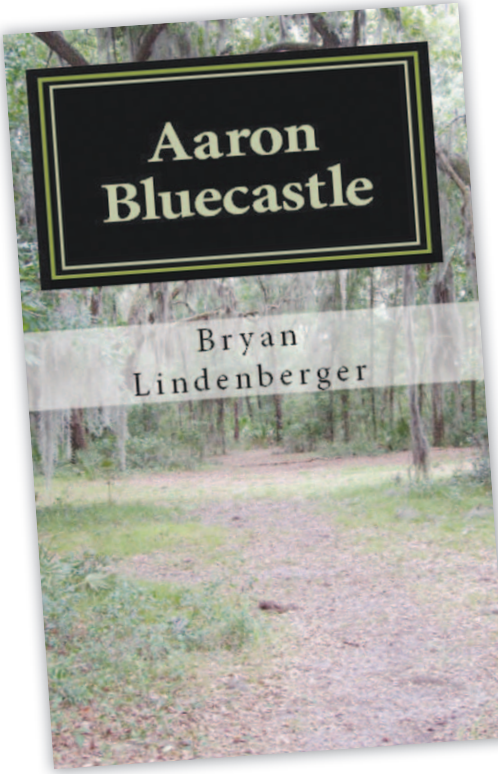
Lindenberger has released three published books and more than 400 articles. Moving from Erie, Penn., to Las Cruces, he said the New Mexico atmosphere is more inspiring than Pennsylvania.

"I get inspired a lot when I go hiking," he said. "I see writing as play and it helps to get out and play. That's when the ideas come."

For more information or to contact Lindenberger, email [bryan@byranberg.net](mailto:bryan@byranberg.net).

Copies of "Aaron Bluecastle" can be purchased at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) or downloaded at [www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com).

“... It helps to get out and play. That's when the ideas come.”



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## DOWNTOWN

It's Really happening

### Upcoming Events

Fri-Sat	Mar 11-12	ONE ACT PLAY FESTIVAL: No Strings Theatre Co. Black Box Theatre, 8pm
Sat	Mar 12	Amazing Magical Musical Adventure: The Fiddler & the Pooka Black Box Theatre, 2pm
Sat	Mar 12	Red, Hot & Red: All-Native American Jazz Trio Rio Grande Theatre, 6pm
Sun	Mar 13	ONE ACT PLAY FESTIVAL: No Strings Theatre Co. Black Box Theatre, 2:30pm
Sun	Mar 13	LCCCA Presents Blake Espy-Gershwin & other light classics Rio Grande Theatre, 3pm
Thu	Mar 17	Paddy Jones, Irish Fiddle Rio Grande Theatre, 7pm
Fri	Mar 18	NMSU Outdoor Adventure Arts Series Presents Dr. John Francis, Planetwalker Rio Grande Theatre, 7pm

**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 - Wednesday and Saturday Mornings

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# Plenty happening at Rio Grande Theatre

## Arts council brings quality acts to Las Cruces



**David Salcido**  
*Art Happens*

They say that good things come to those who wait. It can also be said that even better things come to those who are active in bringing good things to fruition.

Nowhere can that be better illustrated than in the burgeoning arts scene right here in our beautiful city of Las Cruces. With more than 20 art galleries in the Downtown area alone and an equal number in Mesilla and the surrounding areas – along with a growing number of arts organizations, theater companies, dance troupes, music societies and writer's guilds – it's clear that the dream to create an art mecca in southern New Mexico is rapidly coming true.



Irish fiddler Paddy Jones will come to the Rio Grande Theatre for a St. Patrick's Day performance Thursday, March 17.

One of the pioneer organizations in this pursuit for the past 40 years is the Doña Ana Arts Council, whose offices can be found Downtown in the Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St. In addition to overseeing the continual renovation and active schedule of the theater itself, the nonprofit organization is also responsible for annual community events, such as the DAAC Art Awards, which will be held April 8; the Missoula Children's Theatre and the Career Art Path for Middle School students, both held during the summer; and the extremely popular Renaissance ArtsFaire, held the first weekend of November.

This year, the council will be adding yet another arts-themed event to their growing roster: The Las Cruces Arts Fair, which will debut at the Las Cruces Convention Center March 25-27.

Promising to be a unique experience in the annals of Las Cruces art events, the Las Cruces Arts Fair will feature work by area artists as well as artists and fine artisans from as far away as California and Oregon on the West Coast and Iowa and Washington, D.C., east of the Mississippi River. In addition to the artwork on display, there will be daily demonstrations by participating artists and special art experiences for children ages 6 to 12, wherein they will be invited to create their own art using a variety of available media, then frame and display their finished pieces.

General admission tickets for the arts fair can be purchased for \$5 each day. Children under 12 will be admitted free. The three-day event will take place in the Convention Center Exhibition Hall from noon to 6 p.m. Friday, March 25; from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday,

March 26; and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, March 27. For more information, call 523-6403 or visit the DAAC website at [www.las-cruces-arts.org](http://www.las-cruces-arts.org).

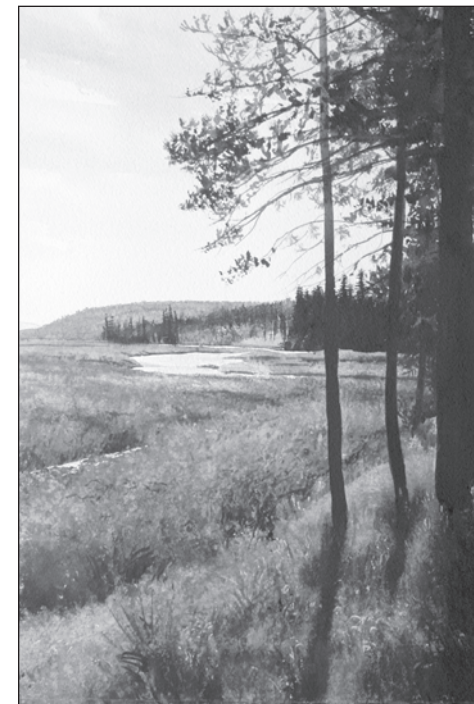
For those looking to fill other areas of their social calendars, consider the many events taking place in the Rio Grande Theatre over the next few weeks, beginning Saturday, March 12, with a benefit concert for the Women's Intercultural Center, featuring Native American Jazz trio Red, Hot & Red. Showtime is 6 p.m., with a complimentary reception beginning at 5 p.m. in La Placita, just south of the theater. Ticket prices are \$20.

On Sunday, March 13, the Las Cruces Civic Concert Association will present a performance by internationally renowned (and now local resident) Blake Espy, whose violin work with La Catrina Quartet and the Las Cruces Symphony Orchestra are quickly distinguishing him as an act not to be missed. He will perform at 3 p.m., and tickets are \$20.

On Thursday, March 17, a living legend returns to the Rio Grande Theatre for a special St. Patrick's Day performance. Irish fiddle master Paddy Jones will regale audiences with stories and song from his native land. Tickets are \$10 and showtime is 7 p.m.

Another legend will make his debut in Las Cruces as part of the New Mexico State University Outdoor Recreation's Adventure Art Series Friday, March 18. Known worldwide as the Planetwalker, John Francis will bring his message of environmental respect and responsibility to the stage, beginning at 7 p.m. Tickets for this event are \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door the night of show.

For more information on these or any of the many other events taking place at the Rio Grande Theatre, visit the website at [www.las-cruces-arts.org](http://www.las-cruces-arts.org).



"Flagg Ranch" by Robert Highsmith is on display at the Rio Grande Theatre galleries located in the lobby.

[riograndetheatre.com](http://riograndetheatre.com) and check out the calendar section.

There's always something happening at the theater and all over town, for that matter, so don't just sit around waiting. Get out there and find out exactly why Las Cruces is quickly earning the label as southern New Mexico's growing art mecca. Experience the dream for yourself.

*David Salcido is the manager of the Rio Grande Theatre. His column appears the second Friday of every month. Contact Salcido at [theatregr@daarts.org](mailto:theatregr@daarts.org) or 523-6403.*

**Complete schedule and more information at**  
**[www.NMCowboyDays.com](http://www.NMCowboyDays.com) • 575-522-1232**

# Cowboy Days

**March 12 & 13**  
**10:00 am – 5:00 pm**

**NEW MEXICO FARM & RANCH HERITAGE MUSEUM**

- Match team roping contest
- Working dogs (Sunday only)
- Stagecoach rides
- Gunfight re-enactments
- Live music and dancing
- Horseback and pony rides
- Food and arts vendors

- 19th Century Fashion Show
- Charros Mexican rodeo demonstration
- "Become a Cowboy" children's activities
- Western Writers of America
- Jeff Berg's Made in New Mexico Westerns film series, Part I and II
- Living history: 1936 birthday party

**Plant & Tree Sale at the Greenhouse**  
**(admission required)**

[www.nmfarmandranchmuseum.org](http://www.nmfarmandranchmuseum.org)  
**4100 Dripping Springs**  
**for more information - 575-522-4100**



# Galleries & Openings

## OPENING

**PRESTON CONTEMPORARY ART CENTER** opens its second exhibition for 2011. Featured are works by Kevin Box, metal sculpture; Craig Dongoski, drawing; Fran Hardy, painting; and Suzanne Kane, ceramic sculpture. The show opens with a reception for the artists from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, March 11. Visitors also will get a chance to join in conversation with all four artists who will talk and answer questions about their exhibits in the show at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 12. The works will be exhibited through Saturday, June 25. The gallery is at 1755 Avenida de Mercado. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and by appointment. Call 523-8713.

**DOÑA ANA COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER** is hosting a new student art show with more than 50 pieces of original student artwork from the Las Cruces Public Schools installed in the first-floor corridors. The official opening of the newest student show will be held from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Friday, March 11. The exhibit includes paintings, etchings and drawings. The artists range from elementary students to high schoolers. The student art exhibit complements the permanent art collection within the Doña Ana County Government Center, which includes a series of historical photographs in the upstairs rotunda, as well as a photograph of the Organ Mountains donated in 2007 by Las Cruces artist R. Frederick Silva. The piece, "Fall Splendor," hangs on a second floor east wall, adjacent to the main entrance to the administrative offices of the Doña Ana County Board of Commissioners and the Office of the County Manager.

The Doña Ana County Government Center is located at 845 N. Motel Blvd. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

**NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY ART GALLERY** hosts the 2011 Juried Student Art Show, opening with a reception at 5 p.m. Friday, March 11, followed by an awards ceremony at 6 p.m. Students from all over the main campus submitted 250 artworks, and the jurors have selected 83 works to represent the best of NMSU student creativity. The show runs through Thursday, March 31.

The NMSU Art Gallery is located in D.W. Williams Hall on University Avenue, east of Solano Drive. Hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Call 646-2545.

**UNSETTLED GALLERY** is showing "The Edge of Somewhere" by Marjorie Moeser through Friday, March 25. The gallery will be open

during Camino del Arte, held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. along Mesquite Street. Moeser will give a talk on "Realism to Abstraction in Landscape Painting" at 1 p.m. at the gallery.

Unsettled Gallery is located at 905 N. Mesquite St. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Call 635-2285.

## ONGOING

**THE MAIN STREET GALLERY** hosts 26 artists to create artwork for the "ABC: Easy as 1-2-3" exhibit through March. The exhibit is based on a simple concept – 26 artists will each select a letter of the alphabet and create a piece of artwork reflecting their personal interpretation of that letter.

The Main Street Gallery is at 311 N. Main St. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday. Call 647-0508.

**MESILLA VALLEY FINE ARTS GALLERY** features local artists Rayma Claessen and Bobbie Widner during the month of March. Claessen will exhibit a miniature collection of Organ Mountains. Widner expresses her talent in subject matters from abroad, mainly France and Italy, where she has studied.

The gallery is at 2470-A Calle de Guadalupe in Mesilla. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. Call 522-2933.

**BRANIGAN CULTURAL CENTER** hosts "Color 2,"

the works of renowned artist Gabriella Denton, through Saturday, March 26. Denton, a native of Rome, is an award-winning artist who has taught painting and drawing.

"Fabulous Fiber 2011" is on display through March 26. Works shown in this exhibit are made out of fibers such as yarn, paper and reeds.

"Emotional Rescue – The Dream Catchers" is also on display through March 26. The show is comprised of digital collage dream catchers and medicine wheels created by Las Cruces Dennis Lujan.

The center is located at 501 N. Main St. Hours are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Call 541-2154.

### TOMBAUGH GALLERY

of the Unitarian Universalist Church presents "A City of Artists Creates" by members of the City of Artists Promotional Association through Friday, April 1. Artists exhibiting include Pat Bonneau-White, Joanna Bradley, Martha Randell Brown, Rebecca Courtney, Penny Dunclee, Les Fairchild, Susan Frary, Caryl Kotulak, Jan Kosnick, Judy Licht, Carol Lopez, Sandra Marshall, Katja Mayfield, Hetty Smith, Kurt Van Wagner, Frances Vescoso and Phil Yost. The gallery is located at 2000 Solano Drive. Hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. Call 522-7281.

### RIO GRANDE THEATRE GALLERIES

displays paintings by Jim Wessels during March. Most of Wessels' work is two-sided, depicting land and seascapes on one side and cosmic space scenes on the other. The galleries are

at 211 N. Main St. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Call 523-6403.

**M. PHILLIP'S FINE ART GALLERY** is featuring floral still lifes by Russian and European artists during March. The gallery's antique "collection" ranges from a 500-year-old Moorish cassone to classic French sculptures in gilded bronze from the 19th century. M. Phillip's is located at 221 N. Main St. Hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday or by appointment. Call 525-1367.

**LAS CRUCES PUBLIC SCHOOLS'** annual High School Art Show, which includes works of art by students Las Cruces, Mayfield, Oñate and San Andres high schools, continues through April 29. The gallery is located in the lobby of the LCPS Administration Building in the Loretto Towne Centre, 505 S. Main St., Suite 249. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Email mreynold@lcps.k12.nm.us.

**NOPALITO'S GALERIA** hosts "For the Love of Toys." Expressions, Expressions photographs will be there along with two local artists. The artists are Mary Beagle and Linda Hagen. Beagle is showing "Native Spirit," a collection of oil paintings of a Native American theme, and Hagen is influenced by the openness and light of the Southwest. The gallery is at 326 S. Mesquite St. Hours are noon to 3 p.m. Friday, noon to 4 p.m. Saturday or by appointment. Call 524-0003.



Rebecca Courtney's "N-Ticing" is on display through March during the "ABC: Easy as 1-2-3" exhibit at the Main Street Gallery. Courtney is one of 26 participating artists who have taken a letter of the alphabet and created a work from their own interpretation.

**LAS CRUCES MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY** hosts "Disease Detectives" through Sunday, June 5. "Disease Detectives" is an interactive exhibit that explores infectious diseases. Visitors can study three cases of illnesses represented by mannequins. They can learn how to examine each patient by taking temperatures, listening to hearts, lungs and other internal organs, and assessing symptoms in order

to determine what's making them sick. Then, visitors can analyze test results and try to trace the origins of the microbes at the root of their patients' illnesses.

The Las Cruces Museum of Natural History is next to JC Penney inside Mesilla Valley Mall. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday. Call 522-3120.

### Opening Reception

March 11th, 2011  
6:30pm - 8:30pm

## March 2011 Exhibition

March 11th - June 25th

Suzanne Kane  
Fran Hardy  
Craig Dongoski  
Kevin Box

preston contemporary art center  
1755 Avenida de Mercado | Mesilla, NM 88046  
www.prestoncontemporaryart.com



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Sundays 10 am to 2 pm

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# EventsCalendar

## FRI. 3/11

**10 a.m. Friday Morning Storytime**, Barnes & Noble Booksellers, 700 S. Telshor Blvd. Find out what "pinkalicious" is. Free. Call 522-4499.

**7 to 10 p.m. Live classic country music by The Spur Ride Band**, Cattleman's Steakhouse, 3375 Bataan Memorial West. Cost \$5. Call 649-6175.

**7:30 p.m. 42nd annual New Mexico State University Jazz Festival concert**, Atkinson Recital Hall, NMSU. Pianist Dana Landry and bassist Erik Applegate will perform. Cost \$5. Call 646-2304.

**8 to 10 p.m. "Swing into Spring,"** Las Cruces Event Center, 522 E. Idaho Ave. Bob Burns, Lauren Michaels and the Sophisticated Swing Combo present all the ballroom styles of dancing as well as show-quality performances. Cost \$10. Call 525-9333.

## SAT. 3/12

**9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Pet adoptions**, Las Cruces Farmers & Crafts Market, along Downtown Main Street. Available for adoption are dogs, puppies, cats and kittens. Cost \$50-\$75. Call 382-0018.

**9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Las Cruces Farmers & Crafts Market**, Downtown Mall, along Main Street. Wide variety of arts and crafts, food, fresh produce, unique fine art and much more. Free. Email staff@lascrucesfarmersmarket.org.

**9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Home & Garden Show**, Las

Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave. Cost \$5. Visit [www.lascruceshomeandgarden.com](http://www.lascruceshomeandgarden.com).

**9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Pet adoptions**, Home & Garden Show, Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave. Available for adoption will be dogs, puppies, cats and kittens. Cost \$50-\$75. Call 382-0018.

**10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Pet adoptions**, PetCo, 3050 E. Lohman Ave. Available for adoption are dogs, puppies, cats and kittens. Cost \$50-\$75. Call 382-0018.

**10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cowboy Days**, New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road. Two-day festival celebrates New Mexico's ranching heritage. Cost \$4. Call 522-4100.

**10:30 a.m. Storytellers of Las Cruces**, COAS Bookstores, 317 N. Main St. and 1101 S. Solano Drive. Pat Gill will be the storyteller at the Downtown location, and Judith Ames will be the storyteller at the Solano COAS store. COAS will give coupons for free books to all children who attend. Free. Call 526-8377.

**10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Unravelers Knitting Guild meeting**, Doña Ana Community College, Room 294. The program will be the first of two classes on stranded two-color knitting. Free. Call 523-0442.

**11:30 a.m. to noon, Magic Carpet StoryTime**, Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main St. Free. Call 541-2154.

**2 p.m. "The Fiddler and the Pooka,"** Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Main St. Storyteller Dave Edwards will tell the story of a musician who learns what it means to stay true to himself. Cost \$5. Call 523-1223.

**2 to 4 p.m. Walk-in family workshop with artist Dennis Lujan**, Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main St. Participants will create an acrylic collage. Free. Call 541-2154.

**5 p.m. Red Hot & Red performance**, Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St. The Native American jazz trio will perform to benefit the Women's Intercultural Center in Anthony, N.M. Cost \$20. Call 882-5556.

**5 to 6 p.m. Beginning drum class**, My Place Jewell, 140-A Wyatt Drive. Learn the basic Middle Eastern rhythms. Cost \$2. Call 526-9509.

**6 to 9 p.m. Live music featuring The Real Matt Jones**, Amaro Winery, 402 S. Melendres St. No cover. Call 527-5310.

**7 p.m. Celia Ferran and Yolanda Martinez benefit concert**, Good Samaritan Society-Las Cruces Village, 3011 Buena Vida Circle. Cost \$8-\$15. Visit [www.newmexicoglbtccenters.org](http://www.newmexicoglbtccenters.org).

**7 to 9 p.m. Swinging Dancers of Munson Center**, Munson Senior Center, 975 S. Mesquite St. Couples, singles and guests are welcome to dance to the music of Mark Coker. Cost \$6. Call 528-3000.

## SUN. 3/13

**10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 12th annual Cowboy Days**, New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road. Two-day festival celebrates New Mexico's ranching heritage. Cost \$4. Call 522-4100.

**10 a.m. to 7 p.m. New Mexico ManREACH Winter Gathering**, GLBTQ Center, 1210 N. Main St. Free. Call 635-4902.

**11 a.m. to noon Kids' Crafts**, Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo Road, Suite M. Learn to make easy stained-glass rainbows. Free. Call 523-0436.

**Noon to 4 p.m. Uptown Craft and Growers Market**, Mesilla Valley Mall in front of Sears in the parking lot, 700 S. Telshor Blvd. Shop for local arts, crafts and produce. Free. Call 650-7414.

**1 p.m. Bingo**, Las Cruces Event Center, 522 E. Idaho Ave. Doors open one hour before the games begin, with early-bird sessions beginning before the regular games start. There is a snack bar available. Cost \$10. Call 680-6515.

**3 to 7 p.m. Open Mic**, Blue Moon Bar, 13060 N. Highway 185. Free. Call 647-9524.

**3 p.m. Blake Espy concert**, Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St. The violinist's performance closes the Las Cruces Civic Concert Association series. Cost \$20. Call 521-4051.

## MON. 3/14

**10 a.m. Yarn Junkies meeting**, Barnes & Noble Booksellers, 700 S. Telshor Blvd. Meet to exchange knitting ideas. Free. Call 522-4499.

**7:30 p.m. Stephen Beus concert**, Atkinson Recital Hall, New Mexico State University. Cost \$10. Email [bespy@nmsu.edu](mailto:bespy@nmsu.edu).

## TUE. 3/15

**10 a.m. Mesilla Valley Weavers Guild meeting**, home of Sharon Rooney. There will be a spinning demonstration by Dedri Quillin and Nancy Anderson will speak about her approach to weaving. Free. Call 527-0196.

**5 to 6 p.m. Beginning belly dance class**, My Place Jewell, 140-A Wyatt Drive. Learn to dance and use props. Great exercise for the body and mind. Cost \$2. Call 526-9509.

**7 p.m. Doña Ana Camera Club meeting**, Southwest Environmental Center, 275 N. Main St. Club member Greg Scarpella will present member photos that feature red or cyan, and Will Keener will show slides from a trip to China and discuss photo slide shows. Free. Call 532-1919.

**7 to 9:30 p.m. Argentine Tango Group**, Las Cruces Country Club, 2350 N. Main St. Beginners, singles and couples over 21 are welcome to join the Big Band Dance Club. Cost \$5-10. Call 642-1699.

## WED. 3/16

**9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Las Cruces Farmers & Crafts Market**, Downtown Mall, along Main Street. Wide variety of arts and crafts, food, fresh produce, unique fine art and much more. Free. Email staff@lascrucesfarmersmarket.org.

**6:30 p.m. Stitch & Visit meeting**, Hastings, 2350 E. Lohman Ave. Creative ideas and good conversation are shared. To participate, bring a portable craft. Free. Call 525-1625, email [meadows@zianet.com](mailto:meadows@zianet.com) or visit [lascrucesstitches.multiply.com](http://lascrucesstitches.multiply.com).

## THU. 3/17

**9 a.m. to noon, Fiber Club**, My Place Jewell, 140-A Wyatt Drive. Cost \$2. Call 526-9509.

**5 to 6 p.m. Beginning belly dance class**, My Place Jewell 140-A Wyatt Drive. Learn to dance and use props. Great exercise for the body and mind. Cost \$2. Call 526-9509.

**6 to 7 p.m. "Adventures in Veganism" presentation**, Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo Road, Suite M. Co-op employees will provide recipes and strategies for giving up cheese "without losing your sanity." Free. Call 523-0436.

**7 p.m. Doña Ana County Historical Society monthly program**, Good Samaritan Society-Las Cruces Village, 3011 Buena Vida Circle. Prehistoric Trackways National Monument park ranger McKinney Brisk will talk about the monument. Free. Call 521-8771.

**7 p.m. Bingo**, Las Cruces Event Center, 522 E. Idaho Ave. Doors open one hour before the games begin, with early-bird sessions beginning before the regular games start. There is a snack bar available. Cost \$10. Call 680-6515.

**7 p.m. Paddy Jones concert**, Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St. Irish fiddler Jones will perform a St. Patrick's Day concert. Cost \$10. Call 523-6403.

**8 to 10 p.m. Big Band Dance Club**, Las Cruces Country Club, 2700 N. Main St. Dance ballroom, swing and Latin style. Beginners, singles and couples are welcome. Must be 21 years or older. Dress code. Cost \$7-\$9. Call 526-6504.

## FRI. 3/18

**8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Blood drive**, Doña Ana County Government Center, 845 N. Motel Blvd. Free. Call 525-6130.

**10 a.m. Friday Morning Storytime**, Barnes & Noble Booksellers, 700 S. Telshor Blvd. Celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Free. Call 522-4499.

**6:30 p.m. Howling Coyote**, First Christian Church, 1809 El Paseo Road. Open to acoustic musicians, singers, poets and storytellers. A full stage, sound

## Playbill

### Now Playing One-Act Play Festival

Black Box Theatre  
430 N. Main St.  
523-1223  
Tickets \$9-\$10

**Amazing Magical Musical Adventure: "The Fiddler and the Pooka"**  
Black Box Theatre  
430 N. Main St.  
523-1223  
Tickets \$5

and lights are provided by Skip Connelley. Free. Call 525-9333 or 915-799-5684.

**7 p.m. Planetwalker John Francis**, Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St. Francis brings a message of environmental respect and responsibility. Cost \$8-\$10. Call 646-4746.

**8 to 10 p.m. Community Contra Dance**, Mesilla Community Center, 2251 Calle de Santiago. Dance features Dell City's old-time string band, the Mulettones. Cost \$4-\$5. Call 522-1691.

## SAT. 3/19

**10:30 a.m. Storytellers of Las Cruces**, COAS Bookstores, 317 N. Main St. and 1101 S. Solano Drive. Gloria Hacker will be the storyteller at the Downtown location, and Jean Gilbert will be the storyteller at the Solano COAS store. COAS will give coupons for free books to all children who attend. Free. Call 526-8377.

**11 a.m. "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" storytime**, Barnes & Noble Booksellers, 700 S. Telshor Blvd. Free. Call 522-4499.

**11:30 a.m. to noon, Magic Carpet StoryTime**, Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main St. Free. Call 541-2154.

**1 to 3 p.m. Basic dowsing class**, New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road. Learn the basics of dowsing (questing, divining, water witching), how to use the tools and the benefits associated with dowsing. Cost \$12-\$15. Call 522-4100.

**5 to 6 p.m. Beginning drum class**, My Place Jewell, 140-A Wyatt Drive. Learn the basic Middle Eastern rhythms. Cost \$2. Call 526-9509.

**6 to 9 p.m. Live music featuring Benjy Rivas & the BBR Band**, Amaro Winery, 402 S. Melendres St. No cover. Call 527-5310.

**7 to 9 p.m. Swinging Dancers of Munson Center**, Munson Senior Center, 975 S. Mesquite St. Couples, singles and guests are welcome to dance to the music of Mark Coker. Cost \$6. Call 528-3000.

**Outdoor Recreation ADVENTURE ARTS SERIES**  
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March 18th 2011  
7 p.m. • \$8 in advance  
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RIO GRANDE THEATRE  
211 N. Downtown Mall  
**DR JOHN FRANCIS PLANETWALKER**  
brought by  
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THE LAS CRUCES Bulletin

# AtTheMovies

## 'The Illusionist' a tried-and-true masterpiece

### Dying acts and distant hearts earn film Oscar nomination

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

This nearly silent film, from a script written years ago by the accomplished and fun French actor Jacques Tati, was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Animated Feature this year. Not that it was expected to win, since it was a big year for animated features, but nonetheless, at least it had a chance.

Tati, whose personal life didn't really match his innovative and very quiet film life, is said to have written this story in an attempt to reach out to a daughter whom he more or less abandoned many years earlier.

The Illusionist is running out of time. The world has, in general, passed him and his delightful craft by at full speed, relegating his few-and-far-between performances to old theaters with small audiences, pubs with inattentive spectators and other Spartan surroundings. His skills have not diminished, just the demand.

But into his life one day comes Alice. A young charwoman at the place where he rents a room, Alice is entranced by his skill and simple sleight-of-hand abilities. In turn, The Illusionist flirts with her by making things appear and disappear, allowing for happenstance and mirth to perhaps become the basis of love.

As The Illusionist travels from small town to small town, we are given witness to a dying act in dying venues in a sad land. Other small-time performers, such as a set of ultra spry acrobats and hotel-operating singing little people, try to – often successfully – elbow in to the small venues instead of, or with, The Illusionist, who remains steadfast and true to his craft.

Alice, on the other hand, after what appear to be numerous attempts to remain closer to The Illusionist, is gently shunted



The animated film "The Illusionist" earned an Oscar nomination for Best Animated Feature this year.

aside, perhaps unintentionally, and soon she starts to discover other magical parts of life on her own, as a number of things

embellish her life, character and emotions.

It is no accident in one scene that features a movie marquee in the background that director Sylvain Chomet has placed the title of one of Tati's better films, "Mon Oncle" (My Uncle) as the feature. The character of The Illusionist is very similar to Tati, both in looks and mannerisms, and also because of the lack of dialogue. Foley editing is crucial here (foley editors add the sounds of everyday and background noises to films), and it

helps add to the sometimes-sad atmosphere of the picture.

Chomet's previous feature, "The Triplets of Belleville," was also highly regarded, and while more humorous than this more emotional piece, "The Illusionist" is equal in scope and story.

"The Illusionist" is a dual-purpose picture – one that acknowledges many things of the past that are no longer with us, while also observing the distances that can take place in our own hearts. It is a quiet and sometimes melancholy picture, but one that held my complete interest to the end.

*If you see this picture, I'd like to know what you think. Drop me a line at [jeffberg@lascrucesbulletin.com](mailto:jeffberg@lascrucesbulletin.com). It's also no illusion that I'm still waiting to hear from you at [jeffberg@lascrucesbulletin.com](mailto:jeffberg@lascrucesbulletin.com).*

## 'Hi-Lo Country' highlights New Mexico town

### Film explores clash between cowboys and businessmen

The CineMatinee for Saturday, March 12, is "Hi-Lo Country" (1999, 114 minutes, rated R, made in New Mexico).

"I always felt that the great high privilege, relief and comfort of friendship was that one had to explain nothing," Katharine Mansfield wrote.

That is one of the defining keys of the relationship between Pete Calder (Billy Crudup) and Big Boy Matson (Woody Harrelson) who are reunited after serving in World War II. These best friends live in the prairie town of Hi-Lo, N.M., where Jim Ed Love (Sam Elliott), the largest landowner, is greedily devouring small-time ranchers. Big Boy, who loves cattle drives and being free under the big sky, is angry that his younger brother (Cole Hauser) works for this successful businessman.

Pete, who serves as the film narrator, is smitten by Mona (Patricia Arquette), a sexy married woman who is the kind of person who can make – as one character puts it – "a man's teeth itch." This yearning is complicated by the fact that Big Boy is having a heated affair with her. His intentions instead turn to Josepha, played by Penelope Cruz in her U.S. film debut.

These combustible elements – familial anger, sexual jealousy and the clash between cowboys and businessmen – test the depth of the friendship between Pete and Big Boy.

Stephen Frears directs this leisurely paced film, which is based on a 1961 novel by New Mexico author Max Evans. Strong and heartfelt performances by Crudup and Harrelson make "Hi-Lo Country" an immensely appealing drama, moved along by its beautiful cinematography and grand soundtrack.

*CineMatinee is a unique blend of movies presented by the Mesilla Valley Film Society which showcases unique films, past and present, often with an emphasis on life in the West – which could mean the new West, the old West, or anything in between – and "movies that missed us" – films that are notable but never had a lot of publicity.*

*The series is designed to show area residents that film is a form of art and education as well as entertainment. At least one film a month for this series has a "New Mexico Connection," drawing from the vast pool of movies made in the state (nearly 500) or perhaps featuring a star/story from New Mexico talent ... film festival quality movies in an old adobe theater.*

*Unless otherwise noted, screening time is 1:30 p.m., and admission is \$4 for everyone except film society members who are admitted for \$1. The theater is located one-half block south of the Mesilla Plaza. For more information, call 524-8287, and leave a message.*

The Illusionist performs his sleight-of-hand tricks despite growing disinterest.



# ArtsBriefs



Erik Applegate, of the University of Northern Colorado Jazz Department, will be one of the guest musicians featured at 42nd annual NMSU Jazz Festival. Applegate will perform a solo recital on bass at 8 p.m. March 11 at Atkinson Recital Hall.

## NMSU presents annual Jazz Festival

The 42nd New Mexico State University Jazz Festival held March 10 and 11 at Atkinson Recital Hall will feature several guest musicians and the NMSU Jazz Ensembles.

The NMSU Jazz Festival is an education-based event. Each participating ensemble will receive a 20-minute clinic from one of the guest clinicians, along with digitally recorded and written comments from three adjudicators. Thursday, March 10, was devoted to middle school participants.

Friday, March 11, will be devoted to high school participants. A ticketed concert at 7:30 p.m. will conclude the day's activities, featuring guest soloists Dana Landry on piano and Erik Applegate on bass. Both guest soloists are from the University of Northern Colorado Jazz Department. The concert will also feature a performance from NMSU Jazz Ensemble I and the outstanding high school ensemble, after which the high school awards will be presented.

Awards will be presented for outstanding woodwind, trumpet, trombone and rhythm section; outstanding soloist; outstanding musician; and second, third and outstanding ensembles.

Other guest clinicians and musicians will include Demetrius Williams, Sam Trimble and Roman Chip. Tickets are \$5 and are available at the NMSU Band Office. For more information, call Rena Crollett at 646-2304.



Currently on display at the Starbucks on Lohman Avenue is this piece of art by Loma Heights Elementary School fourth-grader Jackie Avila.

## Starbucks shows student art

The Starbucks Coffee at 2511 E. Lohman Ave. is now featuring art by students from Hermosa Heights and Loma Heights elementary schools, said Pamela Norton, who teaches art at those two schools.

"I went to the Starbucks on Lohman, and the manager, Charlene Melvin, was hanging artwork," Norton said. "I had a framed piece of student artwork, so I showed it to her. She loved it so much, she gave me my own spot over the table where customers fix their coffee. I can change out student's work when I wish."

For more information, contact Norton at 527-9546 or pnorton@lchs.k12.nm.us.

## Projects in Motion performing

Project in Motion's "The Palace at Night" is a series of vignettes inspired by the work of Alberto Giacometti. The aerial dance troupe will be performing at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 12, at The Gin, 403 N. Compress St.; at 6 p.m. Sunday, March 13, at The Gin; and at noon Thursday, March 24, at the New Mexico State University Activity Center.

"The Palace at Night" is comprised of aerial and terrestrial dance pieces choreographed by Project in Motion. Dancers will relay scenes from inside the custom-built, minimalist palace framework. At one end of the palace, a winged creature rises beyond the reach of her lover while a man hangs in confinement below. Another section holds a mother with a strong bond to the palace as well as a strange pod that is beginning to transform. Tickets are \$7 and are available at the door or through [www.brownpapertickets.com](http://www.brownpapertickets.com).

## Muir Studio offers workshops

Aspiring actors and public speakers of all types, genders and heritage are invited to enroll in The Muir Studio's Actor's Workshops, commencing instruction April 2. A Las Cruces-based business, The Muir Studio is a film and television pre-production resource.

Sam Muir, owner and operator, is a veteran professional cast-

# Ladies night out



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Niki Rhynes

Hurricane Alley had a full house for the John Corbett Band concert Monday, March 7. Corbett is well known for his roles in "Northern Exposure" and "Sex and the City."

ing director, award-winning actor, director, university educator, member of Screen Actors Guild (SAG), American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (AFTRA) and Actors Equity Association (AEA).

"The Muir Studio Actors Workshop provides practical, pragmatic, real-world study in audition, public address, getting the job and actual performance on-stage and on-camera," Muir said.

The Muir Studio has worked productions across the U.S., Canada and Mexico, with Academy Award-winning directors, cinematographers and producers, such as Conrad Hall (known for "Road to Perdition" and "American Beauty") and Otto Lang (known for "Tora! Tora! Tora!" and countless television productions).

The Spring 2011 Workshop series runs from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. five Saturdays – April 7 through April 30 – with a live-stage student showcase to follow open to the public and invited industry professionals.

For more information, email [muirstudio@q.com](mailto:muirstudio@q.com) or call 521-6261.

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## Celebrating the cowboy

The 12th annual Cowboy Days will be Saturday and Sunday, March 12-13, at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road. The museum will celebrate New Mexico's ranching heritage with demonstrations, exhibits, vendors and more. Admission is \$4. For more information, call 522-4100.



# The Music Scene

## Top 10 singles Tuesday, March 8

- 1 **On the Floor**  
Jennifer Lopez featuring Pitbull
- 2 **Till the World Ends**  
Britney Spears
- 3 **Born This Way**  
Lady Gaga
- 4 **S&M**  
Rihanna
- 5 **Blow**  
Ke\$ha
- 6 **E.T.**  
Katy Perry featuring Kanye West
- 7 **I Need a Doctor**  
Dr. Dre featuring Eminem and Skylar Grey
- 8 **You're Perfect**  
Pink
- 9 **Rolling in the Deep**  
Adele
- 10 **Forget You**  
Cee Lo Green

## Top 5 albums

- 1 **Lasers**  
Lupe Fiasco
- 2 **21**  
Adele
- 3 **Lasers (Deluxe Version)**  
Lupe Fiasco
- 4 **Goodbye Lullaby (Deluxe Edition)**  
Avril Lavigne
- 5 **Glee: The Music, Vol. 5**  
Glee Cast

Source: iTunes

## Featured concert: *Fast Heart Mart and The Good Ship SS Perry*

# Duo kicks off tour in Las Cruces

Stamper and Perry bring original acoustic music to The Bean

By **Natisha Hales**  
Las Cruces Bulletin

Martin Stamper and Stephen Perry, aka Fast Heart Mart and The Good Ship SS Perry, will kick off

their latest tour in Las Cruces from 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, March 11, at The Bean, 2011 Avenida de Mesilla.

It's not the first visit to Las Cruces. "I love it down there," said Stamper, who lives in Albuquerque. "The shows went really well, and it's a really nice scene."

Stamper, 34, originally from the Washington, D.C., metro area, has been playing since he was 12 and has been on the professional scene for the past 10 years.

In addition to singing and songwriting, Stamper plays the double-neck acoustic guitar, banjo, harmonica and drums. His music is what he calls "sidewalk rock" – a mixture of bluegrass, rock 'n' roll, hip-hop and raga music. His songs are "about a lot of different things, but mostly about following your heart on dreams," said Stamper, who earned his nickname Fast Heart Mart from a condition that gives him a rapid heart rate.

Perry, 27, originally from Philadelphia, complements Stamper's

style with his acoustic music.

"My songs a lot of the time are fairly epic-sounding, though I have some more intimate tunes," said Perry, who has played the guitar since he was 17. "Generally, my writing is fairly ambivalent."

This is the duo's first tour together and Stamper's first venture as a solo artist on the road.

"I didn't want to go on the road alone," Stamper said. "I thought I would invite fellow songwriters so that we could support each other."

The pair will be adding a third wheel to their tour in New Orleans when they pick up Mad Mike in their vegetable oil-powered van.

"I've been in a van powered by vegetable oil for about four years, and I've done about 30,000 miles," Stamper said. "It has been a huge challenge. I'm going to give it another shot on this tour and see if it levels out. It's been a lot of fun."

Fast Heart Mart and The Good Ship SS Perry guarantee audience



**Martin Stamper and Stephen Perry – Fast Heart Mart and The Good Ship SS Perry – will perform Friday, March 11, at The Bean.**

members a lot of fun at Friday's show.

"We will make you laugh," Stamper said. "Even if Stephen Perry has to do it. It will be good fun."

## Details

### Fast Heart Mart and The Good Ship SS Perry concert

**When**  
7 to 9 p.m.  
Friday, March 11

**Where**  
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2011 Avenida de Mesilla

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# Bulletin Restaurant Guide

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## Meson de Mesilla reopens

### Boutique restaurant has more intimate ambiance

By David Edwards  
Las Cruces Bulletin

Meson de Mesilla has always been a classy, upscale place. Built in 1984, Meson – it's more casual and familiar name – is a "boutique hotel, restaurant and wine bar" that has gone through a number of owners over the years, but none has been more persistent than Cali Szezawinski.

This is Szezawinski's second stint of running Meson – there was an interim owner in between who couldn't make a go of it – and this time, she is involved in every aspect of the business, from the guest rooms to the menu.

A jazz singer, Szezawinski says she was really looking to open a club where she could display her vocal talents. She was living in Las Vegas and saw the property online and 24 hours later, it was hers. That was in 2006, and 14 months of remodeling followed. Meson re-opened in January 2008 and became even more identified as a special occasion restaurant with higher priced cuisine. This time around, Szezawinski is changing that.

"Everything I have done as far as remodeling is to warm the place up – make it feel more intimate," she said. "Between that and lowering the prices to where I am actually competing with the chain restaurants on Telshor (Boulevard), I think that's a very good thing. And I think it's going to work. I certainly hope so."

I hope so, too. After having a couple of meals from the new menu, I can honestly say it would be disappointing if Meson didn't succeed so I can try some more great food.

The lunch menu consists of appetizers, salads, sandwiches and entrées with nothing (except the half rack of ribs) for more than \$10. The appetizers vary from bruschetta to several seafood dishes including calamari, steamed mussels and a shrimp cocktail. "Loaded" shoe strings are potatoes served with cheese, bacon, green onion and ranch dressing. There is a riblet appetizer and, one of the house favorites, jalapeño pecan crusted chicken tenders.

The salads include a chicken salad with those previously mentioned chicken tenders, a Caesar salad, a spinach salad and a confetti salad with finely chopped tomato, cucumber and yellow bell pepper. A salad can also be paired with the soup of the day. The appetizers and salads are also offered at dinner.

Sandwiches include a burger, chicken salad sliders, jalapeño pecan crusted chicken, a club, grilled tuna (more on that later), a New Mexico Philly (with green chile, of course), a Reuben, meatball and a peppered beef panini.

Lunch entrées are spaghetti and meatballs, homemade chicken pot pastry, house smoked brisket and ribs.

My re-introduction to Meson was on a Saturday night and my girlfriend and I



Las Cruces Bulletin photos by David Edwards

The boutique hotel, restaurant and wine bar Meson de Mesilla has reopened at 1803 Avenida de Mesilla.

we were generously treated by her father (thanks, Chuck!). Dinner entrées are all less than \$20 unless you want a full rack of ribs or a platter with both brisket and ribs. The larger cuts of steak are also a bit more expensive, but not by much.

We split an order of mussels to begin with and Cindy went for the jalapeño pecan crusted chicken salad. The fellows heard the siren's call for seafood so Chuck had the sautéed Chilean sea bass and I dove into the black and white tuna – an 8-ounce steak glazed with honey mustard and crusted with black and white sesame seeds. Everything was truly wonderful.

Other dinner selections are the pecan crusted tilapia, lamb lollipops, center cut pork chop, the Monterey steak and chicken – both smothered with grilled onions, fresh mushrooms and melted provolone cheese. Spaghetti and meatballs are also available in the evening.

The three of us had a momentary return to culinary sanity (the two martinis had made me weak) and split two desserts between us. Cali's fresh caramel pie is a pecan tart covered with whipped cream and the pound cake panini is two slices of grilled cake with cream cheese and fresh fruit filling. There is also a New York cheesecake (and sometimes a special turtle cheesecake) and triple chocolate cake. We left very impressed.

On a lunch trip a few days later I tried the burger with bacon, mushrooms and green chile with a side confetti salad. This was preceded by the soup of the day – a very nice green chile stew. I ate for the first time ever in Meson's bar with Sinatra, Crosby, Bennett and Garland wafting through the air. It was another good experience.

Szezawinski has her hand in everything this time around. In addition to running several restaurants in Texas before coming to Las Cruces, she went to culinary school for a year to learn more about food preparation.

Future plans include opening a new upstairs patio bar to go along with the more casual atmosphere. Eventually, she might do some more singing.

"I have to be busy enough to sing," she said. "If I'm not real busy, then I am letting my servers go so I have to be in the office. But if I am busy then I can go back to the bar and sing a few songs."

I am hoping Szezawinski has plenty of chances to sing in the days to come.

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# New plays, new playwrights: A festival of one-act plays

## Black Box Theatre event showcases local talent

Review by **Gerald M. Kane**  
For the Las Cruces Bulletin

Much like writing and publishing a short story, producing a one-act play is far more challenging than piecing together a full-length novel or play.

The current offering of four one-act plays written by students of Mark Medoff's playwriting class at New Mexico State University playing through March 13 on the stage of the Black Box Theatre is quite an impressive undertaking.

Each of the four plays is unique in tone with performances and direction that range from the ordinary to the thoughtful to the extraordinary. Under the guidance of four separate directors, we are overwhelmed with a panoply of emotions by the end of a rather long, mentally exhausting evening. With a 10-minute intermission, the evening ran for two hours and 20 minutes.

A word of caution needs to be given to those considering attending this production. Several of the plays contain excessive profanity and suggestive situations. Parental discretion is strongly advised.

The first play, "Sandpiper," by Peggy Chapman, features exceptional direction by Medoff. The dramatic tension is carefully and subtly constructed throughout the 40-minute production and comes to a climactic explosion. The performances by key players Katy Taylor and Brandon Brown are two of the best I have reviewed in my 13 years in Las Cruces.

The action revolves around Nicole, a young woman who relocates to a San Diego condominium complex from the Midwest. She is welcomed



Tiffany Tyson plays Mallory, the mute teenage daughter of Dan played by Eric Young in "Invisible Box," written by Tracy Bowling.

by a more-than-hospitable (sic. "creepy") neighbor, Travis, who inserts himself into her life like a pebble in her shoe. He describes himself as "perfect with quirks," and that should give you a clue as to what to expect throughout the course of the play. He's like Felix Unger, the fastidious divorcé in "The Odd Couple" – on steroids! The situation escalates to a breaking point. By the end of the play, both Katy and the audience are physically and emotionally spent.

The second work, "Tarrant County Jail" by Neal Adelman and directed by Amy Lanasa was the least satisfying to me. It didn't seem to go anywhere. One certainly

expects to hear profanity in a jail, but here, the expletives and dialogue are over the top. If Adelman's intent is to make us uncomfortable, he succeeds beyond expectations. The raw, unbridled performances by the ensemble cast help us understand flaws in our penal system, while telling us more than we need or want to know about the criminal mindset.

After a much-needed 10-minute intermission, we return to one of the more thought-provoking plays in the quartet, "Invisible Box" by Tracy Bowling, with thoughtful direction by Deborah LaPorte.

We are taken inside the workings of yet another dysfunctional family, which seems to frequent more than its share of films and television series these days. We meet Ruth, an over-protective, obsessive mother played to annoying perfection by Cindy Murrell; her husband Dan, an unhappy, under-achiever played effectively by Eric Young; and Mallory, their teenage daughter who has undergone a trauma – which will reveal itself over the course of the play – and no longer speaks. This exceedingly challenging role is played with nuance by Tiffany Tyson.

We soon understand all too well what is missing in this family configuration. Its resolution is remarkable and sends a broader message to all of us who, from time to time, find it necessary to take refuge in our own "invisible boxes." The conclusion of this play is deeply touching and revelatory.

It is known that writing and performing comedy is serious work. Mike Meginnis tries valiantly in his unusual work "The Interview,"



## Art in Las Cruces

Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Samantha Roberts

The iron seahorse that sits in front of El Tiburon restaurant, 504 E. Amador Ave., came to Las Cruces from Guillermo Guadarrama's landscaping company in California. Guadarrama, owner of El Tiburon, said he plans to add more sculptures to the décor when the time is right.

directed by David Edwards, to make us laugh and think simultaneously. Meginnis and Edwards are aided and abetted by a talented cast headed by Bob Diven as a Hollywood producer seeking to hire a personal assistant. This is the longest of the four one-act plays and perhaps should have been placed earlier in the program.

“ We celebrate the up-and-coming talents of these fine playwrights and directors. ”

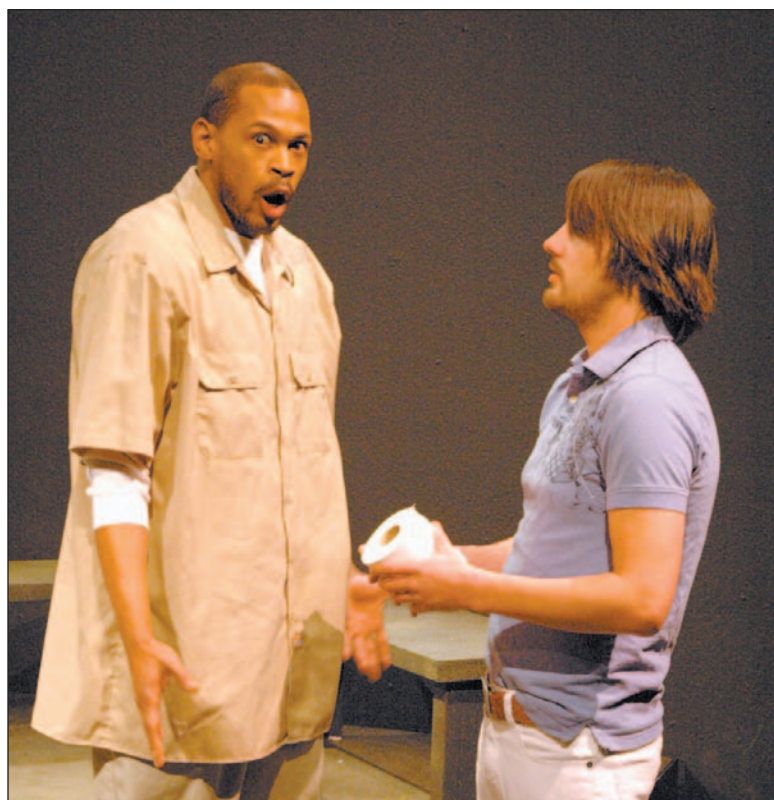
As one character says in the play, "It never ends," and that is how I felt toward the end of "The Interview." Diven's passion and excellent sense of timing drives this complex work. His foils are Ted Aspen Sanchez and Gail Wheeler, both of whose over-acting are appropriate and effective. It doesn't matter that the "plot" of "The Interview" makes little sense. Its execution is admirable, but the script could truly benefit from a bit of careful and judicious editing. In the words of one of my greatest teachers, "Less is more."

In sum, this festival of one-act plays gives us cause for celebration on many fronts. We celebrate the

contribution of Medoff to NMSU and our community. We celebrate the up-and-coming talents of these fine playwrights and directors. We celebrate the gifted performers who labored diligently to provide us with an evening of creativity. But most of all, we celebrate Producer Ceil Herman, who, together with her talented husband Peter, continue to provide us with the Black Box Theatre, which has and will bring us innovative, high-quality live theater for many years to come!

"New Plays, New Playwrights" runs through Sunday, March 13, at the Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Main St. Performances are at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and at 2:30 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$10 regular admission and \$9 for students and seniors over 65. For reservations, call 523-1223 or visit [www.no-strings.org](http://www.no-strings.org).

Gerald Kane has reviewed theater and opera 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. He has reviewed the Santa Fe Opera productions for the Bulletin for the past nine years. He is currently teaching "Studies in Film: Jews on Screen" for the English Department



The characters played by Shiloh Holloway and Zac Perez-Wright reveal the flaws in the country's penal system in "Tarrant County Jail," written by Neal Adelman.







SUNDAY EVENING MARCH 13, 2011. Grid of TV listings from 5:00 to 11:30 PM for various channels including PBS, CBS, ABC, FOX, NBC, CW, WGN, ESPN, ESPN2, USA, TNT, TBS, COM, LIFE, FOOD, HGTV, A&E, HIST, TLC, DISC, ANPL, FAM, DISN, NICK, AMC, SYFY, CNN, CNBC, MSNBC.

MONDAY EVENING MARCH 14, 2011. Grid of TV listings from 5:00 to 11:30 PM for various channels including PBS, CBS, ABC, FOX, NBC, CW, WGN, ESPN, ESPN2, USA, TNT, TBS, COM, LIFE, FOOD, HGTV, A&E, HIST, TLC, DISC, ANPL, FAM, DISN, NICK, AMC, SYFY, CNN, CNBC, MSNBC.

TUESDAY EVENING MARCH 15, 2011. Grid of TV listings from 5:00 to 11:30 PM for various channels including PBS, CBS, ABC, FOX, NBC, CW, WGN, ESPN, ESPN2, USA, TNT, TBS, COM, LIFE, FOOD, HGTV, A&E, HIST, TLC, DISC, ANPL, FAM, DISN, NICK, AMC, SYFY, CNN, CNBC, MSNBC.

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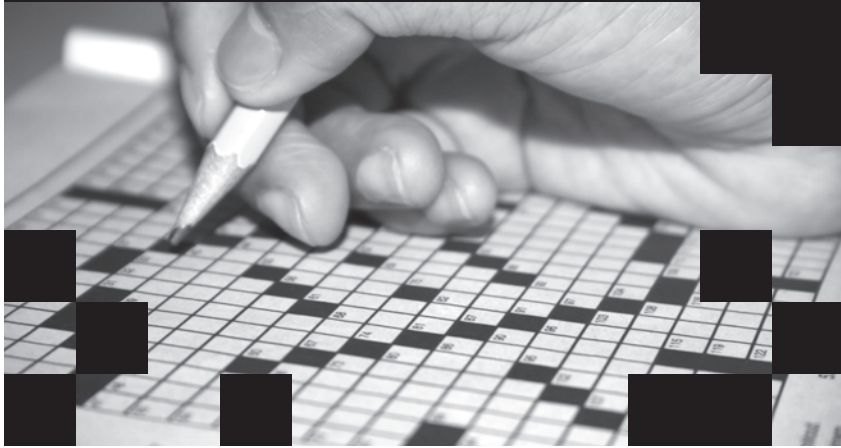
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## Word Salsa

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.

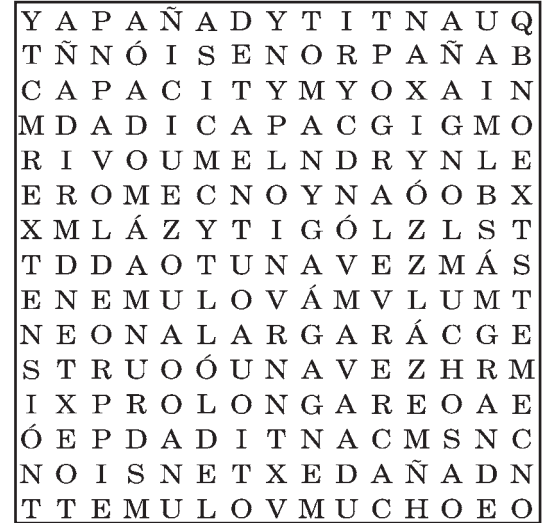
### MORE

#### ENGLISH

BIG  
CAPACITY  
EXTENSION  
LONG  
MANY  
MORE  
ONCE MORE  
QUANTITY  
TO ADD  
TO EXTEND  
TO PROLONG  
VOLUME

#### SPANISH

GRANDE  
CAPACIDAD  
EXTENSIÓN  
LARGO  
MUCHOS  
MÁS  
UNA VEZ MÁS  
CANTIDAD  
AÑADIR  
ALARGAR  
PROLONGAR  
VOLUMEN



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02/18

## 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 Insects
  - 5 Date maker
  - 9 Yawning
  - 11 Thought
  - 12 Sadder
  - 13 Over there
  - 15 Flier
  - 19 Do \_\_\_ others
  - 20 Road cover
  - 21 Miserly
  - 22 Paleozoic, for example
  - 23 Not outgoing
  - 25 Middle of the alphabet letters
  - 28 Emancipate
  - 32 Monetary unit of Romania
  - 33 Crowd jeers
  - 35 Transport cost
  - 36 Philosophy suffix
  - 37 Two together
  - 38 Clique
  - 41 Type of welder
  - 43 Meat jelly
  - 46 Musty with age
  - 49 Superman actor, Christopher
  - 50 Pigs
  - 51 Crimson
  - 52 St. Louis arch
  - 56 Skillfully
  - 60 Cigarette deposit
  - 62 Young ladies
  - 63 Romantic flower
  - 64 Sequence of tennis games
  - 65 Not written
  - 66 Commercials
  - 67 Ballet steps
  - 68 Salad addition
  - 71 Food establishment
  - 74 Layer
  - 75 6th Jewish month
  - 76 Voting event
  - 82 Long narrow band
  - 84 White oak
  - 85 Suggest
  - 86 Sheer fabric
  - 87 Medicine Nobel prize winner, Walter
  - 88 Russian ruler
- DOWN**
- 1 Rum cake
  - 2 Wrinkled skin fruit
  - 3 Big ox
  - 4 Design detail
  - 5 1492 ship
  - 6 Extra, in a transaction
  - 7 Actor, Van Kleef
  - 8 Damage
  - 10 Make a boo-boo
  - 13 "Mikado" character
  - 14 Single
  - 16 Swallowed
  - 17 Not easily reached
  - 18 Stop/go controls
  - 23 Dangerous and irreversible course
  - 24 "\_\_\_ a real nowhere man"
  - 25 Lessen gradually
  - 26 Farm noise
  - 27 Drunkard
  - 29 Escaped
  - 30 Energy measurement
  - 31 Literary always
  - 34 Pretenses
  - 39 Boat propeller
  - 40 Adopt
  - 42 Line
  - 44 Personal ownership contraction
  - 45 Closet wood
  - 47 Cell stuff
  - 48 At this time
  - 53 Conceit
  - 54 It occurs when diplomacy has failed
  - 55 \_\_\_ king
  - 57 Dancer's feathered accessory
  - 58 Former British currency system: abbr.
  - 59 Agreement word
  - 60 Dream
  - 61 Aegean, for one
  - 69 Not so well
  - 70 Abrasive
  - 71 Mends
  - 72 Corrects
  - 73 Cat's favorite place?
  - 77 Cathode-ray-tube, for short
  - 78 Horn sound
  - 79 Stork family bird
  - 80 Spanish for pot
  - 81 At no point in time, old way
  - 82 Quiet!
  - 83 Score the same

### GOING OFF HALF-COCKED

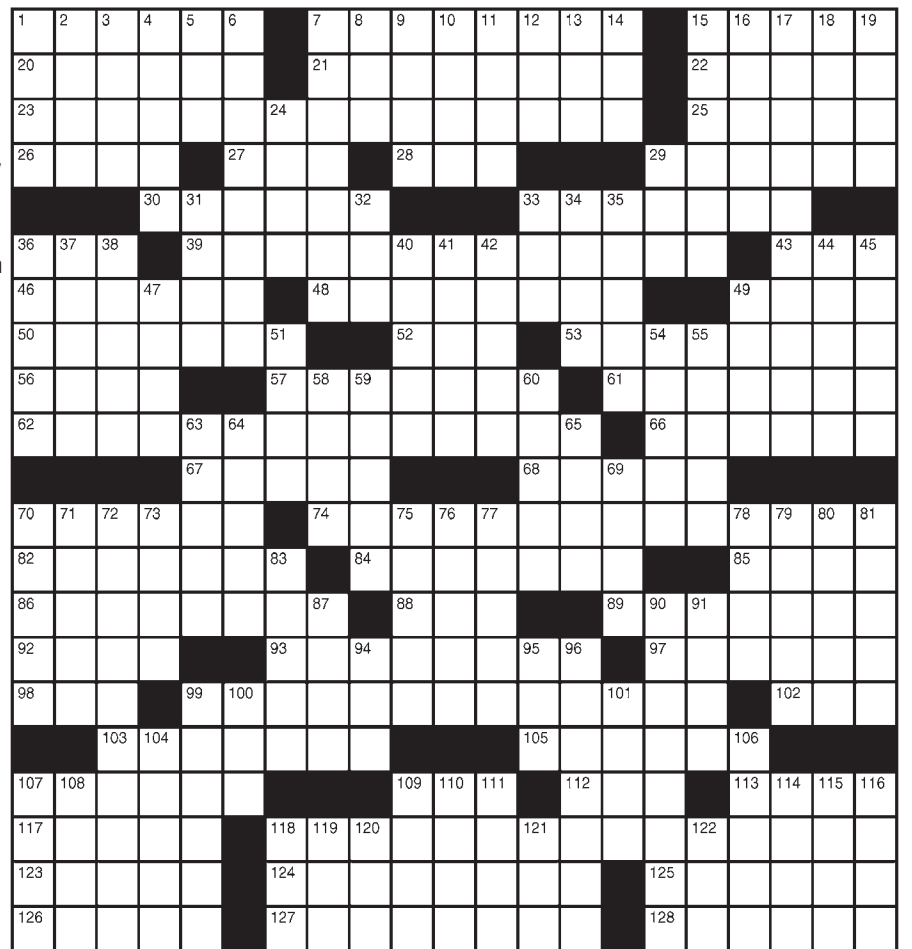
#### ACROSS

- 1 Landing strip surface
- 7 Lines for the theatre
- 15 Remove a lid
- 20 Ring around the pupil
- 21 In the file
- 22 Impudent boldness
- 23 Revealing intentions
- 25 "The Silver Streak" co-star
- 26 Moises or Felipe of baseball
- 27 Naughty
- 28 Beast of burden
- 29 Experts
- 30 Spanish rice tree
- 33 French-American dialect
- 36 Battering equipment
- 39 Bridge tactic
- 43 Test for coll. seniors
- 46 Newspaper honcho
- 48 College organization
- 49 "The Virginian" writer
- 50 Small taxi
- 52 Sailors' grp.
- 53 Hair shade
- 56 Seemingly forever?
- 57 Gradient
- 61 Brand name on cakes
- 62 With 74A, getting ahead of oneself
- 66 Trumped
- 67 Sheriff's band of the Old West
- 68 Unrestrained outbreaks of violence
- 70 Full-length tunic
- 74 See 62A
- 82 Stritch and Boosler
- 84 Gathered
- 85 Duck feathers
- 86 Sequence verifier
- 88 Army rcts.
- 89 Was contrary to
- 92 MIT part
- 93 Masculinity
- 97 City on the Rio Grande
- 98 T-shirt size
- 99 Beginning too soon
- 102 Stitch
- 103 Small upright pianos
- 105 Glossy type of paint
- 107 Senility

- 109 T or F, e.g.
- 112 NYC gambling center
- 113 Spheres
- 117 Diet guru Jenny
- 118 Edgar Allan Poe story, with "The"
- 123 Judy of "Rowan and Martin's Laugh-In"
- 124 Wakayama farewell
- 125 Cantankerous
- 126 Action or change starter
- 127 Repeats
- 128 Combines together

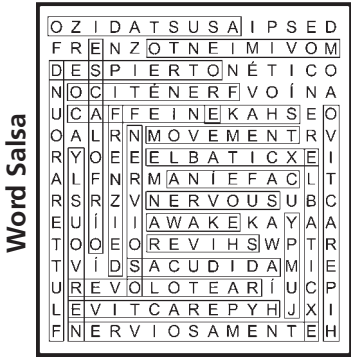
#### DOWN

- 1 So long!
- 2 Seed coat
- 3 Collection biz
- 4 Tidy loose ends
- 5 The Greatest
- 6 Australian capital
- 7 Casual drawings
- 8 Quaint quarters
- 9 Neighborhood
- 10 Fewer
- 11 Protest-singer Phil
- 12 Tibetan gazelle
- 13 Large vase
- 14 Actor Byrnes
- 15 Still owing
- 16 Emperor before Trajan
- 17 Scaring folk for nothing
- 18 English river
- 19 Individual: abbr.
- 24 Very strong wind
- 29 1501
- 31 Bk. of Revelation
- 32 Latin lesson word
- 33 Fauna starter?
- 34 Govt. training leg.
- 35 Vest chasm
- 36 Revise charts
- 37 French farewell
- 38 North Dakota city
- 40 Worker
- 41 Quinine water

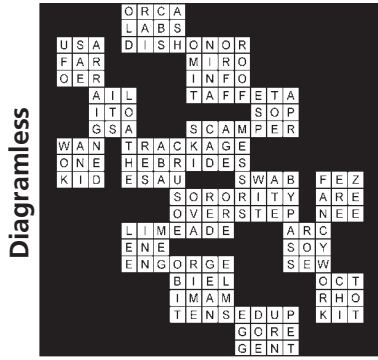


- 42 Privalova or Vorobyeva
- 44 Taylor or Adoree
- 45 Terminated
- 47 Trace of color
- 49 Norwegian saint
- 51 Major Leagues, casually
- 54 Writer Bret
- 55 Foxtail
- 58 Plane-crash grp.
- 59 Rah!
- 60 Goofed up
- 63 Toothpaste brand
- 64 Song for nine
- 65 S. Amer. monkey
- 69 Cry of distress
- 70 De Mille of movies
- 71 As company
- 72 Do-over's cause
- 73 Pinball goof
- 75 Steely Dan singer
- 76 Giving the nod to
- 77 Bowler's button
- 78 Nose alert
- 79 Fragrant bed
- 80 Stockholm native
- 81 Provide with property
- 83 Amiens river
- 87 Spellbound
- 90 Vertical line
- 91 Sheet of glass
- 94 Fleur-de-
- 95 "\_\_\_ Loves You"
- 96 Ladies of Seville
- 99 Liquor measure
- 100 One of the French
- 101 Entryway
- 104 "Common Sense" writer
- 106 Actor Greene
- 107 Fifth of MMDV
- 108 Algerian city
- 109 God of love
- 110 Wendy's dog
- 111 RBI or ERA
- 114 Nice nothing?
- 115 Exalted poet
- 116 Stone and Stallone
- 118 Greek letter
- 119 Stoolie
- 120 Scope out
- 121 End of post?
- 122 Internet add.

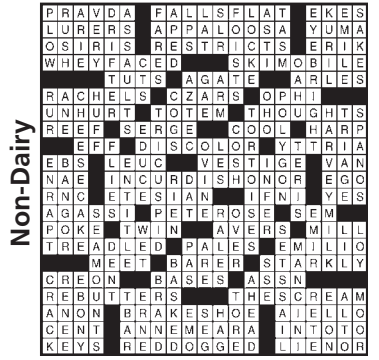
## LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS



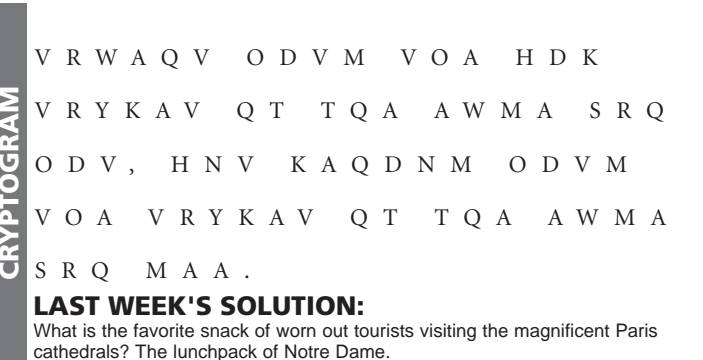
### Word Salsa



### Diagramless



### Non-Dairy



### Cryptogram

### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

What is the favorite snack of worn out tourists visiting the magnificent Paris cathedrals? The lunchpack of Notre Dame.

# AtTheMovies

## Yes, I want you baby

### Film makes you 'hungry like the wolf' for the '80s

Review by **David Edwards**  
Las Cruces Bulletin

I came a bit late into the '80s. Graduating high school in 1971 put me somewhat past the '60s and in the beginning stages of the disco era. My vinyl collection primarily focused on California/country rock sounds – such as Linda Ronstadt, Jackson Browne and the Eagles.

But going to graduate school in 1980 connected me to a slightly younger crowd of more recent college graduates, and I developed a great deal of affection for that group's music and style. I even worked at a Sound Warehouse in Dallas when new wave pop ruled the airwaves and MTV actually played music videos.

"Them there disaffected youth" – twenty-something California kids searching for what to make of their futures – are the subjects of director Michael Dowse's "Take Me Home Tonight," with Topher Grace, Anna Faris and

Dan Fogler. The film has aspirations of being that generation's "American Graffiti" or perhaps "The Graduate" – two other films (really great ones by the way) representing eras that I was too young to really appreciate.

The former film takes place on a night before some people are headed off to college – or not. Begging forgiveness from The Clash – Should they stay or should they go now? Crazy circumstances have a profound effect on those decisions.

In the latter film, Dustin Hoffman plays the graduate of the title and everyone (especially his parents) is wondering, now that he is through with college, whether he is going to actually stop laying around the pool and do something with his life.

In "Take Me Home Tonight," Matt Franklin (Grace) graduated from MIT (we see during an opening yearbook collage sequence that he was voted "Brainiest" in his class), and he has been working at a Suncoast Video store 'til he decides what direction to take. He has had the summer to make up his mind – at least that is his policeman father's timeline – but he still has no clue. According to his parents' way of thinking, he could just as easily get an engineering job while he makes up his mind.



With scrunched-up sleeves, mismatched textures and skinny ties, Topher Grace and Dan Fogler are fashion plates of the '80s in "Take Me Home Tonight."

"You could be anything you want," his mom says. "You could be an astronaut."

"That solves it," Matt says. "I'll be an astronaut."

Matt's (obviously fraternal) twin sister Wendy (Faris) must decide whether to move in with her lunkhead boyfriend Kyle (Chris Pratt of "Parks and Recreation") or open a letter to find out if she got accepted to Cambridge.

Matt's best friend Barry (Fogler) gets fired from his car salesman job and is ready to "stop thinking and start doing."

Matt's situation becomes more complicated when his high school crush Tori (Teresa Palmer) walks into the video store. He pretends he doesn't work there and when, during a brief conversation, she tells him she works for Drexel Burnham ("It's an investment firm.") he lies – never a good idea – and tells her he works for Goldman Sachs even though they don't have a Los Angeles office ("I'm in Asian takeovers.").

The other key piece of information he gleans from Tori is that Kyle is having a huge Labor Day party that night and he should come. The stage is set for some '80s-style wildness with lots of drinking, drugs, sexual hookups, dance-offs and the ominous prospect that someone will "ride the ball." Will Matt be able to overcome his shyness and actually score the girl of his dreams? Will the stolen Mercedes – thanks, Barry – help him convince her that he travels in the same financial circles she does and isn't a loser who works at the mall?

Grace – who really garnered our attention on television's "That '70s Show" – has developed into very appealing actor. He handles Matt's nerdy awkwardness and is able to convincingly transition into more of a charmer and even shows some boldness in the film's comic climax. His chemistry with Palmer is good (perhaps aided the two's off-screen romance), and it's fun watching their relationship develop.

I'm not sure about Faris yet. I thought she was great in the underappreciated "Observe and Report" as the object of Seth Rogen's misguided affection, and she is different here. It

may be that the role is a bit underwritten and not her performance. She and Pratt do have some good moments, however.

Fogler has most of the really funny stuff, and while he seems to be channeling Jack Black at times, he brings great energy to the cocaine-buzzed, car-stealing, desperately looking-for-sex party guy. But Demetri Martin gets my nod for best scene stealer as a wheelchair-bound actual Goldman Sachs employee who could really help Matt pull off his charade.

Writers Jackie and Jeff Filgo (also of "That '70s Show") have crafted a rather sweet, if pretty raucous, tale that is pleasantly entertaining, and I didn't begrudge at all the time spent. Perhaps because it aimed at a slightly older crowd than your typical teen comedy and brought back some music that I really enjoyed.

It may not be the iconic '80s comedy, but it will do for now.

“Writers Jackie and Jeff Filgo have crafted a rather sweet, if pretty raucous, tale that is pleasantly entertaining.”

It may not be the iconic '80s comedy, but it will do for now.



Robert Hoffman channels Flock of Seagulls in "Take Me Home Tonight."

#### TAKE ME HOME TONIGHT

Starring: Topher Grace, Anna Faris, Barry Fogler

Rated R

Running time: 114 minutes

Director: Michael Dowse









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**NEXT Weekend**




# At The Movies


## Picking the Flicks

Movie information from [www.rottentomatoes.com](http://www.rottentomatoes.com). Thumbs-up based on a 5-point scale.


**Rango**  
**Rating:** PG  
**Plot Overview:** A chameleon that aspires to be a swashbuckling hero finds himself in a Western town plagued by bandits.  
**Starring:** Johnny Depp, Isla Fisher  
**Director:** Gore Verbinski




**Just Go With It**  
**Rating:** PG-13  
**Plot Overview:** A plastic surgeon, romancing a much younger schoolteacher, enlists his loyal assistant to pretend to be his soon-to-be ex-wife, in order to cover up a careless lie.  
**Starring:** Adam Sandler, Jennifer Aniston  
**Director:** Dennis Dugan




**The King's Speech**  
**Rating:** R  
**Plot Overview:** The story of King George VI of Britain, his impromptu ascension to the throne and the speech therapist who helped the unsure monarch become worthy of it.  
**Starring:** Michael Gambon, Colin Firth  
**Director:** Tom Hooper




**Hall Pass**  
**Rating:** PG-13  
**Plot Overview:** Rick (Owen Wilson) and Fred (Jason Sudeikis) are best friends who have a lot in common, including the fact that they have each been married for many years.  
**Starring:** Owen Wilson  
**Director:** Bobby and Peter Farrelly




**The Eagle**  
**Rating:** PG-13  
**Plot Overview:** In second-century Britain, two men venture beyond the edge of the known world on a dangerous and obsessive quest that will push them beyond the boundaries of loyalty.  
**Starring:** Channing Tatum  
**Director:** Kevin Macdonald




**Justin Bieber: Never Say Never**  
**Rating:** G  
**Plot Overview:** This is the inspiring true story and rare inside look at the rise of Justin from street performer to global super star.  
**Starring:** Justin Bieber, Miley Cyrus  
**Director:** Jon Chu



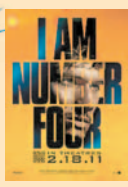
**Unknown**  
**Rating:** PG-13  
**Plot Overview:** Dr. Martin Harris awakens after a car accident in Berlin to discover that his wife suddenly doesn't recognize him and another man has assumed his identity.  
**Starring:** Liam Neeson, Diane Kruger  
**Director:** Jaume Collet-Sera




**Take Me Home Tonight**  
**Rating:** R  
**Plot Overview:** A raunchy, romantic and ultimately touching blast from the past set to an awesome soundtrack of timeless rock and hip-hop hits.  
**Starring:** Topher Grace, Anna Faris  
**Director:** Michael Dowse




**I Am Number Four**  
**Rating:** PG-13  
**Plot Overview:** Three are dead. He is Number Four. An action-packed thriller about an extraordinary young man who is a fugitive on the run from ruthless enemies sent to destroy him.  
**Starring:** Alex Pettyfer, Timothy Olyphant  
**Director:** D.J. Caruso




**Gnomeo and Juliet**  
**Rating:** G  
**Plot Overview:** The greatest love story ever told, starring ... garden gnomes. Shakespeare's revered tale gets a comical, off-the-wall makeover.  
**Starring:** James McAvoy, Emily Blunt  
**Director:** Kelly Asbury



**The Adjustment Bureau**  
**Rating:** PG-13  
**Plot Overview:** Do we control our destiny, or do unseen forces manipulate us? Matt Damon stars as a man who glimpses the future fate has planned for him and realizes he wants something else.  
**Starring:** Matt Damon, Emily Blunt  
**Director:** George Nolfi




**The Tourist**  
**Rating:** PG-13  
**Plot Overview:** An American tourist's playful dalliance with a stranger leads to a web of intrigue, romance and danger.  
**Starring:** Angelina Jolie, Johnny Depp  
**Director:** Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck



**Mars Needs Moms**  
**Rating:** PG  
**Plot Overview:** A young boy named Milo gains a deeper appreciation for his mom after martians come to Earth to take her away.  
**Starring:** Seth Green, Joan Cusack  
**Director:** Simon Wells  
**OPENING MARCH 11**



**Beastly**  
**Rating:** PG-13  
**Plot Overview:** A modern-day take on the "Beauty and the Beast" tale where a New York teen is transformed into a hideous monster in order to find true love.  
**Starring:** Alex Pettyfer, Mary-Kate Olsen  
**Director:** Daniel Barnz



**Battle: Los Angeles**  
**Rating:** PG-13  
**Plot Overview:** A Marine platoon faces off against an alien invasion in Los Angeles.  
**Starring:** Aaron Eckhart, Michelle Rodriguez  
**Director:** Jonathan Liebesman  
**OPENING MARCH 11**



**Red Riding Hood**  
**Rating:** PG-13  
**Plot Overview:** Loosely based on the folk tale "Little Red Riding Hood," a medieval village is plagued by a werewolf, which takes human form during the day.  
**Starring:** Amanda Seyfried  
**Director:** Catherine Hardwicke  
**OPENING MARCH 11**



## New this week on DVD Tuesday, March 15

- The Fighter**  
**Rating:** R  
**Genre:** Drama  
**Starring:** Mark Wahlberg, Christian Bale  
**Director:** David Russell
- Hereafter**  
**Rating:** PG-13  
**Genre:** Drama, Suspense  
**Starring:** Matt Damon, Bryce Dallas Howard  
**Director:** Clint Eastwood
- The Switch**  
**Rating:** PG-13  
**Genre:** Comedy, Romance  
**Starring:** Jennifer Aniston, Jason Bateman  
**Director:** Will Speck, Josh Gordon
- The Wildest Dream: Conquest of Everest**  
**Rating:** PG  
**Genre:** Documentary  
**Starring:** Liam Neeson (voice)  
**Director:** Anthony Geffen
- Nova Science Now: How Does the Brain Work?**  
**Rating:** N/A  
**Genre:** Documentary  
**Studio:** PBS

## Top Grossing March 4-6

- 1 Rango** (Week No. 1) **\$38,000,000**
- 2 The Adjustment Bureau** (Week No. 1) **\$20,945,000**
- 3 Beastly** (Week No. 1) **\$10,115,000**
- 4 Hall Pass** (Week No. 2) **\$9,015,000**
- 5 Gnomeo and Juliet** (Week No. 4) **\$6,912,000**
- 6 Unknown** (Week No. 3) **\$6,620,000**
- 7 The King's Speech** (Week No. 15) **\$6,501,000**
- 8 Just Go With It** (Week No. 4) **\$6,500,000**
- 9 I Am Number Four** (Week No. 3) **\$5,702,000**
- 10 Justin Bieber: Never Say Never** (Week No. 4) **\$4,325,000**

**Mesilla Valley Film Society**  
**Upcoming Films**  
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[MesillaValleyFilm.org](http://MesillaValleyFilm.org) • 575-524-8287

Shows nightly at 7:30, Sunday Matinee at 2:30

Mar. 11 - Mar. 17 <b>The Illusionist</b> 2011, 90 min., in English & French with English subtitles, directed by Sylvain Chomet. Oscar-nominated for Best Animated Feature.	Mar. 18 - Mar. 24 <b>The Strange Case of Angélica</b> 2010, 94 min., in Spanish with English subtitles, directed by Manoel de Oliveira.	Saturday CineMatinee at 1:30 only Mar. 12 only <b>Hi Lo Country</b> 1999, 114 min., rated R, made in New Mexico, starring Billy Crudup, Woody Harrelson and Patricia Arquette.
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# Admiring treasures at the Downtown Arts Ramble

Photos by Niki Rhynes

Barbara Armstrong talks to Joyce Knaus during the March Downtown Ramble. The event is held the first Friday of each month.



Attendees of the Downtown Ramble viewed items such as "Pecheuse," made in the 19th century, at M. Phillip's Fine Art Gallery, Friday, March 4.

Kennedy Ortolf, 6, looked for paintings of roses while attending the Downtown Ramble with Judy Houston, right, and Mary Lou Morton, far left, at M. Phillip's Fine Art Gallery.



Las Cruces Mayor Pro Tem Sharon Thomas gets a closer look of a contemporary bronze statue.

## Now that you've set the date ...

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## I'm 'that girl'

**Natisha Hales**  
*Adventures  
in Dieting*



There are just three weeks left of the Bulletin Weight Loss Challenge, and attendance at our regular meeting is getting lower each week. I think there were 10 of us who made it to this week's meeting. For those who weren't there, they missed a truly inspiring meeting.

Laura is in Florida with her parents celebrating their 60th anniversary, but she asked us to continue our detox plan. Of all of us who tried it – most of us didn't last for more than a day – David Edwards is the only one who stuck to it, and he lost 8.4 pounds. And this comes after he had "plateaued" and stayed the same exact weight for two weeks in a row.

He now has lost more than 30 pounds, which was his original goal when we started this challenge.

While Edwards talked about how he was able to stick to the detox because he had an open mind, others cited reasons for not being able to go the distance – "I had no energy," "It's too extreme" or "I refuse to give up cheese" (that came from me).

Bill listened to our reasons, but instead of calling them what we thought were legitimate justifications, he rightfully told us we were making excuses.

"Listen to yourselves," he said. "It's not that you can't do it, it's that you're telling yourself you can't do it."

It doesn't matter what we plan on doing, he said. If we got that list from Laura thinking of how it was flawed, how there was no way we could pull it off or any other negative thoughts, we were setting ourselves up for failure. It's not just about exercising and dieting; it's also about having the right mindset that will help us reach those goals.

"It's work, there's no way around it," Bill told us. "When you work out, you're going to be sore. You're not always going to be able to eat the foods you want. That's just the way it is, but if you want it bad enough, you'll do it."

Bill commended Edwards on his approach to the detox because he said he saw it as a challenge and achieved results from it. Though Bill was sure to not single any of us out, he told us that if we didn't change the way we thought about weight loss, he could predict that we would be in the same situation even a year from now. And he sees the same thing everywhere, even in his paying clients.

While he was talking, I thought about all of my excuses and how they just pour out of my mouth when it comes to virtually anything, especially weight loss. Even minutes before Bill started his inspiring speech, I had said that I only lost 0.2 pounds this week because I was bloated today.

I know it wasn't his intention, but after listening to Bill, I was ashamed of my actions and my excuses. My daughter Maya is in tennis on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, and it has changed my routine completely to the point where if I fit in exercise, it would have to be at 5 a.m. I

See **Challenge** on page D5

## Happy to serve March of Dimes

### Community inspired by local 3-year-old

By **Natisha Hales**  
Las Cruces Bulletin

He loves guitars and cupcakes. He loves people and says "hi" to everyone while he rides in the cart at the grocery store. And he loves to watch Disney's "Mickey Mouse Club House."

As a 3-year-old, Zane Silva is a child who loves life and his family, and to the community, Zane is a delightful inspiration. Through his story, the community has rallied behind the local efforts of the March of Dimes to raise funds that can help put an end to premature births and birth defects.

The community met Zane in 2010 when he and his family were named the ambassador family for the local March for Babies. At 2 years old, Zane had come a long way from the day he was born in November 2007, which was 10 weeks too soon.

Weighing just 2.5 pounds at birth, Zane underwent 11 blood transfusions, heart surgery and hernia surgeries before he was able to come home in February 2008. Even then, Zane was sent home with a ventilator because his lungs were damaged.

Dianne Silva, Zane's mother, was in the hospital with a major blood clot, and her husband, Jeffrey Silva, was helpless, wondering why his family was suffering.

"We had never been exposed to premature birth," said Jeffrey Silva, whose two older sons were healthy at birth. "I was literally in tears wondering, 'Why is this happening to us?'"

Despite the odds, Zane made great strides in his recovery and is now considered a healthy boy.

At first, the devastating trauma the Silvas suffered had challenged Jeffrey Silva's faith to the core, but he said he soon realized that the experience had a larger purpose and it has actually strengthened his belief system.

It also encouraged Silva to give back to the organization for which he believes is responsible for Zane's recovery – the March of Dimes.

"If he was born 10 years ago, Zane would not have survived," Silva said, "and that's a fact."

## Relay for Life fundraising effort begins

### Initiative works to find cure for cancer

*Bulletin Staff Report*

Fundraising for the Las Cruces Relay for Life has begun, and event organizers are expecting to meet a goal of \$110,000 by this year's event, which will be held Aug. 26 and 27.

The initiative kicked off March 3, at Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces, with a goal to begin registering teams and get the word out about the Relay for Life, which last year raised \$110,000 between the Las Cruces and New Mexico State University events.

"We like to set the goal a little bit higher each year just to encourage (participants) to find sponsors and get as many donations as we can," said Event Chair Desarae Terrazas.

The Relay for Life not only raises funds and awareness, but it honors those who have lost the battle and survived their bout with cancer, as participants run, jog or walk a track through the night with the idea that "cancer doesn't



**Zane Silva has been considered a catalyst for the momentum behind the 2010 and 2011 March for Babies. Zane was born 10 weeks early in 2007, but is now a healthy 3-year-old boy.**

Getting involved in the local March of Dimes effort, Silva and other members of Team Zane quickly organized a celebrity waiter fundraiser at La Posta last year, consisting of local celebrities who served ticket holders. The event was considered a huge success.

The momentum of Team Zane has since grown, and this year the team is preparing for the second annual March of Dimes Team Zane Celebrity Waiter Banquet Thursday, March 24. There are 100 volunteers, and the 500 tickets for the event are nearly sold out. Of course, the event has outgrown its original venue and will be held this year at the Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave.

"We're very blessed to have all these people team up with us," Silva said. "Zane is the catalyst to get everyone together. He makes it human."

In addition to the local efforts of Team Zane, Silva has been asked to share his story around the state.

"It's a hard thing to talk about, but it's a great thing because of what has come of it," he said. "I personally don't want anyone to go through what we went through. But now I have a different view of life. Life is short, and I make the best of it every single day."

Team Zane also will have a presence with a tent at the March for Babies event, which

### Details

#### March of Dimes Team Zane Celebrity Waiter Banquet

**When**  
6 to 9 p.m., Thursday, March 24

**Where**  
Las Cruces Convention Center  
680 E. University Ave.

**Cost**  
\$29

**Contact**  
[www.lascrucescelebritywaiter.com](http://www.lascrucescelebritywaiter.com)

will be held at 7:30 a.m. Saturday, April 30, at Young Park.

For more information about the March of Dimes Team Zane Celebrity Waiter Banquet, visit [www.lascrucescelebritywaiter.com](http://www.lascrucescelebritywaiter.com). For more information about the March for Babies, visit [marchforbabies.org](http://marchforbabies.org).

### Details

#### NMSU Relay for Life

**When**  
6 p.m. to 8 a.m.  
Friday, April 1, and Saturday, April 2

**Where**  
New Mexico State University  
Horseshoe

**Contact**  
[www.relayforlife.org/NMSUNM](http://www.relayforlife.org/NMSUNM)

held by a participating team.

"The website is the No. 1 resource center," Terrazas said. "You can get any information – event information, contact information – all of that is online."



# Public health at NMSU movin' on up

Program making strides since January



**Bob Nosbisch**  
*Getting the Word Out*

When I was younger, I liked to watch "The Jeffersons" for many reasons, one of them being George Jefferson's intransigence in his dealings with Archie Bunker. Another reason why I liked the show was because of its catchy theme song. As you may recall, the memorable words, "Well, we're movin' on up," kicked off the song.

Public health at New Mexico State University is moving on up, too. Even though National Public Health Week is April 7-13, the faculty and students in NMSU's Department of Health Science have been moving on up since the new year began.

Recently hired academic head of the department Mark Kittleson will receive the national HEDIR (Health Education Directory) Technology Award at the American Association of Health Education's annual meeting in San Diego later this month. The award recognizes outstanding leadership in the use of technology in health education. AAHE President Tom Davis also will bestow a presidential citation upon Kittleson for his leadership in the profession.

"Mark is a member of a group that I think of as the 'Never Say No Club,'" said Davis, a professor of health promotion at the University of Northern Iowa. "He has never been too busy to take on an assignment or help with a question or problem, no matter how involved the task or how small the recognition. Mark is one of the heroes of our profession."

Another public health faculty member who is being recognized is Dr. Michael Young, the college's associate dean for research. Young recently was given a prestigious appointment as Chair of the Board of Associate Editors of the American Journal of Health Education.

Dr. Rebecca Palacios recently visited the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle to help identify a potential research partnership. As a result of that visit, she will work with Dr. Jonathan Bricker of the Center to develop a grant study to examine the effectiveness of two interventions for obesity in Hispanics. Cindy Kratzke is working with

Rev. Dr. Margaret Short of Memorial Medical Center to write about their health communication project at the hospital. They recently presented their research at a rural health conference in Tucson. Kratzke also co-facilitated a cross-cultural communications workshop with Dr. Monica Torres of the NMSU English Department in February.

The ties with Arizona continue with Dr. Sue Forster-Cox's recent appointment to the Southwest Public Health Leadership Institute/Leaders across the Border, hosted by the University of Arizona. Dr. Forster-Cox also

worked with campus officials in celebrating the 50th anniversary of Peace Corps and the two NMSU Peace Corps programs: USA/Fellows and the Masters International programs.

Graduate students in the Master of Public Health degree program also are on the move. A presentation, "Barriers to Health Communication: Readability of Chronic Disease Information on Pan American Health Organization U.S.-Mexico Border Office Web Site" has been accepted for the Society for Public Health Education's (SOPHE) mid-year conference in early May in Albuquerque. Kratzke supervised graduate students Elva Palmer and Andrew Vernon on this project.

Kratzke also worked with graduate students Aisha Kudura and Savannah Pierson on their abstract, "Diabetes and Diet: Evaluation of Online Health Materials for Older Adults and Implications for Health Education." This abstract has been accepted for the mid-year SOPHE conference. Kudura also has accepted a summer research internship with the National Institutes of Health-National Cancer Institute.

These are just a few examples of the work of the professionals in the NMSU Department of Health Science as they continue to educate people about disease prevention and health promotions. Kittleson is fond of saying, "We ARE public health," and there is no doubt that public health at NMSU is moving on up, thanks to these dedicated men and women and others who devote their lives to this growing profession.

*Bob Nosbisch is a senior program specialist in the NMSU College of Health and Social Services.*

“ He has never been too busy ... ”

TOM DAVIS,  
AAHE president

## Health Briefs

### Gospel concert benefits C4CR

The Young at Heart Gospel Choir will perform a fundraising concert at 6 p.m. Sunday, On March 27, at the New Mexico State University Atkinson Music Recital Hall. This group of singers has performed across the United States.

Tickets are \$10 each, and all proceeds benefit Cowboys for Cancer Research. C4CR supports on-going collaborative cancer research being done at NMSU and the University of New Mexico Cancer Center.

For more information, contact Bernadean Rudean at 640-1425 or bernadeanr@msn.com, or contact Geraldine Calhoun at 642-5696 or gwcalhoun@msn.com.

### MMC Cancer Center welcomes new doctor



**FRANCIS**

Memorial Medical Center is pleased to announce that Dr. Robert Francis joined the MMC Cancer Center Team as a permanent physician earlier this year.

Francis went to medical school in Philadelphia, completed his residency in New York City and trained in a hematology and oncology fellowship in Los Angeles. Francis is board-certified in medical oncology and hematology. He has spent the last six years as a locum tenens physician, a doctor who travels to different practices providing temporary coverage.

In 2009, Francis spent some time at the MMC Cancer Center providing coverage. When he decided to settle into a permanent position, he remembered the many positives that Las Cruces had to offer.

"Las Cruces is a great size city," he said, "big enough to get the support you need, but small enough to allow you to still get a personal touch."

Francis was familiar with the hospital after his stay in 2009 and said MMC was a very easy environment to work in.

"The MMC Cancer Center has had stable personnel," he said. "I'm seeing the same faces now as I did last time I was here, and a strong and stable team results in better care for patients."

The MMC Cancer Center is fully staffed with two full-time physicians, an oncology nurse practitioner, specially trained chemotherapy nurses, oncology pharmacists and a certified cancer registrar.

### Red Cross seeking local heroes

The Southwestern New Mexico chapter of the American Red Cross is seeking nominations for local heroes that will be recognized at the Spirit of the Red Cross banquet Friday, May 20, at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum.

Local heroes are members of the community who go above and beyond the call of duty to exhibit a true act of selflessness. Their heroic acts

embody the principles and ideals of the American Red Cross humanitarian mission to provide relief to victims of disaster and help people prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies. Local heroes selected include individuals who have assisted others during emergency situations, as well as those who live their everyday lives as heroes by helping others in need. These brave individuals will be nominated by the public and later selected by a panel of community leaders.

Community members can nominate a friend, family neighbor, coworker, firefighter, student, member of the armed force or police officer. Heroes must either live or work in the service area, which includes Catron, Grant Luna, Hidalgo, Sierra, Doña Ana and Otero counties.

To nominate a local hero, visit [www.spiritoftheredcross.com](http://www.spiritoftheredcross.com).

### NMSU Spring Wellness Fair on March 13

A Spring Wellness Fair will take place to benefit New Mexico State University students and the local community from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, March 13, at Preciado Park, next to O'Donnell Hall.

The goal of the Spring Wellness Fair is to provide the community with useful information and resources about staying healthy. On-campus programs, local businesses and nonprofit groups with a health-related emphasis are invited to participate and give out information on their programs.

The event will be family-friendly, with performances on stage by various wellness-related groups. There will also be a joust and a bungee run for children and adults.

For more information, contact Lori Haussamen at 646-7338.

### National Nutrition Month comes to Las Cruces

National Nutrition Month officially came to Las Cruces via proclamation from Mayor Ken Miyagishima during the City Council meeting Monday, March 7. New Mexico State University's Human Nutrition and Food Science Association (HNFSA) will participate in the ceremony and also hold a food drive to benefit people in need.

The food drive will continue throughout March and the mayor and HNFSA encourage those who attend the mayor's district meetings to bring nonperishable food donations, including canned goods, pasta, ready-to-eat cereals, rice and beans. The donations will go to Casa de Peregrinos' emergency food program.

"National Nutrition Month is a wonderful way to bring public awareness about good nutrition and is also an opportunity to reach out to those in our community who need help achieving good nutrition," said Wanda Eastman, professor of family and consumer sciences at NMSU and faculty advisor to HNFSA. "When we consider all the problems with pediatric obesity and the increase in diabetes and other chronic diseases, one of the ways we can prevent and control them is with good old fashioned good nutrition."

HNFSA will place bins around the

NMSU campus at Gerald Thomas Hall and Corbett Center to collect donations. Members of the community can bring food donations to the mayor's district council meetings that will take place on March 15 and 29 in different locations around Las Cruces.

### County hosts blood drive

Doña Ana County employees and the general public will have the opportunity to give blood from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday, March 18, in the rotunda of the Doña Ana County Government Center at 845 N. Motel Blvd. The blood drive is coordinated by Janine Divyak. To schedule a time to donate, call 525-6130.

### Bright Star scholarship deadline nearing

Dr. Brian Gilbert of Bright Star Dental will again grant the Bright Star Dental Healthcare Scholarship to five Las Cruces graduating seniors.

The scholarship provides five \$1,000 one-time awards to students planning a career in health care. One recipient will be named from each school: Mayfield, Oñate, Las Cruces High, Mesilla Valley Christian and home-school.

Students who apply must write a 500- to 1,000-word essay that includes general information about the applicant (i.e. hobbies, interests, abilities, personal characteristics, etc.); what field in health care the applicant has chosen; why this particular area was chosen; what dreams and goals the applicant has for his/her health care career; and the applicant's name, address, phone number and school affiliation.

Applications are due Thursday, March 31. For more information, call Lorena Ruiz at 526-4334, email [brightstardental@gmail.com](mailto:brightstardental@gmail.com). Complete scholarship requirements are online at [www.brightstardental.blogspot.com](http://www.brightstardental.blogspot.com).

### NMSU sorority raising funds for autism

The Alpha Xi Delta chapter at New Mexico State University will host AmaXing Challenge: Xi Marks the Spot at 10 a.m. Sunday, March 13, at the NMSU Intramural fields to raise autism awareness and funds in support of the sorority's national philanthropy partner, Autism Speaks.

Xi Marks the Spot is a campus treasure hunt where each team will be required to accomplish 10 different tasks at stations set up across campus hosted by the NMSU Alpha Xi Delta chapter to raise autism awareness and funds in support of Autism Speaks, the nation's leading autism advocacy organization and Alpha Xi Delta's national philanthropy partner.

Autism is the fastest growing developmental disorder, affecting 1 in 110 children born today. Despite the high prevalence and growing health care costs associated with caring for a child with autism, autism research receives less than 5 percent of the research funding of other, less prevalent, childhood diseases.

# Healthy Happenings



## ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS/ DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILIES SUPPORT GROUP

Adult Children of Alcoholics and Other Dysfunctional Families support group meets at 2 p.m. Sundays at 903 Piñon Ave. This is a 12-step program for men and women who grew up in alcoholic or otherwise dysfunctional homes. They meet in a mutually respectful, safe environment and acknowledge their common experiences.

For more information, visit [www.adultchildren.org](http://www.adultchildren.org).

## OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS

Overeaters Anonymous meets from noon to 1 p.m. Wednesdays at St. James Episcopal Church on the corner of St. James and South Main streets. For more information, call 647-5684.

## 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, 1450 Avenida de Mesilla, in the Main Room. For more information, call 523-6240.

## T'AI CHI CHIH CLASSES

Instructor Rose Alvarez-Diosdado holds T'ai Chi Chih: Joy Thru Movement first-time classes from 9 to 10 a.m. Mondays and classes for beginners from 9 to 10 a.m. Tuesdays in the fourth-floor Women's Resource Room at MountainView Regional Medical Center, 4351 E. Lohman Ave. No registration is required. In addition, T'ai Chi Chih advanced classes are taught Tuesdays from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. Cost is \$2, or free for Senior Circle and Healthy Woman members.

A fun class for all levels is held from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. the second and fourth Thursday of each month at Young Park, 1955 E. Nevada Ave.

For more information, call 526-3016.

## 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. The group also has a big-book meeting at 2 p.m. Fridays at Newman Center, 2615 S. Solano Drive.

## YOGA CLASSES BY KAREN NICHOLS

Karen Nichols is offering 90-minute yoga classes for adults and upper teens at 6 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays at My Place, 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 Karen at [karen\\_f\\_n@yahoo.com](mailto:karen_f_n@yahoo.com) or leave a message at 882-4943.

## CARING BRIDGE SUPPORT GROUP

Caring Bridge, an activity support group for adults in recovery from mental illness, meets from 4 to 6 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays at the Bridge, 2511 Chaparral St.

The group matches those in need of support with caring 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](mailto:bridge@nmsu.edu).

## T'AI CHI CHIH, YOGA CLASSES

Clear Mind Zen Temple, 642 S. Alameda Blvd., will offer T'ai Chi Chih classes at 6 p.m. Wednesdays with certified instructor Rose Alvarez-Diosdado.

An introduction to Zen meditation is from 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesdays at the temple.

A small donation is asked for each class.

For more information, call Harvey Hilbert at 680-6680.

## PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP

The Las Cruces Chapter Parkinson's Support Group meets at 10 a.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the Rehabilitation Hospital of Southern New Mexico, 4441 E. Lohman Ave. For more information, call Kay Laurel Fischer at 522-4047 or Bill Wallace at 680-2520.

## CITY RECREATION SCHEDULE

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

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

- Aerobics: 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays
  - Yoga: 9 to 10 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays
  - Spinning: 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays
  - Pilates: 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays
  - Zumba: 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Mondays and 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays
- For more information, call 541-2563.

The following class is held at Benavidez Community Center, 1045 McClure Road:

- Zumba: 6 to 7 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays
- For more information, call 541-5185.

The following class is held

at Club Fusion Teen Center, 101 E. Union Ave.:

- Zumba: 7 to 8 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- For more information, call 541-5181.

All classes are \$2. For more information, call the City of Las Cruces Parks & Recreation Department at 541-2550.

## GAY COMMUNITY CENTER GROUPS

The Las Cruces Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender and Questioning/Queer (GLBTQ) Center, 1210 N. Main St., is open from noon to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. The center offers gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender members of the community counseling, support groups and networking activities. For more information, call the center at 635-4902, email [info@newmexicolgbtcenters.org](mailto:info@newmexicolgbtcenters.org) or use the group-specific contact information listed below.

- Pride on Main AI-Anon is a 12-step support group and fellowship of relatives and friends of alcoholics that meets from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays. The group is open to all with a focus on the GLBTQ community.
- A GLBTQ youth support group meets from 7:30 to 9 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. For more information, email Eloy at [ecastro@nmsu.edu](mailto:ecastro@nmsu.edu).
- A support group for parents, guardians, other family and friends caring for or raising a GLBTQ youth meets from 7 to 8:30 p.m. the second and fourth Thursday of each month. Share camaraderie

while learning new skills and receiving support and advice on raising a GLBTQ youth.

- Sexual Compulsives Anonymous meets from 7 to 8 p.m. Mondays. The group is a 12-step program for anyone dealing with sexual compulsion.
- A LBTQ women's group meets from 7:30 to 9 p.m. the first and third Mondays of each month. The group provides an opportunity for LBTQ women to get know and support each other. For more information, email Dawn at [dmbates@nmsu.edu](mailto:dmbates@nmsu.edu).
- A men's group meets from 7 to 8:30 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of each month. The group is an opportunity for men in the community to get together and support each other. It is an inter-generational group with discussions and activities designed by the group members. For more information, call Nato at 635-4902.
- Bisexuals' support group meets from 7:30 to 9 p.m. the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. For more information, email Dawn at [dmbates@nmsu.edu](mailto:dmbates@nmsu.edu).

## ZUMBA EXERCISE

Zumba exercise classes are available at 6 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays at the Las Cruces Event Center, 522 E. Idaho Ave. Doors open at 5:45 p.m. Cost is \$5 for one hour. For more information, call 680-6515.

## FAMILY CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP

A family caregiver support

group meets from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursdays at Café España in the Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces, 705 S. Telshor Blvd.

Co-facilitators with many years of experience in senior care issues will be on hand.

## TREASURE HUNT TO RAISE AUTISM AWARENESS

The Alpha Xi Delta chapter at New Mexico State University will host AmaXing Challenge: Xi Marks the Spot to raise autism awareness and funds in support of the sorority's national philanthropy partner, Autism Speaks at 10 a.m. Sunday, March 13, at the NMSU Intramural Field.

AmaXing Challenge: Xi Marks the Spot is a campus treasure hunt in which each team is required to accomplish different tasks at 10 different stations across the NMSU campus.

For more information, contact Erin Mondy at 505-239-2831 or [erin\\_m@nmsu.edu](mailto:erin_m@nmsu.edu).

## DIABETES EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT GROUP

Southern New Mexico Diabetes Outreach will host a Diabetes Educational Support Group meeting from 10 to 11:15 a.m. Thursday, March 17, at Meerscheidt Recreation Center, 1600 E. Hadley Ave., in the conference room. The meeting will include open discussion, a short teaching and a question-and-answer period.

The event is free and no pre-registration is required. The meeting is intended for those informed they have diabetes, family and friends of those with diabetes and all who are interested.

For more information, contact the Southern New Mexico Diabetes Outreach at 522-0289, [snmdo@snmdo.org](mailto:snmdo@snmdo.org) or visit [www.snmdo.org](http://www.snmdo.org).

## NATURAL SINUS AND COUGH TREATMENTS

Wendy Robins Weir, a natural healing consultant, will present a free, one-hour workshop "Natural Solutions to Sinus and Coughs" at noon Thursday, March 17, at the Las Cruces Event Center, 522 E. Idaho Ave. Doors open at 11:45 a.m. For more information, call 650-7543 or 680-6515.

## DA COUNTY BLOOD DRIVE MARCH 18

Doña Ana County employees and the general public will have the opportunity from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday, March 18, to give blood in the rotunda of the Doña Ana County Government Center, 845 N. Motel Blvd. For more information or to schedule a time to donate, call 525-6130.

## HEARING LOSS MEETING AT BRANIGAN LIBRARY

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Hearing Loss Association of America will have its monthly meeting at 10:45 a.m. Saturday, March 19, at Branigan Memorial Library, 200 E. Picacho Ave., in the Roadrunner Room.

The topic will be "Living with Multiple Limitations." This will be a joint meeting with the National Federation of the Blind and the Blind Veterans Association. All are welcome.

For more information, call 525-1037 or 532-0413.



# Mesilla Valley Hospice



To learn more about Mesilla Valley Hospice and how we can help you, please contact

(575) 525-5757 or visit our website at [www.mvhospice.org](http://www.mvhospice.org).

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299 E. Montana  
Las Cruces, NM 88005

# Raising voices against smokeless tobacco ads

Photos by Niki Rhynes

Chloe Mandel, a self-described "jerk to people when they're smoking," voiced her opinion on video, Saturday, March 5, when asked to participate in a campaign to raise awareness about new tobacco products that are made appealing to minors. The Evolvement group had a booth at the Las Cruces Farmers & Crafts Market.



Las Cruces High School students Stephen McComas, 17, and Ashley Herndon, 16, talked with LaDonna Maxwell at Maxwell's booth at the Las Cruces Farmers & Crafts Market on Main Street, Saturday, March 5. The students are part of Evolvement, a statewide initiative with a mission to reduce tobacco use. They spent their Saturday raising awareness and gathering written messages to send to editors of news outlets advertising dissolvable and spit-free tobacco products.



Maxwell writes down her opinion on advertising dissolvable and spit-free tobacco products.



Opinions are written to the editor of Rolling Stone magazine about tobacco advertising that could be appealing to minors.

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# Hair today, working to make cancer gone tomorrow

## Columnist takes on boxing champ, sort of



**Richard Coltharp**  
*That's the Way of the World*

Las Cruces native and former Mayfield High Trojan Austin Trout is the World Boxing Association junior middleweight champion.

That's right. He's a world champion boxer. I had the opportunity to meet the 25-year-old champ Monday, March 7, at City Hall, right before City Councillor Dolores Connor proclaimed it "Austin Trout Day" in Las Cruces.

Now, to be sure, I don't routinely pound people's heads like "No Doubt" Trout, but we do have something in common.

We will both be shaving our heads Saturday, March 12, to raise money for children's cancer research. Note: I have a lot more to shave off than Mr. Trout.

At the fourth annual St. Baldrick's event in Las Cruces, Trout, myself, my Bulletin colleague Todd Dickson and about 140 others will get our heads shaved.

We may be losing our hair, but too many families have lost infinitely more due to cancer.

Almost all of us have been touched by cancer, either through a friend, a loved one or ourselves.

But what can be more painful than losing a child to cancer? Las Cruces firefighter Mat Hall knows all too well.

His son, Kevin, passed away at age 13 in 2003 from acute

myelogenous leukemia. Mat and his family were understandably devastated.

Hall wanted to do something about it, but was not sure what. Until he found out about the St. Baldrick's Foundation. He first encountered it at an event in Albuquerque.

St. Baldrick's began in 2000 and quickly grew national and international. In the first decade of its existence, St. Baldrick's has raised more than \$90 million for children's cancer research.

In 2008, Hall organized the first Las Cruces St. Baldrick's event, and now it's grown to a fourth year, having raised more than \$60,000 in the first three events. This year will likely raise at least another \$20,000 or more here in Las Cruces.

The foundation works to make sure almost every dollar raised goes directly to children's cancer research. Great progress has been made in the past generation in the fight against children's cancer.

Used to be, if a child was diagnosed with leukemia, he or she had as little as a 10 percent chance of survival. Today, the majority of children diagnosed with cancer make it through.

Projects such as St. Baldrick's help us get closer to the day children's cancer is a thing of the past.

This year's Las Cruces event will be at 3 p.m. Saturday, March 12, at Dickerson's Event Center, 3920 W. Picacho Ave. To learn more about the event, and to donate, go to [www.stbaldricks.org/events/mypage/eventide/800/eventyear/2011](http://www.stbaldricks.org/events/mypage/eventide/800/eventyear/2011).

You can click on shaves and make a donation for someone you know.

“ Projects like St. Baldrick's help us get closer to the day children's cancer is a thing of the past. ”

Las Cruces Bulletin News Editor Todd Dickson and General Manager Richard Coltharp will get their heads shaved at the fourth annual St. Baldrick's Saturday, March 12. The event raises funds for children's cancer research.

Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Niki Rhynes



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[www.obesitydiseasecenter.com](http://www.obesitydiseasecenter.com)

## Challenge

Continued from page D1

don't get up that early, and that's just how I've been. But if I want it badly enough, I don't have a choice, right?

I even talked myself out of walking around the tennis courts while Maya practices because of the poop bombs that are in the grass surrounding them. I tell myself that I don't even want to take any chances. I'm exactly what Bill is saying we should not be.

That motivation is just what I needed. I definitely don't want to be "that girl," and I definitely don't want to look the same as I did in the "before" photos.

Email me at [natisha@lascrucesbulletin.com](mailto:natisha@lascrucesbulletin.com).

It's always a fun event, whether you're shaving, getting shaved or just watching friends or family members.

There will be lots of food available for donations. There will be music, including a mariachi group and a DJ. There will also be an opportunity to participate in the Be The Match bone marrow donation project.

Shaun Paques, a young cancer survivor from Albuquerque, who is one of five national St. Baldrick's Ambassadors, will kick things off Saturday by cleaning Trout's clock.

No, this kid won't be boxing Trout, but he will deliver the first ceremonial barber's swipe, shaving Trout's head.

It is for kids such as Paques that this event is all about. Come out, have fun, and make some donations.

Richard Coltharp is general manager of the Las Cruces Bulletin. Email him at [richard@lascrucesbulletin.com](mailto:richard@lascrucesbulletin.com).

## Details

### Las Cruces' fourth annual St. Baldrick's

**When**  
3 p.m.  
Saturday, March 12



**Where**  
Dickerson's Event Center  
3920 W. Picacho Ave.

**Contact**  
Mat Hall  
642-4068

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# Worship Services


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The Historical Stone Church with Traditional Values

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8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.  
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1928 BCP

7975 Doña Ana Rd., Las Cruces  
523-2740 or 525-0062

**Roman Catholic**



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF LAS CRUCES  
VIEW ALL LISTINGS OF CATHOLIC CHURCHES ON OUR WEBSITE  
WWW.DIOCESEOFASCUCES.ORG

**Episcopal**

**ST. ANDREWS EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
518 N. Alameda Blvd. 526-6333  
www.SaintAndrewsLC.org

"Where strangers are friends we haven't met"  
Rector: The Rev. Canon Scott A. Ruthven

**Weekday Services**  
Tuesday - 9:30 AM - Morning Prayer  
Thursday - 12:05 PM - Holy Eucharist

**Sunday Services**  
8:30 AM - Holy Eucharist - without music  
10:30 AM - Holy Eucharist with choir  
Sunday School for ages 3 to high school  
Nursery Available

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Sunday School 10:30 a.m.  
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522-7119  
A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

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Youth Program during Service  
Discussion Groups 9:30 AM  
Sunday Meditation 9:45-10:25 AM  
Rev. Sam Ritchey - 647-2560  
140 Taylor Rd - 524-2375  
www.wellspringnow.com

**ENCHILADA DINNER**  
Cathedral of Immaculate Heart of Mary, 1240 S. Espina St., will hold an enchilada dinner from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, March 11. Tickets cost \$6 per person. For more information, call 524-8564.

## ST. PAUL ENCHILADA SUPPER

The Music Ministry of St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 225 Griggs Ave., will host its Spring Enchilada Supper from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Friday, March 11, in its fellowship hall. Tickets are available through the church office or at the door and are \$6.50 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. The meal will include red enchiladas or chicken potpie, beans, slaw,

Continued on following page

**Assemblies of God**

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www.lascrcesfirst.org  
524-0654

Sunday Worship 9 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.  
Sunday Worship (Spanish) 10:45 p.m.  
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Biblically Orthodox Traditional Anglican Worship  
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Wednesday: 10 a.m.  
Sunday School - 10:15 a.m.  
Nursery - 10:30 a.m.  
Fellowship after each Service  
Bible Study Groups - Weekly  
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1 Blk. off University @ S. Main

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**Trinity Lutheran Church**

Sunday 9 a.m.  
Sunday School 10:15 a.m.

2900 Elks Drive  
523-4232

**Non-Denominational**

**Calvary Chapel Three Crosses**  
Simply Teaching the Bible... Simply

Sunday Service 10 a.m.  
Wednesday Bible 7 p.m.

575-642-4967  
4301 Bataan Memorial West Hwy. 70 West 88012  
calvarychapelthreecrossesLC.com

## Presbyterian

**Sonoma Springs Presbyterian Church**  
"Following Jesus Together"

Sunday Worship 8:00 am Traditional  
Tuesday @ 6:30 pm "The Truth Project"  
Wednesday @ 7 pm Revelation Study  
Friday @ 4:30 pm Intro to NT Greek  
info @ www.sonomasprings.org

3940 Sonoma Springs Ave  
575-526-4907

## Unity

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**Baptist**

**East Mesa Baptist Church**



Sunday Bible Study: 9 a.m.  
Sunday Worship: 10:15 a.m. & 6 p.m.  
Children's Church Sun: 10:30 a.m.  
Wed Prayer & Bible Study: 7 p.m.

Pastor Linvell Tisdale  
6160 Moongate • 382-0386

**Disciples of Christ**

**First Christian Church**  
(Disciples of Christ)



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**St. Paul's United Methodist Church**



225 W. Griggs Ave.  
Downtown on the corner of Alameda and Griggs • 526-6689 for information

March 13, 2011

Traditional Worship	8:15 am
Unplugged Contemporary Worship	9:30 am
Oasis Praise Service	10:45 am
Traditional Worship	10:45 am

Rev. James Large, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Tammy Valentine, Ass. Pastor  
e-mail: spoffice@zianet.com

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Private counseling also available.

**First Baptist Church**  
LAS CRUCES, NM



106 South Miranda  
Las Cruces, NM 88005-2637  
524-3691


Sunday:  
Bible Study 9 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.  
Morning Worship 9 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.  
University of Life 6 p.m.

Tuesday:  
Intercessory Prayer 5:45 p.m.  
Encounter: Corporate Prayer and Worship 6:30 p.m.

Child Care Available

**Eastern Orthodoxy**

**St. Anthony of the Desert Orthodox Mission**  
(UOC of USA)



Father Gabriel Rochelle, Priest  
Divine Liturgy Sun. 9 a.m.  
3rd & 6th Hour Sun. 8:30 a.m.  
Vespers Sat. 5 p.m.  
Sacrament of Repentance Sat. 5:45 p.m.  
www.stanthonylc.org  
524-1071  
in Kendrick Chapel of St. Andrews at 518 N. Alameda • Las Cruces (Hadley & Alameda)

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2941 Morning Star Dr. at Roadrunner Pkwy

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Reverend Gregory Arthur

Sunday:  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship 11 a.m.

Wednesday:  
Prayer Meeting and Bible Study 6 p.m.  
405 E. Hadley Ave.  
523-7850

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Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.  
En Español - 1 p.m.  
Wednesday/180 Youth: 6:30 p.m.  
Kid's Church for all ages!  
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churchtriumphantlc.com  
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528-LOVE(5683)

**Lutheran**

**Mission Lutheran Church (L.C.M.S.)**  
God's Unchanging Word For An Ever Changing World

English Services: 9 a.m.  
Sun. School & Bible Study: 10:30 a.m.  
Spanish Service: 10:30 a.m.

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Los Domingos:  
La escuela dominical 9:00 a.m.  
La misa en español 10:30 a.m.  
2752 Roadrunner Pkwy.  
522-0465

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Sunday at 9 a.m.

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www.clearmindzen.org  
Call 575-680-6680

Interested in being on our worship services page? Call 524-8061 for details.

# Ash Wednesday celebrated at Basilica of San Albino

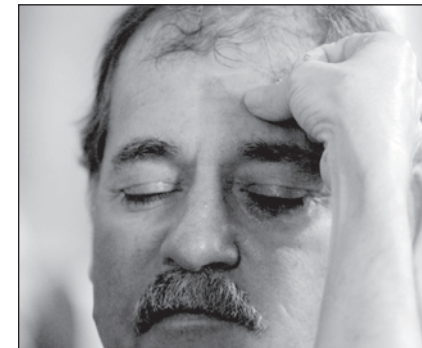
Photos by Niki Rhynes

Father Richard Catanach marks a cross on Carla Swallow following the Ash Wednesday Mass at the Basilica of San Albino on the Mesilla Plaza Wednesday, March 9. Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent that occurs 40 days (not counting Sundays) before Easter.



Lujan places a cross on Jessie Chaves.

Juan D. Flores, from Galveston, Texas, stopped by the Basilica of San Albino on his way to California to participate in Ash Wednesday.



Eucharistic Minister Mary Lujan places a cross on Dabney Koren, after the Ash Wednesday Mass was held at Basilica of San Albino.



Catanach sings between readings given by Emily Guerra during the service.

## Church News

Continued from previous page bread, dessert and drink. Take out is available. For more information, call 526-6689.

### LENTEN RETREAT

The Santa Rosa Chapter, Daughters of the King, at St. Andrews Episcopal Church, 518 N. Alameda Blvd., will host a Lenten Retreat from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 12. Father Daniel Cave will present "An Invitation to a Life of Spiritual Discipline" and everyone is invited to attend. Lunch will be provided. For more information, call 526-6333.

### UNITED SERVICE

El Calvario United Methodist Church, 300 N. Campo St., will hold a Culto Unido (United Service) at 6 p.m. Sunday, March 13. United Methodist Churches in the Rio Grande Conference from El Paso, Mesquite and Las Cruces will participate in this bimonthly Spanish worship service. For more information, call 571-5467.

### EASTERN STAR FUNDRAISER

Las Cruces Chapter No. 20, Order of the Eastern Star will host its annual corn beef luncheon from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sunday, March 13, at the Aztec Lodge, 180 E. Boutz Road. Tickets are \$9 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. The dinner will include corn beef, cabbage, carrots, onions, potatoes, rolls, dessert and drinks. The proceeds will go to support local charities.

### A NIGHT OF WORSHIP

Ross Turner and his band will come to Las Cruces to present "A Night of Worship," at 7 p.m. Sunday, March 13, at Sierra Vista Community Church, 514 N. Telsor Blvd. This inspiring, life-giving worship experience is free. For more information, call 526-9535.

### CHORAL VESPERS

St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 226 W. Griggs Ave., will open the Lenten season

with a choral vespers by the St. Paul's Concert Ensemble at 5 p.m. Sunday, March 13. For more information, call 526-6689.

### REVIVAL SERVICES

East Mesa Baptist Church, 6160 Moongate Road, will hold revival services with Pastor Linnell Tisdale and guest evangelists Paul and Vanessa Cherry at 10:15 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday, March 13, as well as at 7 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, March 14-16. The Cherrys will challenge Christians to live a life that exemplifies Christ every day. Music during the service will blend praise choruses and traditional hymns. For more information, call 382-0386 or 644-2454.

### LENT AT HOLY CROSS

Holy Cross Catholic Church, 1327 N. Miranda St., will hold a variety of Lent events. A Lenten spiritual journey will be held from 7 to 8:30 p.m. March 14-16. Lent services will be held 11 to

11:45 a.m. each Wednesday, except March 23. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Fridays, except Good Friday. For more information, call 523-0167.

### SOUP SUPPERS

Peace Lutheran, 1701 E. Missouri Ave., will hold soup suppers and Wednesday evening services beginning at 6 p.m. March 16-April 13. For more information, call 522-7119.

### JOURNAL WORKSHOP

"Journal to the Self," a four-session workshop to discover the writer within you, will meet from 9 a.m. to noon Thursdays, March 17 and 21, at the Center for Spiritual Living, 575 N. Main St. Certified instructor Rita Popp will teach personal journal techniques for self-development and creativity. Students will write together in a safe, non-judgmental setting. The fee is \$130 and includes a workbook. To sign up or

for more information, call 526-1317 or email ritapopp@msn.com.

### ECKANKAR EVENT

Eckankar, Religion of the Light and Sound of God, will hold a free discussion from 11 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 19, at Ramada Palms de Las Cruces, 201 E. University Ave. The topic will be "Meet the Soul Travelers of the Far Country." For more information, call 524-2580 or www.eckankar-nm.org.

### INTERNATIONAL STUDENT DINNER

First Presbyterian Church of Las Cruces, 200 E. Boutz Road, will hold an international dinner for all college students at 5:30 p.m. Sunday, March 20. This is free and open to students of all faiths. For more information, call 526-5559.

### LENT AT EL CALVARIO

El Calvario United Methodist Church, 300 N.

Campo St., will hold a Lenten study titled "24 Hours that Changed the World" at 6 p.m. Thursdays. A meal will precede the study. Lenten services will then be held from 6:30 p.m. Fridays. Attendees are urged to fast to cultivate a spirit of repentance, forgiveness and conversion. These will be held in both English and Spanish. For more information, call 571-5467.

### SEARCH RETREAT

Immaculate Heart of Mary Cathedral, 1240 S. Espina St., will sponsor a SEARCH retreat for youth in grades 10 to 12 Thursday through Saturday, April 7-9. The three-day program will provide youth with the tools, support, fellowship, prayer and love needed to make a personal relationship with Jesus. Registration forms can be picked up at the parish from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Registration deadline is Monday, April 4. For more information, call 524-8563.

# Safe Haven builds UP resources

At a recent luncheon hosted by Union Pacific, Safe Haven Animal Sanctuary was the recipient of a \$5,000 grant from the Union Pacific Foundation. This grant is earmarked for building renovations at the sanctuary. Pictured from left to right are Lynn Ellins, Safe Haven board member; former state Rep. Nathan Cote; Joe Rummel with Union Pacific; Safe Haven Executive Director Lorna Harris; Carol Mellen, Safe Haven board president; and Jeff Barker, sanctuary manager.



# Pet Briefs

## Pet adoption events

The Animal Services Center of the Mesilla Valley will conduct three off-site pet adoption events Saturday, March 12. Available for adoption will be dogs, puppies, cats and kittens.

Adoptions will take place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Las Cruces Farmers & Crafts Market Downtown.

Adoptions will take place from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Home & Garden Show at the Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave.

From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, adoptions also will be facilitated at PetCo, 3050 E. Lohman Ave., in Las Cruces.

Adoption fees are \$75 for dogs and puppies and \$50 for cats and kittens. The fee includes the first set of vaccinations, spay or neuter and microchip.

At the PetCo event, microchipping for pets that already have homes will be available to the public for \$20, and city pet licenses will be available to neutered pets for \$5 each. Licenses for un-neutered pets are \$25 each. Proof of spay/neuter is required before a \$5 license will be issued. Pet owners also must bring current proof of rabies vaccination for each animal to be licensed.

The Animal Services Center of the Mesilla Valley also offers low-cost spay/neuter operations at the rate of \$35 for dogs and \$25 for cats. Appointments can be scheduled by calling the shelter offices.

For more information, call the Animal Services Center of the Mesilla Valley at 382-0018, or visit [www.ascmv.org](http://www.ascmv.org). People who are hearing-impaired can call 541-2182. Shelter hours are noon to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, and noon to 5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays.

You can also visit the Animal Services Center of the Mesilla Valley's Facebook page for information about the Pet of the Week in addition to other services and news items. The facility is in need of donations of dog crates, towels, blankets and long-strand shredded paper.

## Canines & Cocktails

The quarterly Canines & Cocktails Lucky Dog Happy Hour will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Saturday, March 19, on the Azul patio at Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces, 705 S. Telshor Blvd.

There will be a cash bar and special menu, doggie raffle prizes, snacks for pooches and their peeps and a grand prize two-night stay at any Heritage Hotel. There will also be a short demonstration by pet first-aid certified instructor Kathlene McGaw.

Proceeds benefit ACTION Programs for Animals (APA). There is a \$5 donation at the door, and APA welcomes any pet food bank donations as well. All pet lovers and well-behaved, leashed pets are invited to these happy hour events. For more information, contact APA at 644-0505.

## Treasure hunting



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Niki Rhynes  
Lana Payne and Clare Kapner volunteered their time, Sunday, March 5, to help reach a goal of \$1,000 for shelter operations and animal care for the Animal Services Center of the Mesilla Valley. The garage sale was located at 2292 Divot Ave.

Mar 18-19 • 9AM - 4PM • LC Convention Center at University & El Paseo

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## Privacy on Lázo del Norte

Builder creates family home with a floor plan for entertaining



See featured home on pages E2-3



# Featured home: 6878 Lazo del Norte

Photos by Niki Rhynes

Located in the Las Alturas area, the home at 6878 Lazo del Norte overlooks the Mesilla Valley.



The home's open floor plan is great for entertaining.



A pool house accompanies the sports pool, which is three-and-a-half feet deep.



Granite countertops and custom-made alder cabinets can be found in the large kitchen.



A wine rack above the refrigerator is another detail added to the home.



Granite also surrounds the bathtub in the master suite.

# Space for living and entertaining

## Builder makes home with family in mind

By **Beth Sitzler**  
Las Cruces Bulletin

When James and Carolyn Evans decided to move back to their hometown from Connecticut, they wanted to create a home that showcased their love of entertaining with a strong focus on family.

"We always wanted to come home (to Las Cruces)," said James Evans, adding that the couple, who have twin boys, was tired of the crowded East Coast environment.

Looking for ample space in the City of the Crosses, the Evanses purchased 2 acres at 6878 Lazo del Norte in the Las Alturas area, a developing neighborhood at that time.

"We liked this lot. It has good views of the valley," he said, adding that the property also features a view of the Organ Mountains. "It's in a gated community and is on a cul-de-sac so there isn't a lot of traffic."

A commercial builder with OR & L Construction, Evans said he decided to build his own house, which his wife designed, to ensure the family received everything they wanted from the abode.

"She thought of everything," he said, adding that the home contains ample amounts of storage.

A horseshoe gravel driveway circles around stairs that lead to the front of a home. Reflecting aspects found in Tuscan villas as well as Mediterranean influences, concrete columns enclose the iron and glass door.

Inspired by a feature seen in another home, Evans said he included ornate wrought-iron detailing around the circular skylight, which reflects the shape of the mosaic on the floor, surrounded by ceramic tile.

Consisting of two entry points of columns protruding from arches, the great room was designed to be both functional and stylish. A wet bar decorated in dark granite covers one wall, as a recessed area for a desk lines the next. A stacked stone fireplace resides in the corner beside large, wood-framed windows to the backyard.

As pre-finished, hand-distressed wood lines

the floor, the 14-foot-high ceiling is accented in a red faux finish. Lights line the shelf of the fur-down ceiling and can be dimmed, creating an ideal movie-watching atmosphere at night, Evans said.

Tired of attending parties where everyone gathers in the closed-off kitchen, Evans said he and his wife designed an open floor plan that allows easy access between the great room and kitchen.

"We combined the spaces, but kept them a little separate. This way everyone can be included," he said. "The open floor plan makes it very inviting for parties."

Alder cabinets custom-made in Mexico play off the dark granite countertops. A large island rests in the center of the space, as a tiered architectural detail adds visual appeal to the bar area, which is covered in decorative tile.

"When we were doing the pedestal lights at the bar, we decided to do this thing to look like an upside-down cake," Evans said.

A seating area can be found off the kitchen, which Evans said can give guests a bit of privacy.

Near the kitchen is a guest suite. More than just a bedroom, the space includes a small kitchenette with a sink and refrigerator, dining area and access to the outdoors. The attached bathroom features a freestanding shower and tile-covered sink.

Beside the foyer to the left are a half bathroom and the formal dining room, which the couple use as an at-home gym. Wood floors, like those in the great room, add to the room's elegance as the fur-down ceiling offers ambient lighting. The formal dining room, which can be transformed to fit the owner's needs, closes off from the rest of the home, thanks to arched alder double doors. As with the cabinets, Evans said all of the doors were custom-made in Mexico.

To the right of the foyer is an at-home office decorated in crown molding. Down the hall, which features an arched ceiling to "change things up a bit," Evans said, is access to the home's other three bedrooms.

A play area that features a jungle theme is located outside two bedrooms, which have



Guests can snuggle up against the outdoor fireplace, which is set in a private patio that looks out to the Organ Mountains.

walk-in closets and share a bathroom that showcases a blue-green granite countertop.

For easy access, Evans said they placed the oversized laundry room outside of the master suite. Reflecting the home's neutral color palette, the room also features a bay window overlooking the covered patio.

The bathroom also showcases earth tones in the materials used, including speckled tan granite that lines the countertops as well as the bathtub. A tiled walk-in shower beside the his-and-her closet features a pebble floor.

The entertaining can continue outside the

## Details

### Featured home

6878 Lazo del Norte

### Square footage

About 4,200

### Acres

2

### Bedrooms

Four

### Bathrooms

Three and a half

### Fireplaces

Two

### Price

\$750,000

### Special features

Custom-made alder cabinets and doors, sports pool with pool house, large covered patio with built-in grill and various types of granite

### Contact

Jeremiah Lay at 571-1075 or  
jeremiah@steinborn.com

home on a large covered patio with built-in grill. A smaller, more private patio is beside it and features another stacked stone fireplace.

Grass, two storage facilities and a play set are near the sports pool, which is three-and-a-half feet deep and has a safety cover. A pool house with bathroom and dining table complete the property.

Because the couple owns the hill behind the residence, Evans said no one will build behind the house, ensuring the privacy and view of the property.

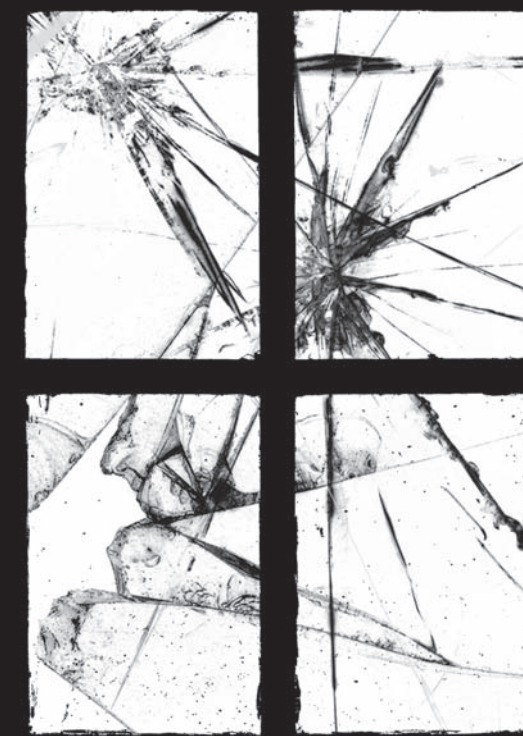
With ample room for entertaining and raising their kids, the couple said the home can fit a variety of lifestyles.

"It was built with a family in mind," said Carolyn Evans, adding that things are visible so parents can keep an eye on small children. "It's a very warm house."



Stacked stone covers the fireplace in the great room.

# NEED NEW WINDOWS?



## Window Warehouse Clearance Sale! Saturday, March 19

Over 3,000 windows will be discounted—starting as low as \$5!

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# Testing for greatness

## Simple stick prevents a soggy cake center

By **Beth Sitzler**  
Las Cruces Bulletin

Whether a birthday, going-away party or simply surviving the workweek, any special occasion can be enhanced with the presence of cake.

Available in any shape, size and flavor the imagination can dream up, cake has graced tabletops for centuries and can be mastered by chefs of all talent levels.

While mixing and pouring into a cake pan can be a breeze, some run into problems when it comes to thoroughly baking the dessert. If not cooked all the way, the center will be mushy, soggy and very unappetizing. If cooked too long, you'll end up with a dried out and tough cake.

To ensure that the cake is done, check the it before removing it from the oven. While a toothpick, knife or fork can sufficiently take on the task, give the handy cake tester a try.

### What is it?

A cake tester is a specially designed gadget that eliminates the need of wasting toothpicks when checking to see if the batter's done.

Usually created from stainless steel so it can be washed and reused, the cake tester ranges in length from 5 to 8 inches. Its size allows the entire width of the cake to be checked, unlike toothpicks that can get lost in the center of a thick baked treat.

Designed to act like a probe, the long metal stick is attached to a handle. Most handles are large so they are easier to find in a cluttered kitchen drawer and fit nicely in your hand. Some cake testers have durable, non-slip rubber surfaces that are also flexible.

Not just for cakes, the tester can be used to test the doneness of other baked goods, such as brownies, muffins, select pies and cornbread.



### How does it work?

Easy to use, the cake tester is handy for bakers of any age or skill level.

Before removing your cake from the oven, carefully pull out the rack using an oven mitt. Holding onto the easy-grip handle, gently insert the cake tester into the center of the cake until the blunt tip reaches the bottom of the pan. It is important to stick it all the way through to ensure the middle is properly baked.

Remove the gadget. If the stick has wet batter, crumbs or is sticky, the cake isn't ready and should be left in the oven for a few more minutes. If it comes out dry and clean, the cake is done and can be taken out of the oven and placed on a cooling rack.

When you're done, quickly wash the cake tester by hand or place in the dishwasher.

### Where can it be found?

The cake tester can be found at most cookware and specialty stores, including Las Cosas Kitchen Shoppe in Mesilla. It can also be bought online at various websites, such as [www.kitchenkraft.com](http://www.kitchenkraft.com).

### How much does it cost?

The cake tester ranges in price from \$2 to \$6, depending on its material and where it is purchased.

*Around-the-home item:  
Cake tester*

## Black Magic Cake

**1 3/4 cups all-purpose flour**  
**2 cups white sugar**  
**3/4 cup unsweetened cocoa powder**  
**2 teaspoons baking soda**  
**1 teaspoon baking powder**  
**1 teaspoon salt**  
**2 eggs**  
**1 cup strong brewed coffee**  
**1 cup buttermilk**  
**1/2 cup vegetable oil**  
**1 teaspoon vanilla extract**  
Preheat oven to 350 degrees.  
Grease and flour two 9-inch round

cake pans or one 9-by-13-inch pan.

In large bowl combine flour, sugar, cocoa, baking soda, baking powder and salt. Make a well in the center.

Add eggs, coffee, buttermilk, oil and vanilla. Beat for 2 minutes on medium speed. Batter will be thin. Pour into prepared pans.

Bake for 30 to 40 minutes, or until toothpick inserted into center of cake comes out clean. Cool for 10 minutes, then remove from pans and finish cooling on a wire rack. Fill and frost as desired. (Recipe adapted from [allrecipe.com](http://allrecipe.com).)

# EPE helps homeowners become more efficient

## Rebates cover several energy-saving measures to lighten utility's load

By **Beth Sitzler**  
Las Cruces Bulletin

To encourage homeowners to make energy-saving improvements to their abodes, El Paso Electric Co. offers an array of efficiency rebates that help defray the cost of new materials.

Created in 2009, El Paso Electric began the efficiency-rebate program after the Public Regulation Commission (PRC) mandated its formation as a way to motivate residents to use less energy while providing a "backup" for the utility company.

"The primary reason is any energy saved, differs us to need to build more generators," said Paul Royalty, manager of energy efficiency and utilization for El Paso Electric.

Billy Massie, energy-efficiency market specialist with the utility company, said the program had a few setbacks when it was first started that hindered it from catching on with consumers, the biggest being the rebate process.

"It was more difficult, we had to change the rebate form," he said, explaining that now all customers have to do is fill out a simple brochure, include their invoice or receipt and mail it in. "They get the money in the form of a check. It doesn't go toward their bill."

One of the most popular rebates, Royalty said, is for evaporative cooling. Through this rebate, customers receive \$300 to \$500, based on the unit that is purchased and its quantity, making it ideal for apartment buildings that buy in bulk.

As for refrigerated cooling, homeowners can receive between \$200 and \$600 back for a unit that has a Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio (SEER) of 14 or higher.

Royalty said the company also pays for insulation retrofits, depending on the square footage, as well as energy-efficient windows and solar screens. Certain criteria must be met for each rebate offered.

Another rebate is the utility company's refrigerator recycling program, in which a customer receives \$30 for recycling an old refrigerator.

"We want to get it off the grid. Old refrigerators use a lot more energy than newer models," said Royalty, adding that an old refrigerator placed in a hot garage will use \$150 to \$300 more in energy a year.

He said after calling the recycling phone number, the refrigerator will be picked up and properly recycled, which includes appropriate disposal of the glass, metal, plastic and recapturing the coolant so it doesn't go into the atmosphere.

"Our goal this year is to recycle 1,000 refrigerators in our New Mexico service area," he said.

With so many rebates available, Massie said there are plenty of incentives for community members to become involved and more are taking advantage of the program.

"(The rebates) are a benefit for them in the end," Massie said.

"It gives (homeowners) a reason to go out and buy these items," Royalty said. "Fifteen percent off of costs, why not do it?"

With a mandated goal by the PRC to eliminating 5 percent of its total load by 2014 and 10 percent by 2020, Royalty said El Paso Electric is diligently working to get the word out about everything it has to offer.

"It's one of the highest goals in the country," he said.

Royalty said El Paso Electric speaks at various events held by local organizations, including churches, rotary clubs and the Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce.

"It can sometimes be hard to get the word out," Massie said. "There are still a lot of people that don't know about the rebate program."

To further educate the public, El Paso Electric will be present at the 2011 Home & Garden Show Saturday and Sunday, March 12-13, at the Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave.

In November 2010, Royalty said El Paso Electric gave away 40,000 compact fluorescent lamp (CFL) bulbs to more than 10,000 customers to help them reduce their energy use for lighting.

The utility company also offers a low-income program through the Community Action Agency of Southern New Mexico and GreenWorks, in which they conduct weatherization and any energy-efficient measures.

After servicing more than 200 homes in 2010, which included replacing refrigerators and installing CFLs, Royalty said this year they plan to increase that number to 400.

Also through CAA, El Paso Electric is giving away a four-pack of CFLs to those who get their taxes completed at the nonprofit.

While there is more participation on the residential side of the rebate program, Royalty said El Paso Electric does offer a commercial energy-efficiency program, which covers motors and variable speed drives, HVAC systems and solar screens or film.

Royalty said he recently filed with the PRC to make adjustments to the rebates, which include increasing incentive money for a few programs and creating a new lighting program for small commercial customers.

"Small commercial customers typically get skipped in energy-efficient programs," he said.

For more information about efficiency rebate program, call Massie at 523-3570 or visit [www.epelectric.com](http://www.epelectric.com).

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# Pecan Food Fantasy returns to Las Cruces

Yearly contest selects the best cooks in Mesilla Valley and beyond has to offer

By **Beth Sitzler**  
Las Cruces Bulletin

As agriculture industry professionals gathered for the 45th annual Western Pecan Growers Association Conference, community members from throughout the region participated in the Pecan Food Fantasy contest.

With 73 adult and 92 youth entries, Gayla Weaver, chairperson of the event, said the contest had 17 categories that covered a variety of items, including breads, appetizers, cookies, desserts, traditional pecan pies and other pies.

"Everything had to have pecans," Weaver said. "We had some really good entries."

Awards to the best entries were awarded Sunday, March 7. Some of the remarkable dishes include:

## Outstanding youth: Amber Lopez

### Microwaveable Pecan Brittle

1 1/2 cup pecans  
1 cup sugar  
1/2 cup corn syrup  
1/2 cup peanuts, raw and unsalted  
1 tablespoon butter or margarine  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
1 teaspoon baking soda

Place sugar and corn syrup in a bowl and microwave on high for 1 1/2 minutes. Stir and microwave for another 1 1/2 minutes. Stir in pecans and peanuts. Microwave for 3 minutes until light brown. Add butter and vanilla. Stir and microwave another 1 1/2 minutes. Stir in baking soda well. Quickly spread candy on an ungreased cookie sheet as thin as possible.

## Appetizers, youth: Derek Davidson

### Red Chile Glazed Bacon Bits with Dipping Sauce

2/8 cup non-alcoholic margarita mix  
1/8 cup apple juice  
1 tablespoon cornstarch  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1 tablespoon ketchup  
2 tablespoons maple syrup  
4 tablespoons red chile purée  
3/4 cup brown sugar  
Pecans, finely chopped  
Thick cut bacon

Bake bacon on rack in shallow pan at 375 degrees until desired doneness. Let cool.

Mix margarita mix, apple juice and cornstarch in a sauce pan. Add remaining ingredients and cook over low heat until it's thick.

Brush glaze onto both sides of cooked bacon and roll in pecans. Cut into 2-inch pieces.

Dipping sauce:  
Ranch dressing  
Salsa of desired heat level

Combine ingredients and serve with Red Chile Glazed Bacon Bits.

## Unusual desserts, adult: Charity Heerema

### Chocolate Pecan Pizza

2 1/2 cups graham cracker crumbs  
2/3 cup butter, melted  
1/2 cup sugar  
20 ounces milk chocolate chips  
1/2 cup pecans, chopped and lightly toasted



Kathy Clayshulte of Las Cruces stopped by a display of Pecan Food Fantasy Contest samples Monday, March 7, at Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces. The contest took place on Sunday with categories such as appetizers, unusual desserts, pies, breads and others.

Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Niki Rhynes

Combine the cracker crumbs, butter and sugar. Press into a greased 12-inch spring form pan. Bake at 375 degrees for 7 to 9 minutes or until lightly brown. Top with chocolate chips and bake for 2 to 3 minutes or until chocolate is soft.

Spread chocolate over crust and sprinkle with nuts. Cool on a wire rack for 15 minutes. Refrigerate for 1 to 2 hours or until set.

## Dropped cookies, adult: Melanie Hall

### Pecan Chocolate with Green Chile Delight

Filling:  
2 cups pecans  
24 ounces cream cheese  
3 eggs  
1/4 teaspoon almond extract  
1 1/2 tablespoons vanilla extract  
1/2 cup sour cream  
1 1/2 cup green chile marmalade

Crust:  
8 whole graham crackers  
2 tablespoons sugar  
1/2 stick margarine  
1 cup crushed pecans

To prepare the crust, preheat the oven to 325 degrees. In a medium bowl, combine the

graham crackers, sugar and pecans and gradually adding melted margarine. Stir until well mixed. Press into the bottom of a medium-sized spring form pan. Bake for 5 minutes and remove from the oven.

To prepare the filling, mix cream cheese, add sugar gradually and sour cream. This shouldn't be done with an electric beaters. Add one egg at a time and mix well. Add extracts and mix well again.

Pour mixture into the prepared spring form pan and bake for 1 hour and 20 minutes. When cheese cake is done, top with green chile marmalade and chill for at least 6 hours.

## Traditional pecan pie, adult: Bertha Tangonan

### Traditional Pecan Pie

1 1/4 cups pecans, chopped  
2 tablespoons flour  
2 eggs, beaten  
1 cup corn syrup  
Dash of salt  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
1/4 cup sugar  
1 unbaked pie crust

Mix eggs, sugar, salt, corn syrup, flour and vanilla together. Pour filling into pan and top with pecans. Place pie into oven and bake at 375 degrees for 1 hour.

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# Featured Realtor: *Melissa Chambers*

## Details

# Customer service is priority No. 1

## From radio to real estate, Realtor brings 'fun' to Las Cruces

By **Beth Sitzler**  
Las Cruces Bulletin

Told at an early age that she "was a still point in a turning world," Realtor Melissa Chambers said she has used these words of wisdom from her mother to follow her dreams despite any chaos that comes her way.

Growing up in Washington, D.C., Chambers said former U.S. Sen. Pete Domenici brought her mother, Letitia Chambers, to the Capitol from New Mexico, where she worked as staff director for the Senate Budget Committee, an ambassador to the U.N. General Assembly and was appointed Commissioner of Higher Education by former Gov. Bill Richardson.

"My mother was a huge influence on me," she said. "From the moment I could understand, she said I could do anything I wanted to do. She gave me a strong sense of self."

Chambers said she first came to Las Cruces to attend New Mexico State University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in theater arts.

"After college, I left to become an actress and I ended up on the radio," she said.

She found a job with Clear Channel Radio in Iowa before transferring to Florida, where she worked on air and then in the sales

department.

In 2007, after several years with the company, Chambers said she decided to leave the radio business and follow her passion for real estate.

"I always wanted to do it. Since I was a kid, my mother and I would go look at homes on the weekend," she said, adding that her mother would also purchase and refurbish historic homes.

### Following her dream

Joining the field during one of the worst times in real estate, Chambers said, she jumped in not fully knowing what to expect.

"I guess I didn't know enough to be scared," she said. "I just went out and did it."

Using her acting and auditioning background, Chambers said she was able to quickly learn the field and not get frustrated by rejection. Soon, she was able to get her feet wet and navigate through the industry.

"Real estate has everything I'm good at and love to do. I get to work with people and help them find their dream home," she said, adding that as a Realtor she also gets to negotiate and conduct marketing.

While she enjoyed Florida, she said she wanted a change in July 2009.

“Real estate has everything I’m good at and love to do.”

MELISSA CHAMBERS,  
Realtor

### Melissa Chambers Realtor

**Company**  
EXIT Realty Horizons

**Education**  
Bachelor's degree in theater arts,  
New Mexico State University

**Organizations**  
• Las Cruces Association of Realtors  
• Realtors Association of New Mexico

- National Association of Realtors
- Volunteer with the Doña Ana Arts Council
- Playful Cities committee
- Court Youth Center board

**Website**  
facebook.com/melissachambers1111

**Contact**  
• 520-1171 (cell)  
• 532-5678 (office)  
• melissa@exithorizons.com



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Beth Sitzler

Realtor Melissa Chambers came to Las Cruces after a radio career in Iowa and Florida. Chambers said she understands the importance of giving back to the community.

"It became too much, I was tired of doing short sales and foreclosures and the misery of it all, so I came here," she said. "I love New Mexico. I always intended to come back and retire, but I came back sooner."

Amazed by the amount of growth that had taken place in the time she was gone, Chambers said she was excited by the local real estate market and chose to work with EXIT Realty Horizons.

"They work the same way I do," she said.

"The No. 1 priority is excellent customer service. We work as a team and work closely together as an office. We don't work in competition with each other."

Focusing on providing for all of her clients' needs, Chambers said she takes on only five to 10 listings at a time.

"I get to really cater to the home," she said.

A big believer in keeping up with and using the latest technology, Chambers said she

Continued on following page

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Continued from previous page

finds new, creative ways to market each house to potential homeowners, such as videos for YouTube, detailed websites and high-quality photography.

"You're selling not only a home, but a lifestyle," she said, explaining that she would market a historic home in Mesilla differently than a house next to the golf course in Sonoma Ranch. "I find the best ways to reach them."

As an added incentive, Chambers said she helps pay for the closing costs out of her own pocket.

"It's important that people know that I'm in there with them," she said. "I'm in it to win it."

Chambers said the most rewarding aspect of being a Realtor is the relationship she builds with her clients, adding that she still speaks with homeowners she worked with in Florida.

"I'm creating those relationships here now," she said. "I'm helping people realize their dreams."

### Life outside of real estate

Her dedication isn't limited to real estate – Chambers is also involved with giving back to Las Cruces.

"The key is to be involved in your community," she said. "And it helps business, because the better the community is, the more people are going to want to come here."

After volunteering as press liaison for the 2010 White Sands International Film Festival, Chambers met City of Las Cruces Film Liaison Bill McCamey and now works with him as a location scout.

"A few months ago, we had three studios out here looking at huge properties," she said, adding that she scouts for locations throughout southern New Mexico from Hobbs to Deming and Truth or Consequences. "New Mexico is a beautiful state, and I'm able to go places I haven't seen."

Chambers said her greatest accomplishment, however, is being on the board of the Court Youth Center. She said she is helping



Chambers, who moved to the City of the Crosses in July 2009, represents this home at 17835 N. Valley Drive.

to negotiate obtaining the old Court Junior High, which houses Alma d'Arte Charter High School. She also has been asked to be on the school's governing council.

"A lot of things are going to happen when we purchase our place," she said. "I'm really excited to be a part of leaving this legacy in the community."

To help raise funds for the center, Chambers said a gala will be held April 1 with special guest Frankie Muniz and his band You Hang Up.

A 15th anniversary celebration will also be held for the center in July, and Chambers said community members or former Court Junior High students interested in helping the planning committee should contact her.

# Turn over a new leaf

## Sleepy plants will bring colorful blossoms in the coming springtime

**Gary Guzman**  
Gardening Guru



While this past winter did a number on some of the vegetation, it looks like most of the dormant plants may have survived the brutal cold.

Leafless items such as althea, wisteria, lilac, forsythia, flowering plum and flowering pear, seem to go "to sleep" in winter for a reason: to survive sub-freezing temperatures.

Although these plants have little or no winter interest, they show they provide after the harsh weather is gone is worth having in your landscape. It won't be long before one begins to notice the signs of spring through bright vivid colors of the above-mentioned plants. Before you know it, the bright yellows of the forsythia, the blues and purples of the wisteria, the pinks and whites of the flowering plum and flowering pear will be greeting us before their leaves appear. This is a sure sign that the spring is now upon us, and we can begin to put this past winter blast behind us.

If you already have these beauties in your garden, do not prune them now. Cutting these back at this time of year will reduce the impact of color. These are best pruned after they have flowered, if needed.

Use a fertilizer high in phosphorous,



After "sleeping" through the past winter, forsythia will fill yards with bright splashes of yellow.

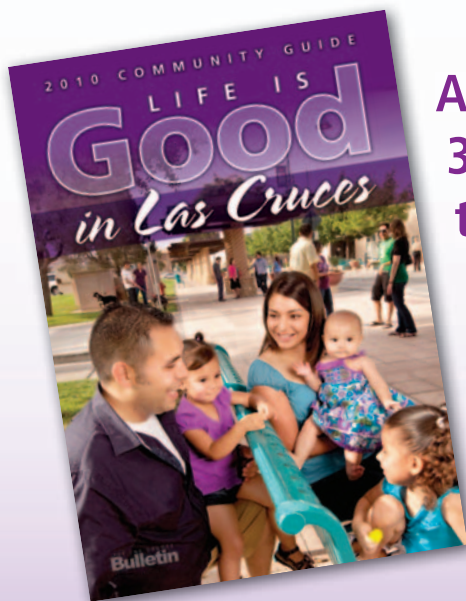
such as Triple Super Phosphate or Super Phosphate, Br-61, or Super Bloom, to help encourage maximum flowering. Water these and other dormant plants once or twice a month until they have fully leafed out in late spring.

If you are looking to add a splash of color, now is the perfect time to plant, or even replace what may have been destroyed by Old Man Winter. Remember to use plenty of soil amendments and root stimulator to help get these woody plants off to a running start.

With the uncertainty of next year's winter, you can't go wrong with the choices listed above, as long as you don't mind the "bare look" in winter.

Gary Guzman, owner of Guzman's Color Your World Gardening Centers, can be reached at [gary@lascrucesbulletin.com](mailto:gary@lascrucesbulletin.com).

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# Shake it like a saltshaker

## The alternative uses for a simple condiment container

By **Beth Sitzler**  
Las Cruces Bulletin

As participants of the Las Cruces Bulletin Weight Loss Challenge reach the final weeks of the program, they have had to give up several seemingly necessities, especially the saltshaker.

Invented in 1858 by the same man who created the Mason jar, the saltshaker is a common tabletop accessory usually associated with its close friend, pepper.

Simple in design – a glass or plastic container

accompanied by a screw-top lid covered in tiny holes – the saltshaker houses large quantities of sodium, which is why Bulletin dieters have been instructed to use it less often.

If you're trying to cut back on your salt and sodium intake, which is attributed to water retention, empty your saltshaker and use it in other ways around the house.

**1. Reduce your sugar intake:** As Laura Smart, the nutritionist working with Bulletin Weight Loss participants, puts it, "sugar is the worst culprit" when it comes to a healthy diet.

While some may find it virtually impossible to eliminate the sweet stuff, one way to cut back on the substance is with a saltshaker. Fill the shaker with sugar and use it when showering your food with the crystals. You will use less with this method than if you were to dip your spoon in a sugar bowl.

**2. Shake out cinnamon-sugar:** Whether covering toast, a tortilla, coffee or freshly baked honey buns, a sprinkling of a cinnamon-sugar combination will be a great addition to most sweet treats. To ensure that you aren't heavy handed with the mixture, place your sweet additive in a saltshaker. Easy to use, the most difficult task will be creating the perfect combination of the two treats – whether its equal portions or two to one of the substances.

**3. Dust a baking work space:** When rolling out dough or kneading breads, it's important to thoroughly dust your work space with flour to prevent the sticky goop from becoming glued to the surface. A potentially messy job in itself, get help flour-dusting your surface from a saltshaker. Fill a shaker with the powdery substance and keep it in your cupboard. Use it to dust various surfaces, including cake pans and muffin cups.

**4. Store other spices:** While the name may suggest the container is only for salt, a shaker can help dispense other spices. After purchasing loose spices in bulk, divide them into smaller amounts and place in various saltshakers for easy everyday use. This also allows you to create your own blend of favorite spices. Be sure to add labels to your saltshakers so you know what is in each.

**5. Apply dry fertilizer:** Caring for seedlings can be a labor-intensive task. Too much or not enough of one substance can determine the survival of the plant. When it comes to

fertilizing, get help from a saltshaker. Fill the container with the dry variety of the nutrient-rich stuff. This will give you more control of the amount poured, allowing you to avoid the dreaded fertilizer burn.

**6. Give kids a musical instrument:** Nothing entertains a small child better than the ability to make noise. Create your own sound-inducing device from an empty plastic saltshaker. To make your at-home musical instrument, fill the container half or three-quarters full with beans, rice, small pasta, uncooked popcorn or sand. The different items will create a variety of sounds, and the shaker will be the perfect size for the child's small hands.

**7. Control glitter:** A surefire way to add pizzazz to any arts-and-crafts project is with glitter. While the shimmery flakes are a visual delight, they can be hard to control. Avoid creating a mess by placing the glitter in saltshakers. It will be easy to apply the substance exactly where you want it without getting it everywhere or using an excessive amount.

**8. Make drip art:** While paintbrushes and sponges are considered go-to art applicators, don't forget about the saltshaker. Fill a shaker with paint and let it drizzle out of the tiny holes onto a piece of paper or canvas. This will create an interesting speckle and dripping effect the other painting tools can't master.

**9. Get a fancy kitchen tool:** Plain saltshakers can be dressed up with a bit of glue and paper. Create your own decoupage-style masterpiece in a few easy steps. After washing and drying the container, add a thin layer of glue to the outside and cover it with pieces of torn or cut paper. Seal it with another application of glue. Glitter and sequins can be used to create texture.

**10: Who wants mud pie?:** Another way to keep small children entertained is by giving them old plastic saltshakers to use in their pretend kitchen. When "cooking" indoors, place uncooked rice or popcorn that can be poured onto their dishes. For those outside "baking" tasks, the shaker can be filled with sand, which can double as sprinkles on those always delightful mud pies.



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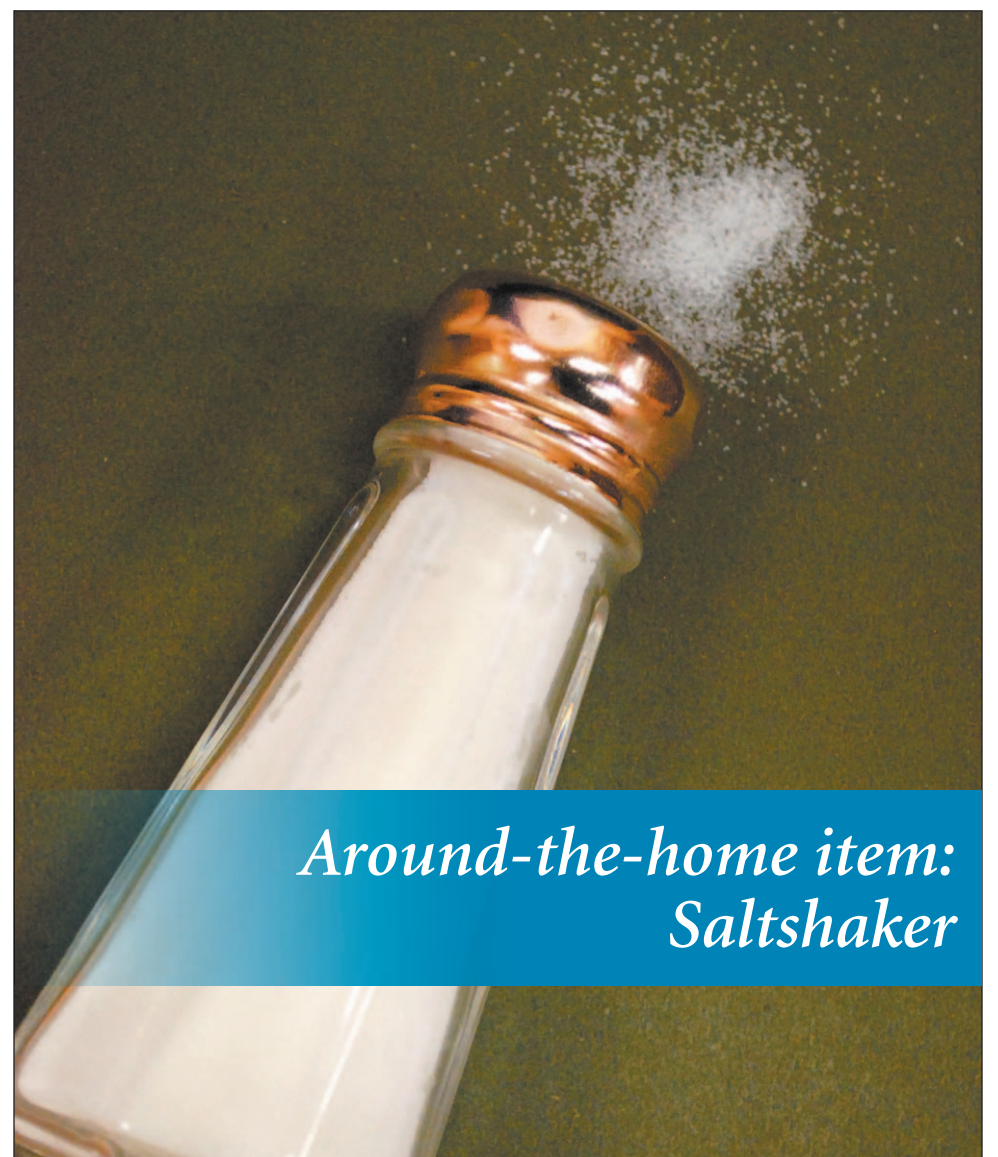
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*Around-the-home item:  
Saltshaker*

# Tiny insects, big destruction

## Formosan termites a formidable Southwest problem

**Omar Martinez**  
Local Truly Nolen  
of America Expert



The United States is now in full swing with termite season. Formosan termites – by far the most destructive breed of termites – are one of the Southwest’s worst pest problems.

Besides right here in New Mexico, Formosan termites are also found in Arizona and California, in addition to nine Southern states and Hawaii.

Formosan termites came to the U.S. in the 1940s from Formosa in Southern China – also known as Taiwan. They were believed to have infested packing materials, crates and pallets that shipped supplies and troops home after World War II.

According to the United States Agriculture Department’s Agricultural Research Service, Formosan termites cause more than \$2 billion in damages each year. That’s more

than one-third of annual termite damage in the U.S., which exceeds the destruction caused by storms, fires and floods combined. And homeowner’s insurance does not cover the cost for treatment.

Formosan termites are often misidentified as dry wood termites, which are eradicated by different methods than their virulent Asian cousins. A home can be mistreated for dry wood termites and the Formosans go right on eating. They are similar in appearance to the naked eye and can only be identified under a microscope.

Formosan termites have a tremendous appetite for destruction. A Formosan colony can consume up to a pound of wood a day in a severe infestation or 30 pounds a month. Even homes that aren’t wood are threatened. Door sills and window sills, beams inside homes, thin lead and copper sheathings, plaster and plastics are all on a Formosan termite’s menu.

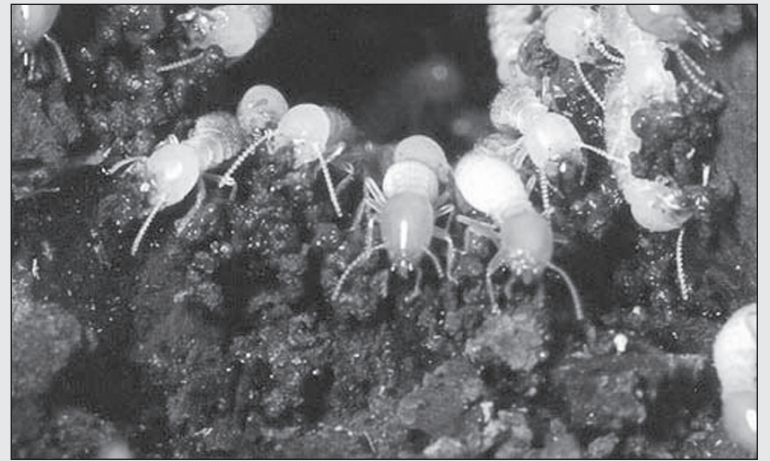
Besides being aggressive, Formosan termites are destructive due to their numbers. A typical eastern

subterranean termite colony houses up to 300,000 termites, while a Formosan colony contains up to about 8 million. Formosan termites also swarm later than the normal termite season, through August, extending the potential for damage.

Formosan termites enter homes through expansion joints in concrete slabs or utility conduits. They can also be drawn to homes through lumber or firewood piles or wooden trellises that lean against the house.

A termite prevention program should include the following elements:

- A professional inspection done at least once a year because the potential damage is too great to rely on do-it-yourself methods.
- An ongoing preventive system including the newest sodium borate-based materials, which can be painted, sprayed, or spread onto the wood, or injected into hollow spaces inside the walls of the home.
- Having your pest control professional establish an “early



Formosan termites, which came to the United States in the 1940s, cause more than \$2 billion in damages a year.

warning system” that detects termites in the soil before they reach the home itself. The newest systems establish bait stations around the perimeter of the home, to detect the approach of termites while they are still several feet away.

- Anytime termites are found within five feet of a structure, begin more aggressive control treatments.

Omar Martinez, a local expert for Truly Nolen of America, has extensive experience in the pest control industry. Martinez brings an informative as well

as unique and entertaining perspective to consumers’ pest problems in the 21st century. Founded in 1938, Tucson, Ariz.-based Truly Nolen of America is one of the largest family owned pest control companies in the United States. Truly Nolen has more than 80 branch offices in Arizona, California, Florida, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas and Utah. The company also has independently owned and operated franchises in an ever-growing number of territories including California, Florida, Kentucky, New York, Oklahoma, Texas and Utah as well as Puerto Rico. For more information or to ask your local expert a question about insects and insect prevention, visit [www.trulynolen.com](http://www.trulynolen.com) or call 915-591-9864.

# The soothing sounds of water

## Expert tips for choosing the right fountain for your outdoor space

Spanish explorer Ponce de Leon spent many years and covered many miles searching for the fabled “fountain of youth.” Fortunately, you don’t have to go to those lengths to find a special fountain that will transform your backyard into a private oasis. You only need to make a trip to the local garden store.

The gentle sounds of flowing water can wash stress from our lives, restoring and relaxing us. That universal appeal is making fountains more popular than ever with homeowners dealing with the stresses of modern life, including the economy and the need to hold on to and improve the homes they have.

The demand for fountains has led to the widespread availability of traditional designs, and some inspired modern creations by enterprising fountain makers.

“Our fountain category continues to grow,” said designer Peter Cilio, creative director of Campania International, a purveyor of garden accessories. “Customers want cast stone fountains, glazed, terra cotta and even light-weight – all types of fountains to bring the sight and sound of water into the garden in an easy, low-maintenance way.”

“Water in the garden is an essential element,” said Jon Carloftis, renowned garden designer. “Adding a fountain to your garden, even a small fountain, is a great investment.”

Here are some simple guidelines from the experts to help you choose the perfect fountain for your garden space.

### What’s your style?

The most important consideration to keep in mind when choosing the right fountain is the overall style of your home and garden.

“People who love a beautiful garden are becoming more experienced and comfortable with their own styles and tastes outside,” Cilio said. “Whether you have an urban, contemporary or country garden, the fountain should be compatible with your personal style and the aesthetics of your house and garden.”

Today’s selection of fountains appeals to the broadest of palates, with choices available ranging from traditional European designs to more modern zen-inspired pieces.

Carloftis reminds homeowners to keep proportion in mind. “It is everything in the garden,” he said. “Choose a fountain that will fit and feel good. And if you go big, be sure to keep it simple.”

### Consider your space

Whether it graces a patio or the landscape, a free-standing fountain can be a mesmerizing focal point. The size of the fountain that you choose will depend on the size of your garden space.

“You could have a 4-by-6-foot pocket garden and put a small, beautiful fountain at the end, and you’ve really made an incredible statement,” Carloftis said.

Although fountains can take center stage in the landscape, you might also consider nestling your fountain in a secluded corner of your garden. Tucked away among the plantings, the fountain will not distract from the overall composition.

### What’s your desired outcome?

If creating a highly dramatic effect is your desire, the classic

choice is a larger two or three-tiered fountain as a focal point for your landscape.

If you want something Zen, look for a more soothing effect in water gently cascading over a cast stone ball. Discover the allure of dancing water from a fountain lit at night, while you entertain on the patio or deck. Look for freestanding wall fountains, which include lighting components for dramatic nighttime illumination.

### Low or high maintenance

Keeping your fountain clean and free of debris to prevent algae growth and clogging is something to consider when purchasing a fountain. Smaller fountains don’t require as much maintenance as larger fountains. Remember to protect your fountain in winter with a water resistant cover to prolong its life.

Whether simple or ornate, you can create your own private oasis by introducing your own fountain of youth into your landscape or garden.

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# The long run

Performance rating not just for cars



**Miles Dyson**  
*Living Green*

Nearly 30 years ago, I began making a routine trek back and forth from the family ranch near Capitan to become highly educated here in Aggie Land.

My college “vacations” typically involved lots of fresh air inhaled at a pant while branding calves, stuffing wool sacks, pounding posts or stretching wire. After these “breaks,” with the Rancho packed full of clean underwear and ranch beef, I would ecstatically head back to New Mexico State University. The trip always started with the Eagles queued up in the cassette player. As I would hit cruising altitude south of Carrizozo, Henley, Frey and Dyson would be hittin’ the big notes: “You can go the distance – we’ll find out in the long run ...”

Don and Glenn knew that the “long run” was important. The long run is important when we are building and buying homes, too.

When we shop for a new, or used, car we have become really good at evaluating purchase price and weighing that cost against how long we think the car will last, what it will cost to maintain, including fuel efficiency, and whether the car will still have value when it is resold. When buying a car we know that the “long run” is important and the increased cost to purchase a Honda or Toyota over a similar model Dodge or Chevy may be repaid in better reli-

ability, lower fuel costs, better safety and higher resale value.

It is hard to understand why a much more expensive purchase, such as a home, does not receive the same scrutiny on value over the “long run.” The stakes are much higher.

Home maintenance and utility costs are a large percentage of our family budgets. The health and comfort of our loved ones is critical. We depend on our houses to be not only safe shelter, but an investment that can increase in value over time.

I think information is the key to this decision-making disparity. The Internet has flattened the playing field for car purchase information. It is easy to know what you are getting for your money, but homes are a little tricky. Even when mass-produced, we don’t know exactly what is under the hood. And custom homes, forget about it. A new custom home is an amazingly complex system for anyone to understand and accurately evaluate. Fortunately for homebuyers, many builders are beginning to demonstrate how their

“ The long run is important when we are building and buying homes ... ”

homes are the Honda’s and Toyota’s of the residential world.

Systematically documenting the features and performance of a home during the construction process allows home shoppers and buyers to know what is “under the hood.”

National and local builders are using green home certification



Las Cruces Bulletin photo illustration by Rachel Courtney

Similar to a posting a car’s MPG, a HERs rating can help consumers determine the efficiency of a home.

systems, such as Build America, Build Green New Mexico, National Association of Home Builders Green, LEED for Homes and Energy Star, to demonstrate key metrics that set their homes apart. In addition to describing key features and providing engineering estimates on utility use, each of these certification programs requires adherence to best practices over a range of building science disciplines, including energy and water efficiency, indoor air quality and durability through moisture management at the building shell and at the interior.

After a green certified home is completed, the features and performance testing are summarized to provide an overall grade or level of best practices implemented. Every green certified home is an “above code” home with features and

performance beyond those required by municipal building regulations. Color levels such as silver, gold and platinum indicate just how far beyond basic code requirements each project has reached. A home energy rating, or HER index, is also calculated for each green certified home. This is equivalent to a MPG rating for a home and shows just what you can expect your utilities bills to be every year.

Realtors continue to have increased access to certified green home information. Although not quite as easy as Car Fax or Kelley Blue book to access, the information on these homes is out there for your review. In fact, a handful of national production homebuilders, including KB Homes, Centex Homes, Del Webb Communities and Pulte Homes, have committed to certifying every one of their homes and making the ratings available for marketing and comparative shopping. A constantly increasing

number of our local custom and production builders have made similar green certification commitments.

Our residential building codes change constantly. The 2009 IECC (energy code) for homes is being implemented in Las Cruces right now. Above code green certified homes offer a hedge in to the future against home valuation decreases based on obsolescence of the design, performance and material used. A green certified home will hold its value better against future new home sales.

Don’t “hurry a lot” and don’t “worry a lot” – just ask if your next house is green certified and know that your next home “can go the distance – in the long run.”

*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.*

## Home Sales Scoreboard

LAS CRUCES AREA

	This Week	Last Week	Same Week Last Year
<b>Closed Sales New Homes</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>

	This Week	Last Week	Same Week Last Year
<b>Closed Sales Existing Homes</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>27</b>

	This Week	Last Week	Same Week Last Year
<b>Pending Home Sales (All)</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>190</b>

	This Week	Last Week	Same Week Last Year
<b>Average Days on Market (All)</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>92</b>

	This Week	Last Week	Same Week Last Year
<b>Median Price New</b>	<b>\$149,105</b>	<b>\$165,181</b>	<b>\$159,950</b>

	This Week	Last Week	Same Week Last Year
<b>Median Price Existing</b>	<b>\$166,000</b>	<b>\$139,000</b>	<b>\$167,000</b>

	This Week	Last Week	Same Week Last Year
<b>Total Homes on Market (All)</b>	<b>1,075</b>	<b>1,071</b>	<b>1,215</b>

	This Week	Last Week	Same Week Last Year
<b>Real Estate Agents</b>	<b>397</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>450</b>

\*Homes include detached single-family homes, townhomes and condominiums

Source: Las Cruces Multiple Listing Service (MLS)\* for the period 2/28/11 - 3/6/11  
\*MLS is wholly owned by the Las Cruces Association of Realtors  
\*\* Unknown per LCAR

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Contact **Joey Morales** today at **524-8061** or [joey@lascrucesbulletin.com](mailto:joey@lascrucesbulletin.com) to learn how you can make a difference.

# ChileKnights

## Eating of the green

Try these St. Patrick's Day inspired dishes

**Sunny Conley**  
Chile Knights



*Leprechauns, castles, good luck and laughter. Lullabies, dreams and love ever after. A thousand welcomes when anyone comes... That's the Irish for You!*

— Irish Blessing

Chileheads need no excuse to eat green (chile), but St. Patrick's Day gives us wee ones twice more!

You'll dance the jig after sampling the asparagus-poblano refresher, a "secret" recipe of a personal leprechaun of mine, and two (or three) jigs from polishing off the Irish Cream broccoli soup. Cool down with a smooth pot o' avocado-chile ice cream. Neither lads nor lasses will find a drop of green dye in any of O'Conley's recipes. Each is ripe with authentic chile verde from our enchanting verdant valley. Happy St. Patrick's Day to all Las Cruces lads and lassies!

### A Leprechaun's Asparagus-Poblano Refresher

4 to 5 asparagus spears, steamed  
1/2 poblano pepper, seeded and chopped  
1 frozen banana, skinned and quartered\*  
1 to 2 fresh mint leaves  
1 cup water, add more as needed

Place all ingredients in a food processor and blend until creamy smooth. Garnish with a mint leaf, if desired. Makes 1 serving.

\*Note: To freeze a whole banana, remove peel and discard. Wrap banana in tin foil or plastic wrap and freeze until firm.

### Irish Cream of Broccoli Soup, Caliente

2 cups double strength chicken broth\*  
1 cup fresh broccoli, chopped  
2 tablespoons unsalted butter  
1 medium onion, coarsely chopped  
1 medium fresh jalapeño or serrano chile, finely minced or chopped to taste  
Salt to taste  
1 cup whipping cream  
1 teaspoon Irish cream  
2 egg yolks  
1 tablespoon New Mexico dried red chiles, crushed or to taste

Place broth in a medium, heavy saucepan. Add broccoli, cover and bring to a simmer. Meanwhile, melt butter in a small skillet, add

onion and cook until lightly browned. Add onions to the broccoli – broth mixture, cover and simmer about 30 minutes or until onion is very soft.

While mixture is still hot, process in a food processor or blender until puréed. (Be careful not to scald yourself.) Add jalapeños or serranos, taste and adjust seasonings, adding salt, if desired. Return soup to pan and place over very low heat. Beat cream and egg yolks together, pour into soup in a very thin stream, stirring constantly.

Cook, stirring, until soup coats a wooden spoon in a fine film; do not let soup come to a boil, as it may curdle. Immediately pour soup into soup cups, sprinkle with red chiles and serve piping hot. Makes 4 servings. (Recipe adapted from "Hotter Than Hell" by Jane Butel.)

\*Note: To make 2 cups of double strength broth from canned broth start with 4 cups broth in a saucepan, bring to a simmer and let simmer uncovered until reduced to 2 cups of broth.

### Shamrock Green Chile Main Meal Pie

8 whole green chiles  
2 tablespoons cream  
1/4 pound sharp cheddar cheese, cubed  
3/4 teaspoon salt  
1/8 teaspoon black pepper  
5 eggs

Grease 10-inch pie plate. Slit chiles open lengthwise and shape chile in pie plate to form bottom crust. Place all remaining ingredients in a blender and blend on low speed. Pour egg mixture over chiles and bake in a 325-degree oven for 30 minutes, or until pie is set. Serve with a fresh salad. Makes 1 10-inch pie.

### Dubliner's Green Chile Yogurt Soup

2 tablespoons margarine or butter  
1 tablespoon oil  
4 large garlic cloves, minced  
1 medium onion, chopped  
2 teaspoons paprika  
4 cups chicken broth  
1 1/2 pounds tomatoes, chopped  
1/2 cup medium-hot roasted green chile peppers, stemmed, seeded and diced  
1/4 teaspoon chili powder  
Salt, pepper  
2 cups plain low-fat yogurt  
4 ounces shredded pepper jack cheese  
1 tablespoon cilantro, chopped

Melt butter in large kettle and add oil. Add garlic and sauté until lightly browned. Remove garlic and set aside. Add onion to butter



Las Cruces Bulletin photo by Sunny Conley

Kick off St. Patrick's Day with a refreshing asparagus-poblano smoothie.

and sauté until tender. Add paprika and sauté 1 minute. Add chicken broth, tomatoes, chiles and chili powder. Season to taste with salt and pepper.

Bring to boil, reduce heat and simmer about 20 minutes. Stir in yogurt slowly and cook over low heat just until heated through. Do not boil or yogurt will curdle. Add reserved garlic. Ladle into soup bowls and sprinkle with cheese and cilantro. Makes 2 servings. (Recipe adapted from an LA Times recipe, 1992.)

### Irish Mist Green Eggs with Emerald Green Pesto

8 egg whites  
2 large handfuls of fresh spinach  
3 garlic cloves  
Canola oil  
Sea salt  
Emerald Green Basil Pesto (recipe below)

In a food processor or blender, blend the egg whites, spinach, garlic and sea salt until the spinach is chopped and the eggs are frothy and green. Add more spinach for color as necessary.

Heat the canola oil in a non-stick pan and pour in a thin layer of the egg mixture. Cook until the crepe is solid enough to flip, and finish cooking the other side. Top with pesto. (See Emerald Green Basil Pesto recipe below.)

**Emerald Green Basil Pesto:**  
1 large bunch fresh basil  
Handful pine nuts  
3 to 4 medium-large garlic cloves  
Extra virgin olive oil  
Salt to taste

### Shredded Parmesan cheese

Wash and stem basil, then pat dry with a kitchen towel. Toast pine nuts over low heat, stirring occasionally to prevent burning. Remove the heat when toasty brown. Pulse several cloves of garlic in the food processor, and then add handfuls of basil until everything is chopped. Add pine nuts, extra virgin olive oil, Parmesan cheese and salt to taste. For a softer blend, add more olive oil. The more Parmesan added, the more crumbly the texture.

### Avocado-Green Chile Ice Cream

1 to 2 fresh serrano peppers, stemmed, seeded and minced  
Shredded zest of 1 large lime, plus more for garnish  
Juice from 1/2 of a large lime  
2 ripe avocados, peeled and mashed  
2 teaspoons sugar  
Pinch of salt  
1 quart good-quality French vanilla ice cream, softened  
1/2 pint heavy cream, whipped to soft peaks

In a large bowl, combine the peppers, zest, lime juice, avocado, vanilla, sugar and salt. Work in the ice cream so mixture is well blended. Freeze the ice cream, covered, up to one day. Serve scooped into margarita glasses. Top with the whipped cream and sprinkles of lime zest. Makes 6 to 8 servings. (Recipe adapted from Lynne's Summer Picnic Menu, 2008, The Splendid Table, Lynne Rossetto Kasper, NPR)

Sunny Conley, a former Las Cruces, is an award-winning cookbook author and food columnist. Contact Sunny at sunny.conley@gmail.com.

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# LCAR holds business-clothing drive

## Closet de Las Cruces to benefit from Realtors' donations

The Las Cruces Association of Realtors is conducting a business-clothing drive for Closet de Las Cruces, the Mesilla Valley Community of Hope work program, through Thursday, March 17.

Realtors are urged to go through their closets and donate business clothing for people to wear when applying for jobs. Often, unemployed people do not have appropriate clothing to wear for a job interview. This is LCAR's way of helping.

Donations can be dropped off at the LCAR office, 150 E. Idaho Ave., and the Community Service Committee will deliver them to Closet de Las Cruces.

For more information, call 524-0658.



# Recycling Briefs



Las Cruces Bulletin photos by Niki Rhyne

President/COO of Friedman Recycling Morris Friedman stands with Chris West, Bret Burrer and Chris Lazo before the arrival of the first shipment of curbside recycling bins at South Century Solid Waste Authority Wednesday, March 2.

## Las Cruces curbside recycling bins hit the streets March 14

The curbside recycling bins are here and will be delivered to Las Cruces homes starting Monday, March 14.

In all, 63 semi-trucks will have journeyed to Las Cruces carrying 30,000 bright blue bins. Delivery to homes starts the third week of March, and pickup of recyclables begins April 4. Schedules for every-other-week curbside recycling pickup will be attached to the bins, when they arrive at residents' homes.

"These bins are different from anything that's been seen in this region, with the label melted into the lid, in an effort to help residents know at a glance what is recyclable and what isn't," said Morris Friedman, president and COO of Friedman Recycling, the company that will be managing curbside recycling in Las Cruces. "This is really critical information because we are now accepting a wider range of items, including clean and empty plastics 1 through 7, small electronics and pots and pans."

The information labels melted into the recycling bin lids won't peel off or fade away with time. The labels are "in-mold" so they are basically bonded with the bin's plastic – and last the life of the container.

The well-known "recycle couple" Al and Terri McBrayer attended the unveiling of the first blue bins, and said, "We are thrilled to finally be getting curbside ... we can't contain our excitement!"

Thank you for recycling. If you have curbside recycling questions, visit [www.friedmanrecycling.com](http://www.friedmanrecycling.com), or call Friedman Recycling at 877-500-RECYCLE.



Suzanne Michaels explains the different materials that can be recycled in the new curbside recycling bins.

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