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MARCH 2021



EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK . ELVAK. ÖSTERREICH

Get Over It

When will history stop repeating itself?

s the 31st year since two children, their father and another were murdered at the Las Cruces Bowling Alley slips by, Anthony Teran, brother of Steve Teran who died Feb. 10, 1990, with his daughters, still lives with the knowledge and memory of that event.

On the morning of that Feb. 10, 34-year-old Stephanie C. Senac, the bowling alley manager, was in her office preparing to open with her 12-year-old daughter, Melissa Repass, and Melissa's 13-year-old friend, Amy Houser. The alley's cook, Ida Holguin, was in the kitchen when two men entered through an unlocked door. One pulled a .22-caliber pistol on Holguin and ordered her into Senac's office, where she, Repass and Houser were already being held by another gunman.

Soon after, Steve Teran, the alley's 26-year-old mechanic, entered with his two daughters, two-yearold Valerie Teran and six-year-old Paula Holguin. He went into Senac's office and stumbled onto the crime scene. The gunmen then shot all seven victims multiple times in the head at point-blank range. They then set the office on fire by igniting some papers before leaving the building.

Houser, Steve Teran, and his two daughters were killed. Repass, despite being shot five times, called 9-1-1 on the office phone, allowing emergency services to respond immediately and saving her life along with her mother's and Holguin's. Senac died in 1999 due to complications from her injuries.

"There are a lot of theories as to what happened," Anthony Teran said.

This is the worst unsolved crime involving children in U.S. history, he said. It haunts him that the girls probably had to witness everything happening before they were shot.

"My brother and his daughters had every right to be somebody and do something with their lives," Anthony said. "Every day it affects my life. We have pictures on the walls - every day I see them, and it doesn't go away. Every conversation always comes around to something my brother did or said."

Sometimes Anthony pulls out a photo of his brother in the military and looks at it and "he tells me to do the right thing."

The right thing for Anthony and his family is to see the case solved. He said people tell him to "just get over it," but he can't do that.

There are so many things you might want to "get over," things you hear about repeatedly, things your parents tell you or that you see every time you turn around. I mean, this murder happened 31 years ago, why can't it just be forgotten, swept under the rug, let it go already.

Almost 20 years ago 9/11 happened – let it go.

A little over 100 years ago the Spanish Flu happened – let it go. Then there was the Bataan

Death March, deportations to Siberia, Nazi death camps. Why not forget it all?

Political buttons reflect the ideas that haunt us sometimes. We see pins that say, "I have been vaccinated. Have you?" It's from the middle of the 20th century when there was a nationwide drive to get children (and adults) vaccinated. The scourge of polio and other diseases was a terrible reality that most of us today have forgotten.

A 1970s button that says "Keep Abortion Legal" was created not long after Roe vs. Wade when the backlash against the Supreme Court decision was still young. Here we are 40 years later, and the fight is still going on.

Then there are the "America First" buttons. No, they aren't recent - they're from World War I and World War II. There was a big "America First" movement prior to the First World War that was slowed down, but not stopped, by the war. It was revived prior to the Second World War but died on Dec. 7, 1941, when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. Now America First is back once more.

The truth might be that history always repeats itself despite the calls of "never forget." We don't seem to be able to get it right. But think of how much worse it might be if we do let it go.

"The advantage of having a historical sense is not that it will lead you to some quarry of instructions, the way that Superman can regularly return to the Fortress of Solitude to get instructions from his dad, but that it will teach you that no such crystal cave exists." Wrote commenter Adam Gopnik in the Aug. 28 "New Yorker" magazine. "What history generally 'teaches' is how hard it is for anyone to control it, including the people who think they're making it."

The lessons of the past teach us compassion, self-understanding, a beginning of understanding others, an understanding of the process of change and appreciation for the people of the

world. It gives us heroes and martyrs making us think about what would be so important to us that it would be worth dying for. Joan of Arc, Abraham Lincoln and Martin Luther King would not have changed their courses had they known it would lead to their death, why couldn't they just let it go?

If we don't hold on to our history, our family, our ancestors, there is not much left to grasp. Anthony Teran doesn't need to let go of his brother and the others who died that day. Cricket Coogler should not lie quietly in her grave with no resolution and certainly State Police officer Darian Jarrott will not soon be forgotten.

History may be doomed to repeat itself, but without history, we would be doomed to "let it go."

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

Exposure



readers in Silver City or any of our coverage areas. Please contact her at editor@ desertexposure.com or by cell phone at 575-443-4408 to set a place and time to meet.

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Dan Cook, Broker



Hwy 35 frontage comes with this parcel. Existing well. Lots of possibilities! MLS # 37882 \$45,000



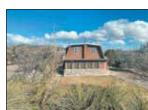
Stunning views on over 2 acres adjacent to undeveloped open **space.** This lot has southern exposure opportunity, wooded, & just minutes to town. Paved road, underground power/telephone and city water. National Forest access just off the road. MLS # 37769 \$74,300



MOUNTAIN HOME IN THE MIMBRES VALLEY! Upgrades include metal roof, ceramic tile, kitchen upgrades and new septic. Master bedroom downstairs with two bedrooms upstairs. Nice shop garage plus 2 stall carport and two storage buildings. MLS # 37301 **\$174,000**



Updated, cute 2 BR/1BA manufactured home in Bayard, Wood laminate floors throughout, electric stove, fridge and washer/dryer hook-ups. Nice yard with a shed for storage and room for an RV. MLS # 37925 **\$49,000**



Darling country property located minutes from town on a paved street. This home features 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, large open living room, sunroom, loft living area, open balcony, metal roof and best of all: a brand new septic system. There are 3 bedrooms upstairs with a bathroom and 1 bedroom downstairs also with a bath. House has city water, lots of trees, a garden area all on .8 of an acre. Wonderfully maintained. MLS # 37890 **\$215,000**



Take a look at this gorgeous hidden gem of a property. Located just off Hwy 90, this 3.69 acres has it all including large trees, amazing views (including "W" mountain), proximity to town and city water/sewer availability. MLS # 37691 **\$65,000**



Country living in rural New Mexico, this 4 bedroom 2 bath home has plenty of room for the kids, FHA animals and borders the fair grounds and **Cliff School.** This property has Duck Creek, a semi-annual creek flowing through the east end of the 7.9 acres. You'll be delighted with the amount of covered storage this property boasts. Close to the Gila River, Bill Evans Lake and the Gila National Forest, this property is a great escape from the fast paced city life..

MLS # 37424 **\$245,000**



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, 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 # 37904 \$68,000



3 bedroom 2 bath home just a few blocks from the hospital and schools. Gorgeous home with an open floor plan and clean lines and spacious bedrooms. Covered patio and good elevation to enjoy the sunset over the mountain ridge line to the west. The two car garage is just the right size to keep

vehicles protected and still have storage. Due to high demand in this area and price range, call today! MLS # 37801 **\$229,000**



Newly remolded home on a corner lot. Metal roof, new plumbing, electrical, floooring, and stucco. Stainless appliances make he new kitchen s left some of the adobe walls to accent the stucture of the original build. Covered porch and back patio area. Corner lots allows access to driveway from two streets. MLS # 37651 **\$144,000**



This mountain getaway offers spectacular views on five acres of land. Just minutes from Lake Roberts, Sapillo Creek and Gila Hot Springs. This newer maintained home offers peaceful mountain living with a covered deck to enjoy all the wildlife and native landscape on the property. Home is all electric (no propane to maintain), pellet stove heating as well. Large garage with drive thru doors on each side. Stunning wood cabinetry in the kitchen. Laminate floors and tiles throughout.

MLS # 37856 \$310,000



GORGEOUS DOS GRIEGOS LOT! Quiet end of the road privacy with views of Gomez Peak and Eighty Mountain, Abundant trees and wildof Silver City, New Mexico. Close to endless recreation in the Gila National Forest, Paved road, city water and electric available. Septic needed. Site built only 1800 sf minimum size. Additional lots/ acreage available on both sides of the lot.

MLS # 37770 \$67,100



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. MLS # 37199 \$499,900

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"Desert Dumbfounder" by Dave Thomas is a simple substitution cipher; one letter stands for another. Solution is by trial and error. Solution will appear in next month's **Desert Exposure**.

Send full solution, or just the Secret Words, to nmsrdave@swcp.com, and be recognized!

TIPS:www.nmsr.org/secretword.htm and www.nmsr.org/cypher-how2.jpg
"UN UKGPNX PV DLNKPN K OJVU PJKP DNBNTLKPNO KYNLFDKGK YCOFD

KGX TLFGHO FP JVYN PV TNKCPFZCB GNU YNWFDV." - GYOC'O ENG

D. ANPNLOVG, VG JFO P.M. OJVU "TKGXO VZ NGDJKGPYNGP"

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: "THE ALWAYS UNDERAPPRECIATED BURROS TRULY DID SETTLE THE WEST. THEIR LEGACY NEEDS TO BE APPRECIATED." - MICHELE CONELLY, GILA HOT SPRINGS
*Secret Words: "PAUNCHY OLDTIMERS"

Congrats to #56 solvers: Will Adams*, David Kinder*, Skip Howard*, Shorty Vaiza* and Mike Arms*!

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ABOUT THE COVER:

The basic "Russell" quilt pattern by Carolyn Friedlander as enhanced by Michael Siewert at ThreadBear Quilt and Yarn Shop in Las Cruces reflects the mountains and colors of New Mexico. Inspired by the work of Western artist Charles M. Russell, Friedlander designed the quilt as an abstract creation and Siewert made it into a conceptual abstraction.

This and many other patterns, quilting kits and fabrics can be found at ThreadBear, 2205B S. Main S. in Las Cruces. Info: www.threadbear-nm.com.

POSTCARDS FROM THE EDGE

If you have guests from out of town who are having a blast and reading Desert Exposure, shoot them with your camera and send us the photo with a little information. Or, if you are traveling, don't forget to share, do the selfie thing and yourself holding a copy of Desert Exposure it to editor@desertexposure.com or stick it in the mail to: Desert Exposure, 1740-A Calle de Mercado, Las Cruces, NM 88005.

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RAISINGDAD . JIM AND HENRY DUCHENE

Dad's New Dog

All bark and no bite

y father's best friend recently left us for that great boneyard in the sky. After a short period of mourning, he told us he wanted to adopt a new one.

Bark! Bark!

I campaigned against it, but found I was outvoted when the mail-in ballots were counted. I

didn't want to accuse anyone of anything, but it looked suspiciously like election fraud to me.

Bark! Bark!

"I'll help him take care of it," my grandson swore on a stack of pancakes.

More and more, there was reason to suspect this election had been rigged.

Bark! Bark!

"Please, Grandpa," my granddaughter asked, hugging me tight, her eyes all googly and stuff. "I love it already."

I could see there would be no recount.

Bark! Bark!

One trip to the pound later, and a new puppy was inaugurated into our family.

Bark! Bark!

That night, I was upstairs watching TV.

Bark! Bark!

My father was supposed to be taking care of his new puppy, but I wasn't so sure.

The constant barking was driving me nuts. I looked at my wife in bed next to me. She was trying to read but couldn't concentrate. The puppy's barking was driving her nuts as well, but she was pretending it wasn't.

My grandson was nowhere to be found.

Bark! Bark!

I finally got up to see what the problem was.

"You'd better not tell your father anything," my beautiful but bossy wife warned me on my way out.

"I'll do what I want," I told her, wisely abbreviating it into an "Okay."

I was expecting to find the new puppy by itself, left all alone.

Bark! Bark!

Instead, I found it sitting by my father.

Bark! Bark!

Barking at nothing.

Bark! Bark!

And for no reason.

Bark! Bark!

BARK

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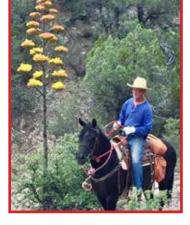
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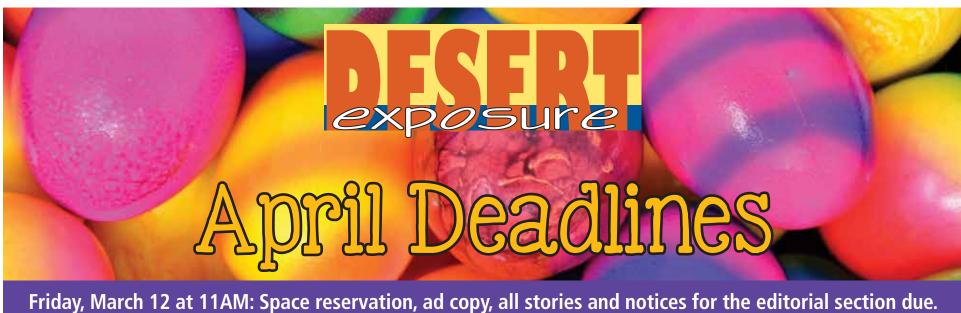
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EVERYDAY OBSERVATIONS . ABE VILLARREAL

Learning What's Important

Life is like an episode of 'The Wonder Years'

ometimes I feel my life is unlike anyone else. an episode of "The Wonder Years." Like Kevin Arnold, the teenager whose life is the center of the show, I can hear myself narrating my thoughts. It seems everyone can hear what I'm thinking but really only I can.

Kevin goes through the ordinary ups and downs of life in the coming-of-age series. He falls in love with his childhood crush. He sometimes hates his best friend. He tries to reason with his parents. His older brother is his biggest nemesis.

We can all relate, but where I see myself in Kevin, is realizing the big, important things in life, in the small, seemingly ordinary things of life.

Kevin grew up in the late 1960s when almost every social norm of American life was being tested. From civil rights to the Vietnam War, rock and roll music, to women's liberation, what a time it was to grow up. While Kevin was impacted by these historic events, it was the happenings of his traditional, small-town life that changed him from youth to young man.

I think this is what most of us experience. We'd like to think that the historic events of our past changed us in monumental ways, but in reality, it's hard to know that you are living through history, when history is something you reflect on from a distance.

As we get older, we reunite with best friends from our youth. We share stories of childhood pranks and times when we challenged our parents. We remember what seemed like unforgivable differences between us, that turned out to be laughable and silly moments. Usually, what we think of most are the life lessons we learned through the bumps in the road, and the times that caused us to step up to find something in ourselves we didn't know existed.

Kevin Arnold had many of those moments. Maybe that's why I see myself in him. We all had those moments. Like the time you figured out your best friend was your best friend not because he was cool or popular, but because he was different and

There was also the time you realized that family meant more than anything in the world. That's a hard one to acknowledge as a teenager because most of your time is spent thinking you know more than your parents and that your siblings are just distractions to what's really important in life.

In one episode of "The Wonder Years," Kevin, his crush, Wendy Kooper, and his best buddy, Paul Pfeiffer, are devastated to learn that a nearby wooded area called Harper's Woods is going to be converted into a shopping mall. This seems like the end of the world to them. It's their secret hiding place. The home to secrets, hidden kisses and playground memories that can't be

They vow to make sure that Harper's Woods will remain that special place to them. They band together and attend a town hall meeting to make their concerns known, but the problem they face is that no one cares about Harper's Woods like they do. So, they make one final visit to the construction site to respect a place that gave them so many life lessons.

We all have had those occasions in life that cause us to appreciate what made us who we are today. We may not read about them in history books, but to us, the quiet moments between friends at the neighborhood park, and the occasions of reconciliation with family members are just as big, and just as life changing that they remind us we are just as ordinary as kids like Kevin Arnold and his friends.

For most of us, it turns out it is the simple moments of life between regular people who love each other, that teach us what is most important. Just like in an episode of "The Wonder Years."

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



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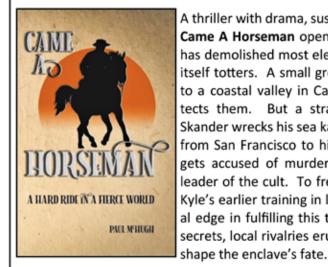
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Elkhart Books announces publication of new Novel by Paul McHugh





A thriller with drama, suspense, and surprise! Came A Horseman opens a decade after an immense solar flare has demolished most electronic equipment on Earth. Civilization itself totters. A small group of farmers in a religious cult retreat to a coastal valley in California. A nearby tribe of hunters protects them. But a stranger disrupts the arrangement. Kyle Skander wrecks his sea kayak on their shore as he struggles to sail from San Francisco to his home in Arcata. Once captured, Kyle gets accused of murdering a young woman who is a spiritual leader of the cult. To free himself, he must catch the true killer. Kyle's earlier training in logic and philosophy gives him an unusual edge in fulfilling this task. As he unearths the valley's buried secrets, local rivalries erupt into an all-out battle that will forever



"Came A Horseman" is available from the Kindle store and paperback from Amazon. If you wish to support your local bookstore simply tell the clerk the title, name of author, and that the distributor is Ingram.

ISBNs: 978-0-9987320-1-5 (paperback); \$16.95 978-0-9987320-2-2 (ebook) \$2.99 January 1, 2021

About the Author:

Paul McHugh is the award-winning author of seven books, including three novels. He's a famed outdoorsman and accomplished journalist whose work has appeared in The New York Times, The Washington Post, San Jose Mercury News, and for decades in The San Francisco Chronicle. Learn more at PaulMcHugh.net.

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Letters to the Editor

Representation Matters

Editor,

I was surprised and excited at the prospect of wheelchair-using mini figurines for Dungeons and Dragons and while I was playing World of Warcraft this evening, I made the mistake of looking for resources on representation in a game that I love.

The results were f#\$%@#\$ disgusting. So – because I need to put this into the void, to all those commenting "well I just don't see the point." or "All this talk about representation, it's a game ...":

The importance of representation and the importance of identity from personal experience IS a big deal and IS necessary, here is why: As someone who grew up rarely seeing little girls who looked like her unless they were presented as a tragic plot device to move audiences to tears, it would have been a life changer had I been given the opportunity to develop my own identity instead of first having to sort, and then separate, myself from the identity that has been forced on me since birth.

As a teenager moving through all different types of schooling, being denied access to some due to an issue of inaccessibility and as an excuse for this "concerns about my ability to keep up in class," it would have been amazing to see anyone like myself in any of the media I enjoyed daily while going through not only just your regular teenage-girl puberty, but also the kind of isolation and other-ness that only comes from peers being taught that disability is to be pitied/avoided/inspired by.

As a grown woman living at home with her parents, with little access to job opportunities/housing opportunities/resources – the small joys in life have been getting me through lately, so, yes, if it would make someone like myself happy to be able to choose how they present themselves in the media/particularly in gaming platforms during this point in history – then yes, I would say it IS important and guess what? If you don't like the fact that people are diverse and they would like the things they enjoy to reflect that, then, yes, actually I do find that offensive.

The only people I see undermining the struggles of others are those who already hold the privilege of being represented, being heard, being seen.

Wednesday Eanes Alamogordo

Minute of support for HB 40

Editor,

Gila Friends Meeting (Quaker) in Silver City has considered the intent of HB 40 – Private Detention Facility Moratorium Act, a bill the New Mexico State Legislature is considering in this session. The bill was introduced in the House by Rep. Angelica Rubio (D-Doña Ana-35) and is sponsored in the Senate by Sen. Gerald Ortiz y Pino (D-Bernalillo-12).

Gila Friends are united in the conviction that nothing good can come from a situation where prisoners are at the mercy of a corporation that exists to serve its stockholders by cutting the costs of the services it provides. That is an immoral enterprise, one in which it is inherent that corporate focus on profit will harm the prisoners, the taxpayers and the community.

The purpose of HB 40 is to eliminate private incarceration from New Mexico. Therefore, Gila Friends unite in supporting passage of HB 40, the Private Detention Facility Moratorium Act.

Tom Vaughan, member of Gila Friends Meeting Silver City



Silver City Museum Director Bart Roselli and Western Institute for Lifelong Learning President Susan Beck celebrate a new collaboration. (Courtesy photo)

MIXING IT UP

Museum, WILL Join Forces

Partnership provides support for organizations

ong in the works, the agreement just signed between the Silver City Museum and the Western Institute for Lifelong Learning (WILL) commences a historic partnership. The agreement was signed by Museum Director Bart Roselli, WILL President Susan Beck and Silver City Town Manager Alex Brown. This partnership agreement was originally spearheaded by Roselli and Shelby Hallmark, past WILL president.

WILL and the museum will collaborate on educational and cultural programming aimed at enriching the Silver City community. The agreement outlines substantial support for both organizations' missions, which includes shared programming, technical support, marketing, and financial commitments.

A collaboration in the past on Apache history between the Silver City Museum and WILL's Lunch and Learn program proved a success and led to the partnership between the two organizations. As the strengths of the two entities are complementary and both have positive reputations in the community, it is hoped that this collaboration will have a real impact in bringing quality local historical and cultural programming to more people; and, when safe again soon, opportunities for social conven-

The Partners

Based out of Silver City, the Western Institute for Lifelong Learning offers experiences in lifelong learning and opportunities for volunteering that optimize life's potential, satisfy personal curiosities and encourage socially responsible communities. Info: www.will.community.

Silver City Museum opened in 1967 as a department of Silver City. It offers exhibitions and public programs for all ages, community-wide events, publications and a gift store offering regional crafts, local history books and southern New Mexico souvenir items, and it cares for a vast collection of historical objects. Info: www.silvercitymuseum.org

ing for the Silver City community.

Joint programs will be advertised on the organizations' respective websites, social media, email and through traditional media outlets. Members and the public are encouraged to stay tuned for upcoming joint events.

BARK

continued from page 4

Bark! Bark! Bark! Bark! Bark! Bark!

"Heh, heh," my father chuckled, giving me a what-can-I-do? look.

Bark! Bark!

"He likes to bark," he explained.

My life just keeps getting better and better.

Bark! Bark!

"Crazy dog," he said, and gave his new best friend an affectionate pat on the head. Bark! Bark!

That dog better pray my father sticks around.

Did you see the hot dog movie? It was an Oscar Wiener. theduchenebrothers@gmail. com; @JimDuchene



ARTS EXPOSURE . ELVAK. ÖSTERREICH

Arts Scene

Upcoming area art happenings

SILVER CITY

• The Silver City Blues Festival is moving online for 2021. In consideration of the health and wellbeing of the community and visitors, the Mimbres Region Arts Council is canceling the live 2021 Silver City Blues Festival. In its place, a series of performances will be released online during the Memorial Day weekend of May 29-30. More information and event schedule will be available at www.silvercitybluesfestival.org. Info: info@ mimbresarts.org or



Light Art Space Gallery

• At Light Art Space the "Earth and Sky: Photography from Grant County" exhibition features the work of 25 photographers from Grant County. Color, black and white and alternative photographic processes are on exhibit, curated by Karen Hymer, director of Light Art Space. "Ode to **Ancient Wings and Precious** Water," Feb. 13 – April 17, is a mixed media installation by Zoe Wolfe and Carlene Roters. Inspired by the natural environment and the peace that it offers, this collaboration is in homage to habitat. Also on view is the work of Light Art Space gallery artists Joel Armstrong, Valerie Galloway, Karen Hymer, Carmen Ruiz, Eugene Starobinskiy, Art Peterson and Mimi Calise Peterson. The gallery is open 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday to Saturday and by appointment. Social distancing is observed and masks required. Info: www. lightartspace.com.

• The Grant County Art St. features the work of three artists in March: mixed-media artist Luanne Brooten, fiber/ needle artist and photographer Mary Margarete Soule and woodworker George Thompson. The work of these three artists will be shown in the gallery windows, and in displays inside the gallery March 1-31. Brooten's



"Hot Air Balloon" by George Thompson



"Picnic table service" by Mary Margaret Soule



"Southwestern Flight" by Luanne Brooten

brightly colored creations utilize recycled materials whenever possible. She uses watercolor, pen and ink, acrylic and mixed media for paintings and recycled fabrics and trims to make her own line of one-of-a-kind clothing and bags. Soule has a loyal following for her crocheted tams, along with her scarves, blankets and sewn home essentials. Thompson grew up on a farm in eastern Colorado, where he started his love of woodworking by making his own wooden toys. He enjoys utilizing the Cholla cacti for bowls and also works with as many local woods as he can find. Thompson considers commissions if you have a special request. The guild is normally open from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday-Friday and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday. Info: www.gcag.

DEMING

• The March 2021 exhibit at Guild Gallery, 316 N. Bullard the Deming Art Center featires the beautiful creations of the local quilting club - "The Quilting B's." On display will be many bed-size quilts, along with wall hangings and smaller quilted items. "The Quilting B's" are a small group, but have been very active throughout the pandemic.

> **ART SCENE** continued on page 8



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—Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

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ART SCENE

continued from page 9





Courtesy photos of quilts

With Covid restrictions on meeting size, they have been using email and other means of communication to figure out their designs and pick up their "challenge" work. Challenge subjects for this year are "Pockets - Full of ..., Hearts and ..., the Garden Party" and others. Tickets for a drawing for a challenge quilt called "Twin Sisters," are available. This project is supported in part by New Mexico Arts, a division of the Department of Cultural Affairs, and by the National Endowment for the Arts. The Gallery is located at 100 S. Gold St. in Deming, and open 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday and 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturdays. Info: 575-546-3663 or www.demingarts.org.

LAS CRUCES

• "Saint Joseph & The Laborers" exhibition is open by appointment through Nov. 6 at the New Mexico State University Art Museum (UAM). This exhibit was created through donations from various retablo collectors. The exhibit delves into the role of the laborer through the lens of Mexican retablo imagery. "Saint Joseph & The Laborers," will be on display in the newly created Margie and Bobby Rankin Retablo Gallery and is curated by Courtney Uldrich, MA candidate, as part of the course ART 597. In this exhibition UAM will also display for the first time a Mexican statue, or bulto, as well as other retablo paintings from the recent donation to the UAM Permanent Art Collection by leading retablo expert Gloria Fraser Giffords. Saint Joseph's Feast Day, March 19, will be celebrated by community-sourcing photos of homemade alters from around the world. To participate in this event, submit photos to artmuseum@nmsu.edu March 1-18 and they will be featured on Instagram @nmsuartmuseum. Info: uam.nmsu.edu/saintjoseph/.

• 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 March, Linda Hagen and Philip Krumholz. Hagen moved to Las Cruces from Ohio in 2004 instantly connecting to the light



Jewelry by Phillip Krumholz



Painting by Linda Hagen

and landscape of New Mexico. She paints in oils in the studio as well as in plein air. Her love of nature and animals is reflected in her work, but she holds a special regard for the horse.

Krumholz was born in Peoria, Illinois and moved to Las Cruces with his wife, Jeanie, in 2017. He began metalsmithing, learning the arts of blacksmithing, metal casting and fabrication. He uses no patterns or dies for his pieces, which are made from scratch, one at a time. First American Bank in Mesilla is well represented by gallery members who rotate the artists' work monthly. Covid-19 adjusted gallery hours are 10 a.m.- 5 p.m. daily with limited access. Info: 575-522-2933, www.mesillavalleyfinearts.com.

ON SCREEN . MIKE COOK

'Better Call Saul' Gives Back

State film office includes DACC in fund recipients

Doña Ana Community College is among five higher-education film programs in the state to share in about \$80,000 in funding from the "Better Call Saul" television series through the New Mexico Film Office's (NMFO) Giveback Program, NMFO said in a news release.

Funds can be utilized to purchase equipment, software and supplies, as well as to pay for student scholarship programs and other student opportunities, NMFO said, and are part of the state's film incentive program.



Matt Byrnes (Doña Ana **Community College photo)**

The purpose of the program is to strengthen New Mexico's film schools and related fields, thereby supporting growth of the film industry workforce in New Mexico.

"Thank you to 'Better Call Saul' and NMFO for these Giveback funds," said DACC Arts Department Chair Matt Byrnes. "This program has been an extraordinary resource for DACC to enhance our film education capabilities by providing additional funding for special workshops, presentations, guest lecturers, some exciting equipment and film scholarships. This reinforces the industry's commitment to directly give back to New Mexicans, across the state, wanting to join the film industry workforce with the knowledge and skills in high demand," Byrnes said.

"There are many benefits to having an established film industry in New Mexico," said Las Cruces and Doña Ana County Film Office Director Don Gray. "Some of those benefits are obvious, some less so. The Giveback program has quietly contributed hundreds

GIVES BACK

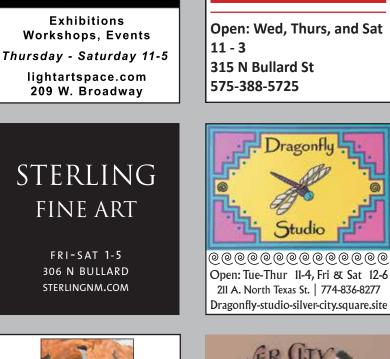
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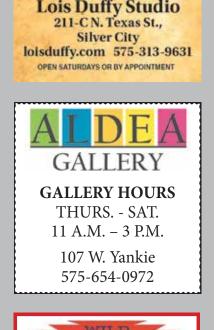
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ARTS EXPOSURE . ELVAK. ÖSTERREICH

Of Wings and Water

Artist collaboration joins talents of two friends

oe Wolfe and Carlene Roters have been colleagues and friends since 1999 when both were teaching at Western New Mexico University in the Expressive Arts Department.

"For years we have been talking of doing a collaborative installation," Roters said. "In January 2020 we decided to create an installation, which we would do as a gift of an experience to the visitors of the Silver City Art Association Studio Tour. Little did we know at the time, we were heading into a pandemic, and there would be no Studio Tour that year."

In January 2020, Roters spent a few days hiking in the Chiricahua Mountains with her husband.

"Each evening we would see the Sandhill Cranes returning to roost at the Wilcox Wildlife Playa," she said. "I was taken with the sight and the sounds."

That experience morphed into a collaboration, as the friends visited about the experience and the environment. Wolfe was taken with thoughts of precious water, and the challenge of expressing water and movement through ceramics and glazes.

"Together we meditated on our visions in our individual studios and collaborated to bring you an experience of what we think is an amazing phenomenon about living in our area," Roters said.

Roters said batik is an Indonesian art form she learned in 1970, when she was working with junior high school students.

"It is a wax resist process where you paint in dyes and use wax as a resist to save areas and colors you do not want the next layer of dye to change," she said. "With batik you need to think and work from light to dark and you need to understand what colors/dyes do when they blend with a new color/dye."



Carlene Roters and Zoe Wolfe work together to install their collaborative art project at Light Art Space Gallery in Silver City. (Photo by Karen Hymer)

Roters had the students practice on a commercial dye paper because it was very similar to rice paper, but it was cheaper and not handmade. After they learned the batik techniques using the paper, they went on to do their final projects on cloth, as is traditionally done.

"I got to love the practice batiks on paper because the wax rendered the paper translucent when lifted to the light," Roters said. "It reminded me of stained-glass windows. I thought that batik on rice paper could be very effective for my part in this installation."

Rice paper is quite tough and very adaptable to the batik process, she said. But working on scrolls of eight to nine feet made it challenging to get perspective when she needed to work flat and close to a source of hot wax, she said. And she had to revamp her whole studio and hang wires across the ceiling to hang the scrolls on. Then it was a process of hanging the scrolls up, evaluating what needed to be done, taking the scrolls down and batiking some more.

"Being a painter who usually uses oil, batik on paper posed forgotten challenges," Roters said. "You cannot go back as in oil and change things. Once the wax is on the paper, it is there for good. So, you make your mistakes into something, you live with it or you start again."

Working collaboratively with Wolfe proved a challenge too.

Both had a general vision to work toward but they had to work in their own respective studios due to the pandemic.

"In the end, we needed to make our creations work together," she said. "Zoe's stunning yet whimsical ceramic pieces give a magical feeling of place with ripples and pools of water. I needed to think about how I could make them work with my batiks, yet not have them disappear in pattern and detail. I found myself looking to Chinese screen paintings and Japanese nature paintings on rice paper to simplify."

"We had a lot of fun with it," Wolfe said. "She and I would go to each other's studios, masked – going back and forth to make sure it would be a cohesive vision."

Wolfe said she likes the way the ephemeral cranes float and how her work with depicting water still has the translucently because of the materials she worked into the clay.

"I always feel while making art that we have an idea and when you start working, more ideas come and when you add another person, it's really rich," Wolfe said. "We are two strong artists coming together and I felt the work would speak together and make a statement."

Wolfe models with mid-fired clay bodies and uses specialty glazes, glass and lusters to bring iridescence to the surface. Each piece is constructed to be displayed on the ground or a pedestal as well as vertically on a wall.

"If I was a sandhill crane I would look for the shimmer to draw me to land from the sky," she said. "Thus, when pondering the work I would bring to this collaboration, depictions of tranquil bodies of water were the obvious choice."

There is a bench near the exhibit as it is displayed at the Light Art Space gallery and Wolfe hopes people will be able to sit and relax there. She sees it as a meditation opportunity which could bring forth respect for these ancient birds and the preciousness of water.

If you go:

Ode to Ancient Wings and Precious Water

A mixed-media installation by Zoe Wolfe and Carlene Roters Light Art Space Gallery, 209 W. Broadway St., Silver City Feb. 12- April 17

Zoe Wolfe's studio gallery can be found at the corner of Cooper and Market streets in Silver City. She is represented locally Diana Leyba Ingalls Gallery on Bullard Street.

Carlene Roters is represented by the Blue Dome Gallery downtown and at Bear Mountain Lodge. Her work can be seen at carleneroters.com.



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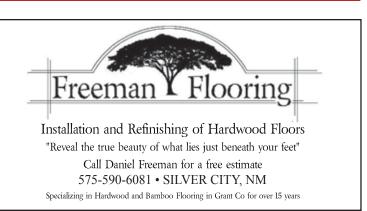




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ARTS EXPOSURE

The Flowers of Burano

Anatomy of a winning quilt

tired institutional analyst and math instructor Mia Kalish has won second place in the international SayYesToKaffeCollective Challenge for her quilt "Roman Tiles - Flowers of Burano." The challenge required participants to use 50 percent of their fabrics from the August 2020 collection and the remainder from the Kaffe Collective fabrics of their choice. For her efforts, she will receive one-half yard of each of the fabrics from the Kaffe Collective February 2021 collection, shipping to stores in February and March.

The Kaffe Collective is a group of three designers: Kaffe Fassett, who is known throughout the world for his color choices and combinations and especially for his big, bold floral designs, and the jazzy geometric of his partner, Brandon Mably, are a perfect foil for Kaffe's designs. The third designer in the group is Philip Jacobs, who is responsible for the magnificent colors in Kaffe's fabrics and who also markets his own fabrics under his Snow Leopard label.

The challenge included quilters participating from Europe, Russia, Asia, Australia and New Zealand. For many, getting fabrics was difficult. Two coincidences contributed to Kalish's success in the challenge. The first was her long-time love of Kaffe's and Phil's fabrics.

"I already had my own collection," she said. "All quilters have 'stashes,' lengths of fabrics that have caught our eye in stores, at shows and with Covid, especially online, but mine had more than its share of choices for my quilt."

The second fortunate coincidence was the arrival of Threadbear Quilt and Yarn Shop, relocated from Las Vegas, N.M. to 2205B Main St. in Las Cruces. Owners Michael and Ann Siewert are lovers of Kaffe and Phil's work and had ordered a selection of the August 2020 collection. Having fabric "in hand" is important when choosing colors for patterns, and being able to purchase fabrics was really the



"Roman Tiles - Flowers of Burano" by Mia Kalish.

"make or break" situation.

"I don't know what I would have done without Ann and Michael, especially Michael, who was a sounding board for my color and pattern selections and who was fluent in Phil Jacobs," Kalish said.

The challenge quilts were patterns selected from "Kaffe's Quilts in Burano," available in paperback and participants were able to choose from eight options. Kalish said "Roman Tiles" was strikingly different from the other choices. The 16 center blocks were halved on the diagonal from left to right with the darker fabric on the left and the lighter on the right. Part of the design work involved choosing fabrics that would replicate the overall theme of Kaffe's design and that met the ratio requirements.

"When the fabric finally came, it was another one of those times when everything was shut down because of a surge in infections" Kalish said. "When Threadbear finally was able to let us in, I took everything I had planned to use and went in to finally be able to check my fabric choices in real life.

"That was such an exciting and anguished day," she said. "I was so scared. I wondered, 'Are these going to work?'"

One of the most interesting things about quilting, unless one is working with a preestablished pattern and associated fabrics, is that the final outcome is always a surprise. The quilt evolves through a process of pieces. First, the fabric is cut, then individual components are assembled. This is called piecing. Smaller components, usually squares, rectangles and triangles, are sewn together to form the basic quilt component, the block. The blocks are then arranged and sewn together according to the pattern design and the border added. Following this, the quilt top, as it is now called, is layered with batting, in the middle and backing which completes the quilt structure.

"For the dominant dark fabric, I used Brandon's 'Animal' in green," Kalish said. "It combined nicely with Phil's 'Brassica,' also in green. I purchased a fat quarter bundle of the new collection to use for the small centers of the main blocks, and completed the pattern with another of Brandon's fabrics, 'Plaid,' in red, along with some duck egg blue jumble that I had been able to find online while I was waiting, and planning. I laid everything out in Microsoft Excel.

"For the backing, I chose 'Ombre Leaves' in bright pink. The backing was absolutely the opposite of the top in color and pattern and I thought at the time it was so very Kaffe, but it worked, it all worked, and it was a wonderful experience."

GIVES BACK

continued from page 8

of thousands of dollars to film and media programs throughout the state over the years. DACC is known for providing some of the best film and media training in the state and these funds will help them to help us to continue to grow the local crew base in the region."

"The Giveback Program was established to ensure production companies that come to New Mexico, also make an investment in New Mexico's future workforce," said state Economic Development Department Sec. Alicia J. Keyes.

"Programs like this are key to supporting continued efforts to expand our world-class crew and provide students who attend New Mexico film schools with the equipment they need to receive a quality education," said NMFO Director Amber Dodson.

The other fund recipients are the Grants campus of New Mexico State University, the Northern New Mexico College Film Program, the University of New Mexico Taos campus and New Mexico Highlands University.

"Better Call Saul' began filming in New Mexico in 2015," NMFO said. "The production has contributed \$177,696 to New

Mexico film schools through NMFO's Giveback program. The series will air its sixth and final season in 2021."

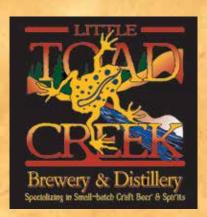
The Giveback program was initiated to support the growth of the New Mexico film industry's future workforce. Productions filmed in New Mexico that participate in the Non-Resident Below-the-Line Crew Credit Program provide 2.5 percent of direct production expenditures for the payment of wages, fringe benefits and per diem for non-resident industry crew to support educational or workforce development efforts in New Mexico. Visit nmfilm.com.

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STEPPING BACK IN TIME . STEPHEN FOX

The Spread of a Disease

The Spanish Influenza epidemic of 1918-19 moves to Grant County

Editor's note: This is Part One of a two-part series. Watch the April edition for Part Two.

In 1918, Silver City, not yet 50 years old, was growing from a small frontier town into an aspiring, up-to-date bigger town. That fall, local citizens were pre-occupied with three overriding issues: the "Great War" in Europe, how our local boys were faring over there and the crucial midterm elections that November

Under wartime pressures, most of the local mines were booming. The Ladies Hospital was just finishing its move from a house on Hudson Street (rather too close to the red-light district) to much larger quarters at the corner of Kelly and Cooper streets. The new building was formerly a convent run by the Sisters of St. Joseph. Renovations were now being rushed to completion in case the Spanish Flu reached Silver City.

This pandemic crept into the Southwest slowly and later than in most of the country. The Spanish Flu was not really Spanish. (In fact it had hardly anything to do with Spain.) Nobody knows for sure where it started, and all of its statistics are just rough guesses. Worldwide it killed around 50 million people; in this country, perhaps 500,000 to 850,000 people. If that proportion of the U.S. population in 1918 were killed today, that would mean from 1.6 million to 2.7 million deaths.

Assuming our new vaccinations work, we should not even approach those totals in 2021. Given the advantages of a century of medical progress since 1918, COVID-19 has been much less lethal – at least so far.

The invasions by the Spanish Flu coincided with the final year of World War I, a time of massive troop movements within warring nations and across the oceans. These movements, typically in crowded, unsanitary conditions, spread the flu around the world.

The virus was especially lethal for young people between the ages of 20 and 40. It seemed upside down – the strongest and



Women traveling back and forth to the mining town of Mogollon to care for the sick probably took the Spanish Flu back to Silver City with them. (Photo by Elva K. Österreich)

healthiest among us were most likely to die. In this country, the flu first appeared in military camps. Still many years before antibiotics and antiviral drugs, the medical practices of 1918 could do little to stop it.

After a relatively mild flareup during the first half of 1918, a much deadlier second wave began in September. It started in eastern seaboard cities - Boston, New York, Philadelphia - where troop ships were arriving from and departing to Europe. During this second wave, the victims often died of bacterial pneumonia after being weakened by the flu. This further complicated the already imprecise statistics of the pandemic. Many deaths were blamed only on their final stage, pneumonia, when they were actually caused by the influenza.

William C. Gorgas, the heroic physician who had saved the Panama Canal from yellow fever, was surgeon general of the Army in 1918. That fall, with the Spanish Flu launching its second wave, he issued rules for civilians that will look familiar to us now: Avoid crowds, smother coughs, breathe through the nose, open windows, be clean, wash hands before eating and so on. (But nothing, as yet, about masks.)

The Spanish Flu comes to Grant County

The pandemic reached the Southwest in October 1918. On Oct. 3, El Paso reported 250 cases, mostly in Fort Bliss, nearby. Three weeks later the city saw nearly 5,000 cases and at least 400 deaths. Mortality was especially high among the Mexicans on the south side of town.

On Oct. 5, Albuquerque counted eight cases and two deaths. Two weeks later, those numbers had climbed to 489 cases and 69 deaths.

Silver City, protected by its relative isolation and alerted by these encroaching dangers, took steps even before the flu reached Grant County. On Oct. 1, the New Mexico Normal School – the ancestor of Western New Mexico University – closed for the duration and sent its students home. The flu arrived in Grant County through local mining camps, in the mining towns of Santa Rita and Tyrone, and at Fort Bayard.

On Oct. 10, still with no cases in Silver City, Mayor Percy Wilson and C. S. Guthrey, the county physician, closed the public schools and banned "gatherings at places of amusement" such as bars, restaurants, theaters and dance halls. After nine flu deaths at Fort Bayard in the first two weeks of the month, the hospital there imposed a partial quarantine, holding meetings outside, restricting visitors and granting fewer passes to Silver City. This early, disciplined response probably limited the initial impact of the virus there.

"Silver City has so far practically escaped the influenza epidemic," a local newspaper declared at the end of October, "thanks to the timely precautions which have been taken."

But now we encounter a gaping blank spot in the historical record. The two weekly newspapers in Silver City, the Enterprise and the Independent, were edited by and for Anglos. They seldom extended much coverage, except for crime stories, of local Hispanics. Births and deaths in that community generally went unreported. Hispanic residents in town were clustered on Chihuahua Hill, south of Broadway. It is reasonable to infer that they, like the Mexicans on the south side of El Paso, suffered inordinately from the flu.

In recent years the Anglo neighborhoods of Silver City had gained electricity service and indoor plumbing. Those modern amenities, with their sanitary and health advantages, had not yet reached Chihuahua Hill. In that neighborhood, large families in small houses were more vulnerable to spreading the epidemic. Many could not afford doctors or hospitals, and in any case, they perhaps did not trust Anglo medical personnel to treat them fairly.

The flu arrives from Mogollon

Grant County's first serious brush with the flu came after an outbreak among miners in the gold-and-silver mining camp of Mogollon, 70 miles to the northwest, then in Socorro County.

It was a wide-open place with a history of disastrous floods

and fires. Regular shipments of gold and silver went to Silver City, 14 hours away by horse-drawn stage and eight hours by automobile. Almost overnight, the camp clocked 200 cases and 20 deaths. Mining operations shut down. The two physicians in Mogollon were overwhelmed. They sent a desperate appeal to Silver City, the nearest town of any size, the nearest with railroad service.

Annette Kinyon, a local clubwoman and perhaps the most prominent woman suffragist in Silver City, was the chair of the Grant County Red Cross. Kinyon and her associates quickly mobilized local women. Seven schoolteachers and nurses from the White Cross Hospital and the Cottage Sanatorium left at once for Mogollon. Eleven more women came from Tyrone and six from Santa Rita. Other women set to work sewing masks and pneumonia jackets.

Mogollon then consisted essentially of three ethnic groups: Mexicans, recent Italian immigrants and Anglos. The camp had two small churches, Presbyterian for the Anglos and Catholic for everybody else. At the opposite extreme of respectability, Mogollon also had two prospering brothels – one for Mexicans at the east end of town and "Little Italy," as it was called, at the west end, where 18 women were fully employed.

During these years, as an ambiguous aspect of its edging into 20th-century progress, Silver City's class and ethnic lines were being drawn more strictly. Santa Rita and Hurley, built and run by outsiders in the Chino Mining company, were the first two fully segregated towns in Grant County. Their practices then spread elsewhere through the county.

In 1915, for example, Silver City opened its first segregated public school, the ironically named Lincoln elementary school on Chihuahua Hill. It is therefore worth noting, in that time of increasing segregation and discrimination against Hispanics, that the merciful women

DISEASE

continued on page 13



Silver City's Bullard Street in the late 1910s, looking north from the corner of Bullard and Broadway. (Photo courtesy Silver City Museum Collections)



A patient stays busy at the Fort Bayard Hospital during the 1910s. (Photo courtesy Silver City Museum Collections)

HIGH PLACES . GABRIELE TEICH

Past the End of the Road

Rough and somewhat ready for a hike

xploring a mountain range for the first time is always fun.

Water – check Snacks – check

Hiking boots – check Sunscreen and hat – check

I hadn't showered that morning, but I was at the meeting point at 8 a.m., so I guess you could say I was rough and ready. I felt just about right for a hike in the Rough and Ready Mountains

It turned out at the trail head that I had forgotten my camera – maybe not so ready after all? These photos therefore are courtesy of Elaine Eaton, a fellow hiker in our little group of four people plus three dogs.

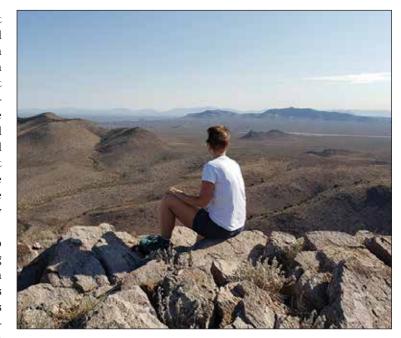
To get there: Take Corralitos Road (by the airport in Las Cruces) out for 12 miles and turn right toward the hills. Park where the dirt road peters out and find the foot path starting up the arroyo.

That path had started out years ago much narrower and less prominent, but the Rough and Readys have become an in spot for rock climbers in recent years and have seen more visitors than ever. If you follow the trail around the hill it will lead you to the climbing spots and you will understand why: almost vertical rock walls with ample foot and hand holds and coarse enough to offer traction. It's any rock climber's dream.

Our group headed straight up the slope instead of following the trail and soon we stood on top of the highest peak for miles around. Quite literally for miles around, because there is absolutely nothing but flat desert in all directions. What a view!

On our way down on the other side of the mountain, we spotted a group of six hikers and who would it be but the Ocotillos, my other hiking buddies. Big hellos and a quick exchange of "How was your summer?" and we parted ways again.

Skirting the mountain to the right and slowly descending to the desert floor we reached our vehicles again after only two hours and 15 minutes. A nice, not-too-hard hike for a beautiful fall day. Steven, our guide, did say, due to the exposure, it gets cold in those hills when the cold



Gaining the heights. (Photos by Elaine Eaton)

winter winds blow.

If you decide to go and stay on the climbers' trail, be warned that it will peter out eventually and you have the options of either backtracking or bushwhacking. The bush is not too bad out there, lots of good size rocks and only smallish shrubs and dry grass make it a viable option, but if you prefer a real trail, you have to turn around and follow your footsteps back.

Elaine, my hiking friend (and photographer) had a somewhat rattling encounter with a snake, so yes, they are out there. Watch

where you step and give them a wide berth.

Enjoy the cooler weather and stay safe out there.

See you on the trails!

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.

(Photos by Elaine Eaton)

DISEASE

continued from page 12

rushing to Mogollon were middle-class Anglos, endangering themselves to care for working-class Hispanics and Italians. Their reckless kindness stands in sharp contrast to the spreading Jaime Crow tendencies of the early 20th century.

The Red Cross's influenza pamphlet was translated into

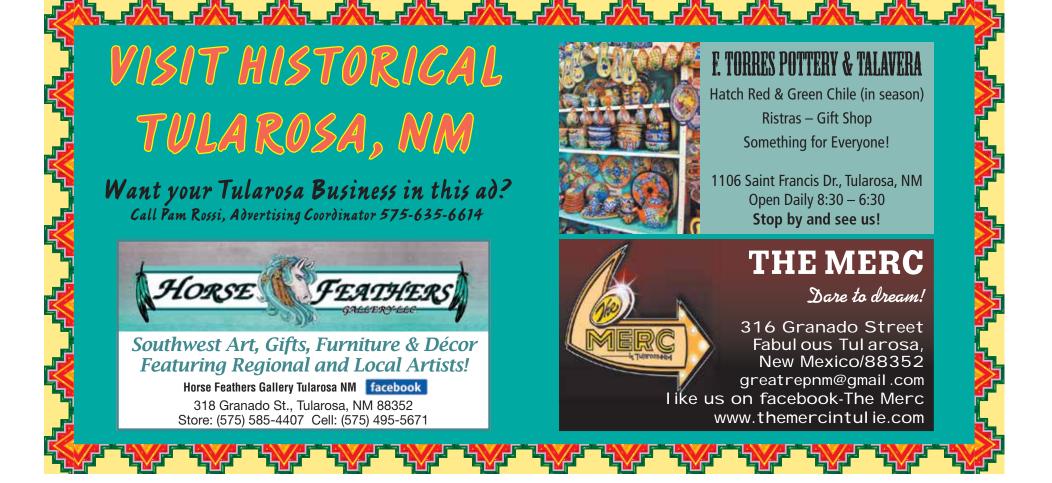
Spanish. Fort Bayard, Santa Rita and Hurley sent supplies. The flu in Mogollon was soon deemed under control.

"Heroic work was done," the Independent reported, "and many lives saved." But many lives were also lost. Estimates of the toll in Mogollon range from 52 to 70. The cemetery ground was frozen solid. Corpses were laid on benches in the old dance hall, awaiting burial.

A retired historian from
Boston, Stephen Fox has
lived in Silver City since
2008. For their help with the
research for this article, he
thanks Javier Marrufo of the
Silver City Public Library,
Ashley Smith of the Silver City
Museum, Susan Berry and the
Grant County Clerk's office.



Getting out to the sun at the Fort Bayard Hospital during the 1910s. (Photo courtesy Silver City Museum Collections)



PUBLISHER'S NOTEBOOK * RICHARD COLTHARP

End of Watch

Darian Jarrott: Recognizing the face of law enforcement

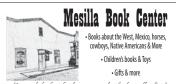
5, I drove U.S. 70 from Las Cruces to Tularosa.

The whole way, across the desert, two counties, three cities and two military installations, flags were at half-staff. At homes, businesses, government agencies, churches.

The evening of Friday, Feb. 5, I drove west on Interstate 10 from El Paso to Las Cruces.

An hour after dark, heading east on I-10, was a long line of police vehicles flashing lights.

The lowered flags, the bright lights, the giant message at the East Mesa Public Safety Complex reading "NMSP - 1251" were just some of the tributes to Officer Darian Jarrott, who wore



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he morning of Friday, Feb. New Mexico State Police badge No. 1251.

> By now, we all know the murderous fate Jarrott suffered Thursday, Feb. 4.

> We're also learning of the outpouring of support and concern expressed for Jarrott, a native son of Lordsburg, and his surviving family, which includes three small children and a baby on the

Residents of Lordsburg have been displaying blue lights. Money is being raised all over the state, mostly by people who never knew Officer Jarrott.

ROUTINE TRAFFIC STOP

As of this writing, we don't yet know if Officer Jarrott stopped his killer on a routine traffic stop, or if he was called into pursuit.

Regardless, in my view, for a law enforcement officer, there is no such thing as a routine traffic stop. Whether you are a hardened criminal or a by-the-book law abiding citizen, no one is happy to see those red-andblue lights in the rear-view mirror.

The person pulled over could be a 16-year-old crying in frustration over her first traffic stop, or it could be a convicted felon armed and wired on cocaine. It could be an 88-year-old man with bad hearing aids, or it could be someone pondering suicide.

An officer must be prepared to handle all these extremes and everything in between.

In the past decade, we've seen a dozen or two videos of law enforcement officers acting improperly, wrongly and sometimes fatally. We've not, however, seen videos of the millions of encounters with law officers doing their jobs to the standards to which the vast majority of them strive.

In every profession, there are some who perform their jobs carelessly, incompetently or vindictively. No one, howev-



New Mexico State Police Ofc. Darian Jarrott (Courtesy photo)

er, wants to eliminate doctors because a patient died during a botched surgery. No one protests to get rid of buses when a driver has a fatal accident.

It's easy to condemn an entire profession when you don't know the dedication, care and hard work the practitioners put into it. It's easy to condemn an entire profession when you see it as a faceless institution.

SELFLESS SACRIFICE

Many New Mexicans are married to a law enforcement officer. Many are children or parents of officers. Many have friends or family members on the job. They

But many New Mexicans do not have that familiarity or understanding. Maybe, for them, Darian Jarrott can be the face of law enforcement. He was a real person, with real family, with real children, with the same social, financial and personal

struggles we all have. Friends describe him as happy, upbeat and positive.

Here are the words of one of Jarrott's colleagues, State Police Investigations Bureau Captain Randy Larcher, written the day after Jarrott's death: " ... yesterday was one of the more difficult days of my 15-year career and I think everyone needs to know. It's not an easy era to be a police officer, and even more difficult when one of our officers is killed by an animal. Being involved in this investigation all day yesterday (and continuing today) made me reflect on the wonderful profession of law enforcement. We collectively

were stabbed in the back (and front) nearly all of 2020 for the actions of a few. But at the end of the day, when everyone else is running away from danger, keep in mind, the brave men and women of law enforcement are running towards it. It's nice to sleep in our warm beds and Monday-morning-quarterback every action law enforcement takes, but at the end of the day, those men and women are risking their very lives. Remember Darian Jarrott for his selfless sacrifice. His children certainly will."

End of Watch: February 04, 2021.

RichardColtharp is publisher of Desert Exposure. He can be reached at richard@



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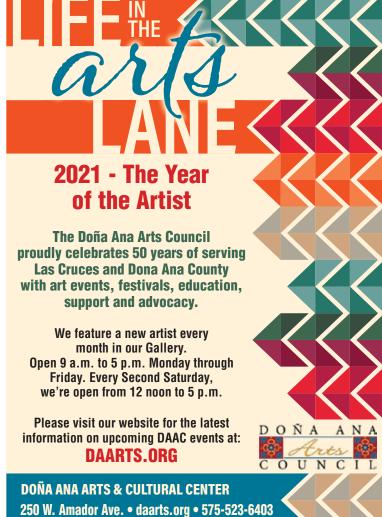
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BORDERLINES . MARJORIE LILLY

Las Chepas and the Wall

Almost abandoned Mexican town alive with Issues

fter a broken appointment in Palomas, I felt aimless for a while, driving around in the morning sunlight. So I started out in the direction of Las Chepas, 18 miles west. I was to find out there was a lot going on in that mostly abandoned settlement.

This was two days after the staggeringly brutal assault on the U.S. Capitol building by Donald Trump's followers. But the long rutted road and the broken-down Mexican houses huddling close to the border in Las Chepas made you feel isolated from the world. There was a profound quiet.

The houses are almost all abandoned, but the town still breathes. There are roughly 25 inhabitants, if you include people who come from Deming to work in their fields on weekends. They earn at least part of their living cultivating their ejido land (communal lands given by the Mexican government in 25-meter by 25-meter plots).

The road on the United States side of the border had recently sliced through a mountain to the west of town. The 30-foot tall wall was being extended to the Cerro de la Cruz (Hill of the Cross). As pickup trucks and heavy machinery drove over the new road, they looked, from a distance, as if they were driving straight downward (or upward) because it was so steep.

Donald Trump's border message at Alamo, Texas, on Jan. 8, two days after the insurrection in Washington, was his celebration of the construction of 450 miles of wall during his time in office, which has cost \$16.45 billion. This figure, broken down, is \$20.7 million per mile – in a little town where people earn about \$2,000 a year, plus part of what their children earn on the U.S. side of the border in the fields, at the processors, at Walmart or wherever.

New Mexico and Arizona have the greatest length of the new wall built by Trump — 100 and couple of months, until decisions are made about what the Biden administration will do to finish off the project.

Trump had started out during his time in office saying he would build 1,000 miles of fencing. This boast had shrunk to 750 and then to 450 miles as it is today.

A Las Chepas man I spoke to, Epifanio Ruiz, had a good laugh about the border wall because almost no Mexican had crossed in 12 years, he claimed. This was when the U.S. government sent hundreds of soldiers to the border. In 2008, the program of sending the National Guard to the border, including 900 to New Mexico, was completed.

To Ruiz, the wall was completely out-dated.

"Everyone has moved to the



Rigo Enriquez (Photo by Marjorie Lilly)

other side!" he joked. "Their cheeks are all pink!" meaning their skin changed color to look like Anglos. He said the wall looked like the Great Wall of Chi-

Ruiz said this project is the first time anyone has built an impenetrable wall between Las Chepas and Palomas. Before, there had been much smaller and lower walls and fences intermittently placed to shut off trucks from crossing with people or drugs.

I remember clearly, in the years prior to and after 2010, the yellow bus that waited at one end of the Palomas central plaza which was usually filled with 50 or so immigrants sleeping or sitting in the grass. The buses brought them out to Las Chepas so they could cross to the U.S. I'd also seen pickup trucks on that road with people lying on its floor so they couldn't be seen by "la migra."

Rigo Enriquez, with his own fields and cattle, agreed with Ruiz about the lack of people crossing at this time. In 2000 there were about 70 people in Las Chepas, and there were immigrants everywhere, many staying in abandoned houses. There were sometimes gunfights there that could be pretty fierce.

Later in the day I visited Las 226 miles, respectively — and Chepas and tried to walk as close more wall may be built. There is as I could to the Cerro de la Cruz a pause in the building now for a to get a halfway decent photo source or food source," he said. of it. But a couple of men approached me from the U.S. side of the wall. They told me I had to leave because they were soon going to be exploding some dynamite near the road on the Cerro. I asked them about other things and the older man said, "We can't say." He said something about builders have ever built tunnels

orate. What they were doing He responded with a crisp "no." was broadening the road.

About 2 p.m., there was a huge explosion and maybe 50foot tall clouds of dust. I waited the rest of the afternoon but heard no more explosions.

Enriquez said he hadn't heard anything about the explosion in advance.

"Did they ask permission?" I asked.

"No, no, no," he said. Nobody from the border wall project had consulted with any Las Chepas resident. He quietly simmered as we talked about this.

For many years of his life Enriquez had walked up to the

cross on the top of the mountain each year on May 3, for their Dia de la Santa Cruz (Day of the Holy Cross) fiesta. That was two days before they celebrated Cinco de Mayo. Both celebrations were filled with Mexican dancing and food.

The cross is still there at the top of the mountain, barely visible because of its size. Enriquez said they hadn't held a celebration there for two years. But the cross is still maintained by people in town.

Another issue facing Las Chepas is how the wall will break up some species of animals in the area. Rigo Enriquez has tramped around the local hills and the large spring-fed playa, like a shallow lake, south of town. He has seen bobcats, mule deer and javelinas especially.

Kevin Bixby, director of the Southwest Environmental Center in Las Cruces, said there sometimes are mountain lions, coyotes, foxes and even the possibility of antelope or a jaguar, which have been sighted in the Bootheel.

"It's a classic recipe for extinction," Bixby said. "They're fragmenting the habitat by building the wall.'

No species is facing imminent extinction, but the wall is increasing the susceptibility to extinction.

"They can't get to the water A problem in the coming year is that "water is really scarce in southwest New Mexico."

The space between the posts of the giant wall are only about as wide as a quail, always seen in this part of the world.

I asked Bixby if the border wall

four blasts, but wouldn't elab- under the walls to help wildlife.

On the last day I went to Las Chepas, I walked partly up the Cerro and beyond, where the wall had been built in pieces here and there, looking very much like the Great Wall of China, as Ruiz said. Or, as I thought, like a roller-coaster.

I saw a Border Patrol policeman, watching from his vehicle, near this section of the wall. We started to talk under the condition that I wouldn't use his name.

He was Hispanic and friendly. What he said contradicted what the men in Las Chepas had told me. He said that the Deming station of the border apprehended about 20 migrants per day. It's possible that migrants don't pass through Las Chepas anymore.

This man emphasized the criminals he had apprehended, but not the non-criminals. He believes Trump didn't create the insurrection in Washington, a

position I couldn't possibly hold. He adds that he doesn't watch TV. He also said the number of migrants crossing was already beginning to increase because of Biden's gentler attitude toward border crossers.

I wonder what changes there will be in the border when the Biden administration goes into full force. Will they stop the final phases of the wall-building for the sake of humanity and economy? Will they make the wall more friendly toward wild animals?

And how long will this super-border last, compared with the Great Chinese Wall which lasted about 2000 years? It's hard to imagine it ever being taken

Borderlines columnistMarjorieLilly lives in Deming.



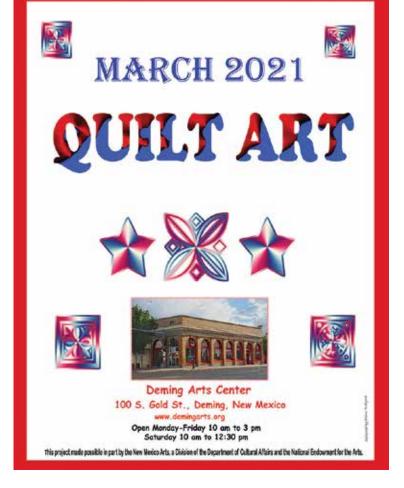


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Red or Green? is Desert Exposure's guide to dining in southwest New Mexico. We are in the process of updating and modifying these listings. We are asking restaurants to pay a small fee for listing their information. Restaurant advertisers already on 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?,

Silver City

* ADOBE SPRINGS CAFÉ, 619 N.

Bullard St., 538-3665. Breakfast

* CACTUS JACKS, 1307 N. Pope

St. 538-5042. Gluten-free, healthy

beverages. Monday to Friday B L D,

* CAFÉ OSO AZUL AT BEAR

Bear Mountain Ranch Road,

538-2538. B L, special D by

* CHINESE PALACE, 1010 Highway

180E, 538-9300. Chinese: Monday to

COURTYARD CAFÉ, 1313 E 32nd

DIANE'S RESTAURANT. 510

N. Bullard St., 538-8722. Fine

pasta, sandwiches (L), salads:

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dining (D), steaks, seafood,

Tuesday to Saturday L D,

weekend brunch.

St., Gila Regional Medical Center,

538-4094. American: B L.

Saturday and Sunday L. T/O DEL

MOUNTAIN LODGE, 60

reservation only. PT/O

Friday L D. T/O

B L, all week B L D; P/O T/O

groceries, grill fast foods and

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

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!

Southwest New Mexico's **Best Restaurant Guide** 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

GRANT COUNTY DIANE'S BAKERY & DELI,

The Hub, Suite A, 601 N. Bullard St., 534-9229. Artisan breads, pastries, sandwiches, items, burgers, sandwiches: Sunday deli: Monday to Saturday B L early D, Sunday L.

> DON JUAN'S BURRITOS, 418 Silver Heights Blvd., 538-5440. Mexican: B L. * 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

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

D. **D/TT/O**

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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.

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/O 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

* SUNRISE ESPRESSO.

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

* SUNRISE ESPRESSO,

1212 E. 32nd St., 388-2927. Coffee shop, bakery: Monday to Friday B L, early D, Saturday B L only. **D/T**

TAPAS TREE, 601 N. Bullard St. in The Hub, 597-8272. Monday to Thursday L, Friday and Saturday L D (closes at 4 p.m.).

* **TASTE OF VEGAS**, 303 E. 13th St., 534-9404. Daily L PT/O.

* WRANGLER'S BAR & GRILL, 2005 Hwy. 180E, 538-4387. Steak, burgers, appetizers, salads: L D. PT/O

Cliff

Duck Creek Café, U.S. Highway 180, Cliff, 535-4500. Visit Duck Creek Café on Facebook.RVs/Big Rigs welcome, Wednesday to Saturday LD, Sunday LD. "Bring home cooking to your table"

DONA ANA COUNTY Las Cruces & Mesilla

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

*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. DELPT/O

* AQUA REEF, 141 N. Roadrunner Parkway, 522-7333. Asian, sushi: LD.

DEL PT/O THE BEAN, 2011 Avenida de Mesilla, 527-5155. Coffeehouse.

* A BITE OF BELGIUM, 741 N. 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 Saturday L D. T/O

* BURRITOS VICTORIA, 1295 El 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 a.m. to 6 p.m.

CHACHI'S RESTAURANT, 2460 S. Locust St.-A, 522-7322. Mexican: B L D. * 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 DEL D/T

* DAY'S HAMBURGERS. 245 N. Main St., 523-8665. Burgers: Monday to Saturday L D. C/S

* PECAN GRILL & BREWERY, 500 S. Telshor Blvd., 521-1099. Pecansmoked meats, sandwiches, steaks, seafood, craft beers: L D. P T/O

* **DELICIAS DEL MAR,** 1401 El Paseo Road, 524-2396. Mexican, seafood: B L D. PT/O

* DICK'S CAFÉ, 2305 S. Valley Drive, 524-1360. Mexican, burgers: Sunday B L, Monday to Saturday B L D C/S P * DION'S PIZZA, 3950 E. Lohman

* **DOUBLE EAGLE**, 2355 Calle de Guadalupe, 523-6700. Southwestern, steaks, seafood: L D, Sun. champagne brunch buffet. PT/O

Ave. 521-3434. Pizza: L D. DEL D/T

* EL SOMBRERO PATIO CAFÉ, 363 S. Espina St., 524-9911. Mexican: L D. **PT/O**

* ENRIQUE'S MEXICAN FOOD, 830 W. Picacho Ave., 647-0240. Mexican: B L D. **T/O**

FARLEY'S, 3499 Foothills Road, 522-0466. Pizza, burgers, American, Mexican: L D.

FIDENCIO'S, 800 S. Telshor Blvd., 532-5624. Mexican: B L D.

* THE GAME BAR & GRILL, 2605 S. Espina St., 524-GAME. Sports bar and grill: L D. PT/O

* THE GAME II: EXTRA INNINGS SPORTS BAR & GRILL, 4131 Northrise Drive, 373-4263, Live music on weekends. American, Southwest, 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 of the Texas Size Burrito, 1008 E. Lohman Ave., Las Cruces, NM 88005, 524-9251. Monday - Saturday, 7 a.m. – 3 p.m. Specializing in relleno burritos and other mexican food. **GOLDEN STAR CHINESE FAST** FOOD, 1420 El Paseo Road, 523-

B L D. **PT/O**

2828. Chinese: L D.

* GRANDY'S COUNTRY COOKING, 1345 El Paseo Road, 526-4803. American: B L D. D/T T/O

* HABANERO'S 600 E. Amador Ave., 524-1829. Fresh Mexican: B L D. **PT/O**

* HACIENDA DE MESILLA, 1803 Avenida de Mesilla, 652-4953. Steaks, barbecue, seafood, sandwiches, salads, pasta: L D. C/SP

* HIGH DESERT BREWING **COMPANY**, 1201 W. Hadley Ave., 525-6752. Brew pub: L D. *PT/0*

JOSEFINA'S OLD GATE CAFÉ,

2261 Calle de Guadalupe, 525-2620. Pastries, soups, salads, sandwiches: Monday to Thursday L, Friday to 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

* LAS TRANCAS, 1008 S. Solano Drive, 524-1430. Mexican, steaks, burgers, fried chicken: L D, Saturday and Sunday also B. PT/O

B. **PT/O**

* LE RENDEZ-VOUS CAFÉ, 2701 W. Picacho Ave. #1, 527-0098. French pastry, deli, sandwiches: Tuesday to Sunday B L. T/O *LET THEM EAT CAKE, 1001 E.

University Ave. Suite D4, 680-5998. Cupcakes: Tuesday to Saturday. C/S DEL T/O

* LORENZO'S PAN AM, 1753 E. University Ave., 521-3505. Italian, pizza: L D. C/S DEL T/O

* LOS COMPAS CAFÉ, 6335 Bataan Memorial W. Drive, 382-2025. Mexican: B L D. C/S T/O

* LOS COMPAS CAFÉ, 603 S. Nevarez St., 523-1778. Mexican: B L D. C/S T/O

* LOS COMPAS, 1120 Commerce Drive, 521-6228. Mexican: B L D. C/SPT/O

* LOS MARIACHIS, 754 N. Motel Blvd., 523-7058. Mexican: B L D. * LOS MARIACHIS, 5600 Bataan

Memorial E., 373-0553. Mexican, L D. **D/T T/O**



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> Not earlier than 9 or later than 5. Thank you its nice to be back.



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Bear Creek Herbs

MainStreet honors area business

aava Koenigsberg, owner of Bear Creek Herbs, 604 N. Bullard St. in Silver City, has been struggling to stay afloat during the Covid epidemic.

"In the spring of 2020, when mandated public health COVID-19 restrictions were implemented across the country, we at Bear Creek Herbs made sure to let our state government know that our community counts on us for many of its vital healthcare needs," she said. "We received essential status and have been able to remain open consistently."

Koenigsberg said her company was fortunate to receive a grant from Silver City MainStreet to install Plexiglas sneeze guards and make other modifications to the shop.

"This allowed us to let customers into the front section of the store during the summer and early autumn," she said.

In November, when the gov-

lockdown, Bear Creek went back to doorway-only service.

"One of the major challenges we have encountered is the lack of availability of certain products," Koenigsberg said. "We pride ourselves on the fact that over half of the herbs that we carry, and the majority of the overall items that we sell, are from local sources. We also prioritize purchasing American grown and manufactured products, yet we still rely on the worldwide herbal market to provide many of our ingredients."

The market for herbal products has been especially volatile this past year, she said. Availability has been hampered by multiple factors including crop failures due to extreme weather events, manufacturing slowdowns due to rampant illness and lockdown restrictions, import and transportation re-

ernor implemented a two-week strictions, domestic distribution slowdowns, and increased worldwide demand.

> "The upshot of all this is that we have fewer products available," Koenigsberg said. "Prices have skyrocketed, and it can take up to two months to receive the items we order. We expect that the spotty inventory will continue for the foreseeable future."

> Koenigsberg said the store is adapting to the change in availability by learning more about the products it has access to.

> "Rarely is there only one plant that can be used in a given situation," she said. "Getting to spend more time in the garden has been one of the few joyful side-effects of the Covid situation."

> Her home garden and greenhouse have been converted from vegetable and herb production to almost exclusively medicinal and culinary herbs.

Silver City MainStreet is ac-



Shelley McClean, Naava Koenigsberg and Alegra Link at Bear **Creek Herbs. (Courtesy photo)**

knowledging downtown businesses that have persevered during the Covid pandemic with Downtown Silver City Strong awards, which Bear Creek Herbs has received. The awards are a way to say thank you to businesses that have worked hard to stay open and find new and creative ways to operate.

The mission of Silver City

MainStreet is "To encourage a vibrant, historic downtown Silver City which is recognized as the heart of our diverse community." Info: www.silvercitymainstreet.

Charmeine Wait is executive director of the Silver City MainStreet/Arts & Cultural District.

ON TRACK . ELVAK. ÖSTERREICH

Following the Mission

Christian motorcyclists settle in Mimbres

raveling and helping are virtually a career for Tommy and Kathy Tucker, who recently relocated themselves to the Mimbres community in Grant County.

The couple have been traveling in their RV and have visited every state but Alaska so far. They were headed to Florida from their last stop in Little Rock, Arkansas when they managed to land in New Mexico.

Tom said he used to be a "bad guy."

In 1970, after getting out of college, he and a friend road their motorcycles from "DC to LA" and his love of the road kicked in. He said while he never got into the hard stuff, he did his share of "doping and drinking."

"I don't know why God spared me," he said. "But I never really rode with the Hells Angels or the Pagans."

Today he and Kathy follow the road still, mostly in their RV. They have been in the Christian Motorcyclists Association (CMA) for 16 years and, as part of the SOWERs (Servants on Wheels Ever Ready) ministry, , they park their RV at youth camps and help out with the necessities for six hours a day in exchange for camp sites.

When they visited New Mexico and found out CMA wanted a presence in Grant County, the couple determined to build a chapter here. They bought a house, actually an apartment with an airplane hangar where



Tommy and Kathy Tucker at their new home in Mimbres where their RV and motorcycle fit into a converted airplane hangar. (Photo by Elva K. Österreich)

to Mimbres.

said. "We are what we are."

"We think God put us here," Tom added. "Actually, we know he did, pretty much beyond a shadow of a doubt."

Tom said the purpose of CMA can be described by a vision statement taken from the Bible, Luke 14:23.

"Go into the highways and byways, make them come in so that my Father's house may be full," he paraphrased, saying that is the thrust of the spiritual vision of CMA.

Back in 1975 Herbie Shreve was looking for something to do with his teen son, Tom said. Shreve wanted his son to stay out of trouble, so they started riding motorcycles together in

"They felt God moving them on to tell people about Jesus

they parked their RV, and moved and I guess the rest is history," he said. The ministry has close "We are evangelistic," Kathy to 150,000 members, and a presence in 85-90 countries. Last year, Tom said, CMA raised \$4 million, half of which goes into supporting different ministries around the world.

> "We are not a church," he said. "We don't want to be taking people out of the churches. But we are 'here if you need us."

> In addition to the camaraderie, CMA groups will help out when needed. It doesn't need to be church related, just a need is

> "Just call us up," Tom said. "We will help park cars, pick up trash, anything."

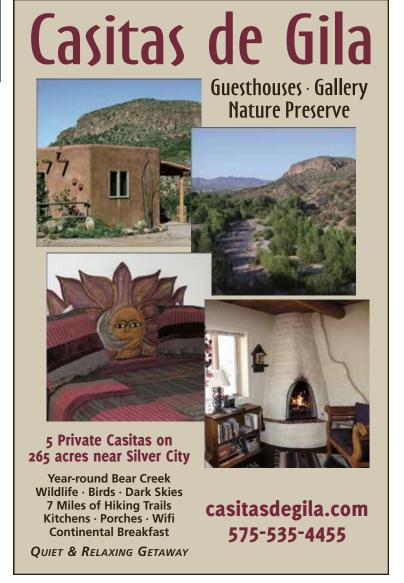
> All they want Tom said, is to "change the world one heart at a time."

> Kathy said the organization focuses more on what people do than what they say.

"We all have our moments, no-

body is perfect," she said. "Still, by your actions, by your kindness, by your love as you show this to your neighbors, wherever you are, that speaks louder than anything you can say."

The Tuckers are working to start a CMA chapter in Grant County and can be reached at 240-321-8375. For more information about CMA, visit www. cmausa.org.



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THE STARRY DOME . BERT STEVENS

Auriga, the Charioteer

A familiar tale ends with beezwax

Just a little north of overhead, the constellation Auriga, the Charioteer, races through our evening sky, circling the north celestial pole daily. Auriga has a bright marker at the northwest end of the constellation, the first magnitude star Capella. This makes Auriga easy to find in the sky.

Auriga was first described in Mesopotamian myths as a scimitar or a crook (staff). The crook represented a goat-herder or shepherd. Greek myths are plentiful for this constellation. One of them involved King Oenomaus

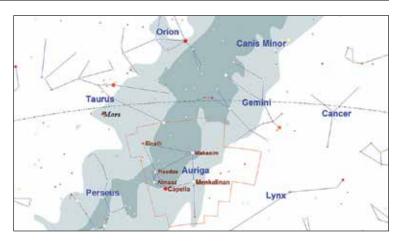
of Pisa and his beautiful daughter Hippodamia. King Oenomaus had received a prophecy that he would be killed by this son-inlaw. He devised a plan to prevent his daughter's marriage by forcing each suitor to participate in a chariot race.

King Oenomaus and his expert charioteer Myrtilus would race the suitor and when the King won the race, the suitor would be killed. Eighteen suitors had met their fate this way and their heads were mounted on wooden columns in the palace. The next

suitor was Pelops, son of Tantalus, the King of Lydia. Pelops was very much in love with Hippodamia and fearing he would lose the race, he asked his friend Poseidon, god of the seas, for help. Poseidon produced a chariot drawn by winged horses.

Still concerned, Pelops and Hippodamia replaced the bronze linchpins holding the wheels on the King's chariot with ones made of beeswax. The chariots lined up at the starting line and the race was off. Pelops took an early lead, but the long race allowed Myrtilus and the King to catch up with him. Just as King Oenomaus was about to pull even with Pelops, the beeswax melted, and the wheels came off the king's chariot and it broke apart. King Oenomaus was dragged by his own horses to his death, while Myrtilus survived. Myrtilus attempted to claim Hippodamia himself, but Pelops tossed him off a cliff ending his life. Myrtilus's father Hermes had him placed in the sky as Auriga. Later, the Olympic Games were created to commemorate King Oenomaus.

The brightest star in Auriga is Capella (Alpha Aurigae), the sixth brightest star in the sky shining at magnitude +0.1. Stars travelling in their orbit around our galaxy will occasionally come closer to our Sun and then recede. Capella is receding now at a distance of 42.9 light-year, but 237,000 years ago it was



Auriga Is high in the northern sky on these March evenings. It is composed of brighter stars, with the first magnitude Capella being the brightest. While Capella was the brightest star as well as being a quadruple star, many of the other stars in Auriga have interesting stories to tell as well. See previous editions of Desert Exposure for information on some of the other stars in Auriga.

Calendar of Events - March 2021 (MST/MDT)

04 7:00 p.m. Mercury one-third degree above and to the left of Jupiter. 05 6:30 p.m. Last Quarter Moon Mercury greatest distance from the Sun 06 4 a.m. (27 degrees) 13 3:21 α.m. New Moon 2 a.m. Daylight Savings Time begins 14 3:37 a.m. 20 March Equinox First Quarter Moon 21 8:40 a.m. Venus passes around the other side of the Sun l α.m.

closer at only 27.9 light-years, allowing it to become the brightest star in the sky from 210,000 years ago to 160,000 years ago. Its peak brightness was magnitude -0.82.

12:48 p.m. Full Moon

Capella is a multi-star system with the brightest visible star designated Capella A. Capella A itself is actually a pair of stars that orbit each other a little closer than the Earth is to the Sun, so close that they appear to be a single star in our sky. These two elder stars are each two and a half times the mass of our Sun. The brighter of these two stars (Capella Aa – magnitude +0.76) is almost twelve times the diameter of the Sun, while the fainter one (Capella Ab – magnitude +0.91) is almost nine times the Sun's diameter. The larger star has expanded so much that its surface has cooled to a red spectral class of K0 while the smaller star's surface has only cooled to a yellow spectral class of G3. These stars are around six hundred and 20-million years old.

There are 15 additional stars that appear near Capella A in our sky. Each has been assigned a letter to distinguish them from each other. Most of them are much farther away from us and so are not part of the Capella star system. Two of them are the same dis-

🤉 Marie C. Weil, PsyD, ABPP

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Grant County Weekly Events

SUNDAYS

Archaeology Society - 536-3092, whudson43@yahoo.com.

Cocaine Anonymous allwaterman@yahoo.com.

MONDAYS

AARP Widowed and Single Persons of Grant County Contact Sally, 537-3643.

Al-Anon family group, New Hope Contact: 313-7891.

Grant County Federated Republican Women – 313-7997. Meditation for Beginners -

Jeff, 956-6647. www. lotuscentersc.org. Silver City Squares -

Kay, 956-7186 or Linda 590-1499. Silver Chorale -

Contact Anne, 288-6939. **Southwest New Mexico ACLU** Bob Garrett, 575-590-4809.

TUESDAYS

Alzheimer's/Dementia Support Margaret, 388-4539.

Bayard Historic Mine Tour -Call 537-3327 for reservation.

Figure/Model Drawing -Dan Larson, 654-4884.

Gilawriters - Contact Trish Heck, trish.heck@gmail.com or call 534-0207.

Multiple Sclerosis Support Group email for this month's location: huseworld@yahoo.com.

PFLAG Silver City -575-590-8797.

Republican Party of Grant County 3 Rio de Arenas Road (the old

Wrangler restaurant). Slow Flow Yoga -Becky Glenn, 404-234-5331.

Southwest New Mexico Quilters Guild - Newcomers and visitors are welcome. 388-8161.

Westerners Corral - Jody Bailey-Hall at: Jody_bailey88045@ yahoo.com or call 575 342-2621 and leave a message.

WEDNESDAYS

Al-Anon family group — Contact: 313-7891

Archaeology Society -

Visit www.gcasnm.org, or email webmaster@gcasnm.org, or call 536-3092 for details.

Babytime Sing & Play -

538-3672 or ref @silvercitymail. com. Back Country Horsemen -Subject to change. 574-2888.

A Course in Miracles -Information, 534-9172 or 534-1869.

Future Engineers - 538-3672 or ref@silvercitymail.com.

Gin Rummy - corner of Yankie and Texas Streets in Silver City.

Grant County Democratic Party — 654-6060.

Ladies Golf Association - Silver City Golf Course.

Prostate Cancer Support Group

- 388-1198 ext. 10. **Storytime** - 538-3672 or ref@

silvercitymail.com. Yoga for happiness - 574-5451.

THURSDAYS

Blooming Lotus Meditation -313-7417, geofarm@pobox.com.

De-stressing Meditations -313-4087.

Grant County Rolling Stones Gem and Mineral Society - Anita, 907-830-0631.

Historic Mining District & Tourism Meeting – 537-3327. Little Artist Club - 538-3672 or

ref@silvercitymail.com. TOPS — 538-9447.

Vinyasa Flow Yoga — Becky Glenn, 404-234-5331.

WildWorks Youth Space - 538-3672 or ref@silvercitymail.com.

FRIDAYS

Overeaters Anonymous -654-2067

Silver City Woman's Club -313-4591.

Women's Al-Anon Meeting: Women Embracing Recovery -Contact:313-7891.

SATURDAYS

Alcoholics Anonymous "Black Chip" -First United Methodist Church.

Evening Prayer in the Eastern Orthodox Tradition - 537-4839. Kids Bike Ride — 388-1444. Narcotics Anonymous - New 180

Club, 1661 Hwy. 180 E. Vinyasa Flow Yoga - Becky

Glenn, 404-234-5331.

All phone numbers are area code 575 except as noted. Send updates to events@desertexposure.com.

tance as Capella A and are moving in the same direction. These two are Capella H and Capella L.

Capella H and L are tiny red dwarf stars. Capella H is a red spectral class of M2.5 while Capella L is a redder M4. Both are about half the mass of the Sun. These two are just 3.5 seconds-of-arc apart in the sky, located about ten thousand times the distance from the Earth to the Sun from Capella A.

If you wanted to build a model of this system, American astronomer Robert Burnham Jr. calculated that Capella A would be two spheres thirteen and seven inches across, separated by ten feet. Capella H and L would each

be 0.7 inches across and separated by four hundred and twenty feet. Keeping to scale, the two pairs would be 21 miles apart.

The Planets for March 2021.

Venus is still too near the Sun to be seen this month, but Mars is 63 degrees above the southwestern horizon as it gets dark, setting around 1 a.m. This month it moves from western Taurus to north-central Taurus. The God of War shines at magnitude +1.1 with a disc that is 5.8 seconds-of-arc across.

Saturn is moving slowly eastward in central Capricornus this month. It rises around 5 a.m. in the east-southeast and it can be found seventeen degrees above the southeastern horizon as it gets light, shining at magnitude +0.7. The Ringed Planet's disc will be 15.5 seconds-of-arc across while the Rings are 35.2 seconds-of-arc across and they will be tilted down 18.0 degrees with the northern face showing.

The King of the Planets rises forty minutes later, shining at magnitude -2.0. It is moving eastward slightly faster than Saturn in eastern Capricornus. At midmonth, Jupiter's disc will be 33.7 seconds-of-arc across. As it gets light, Jupiter is 12 degrees above the east-southeastern horizon.

Mercury is in Capricornus between Jupiter and Saturn as the month begins. It is moving eastward and passes Jupiter on March 4, continuing eastward into far eastern Aquarius. At midmonth, Mercury's disc is 6.3 seconds-of-arc across, sixty-nine percent illuminated. The Messenger of the Gods rises around 6:15 a.m. and it reaches six degrees above the east-southeastern horizon as it gets light.

The Sun crosses the celestial equator heading northward on March 20 at 3:37 a.m. when the season of Spring begins in the Northern Hemisphere. The March Equinox (called the Vernal Equinox in the northern hemisphere), has the Earth's equator stretching in a line from the upper left to lower right as seen from

the Sun. This makes the length of day and night equal all over the Earth. The center of the Sun will rise for the first time in six months at the North Pole and it will set after being visible for six months at the South Pole. Spring is almost here and the nights are getting shorter, so make the most of the longer nights 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.

Vaccinations & Well-Child Visits are **Essential**

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Fewer childhood vaccines have been given during the COVID-19 pandemic.* To avoid outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases and keep your children protected, schedule your children's well-visits today.

*According to CDC.gov

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The Family Clinic: 1380 Hwy 180 East Silver City Main Clinic: 1600 East 32nd Street Bayard Clinic: 603 Winifred Street Deming Clinic: 1511 South Lime Street

Accepting New Patients

Amber-Rose King, MSH, APRN, C-PNP-PC



Amber-Rose King is accepting new patients at The Family Clinic in Silver City.

Specialty: PediatricsLocation: Silver City - The Family Clinic

Amber-Rose Kling worked as a pediatric oncology nurse at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee. She has special training working with children who experience early attachment traumas, hyperactivity behaviors and sensory issues, and their caregivers. She has devoted her liife to caring forr children and is passionate about meeting the holistic needs of this vulnerable population.





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Throughout your appointment, you will be instructed by our team to use hand sanitizer and/or wash your hands. Please comply with these instructions. If you are asked to wash your hands, please wash for at least 20 seconds with soap and water.

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We have purchased 5 medical grade air filtration systems to be used throughout our office to keep the air as clean as possible. You might notice other small changes that we've made in our facility and during your care that we deem necessary to keep you safe. Please ask us if you have questions!!

Sterilizing and Cleaning

Our office has always followed infection control recommendations made by the ADA, the CDC, and OSHA and will continue with our already vigilant disinfection/sterlization procedures. All surfaces, instruments, and equipment are sterilized between every patient and as needed throughout your appointment.

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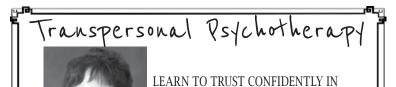
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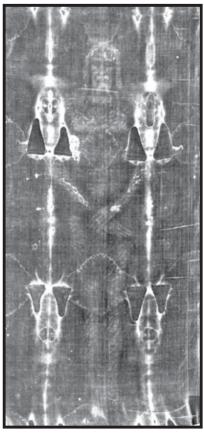


Photo: Copyright 1978 Barrie M. Schwortz Collection, STERA, In

32 YEARS IN SILVER CITY . SUSAN GOLIGHTLY

Carried Away by Ludwig The power of music to set one free

love the piano. I'm not much of a musician, but I can spend Lhours at a time just making music. Our house has two pianos, one is an acoustic piano, an old Baldwin Acrosonic which doesn't hold its tuning very well, and the other is an electric Casio. I play the Casio most of the time because I like the sound better. But my roommates and guests mostly play the Baldwin. They're better musicians than me. I'm in the market for a better acoustic piano, if anyway has a lead on one, just let me know. I'm looking for a studio upright, preferably a Yamaha or a Kawai or something comparable.

As I am writing this, I'm listening to the second movement of Beethoven's 7th Symphony as transcribed by Franz Liszt.

The Piano

Piano keys, when pressed, cause a little felt-covered hammer to hit some strings. Some of the time the hammer hits three strings, and sometimes the hammer hits only two strings, which happen to be the higher sounding notes on the piano.

The keyboard on the piano is made of white keys and black keys, with a total of 88 keys, and with a little more than seven octaves. When the hammer hits the strings, it causes the strings to vibrate. That vibration makes a sound, which then gets amplified by the soundboard.

By the way, all these strings are stretched very tight on a metal framework called a plate. Interestingly, it looks very similar to the musical instrument we know as the harp, but in this case, it is lying on its side over the soundboard.

Of course, no matter how amazingly the piano is constructed, unless somebody presses the keys with their fingers, there won't be any sound. And this is the part that is magical. Magical because a human being is capable of pressing on these keys with such finesse, with such order and rapidity, that out of the piano emerges sounds that can keep us enthralled for a lifetime.

As I sit here enthralled by the piano music I'm listening to, I think of the miraculous. I think of a man who has lost his hearing yet can hear the music of the gods in his head. And because this man knows it is the music of the gods, he goes to great lengths to share it with us.

This man cut the legs off of his piano so that the soundboard was almost touching the floor. And, with the soundboard this close to the floor, the floor itself becomes a soundboard. Then this man places his ear on the floor and feels the vibration of the sound that he is playing on the piano keys. The keys, when struck with his fingers cause the hammer to strike the strings, which sets the soundboard vibrating, and which then sets the floor vibrating.

And now this man, this man named Ludwig van Beethoven, is able to give to us the music given to him by the gods. I feel, as I sit here and listen to Beethoven's 7th symphony being played on the piano, perhaps how Beethoven originally played it as he was writing the music down on paper. Of course, later he arranged it for the orchestra, and that is the form that we have come to know.

But, thanks to the composer and pianist named Franz Liszt, who turned the orchestrated works of Beethoven's symphonies back into piano music, we are able to listen to Beethoven symphonies being played on the piano.

I think life is miraculous. My life, 200 years later, is made better, richer and more beautiful because of two people who listened to their hearts and shared their visions with anybody who wanted to listen. I am listening to this shared music, but not only with my ears and my mind, but with my heart. My heart that is filled and overflowing with the miraculous.

Susan Golightly, 76, stays active riding her bicycles. 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.



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TALKING HORSES . SCOTT THOMSON

Making Assumptions

Sexism, colorism in the horse world

comment like this -"chestnut mare, beware" - when talking about horses and horse behavior with other horse owners?

Or perhaps, "you negotiate with a stallion, you tell a gelding, but you ask a mare."

I'm sure most horse owners could list pages worth of comments about gender, color and behavior that get thrown around all the time in horse circles, most of which paint mares as inherently harder to handle and less predictable.

I admit I fell prey to these perceptions early in my horsemanship career. In every clinic I watched, it seemed the clinician was always working with geldings to demonstrate his or her approach to teaching a horse. In eight weeks of study at the Colorado Center for Equestrian Learning I never handled or worked with a mare, usually being told that mares were a bit too unpredictable for beginners and novices. In our boarding facility in California, there were only a couple of mares out of the 30 or so boarded horses, and they were kept off by themselves and we were advised to "be careful" when walking by their stalls.

When I was taking clinics and studying with master horseman Dennis Reis, he would always advise me to steer clear of the mares in the class, and I was never quite sure if he was more worried about the skills of their owners or of the horses themselves. Actually, his insights proved to be right in one case when during a military-style group riding exercise I came off the rail lined up next to a beautiful Peruvian Paso mare, and as we moved down the arena side by side in a rhythmic slow trot

ave you ever heard a the mare kicked out and nailed me squarely on the ankle bone. I lost a few days of the clinic as I was just too sore to work on the ground or in the saddle, having to hobble around using my training stick as a crutch. The owner's comment was something like, "oh, that's just what mares do."

> I can't tell you how many times I've heard that one over

> Another well known horseman once told me he thought that the average horse owner should only have a gelding because stallions and mares are "whole horses" and as such have their natural body chemistry intact, and all that means for their behavior. He felt most owners were simply not skilled enough to teach and handle intact horses.

> I've been working with horses for a long time now and have lost count of how many of those have been mares or geldings or stallions. Of the 350+ horses in my files, my guess is somewhere between 40-50% of those have been mares. I do know that almost every horse I've worked with in my association with various horse rescues has been a mare, and I always wondered why that was. A majority of my most difficult cases have been mares as well. Maybe there's some truth about what people say.

> As a student of the horse who puts a lot more stock is science and solid horsemanship based on the nature of the horse, I tend to nod my head but remain skeptical of any old "truths" about horse behavior. It's usually far too easy to link the "truth" to the way a particular human has handled or treated a horse, rather than accept it's just the way horses are, or in the case of mares, it's just the way mares behave.

Once again, I stumbled on a

study that made me think of just how much harm can be done when beliefs and stereotypes become so ingrained that the horse has little hope of ever being understood.

In this case, the study came out of the University of Sydney in Australia and involved more than 1,200 horses and owners. The focus of the study was to examine behavioral differences in horses based on their gender or color, and specifically to see whether or not there was any real evidence the common belief mares have more undesirable behavioral traits than geldings has any merit whatsoever. The study looked at behavior under saddle, while working on the ground or in general handling, and related the findings to the sex, breed, age and coat color of the subject horses.

The study showed no significant behavioral differences between mares and geldings, and no correlation at all between color, gender and behavior. Mares were no more likely than geldings to show aggression towards other horses or towards their handlers, nor were there any significant behavioral differences between mares and geldings when being ridden or in the normal training process.

This research project confirmed what had been found in many previous studies, that is, long held beliefs and stereotypes about mare behavior vs. gelding behavior based on coat color and gender simply do not hold water.

What did become apparent in this study was that if you enter in to a relationship with a mare (or really any horse) with a preconceived idea of what the horse will be like simply because it's a mare or a certain color, then many owners may use more severe or harsher training techniques on certain horses to "correct" the behavior they think is naturally part of that horse just because of the gender or color. This approach could cause real damage to the horse, and often leads to the owner overlooking the true root causes for the behavior, such as a learned behavior from previous owners/trainers, normal social behavior between horses or underlying physical conditions, pain or disease.

In other words, if you start by believing you will get a certain behavior, you will probably get it, and probably make it worse by trying to correct what you think is a natural trait.

The study did find some small differences between mares and geldings, the most interesting of

HORSES

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LIVING ON WHEELS . SHEILA SOWDER

Whining our Way Through the Pandemic

With a few reasons for hope at the end

How long has it been now that we've had to wear these scratchy masks and fear for our lives every time we buy groceries? Six months? Twenty years? Every week is the same, so how are we supposed to remember how long it's been since we called Aunt Iris or watered the Christmas cactus? How are we supposed to remember birthdays when it's hard to even remember what month is it?

We're tired of ordering clothes online and sending most of them back and standing in line to get into the Food Co-op or Diane's Bakery. There are no concerts, no plays, no movies to mark time. No live music in the bars and restaurants, no festivals, no parades. No exercise classes where the constant chatter helps us forget how much we hate exercising. And don't tell us we can get all those things online—you know darn well it's not the same!

Okay, you might say, but we're still alive. We're healthy, and if we continue being careful, we may actually make it to the day when we can to return to our normal lives. Just hang in there, you say. Back in April those word made us feel better, gave us hope. Right, we said, probably by fall we'll be able to use those airline credits and invite people to dinner. It was easy to be brave and optimistic and proud of ourselves for not complaining. But now, now it seems like it's been going on forever and is never, ever going to end. We look at the scales and get more depressed, but who can resist a few extra sweets and carbs if they make us feel better even for a moment? We look in the mirror and tell ourselves our self-administered haircut isn't all that bad and, besides, we can always wear a hat.

Our kids are checking on us, asking sneaky questions to try to catch us breaking the rules. They say no hair salon, no pedicures, no meeting friends for coffee.

When did they get the right to bushtits have arrived and they're boss us around? And why do we feel so guilty when we accidently hug an old friend?

bushtits have arrived and they're hungry from the trip (Hey, Pat! Where's the grub?). A few blue grosbeaks have returned, and

Here at Rose Valley, we've had dozens of new RVers, young adults who are working virtually and figure they might as well do it on the road. Many of them didn't bother to learn how to maintain that brand-new RV they bought nor do they understand the RVing culture. We plaster speed limit signs everywhere and tell them about all the seniors who walk their dogs on our roads, but they still drive through the park like they're late for work. We explain when they come in that it gets below freezing here and if they don't take precautions to avoid a water freeze, they're going to damage both their RV and our water faucets. They look at us like we're, well, old nags. They park their cars in the middle of our roads and have loud parties late at night. When they arrive, we tell them they can't use our shared facilities, shower rooms and laundry, and they sneak in those facilities anyway and when they get caught, they shout that it's unfair, no one told us! We say, "Not only were you told, sir, you also signed a paper stating you were told," although we'd like to tell them to either go home or grow up.

But wait! We're starting to hear from some of our summer regulars, retirees who, until 2020, drove their RVs up here to the cooler climate for the summer. They're making plans, hoping in a few months it will be safe to leave home. Save that site for us, they say.

And you know what? It's going to be spring soon. Tiny leaves will appear on the trees and the forsythia bushes will bloom yellow. My friend Pat Bowen tells me that already the spring bird migration is starting. The whitecrowned sparrows who wintered here are heading north; the

hungry from the trip (Hey, Pat! Where's the grub?). A few blue grosbeaks have returned, and most of the American robins have already left for their summer resorts. The dark-eyed juncos are packing up to leave with some of them planning to go as far north as the Arctic Circle. The pine siskins showed up about 10 days ago, demanding specialized feeders and food. Pat reports that our resident quail squadrons show up at her RV every evening just before dark, demanding dinner. "Next they'll want home cooking," she predicts. The males are feeling a bit spring feverish and have been working on their calls, trying to interest the ladies. I understand why all these birds seem to congregate at the home of Pat and her wife Julia — listed on their daily menu are Niger seed, meal worms, mixed seed, safflower seed, and of course the standard suet and peanut butter, not to mention fresh water.

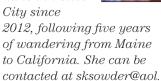
The days are getting longer, the sunsets are spectacular. Every day we hear about more friends receiving their first, and for a few, their second vaccination with no serious side effects. New Mexico, so used to being near the bottom of every category listed by state, is near the top for vaccine distribution. The daily number of new Covid-19 cases is trending down in the state and Grant County has risen from red to yellow. Many of us have been cooking more than we have in years, trying out new recipes, and are proud of ourselves for being so adventurous. We're able to watch the PBS travel shows again without tearing up, and Rick Steves no longer seems to be mocking us.

Come on, people, let's all remember who we are, and that hope is what we run on. Hope gets us out of bed in the morning, gives us the energy to make it through

the day. Even after the past year that has forced us to shelter in place and forego so many of the things we enjoy, hope is there, slowly rising to the surface like the spring flowers we know will come. We're strong! We're unbeatable! We're survivors!

And now, enough cheerleading. Think I'll go bake some chocolate chip cookies.

Sheila and husband, Jimmy, have lived at Rose Valley RV Ranch in Silver







Gila Friends Meeting 🐠

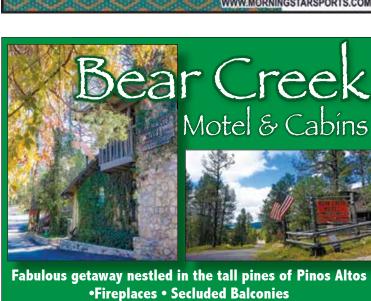
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HORSES

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which was that many mares are harder to catch. This surprised them, but it actually made sense from an evolutionary standpoint given the way herds work and specifically the herding techniques of stallions to keep the mares in a stable group for breeding. Mares are essentially programmed to respond to chasing by moving away as directed by a stallion, so that the mare stays with the stallion's group and increases the likelihood of being bred.

Maybe this explains why over the years I've seen so many mare owners head out to catch their horses with a large bag of treats in hand

For the first time in my life,

I now own mares – a sorrel, a bay and, yes, a chestnut. I admit that at times I've looked at what they're doing or how they've reacted to a request or training exercise and thought, my geldings would have never done that. Initially I wondered why they were a bit harder to catch out in the pasture, but after reading this study I realized the good herding techniques I learned years ago would solve the problem without treats or coercion.

More importantly, what this study reinforced for me was the belief that what horses become and how they behave is driven more by the skills and attitudes of humans that handle them than any other particular factor. The good horse owner and the best

trainers and horsemen and women approach each horse in a sex-neutral way and without any preconceived ideas of behavior being driven by gender, color or breed. Each horse is an individual and should be trained that way.

When thinking about it, maybe there's even a small but important message for how we should think about our human interactions as well.

Scott Thomson lives in Silver City and teaches natural horsemanship



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Adventures in the Gila

Back Country Horsemen working on the trail

Por many of us, having public lands nearby is important. Here in Silver City, we are lucky to have such a vast network of trails in the Gila National Forest.

Covid-19 has only reinforced the enjoyment and benefit of outdoor places. Figuring out which trails to explore can be daunting – especially since many of our trails are in disrepair. Or maybe you are wanting to explore new trails and areas in 2021 but do not know where to start.

Gila Back Country Horsemen (Gila BCH) is available to provide some information to help you plan your next adventure.

For trail information, check out www.gilatrailsinfo.org. Here, you can find a trails cleared map, water availability updates, trail



Gerry Engel with crosscut saw (Photo by Rawlings Lemon)



Rawlings Lemon with tree blocking trail. (Photo by Gerry Engel)

mileages and more. To stay updated about most recent trail work check out www.facebook. com/gilatrailsinfo/. This includes trail work done by various groups, individuals and the Forest Service.

Gila BCH is committed to protecting the access of equestrians to public lands – devoted equestrians who love to ride and explore new trails.

BCH assists with trail maintenance and improvement projects, keeping trails clear for all user groups. Gila BCH has been doing volunteer trail maintenance in the Gila National Forest for over 17 years.

This year, Gila BHS invites community members to join in helping with Covid-safe trail projects. Our spring and early summer trail project list is already available and underway. If you are interested in joining us or want to learn more, send an email to groundworktrails@gmail.com or engelhill@comcast.net or view the schedule and sign up as a volunteer on www.gilatrailsinfo.org or www.gilabchnm.com.Non-equine people are always welcome.

Our first trail projects of the season were on the Mogollon Creek Trail #153. One accomplishment was the removal of all the crosscut logs on the switch-

backs into Mogollon Creek. The trail work, which is a joint effort between Gila BCH and the Forest Service forest-wide trail crew, has and will include brushing, drainage work, log removal and tread improvements.

Later this year, Gila BCH is providing trail trainings to the public. For more information or to sign up, click on trainings at www.gilatrailsinfo.org.

We logged several trails near Silver City in 2020 to expand options for getting outside during Covid-19. Here is a list: Allie Canyon # 100, Little Cherry Creek # 241, and Snow Creek # 233, Sheep Corral # 231, Rabb Park # 747, the CDT # 74 from Little Cherry Creek to Black Peak, West Fork Trail # 151 and Wood Haul Wagon Road # 55. In fact, the upper 7.5 miles of the Wood Haul Wagon Road had 134 trees across it.

Watch the Facebook page for updates about Gila National Forest and equine related information. Because of the coronavirus we have Zoom meetings rather than our regular meetings. If you are interested in joining, contact Gerry Engel at 575-590-3497. Everyone who values the Gila is welcome. For more information about Gila BCH or to learn about events (after Covid) visit gilabchnm.com/.



(Photo by Melissa Green)

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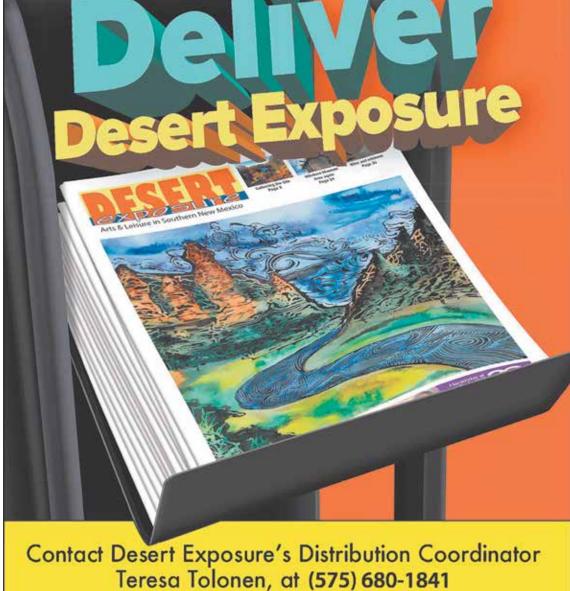
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