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Gila National Forest Page 23

AUGUST 2020 Volume 25 • Number 8



EVERYDAY OBSERVATIONS . ABE VILLARREAL

Cafes and Barbershops What makes a community?

hen I'm feeling hungry, I like to find those old hole-in-the-wall restaurants that look like they've been around for generations. The paint is usually chipping around the window edges and not all the stools are working in the breakfast bar area.

As the waitress approaches to top you off, the coffee pot looks like it has served your father and grandfather. She greets you with phrases like "sweetie" and "honey." It makes you feel good inside.

I like those places because with all their wear and tear, they show you that with a little grit, you can make it through almost anything.

Today, many of them are clos-

ing their doors. The pandemic and its political aftermath were too much, even for the diners and corner cafes of yesteryear that survived world wars and depressions. It makes me a little sad to think that almost all we have left are big-name restaurants with shiny menus and shinier tables.

Earlier this week, I stopped

by a barbershop I had never previously visited in a small town near the Mexican border. Named Al's Barbershop, I was attracted to it because it was in an older -looking building that in its heyday seemed to be home to several businesses.

As I walked in, I was greeted by an older man with a big and friendly voice. He was almost

done cutting up a town regular. I asked him if he accepted credit cards and he said that he didn't but not too worry about it. He told me that he won't go chasing me around town if I don't make it back with the \$12. I knew I was in the right place as soon as he said that.

CAFES

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Just about 100 minutes west of Las Cruces lies a wonderful getaway with way more than 100 things to see and do. Plan your trip today! Silver City, Grant County and surroundings offer wide varieties of fun, adventure and relaxation. Here's just one example:

Hiking, in and out of town

With names like "Adonis Pits," "Luck Separation Mill" and the "King Bolt Pit," sites on Silver City's rugged Boston Hill immediately recall the town's historic era of hard-rock mining for copper, silver and other precious metals. Today, however, these destinations have been transformed into a hiking destination, the Boston Hill Open Space Trail System. This interesting, in-town hiking venue is a great complement to the more extensive hikes of the Gila Wilderness and other nearby environs.

Silver City activities

· Hiroshima Peace Day is online this year with Silver City's Tom Vaughan posting a series of daily Facebook posts, which will then be shared with several other local Facebook pages. Those who are concerned about the ongoing threat of nuclear weapons and those who would like to learn more about the subject are encouraged to register for the "75th Anniversary Hiroshima Day One-Hour Online Commemoration" on Aug. 6, which will include Evelyn Naranjo of Pueblo de San Ildefonso, Reverend John Dear and Jay Coghlan of Nukewatch.org. Go to paceebene.org/ hiroshimaday2020 to register.

 Silver City Community Theater presents "All You Get" by Zoom on Aug. 15. Send your email address to contact@silvercitvcommunitvtheater.com, and they will send the Zoom meeting information for each production. Or, check SCCT's Website, Facebook and Instagram.

• At 11 a.m. on Aug. 29 the Silver City Museum is offering a free webinar by historian Stephen Fox entitled "Jaime Crow in New Mexico: Mexicans and Whites in Grant County since 1870." It explores the regime of Anglo-Hispanic segregation in Southwest New Mexico, known as "Jaime Crow" and based on systems of white supremacy imported from the Jim Crow South. Register for the Zoom Webinar at silvercitymuseum.org.

 The 16th Annual Gila River Festival will take place online Sept. 18 and 19 and will explore how we cultivate resilience in our communities and ecological systems in the face of the twin crises of climate change and the global coronavirus pandemic. Registration and the full festival schedule will be available Aug. 1 at www.gilariverfestival.org.

When in Silver, visit these great businesses:

New! Maker's Market At the Main St. Plaza Saturdays: 8:30am - 12:00pm www.thefutureforge.org/makers-market

Country Girls Nursery 1950 HWY 180 F Mon - Fri: 9am - 5pm 575-313-1507

Little Toad Brewery & Distillery Patio Open! 200 N. Bullard St. www.littletoadcreek.com



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Outstanding views from this Wind Canvon lot with many options for building sites! 360 Degree views! This is the



View lot overlooking the Mimbres Valley, Close to recreation in the Gila National Forest, Bear Canyon Reservoir





es

and Gardens.

An amazing property! Takes a bit to get there, but well worth the drive! Views and privacy that don't end. Lots of wildlife. Many,

1111 1



SILVER CITY

This once flourishing mechanics shop is available with plenty of off street parking in front and in back. Huge double bay area and a couple office up front. This would



Beautiful mountain views! Open floor plan features large kitchen with breakfast nook, laminate floors, pellet stove and metal roof. Large fenced backyard. Oversized double carport with workshop/ storage area. Paved driveway. MLS # 37341 **\$89,000**



Located in the Lake Roberts Subdivision overlooking Sapillo Creek. Minutes from the quality bass waters at Lake Roberts, world class hunting (GMU 24/16B) and endless hiking in the Gila National Forest. Cozy 4 bedroom 2 bath 2001 Oakwood manufactured Large kitchen with pantry and all new stainless appliances. Living room features a wood stove. Recently remodeled guest bathroom with gorgeous tiled shower with etched glass doors. Large shop/garage with two double doors. Two RV hookups. MLS # 37306 \$143,000

Dan Cook, Broker

nicest lot for sale in Wind Canyon and priced to sell!!!! MLS # 36608 **\$29,500**



Located just one block from the Senior Center and around the corner from La Capilla, this well-maintained manufactured home has city amenities but with a little country feel. Features include a split floor plan, country kitchen with breakfast nook, laminate floors, newer appliances, Ring doorbell, cameras for security, programmable lights, covered porch, outside storage building and absolutely fabulous views. MLS # 37392 \$150,000

and Lake Roberts. Site built or true modular allowed. 1300 sf minimum. Underground utilities available including water. Septic needed. Additional 1.5 acres available to the north on Lot 34. For flying enthusiasts, build your home here and purchase a hangar lot on runway or taxiway for private

airstrip NM 069. MLS # 37402 \$30,000



This a lovely 3 bedroom home with a terrific sunroom in back. Come and see it today! MLS # 37039 \$164,400

many wonderful building sites. There is a shared well on this property, so water is already there! Lots of wonderful building sites and tons of privacy! MLS # 35570 \$68,000



Formerly a drive through smoke shop with sales windows on both sides, plenty of parking if retail were desired. City utilities and Highway 90 frontage for easy access and visibility. The building is approximately 462 square feet of heated and cooled retail space for walk in or drive through. Come take a look today. MLS # 36588 \$183,000

also make a great place to develop into storage units. MLS # 37086 \$68,000



Very spacious feeling 3 bedroom 2 bath home near Lake Roberts.

The tasteful rock fireplace from floor to ceiling commands your attention and lends a certain ambience to this getaway in the Gila. Open kitchen/living area make a great place for entertaining with covered decks both front and back. This is one of the finer built mountain homes in the region by renowned builder, Craig Findley. You'll want to move right in. Call today. MLS # 37242 \$269,000



Remote and private, quiet and removed from the hustle and bustle of city living, is a quaint log cabin perched on a ridge above East Canyon that is completely solar powered. A new addition, constructed of straw bail, boasts the master bedroom and bath and rounds out the approximately 2700 square feet. His and hers office or art space upstairs. Sheds, horse barn and water tank are down below in the canyon. You'll undoubtedly see bear, mountain lions and quite possibly, wolf. This is the wild. A nice ecological mix in a transition area at the beginning of the ponderosa tree line in the Mimbres valley. Ride horses, hike or run from your front door right into 3.3 million acres of the Gila National Forest. If you value not being seen or not seeing anyone, this is your gig. There are neighbors that will be seldom seen. Silver City is a mere 45 min drive. MLS # 37357 **\$295,000**



Lake Roberts Motel owners have continuously remodeled since purchase, which had a major overhaul in 2012 on almost every inch of the original structures. There are 6 "cabin style suites" that are more than adorable, the rooms are spotless, decorated with love in a southwestern theme. This place is becoming not just a place to stay, but a destination to repeat customers. There is also a cabin rental in addition to owners retreat and store. They have many beautiful memories here and are seeking to pass the torch to new owners! MLS # 37199 \$499,900

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PUBLISHER Richard Coltharp

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ABOUT THE COVER:

This month's cover art, "Iris in Isolation III," is a watercolor study by Sudeshna Sengupta, MFA. It was created as part of a suite of watercolors for Flowers For Santa Fe, a community project of gifting flower art to patients and superheroes at the frontline of healthcare in Santa Fe-area hospitals, nursing homes and assisted living facilities during the pandemic, when sending real flowers is not possible. Partially supported by Artisan Art Supply Store and inspired by a recent story of a similar project on PBS and NPR, this project has been conceived by Santa Fe Artists' Medical Fund as a way of showing small gestures of kindness to brighten someone's day during these difficult times. More information can be found on the Facebook page of Santa Fe Artists' Medical Fund and the events page of santafeartistsmedicalfund.org.

An internationally exhibited and award-winning painter-printmaker, Sengupta's art career spans multiple decades, continents and cultures. After 25 years in southern New Mexico, includ-

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do, where she established NM-SU-A's first Intaglio printmaking program as a faculty member in 1995, she moved to Santa Fe a couple of years ago. She currently teaches at the School of Art at Santa Fe Community College.

Honored to be a part of this project, Sengupta says she hopes more artists can embrace such ideas to connect with their immediate communities and keep their skills relevant in these troubled times.

To inquire about and see more of her art: www.notes-and-doodles.com: email: sudeshna.sen-

happenings

by Elva K. Osterreich

by Sheila Sowder

ing in Las Cruces and Alamogorgupta@sfcc.edu.







DO YOU LIVE IN SILVER CITY OR ALAMOGORDO? LOKING FOR PART-TIME WORK?



JIM AND HENRY DUCHENE Mean Old Me Whose world is it anyway?

RAISINGDAD .

baseball season or two ago, I was in my den reading the newspaper, shaking my head at Dear Abby, and enjoying a hot cup of gourmet coffee.

I was listening to my TV's Blues channel. They were playing Mean Old World, one of my favorite songs. Maybe I like the song so much because I like the title so much. This old world can be pretty mean. You only have to keep up with current events to realize that. This version was by Little Walter and His Night Cats. I prefer T-Bone Walker's. Maybe I just prefer the name T-Bone.

In a way, the Blues have ruined my appreciation for Rock & Roll. When I first heard certain artists, I thought they were geniuses. 40 years later, when I widened my taste in music to include the likes of Buddy Guy or Z.Z. Hill (Z.Z. Hill. ZZ Top. See the connection?), I realized everything I loved about Rock & Roll was stolen from the Blues, but that's neither here nor there. The point is, I was enjoying some quiet time.

The song changed to one I didn't recognize. The singer sounded drunk, as if Richard Pryor's old wino character was given a guitar and told to earn his next bottle of Thunderbird. I went from Dear Abby to the comic section. That's when my father walked into the den.

"Hi, pop," I said, but kept my head down. I had already said hello to him that morning, not that I count how many times I say hello to him on any given day. I understand when celebrities like Ellen DeGeneres or Steve Harvey tell their employees not to make eye contact with them. If you waste time being nice, you won't have time for important things, like promoting a false image to the general public.

My father mumbled something. I kept reading. I know that sounds mean, but I've learned when he wants me to acknowledge something, he'll speak up.

He mumbled again, this time louder. Walked over to the TV

MEAN continued on page 5

CAFES

continued from page 2

I asked him if he was Al himself, and he said no before going on to tell me the history of the building, one of the oldest in town. He shared a lot of history as he made his way through the cut. I learned about the military base adjacent to the town, the different canyons just outside of town and a little about a couple of famous musicians which have museums named after them in another small town just down the highway.

He went on and on, and I didn't say much myself. He never asked me again about the cash, but I did return with his \$12 after a visit to the bank down the street.

Cafes, barbershops, booktores and other small business-

cause they care about the people – they care about us.

So, every time I'm traveling to a small town or a big city, I look for one of these places. I look for the struggling, blinking neon sign that is often accidentally left on after closing time. I look for the barber chair that has a strip of duct tape on it because it's still too good to throw away.

I look for the smiling faces and I listen for the "come on ins" from people who are working day and night, not be rich or famous, but to make me feel like someone that is.

I like those places, and as they have done many times before, I hope most of them make it passed this tough time. I would like my kids to experience them one day.



Contact Desert Exposure's Distribution Coordinator Teresa Tolonen, at (575) 680-1841 or teresa@lascrucesbulletin.com



es that have stood the test of time are what make our communities special and dear to us. They served our parents and now they serve us. They make money, and sometimes they don't, but they stay open be-

writes about the traditions, people, and culture of America. He can be reached

at abevillarreal@hotmail.com.

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MEAN

continued from page 4

set. Stood in front of it, staring. I still didn't look up. He knows I've got dibs on the TV, and I know he has a perfectly good television set in his guest house. He can watch what he wants whenever he wants, but what he usually wants is to watch this particular set. That drives me nuts. I don't hog his TV. Why does he hog mine?

"Isn't there a game today?" my father said, finally speaking up.

Quite clearly, I might add.

I stayed quiet, but not in a mean way. More like a Clint-Eastwood-when-he's-not-talkingto-a-chair kind of way. I know there's a game today. He knows there's a game today. Even Clint Eastwood's chair knows there's a game today. We have so many baseball channels, even if there wasn't a game there would still be a game.

"Isn't there a game today?" my father asked again, this time turning to look at me. He wanted to make sure I heard. I made the mistake of glancing up. Our eyes locked. I couldn't pretend I didn't hear him.

"Did you say something?" I said, pretending anyway.

"Isn't there a game on?"

"I don't think so," I told him.

He didn't buy it.

"I think there is."

"You sure?"

"Pretty sure. Cleveland."

Cleveland's his favorite team. "If you say so," I said.

"I knew it! I knew there was a game."

If he knew there was a game, then why was he asking me? We were at a stalemate, of sorts. He wasn't asking if he could watch the game, and I wasn't offering to let him. If my wife were there, he'd already be reclining in front of the TV, snacking on champagne and caviar.

Unfortunately for him, she wasn't.

Mumble, mumble.

I ignored him.

Mumble, mumble.

I looked up. Dang! Our eyes locked again.

"Did you say something?"

"The game," he said.

"You sure it's today?"

"Pretty sure."

Another stalemate. He stood there, looking at me. Tampa Red started singing When Things Go Wrong With You (It Hurts Me, Too).

I no longer had the heart to keep it up.

"Sit down, pop," I finally said. "Let's see if the game's on."

He sat. Didn't even say thank you. Instead he groused, not quite mumbling but not quite clearly, "Of course the game's on. I told you that already," and then confided to the chair next to him, "I know when the game's on."

My father.

The new Clint Eastwood. I put on the Cleveland game. His favorite team was 100 games out of the playoffs, losing 20 out of the last 22. There was no hope for them that year. Their only hope was the next year, or the year after that.

My father settled down in his favorite chair watching his favorite team on his favorite TV set. I went back to the comics and my now luke-warm coffee. Then it started...

Smack!

I lifted my eyes.

Smack, smack, SMACK!

My father has the nasty habit of smacking his lips whenever he watches TV. He smacks, he moans, he yawns, he sighs, he oohs and aahs, but what he mainly does is annoy me. I've tried, but I can't sit down with him to watch anything on TV, because his constant noises are so distracting.

My wife insists I should try. "Why don't you?" I tell her back.

"He's not my father."

It was worth a shot.

Oh, well. Back to the story ...

"Ahhh... ohhh..." Big sigh. Followed by an even bigger SMACK! "Ohhh... ahhh..." Smack, smack, smack. Mumble, mumble.

I grabbed my coffee and left the den. I walked upstairs to watch TV in my bedroom. That TV doesn't have a converter to play music.

It's a mean old world, indeed.

Lost YOURS? Find it at JimDuchene.BlogSpot.com, RaisingMyFather.BlogSpot. com, or @JimDuchene.

"Desert Dumbfounder" by Dave Thomas is a simple substitution cipher; one letter stands for Desert #50 another. Solution is by trial and error. Solution will appear in next month's Desert Exposure Dumbfounder Send full solution, or just the Secret Words, to nmsrdave@swcp.com, and be recognized! y Dave Thomas TIPS:www.nmsr.org/secretword.htm and www.nmsr.org/cypher-how2.jpg

"UD EBU-EBLN SINUDENUDU DV OJGI CKNENULDJO SDXNK IBL NWNK

DGGJKKNL YNVDKN. CIN MFTICUFUT NVVNGCO YNTTBKNL LNOGKFSCFDU."

- YKFT. TNU. CIDEBO VBKKNMM, DU CIN CKFUFCZ CNOC

Use the answer key below to track your clues, and reveal Secret Words!

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Previous Solution: "BOOTES, THE HERDSMAN, HAS A PAIR OF DOGS IN THE SKY TO HELP HIM CONTROL HIS FLOCK, CANES VENATICI, THE HUNTING DOGS, ON THESE JUNE EVENINGS." - BERT STEVENS *Secret Words: "BUILD STAR EPONYM"

Congrats to #49 solvers : Will Adams*, Mike Arms*, Shorty Vaiza*, Skip Howard*, and David Kinder*!



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exposure

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CTUE:W = V, X = W

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Friday, Aug. 14 noon: Space reservation, ad copy, all stories and notices for the editorial section due.

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Letters to the Editor

A call for peace

Editor:

For more than 30 years, Gila Friends Meeting (Quaker) has held a public witness near the August days when the United States detonated atomic weapons at Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan, in 1945. Our purpose has always been to remind New Mexicans of the horrendous toll of those explosions, killing hundreds of thousands of civilians and leaving radioactive "hot spots" on the land.

This year is the 75th anniversary of the birth of "the Bomb," right here in New Mexico. The Atomic Age began in a flash of light at 5:29 a.m. on July 16, 1945, a Monday morning. Our history of "downwinders" - populations affected by the fallout of atomic detonations - began in the Tularosa Basin a few minutes later. One of the makers of the bomb, J. Robert Oppenheimer, later remarked that it brought to mind words from the "Bhagavad Gita": "Now I am become Death, the destroyer of worlds."

The bombs dropped on Japan's cities further revealed the terrible power that could be unleashed. So did years of above-ground testing by the U.S. in Utah, Nevada and the South Pacific. Other nations joined the nuclear race, doing their own testing and adding to the nuclear pollution of the earth and its atmosphere. Finally, the U.S. and most nations of the world signed the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, effective in 1970. The signatory nations with nuclear weapons agreed "to pursue nuclear disarmament aimed at the ultimate elimination of their nu-

clear arsenals."

Though perhaps 80 percent of the global nuclear weapons have, in fact, been eliminated, there are still enough poised to "make the rubble bounce" and to render places around the world uninhabitable for centuries – like Chernobyl today. The U.S. and other nations are presently "upgrading" their arsenals (at a cost of trillions of dollars) and testing is being proposed again.

It would be especially important for those who say "Never again!" to nuclear weapons to gather again in this anniversary year. We appreciate the cooperation received in past years from the town parks department and the application had already gone through channels. However, under the present coronavirus concerns, an in-person gathering would be ill-advised and will not be held.

Those who are concerned about the ongoing threat of nuclear weapons and those who would like to learn more about the subject are encouraged to register for the "75th Anniversary Hiroshima Day One-Hour Online Commemoration" on Aug. 6, which will include Evelyn Naranjo of Pueblo de San Ildefonso, Rev. John Dear and Jay Coghlan of Nukewatch.org (https://paceebene.org/hiroshimaday2020 to register).

Locally, Tom Vaughan will post a series of daily Facebook posts, which will then be shared with several other local Facebook pages. The series will include posters published by the War Resisters League in 2015, the 70th anniversary of the bombings. Gila Friends have

LETTER5

e would like to hear from you, so please don't hesitate to share your thoughts.

We welcome letters to the editor including your opinions and feedback regarding news, events and issues published here. Traditional letters to the editor offer an opportunity to start a new discussion, share your opinions or provide information you believe is of interest to other readers.

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had these posters at the observances in the past; this will offer more time to absorb the history they tell.

In this, as in everything else during the pandemic, it is difficult to pick our way forward. In the end, though, our nuclear weapons message is the same: Never again!

Tom Vaughan Gila Friends Meeting (Quaker)

Editor,

I agree, all cops are not bastards, although some people would like to make all cops the villains and that is not true. I also agree that defunding does not work. To these people who

Working for change

have shouted out for years In m though, reform seems too soft givin a term, because reforms have take come and gone and still people the of color are getting killed by the police. They have trusted reform and it has brought them nothing.

In my experience defunding or giving across-the-board cuts, takes those cuts in funds to all the wrong things, usually train-

> CHANGE continued on page 7





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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK • ELVAK ÖSTERREICH One Red Shoe Inspiration and the writer

There is a part in a writer's group in Silver City (via Zoom) for a few months now. I often am not able to zoom in on the weekly meetings, but I am continually inspired by the prompts sent out by Silver City Poet Laureate Eve West Bessier and find that writing to her prompts is inspiring and keeps my mind working in new ways. I also love being part of a group I would never otherwise be able to participate in.

I am charmed in a way by these days where even though the lack of in-person, face-to-face exchanges is crazy-making, the opportunities to touch the world are virtually limitless. We can take part in concerts, take art classes, have intimate conversations with people we never dreamed would respond to us, listen to readings and participate in meetings that are meaningful to us, even if they are far away. Creatively and politically the world has expanded while the place where our bodies reside and move about has narrowed. No, don't worry about the Matrix yet.

Anyway, a few weeks ago Bessier posted the following prompt:

"As a young adult, a childhood friend of mine was visiting me in San Francisco from my native country, Holland. As we drove around downtown SF, we spotted a black, high-heeled pump lying in the middle of the street. No matching second shoe. My friend said, 'Dat kompt vreemdt over!' Loose translation: "That's just plain weird!'

"See what you can do with the solo-shoe-in-the-road phenomenon, which I've experienced many, many times over the years, including just yesterday with a pink tennis shoe in the middle of Little Walnut!"

What a cascade this prompt caused in my mind! So many different directions it could travel. That single shoe, that single idea and a plethora of directions. But more than that, it reminded me of all the little wierdsies (a phrase stolen from the Judge John Hodgeman podcast) in the world that are lost to our perception.

The nature of people is to let things they don't understand slip by the peripheral vision of their brains. Ghosts and shadows slide away without notice if they are not immediately understood and recognized. You would think that the strange would grab your attention and focus, but often the opposite is true. It slips by unless something forces it back into attention. You can test this and see if I am right. In the midst of a conversation, throw in something completely off the wall, then continue talking about whatever it was you were talking about. Whoever you are talking to will probably let it pass without even a blink.

So, perhaps it is the job of the writer – poet, novelist, journalist, essayist – to bring out those single shoes that slip past our world. They need to nudge the reader into the shadows a little to examine what might have otherwise been missed, passed by and diminished.

The Desert Exposure writing contest deadline for entries is Aug. 15. Visit the ad on Page 9 for details as to how to enter. Pull out those stories, poems and prose pieces that might have nudged you once and send them in. As long as they relate to our part of the world, they are eligible for publication and prizes.

Contact Bessier at lifecoacheve@yahoo.com if you are interested in the Munching Words Brunch Writing Group and live in Grant County. Visit the Southwest Festival of the Written Word website at swwordfiesta.org for some great writers and discoveries. The Silver City Poet Laureate program is partially sponsored by the festival.

Elva K. Österreich is editor of Desert Exposure and would love to meet Desert



Exposure readers in Silver City, by phone or by email. Please contact her at editor@ desertexposure.com or by cell phone at 575-443-4408 to set a place and time to meet.

CHANGE

continued from page 6

ing, culture change and officers' salaries. The only cops you can afford to hire then think that they are a hammer and people of color are nails.

Some of the things that occur now that police shouldn't have to take care of include:

• Mental health calls

• Transporting people to medical and behavioral health visits. (Yes, they really do this. I've had police ask me to find a way for this to stop.)

• Being present when children are removed from their parents. (Police escalate this situation with

their uniforms, guns and cars.) In all the above examples

there are situations where the police are necessary. If social workers are embedded in the police department, then they can assist the police and work together to determine those times when police are necessary.

The policy changes suggested in the July Desert Exposure editorial column are excellent, but they will require extensive training and having social workers embedded in the police departments. In Albuquerque, they were embedded for a while and recently this has been relegated to some nonprofits to handle. As a social worker, I know

that these changes will not be welcome, and the answer is to keep pushing through the resistance until the culture change is achieved. This takes time. When I have been involved with culture change in corporations, I was told that culture change takes a minimum of five years. These are not short-term solutions; these solutions require a top down and bottom up commitment to making things better. What I am talking about is community policing, with citizen review boards to work to make it better long-term.

All cops are not bastards, and I too know many police who are committed to the betterment of their community. Community policing works where the longterm commitment is there, and now is the time. Karen Whitlock Mimbres Candidate for State Representative District 38 Sierra and Grant Counties

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We strongly recommend gallery patrons call locations before visiting as gallery hours are subject to change and do so often. Contact Elva Österreich at Desert Exposure at 575-680-1978 or editor@ desertexposure.com to update listings. All area codes are 575 unless indicated otherwise.

Silver City

- Alaska Mudhead Studio-Gallery, 371 Camino de Viento in Wind Canyon. By appointment, Letha Cress Wolfe, potter, 907-783-2780.
- Anthony Howell Studio, 200 W. Market St. 574-2827. By appointment only.
- [a]SP."A"©E, 110 W. Seventh St., 538-3333, aspace.studiogallery@gmail.com.
- Barbara Nance Gallery & Stonewalker Studio, 105 Country Road, 534-0530. By appointment. Stone, steel, wood and paint. Sculpture path. www. barbaraNanceArt.com.

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575-538-2284 and we can get together.

The Barking Dog Studio, 512 Bremen St. (off Cooper Street) Open 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. 534-9620

- Blue Dome Gallery, 307 N. Texas, second location at 60 Bear Mountain Road, 534-8671. Open 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday to Saturday. www. bluedomegallery.com.
- Borderlands Gallery, Stephan Hoglund Studios, 211 W. Yankie St., Silver City. 218-370-1314. www.stephanhoglund.com.
- The Cliffs Studio & Gallery, 205 N. Lyon St., corner of Yankie and
- Lyon streets, 520-622- 0251. By appointment. Common Ground, 102 W. Kelly St.,

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534-2087. Open by chance or by prior arrangement. 534-2087. **Cow Trail Art Studio,** 119 Cow Trail in Arenas Valley, 12-3 p.m. Monday, or by appointment, 706-533- 1897, www. victoriachick.com.

ARTS EXPOSURE

Gallery Guide

- Creative Hands Roadside Attraction Art Gallery, 106 W Yankie, Silver City. 303-916-5045 Hours are 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Wednesday to Saturday,
- and 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday. By appointment at other times.
- Elemental Artisans, by appointment only, 215-593-6738.
- Francis McCray Gallery, 1000 College Ave., WNMU, 538-6517. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Gila Gallery Photographs of the American Southwest, 206 N. Bullard St., 342-1914.

- The Glasserie Studio and Store, 106 E. College Ave., 590-0044. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday to Saturday.
- Grant County Art Guild Gallery, 316 N. Bullard St. 10 a.m-5 p.m. Monday through Saturday; 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday. GCAG.org.

Guadalupe's, 505 N. Bullard St., 535-2624. Thursday to Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Leyba & Ingalls Arts, 315 N. Bullard

- St., 388-5725. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday to Saturday. Contemporary art ranging from realism to abstraction in a variety of media. www.LeybalngallsARTS. com, LeybalngallsART@zianet.com.
- Light Art Space, 209 W. Broadway St. 520-240-7075. Open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday to Saturday; 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday; and by appointment. Contemporary photography and other media. Workshops, exhibitions and events. info@lightartspace.com www. lightartspace.com.
- Lloyd Studios, 306 W. Broadway St. 590-1110. Sculpture, custom knives and swords. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Wednesday to Saturday and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday.

Lois Duffy Art Studio, 211C N. Texas St., 534-0822. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday or by appointment. Original paintings, cards and prints. www. loisduffy.com, loisduffy@signalpeak.net.

- Lumiere Editions, 104 N. Texas St., 956-6369. Vintage and contemporary
- photography. Monday to Friday. **The Makery,** 106 E. Market Place. 590-1263. Freestyle weaving studio and school of fiber, book and paper arts, 11 a.m.- 4 p.m. Thursday to Monday,
- www.makerysvc.com. **Manzanita Ridge,** 107 N. Bullard St.
- Mimbres Regional Arts Council Gallery, Wells Fargo Bank Bldg., 1201 N. Pope St. 538-2505, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday to Sunday www.mimbresarts.org. Molly Ramolla Gallery & Framing,
- 203 N. Bullard St., 538- 5538. www. ramollaart.com. Ol' West Gallery & Mercantile, 104 W.
- Broadway St., 388-1811/313-2595, 8:30 -10 a.m. Monday to Friday. **The Place at the Palace,** at 201 N.
- Bullard St. 575-388-1368. Soul River Gallery, 400 N. Bullard
- Soul River Gallery, 400 N. Bullard St. 303-888-1358; 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday and Wednesday and 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Thursday to Saturday.
- Sterling Fine Art, 306 N. Bullard St. Silver City, 505-699-5005, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday to Saturday and 1-3 p.m. Sunday, or by appointment.

Tatiana Maria

Gallery, 305 N. Bullard St. 388-4426. Tree Spirit Gallery, on-line only at www.cogan-

cogan.com. 303-888-1358. 21 Latigo Trail, 941-387-8589. Sculpture by Barbara Harrison. By appointment only.

- Wild West Weaving, 211-D N. Texas St., 313-1032, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday to Saturday, www.wildwestweaving.com. Wind Canyon Studio, 11 Quail Run
- Road off Hwy. 180, mile marker 107, 574- 2308, 619-933-8034. Louise Sackett, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday and Wednesday and by appointment. **Wynnegate Gallery,** 1105 W. Market
- St., 534-9717, noon 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, also open for Red Dot Tour, artist showings and by appointment.
- Zoe's Studio/Gallery, 305 N. Cooper St., 654-4910. By chance or appointment.

Mimbres

Chamomile Connection, 3918 U.S. Highway 35, 536-9845. Lynnae McConaha. By appointment.

Kate Brown Pottery and Tile, HC 15 Box 1335, San Lorenzo 88041, 536- 9935, katebrown@gilanet.com, www.katebrownpottery.com. By appointment.

Bayard

Kathryn Allen Clay Studio, 601 Erie St., 537-3332. By appointment.

Northern Grant County

Casitas de Gila, 50 Casita Flats Road, Gila, 535-4455. By appointment. gallery@casitasdegila. com, www. galleryatthecasitas.com.

Deming

Deming Arts Center, 100 S. Gold St., 546-3663. Monday to Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Gold Street Gallery, 112-116 S. Gold St., 546-8200. Open noon-4 p.m.

Monday to Saturday. Orona Art Studio, 546-4650. By appointment. lyntheoilpainter@ gmail. com, www.lynorona.com.

Reader's Cove Used Books & Gallery, 200 S. Copper St., 544-2512. Monday to Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Photography by Daniel Gauss. Studio LeMarbe, 4025 Chaparral SE, 544-7708. By appointment.

Columbus

Village of Columbus Library, 112 Broadway St., 531-2612, 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday to Saturday.

Rodeo

Chiricahua Gallery, 5 Pine St., 557-2225. Open daily except Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Hillsboro Barbara Massengill Gallery, 895-3377,

open weekends and by appointment.

Mesilla

Doña Ana Arts Council Arts and Cultural Center, 1740 Calle de Mercado, Suites B and D, 523-6403, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday to Friday. Galeri Azul, Old Mesilla Plaza, 523-8783. Monday to Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Galeria on the Plaza, 2310 Calle de Principal, 526-9771. Daily 10 am -6 p.m.

Las Cruces

Big Picture Gallery, 2001 Lohman Ave, Suite 109, 647-0508. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Tuesday to Friday. 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday.

Blue Gate Gallery, 4901 Chagar St. (intersection of Valley Drive and Taylor Road, open by appointment, 523-2950.

Camino Real Book Store and Art

Gallery, 314 S. Tornillo St. 523-3988. Thursday to Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

- Justus Wright Galeria, 266 W. Court Ave., 526-6101, jud@ delvalleprintinglc.com. 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday to Friday.
- Las Cruces Arts Association, located in Cruces Creatives, 205 E. Lohman Ave. lascrucesarts.wixsite.com/arts.
- Las Cruces Museum of Art, 491 N. Main St., 541-2137. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Tuesday to Friday; 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Saturday.
- Mesquite Art Gallery, 340 N. Mesquite St., 640-3502. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Thursday to Friday; 2-5 p.m. Saturday.
- M. Phillip's Fine Art Gallery, 221 N. Main St., 525-1367.
- New Dimension Art Works, 615 E. Piñon St., 373-0043. By Appointment. NMSU University Art Gallery,
- Devasthali Hall NMSU, University Ave. east of Solano, 646-2545, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday to Sunday.

Nopalito's Galeria, 326 S. Mesquite St., 8 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Friday to Sunday. Quillin Stephens Gallery, behind

downtown Coas Books, 312-1064. By appointment only. **Tombaugh Gallery,** Unitarian

Universalist Church, 2000 S. Solano Drive, 522-7281. Wednesday to Friday 10 a.m.-2 p.m. or by appointment.

Unsettled Gallery & Studio, 905 N. Mesquite, 635-2285, noon-5 p.m. Wednesday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday to Friday; 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. Saturday, and by appointment.

Virginia Maria Romero Studio, 4636 Maxim Court, 644-0214. By appointment, agzromero@zianet.com, virginiamariaromero.com.

Magdalena

Atelier Studio 605, 605 W. First St. A collective space containing Village Press Print Studio; DOrkyART.us; Glennoznap.com; Es•Press•O. 838-6452. Letterpress Cards and Journals, Fine Art Printing & Photography. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Bear Mountain Gallery, 902 First Street. 1-4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Paintings by Eddie Tsosie, jewelry and navajo rugs.

Blue Canyon Gallery, U.S. Highway 60 (1 mile east of Magdalena), 854-2953, 9 a.m.to 5 p.m. daily. Paintings, potterv and iewelry.

pottery and jewelry. **C&S Morning Star,** 805 First Street, 505-288-6361. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday to Thursday. Navajo jewelry and rugs.

Evett's Café and Gallery, 501 First St., 854-2449. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday to Sunday. Photographs, plein air landscape paintings and illustrated childrens books.

Judy's Studio, 104 N. Main St. 375-743-9110. 1-4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday and by appointment. Drawings and sculpture.

Kind of a Small Array, 106 N. Main St. 210-473-9062. A humble space for art, music and poetry. 1-4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday and by appointment





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Studio Upstairs, 109 N. Bullard St., 574-2493. By appointment. Syzygy Tile Gallery, 106 N. Bullard St., 388-5472. Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery, 2470 Calle de Guadalupe, 522- 2933. Daily 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Ouida Touchön Studio, 2615 Calle de Guadalupe, 635-7899. By appointment. ouida@ouidatouchon. com, www.ouidatouchon. com. The Potteries, 2260 Calle de Santiago, 524-0538, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday to Saturday; noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. appointment.

La Posada Gallery, 1008 First St. 910-297-9904. Affordable original art, photography, paintings, pottery, santos and icons. 1-4 p.m. Wednesday to Sunday.

Old S'cool House Gallery, 500 Main St., corner of Fifth Street, 360-298-1461. Abstract paintings, textiles and fabric creations. 1-4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday and by appointment.

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ARTS EXPOSURE • ELVAK. ÖSTERREICH Arts Scene

Upcoming area art happenings

SILVER CITY



Monica Welsh, "Jigsaw 1"

• Sterling Fine Art is featuring gallery artists Friday and Saturday 11 a.m.-4 p.m., and by appointment, 505-699-5005. The gallery is located at 306 N. Bullard St. in Silver City and online at sterlingnm.com. Featured artist Monica Welsh said, "I think of the shapes I use as forming an alphabet which creates a kind of language or sense of language; or shapes are analogous to musical notes which in a composition create a rhythm, phrase or sound."



Rebecca Rousseau, "Red Abstract"



Dora Klein, "Glasswork Ballerina"

• The Grant County Art Guild Gallery is located at 316 N. Bullard St. in the purple former Hester House. Hours are 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Monday to Sunday. With close to 40 members, the gallery carries a wide range of art, including original Silver City work from potters, painters, jewelers, artisans, photographers, weavers, woodworkers and more. They



Diane Cornelius, "Landscape"

also feature three members each month by displaying their artwork in the front windows.

DEMING

• Plein Air (painted on location) painting is the focus for the August 2020 exhibition at the Deming Art Center. Plein Air is usually done outdoors, but the definition has been expanded to include paintings done indoors due to weather and COVID-19 restrictions. The exhibit is open to all ages who wish to participate. These works of art are usually small due to weather, time and lighting variants. Entrants may exhibit up to three pieces if they are large and more if smaller in size. There is no entry fee and the show will not be judged. Along with the Plein Air paintings, local artist Diana LeMarbe will be exhibiting her wood sculptures. She was gifted with a large quantity of wood chunks, including some exotic and aromatic types (a big thanks to Art Lorbeer and Eric Bardrof). After much planning and thought about how to best use this gift, the result will be seen at the August exhibition. The show will run Aug. 2-30, Masks will be required. Deming Art Center is located at 100 S Gold St. Its hours are 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Monday to Friday and 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Saturday. Info: 575-546-3663 or www.demingarts.org. This project is supported in part by New Mexico Arts, a division of the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs, and by the National

Endowment for the Arts.

CLOUDCROFT

• The Patio Sale for Cloudcroft Art Society will be held on Saturday, Aug. 22 in the upper big room in the Red Schoolhouse, 90 Swallow Place in the historic village of Cloudcroft. This annual sale raises money for CAS expenses, mainly utilities and donations. The society's gallery is open every Saturday during the summer months. Many artworks, including paintings in all media, fine art and digital art photography, both framed and matted prints, cards, pottery, fiber art, gourd art, intarsia, jewelry and glass art, are on display and are for sale. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

LAS CRUCES



Jan Preston Archev and Dianna Rankin, "Gathering at the Edge"

• The Potters' Guild of Las Cruces presents "Fire and Fiber United," an exhibit featuring 14 pieces made by 10 artist pairs, a clay artist and a fiber artist. The two artists collaborate to produce an art piece that is balanced and cohesive using clay and fibrous materials. The show begins Saturday, Aug. 1 at Las Cruces Clay & Studio, 614 E. Lohman Ave., with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. open to the public.

The Potters' Guild has offered this biennial show since 2000. Participating this year are Guild members Vickie Morrow, Liz Fisher, Jan Preston Archey, Mary Lou LaCasse, Barbara Williams, Randy Sum-

ART SCENE

continued on page 10



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Submit your best article, short story, essay, poem or other piece of writing by Aug. 15. Entries must be previously unpublished and will be judged on quality and how well they express some aspect of life in 1740-A Calle de Mercado southern New Mexico. Please limit entries to a maximum of two. Maximum length per entry is 4,000 words. Include name, postal address and email if you

have one. Entries cannot be returned.



COUPLES THERAPISTS

ART SCENE

continued from page 9

mers, Jeannine Summers, Linda Reeder-Sanchez, Joe Angelo and Bonnie Mac-Quarrie. Fiber artists include Kathy Baker, Leon Nastacio, Christina Campbell, Georgia Jones, Deanna Rankin, Karen Dahmer, Anne Angelo, Lynn Breckenridge, Patricia Black and Nancy Savage.

The show debuted at the Deming Art Center for the month of July and was juried by Noël Sandino, a local printmaker, painter and fine arts teacher. Las Cruces Clay & Studio hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. Ceramic classes are offered for beginners to advanced students. For more information contact Peter Paulos at 775-291-0210.



Paul Maxwell, "New Patriot"

• The Doña Ana Arts Council (DAAC) features the work of Las Cruces artists Paul Maxwell and Phil Yost in August at the DAAC Arts & Cultural Center gallery. Both artists bring many years of experience, extensive travel and a keen eye for detail to this exhibit. Paul Maxwell paints full-time in his southern New Mexico studio in Santa Teresa, focusing on landscapes and local subjects using acrylic paints. According to Maxwell, "For this new exhibit, I'm exploring different border crossings and immigration issues. One of my paintings, 'Twenty-Two Stars over El Paso,' relates to the Aug. 3 massacre at the Wal-Mart in El Paso in 2019." Yost took up painting watercolors in 1996 and soon excelled. "I like the outdoors and I like old things," Yost said. "I like to paint old buildings, especially old adobe churches, bottles, cars and other things I find outdoors." The exhibit is available for viewing from Aug. 3 through Aug. 29 at the Doña Ana Arts & Cultural Center located at 1740 Calle de Mercado in Mesilla during regular business hours, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and during extend hours for the Second Saturday, Aug. 8 from 12 noon to 7 p.m.

For more information, visit www.daarts.org or call 575-523-6403.



Sue Ann Glenn, "Untitled"

• The Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery, 2470-A Calle de Guadalupe, across from the historic Fountain Theatre, features two local artists for the month of August, Frank Rimbach and Sue Ann Glenn. Rimbach holds a bachelor's degree and Master of Fine Arts from New Mexico State University. His work is primarily in landscapes, and his bookcase series has modern abstracts. He is currently exploring landscapes, as he continues to capture the rugged beauty surrounding Las Cruces. After 32 years of teaching, Glenn retired and has focused on watercolors. Prior to her retirement, most of her work dealt with acrylics. During her travels, subjects she has observed have inspired many of her paintings. One of the newest members of the gallery is Steve Martin, a geographer historian and criminologist, who spent 29 years protecting natural, historic and cultural resources on public lands throughout the western United States. He retired to pursue his photography creations. A selftaught photographer, he strives to create public awareness for protecting and preserving our nation's public land through the medium of digital photography.

Another new member is **Patricia Rutherford** a contemporary realist colored-pencil artist. She is also well versed in the use of graphite, charcoal, watercolor and pen and ink. COVID-19 adjusted gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily, with limited access. Info: 575-522-2933, www. mesillavalleyfinearts.com.

VIRTUAL NEW MEXICO

• An area-created format showcases artists' work on Facebook at "Las Cruces NM Artists & Art Showcase" on a page specifically for the many undiscovered artists and artisans in Las Cruces and Doña Ana County. No matter what it is you do, painting, photography, sculpting, pottery, jewelry, fiber arts, woodworking, decorative arts, etc., anything created by you is welcome to be displayed. Please note, this Facebook page is meant to be a digital art gallery rather than a sales tool. This Facebook page is the creation of Robert Paquette, a long-time volunteer for many Las Cruces community service organizations.

• Desert Exposure Virtual Gallery offers a visit to the art of southern New Mexico artists in their web-based galleries. While we can't yet go to all these galleries and studios and spend our time perusing the amazing work of southern New Mexico artists and craftspeople, we can take a journey through their creativity. This section of the Desert Exposure website journeys through some of the talent we have south of Interstate 25. If you are a southern New Mexico artist and would like to be included in this listing, please contact us at editor@desertexposure.com or by calling Elva at 575-443-4408. Website: www.desertexposure. com/virtual-gallery/.

• The Museum of International Folk Art (MOIFA) in Santa Fe exhibition "Alexander Girard: A Designer's Universe," is available for viewing until Dec. 31, 2021. With this virtual exhibition, visitors can open the door to Girard's creative universe from home. Featured are Girard's designs in textiles, furniture and sculpture, as well as his interior architecture projects for residences, restaurants and retail spaces. To experience the virtual exhibition "Alexander Girard: A Designer's Universe," visit https://fivedmedia.com/3d-model/alexander-girard-a-designers-universe/ skinned/.

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DAAC Arts & Cultural Center 1740 Calle de Mercado, Mesilla

AUGUST 2020 EXHIBIT "BORDER CROSSINGS" features the work of Paul Maxwell & Phil Yost

GALLERY HOURS 9 a.m.-5 p.m., M-F; and 12-7 p.m. on Second Saturday, August 8

DOÑA ANA ARTS & CULTURAL CENTER 1740 Calle de Mercado - daarts.org - 575-523-6403













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WRITTEN WORD

Reflections on Quarantine

Grant County writers speak from isolation

In the 17th century, ships would sail into Venice from far-off lands, bringing exotic goods and exotic diseases. The Venetian authorities enforced 40 days (quaranta giorni) of isolation, keeping the sailors in the ship off the coast so that no plagues could spread to the mainland. From quaranta we get quarantine, a word much in use these days.

Fourteen authors affiliated with Silver City's Southwest Festival of the Written Word wrote reflections on life under quarantine. Each piece is exactly 40 words, in a nod to quarantine's etymology. Poets, novelists, essayists and nature writers here capture these strange times in the way we know best.

– JJ Amaworo Wilson

Quarantine is about waiting, a heightened state of alertness for a change in the status quo – a letter in the mailbox; a beloved author talking on the radio; a good rain to relieve the anxiety of watching the grass die.

- Christine Eber

I am quartered in a beautiful place. Every morning: singing birds and gray foxes. Nothing amiss there. I'm quartered by gratitude, sorrow, ennui. And the fourth? Shame. No, desire. Every time I read the news. I, too, hear America singing.

– Sharman Apt Russell

Pandemic, lockdown, social distancing, face masks. Can't go to work, to church, or to the galleries. Can't have company or visit friends. Walmart's open, so's the liquor store. Now what do we do? Xeriscape both yards. Electric mower for sale. - **Bruce Wilson**

We have seen the future: hoarders of toilet paper and dried pasta. Governments in denial. Bodies piling up in the streets. The new divide: masked versus mask-less. And, locked in, we hear pristine silence – the world doing fine without us.

– JJ Amaworo Wilson

From a British pub sign: If you want to know what it feels like to be in the hospitality business during this pandemic, remember when the Titanic was sinking and the band continued to play? Well, we are the band.

– Ted Presler

Fear, dread, insomnia. Repeat. Composing poems about collective anxiety, about my own. Resolve towards solace through creative expressions that uplift. Still, the unexpected gifts of this introverted life, not worth the loss of face-to-face time (not FaceTime). I miss you!

– Eve West Bessier



"Stop! In the Name of Love" (Art by Cecilia Stanford)

In the early days of quarantine, I was Zooming (of course) with a friend who commented "It's like Mother Nature has sent us to our rooms." An opportunity, then, to reevaluate – and remember that in the end, she always wins.

– Kat Sherrell

It was one thing when "quarantine" was primarily an important though innocuous-sounding noun. Now it is primarily a verb. Mandatory imposition. There is a figurative wall around our country. We have incarcerated ourselves. I open my world atlas and sigh.

– M. John Fayhee

So much recently taken for granted gone suddenly no chance to say goodbye the one place I still dance unmasked is alone on top of a mountain and look how morning still dances with the east to celebrate what remains **– Beate Sigriddaughter** I will mask my face but not my heart glove my hands but not my touch cover my mouth but not my kiss stay my body but not my soul

open my heart leave it raw feel everything from afar – **Melanie Zipin**

The new normal: isolation, virus anxiety, death watch, fear of people who regard those with masks as the enemy. But with a writer's imagination, you can go anywhere, with anyone; closeness and safety again. Normal is overrated. Imagination rules now.

– Kris Neri

"Bring out your dead!" The plague carried horrible suffering. Levantine trade (1500s) mandated sea shipments isolate, be purified by smoking, lye-scrubbed, and quarantined crewmembers. Modern isolation from the real suffering of those now desperately ill makes us foolishly less fearful.

– Peter Riva



"My Bangs are out of Control"

Pervasive quarantine loneliness; missing my children and grandchildren to such a degree I indulge my yearning with memories, precious time spent together, languishing in each other's aura, a bounty of hugs, kisses, snuggling at story time. My solitary heart groans.

– Lynne Zotalis

A hundred days since young Sophia died. More than the forty of "La Quarentina" endured Italian sailors during the plague. Quarantine, mourning, reflection, an endless slideshow of faces I have known, a cat playing, a pond that sings for today. – Bonnie Buckley Maldonado



"Isolation - Day 96"

TUMBLEWEEDS . LUCINDA KARTER The Ham Welcome to New Mexico

have an accent, they say. Well yes, I grew up in Europe, though was born in Connecticut. My first trip to New Mexico was two months ago when I followed the love of my life here. We packed up the car in Irvington, New York, and drove through states I never expected I'd see in my lifetime. What a beautiful country. Not to say that some states aren't a bit long to drive across: I'm thinking Arkansas and Texas especially.

Danny was born in Alamogordo and he graduated high school in Ruidoso, so I didn't know for sure if my future home would be in an unexpected ski resort or down in the Tularosa Basin. I stand corrected: There never was a choice - the desert it would be. We found the home we could afford in Tularosa.

Having lived in three foreign countries and visited many more, I thought I knew a thing or two about kindness. Well, I stand corrected.

After a quick turnaround drive back east to get our furniture, Danny and I settled in our new home. Our favorite neighborhood shopping trip turned out to be to the Family Dollar. Not just

for the prices or the plentitude of household basics, but also for the kindness. Within days of our arrival, Darryl (I've changed people's names for privacy) greeted us on a first-name basis. He elegantly welcomed us to Tularosa, and we became instant members of his clientele. This was phase one of our welcome

Phase two occurred soon after our final move, when I went to the shop to load up on everything from dish soap to cat litter for the two cats that came with the house (had I known we would have offered a \$100 more - or at least I would have).

All in all, I left Family Dollar with half a dozen plastic bags that I loaded into the car. Once home I did a double take. I could have sworn I'd bought a tablecloth. I recalled spending a good minute or two pondering whether a 6x10 would work on a small round table, or a 4x12. It was blue, I swear. But no tablecloth made it out of those bags. The tablecloth was the main reason I'd gone to the store. Danny must have wondered, but didn't say anything. Flustered but resigned, I let it go. One gets used to living with the occasional

memory lapse after all.

You may be wondering by now when the ham comes in. Well, a week or so later we stopped in the store on the way out of town and a lovely young clerk dropped what she was doing to come speak to us.

"You left a bag here the other day. It had a tablecloth in it and some canned peaches and an ice tray."

To say that she saved the day would be to minimize it. I almost broke down crying I was so happy I hadn't made up the tablecloth story.

"You can go pick out another tablecloth if you like. I'll grab the other stuff."

And so, I did.

A week later we were in the store again (yes, we have become regulars). Once again, Sarah rushed up to us and apologized.

"I forgot to mention the ham. You also had some ham in that bag. Let me get it for you."

She raced to the refrigerator and handed me a plastic container of deli ham. Unfortunately, we weren't going straight home so we had to leave the ham there where it would stay cold. I had



Lucinda Karter takes joy in exploring southern New Mexico on the trail at Bridal Veil Falls. (Photo by Elva K. Österreich)

completely forgotten about that item. We promised to stop by another time to pick it up.

A few days later I popped in, but Sarah wasn't there. I approached the cashier.

"Is Sarah here? I left some ham in the fridge..."

Words fail to describe the look he gave me. Incredulous I suppose is how I'll leave it. Embarrassed, I apologized and quickly ran back to the car.

"Forget the ham. I just made a fool of myself in front of the entire town! I'm never bringing it up again."

The next day we were back (yes, as I said, we are faithful clientele) and who should come smiling out from behind the aisles than Sarah.

"Hey, we came to get the ham," we half-joked.

"No problem. It should be in the fridge."

To our chagrin, all that was left was one lonely package of sliced turkey. We took it. This is but one of many kindnesses I encountered upon moving to New Mexico. I will always remember each and every one. And sliced turkey will never taste so good.



FOR THE BEES . MIKE COOK Follow the Honey Bee rescuers ply their craft throughout the Mesilla Valley



Bonded

hat's the most unusual hobby you can think of? How about bee rescuer?

Long-time Las Cruces Potters Guild member Jan Archey and her husband, James, work with Dr. Chris Cramer, a professor in New Mexico State University's

Department of Plant and Environmental Sciences, and his wife, Krista Michael, to rescue bees

"We have been doing bee rescues since 2014," Cramer said, including a total of 65 rescue attempts. That includes working with the NMSU Grounds Depart-



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Las Cruces bee rescuers Jan and James Archey (Photos courtesy of Jan Archey)

ment to rescue bees found on campus. All the rescues are European honeybees (Apis mellifera), he said.

"It takes three or four people to gently vacuum up the bees

into a travel box that can be placed on top of an empty hive box," Archey said. "The hope is the bees will take up residence in the hive and will thrive and can be used for Dr. Cramer's



New comb and bees from a local water meter box.

onion-breeding program. The bees are necessary to pollinate the onion blooms to develop new onion varieties."

"It takes some time for the bees to adjust to their new home," Cramer said. "If they stay, the bees will build comb, produce honey and hopefully, if the queen is present, produce the next generation of bees in the hive. We keep the bees at our home or at the homes of other individuals, like the Archeys, until the bees are needed for pollination. Pollination of onion flowers occurs during May. The hives are taken to the Fabian Garcia Science Center where our onions are located. The bees remain there for a month during the pollination season."

"This past year, we had six hives that we used for pollination," Cramer said. "As a comparison, our onion breeding program had to rent 55 additional hives from a local beekeeper for the rest of our pollination needs."

HONEY

continued on page 15



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PUBLISHER'S NOTEBOOK . RICHARD COLTHARP Driving in, Dining out Diamond of drive-ins offer distanced delights

rive-in restaurants were not invented with a global pandemic in mind but, turns out, they are suited well to Coronavirus restrictions.

Sonic may be the dominant player in the drive-in restaurant world, but in our region, there are still some of the classics left.

With Las Cruces as your hub, there's a diamond of drive-ins within an hour's drive. The four restaurants are due east, north, west and south of Las Cruces, creating a diamond pattern. I recently did the tough work of sampling this quartet, with a focus on burgers.

EAST STOP: Hi-D-Ho Drive In, Alamogordo, 414 S. White Sands Blvd. I lived in Alamogordo for a dozen years, so have long been familiar with Hi-D-Ho and its world-famous Tiger Burger with green chiles. But it had been a long time – too long.

It was just as good as I remembered.

If you're not prepared to eat a lot, order the regular burger. But if you want the full experience, order the Tiger Burger, so named because the Alamogordo High School mascot is the Tiger. Since the Hi-D-Ho began in 1952, you can imagine a bunch of AHS students flocking to the restaurant in the 1950s, the golden era of the drive-in restaurant.

Make sure you request green chiles when you order your Tiger Burger. I failed to do that once, assuming it was automatic, and my burger came out with none. If you feel about green chiles the way I do, you won't take that chance.

You can sit in your car, or at the patio tables, and watch the world of Alamogordo unfold down White Sands Boulevard. On my visit, a lady flashed about \$5,000 in cash in front of me (the story is less interesting than it sounds). Anyway, it's particularly nice on the night of a full moon, rising over the Sacramento Mountains as you devour your Tiger Burger.

NORTH STOP: A&B Drive-In, Truth or Consequences, 211 N. Broadway St. A&B has "only" been around for about 30 years. It also has a patio on the town's main drag. If you're getting the green chile cheeseburger, I recommend getting the double. It's much juicier. Later in the afternoon on my visit to T or C, I learned from a local A&B has some great Mexican food as well. He particularly recommended the gordita plate.

WEST STOP: Benji's Restaurant, Deming, 821 W. Pine St. Benji's is technically not a drivein, but it is housed in a former Sonic, and retains the awnings, as well as several tables on the patio. On my visit, I went inside to place my to-go order, and the server said he would bring it out to my car. Others dined inside. I'd been there a few years ago, and had an excellent breakfast burrito. On my recent stop, I planned to eat while driving back, but even though it was on its way to being a 100-degree day, even at noon, under the shade, it was comfortable with the car off and the windows rolled down.

SOUTH STOP: Charcoaler Drive-In, El Paso, 5837 N. Mesa. The Charcoaler has been around since 1961, which they'll tell you as soon as you pull up to the speaker menu. I've always been wary of the disembodied voices behind these speaker menus. As a little kid, I once thought there were miniature humans trapped inside them, barking out your menu requests.

I normally opt for green chile

cheeseburgers, and they indeed have a Green Chile Double on their menu. But since I'd never been to Charcoaler, and they have another item called the Original Double on the menu, it made sense to try their signature item. Besides, can you really trust a green chile cheeseburger made in Texas?

The order process is more like a drive-THROUGH than a drive-IN, but once you get your food, there are several classic canopied parking spots to drive under and enjoy your in-car fare.

When I first opened my Original Double, I panicked. It looked to be coated in ketchup.

I have a deep-seated personal aversion to ketchup, particularly if it's slathered on these three items, in order of my abhorrence: hot dogs, steak, hamburgers.

As it turned out, my fear was unwarranted. This was not ketchup, but Charcoaler's own

barbecue sauce, and its trademark fare. I've only had a few barbecue-sauce burgers in my life, so I don't have a big portfolio to compare. But I enjoyed the burger. The charcoal flavor on the patty came through, and the sauce complemented it.

I had both the fries and onion rings. The fries, decent, the onion rings, excellent. I will be back, and I will try their green chile burger.

Richard Coltharp is publisher of Desert Exposure and the Las Cruces Bulletin.



His all-time favorite drivein is Cupp's Drive Inn in Waco, Texas, est'd 1947. He can be reached at richard@ lascrucesbulletin.com.

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continued from page 14

Archey said water-meter boxes and irrigation-valve boxes are two popular bee rescue sites, "because no ladders are involved."

"Sadly, bees will take up residence in the canales (decorative drains that stick out from the roof on adobe-style architecture) of homes or in a wall and are difficult to successfully rescue," she said. "Because the group rescues bees that are swarming and trying to find a new place to build a hive, very seldom will they find honey. The best thing to find is good honeycomb and brood (the eggs, larvae and pupae of honeybees). These piec- Cramer is doing. We would much eficial. Honeybees are extremely es of honeycomb and brood are rather try to rescue bee swarms important for their pollination. put into the empty hive with the hope that the bees find it familiar and they will stay in the hive."



Bee rescuers at work under the eaves of a house.

than have people spray them." Bees "are very helpful for our breeding program," he said. "Sometimes they are considered

nation is essential to the work Dr. a nuisance, but they are very ben-



PO Box 191, Deming NM 88031 (575) 546-3922



"Often times, you remember the bee rescues that do not go well rather than those rescues that are fairly straightforward," Cramer said.

He remembers one rescue, involving the Archeys, that involved taking bees from the roof of an NMSU building. "The rescue was quite precarious as the bees were located in a wall at the outside corner of the roof," Cramer said.

Jan had one bee get into her bonnet "and her lip swelled like Marge Simpson," she said. "The others have also been stung on occasion, but most bee recoveries are calm."

Archey said she and James enjoy bee-rescue outings, "and polliMuch of the food that we eat would not be possible without pollinations. Honeybees are used extensively for seed production."



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Red or Green? is Desert Exposure's quide to dining in southwest New Mexico. We are in the process of updating and modifying these listings. We are asking restaurants to pay a small fee for listing their information. Restaurant advertisers already on contract with Desert Exposure receive a free listing. For other establishments, listings with essential information will be \$36 a year and expanded listings, up to 10 lines, will be \$48 a year. To buy a listing in Red or Green?,

GRANT COUNTY Silver City

* ADOBE SPRINGS CAFÉ, 619 N. Bullard St., 538-3665. Breakfast items, burgers, sandwiches: Sunday B L, all week B L D; P/OT/O * CACTUS JACKS, 1307 N. Pope St. 538-5042. Gluten-free, healthy groceries, grill fast foods and beverages. Monday to Friday B L D, Saturday and Sunday L. T/O DEL

* CAFÉ OSO AZUL AT BEAR **MOUNTAIN LODGE, 60**

Bear Mountain Ranch Road, 538-2538. B L, special D by reservation only. PT/O

* CHINESE PALACE, 1010 Highway 180E, 538-9300. Chinese: Monday to Friday L D. T/O

COURTYARD CAFÉ, 1313 E 32nd St., Gila Regional Medical Center, 538-4094. American: B L.

DIANE'S RESTAURANT, 510 N. Bullard St., 538-8722. Fine dining (D), steaks, seafood, pasta, sandwiches (L), salads: Tuesday to Saturday L D, Sunday D only (family-style), weekend brunch.

contact Pam Rossi at pam@lascrucesbulletin.com or 575-635-6614.

We emphasize non-national-chain restaurants with sit-down, table service. With each listing, we include a brief categorization of the type of cuisine plus what meals are served: B=Breakfast; L=Lunch; D=Dinner. Unless otherwise noted, restaurants are open seven days a week. Call for exact hours, which change frequently. All phone numbers are area code 575 except

DIANE'S BAKERY & DELI, The Hub, Suite A, 601 N. Bullard St., 534-9229. Artisan breads, pastries, sandwiches,

deli: Monday to Saturday B L early D, Sunday L.

DON JUAN'S BURRITOS, 418 Silver Heights Blvd., 538-5440. Mexican: BL.

* DRIFTER PANCAKE HOUSE, 711 Silver Heights Blvd., 538-2916. Breakfast, American: B L, breakfast served throughout. T/O * FORREST'S PIZZA, 601 N. Bullard St., Unit J. 388-1225. Tuesday to Friday L D, slices until 7 p.m. T/O D/T * FRY HOUSE, 601 N. Bullard St. Suite C. 388-1964. Seven days L, Sunday L, D. T/O DEL * GIL-A BEANS COFFEE SHOP,

1304 N. Bennett St., 538-2239. Monday to Saturday 8 a.m.-noon. PT/O * GOLDEN STAR, 1602 Silver Heights Blvd., 388-2323. Chinese: L D. *D/T T/O*

GRINDER MILL, 403 W. College Ave., 538-3366. Mexican: B L D.

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as specified.

Though every effort has been made to make these listings complete and up to date, errors and omissions are inevitable and restaurants may make changes after this issue goes to press. That's why we urge you to help us make Red or Green? even better. Drop a note to Red or Green? c/o Desert Exposure, 1740-A Calle de Mercado, Las Cruces, NM 88005, or email editor@ desertexposure.com. Bon appétit!

JALISCO CAFÉ, 103 S. Bullard St., 388-2060. Mexican. Monday to Saturday L D Sunday B. * JAVALINA COFFEE HOUSE, 117 Market St., 388-1350. Coffeehouse. T/O

JUMPING CACTUS, 503 N. Bullard St., 654-7367, Coffeeshop, baked goods, sandwiches, wraps: B L. KOUNTRY KITCHEN, 1700 Mountain View Road, 388-4512. Mexican: Tuesday to Saturday B L D.

* LA COCINA RESTAURANT, 201 W. College Ave., 388-8687. Mexican: L D. T/O D/T C/S

* LA FAMILIA MEXICAN RESTAU-RANT, 503 N. Hudson St., 388-4600. Mexican: Tuesday to Sunday B L D. C/S

LA MEXICANA RESTAURANT, 1105 Tom Foy Blvd., 534-0142. Mexican and American: B L.

* LITTLE TOAD CREEK **BREWERY & DISTILLERY,**

200 N. Bullard St., 956-6144. Burgers, wings, salads, fish, pasta, craft beers and cocktails: Monday to Sunday L D. PT/O

MI MEXICO VIEJO, 202 E Broadway St. Mexican food stand: 956-3361. Monday to Saturday B L early D.

* MI CASITA, 2340 Bosworth Drive, 538-5533. New Mexican cuisine: Monday to Thursday L, Friday L D. T/0

NANCY'S SILVER CAFÉ, 514 N. Bullard St., 388-3480. Mexican: Monday to Saturday B L D.

PRETTY SWEET EMPORIUM, 312 N. Bullard St., 322-2422. Dessert, ice cream: Monday to Saturday. * Q'S SOUTHERN BISTRO, 101 E. College Ave., 534-4401. American, steaks, barbecue, brewpub: Tuesday to Saturday L D. PT/O

* REVEL, 304 N. Bullard St., 388-4920. Elevated comfort food. Weekdays LD, weekends BD, closed Wednesdays. T/O

* SILVER BOWLING CENTER CAFÉ, 2020 Memory Lane, 538-3612. American, Mexican, hamburgers: Daily L D T/O.

* SUNRISE ESPRESSO,

FIDENCIO'S, 800 S. Telshor Blvd.,

* THE GAME BAR & GRILL. 2605

* THE GAME II: EXTRA INNINGS

rise Drive, 373-4263, Live music on

weekends. American, Southwest,

SPORTS BAR & GRILL, 4131 North-

now serving weekend brunch 10 a.m.

Saturdays and Sundays: L D. PT/O

* GARDUÑO'S, 705 S. Telshor Blvd.

(Hotel Encanto), 532-4277. Mexican:

GO BURGER DRIVE-IN, Home

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Lohman Ave., Las Cruces, NM

88005, 524-9251. Monday - Saturday,

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FOOD, 1420 El Paseo Road, 523-

1345 El Paseo Road, 526-4803.

* HABANERO'S 600 E. Amador

Ave., 524-1829, Fresh Mexican; B L

* HACIENDA DE MESILLA, 1803

Steaks, barbecue, seafood, sand-

wiches, salads, pasta: L D. C/SP

* HIGH DESERT BREWING

COMPANY, 1201 W. Hadley

Ave., 525-6752. Brew pub: L

JOSEFINA'S OLD GATE CAFÉ,

Monday to Thursday L, Friday to

2261 Calle de Guadalupe, 525-2620.

Pastries, soups, salads, sandwiches:

Avenida de Mesilla, 652-4953.

American: B L D. D/T T/O

* GRANDY'S COUNTRY COOKING,

2828. Chinese: L D.

D. PT/O

D. *pt/0*

S. Espina St., 524-GAME. Sports bar

532-5624. Mexican: B L D.

and grill: L D. **PT/O**

B L D. PT/O



Update of open restaurants and services being offered. * = Open; C/S = Curb Side; DEL = Delivery; D/T = Drive Through; P = Patio; T/O = Take Out

way 180, Cliff, 535-4500. Visit

DOÑA ANA COUNTY Las Cruces & Mesilla

*ANDELE'S DOG HOUSE, 1983 Calle del Norte, 526-1271. Mexican plus hot dogs, burgers, quesadillas: B L D. PT/O

* ANDELE RESTAURANTE, 1950 Calle del Norte, 526-9631. Mexican: Monday B L, Tuesday to Sunday B L D. DEL P T/O

Parkway, 522-7333. Asian, sushi: LD. THE BEAN, 2011 Avenida de Mesilla,

527-5155. Coffeehouse.

Alameda St. No. 16, 527-2483, www. abiteofbelgium.com. Belgium and American food: Daily B L. PC/S * BOBA CAFÉ, 1900 S. Espina St., Ste. 8, 647-5900. Sandwiches, salads, casual fare, espresso: Monday to Saturday L D. C/S DEL T/O BRAVO'S CAFÉ, 3205 S. Main St., 526-8604. Mexican: Tuesday to Sunday B L.

* BURGER NOOK, 1204 E. Madrid Ave., 523-9806. Outstanding greenchile cheeseburgers. Tuesday to

* BURRITOS VICTORIA, 1295 EI Paseo Road, 541-5534. Burritos: B L D. Now serving beer. T/O CAFÉ DON FELIX, 2290 Calle de Parian, 652-3007. Mexican, street tacos, mini-burgers: Wednesday to Saturday L D, Sunday brunch only 10

LD.

* CHILITOS, 2405 S. Valley Drive, 526-4184. Mexican: Monday to Saturday B L D. C/S DEL D/T * CHILITOS, 3850 Foothills Road Ste. 10, 532-0141. Mexican: B L D. C/S

* PECAN GRILL & BREWERY,

Tuesday to Sunday B L. T/O



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Duck Creek Café on Facebook.RVs/Big Rigs welcome, Wednesday to Saturday LD, Sunday LD. "Bring home cooking to your table"

ABRAHAM'S BANK TOWER RESTAURANT, 500 S. Main St. 434, 523-5911. American: Monday to Friday B L.

* AQUA REEF, 141 N. Roadrunner DEL P T/O

* A BITE OF BELGIUM. 741 N.

Saturday L D. T/O

a.m. to 6 p.m. CHACHI'S RESTAURANT, 2460 S. Locust St.-A, 522-7322. Mexican: B

DEL D/T * DAY'S HAMBURGERS, 245 N. Main St., 523-8665. Burgers: Monday to Saturday L D. C/S

Sunday B L. * KEVA JUICE, 1001 E. University

Ave., 522-4133. Smoothies, frozen yogurt: B L D. PT/O * LA NUEVA CASITA CAFÉ, 195 N.

Mesquite St., 523-5434. Mexican and American: B L. T/O

* LA POSTA RESTAURANT DE MESILLA, 2410 Calle de San Albino, 524-3524. Mexican, steakhouse: L D, Saturday, Sunday and holidays also B. PT/O

* LAS TRANCAS, 1008 S. Solano Drive, 524-1430. Mexican, steaks, burgers, fried chicken: L D, Saturday and Sunday also B. PT/O * LE RENDEZ-VOUS CAFÉ, 2701 W. Picacho Ave. #1, 527-0098. French pastry, deli, sandwiches:

Cate will be open for breakfast, lunch, and dinner per gov. guidelines.

Please make reservations. 575-538-2538 or email info@bearmountainlodge.com

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Important change!!! You need to make your hiking reservations with the Lodge to hike the trails or go to the One Million Bones – we are limiting the number of hikers on the property at anyone time. All hikers will need to be scheduled between 9-5 daily. Not earlier than 9 or later than 5. Thank you its nice to be back.

> Downtown Blue Dome is open by appointment and Friday and Saturday 10-4pm

The Lodge is perfect for get-aways, events, weddings & retreats. Open all year.

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1530 N. Hudson St., 388-2027. Coffee shop: Monday to Saturday B L, early D. D/T

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TABLE TALK . ELVAK. ÖSTERREICH Fresh Chile Co. A time for flourishing

ometimes when Arnold McMillan went to Hatch to buy and roast his green chile, some 35 years back, there would be red chile pods caught up in the green ones and he would just roast those too. Then

"I liked it so much, I started roasting red and green chile, a bag of each," he said. "I found out I like the red roasting. Not many people were roasting red, and I started blending it together to make a salsa."

he found the flavor improved.

McMillan also started using the red to make enchilada sauce, because he found making it from fresh red chile, never dried, created a pure chile deliciousness. The red sauce is bright red, sweeter tasting than when made with dried pods. And, he said, it won't cause heartburn.

"We took the stems and the seeds out, then boiled it and ran it though a colander and a blender and made red sauce," he said. "We put it in the freezer."

Soon, the family was creating both fresh red sauce and a red/ green chile blend.

Arnold's son, Randy, a real estate broker, and his wife, Carol, started making the red sauce and jarring it to send to customers every Christmas. The whole family was involved for those Christmas canning sessions, their children stirring of fresh, red enchilada sauce. When the production outgrew the home kitchen, they rented the Gospel Rescue Mission's kitchen.

"Five or six years ago, we made 800 jars and shipped those to our real estate customers all over the country," Randy said. "They liked it so much, they would call and ask for a case. So, we started a little business."

The Fresh Chile Company has gone from producing about 10,000 jars a year to close to half a million in the space of five years. Randy, in part, credits the pandemic shutdown for increased sales. They have also added quite a few choices to their catalog of products.

"Our sales have gone



Johnny Garcia works in the Fresh Chile Co. kitchen preparing red chiles for chile sauce. One of the secrets of the company is that it makes juice out of chile and adds the juice back into the product rather than just using water as a thinner.

"His expertise is Internet marketing. He has done the Internet marketing for many local companies."

Fresh Chile Company's website is augmented by social media presences on Instagram and a popular Facebook page, where a recipe-sharing group hosts weekly contests. The recipe group, Fresh Chile Co. Cookin!, has almost 9,000 members and gives out a box of products once a week to the best recipe submitted. The Facebook page boast 46,000 followers.

Among many other plans, Fresh Chile Co. will be putting out a recipe book soon. Many of those recipes are family favorites created by Carol. Some of them can be found on the website.

The company has expanded into the old Pro's Ranch Market on Wyatt Drive and keeps working on new products to sell. From the original fresh red enchilada sauce and red/green roasted chile mix, they have added a pure green chile, a traditional dried red chile sauce, red and green chile powders, a posole seasoning and many other products. Of course, all the chile products come in a variety of heats. Their newest creation, Papa's Salsa, was introduced last week. Mama's Salsa will come out soon. The difference is the first is chunky and the second is smooth. "Dad (Arnold) come out with inal fresh red sauce, and from there, now he's come up with a recipe for a salsa, its Papa's Salsa," Carol said.

be found at locations around Las Cruces, including Toucan's, Natural Grocers and a couple of wineries and specialty stores, Randy said. El Sombrero has the fresh red sauce available for special order, and Ice Box uses the sauce as marinara on pizzas.

"But really, 95 percent of our sales are on the Internet," he said. "Every day we ship out 300 boxes. They go everywhere - Alaska, California, Montana, across the United States."

And it doesn't end there. The company has acquired a restaurant in Mesilla, which will become a showcase for its products, as well as the products of the McMillans' vineyard, Mesilla Vineyard Estates, where they intend to begin producing wine.

"At the restaurant, we will have wine tasting and showcase the chile," Randy said. "We want to ship out a lot of wine when we do the chile. The customers are really interested in the wine."

What makes Fresh Chile Co. products the best?

"The difference is we are the highest quality," Lang said. "Randy and I will be in Hatch, we'll make sure the chile gets to the



Fresh Chile Co. collaborators Chris Lang, Carol McMillan, Randy McMillan and the one who started it all 35 years ago, Albert Mc-Millan. (Photos by Elva K. Österreich)

roaster and we'll cook and bottle it the next day. It's our standard of excellence.'

"Picked today, brought here tomorrow and canned the next day," Randy added. "I don't know of anybody who makes the enchilada sauce with the fresh red chile. It's a very short window that you can do it. We'll get starting in late August and be done by Oct. 1. We have to make all of our red chile for the year during that time."



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times what they were in the last three months. It was an immediate reaction," he said. "The shutdown seemed to push people home, and they are eating at home. A lot more people are on their computers and have more time on their hands and started ordering chile. And when they got the chile, they liked it, and the original recipe for the origthen they ordered it again.

"But everyone is going back to work now, and I don't see it going back down. So, it's probably going to be sustainable as long as we can produce enough product."

Randy credits business partner Chris Lang with the increase in sales. Lang is already well known in the community as the owner of Organ Mountain Outfitters.

"The reason we went to half a million is Chris," Randy said.

What's next? Barbeque sauces, one sweet and one savory.

"We worked with a local barbeque restaurant chef," Randy said. "We gave him our chile, and he has come up with an amazing barbeque sauce. The base is our fresh red chile that dad started making years ago."

Fresh Chile Co. products can

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TALKING HORSES · SCOTT THOMSON They're Always Watching Us

ne of the more interesting discussions always going on in the horse world is centered around the question of whether or not horses learn or form positive/negative feelings from watching other horses interact with humans. Horses are visual learners, and most good trainers, regardless of riding discipline, will tell you the value of developing a horse with groundwork comes from giving them the opportunity to watch and interpret your movements and body language. This visual input is what they use to judge you as a competent and trusted leader, and to learn how and when to respond to your requests.

But what if it isn't a training exercise, just a horse observing what a human is doing with another horse? After years of teaching, I don't believe a horse learns how to do things or becomes a better horse by watching another horse being trained or ridden. If it did, then most horses would be a lot better than they are.

Still, if they essentially learn in pictures based on non-verbal communication with body language, maybe they do pick something up from what they observe.

I stumbled on an interesting study from France published in "Animal Cognition" back in March that tried to look at this with a more scientific approach. The study was conducted by the French Horse and Equitation Institute, with the goal of investigating whether horses can develop positive or negative emotions about what they see when the watch another horse being handled by a human.

The set-up for the study was really clever. The pool of subjects for the test was a group of 47 mature Welsh Pony mares. So, all mares and all the same breed. 24 of the horses would be the test group and the remaining 23 would be in the control group. One by one, each of the mares in the test group would be led into a stall and shown consecutive 30-second videos on a large screen. In each video, a human handler was performing some activity with an "actor" horse. One video was set-up as positive in terms of what the human was doing with the horse, and the other was seen as negative.

In the positive videos, the human was doing things like grooming the horse and scratching the withers. In the negative video, the handler was doing something that might be considered an unpleasant vet procedure, like applying ointment to an ear or spraying medication around the head. The actor horse in each video responded as you might expect. In the positive video, it showed the behavior and expressions associated with calmness and enjoyment – a lowered head, calm ears and eyes, general relaxation and inviting the contact. In the negative video, the horse looked braced and nervous, with head held high, ears forward, eyes wide open and trying to avoid contact with the handler.

In addition to observing the behavior of the horses, the researchers also monitored heart rate, respiration and other factors to get a sense for what was going on inside the horse.

Each horse in the control group was also brought into the stall and shown the same videos, but with the horse and human blocked out so you couldn't tell exactly what was going on between the horse and human in the video.

The researchers were pretty amazed at what they saw. The horses watching the video would mimic the posture and expressions of the horse in the video, to the point where the researchers could guess with almost complete certainty which video a horse was watching. The horses' vital signs reflected what they were seeing as well. When watching either video, the horses would behave as if they were participating in the experience – relaxed and calm as if be-

> WATCHING continued on page 19

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32 YEARS IN SILVER CITY • SUSAN GOLIGHTLY Donnybrook at M.I.T. Protesting can be a dangerous activity

onnybrook: A rough and noisy fight usually involving several people. Syn: brawl, melee, skirmish, altercation, etc.

One day, at M.I.T., I found myself in a brawl - a real, honest-to- goodness donnybrook. Here's how it happened. At that time, in the late '60s, I was a member of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) - Trotskyists. We sponsored an anti-war front group called the Student Mobilization Committee (SMC) that organized demonstrations against the Vietnam war. We were in the Rogers Building right off Massachusetts Avenue. We were meeting in one of the lecture rooms, planning the agenda for a large anti-war rally to be held on Boston Common. We had enough "secret" SWP members in the room to control the vote on who was going to speak at the rally.

Members of the Progressive Labor Party (PL) – Maoist got upset because they couldn't get their people on the speaker's agenda, so they all got up and left. The next thing we heard was that they were marching down Massachusetts Avenue 50 strong, planning on attacking our meeting. A bunch of us who weren't essential to the meeting left the room and started pulling desks out of some of the class-rooms to build barricades to block a disruption.

Now, the Rogers Building is built around a rotunda with upper floors that look down onto the entryway. So, we made a barricade that went from the wall with the elevators to the guardrail overlooking the floor of the rotunda. The two groups, SWP and PL, met at the barricades. Peter Camejo, our spokesperson, tried to reason with them, but they were not in the mood for reason. The next thing I knew, there was a wall of fists on both sides of the desks. Our side was trying to hold the line and the other side was trying to push through our barricade. Pretty soon, all the desks got shoved out of the way and the line of fighters moved back and forth.

There were a couple of things that were scary, besides the wall of fists. One was the guard rail looking over the rotunda was not very high, and it would be really bad to get shoved over it. The second thing was the elevator. As the skirmish line moved back and forth, periodically the elevator would open. I can't imagine what the students in the elevator were thinking, but I was worried about being forced into the elevator and coming back up on the wrong side.

It soon became clear to me that there was a strategy in fighting one of these kinds of battles. There was a danger of being pulled to the other side and being beat to a pulp. Also, it was necessary to push the frontline

M.I.T

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WATCHING

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ing groomed when watching the positive video, tense and worried when watching the negative one.

The researchers concluded that it makes sense to be aware of what you do with horses and how you do it when there are other horses observing. They felt this was especially true when thinking about an unpleasant vet or farrier procedure, or possibly an end-of-life decision. The study indicated an observed negative interaction with a human could produce similar emotional responses from horses observing the interaction.

There was a second step in this study which I found even more interesting, and which the researchers admitted came as a complete surprise. After all the horses were shown the videos, each horse was brought into a stall with the positive and negative handlers dressed exactly as they were in the videos. The handlers stood an equal distance from the horse on either side, and then the horse was released so it was free to approach either handler if it chose to do so. The researchers assumed the horses

would move toward the "positive" handler from the video, as this was the human they saw having a positive interaction with the actor horse, the interaction they mimicked in their own behavior.

However, most of the horses chose to get close to the human from the negative video. The researchers could only try to explain this in one of two ways. First, it could be what is described as an appeasement gesture, something observed in other species where an animal will touch another animal that has been involved in some kind of conflict. So, the horse was "reaching out" to the human involved in the negative experience in the video, as a way of maybe saying "It's OK."

More likely, however, they concluded that as hard as the handlers tried to remain neutral in the videos during their interactions with the actor horse, there were still subtle signs of body language, at levels we can't even see but the horse picks up, that indicated the human in the negative video had more confidence, strength or dominance. As followers and herd animals, horses will always look to the horse or human they see as the leader as their survival depends on strong, predictable leadership.

As a trainer, what I took away from reading this fascinating study was that horses are extraordinarily observant all the time. Every single thing you do, every movement and every gesture, means something to a horse. You should always think about this and be conscious of how your behavior is perceived by horses watching you and what you do and how you do it.

In the end, are you a kind but confident leader they can trust, one who will listen and understand how they see the world, and keep them safe? Soft words, treats and baby talk are not what they're looking for. You can't fool them. They know to just be watching, and they're always watching us.

Scott Thomson lives in Silver City and teaches natural horsemanship and

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THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE

THE STARRY DOME • BERT STEVENS Scorpius, the Scorpion A good month to wake up early

bout a third of the way up in our southern sky, a scorpion crawls slowly eastward each evening. Scorpius, the Scorpion, is easily recognized by its bright red heart, the first-magnitude star Antares, and its arcing tail ending in its twostar stinger. It is the 33rd largest constellation in the sky.

In Greek mythology, the great hunter Orion wanted to win the favor of the goddess Artemis, a great huntress. He told her that while he was an excellent hunter, she was better. Artemis's twin brother, Apollo, was very much against Orion courting his sister. To put a stop to this, Apollo sent a scorpion to sting Orion. The battle between Orion and the scorpion was so epic that Zeus took note of the battle. Artemis begged Zeus to put Orion and the scorpion in the sky.

Zeus complied, placing Orion in the winter sky and Scorpius in the summer sky. Now Orion hunts in the winter and when spring comes, Scorpius rises in the east while Orion sets in the west. They never are both in the sky at the same time.

The brightest star in Scorpius is the red supergiant star Antares (Alpha Scorpii). This name means "rival to Ares (Mars)", which it visually resembles with its brilliance and red color. Since it is near the middle of the constellation, Antares is also known as the "heart of the scorpion." It is around 13 times the mass of our Sun and 680 times its diameter, making it one of the largest stars visible to the eye. Antares is 550 light-years away from us, and even at that distance it still shines at first magnitude.

Within the curl of the scorpion's tail is a small hazy patch listed in the New General Catalogue of Nebulae and Clusters of Stars (NGC) as object 6302. This tiny object is only three minutes-ofarc across and it is magnitude +7.1, so you would need a telescope to see it and make out its

Aquila Ophiuchus Scutum Serpens Situm Serpens Sagittarrus Sagittarrus Corona Australis Corona Australis Lupus

Low on the southern horizon, Scorpius, the Scorpion, nightly crawls slowly from east to west. This large and easily recognized constellation is marked by the first magnitude star Antares. This red star looks like a twin of Mars, hence its name, which means "rival to Mars." Scorpius looks like a scorpion from the two pincers on the western end to the stinger on the eastern end.

Calendar of Events – August 2020 (MDT)

| | | • |
|----|------------|---|
| 03 | 9:59 a.m. | Full Moon |
| 11 | 10:45 a.m. | Last Quarter Moon |
| 12 | 7 a.m. | Perseid meteor shower peaks |
| 12 | 6 p.m. | Venus greatest distance from Sun (forty-six degrees) |
| 17 | 9 a.m. | Mercury opposite side of the Sun from the Earth |
| 18 | 8:42 p.m. | New Moon |
| 25 | 11:58 a.m. | First Quarter Moon |
| | | |

shape. This object is known by two unofficial names, the Bug Nebula and the Butterfly Nebula.

NGC 6302 is a planetary nebula. These nebulae are small and often round. To early telescopic astronomers, they appeared similar to the views they had of the planets, but much fainter, so they were dubbed planetary nebula. Later they discovered these nebulae were not related to our solar system, but out in our Milky Way galaxy.

While most planetary nebula are round, the Butterfly Nebula has an hourglass shape some three light-years long and a lightyear across at its maximum. The source of the nebula is a star at the waist of the hourglass in the middle of the nebula. The central star was originally around five solar masses star when it was on the main sequence (where most stars are in their life), but is now down to only 0.69 solar masses. The central star is one of the hottest stars, with a surface temperature of 450,000 degrees Fahrenheit. It is leaving its red giant phase behind as its atmosphere is expelled into space, and will soon become a tiny white dwarf star.

The reason some planetary nebulae are circular and some are hourglass-shaped is most likely due to the presence of a

STARRY DOME continued on page 21

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M.I.T.

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into the enemy. The way we did that was holding onto the belt of the person in front of you and pushing them forward. We would take turns being on the frontline. I really preferred holding someone's belt and pushing, but soon it was my turn to be up front. Someone grabbed my belt and pushed me forward. I started swinging my fists and made an effort to block punches.

In that adrenaline-charged frenzy, I swung my fist and hit this guy in the face. He looked at me with such shock. I immediately felt incredibly bad for hitting this person, and all I could think was that I was so sorry that I did that. At that point, I got pulled back out of the front line. I must have been standing there in a state of shock – What had I done?

I still can visualize the moment I hit him and the shocked look on his face. I didn't take any more turns on the front line and went back to holding a belt and shoving. I don't remember how it ended. At some point, the Maoists left the building and some people were putting the desks back in the classrooms. One person on our side was hospitalized. There were a lot of bruises, black eyes and split lips. I remember many of us sitting on the floor in a state of shock and exhaustion.

The demonstration on Boston Common took place with more than 100,000 protestors. I soon dropped out of the SWP and stopped demonstrating in marches and rallies. Instead, I got involved in street theatre, where we protested the war in a more creative way. I did that for another three years or so, but then I became a drag queen and lost myself in another form of protest.

Susan Golightly is 76 years old. She earned both a BA and an MA from Western New Mexico



University. Both times she was valedictorian, the first time as a man and the second time as a woman. She has lived all over the country and has had more than her share of life changing experiences.

STARRY DOME

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secondary star orbiting the central star. As the central star sheds its atmosphere, the gas along the waist becomes trapped in a disc around the companion star. This keeps it from moving out in all directions from the central star to form a round planetary nebula.

Whether the companion star trapping the gas is enough to form the hourglass shape of the Butterfly Nebula or if the companion star is actively ejecting the central star's gas along the axis of the hourglass in jets is still being studied, but there is clearly a ring of dust around the two stars visible in images of this nebula.

The Butterfly Nebula is 3,800 light-years away. The central star has been expelling gas for over 2,200 years, creating beautiful swirls and bubbles of gas wafting away from the central star to create this stunning planetary nebula.

The Planets for August 2020

Jupiter and Saturn are already in the southeastern sky as it gets dark. Jupiter is 25 degrees above the south-southeastern horizon, heading slowly westward in

eastern Sagittarius. The King of the Gods shines at magnitude -2.7 with a disc that is 46.0 seconds-of-arc across at midmonth. It sets just before 4 a.m.

Just eight degrees east of Jupiter, Saturn is also moving slowly westward in eastern Sagittarius. It shines at magnitude +0.23, setting around 4:30 a.m. The Ringed Planet's rings are tilted 22.3 degrees downward, with the northern face showing, and they are 41.3 seconds-of-arc across. Saturn's disc is 18.2 seconds-of-arc across.

Moving eastward in far eastern Pisces, Mars rises around 10:45 p.m. and it is 60 degrees above the southern horizon as it gets light, shining at magnitude -1.5. The God of War's disc is 16.7 seconds-of-arc across at midmonth.

Blasting out of the darkness around 3 a.m. as it rises, Venus shines at magnitude -4.3. Its 51 percent illuminated disc is 22.7 seconds-of-arc across. The Goddess of Love moves from eastern Taurus through far northeastern Orion and ends the month in eastern Gemini. Venus is 35 degrees above the eastern horizon as it gets light.

Mercury starts the month in the morning sky, rising around 5 a.m. and reaching eight degrees above the east-northeastern horizon as it gets light. On Aug. 1, Mercury's disc is 6.1 secondsof-arc across and it is 71 percent illuminated. It heads eastward, disappearing into the Sun's glow by the end of the first week as it passes around the far side of the Sun. It moves from eastern Gemini, through Cancer and into south-central Leo.

Comet Swift-Tuttle scatters dust as it travels through the solar system. The dust is scattered around its orbit and around Aug. 12, the Earth intercepts this dust and it vaporizes in the atmosphere as meteors glowing high up in our atmosphere. Observers see these meteors as coming from the constellation Perseus, so this shower of meteors is called the Perseid Meteor Shower. The best view will be in the dawn sky looking toward the northeast. Stretch out on a chaise lounge with a blanket to keep you warm for this shower and "keep watching the sky"!

An amateur astronomer for more than 45 years, Bert Stevens is co-director of Desert Moon

Observatory in Las Cruces.

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Wildflowers, Hissing Squirrels Deep in the Gila National Forest

I took us some time to get used to this new normal, but I hope by now we've all come to accept these circumstances and move on. Personally, hiking has given me a sense of normalcy these days – even if just for a few precious hours. Out in nature it's easier to forget all negative aspects of life.

In the hot summer months we venture to higher altitude as usual. Recently we drove up into the Gila National Forest, just a few miles past Emory Pass Vista on NM highway 152 to the west. At the Railroad Canyon campground we parked and headed north. The trail – the only one out there – can be recommended to anyone. It is fairly flat and not too rocky. Since it's out and back, you go as far as



Don't bug me!

you wish. To make it interesting, the trail crosses the creek multiple times. In late June this wasn't a problem; the water ran sparsely, but that can change with the coming monsoon. We carried water shoes but never took them out of the backpack.

The wildflowers were in full bloom and a delight to see. Orange sneezeweed, purple and beardlip penstemon, meadow anemone, scarlet cinquefoil. (Sigh! I get carried away with wild flowers. Aren't some of their names a hoot?)

The trail splits after a mile and a half, the left leading being the Upper Gallinas Trail and the right continuing as Railroad Canyon. The name is misleading, I cannot imagine a railroad ever going through here, but maybe logs were cut here for a railroad elsewhere. There are definitely a lot of pine trees here. The 2013 Silver fire ravaged through the canyon, but the vegetation is returning; many shrub oak and other small trees are covering the slopes amid the tall black sentinels that were burnt pines.

We turned around after roughly 2.5 miles - even at this altitude the temperatures climbed into the eighties in June. The trail goes on for more than 18 miles, in case you are planning a longer trip.

On our return we took a short



The Railroad Canyon Trail. (Photos by Gabriele Teich)

break at what must have been one squirrel's favorite lunch spot. This little guy literally hissed at us from his perch up in a tree. The sound was somewhere between a sneeze and a yappy little dog bark. But he meant business. After a good laugh and some photos we left his property and headed back to our car.

The only other hikers we encountered were a larger family unit, the youngsters up ahead. We could hear them from a distance, discussing the special powers of Emperor Palpatine in the middle of the canyon (he is a bad guy in "Star Wars").

If you plan to go, it is recommended to call the ranger station in Truth of Consequences (Black Range Ranger District, 575-894-6677) beforehand. The ranger gave me some heads up on the effects of the Mims Lake fire in that region and other useful information. Rangers would also know about the water flow in the creek.

We were warned about poison ivy and therefore wore long pants, but we only encountered one single poison ivy plant. Wear sunscreen and take enough water. And then get out there and



Orange sneeze weed

have fun. Nature can work wonders on depressive moods.

Of German origin, Gabriele Teich has called Las Cruces her home for more than 20 years — and loved



every minute of it, hiking the mountains in the immediate surrounding area and all over this beautiful state.

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LIVING ON WHEELS . SHEILA SOWDER The Gypsy Judge The path from circuit court judge to fulltime RVer

say with pride that I was born with the soul of a gypsy. For me, the term gypsy is one of endearment. It speaks of fierce independence, curiosity, restlessness, and a willingness to try most anything. A gypsy is unwilling to be shackled by expectations and doesn't like to color within the lines."

The above quote could describe the soul of so many of the fulltime RVers I have known, people who left their stable lives in familiar surroundings to head out on the road into an unknown future, either envied or ridiculed by the friends and family left behind.

It's a quote from the book "Footprints on My Soul, Journal of a Circuit Court Judge," by Laura Melvin, a solo RVer who has been living the gypsy lifestyle for about 15 years. Laura has been in and out of Silver City for the past 10 years, often spends several summer months here at Rose Valley RV Ranch and has become a familiar face to the staff. A couple of weeks ago I learned she had previously been a circuit court judge, and my natural nosiness kicked right in. How did someone trade in her judge's robes for the gypsy lifestyle of fulltime RVing?

Laura and her service-dog-intraining, Maya, sat down with me for a question-and-answer session under the open gazebo in one of the grassy areas at Rose Valley. By then I had read her book, which gave me a head start into ferreting out the details of her decision to so completely change her life. I knew she grew up in Milton, Florida during the 1950s and although she was a natural tomboy, she traded in that persona at an early age for the traditional demure and subservient female role of that era. Her father had been a judge, and she'd taken the traditional path of wife and mother before deciding, against tradition, to go to law school. After 10 years as a lawyer, she spent 10 more years as a circuit court judge, where she presided over just about every type of case there is - criminal, juvenile, family, civil, probate. During that time, despite a sharp fear of heights, Laura became a skydiver. Since embarking on her RVing adventure, she's done jumps all over the country, although she eventually gave it up for health reasons to become an avid motorcyclist. In 2011 she undertook a fundraiser for four children's charities, which she called "4 Corners 4 Kids," riding a Gold Wing over a seven-week period from Pensacola to the four geographic corners of the U.S. (San Isidro, California; Blaine, Washington; Madawaska, Maine; and Key West, Florida).

Laura has been to every state but two on her motorcycle, and currently rides a Can-Am Spyder Three-Wheeler. which she can pull behind her motorhome. She has also had several articles published in RIDER Magazine, a motorcycle publication that focuses on travel.

But why give up the prestige of being a judge, the power and the money, the security of owning a home and the network of family, friends and co-workers?

"The judge label comes with many expectations, roles that limited how I could interact with other people," Laura said. "People treated me differently because of that."

In her book she writes, "I was in the legal spotlight doing complex work. Yet I also felt like Wile E Coyote in the Roadrunner, for I had run off a high ledge in pursuit of success. In my early 50s, I'd become restless and unhappy; rather than feeling content, I was challenging the importance of pretty much everything in my life. It felt more and more like the only way to find out if I belonged in the legal world was to leave. Leave it all."

She bought a fifth wheel for short trips, hoping that would resolve her restlessness. She downsized into a garage apartment and got rid of most of her belongings, and decided that four of anything is enough, a rule she continues to live by. Any fulltime RVer could have told her she was in the preliminary stages of the biggest change of her life, and eventually, with several years left in her term as judge, she officially retired from the bench and left Florida to begin a life on the road.

Laura soon found out about the inherent kindness and helpfulness of her fellow RVers. There was always someone at the RV parks where she stayed to guide her as she backed into her site, and opportunities to socialize were frequent, often resulting in an invitation to meet up with other campers at another location. "I've met people I would never have met if I'd retired in the subdivision back home. I have a lot of stories to tell, and as an introvert, I'm delighted with the way I can interact with people or choose to be alone."

little geography in the process." What does the future hold for Laura?

"I'm much more conscious of 'aging out' and I don't want to leave anything on the table." She knows that eventually she will need a permanent base and Silver City is high on her list. Meanwhile, when her inner voice says "It's time to go," she's ready to move on.

I recommend Laura's book "Footprints On My Soul, Journal of a Circuit Court Judge," available through Amazon, for the curious - anyone who has ever felt that they need more than the traditional lifestyle - those who

Laura Melvin and Maya love discovering new places and meeting new people. (Photo by Sheila Sowder)

wonder if there are adventures out there just waiting to be discovered; those who have already taken the chance and discovered the joy of new places, new people, new experiences and a more satisfactory life; and those who enjoy a good arm-chair travel.

As Robert Louis Stevenson said, "I travel not to go anywhere, but to go. I travel for travel's sake. The great affair is to move."

Sheila and husband, Jimmy, have lived at Rose Valley RV

Ranch in Silver City since 2012, following five years of wandering from Maine to California. She

can be contacted at sksowder@ aol.com.

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"I love long distance riding, and when it was over I would have done it again," she said.

She quickly discovered the joy of the open road, of not having a definite schedule.

"I'm not a planner, and I love how I can get to a stop sign and think, 'I know I should turn right, but what if I turned left instead?"

She recounts driving through Kansas to a workcamper job at a wild mustang refuge in South Dakota and being surprised to find herself in Nebraska, which she did not realize sat between the two locations.

"I cracked up and thought 'This is going to take a lot longer, but it doesn't matter,' and I learned a Desert Exposure, teaming with the Las Cruces Bulletin, is launching a campaign to remind out-of-towners of the attractions and activities in Silver City. Now through October, your business or organization can be in front of the Las Cruces Bulletin's readership (circulation: 20,000), promoting day trips or weekend visits to Silver City.

For information, contact Mariah Walker, mariah@desertexposure.com, or 575-993-8193.

THE LAS CRUCES

