

2021 • 2022 COMMUNITY GUIDE





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PUBLISHER'S WELCOME LETTER

Find your adventure

swear the ravens were talking to each other, and talking to me.

The July weather was still a bit too hot for

hiking, but Nancy and I were too enamored with the funky formations of City of Rocks State Park to care. We found some shady spots, and sweated through the sunny ones.

Then we heard someone calling to us. The voice sounded almost human. Then we heard another, distinctly different, voice.

Up on the highest rock point we could see, two big ravens stood side by side, cackling away.

Were these big, black birds discussing the crazy, flightless humans below? Were they planning their next sojourns into the sky? Or were they discussing what they wanted to have for dinner?

We stood below, grinning at these two characters above, when one took off, making a big flight looping around the park before returning. Then the second one took off, made the same loop and returned to the perch. A few seconds later, they took off together, flying in straight, southwesterly direction, clearly bored with the human company.

Contrast that with the night before, a celebratory dinner at the Buckhorn Saloon in Pinos Altos. Contrast that with walking and shopping in downtown Silver City during the Clay Fest. Contrast that with hanging out at Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, or checking out the great bookstores downtown, or sampling any of the great restaurants all around the area, or grabbing a glazed Daylight Donut to go with your morning java.

The variety of experiences available in Silver City and Grant County means you can always find something interesting to do. Bicycling, hiking, horseback riding, camping, fishing, exploring the Gilas are great things to do outside. Restaurants, pubs, wineries and listening to live music are great things to do inside. Creating art, appreciating art and, yes, buying art are all part of the Silver City experience, as is learning about the area's fascinating history. In many cases, you can re-live that history by visiting museums or looking at old buildings.

You can live and celebrate life in Silver City and Grant County in a thousand different ways. No matter which way you do it, though, one thing's for sure. Life is Good here.

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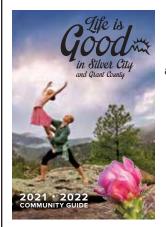
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ABOUT THE COVER:

Borderlands Ballet dancers Lana Pillsbury and John Pohl celebrate the Gila River in this Marc Moffett image taken in anticipation of the annual Gila River Festival held in September.

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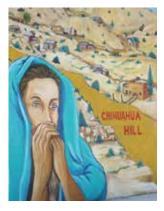


















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Going 'round the back way

BY ELVA K. ÖSTERREICH

have been traveling to and through Grant County every month for about 6 years now. There is a road in my mind I have come to refer as "the back way," that I love.

This way for me is magical, as are many of the ways in Grant County and Silver City, this one is also a fabulous fall drive through golden and red byways past the Gila River. Highway 61 meets Highway 180 almost 30 miles south of Silver City where travelers often get off 180 to go to City of Rocks State Park or Faywood Hot Springs. I prefer the other way around, heading northeast on 152 through mining country. Getting off 180 at Bayard or Santa Clara you pass stately wooden mine heads out of the past, the Chino Mine of the present and the towns that provide much of the manpower for the mines.

Then through rolling hills, getting steeper and woodier, into the Mimbres Valley where the Gila twinkles through the leaves. I can take a side trip into the town of San Lorenzo where San Lorenzo Catholic Church waits peacefully or just stay on the road until I bear right, south, on Highway 61. Through pastures and fields this





road winds, a green or gold journey depending on the time of year. There is La Esperanza Vineyard and Winery where they offer winetasting on a patio looking over a valley of grapevines, some bearing heritage grapes from the 1800s.

There are trails to walk and, as you drive further, the towns of Sherman and Faywood. The ruggedness of the mountains gives way to desert plateaus and now the City of Rocks State Park provides a different kind of adventure and you can watch the New Mexico sunset behind monoliths of rock formation and listen to the ravens talk to each other. Then finally there is Faywood Hot Springs, welcoming the visitor for a quiet soak under the stars.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

PUBLIC SAFETY

EMERGENCY 911

SILVER CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT Freddie Portillo 1011 N. Hudson St. 575-538-3723 fportillo@silvercitymail. com

SILVER CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief: Milo E. Lambert 1011 N. Hudson St. 575-956-1273 mlambert@silvercitymail. com

GRANT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE 1400 Highway 180 E. Sheriff: Frank Gomez 575-574-0100

NEW MEXICO STATE POLICE DISTRICT 12 2584 Silver St. Building B 575-388-1542 U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PATROL 3300 J St. 575-544-6100 Deming www.cbp.gov

GRANT COUNTY CRIME STOPPERS 575-538-5254 director@gcrda911.com

AROUND TOWN

TOWN HALL/ CITY CLERK 101 W. Broadway St. Town Hall main number: 575-538-3731 City Clerk: 575-534-6346

CENTRAL DISPATCH 575-388-8840

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT 1203 N. Hudson St. P.O. Box 1188 575-534-6349

MUNICIPAL COURT 215 N. Bullard St. 575-388-4504 PUBLIC LIBRARY 515 W. College Ave. silvercitypubliclibrary.org 575-538-3672

SILVER CITY MUSEUM 312 W. Broadway St. 575-538-5921

POST OFFICES

BAYARD 106 N. Bayard St. 575-537-5168

BUCKHORN 7658 U.S. Highway 180 W. 575-535-4171

CLIFF 8427 Frontage Road 575-535-2951

FAYWOOD 1123 N.M. Highway 61 575-536-2880

GILA 407 N.M. Highway 211 575-535-2363 HACHITA 26 B St. 575-436-2220

HANOVER 70 Fierro Road 575-537-5696

HURLEY 16 Cortez Ave. 575-537-2146

MIMBRES 3084 Highway 35 N. 575-536-9810

MULE CREEK 5 Brushy Mountain Road 575-535-4266

SANTA CLARA 106 N. Bayard St. 575-537-3888

SILVER CITY 500 N. Hudson St. 575 538-2831

TYRONE 210 Turquoise St. 575-538-2523

SILVER CITY STATS

SILVER CITY

PEOPLE

Population: 9,386 (2019)

Households: 4,218 (2015-2019)

Veterans: 744 (2015-2019)

Median household income: \$31,620 (2015-2019)

Median home value: \$134,400 (2015-2019)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Quick Facts

WEATHER

Average high temp: 51° F in the coldest month (January) to 88° F in the warmest month (June)

Average low temp: 27° F in the coldest month (January) to 60° F in the warmest Month (June)

Average precipitation: 17.3 inches

Average snowfall: 7 inches

GRANT COUNTY PEOPLE

Population: 26,998 (2019)

Households: 11,851 (2015-2019)

Veterans: 2,555 (2015-2019)

Median household income: \$37,843 (2015-2019)

Persons below poverty level: 18.1 percent

BUSINESS

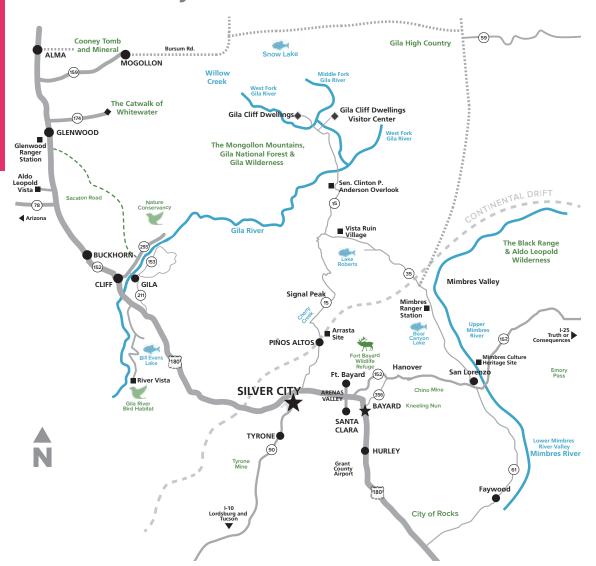
Nonemployer establishments: 1,542 (2018)

Employer establishments: 575 (2019)

GEOGRAPHY

Land area (square miles): 3,961.63 Persons per square mile: 7.4 (2010)

LANDMARKS Grant County Area





Moving in Tours of the Gila

BY ELVA K. ÖSTERREICH

or those looking to get out and about and aren't sure where to start, Tours of the Gila offers everything from visits to a coffee roasting monastery to opportunities for spending a day with an artist. The company, the only certified tour company in southwestern New Mexico, boasts a crew of exceptional guides and teachers: experts in biology, history, geology, botany, the arts and recreation.

Silver City relocation specialist and associate real estate broker Rebekka VanNess often hosts visitors to the area at her historic estate (a registered historic building) on Broadway, dubbed Serenity House. The idea for Tours of the Gila grew as her visitors often wanted to see a bit of the area and know what there was to do in Grant County.

Now the company has the manpower and vehicles that can take guests to spend a day at the Gila Cliff Dwellings, the mining town of Mogollon or the Catwalk and talk with knowledgeable specialists. They can spend a day or half day with a working artist learning about photography, painting, weaving or glass blowing. There are fascinating historic local ranches, a collection of artifacts and western art in the town of Pinos Altos and an amethyst hunting journey with a geologist.

With 25 approved tours, they also visit a local hemp farm and take folks rock hounding and even gold panning. A "tour" of the Grant County Airport is available that can take folks from town to their flights or pick them up and take them into Silver City. People can go one way or both.

"Whatever the interest, we have it covered," VanNess said. "Tours are experiential and educational so we have a very well-rounded selection."

Tour prices vary seasonally, VanNess said. They also depend on the number of guests, the cost of the specialist and the time and distance of the tour.

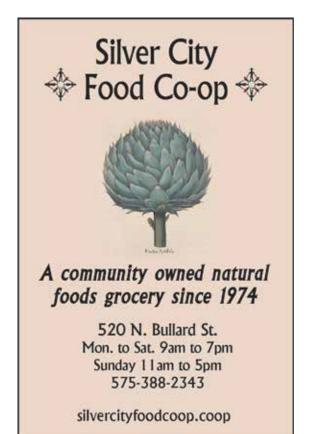
"I think we have a unique service," she said. "We want to support local people with jobs and utilize the local resources. All of our guides are locals, so they know the area better than anyone."

During the summer tour season Tours of the Gila will

be engaging student interns and young people as tour guides as well. At the end of the year, the company aims to pass through support tour local foundations, nonprofits and the guides themselves.

Most of the tours require advance notice, VanNess said. So, if you are planning a trip to Grant County be sure and get ahold of the company before you go to set up your visit.

The Tours of the Gila office is located at 406 A N. Bullard St. and can be reached at 575-574-2696 or 575-574-8444.



GETTING AROUND SILVER CITY

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION (BUS/SHUTTLE)

CORRE CAMINOS 3033 U.S. Highway 180 E., Silver City 866-934-3866, 575-388-3180 correcaminosnm.com

TOURS OF THE GILA (Airport Transportation) 406 A N. Bullard St. 575-574-2696 or 575-574-8444

BICYCLE RENTAL

GILA HIKE AND BIKE 103 E. College Ave., Silver City 575-388-3222 Gilahikeandbike.com

CAR RENTAL

ENTERPRISE RENT-A-CAR 1455 U.S. HWY 180 E. Ste. A, Silver City 575-534-0000

DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLE OFFICES Silver City, 575-538-3281 1876 U.S. Highway 180 E.

GETTING CONNECTED

SILVER CITY

WATER/SEWER/ RECYCLING

TOWN OF SILVER CITY 101 W. Broadway St. 575-538-3731 townofsilvercity.org

ELECTRIC

PNM 3815 N. Swan Ave. Customer Service 888-DIAL-PNM (1-888-342-5766) www.pnm.com

NEW MEXICO GAS 1100 N. Hudson St., Silver City Customer Service 888-NM-GAS-CO (1-888-664-2726) www.nmgco.com

SOLID WASTE DEPT. 1400 Hwy 180, Silver City 575-574-0024 www.grantcountynm.com

GRANT COUNTY

PNM Customer Service 888-DIAL-PNM (1-888-342-5766)

WATER DEPARTMENTS

Bayard, 575-537-3327 Hurley, 575-537-2287 Santa Clara, 575-537-2443 Virden, 575-538-1000 Hanover, 575-537-6193

TELEPHONE/ INTERNET SERVICES

AT&T 800-288-2747

CENTURYLINK 877-837-5738

HUGHES NET 844-737-2700

VONAGE www.vonage.com

WNM COMMUNICATIONS 800-535-2330, gilanet.com

XFINITY 1-800-xfinity

WIRELESS PROVIDERS

SPRINT 844-319-5105

T-MOBILE 1-800-tmobile

VERIZON 575-956-6353

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

SILVER CITY

FIRST AMERICAN BANK 1609 Swan St. 575-534-0550

FIRST NEW MEXICO BANK 1928 U.S. Highway 180 E. 575-388-3121

FIRST SAVINGS BANK 1221 N. Hudson St. 575-388-1531 FORT BAYARD FEDERAL CREDIT UNION 11797 U.S. Highway 180 E. Arenas Valley 575-534-8888

WESTERN BANK 330 U.S. Highway 180 E. 575-388-3521

WASHINGTON FEDERAL 1203 N. Hudson St. 575-388-1903 WASHINGTON FEDERAL 119 W. 11th St. 575-388-1903

WELLS FARGO BANK 1201 N. Pope St. 575-956-1500

BAYARD

FIRST AMERICAN BANK 1401 Tom Foy Blvd. 575-537-2481

LANDMARKS Downtown Silver City



IN TOWN

Restoring the past: Silver City Waterworks

BY ELVA K. ÖSTERREICH

n Little Walnut Road near the edge of town is a house made of rock built in the 1880s. "It's this beautiful rock house and the only remaining rock structure in Silver City," said Lee Gruber who is leading efforts to restore the facility. "It housed the waterworks; that's where the water was pumped from Silva Creek which is behind it. In those days there actually was water running and it actually supplied the town with water. The gentleman who ran it lived there with his family."

Gruber said the city owns the building and her group is working to restore the whole site. Plans include making the place a waystation for hikers and bicyclers traveling the Continental Divide Trail.

"We just got half a million dollars to begin the renovation," she said. "Someday it will be a little museum."

The \$500,000 is coming in the form of a capital outlay that was approved in 2020 by members of the New Mexico State Legislature and signed into law by Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham.

The project includes retail and event space inside the waterworks building.

In 2019 Southwest New Mexico Arts, Culture and Tourism, which Gruber is part of, received funding through the state's New Mexico Economic Development Department to build an education pavilion at the site. That funding came through the department's Outdoor Recreation Division.

Placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1984, the structure is made up of a one-story section that initially used to house boilers and steam-powered pumps, along with a two-story section that served as the engineer's residence.

Before 1887 when the building was completed, the city had established an electrical system and telegraph connections, but it lacked reliable drinking water and a fire prevention system, as an earlier attempt to build a water system was never completed.

George H. Utter obtained a contract to supply water to Silver City in 1886, and commissioned Michigan stonemason John Hill to build the waterworks.

One of the local newspapers, the Enterprise, predicted, "Ere long the yards and gardens of Silver City will show the effect of an abundance of moisture and the city will be noted far and wide for its floral beauty."

While the water system opened and initially operated successfully, by 1890 city fathers voted to discontinue paying the waterworks for fire protection because they felt the protection was non-existent. East Coast investors Henry and Thomas Foster took over the waterworks in the ensuing years after an extended legal battle with Utter.

"Built to Last, An Architectural History of Silver City, Ne Mexico," by Susan Berry and Sharman Apt Russell, provided some of the information used in this story.



AREA RESTAURANTS

SILVER CITY

ADOBE SPRINGS CAFÉ 614 N Bullard St. 575-538-3665

BIRDWELL'S VINTAGE VIBES 808 N Bullard St 575-956-6467

CACTUS JACKS 1307 N. Pope St. 575-538-5042

CAFÉ OSO AZUL AT BEAR MOUNTAIN LODGE 60 Bear Mountain Ranch Road 575-538-2538

CHINESE PALACE 1010 Highway 180 E. 575-538-9300

CORNER KITCHEN 300 S Bullard St. 575-590-2603

COURTYARD CAFÉ, GILA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER 575-538-4094

DIANE'S BAKERY & DELI The Hub, Suite A, 601 N. Bullard St., 575-534-9229

DON JUAN'S BURRITOS 418 Silver Heights Blvd. 575-538-5440

EINSTEIN BROS. BAGELS 1000 W College Ave 575-538-6555

FORREST'S PIZZA 601 N. Bullard St. 575-388-1225

FRY HOUSE 601 N. Bullard St. Suite C 575-388-1964

GIL-A-BEANS 1304 N. Bennett St. Coffeeshop in RV Park 575-538-2239

GOLDEN STAR 1602 Silver Heights Blvd. 575-388-2323 **GRINDER MILL** 403 W. College Ave. 575-538-3366

JALISCO CAFÉ 103 S. Bullard St. 575-388-2060

JAVALINA COFFEE HOUSE 117 Market St. 575-388-1350

KOUNTRY KITCHEN 1700 Mountain View Road 575-388-4512

LA COCINA RESTAURANT 201 W. College Ave. 575-388-8687

LA FAMILIA 503 N. Hudson St. 575-388-4600

LA MEXICANA Hwy. 180 E and Memory Lane 575-534-0142

LITTLE TOAD CREEK BREWERY & DISTILLERY 200 N. Bullard St. 575-956-6144

MI CASITA 2340 Bosworth Drive 575-538-5533

MINT CHIP CREAMERY 601 N. Bullard St. in the Hub 575-597-8272

PRETTY SWEET EMPORIUM 312 N. Bullard St. 575-388-8600

Q'S SOUTHERN BISTRO AND BREWERY 101 E. College Ave. 575-534-4401

REVEL 304 N. Bullard St. 575-388-4920

SILVER BOWLING CENTER CAFÉ 2020 Memory Lane 575-538-3612

SUNRISE ESPRESSO 1530 N. Hudson St. 575-388-2027 **TASTE OF VEGAS** 303 E. 13th St. 575-534-9404

TRANQUILBUZZ COFFEE HOUSE 300 N. Arizona St. 575-654-2057

WRANGLER'S BAR & GRILL 2005 Highway 180 E 575-538-4387

W&Z ASIAN BISTRO AND SUSHI BAR 1740 US HWY 180 575-956-6219

BAYARD

EL BURRITO CALIENTE 106 Hurley Ave. 575-537-3967

FIDENCIO'S TACO SHOP 1108 Tom Foy Blvd.

M & A BAYARD CAFÉ 1101 N. Central Ave. 575-537-2251

SPANISH CAFÉ 106 Central Ave. 575-537-2640

CLIFF

TAMMY'S CAFÉ 8414 Highway 180 575-535-4800

HURLEY

THE PATIO 100 Cortez Ave 575-537-4938

MIMBRES

RESTAURANT DEL SOL 2674 Highway 35, San Lorenzo 575-536-3140

PINOS ALTOS

BUCKHORN SALOON AND OPERA HOUSE 32 Main St. 575-538-9911



The Old Hurley Store hides a thousand railroad stories

BY ELVA K. ÖSTERREICH

n the road to Silver City, along U.S. Highway 380, the town of Hurley hides some adventurous surprises not the least of which is the Old Hurley Store.

The large, historic space has been home to many businesses and endeavors. But it was when Becky and Don Spann took the reins over from an art gallery in 2016 that the place finally came into its own. It didn't take long for the model railroaders of the area to find out the Spanns have plenty of room in their new business and that they were making it available for model railroads of all kinds.

So, in addition the wealth of antiques, art and Hurley Pride merchandise available at the store, intricate small worlds create an ambience not only reminiscent of old-time trains but also environments limited only by the imaginations of those creating new and recreating historical places.

"They all love it; it's a passion," Becky said about the Silver City Model Railroad Club as she walked between the platforms. "There are all kinds of trains. This is a World War II train – there are underground railroads. Here is a World War I train; he got the lights working and the tank works."

And the sound effects are live too with an eerie old train whistle loud in the background and tinny old timey music accompanying a circus train as it starts up to crawl around the tracks.

The club used to display at a store in Silver City and then they took the store out, Becky said. The trains

were stored for 10 years until the Spanns welcomed them. Now the railroaders visit every week to tweak their displays, change engines and scenery. Here are aliens on display, having landed in a field and killed a cow. Here are the old Hurley stacks, un-crumbled and recreated in detail. The attention to detail in these displays invites a thousand stories. A canyon the trains run through offers skiing, boating and fishing activity and down there on the other side is Jurassic Park itself.

Hurley itself is known as Gateway to Copper Country since in the early 1800s the Spanish found out about the copper under the Kneeling Nun rock formation. In 1910, open pit mining was introduced to the area, and the town of Hurley was then constructed by the Chino Mining Company. The Spanns' building was part of that effort. Built in 1910, it was the wooden company store. In 1912, the adjacent brick building was added. It housed the payroll department and the new mercantile store which remained open until the mid-1970s.

In 1939, the smelter and the first stack, 500-feet tall, were built. The second stack, 625-feet tall, was erected in 1967. The smelter was shut down in 2002 and most of its buildings removed in 2006-2007. The stacks, once the area's most recognizable landmarks, were taken down on June 5, 2007 but live on in the meticulous recreation of the railroads and photos at the Old County Store.

Old Hurley Store is open: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday to Saturday at 99 Cortez Ave, Hurley. For information call 575-912-3192.

Pinos Altos

Settled in the tall pines for which it was named the town of Pinos Altos was founded In 1860, beginning with three prospectors who stopped for a drink at Bear Creek 7 miles north of Silver City and discovered gold.

When those prospectors were followed by hundreds of others, the town sprang up to provide the hopefuls with food, supplies, liquor and female companionship. But the town grew on hills claimed by th Chiricahua Apaches as led by Mangus Coloradas leading to battles and strife for all involved.

Recently Pinos Altos was considered a ghost town but now is inhabited by a few locals, some summer homes and provides respite and lodging for tourists looking for peace and adventure.



GRANT COUNTY COMMUNITIES

BAYARD

CITY POPULATION: 2,538

Located in the foothills of the Gila and Mogollon mountains, Bayard was incorporated in 1938.

CLIFF

CENSUS-DESIGNATED PLACE POPULATION: 293

Primarily a farming and ranching community, the post office was established in 1894.

HURLEY

TOWN POPULATION: 1,193

As early as 1801, the Chino Mines were the principal source of copper for the mint in Mexico.

PINOS ALTOS

CENSUS-DESIGNATED PLACE POPULATION: 198

Spanish for "tall pines," Pinos Altos is located in the Gila National Forest, with several historic places to visit.

SANTA CLARA

VILLAGE POPULATION: 1,780

A part of the central mining district that includes Bayard, Hanover and Hurley, Santa Clara was founded in the early 1860s. In the 1960s, residents from nearby Santa Rita removed their homes from the path of the expanding open-pit mining operation of the Kennecott Copper Corp.

SAN LORENZO CENSUS-DESIGNATED PLACE

POPULATION: 166

San Lorenzo is a scenic village located in the Mimbres Valley. The San Lorenzo Canyon Recreation area offers opportunities for hiking and primitive camping.

SILVER CITY

TOWN, COUNTY SEAT POPULATION: 9,386

Silver City, the largest town in Grant County, is a hub of activity. It values and preserves its historical, cultural and natural heritage. Home to a four-year university and historic downtown and cultural district, it is surrounded by the Gila National Forest.

GLENWOOD*

POPULATION: 143

Glenwood is a quaint village located in southern Catron County on U.S. Highway 180. Glenwood has motels, restaurants and other services and is the jumping-off place for several Catron County features.

* Glenwood is in Catron County, but connects to Silver City and Grant County for tourism and shopping.

GETTING SETTLED Grant County libraries

BAYARD PUBLIC LIBRARY

Bayard Public Library serves the mining community, schools, and everyone in between with a wide selection of books, magazines and DVD's. The library provides a computer lab with over 15 screens, a children's room and an upcoming community garden and park! The Bayard Public Library holds many different fun events for community engagement, like their annual summer reading program, the Clay Festival, and the Southwest Festival of the Written Word.

1112 Central Ave. Bayard, NM 88023 575-537-6244

GILA VALLEY LIBRARY

Gila Valley Library provides 24-hour Wi-Fi access, children's activities and a fascinating weather station that measures wind speed, temperature, humidity, and rainfall. The Gila Valley Library has become a forestry field site for native and naturalized plants with engraved markers listing their names and benefits thanks to the NMNR department and a few volunteers. The library also holds two beautiful youth mural projects, The Riparian Life of The Gila River and Gila Stories.

400 Highway 211 Gila, NM 88038 575-535-4120





SILVER CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Silver City Public Library, established in 1992, holds multiple community engaging events throughout the month for all ages. Join them weekly at 10 a.m. on Tuesdays for stories, songs and rhymes during their Babytime. Enjoy fresh air on Wednesdays out on their lawn for a fun Storytime under the trees. Checkout their catalog for books, audiobooks, CD's, DVD's, and more on their website.

515 W. College Ave. Silver City, NM 88061 575-538-3672

J. CLOYD MILLER LIBRARY

J. Cloyd Miller Library named, after WNMU president during 1952-1962, serves the WNMU community and the lively Grant County community. The Miller library holds a wide variety of printed and electronic versions of books, media and maps. You can also find special collections like the Juan Chacon papers, held in their treasure room. The library is also a partial federal and state government Depository. The Miller Library has access to photocopy machines, microform reader-printers and wireless computer access.

1000 College Ave. Silver City, NM 88061 575-538-6359

GLENWOOD COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Glenwood Community Library holds monthly movies nights and book club meetings. With a children activity center and outdoor play area, you can find lots to do for the whole family.

14 Menges Lane Glenwood, NM 88039 575-539-2277







ACLU, Silver City partner to continue downtown accessibility

BY LISA JIMENEZ

Persons with a physical disability will continue to enjoy improved access to the downtown historic district, thanks to a collaboration between town government and the Southwestern Chapter of the New Mexico American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU).

In 2020 Silver City invested more than \$400,000 in sidewalk improvements in the historic downtown area and work continues to be planned and completed.

Town Manager Alex Brown said given the historic nature of this community and the fact that many streets and sidewalks, especially downtown, were built by WPA workers in the 1930s pre-ADA, and designed to handle flooding, there is still much to be done but much progress has been made.

Hugh Epping, a member of the ACLU ad hoc group, said he is pleased with recent accessibility improvements made in the downtown area.

Brown said improving accessibility is the right thing to do and serves the best interests of everyone.

"Given that we are investing in cultural tourism which brings visitors to Silver City, it's imperative that we do our best to provide a welcoming and safe environment for everyone, regardless of their physical abilities or challenges," he said. "It's just the right thing to do, and we will do everything that we can realistically afford to do, not only for tourists, but for our local residents."

More than one in four persons in the United States has some form of disability, so making Silver City more accessible may well support increased economic opportunity for local business owners who rely on tourism to survive and thrive, particularly in the wake of Covid. Retail sales generate gross receipts taxes, which account for the vast majority of Silver City's general revenue. And given that Silver City is a haven for retirees, increased accessibility also supports local residents who may require the use of a wheelchair or other assistive device at some point in their lifetimes. Downtown accessibility contributes substantially to a thriving local economy and, by extension, local services and amenities.

"I want to live in a world where accessibility is the norm rather than the exception," said Western New Mexico University student and activist Emma Eileen McKinley. "I hope that we can become more inclusive and understanding of the needs of people with disabilities and consider them in all aspects of our community, especially given that so many basic accommodations for disabled persons also benefit others. Like parents with strollers, for instance, or senior citizens."

For more information about accessibility issues email Hugh Epping at swnmaclu@gmail.com. For more information about the Town of Silver City, visit www. townofsilvercity.org.

ELECTED OFFICALS

GRANT COUNTY COMMISSION Address: P.O. Box 898 Silver City, NM 88062

CHRIS M. PONCE

District 1 575-574-0021 cponce@grantcountynm.com

JAVIER SALAS

District 2 575-574-0022 jsalas@grantcountynm.com

ALICIA EDWARDS

District 3 575-574-0023 575-654-4364 (cell) aedwards@grantcountynm.com

BILLY BILLINGS

District 4 575-574-0092 bbillings@grantcountynm.com

HARRY BROWNE District 5

575-654-4396 (cell) hbrowne@grantcountynm.com

SILVER CITY TOWN COUNCIL



MAYOR KEN LADNER 575-313-3990 mayor@silvercitynm.gov



CYNTHIA ANN BETTISON District 1 575-597-7031 councilordistrict1@silvercitynm.gov



LYNDA D. AIMAN-SMITH District 2 575-597-7032 575-519-1680 (cell) councilordistrict2@silvercitynm.gov



JOSE A. RAY, JR. District 3 575-313-4944 Jose_r88061@yahoo.com



GUADALUPE "LUPE" CANO District 4 575-597-7034 councilordistrict4@silvercitynm.gov

Bear Mountain Lodge: Comfort, history, adventure

Bear Mountain Lodge is "a tranquil oasis on the edge of the New Mexico wilderness, the ideal choice for quiet relaxation or unforgettable adventure."

The lodge itself is more than 90 years old, and the surrounding wilderness is ageless and timeless.

Bear Mountain is a gateway to walking and hiking, cycling, horseback riding, birdwatching and photography. Breathtaking doesn't even begin to describe the views and the tranquility.

The lodge itself has common areas, grand fireplaces, hand-hewn beams and a staircase, an art gallery, the Café Oso Azul dining room and a gift shop. Artwork from Blue Dome Gallery is found throughout the lodge.

Bear Mountain Lodge has 11 guest rooms, including six on two floors in the main building, with the two ground-floor rooms named for the nearby Gila and Mimbres rivers and the four on the second floor each honoring a famous New Mexican: Georgia O'Keeffe, Aldo Leopold, Cabeza de Vaca and Lt. Col. William Emory. Two of the rooms have Jacuzzis.

There are four rooms in the nearby Myra's Retreat (perfect for group gatherings, and dog friendly). Each has a handcrafted pine bed (two beds in one room), and



all the rooms are named for birds you will see around – the roadrunner, bluebird, warbler and hummingbird. Myra's Retreat also includes a large common room.

There is one guestroom in the secluded Wren's Nest, which can accommodate families and is also dog friendly.

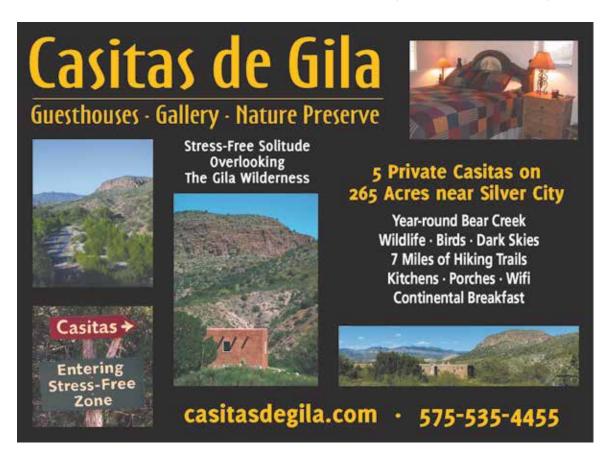
And, new this summer, Bear Mountain Lodge has installed a Mongolian ger, on the property. It's a large round tent that came from Mongolia and is ideal for a glamping experience.

Day trips from the lodge include the Silver City Museum, 12 miles of hiking trails at Boston Hill, Western New Mexico University Museum and the Bear Mountain Lodge labyrinths.

The lodge is included in "1,000 Places to See Before You Die" travel book by Patricia Schultz.

The lodge is three miles (about 10 minutes' drive) from downtown Silver City, at 60 Bear Mountain Ranch Road. The mailing address is P.O. Box 1163, Silver City, New Mexico, 88062.

Call the lodge at 575-538-2538 and email info@ bearmountainlodge.com. Visit bearmountainlodge.com.





Creek Motels & Cabins

16C

Nestled under the tall pines in Pinos Altos, just 7 miles north of Silver City, NM these tranquil cabins are the perfect, private setting for year-round getaways.

15 unique, completely furnished cabins with all the amenities plus Amphitheater and Lodge with kitchen.

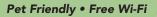
BOOK YOUR MEMORIES!

Wedding Destinations ♦ Anniversary Celebrations ♦ Family & Group Reunions ♦ Workshop & Group Meetings

- •Crackling Fireplaces
- •Satellite TV
- •Gift Shop
- •Cabins with kitchens available
- •Event Lodge with kitchen
- •Tree House Views
- Secluded Balconies
- Relaxing Porches

ROAD TRIPS TO LOCAL ATTRACTION

- •Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument
- •Access to Continental Divide Trailhead
- Fort Bayard National Historic Landm
- •Lake Roberts
- •The Catwalk
- •Silver City Museum



Make reservations & view availability online BearCreekCabins.com

> 575.388.4501 • 888.388.4515 88 Main St. • Pinos Altos, NM 88053

Bear Creck

Motel & Cabins





Bear Creek Motel and Cabins beckon you to beautiful, peaceful Pinos Altos

ake New Mexico Highway 15 a little than eight scenic miles north of Silver City and you are in a whole other world – the historic mining town of Piños Altos.

At 88 Main St., you will find Bear Creek Motel and Cabins.

There are 15 two-story, split-level cabins with fireplaces nestled amid Ponderosa pines in the Piños Altos Mountains, at an elevation of 7,000 feet. You will be surrounded by 3.5 million acres of Gila National Forest.

Each cabin has a fireplace and all the amenities, including bed linens, coffeemaker, microwave, satellite television, phone, fans and heaters. Some of the units have full kitchens, and each cabin includes a private, covered patio with picnic table and barbecue grill.

And just imagine the possibilities for photography, birdwatching and stargazing on each cabin's private upper deck or just by stepping out the front door.

Each cabin also has its own unique character and ambience, as you will discover on the company website.

Only a half-mile away, you can enjoy fine dining at the Buckhorn Saloon and Opera House. You will also find an unforgettable hiking experience as you step onto the Continental Divide Trail, less than a mile from your cabin. And Gila Wilderness trails are even closer.

The lodge has a river rock fireplace with twisted juniper mantle, large windows and a big front porch offering spectacular views. It also has a charcoal barbecue grill and fire pit.

You can be golfing in less than a half-hour, and the walking and biking possibilities abound. And there are unique shopping opportunities just a few miles away in Silver City.

Less than an hour away are the Gila Cliff Dwellings, trout fishing at Lake Roberts, bass fishing at Bill Evans Lake, a soak at Faywood Hot Springs, a visit to historic Fort Bayard National Cemetery, the ghost town of Shakespeare, City of Rocks State Park and the world's largest open-pit copper mine at Santa Rita.

There is also an outdoor amphitheater descending down a natural slope with a brook flowing to the pond and fountain in front of the stage. It's a perfect venue.

You can make a reservation online at www. bearcreekcabins.com, or by calling 575-388 4501 or 888-388-4515.

ACCOMMODATIONS

SILVER CITY

ADOBE AGAVE 309 N. E St. 575-956-3386 Adobeagave.com

BEAR MOUNTAIN LODGE 60 Bear Mountain Ranch Rd. 575-538-2538 Bearmountainlodge.com

CARRIAGE HOUSE COTTAGE 603 Black St. 575-590-4516

COMFORT INN 1060 Highway 180 E. 575-534-1883

COPPER MANOR MOTEL 710 Silver Heights Blvd. 575-538-5392 Coppermanormotelnm.com

DRIFTER MOTEL 711 Silver Heights Blvd. 575-538-2916 Driftersilvercity.com

GEORGETOWN CABINS 104 Georgetown Road 575-534-4529 Georgetowncabinsresort.com

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS 1103 E. Superior St. 575-538-2525 hiexpress.com

LULU SILVER CITY 3420 Highway 180 E. 575-538-3711 Lulusilver.com **MOTEL 6** 1040 Highway 180 E.

575-956-6235 Motel6.com

MURRAY HOTEL 200 W. Broadway St. 575-956-9400 Murray-hotel.com

PALACE HOTEL 106 W. Broadway St. 575-388-1811 Silvercitypalacehotel.com

PINOS ALTOS CABINS 4687 Highway 15 575-534-0406 Pinosaltoscabins.com

QUALITY INN 1120 Highway 180 E. 575-534-1111 Gm.nm014@ choicehotels.com

WEST STREET INN 575-534-2302 Weststreetinn-nm.com

PINOS ALTOS

BEAR CREEK MOTEL & CABINS 88 Main St. 575-388-4501 Bearcreekcabins.com

CLIFF/GILA

CASITAS DE GILA 50 Casita Flats Road 575-535-4455 Casitasdegila.com

GILA HOT SPRINGS

WILDERNESS LODGE 17 Jackass Lane Mimbres, NM 88049 575-536-9749 www.gilahot.com

LAKE ROBERTS/ MIMBRES

LAKE ROBERTS CABINS & GENERAL STORE 869 Highway 35 N. 575-536-9929

LAKE ROBERTS MOTEL 863 Highway 35 N. Mimbres, NM 88049-8804 575-536-9393

SPIRIT CANYON LODGE & CAFÉ 684 Highway 35 Mimbres, NM 88049 575-536-9459

HILLSBORO

BLACK RANGE LODGE 50 Kingston Main St. Kingston 575-895-5652 Blackrangelodge.com

ENCHANTED

VILLA B&B 10682 Highway 152 Hillsboro, NM 88042-951 575-895-5686

GLENWOOD

DOUBLE T CATWALK RESORT 77 Cat Walk Rd. 575-539-2812 Doublethomestead.com

AREA RV PARKS

BUCKHORN RV PARK 7656 Highway 180 W. Buckhorn, NM 88025-8802 575-535-2995 BURRO MOUNTAIN HOMESTEAD RV PARK 665 Tyrone Road Silver City, NM 88061 575-538-2149 Burromountain homestead.com

MANZANO'S RV PARK

103 Flury Lane Silver City, NM 88061 575-538-0918 Manzanosrypark.com

MOUNTAIN SPIRITS RV PARK

2743 Highway 35 N. Mimbres, NM 88049-8804 575-574-7000 Mountainspiritsrvpark.com

RIDGE PARK RV 2789 Highway 90 S. Silver City, NM 88061 575-313-9375 Ridgeparkrvsilvercity.com

ROSE VALLEY RV RANCH 2040 Memory Lane Silver City, NM 88061-7916 575-534-4277 Rosevalleyrv.com

SILVER CITY KOA 11824 Highway 180 E. Arenas Valley, NM 88022-9707 575-388-3351 Koa.com/campgrounds/ silvercity

SILVER CITY RV PARK 1304 N. Bennett St. Silver City, NM 88061-6555 575-538-2239 Silvercityrv.com







SPRING

TOUR OF THE GILA

April – The Tour of the Gila has attracted competitive cyclists, both amateur and professional from around the world. The annual race give opportunities for aspiring cyclists to participate on much of the same course and terrain as the UCI professional men and women. Info: tourofthegila.com

CDTC TRAIL DAYS

April – The Continental Divide Trail Coalition hosts CDTC Trail Days to educate and expose people to the Continental Divide Trail. It is held at the end of April at various locations for entertainment, raffles, seminars, group hikes and gear testing. Info: continentaldividetrail.org.

RED DOT ART STUDIO TOUR

May – Silver City comes alive with art during Red Dot Art Weekends. In the spring, the event gives visitors an opportunity to tour area art studios. The annual event is hosted by the Silver City Art Association. www. silvercityart.com.

HURLEY PRIDE FESTIVAL & CAR SHOW

May – this one-day festival and car show, held at Hurley Park, includes 20 classes of cars, food, vendors, music, raffles, jumping balloons, games and free trolley rides. Info: 575-956 -3535.

SILVER CITY BLUES FESTIVAL

May – Hosted by Mimbres Region Arts Council, the festival showcases "local and rising stars" with a series of free performances over Memorial Day Weekend. The festival is held mostly at Gough Park, off Pope Street in Silver City. Info: www.silvercitybluesfestival.org.

WILD, WILD WEST PRO RODEO

June – The annual PRCA Rodeo features high-flying bull riding, fast riding and roping and much more, all under the cool New Mexico evening skies. Events are held at the Southwest Horseman's Park, off of US Hwy 180 and Caballero Road just East of Silver City, New Mexico. Info: silvercityprorodeo.com.

FIESTA LATINA

June – Western New Mexico University's Fiesta Latina! enters its third year of Latin rhythms and flavors, master artisans from across Mexico and artisanal tequila, all held on the WNMU campus. Artisan Mercado, ongoing music and performances are free to the public throughout the event. Info: fiestalatina.org.

SILVER CITY CLAY FESTIVAL

July – The signature event of the Silver City Arts and Cultural District, the Silver City Clay Festival. It's a weeklong event that celebrates clay in all its forms at a variety of venues. Info: www.clayfestival.com.

HUMMINGBIRD FESTIVAL

July – Hummingbird Festival celebrates the small yet fierce birds in a variety of ways. Literature, art, guest speakers and live entertainment highlight the festival, at the Mimbres Culture Heritage Site, this. Info: 575-536-3333.

COPPER COUNTRY CRUIZERS CAR SHOW

August – Sponsored by the car club Copper Country Cruizers, the one-day car show features a hot dog burn, live music, multiple raffles, trophy winner parade and more. Info: www.coppercountrycruizers.com.



ROLLING STONES GEM & MINERAL SHOW

September – Labor Day weekend brings each year the Grant County Rolling Stones Annual Gem and Mineral Show, in which vendors display high-quality gems, minerals and jewelry. The free show got its start in 1983 and now features more than 40 vendors, a silent auction, "Wheel of Fortune" for kids and exhibits Saturday through Monday. For information, visit Rollingstonesgms. blogspot.com.

TASTE OF DOWNTOWN

September – Held over Labor Day weekend, Taste of Downtown lets participants experience unique cuisine and fun foods, as well as a pie contest, including about 14 locations that offer a wide variety of treats and delicacies. Info: www.silvercitymainstreet.com.

FALL

FORT BAYARD DAYS

September – Typically held in September, Fort Bayard Days exhibits more than 20 living history stations that bring to life the fort's historic significance. The fort played an integral role in protecting settlers and miners in the 1800s and housed Buffalo soldiers during the Civil War, who fought against Apache warriors. During Fort Bayard Days, volunteers dress in period costume and show attendees what life was like during its heyday. It usually includes a flag ceremony, games for kids, tours, lunch, lectures, dinner and a military ball. Info: fortbayard.org

GILA RIVER FESTIVAL

September – The annual Gila River Festival celebrates the bounty of the Gila River and highlights its threats and challenges in late September each year. Put on by the Gila Conservation Coalition, the festival explores the relationship between man, technology, nature and that relationship's impact on the Gila River watershed. The event typically offers expert-guided field trips, a Gila River kayak trip, a Gila River bus tour and a puppet parade. Info: www.gilaconservation.org



GRANT COUNTY FAIR

September – The Grant County Fair supports and showcases agriculture and youth education. Ribbons, plaques and trophies are awarded in a wide variety of categories such as livestock, jams and jellies, handicrafts and baked goods. A rodeo, music acts and other attractions are also part of the week-long celebration. The fair is held in Cliff, New Mexico. Info: www.grantcountyfairnm.com

RED HOT CHILDREN'S FIESTA

September – Hosted by the Grant County Community Health Council and the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science, the Red Hot Children's Fiesta is a child development and resource fair held at Penny Park, 1305 N. Grant St. It offers activities and giveaways for the whole family. Info: gcchc.org.

RED PAINT POWWOW AND INDIAN MARKET

September – The Chiricahua Apache Nation has brought back the event which features dancers, drummers, vendors and other performers. Native royalty and public are welcome to visit or join in. Visit redpaintpowwow.net for information.

MIMBRES VALLEY HARVEST FESTIVAL & HEALTH FAIR

September – This harvest festival on the last Saturday of September encourages local agriculture through education, showcases locally grown food and handmade products and promotes tourism to the Mimbres Valley. Children's activities focus on fitness. Local musicians provide music along with local storytellers telling of the Valley's heritage past and present. Info: www. mimbresharvestfest.com.

SOUTHWEST FESTIVAL OF THE WRITTEN WORD

October – This festival, dedicated to writers of all proclivities, takes place only once every two years. The festival celebrates the power and beauty of the written word embracing the rich diversity of Southwestern cultures. It features writing workshops, readings, lectures and random acts of literature. Info: swwodfiesta.org.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24



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RED DOT ART WEEKEND

October – Early in October, Silver City comes alive with art during Red Dot Art Weekends. The event gives visitors an opportunity to mingle with artists, tour area art studios, attend opening receptions for exhibits and enjoy live music, food specials and entertainment. The annual event is hosted by the Silver City Art Association. www.silvercityart.com.

SOUTHWEST PRINT FIESTA

October – The Southwest Print Fiesta, Oct. 8-11, 2021, features original fine art prints, letterpress creations, printed wearables and more, for sale by regional artists and print studio collectives. The fiesta also will feature workshops and hands-on printing experiences. Info: www.southwestprintfiesta.org.

DAY OF THE DEAD

October – Spread out over several days, from Oct. 30 through Nov. 4, Downtown Silver City observes Día de Los Muertos (Day of the Dead) with a parade, music, family crafts, traditional art and food, in addition to paying homage to those who have passed away. Info: silvercitytourism.org.

WINTER

TAMAL FIESTA Y MÁS

December – Held each year on the first Saturday in December, this fiesta celebrates traditional Christmastime treats such as tamales, bizcochos, Mexican hot chocolate and red-chile kettle corn. Held downtown, food and craft vendors greet visitors, shops are open and tamales may be ordered by the dozen. There's a tamal contest, live musical performances, dancing and other fun activities. Info: www.tamalfiestaymas.org

CHOCOLATE FANTASIA

February – Every year close to Valentine's Day, about a dozen locations in historic downtown Silver City offer samplings of sweet treats during Chocolate Fantasia, highlighting Grant County's confectioners with recipes to make your mouth water. Visitors can shop, listen to live music and taste a variety of gourmet chocolate creations. "Chocolate Stop" maps and empty Valentine boxes are provided, and a sampling ticket lets you try 20 pieces of chocolate. For information, visit mimbresarts. org/chocolate-fantasia.









Mural project sparks community's creativity

BY LISA JIMENEZ

The bold, colorful mural on Chihuahua Hill at the southeast corner of Richard and Theodore streets in Silver City involved a lot of community collaboration and participation. World-renowned artist Carlos Callejo of Los Angeles allowed his vision and expression of local history to expand and grow with each contribution from passers-by and contributing artists.

Assisting Callejo with touch-ups to a rare, public depiction of Geronimo, the Apache leader, were Werikame Lopez, his 5-year-old daughter Huitzi Lopez, Lonnie Strange and Illimani Lopez.

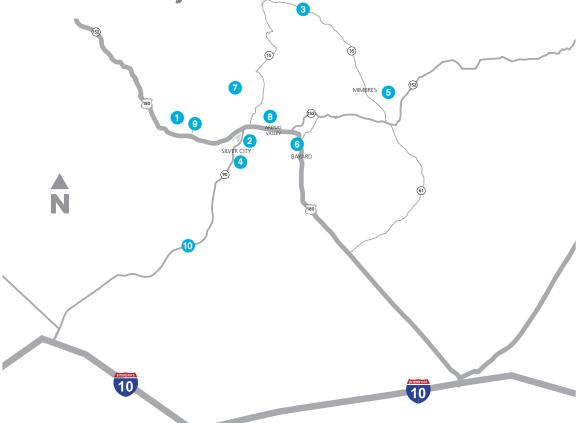
Werikame's 16-year-old son, Kinan, is a Silver High School student and amateur photographer and videographer who is producing a documentary about the mural for submission to the Silver City Museum, where staff are planning to develop a local history project about Chihuahua Hill. Kinan has established a GoFundMe account to raise \$1,000 to produce the documentary, as well as to support ongoing travel and living expenses for muralist Callejo, who plans to remain in Silver City for several more weeks, as his original vision expanded along with that of the community's.

Other community members who contributed to the mural at Capilla Park, were Sylvia Mendez, Autumn McPherson, Kari Scullion, Leticia Roybal, Zeke Gonzales, Mike Aguilera, Theodora Quintero and Jeramiah Portillo. Silver City's Public Works Department completed the retention-wall-turned-artists' canvas in December 2019. For more information, call Werikame Lopez at 575 654-6935.



STUDIOS AND GALLERIES

Grant County



1. ALASKA MUDHEAD STUDIO-GALLERY

371 Camino de Vento in Wind Canyon 907-783-2780

2. BARBARA NANCE GALLERY & STONEWALKER STUDIO

105 Country Road Silver City 575-534-0530

- 3. CHAMOMILE CONNECTION 3918 Highway 35 N, Mimbres 575-536-8845
- 4. GRANT COUNTY ART GUILD GALLERY 316 N. Bullard St.
- 5. KATE BROWN POTTERYAND TILE 147 Hot Springs Canyon Rd 575-536-9935 katebrown@gilanet.com

- 6. KATHRYN ALLEN CLAY STUDIO 601 Erie St., Bayard 575-537-3332
- 7. STUDIO BEHIND THE MOUNTAIN 23 Wagon Wheel Lane Silver City, NM 88061 575-388-3277
- 8. VICTORIA CHICK -COW TRAIL STUDIO 119 Cow Trail Arenas Valley, NM 88022 520-395-0728
- 9. WIND CANYON STUDIO 11 Quail Run Silver City, NM 88061 619-933-8034

10. WORKS BY BARBARA HARRISON AND OTHERS 21 Latigo Trail

Silver City 941-387-8589

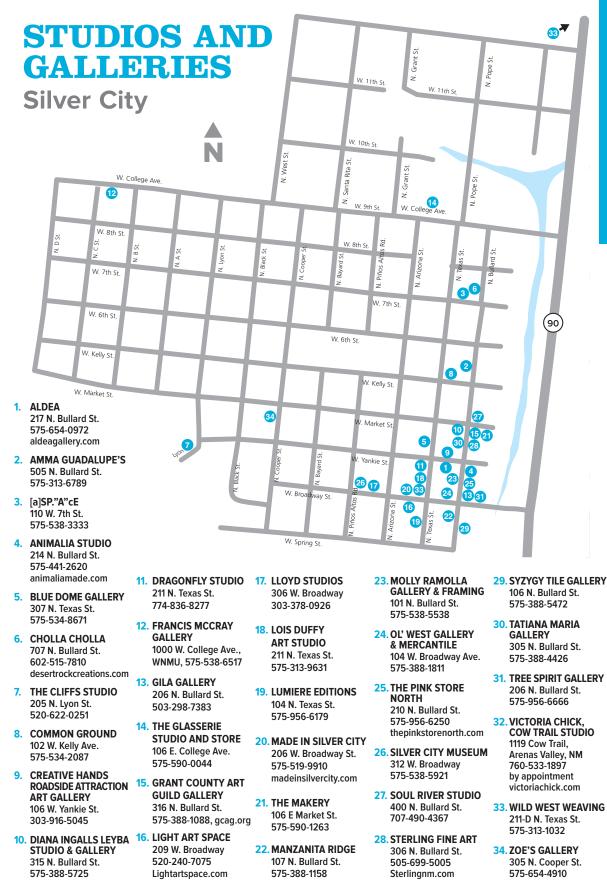
ART ASSOCIATIONS

GRANT COUNTY ART GUILD 316 N. Bullard Silver City www.gcag.org

MIMBRES REGION ARTS COUNCIL 575-538-2505 Mimbresarts.org

SILVER CITY ART ASSOCIATION 575-313-9631 www.silvercityart.com

SOUTHWEST NEW MEXICO ACT 201 N. Hudson St., Silver City 575-538-5560 www.swnmact.org





Grant County Art Guild continues to grow

n Jan. 11, 2019. after 50 years of existence, the Grant County Art Guild opened a permanent gallery at 316 N. Bullard St. in downtown Silver City having previously been in historic Hearst Church up Highway 15 in Pinos Altos where it could only be open limited times and half the year. The Grant County Art Guild Gallery is now home to the work of dozens of talented artists.

The space is at the corner of Bullard and Market streets in the former Hester House building and in September 2020 opened another new space directly behind the gallery. The annex, 106 E Market St., opened with the show "Creatures of the Gila," one block off Bullard, and across the footbridge from the Silver City Visitor Center parking lot.

The new annex is available for special events and over the winter months is making spaces available for a Saturday morning Artisans Market — a Makers Market type of space for artisans who need heated indoor space to show their creations.

Guild president JoAnne Thomas said the guild represents a variety of artists.

"We have trained artists, self-taught artists, established artists, emerging artists," she said. "We are encouraging art in the community and representing the community as a whole."

Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday. Info: 309-323-4688 or jothomas154@gmail.com.











Southwest Word Fiesta

celebrates books, authors and much more

he Southwest Word Fiesta in October features appearances from authors here and around the world.

Southwest Word Fiesta celebrates the power and beauty of the written word, bringing together those who create with those who appreciate, with special emphasis on fostering community involvement.

Bookmark the website: https:// swwordfiesta.org. That's where you'll see all the news, as well as instructions for attending virtual events.

The Southwest Word Fiesta, originally known as the Southwest Festival of the Written Word, was created to celebrate authors who live and work in the Southwest. Festivals feature the heritage of writing and writers in the Southwest, showing how that deep history connects to the present. The festival reveals how the diverse literary genres and interests coalesce and relate. Writers who have produced outstanding work that deserves continued appreciation are

> honored. People of all ages who want to improve their writing or to make a career of putting words together are encouraged.

The Southwest Festival of the Written Word was founded in 2010 by members of the major cultural institutions in Silver City – the

university, the public library, and the Western Institute of Lifelong Learning. The festival takes place every other year and attracts over 800 visitors. The first festival was in 2013.

Southwest Word Fiesta's steering committee is proud to bring you another great festival.

10 best places to write in Silver City Southwest Word Fiesta picks the top spots for scribblers

CONTRIBUTORS: KRIS NERI, TED PRESLER, JJ AMAWORO WILSON

Tranquilbuzz Coffee House

A home from home for writers, musicians, and creatives. Full of posters, photos, sculptures, pots, books, and handmade tables and shelves – an emporium of beautiful things for igniting the imagination, all topped off with first-rate coffee and cakes. A regular meeting place for The Gila River Poets.

Little Walnut Picnic Area

If you're one of those writers who likes to get away from it all without leaving town, you can't find a better spot to work than the Little Walnut Picnic Area. Picturesque picnic tables dot a tranquil Southwestern landscape, while tree canopies provide shade for those long writing sessions. Trails wander off in multiple directions that offer hikes to gather your thoughts.

The Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery

The historic building housing The Little Toad Creek Brewery offers writers inspiration drawn from the echoes of those who must have written there decades earlier, especially in the little-used room at the rear that contains shelves of published books. So few bars contain books! The Toad serves the best burgers in town, and for after writing, the Lucky Toad Lager makes the perfect celebratory drink.

Silver City Public Library

A gem of a library, well-lit and welcoming, with plenty of quiet corners for the dedicated scribe. If the individual booths are occupied by patrons researching furiously, writers can try the history room; long wooden tables and a superb collection of tomes on Southwestern lore provide all the inspiration necessary.

Fort Bayard Historical Landmark

East of Silver City lies a quiet, serene spot where cypress trees beckon one down a deserted street where years earlier Buffalo soldiers marched. Later, the fort served as a hospital for tuberculosis patients. Now in this gentle place surrounded by occasional avian voices, one can contemplate one's existence, love of nature, and a touch of history.

Javalina

A storied coffee house in the heart of the community. Known for hosting open mics and conspiratorial groups of writers. Big windows let in the light. Original art adorns the walls. The written word is in every nook: from the stash of free newspapers to back copies of The Paris Review.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 31



Silver City offers quality

health and mental health care services

Silver City and Grant County have some excellent health and behavioral health resources available. The Grant County Public Health Office, located at 2610 N. Silver St., is the local office of the New Mexico Department of Health. Visit their website at www.nmhealth.org to learn about the many health and behavioral health services the department offers.

Call the Grant County Public Health Office at 575-388-9353.

Visit www.nmhealth.org/location/public/#Grant and www.nmhealth.org.

Gila Regional Medical Center (GRMC), 1313 E. 32nd St. in Silver City, is a county-owned, nonprofit, critical-access hospital. In addition to primary care and specialty service clinics, GRMC is home to the Cancer Center and the Surgical Center of the Southwest. Other services offered include gynecologic, orthopedic care, imaging and radiology, cardiopulmonary, an emergency department, maternal/childcare, a pharmacy, an intensive care unit, cardiology, pediatrics and many other specialties. GRMC also has a behavioral health unit.

GRMC continues a long and proud history of health care in the area that began with Ladies Hospital, which moved in 1885 and became Grant County Charity Hospital. Later came Swift Memorial Hospital, Silver City General Hospital and Hillcrest General Hospital. Ownership of Hillcrest was transferred to the county in 1969. A new 68-bed facility, Gila Regional Medical Center, was completed in October 1983.

Contact GRMC at 575-538-4000. Visit www.grmc.org. You can also check out Border Area Mental Health Services, 315 N. Hudson St., No. 6, 575-388-4497. And Google mental health services in Silver City for additional providers.



Miller Library, WNMU

Go to the top floor, slip into a booth in the Quiet Zone, and gaze out the window. The spectacular view overlooks the town's arteries and the Gila's distant hills. And if that isn't enough, take a moment to wander between the bookshelves: you'll find everything you need from sci-fi to cybernetics to psychology – all fuel for the inquiring mind.

Birdswell's Vintage Vibes

So retro! So Silver City! The locally unique drinks, including boba teas and old-fashioned milkshakes, along with a good choice of journals, make Birdwell's Vintage Vibes an engaging place to write. After a strong writing session, you might find a reward for yourself among their selection of antiques and art and craft items.

Silver City Museum garden

Open a low gate. Walk a few paces down a path. Veer right and step into the past. Five huge trees provide copious shade while metal benches invite you to stay awhile. Peruse the outdoor display of Silver City's past and present, and marvel at the objects artfully scattered: a stone wheel, rocks, and sculptures of rusting iron.

The Hub

The Hub, outside of Diane's Bakery, offers sturdy tables, ideal for spreading out writing notes. While there are yummy baked goods, pizza, and tacos nearby to fuel your body, a glorious abundance of sunshine and flowers will surely engage your muse.

For more information on the Southwest Word Fiesta, visit swwordfiesta.org.

MEDICAL SERVICES

Silver City has long been considered a premiere medical service center in southern New Mexico. Multiple health care facilities cover all the basics, as well as some top-notch, specialized services.

CASSIE HEALTH CENTER FOR WOMEN www.cassiehealthcenter.com 1618 E. Pine St. 575-388-1561

Services for women of all ages include comprehensive obstetrics and gynecology.

DR. GREGORY KOURY DPC www.ziafamilyhealthcare.com 10983 Highway 180 West 575-534-4299

Longtime Silver City physician Dr. Gregory Koury offers Direct Physician Care. Koury's DPC practice, Zia Health Care, does not accept insurance of any kind and you will not need insurance to obtain medical care. If you have a letter proving you are under direct physician care, you will legally not be required to have health insurance under the Affordable Care Act.

GILA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

www.grmc.org 1313 E. 32nd St. Silver City, New Mexico 88061 575-538-4000

Gila Regional Medical Center is a county-owned, not-for-profit, 68-bed acute care hospital, featuring 24/7 ambulance and emergency services and stateof-the-art operating rooms that provide surgical services to Southwest New Mexico. A strong commitment to technology and patient-centered care, it is home to the Cancer Center and Surgical Center of the Southwest.

SILVER HEALTH CARE www.silverhealthcare.org 1600 E. 32nd St. 575-538-2981

Silver Health Care is a multispecialty group offering a broad range of quality medical services. Silver Health Care also operates two urgent care walk-in clinics, in Silver City and Deming. Silver Health Care also has clinic facilities in Bayard, Fort Bayard Medical Center and an additional family clinic in Silver City.

HIDALGO MEDICAL SERVICES www.hmsnm.org 1007N. Pope St. 575-388-1511

Hidalgo Medical Services (HMS) positively impacts the health, well-being and quality of life by providing comprehensive, integrated, affordable healthcare and education of patients and healthcare professionals. HMS provides primary medical, dental, mental health and family support services to more than 16,000 people each year.

SW CENTER FOR HEALTH INNOVATION www.swchi.org 301 W. College Ave., Suite 16 575-534-0101

The Southwest Center for Health Innovation is a nonprofit organization focusing on community health. Through advocacy, education, policy and programs, CHI is at the forefront of improving community health for all people, especially those who are underserved.

SOUTHWEST BONE AND JOINT INSTITUTE www.southwestboneandjoint.com 1268 E. 32nd St. 575-534-1919

Founded by board-certified orthopedic surgeon Brian Robinson in 1999, the Southwest Bone and Joint Institute provides a full range of orthopedic services including orthopedic surgery at the Gila Regional Medical surgical center, imaging, rehab and sports medicine.

NURSING HOMES/ASSISTED LIVING

To report abuse/neglect/ exploitation in nursing homes: Department of Health Incident Reporting Hotline Toll Free: 1-800-445-6242. For assistance with concerns or complaints about the care in nursing homes and assisted living facilities, call **Ombudsman Services at** 575-647-2023 or toll free at 800-762-8690. For information, visit www.nmaging.state.nm.us.

SANTA CLARA ASSISTED LIVING 15 Fort Bayard Road, Santa Clara 575-537-3077

MILLIE'S ASSISTED LIVING

600 N. Hudson St., Silver City 575-534-9172 www.milliescenter.com

FORT BAYARD MEDICAL **CENTER/STATE VETERAN'S NURSING HOME** LONG-TERM CARE AND **REHABILITATION CENTER** 41 Fort Bayard Road

Santa Clara Phone: 575-537-3302 Toll Free: 800-541-6966

SILVER CITY CARE CENTER SKILLED NURSING FACILITY 3514 N. Fowler Ave., Silver City 575-388-3127

SUNSET VISTA -ASSISTED LIVING

3650 N. Fowler Ave., Silver City 575-538-9095

SUBSIDIZED HOUSING

BAYARD HOUSING AUTHORITY 100 Runnels Drive A #1 P.O. Box 768, Bayard 575-537-2296

CASA LINDA APARTMENTS 100 E. 17th St., Silver City 575-388-3755

HOUSING AUTHORITY -REGION V 2545 N. Silver St., Silver City 575-388-1974

HOUSING AND URBAN **DEVELOPMENT (HUD)** SANTA CLARA HOUSING AUTHORITY 401 N. Mineral St., Santa Clara 575-537-3041



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✓ From Cancer to Health™ Biobehavioral Group

✓ Staff and Caregiver Training for Persons with Dementia ✓ Minding the Body Group for health and wellness (9 wks) ✓ ACT Raising Safe Kids Positive Parenting Program (9 wks)



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SENIOR SERVICES

For county residents 60 years of age and older, the Grant County Senior Services Department offers a range of programs and services allowing senior citizens to meet, interact, dine together, get in-home meals and receive transportation services, all at no cost. Whether you need transportation to an upcoming medical appointment, an in-home meal or just an excuse to get out of the house for a meal with friendly neighbors. Lunch is served at all five centers at 11:30 a.m. Monday through Friday.

Services currently offered include transportation, meals at the senior centers, home-delivered meals and senior employment. No financial qualification is required for these programs, but registration is required. HIDALGO MEDICAL SERVICES 110 W. 11th St., Silver City, NM 88061 Senior Services 575-597-2746

SENIOR CENTERS

SILVER CITY SENIOR CENTER 205 W. Victoria St. Silver City, NM 575-388-2545

SANTA CLARA SENIOR CENTER 507 N. East St. Santa Clara, NM 575-537-5254

MIMBRES SENIOR CENTER 2620 Highway 35 Mimbres, NM 575-536-9990 GILA SENIOR CENTER 403 Highway 211 Gila, NM 575-535-2888

HURLEY COMMUNITY CENTER

302 Carrasco St. Hurley, NM 575-537-2287







In the summer of 2021 veterans from the Marines, Air Force, Navy and Army along with two Native Americans and two civilians made the trek out to the middle of the Aldo Leopold Wilderness to restore the Massacre Canyon Memorial that was falling apart. Under the auspices of American Legion Service Officer David Morrison, veterans completed the restoration project in several stages.

Life is Twice as Good!

Include your business advertising in the next annual 2021-2022 Life is Good In Silver City & Grant County Community Guide. This 12-month publication is available in locations throughout Silver City and at key regional locations, such

as visitor and information centers and high traffic local businesses in Grant County, and online at www.desertexposure.com.

For advertising information contact Richard Coltharp, 575-524-8061 or email richard@lascrucesbulletin.com and Mariah Walker, Silver City Advertising Manager 575-993-8193, mariah@desertexposure.com

HOMELESS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIM SERVICES

SILVER CITY GOSPEL MISSION 111 S. Texas St.

Thrift store, soup kitchen, food pantry Info: 575-388-5071, silvercitygospelmission.org

SIERRA HOUSE

Next to the Silver City Gospel Mission A 1,200 square-foot house with three bedrooms, a living room, kitchen, laundry room, and a bathroom. One bedroom is reserved for the Sierra House Manager and the other two contain bunk-beds suitable for two families or four individuals. Info: 575-388-5071, silvercitygospelmission.org/ services/support/the-sierra-house

EL REFUGIO

800 S. Robert St.

El Refugio shelter is available for women and their children who are domestic violence victims. The shelter offers rooms for eight to nine families, with one family per room. A family can stay at the shelter up to 30 days. If more time is needed, an extension can be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Info: 575-538-2125, www.eridv.org

VETERANS SERVICES

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS SERVICES Veterans Service Officer Chris Teran 11990 U.S. Highway 180 E. Santa Clara, NM 88026 575-912-3166

NEW MEXICO VETERANS AFFAIRS HEALTH SERVICES

The Silver City Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) is designed to deliver primary care services to eligible military veterans. Services include blood draws (by appointment only), EKGs (electrocardiograms), evaluations by doctors, routine lab tests, social work, and mental health services. The clinic is located at 2950 Leslie Road in Silver City.

The Silver City CBOC is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, and closed Saturday, Sunday and federal holidays. For appointments, call the clinic at 575-538-2921. No emergency care is available at this facility. For after-hours assistance, call 1-866-862-7863, or for emergency care, call 911.

For information about enrollment in the Silver City CBOC, call the Eligibility and Enrollment Office for the New Mexico Veterans Affairs Health Care System at 505-265-1711, Ext. 2741.

SOCIAL SERVICES

30something takes funds to the community



BY ELVA K. ÖSTERREICH

ongtime Grant County volunteer and actress Janey Katz was involved with the Virus Theatre group for a long time. Long enough that she "had gotten too old to remember lines," she said. So, she started helping with fundraising instead of being on stage.

The theater company purchased the old El Sol building in downtown Silver City but was only able to operate there for a short time in the fall because it was too hot in the summer and too cold in the winter, and they needed an HVAC system. They needed more than \$30,000 in addition to funds they already had. Katz at first said she would ask 300 people for \$100 donation but then quickly realized she could just as easily ask 30 people for \$1,000 donation.

"I'm not very good at asking people for money but if I'm going to ask them, how about if I just ask them for \$1,000," she said. And the concept for 30something was born.

Then, when she was asking folks, they came back with, "Why don't we get to pick where the money goes?"

And she told them next time they could have a vote and that meant she was committee to a next time. The group was formed, and they have been committing ever since – about five years now.

"We wanted to make a significant difference in our town instead of just giving money to organizations in our wills," she said. "We've all been supporters of lots of nonprofits, but we felt like if we all banded together, we could make a bigger difference."

Another group member Christine Rickman said there are just three basic requirements for applications for the 30something funds.

"It has to be something physical and something

permanent," she said. "It needs to benefit the community, enrich the lives of the county and it needs to attract visitors or people who want to move here."

In 2020 30something was able to raise funds that were granted to two nonprofit projects: the new Boston Hill Trail System and support for the Silver City mural project.

In 2021 the members voted to support a Human Resources Information project on Big Ditch beautification and the Chiricahua Apache Foundation to build a Red Paint Powwow venue at Fort Bayard which, once built, will also be available as a venue for other organizations to use.

30something, currently with about 63 members, is open to everyone, Katz said. The organization meets once a year to celebrate and give away the money. Organizations can apply through the 30something website, www.the30something.org.

"I think the idea is just so perfect," Rickman said. "In a community like ours it is just raising the profile of philanthropy. Each of us has the ability in our own way to make a difference because we live in a town where so many services are provided by nonprofits and we are absolutely an outdoor community."

Because 30something is a donor-advised fun and not a nonprofit entity, overhead and administrations costs are very low, said Larry McDaniel, the third member of the steering committee.

"You can see an immediate impact," he said because the group asks benefactors to complete their projects within a year. "So often you get money and you never see where that money goes."

"It does take work but it's an easy way for the community to make a big difference," Rickman said.



Bikeworks ready to go

BY ELVA K. ÖSTERREICH

fter serving the community from behind the recreation center at a relatively hidden location Bikeworks virtually shines at its new location at 914 N. Pope St.

"It's been a long slow soft opening," said owner/ manager Dave Baker. "I've been renovating for 4 years, open for 4 months."

The business is a nonprofit which has been serving Silver City for 13 years with the Earn-A-Bike program offering folks a way to volunteer to earn a bike of their own.

"This is a cash-free path to bike ownership," Baker said. "Work through a checklist of common repair procedures for a set amount of time dependent on your age. A great way to get rolling and learn some repair tricks in the process. More than 2,000 bikes have been earned through this program."

Bikeworks has also held community bike rides where participants could join in for monthly rides in and around Silver City. These rides are tailored to the participants who attend and usually combine a mix of trail and street riding. Loaner bikes and helmets are available.

They offer a do-it-yourself program offering six workstations folks can use. There is a mechanic on duty for advice and help. There is a sliding-scale fee of \$6-\$10 an hour for the use of the resources.

"We have color coded tool carts," Baker said. "You can come in here grab a tool cart, get a work stand and learn about your bike how to adjust your breaks or gears. If you need parts, we have parts, tools available."

There is a retail component to Bikeworks as well. In addition to providing free bikes through the Earn-A-Bike program, they will repair donated bicycles to sell.

"We also do service," he said. "If people want to

support us, but just want their bikes fixed, we do that too. A lot of people who walk in the door want to learn how to fix their bike, but a lot just want their bike fixed."

The store has been doing a lot of eBike conversion kits, Baker said.

"You can take a normal bike and you can put a kit on that makes it electrified," he said. "Half the people I talk to want to talk about eBikes. The are really a hot thing now."

Baker has been working with area bicycle programs since 2006 when he met Jamie Thomson who was hosting an afterschool bike ride.

"I got on board with him and then we were looking for a space to do the program and we moved in behind the rec center in 2008," he said. "It's just been evolving from there and we got this building and bringing it back to life. Now working downtown has been exciting."

Bikeworks hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday to Friday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. For information call 575-388-1444.



Village hopes HistoriCorps will aid in Fort Bayard preservation effort

BY BARRY HEIFNER

any people believe that our history must be preserved, and village of Santa Clara officials are no exception. They follow the maxim of Spanish philosopher George Santayana, who said, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." HistoriCorps, established in 2010, is working to assure the past is remembered in Santa Clara and across the country.

Fort Bayard National Historic Landmark, a status granted by the U.S. Department of the Interior, is a protected site. The Fort Bayard Historic Preservation Society operates two separate facilities: a museum on site at the historic fort and the Santa Clara-Fort Bayard Historic Visitors Center, located in the former National Guard Armory, at 11990 U.S. 180, six miles east of Silver City.

The Silver City area is chock full of history and Fort Bayard National Historic Landmark, six miles east of the city, has drawn the attention of HistoriCorps. Liz Rice, workforce manager for HistoriCorps, said the group partners with public lands agencies across the nation — and Fort Bayard is a perfect opportunity for preservation.

The Village of Santa Clara spent 10 years to obtain the Fort Bayard grounds, which contain 51 buildings, Sheila Hudman, Santa Clara clerk/treasurer, said. "In 2019 we received a 99-year lease for the grounds. The village has been working with the state of New Mexico, which owns the fort. We are trying to find occupants for the buildings."

Hudman said the village developed a business plan in 2015 to turn the site into a historical park.

The restoration of the former U.S. Army outpost will be a massive project, Rice said. Those who are interested in volunteering can visit the HistoriCorps website or email volunteer@historicorps.org.

Fort Bayard

Gen. James Henry Carleton, who was posted to



New Mexico in 1861, requested in 1865 a new fort be established in southwestern New Mexico in the heart of the Apache homeland. Its mission would be to protect miners, ranchers and emigrant and business trails, according to the Fort Bayard Historic Preservation Society website.

The new fort was to be named Fort Bayard in honor of Gen. George D. Bayard, who was killed at Fredericksburg. On Aug. 21, 1866, Fort Bayard Military Post was established by the 125th U.S. Colored Troops Company F. Other companies of the U.S. Colored Troops, aka the Buffalo Soldiers, soon arrived.

According to the website newmexicoculture.org, Buffalo Soldiers served at 11 of New Mexico's 16 frontier forts between 1866 and 1900. The final Buffalo Soldiers to serve in the Land of Enchantment were members of the 25th Infantry Regiment and 9th Cavalry Regiment, who were stationed at Forts Bayard and Wingate between 1898 and 1899.

A temporary hospital, built from logs, was situated in the northeast section of the fort by 1867 and was the beginning of the fort's medical role, according to the Fort Bayard Historic Preservation Society website. In 1869 the first permanent hospital was built.



SILVER CITY

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH 1735 E. 32nd St. 575-654-3944

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

186 Bypass Road 575-538-4378

CALVARY CHAPEL 3001 Highway 90 S. 575-388-1031

CHURCH OF CHRIST 1920 Little Walnut Road 575-538-9533

CHRISTIAN CHALLENGE 909 W. College Ave. 575-538-0012

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

3755 N. Swan St. 575-590-5001

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

615 N. Texas St. 575-538-2015

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SILVER CITY 2300 N. Swan St. 575-388-1582

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 1915 N. Swan St. 575-538-2371

HARVEST CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP 1500 N. Hudson St. 575-538-3619

INDIAN HILLS BAPSTIST CHURCH 2 Arroyo Seco Road

575-538-3558

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH 2501 N. Swan St.

575-538-9446

MOUNTAIN VIEW CHURCH NAZARENE

210 N. Swan. St.

NEW CHURCH OF THE SOUTHWEST DESERT 714 N Bullard St. NEW HOPE FELLOWSHIP 22 Kirkland Road

NEW LIFE FAMILY CHURCH 11 ARROYO SECCO 575-388-1122

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

420 W. Market St. 575-538-9373

ST FRANICS NEWMAN CENTER 914 W. 13th St. 575-538-3662

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2622 U.S. Highway 35

RIO MIMBRES BAPTIST CHURCH 29 Cactus Drive 575-536-9543

BAYARD

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 312 N. Railroad St. 575-537-5651

LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST CHURCH 610 Dayhill St. 575-537-0707

OUR LADY OF FATIMA CATHOLIC 340 E. Mayo 575-537-5727

ARENAS VALLEY

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH VALLEY COMMUNITY CHURCH State Highway 211 575-535-2977

GILA

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The Main Street Plaza Home to the Maker's Market and Make and Take

BY CHARMEINE WAITE

The Main Street Plaza in downtown Silver City was completed in March of 2020, and just as organizers were going to send out invitations for the ribbon cutting, the pandemic shut things down. Silver City MainStreet has been working with the Town of Silver City for years to get the Plaza completed knowing good public spaces support our local economy.

The Project for Public Spaces lists ten benefits of creating good public spaces. They 1) support local economies 2) attract business investments 3) attract tourism 4) provide cultural opportunities 5) encourage volunteerism 6) reduce crime 7) improve pedestrian safety 8) increase use of public transportation 9) improve public health and 10) improve the environment.

The group has persevered and now the Plaza is home to a Saturday Maker's Market featuring local and regional artisans and their products. The Future Forge, a local maker's space, runs the weekly May through October market every Saturday from 10 am to 2 pm. Booth fees are very reasonable, making the market an effective means for area residents to earn income. If you are interested please visit https://www. thefutureforge.org/makers-market.

Silver City MainStreet has collaborated with 13 area organizations to offer a free Make and Take during the Maker's Market. This is a free family fun arts and crafts activity that provides an arts and cultural experience for youth and families. It's a great opportunity for youth to experience art and see makers selling their work at the Maker's Market. It makes art more relevant, especially as a way to earn income.

Starting September 2021, Silver City MainStreet will also be offering a Downtown Passport to youth aged 12 and under. The Downtown Passport has 10 downtown business destinations that each "traveler" must go to and have their passport stamped.

The passports can be picked up at the Visitor Center located a 201 N. Hudson Street in Silver City. Once the passport is completed and returned to the Visitor Center, the "traveler" will receive a \$5 Main Street Gift Certificate.

The Downtown Passport is a fun way to walk around downtown Silver City, get exercise and learn about some of the local businesses. And don't forget the gift certificate is good at almost all of the downtown businesses. The Passport program will run through December 2021 and was funded by the Wells Fargo Foundation.

Remember if you are visiting downtown Silver City as a resident or tourist, to take time to stroll through the Big Ditch Park, check out the Maker's Market and discover downtown with a Downtown Passport!

The mission of Silver City MainStreet is "to encourage a vibrant, historic downtown Silver City that is recognized as the heart of our diverse community." Please visit our website, www.silvercitymainstreet.com to learn more.

Hand in hand, YCC and Aldo Leopold school achieve great things

BY ELVA K. ÖSTERREICH

orking out of Aldo Leopold Charter School every year, students participate in Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) activities separated into four crews. There is a trails crew, one for eco monitoring, one creating murals and a garden crew.

Internship coordinator Catalina Claussen said in addition there is a summer program where youth outside the school, across the county, can apply and be hired.

"Statewide the YCC is focused on getting job skills to our youth," Claussen said. "Each agency who applies for a grant defines what the projects are and must work with other nonprofits."

For example, she said, the trails team is currently developing a student drop-off with Western New Mexico University and Aldo Leopold. They are also teaming up to work on Forest Service and Fort Bayard trails.

"We have lots of different partnerships," Claussen said. "YCC wants other agencies to be involved."

The youth are paid \$10.50 to \$13.50 an hour for their work. And Claussen, as coordinator, must apply each season for the projects.

"This fall we have 35 people enrolled in the program," she said. "They work an average of 6 hours every Friday."

In eco motoring the students learn a lot of skills about data collection and how to share out that data, she said. They learn indicators for climate change including how to record temps and a number of different skills. They also work with bird populations and how to interpret data. The summer project worked with the university regarding the swallows on Western campus.

"It was a team effort with the faculty, and they reported data to the Forest Service and eBird and iNaturalist," she said. Local artist Diana Ingalls is the murals crew instructor. That group just finished Dia de los Muertos mural for the Silver City Museum and are now working on a mural at the WNMU Child Development Center as well as restoring a mural at Penny Park.

The garden crew manages Silva Creek Botanical Garden, maintaining the garden beds there and plants, Claussen said. They do a combination of creating native and drought-tolerant gardens and learn about conservation under the direction of Tricia Hurley, owner of Lone Mountain Natives.

"Really the (Silva Creek) garden has been designed and installed by the students over the years," she said. "Also, on the Western campus, they maintain the 10th Street median and they partner with Silver City to maintain the Golf Park Orchard."

Claussen said the YCC activities not only educate the students and support the community but also provide the youth with their first experiences of feeling valued outside the home.

"A lot of time youth don't realize they can be a valuable part of the community," she said.



Western **New Mexico** University offers a world of opportunities

to the community and visitors

This information was provided by Western New Mexico University Communications Specialist Jennifer Olson.

Background

For more than 125 years, Western New Mexico University has served the people in its region as a comprehensive, rural, public body. As a Hispanicserving institution and the state's only public applied liberal arts and sciences university, WNMU is committed to developing cross-cultural opportunities that encourage people to explore new experiences. The WNMU student body represents every segment of southwest New Mexico's diverse population.

WNMU Museum

Known for the NAN Ranch Collection — the most comprehensive collection of scientifically excavated prehistoric Mimbres materials from a single Mimbres site — the museum also houses prehistoric Southwestern pottery and artifacts, historic San Ildefonso Pueblo pottery and Santa Clara Pueblo pottery, local photographs and items from the campus' nearly 130-year history.

WNMU Cultural Affairs

With a critical eve toward what is both popular and culturally elevating, WNMU Cultural Affairs designs programs for a range of audiences and builds campus' collection through the state-funded 1 percent for the Arts Program and the generosity of donors. The division joins forces with local galleries, independent artists and events organization to leverage resources from organizations such as New Mexico Arts, Westaf and the National Endowment for the Arts. It also offers programs for veterans. The 2021-22 WNMU Cultural Affairs events schedule is available at wnmu.edu/culture. The following fall under WNMU Cultural Affairs:

Edwina and Charles Milner Women in the Arts Lecture and Exhibit Series

The series' namesake, Edwina Hawley Milner, has been a steady supporter of arts programming at WNMU. Her support allows WNMU to celebrate talented women artists of all ages and artistic mediums who exhibit their work in the Francis McCray Gallery and share about their experiences with local audiences.

¡Fiesta Latina!

As WNMU's signature event, ¡Fiesta Latina! provides an opportunity for border communities to engage with their neighbors to the south. Throughout the threeday family event, participants explore Latin culture. rhythms, flavors and crafts at Old James Stadium on



the WNMU campus. The celebration of New Mexico's Latin American heritage, customs and traditions often includes traditional children's activities, a tequila tasting and a charro show, but its biggest draw is the juried Artisan Mercado featuring the traditional folk art of some 40 artisans from throughout Mexico.

One Million Bones – Silver City

One Million Bones is a large-scale social arts practice combining education, hands-on art making and public installations to raise awareness of genocides and mass atrocities. The project found a permanent home at Bear Mountain Lodge in Silver City in 2017. Over four years. the One Million Bones team collected handcrafted bones for a 2013 installation event on the National Mall. The 1 million bones collected were crafted by individuals around the world and laid out as a hopeful symbol of our common humanity. Each bone represents a call to action, a story and a voice.

WNMU Expressive Arts

Home of only competitive university mariachi in New Mexico, WNMU allows students to study toward a music minor, continuing with their creative passion and building their skills while majoring in another field. As an Hispanic-serving institution, WNMU is home to welcoming organizations like Movimiento Estudiantil Chicanx de Aztlán. Here, members of Mariachi Plata de WNMU are encouraged to be themselves while representing their musical tradition as best as possible. Western Institute For Lifelong Learning

Since 2005, in partnership with WNMU, the Western Institute of Lifelong Learning (known as WILL among locals) has assembled the curiosity, life stories and conviviality of a community of people living in southwestern New Mexico. WILL serves vital social purposes while engaging minds through volunteertaught courses. Through volunteering, our members find connection, stimulation, friendship and community. Dues are deliberately kept low. Along with supplying a small house on the edge of campus for the WILL office, the university provides classroom space, large lecture halls as needed and the infinite resources of the faculty and library.

The Outpost Gear Rental Shop

While it's currently closed because of the pandemic, The Outpost at WNMU is a gear rental shop that loans out camping equipment, bikes and boats, rock climbing shoes and crash pads and even internal frame youth and adult backpacks. The umbrella WNMU Outdoor Program hosts on-campus wilderness medicine courses that are open to the community, and Mustang Search and Rescue is a New Mexico State Police field-certified team that actively contributes on missions throughout the region.

Fitness Facilities And Group Classes

Along with an indoor pool for year-round lap swimming, the WNMU fitness center boasts cardio equipment and weights, including kettlebells, battle ropes, resistance bands and slam balls. The center also has basketball and racquetball courts, plus a dance studio for public use. Visit crec.wnmu.edu.

J. Cloyd Miller Library

In the north wing of the Thomas B. McDonald Student Memorial Building, Miller Library serves the WNMU community by providing access to information and by teaching research skills. The library obtains, disseminates and preserves information in a wide variety of print and electronic formats, including books, periodicals, media, maps, microform records and government documents. Special collections, including rare books and archives such as the Juan Chacon papers, are held in the library's Treasure Room. In addition to its online public access catalog, Miller Library provides access to more than 100 research databases. Housing a state-of-the-art computer lab and tech-equipped study rooms, Miller Library also provides access to photocopy machines, microform readerprinters, research computers, WiFi, scanners and



equipment for the hearing and sight-impaired. **WNMU events**

WNMU homecoming details are available at alumni. wnmu.edu/homecoming.

The university's longest standing tradition, Great Race, is a weeklong celebration that culminates in a push-cart competition through mud pits and up steep hills. WNMU hasn't been able to hold Great Race since 2019, but the 2022 edition is being planned and registration will be at entertainment.wnmu.edu/ greatrace.

Mustang Athletics schedules, news and rosters are available at wnmumustangs.com.

Venues

- 1,000-seat Fine Arts Center Theatre
- 200-seat historic Light Hall Theater

• 182-seat Besse-Forward Global Resource Center Auditorium

• Outdoor spaces include Old James Stadium and the new Regents Square.

WNMU is located at 1000 W. College Ave. in Silver City. Call 1-800-872-9668. The mailing address is P.O. Box 680, Silver City, N.M. 88062. Visit wnmu.edu.

WILL: Western Institute for Lifelong Learning

Enriching Life through Learning in Community!



WILL course group hike in the Chiricahua's.



WILL Office 104 Rhoda Road WNMU Campus Silver City, New Mexico Discover our courses, programs, enthusiasts groups and the WILL community committed to connection with others.

- Engage Life
- Find Joy in Learning
- Join the WILL Community

WILL Office Hours Tues.-Thurs. 9am-3pm 575-538-6835

www.will.community

EDUCATION IN GRANT COUNTY

There are 16 public schools in Grant County serving approximately 4,500 students. The largest of the districts is Silver Consolidated Schools which operates three high schools, one middle school and five elementary schools all serving more than 3,000 students. The district employs approximately 260 teachers.

Western New Mexico University is situated at the heart of Silver City and central to Grant County. With a range of associates, bachelor's and graduate degree programs and non-degree study options, WNMU anchors the community's commitment to lifelong education.



PUBLIC SCHOOLS:

SILVER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS

2810 N. Swan St. Silver City NM 88061 575-956-2000 www.silverschools.org

COBRE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT

900 A Central Ave. Bayard, NM 88023 575-537-4010 www.cobre.k12.nm.us

CHARTER SCHOOL:

ALDO LEOPOLD CHARTER SCHOOL 410 W. 10th St., Silver City, NM 88061 575-538-2547 www.aldocs.org/pages/ALCS

PRIVATE SCHOOLS:

GUADALUPE MONTESSORI SCHOOL

1731 N. Alabama St. Silver City, NM 88061 575-388-3343 www.guadalupemontessori.org

CALVARY CHRISTIAN

ACADEMY 3001 NM-90 S 575-388-4478 www.silvercaa.org

COLLEGE:

WESTERN NEW MEXICO UNIVERSITY 1000 W. College Ave. Silver City, NM 88061 800-872-9668 wnmu.edu





YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS & DAYCARES

YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

GIRL SCOUTS OF THE DESERT SOUTHWEST 302 W. 11th St. 575-538-2481 ex. 4242 gsdsw.org

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS MOUNTAIN REGION 1016 N. Pope St. 575-303-3004

MIMBRES REGION ARTS COUNCIL YOUTH MURAL CAMP 1201 N. Pope St. 575-538-2505 Mimbresarts.org SILVER CITY SOCCER CLUB Gregory Koury, MD 575-313-4211 P.O. Box 2337, Silver City, NM 88062 Silvercitysoccer.com

GRANT COUNTY YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE www.grantcountysoccer.com

PRESCHOOLS DAYCARE

EL GRITO HEAD START 303 S. Cooper St. 575-538-5459 Elgritosc.com

GUADALUPE MONTESSORI SCHOOL 1731 N. Alabama St. 575-388-3343



CRITTERS

Two walks with Champ

BY CHAMP SAVITT

veryone comments that I resemble a stubby boxer, although you would readily categorize me as a dog of mixed breeds. Beyond that bit of description, my coat is biscuit-colored like Trump's coif, and I drool prodigiously if thirsty. Call me Champ.

I categorize myself as your average Silver City pooch whose daily walks with my owner might range from hopin-the-car and drive toward Gomez Peak or the Big Tree — or leash up for an in-town strut with less prominent wonders of nature, but some high spots nonetheless.

The later category may lack tall trees with shady canopies whose age is twice that of me and my owner's put together. Nor does it allow for a gleeful thrashing about in leafy water pools awash with twigs for fetching.

Although the two walks described here hardly epitomize nature's awesome beauty, they offer plenty of space for romp n'roll as well as sniffable inspiration a'plenty.

Memory Lane Cemetery - 2000 Memory Lane

Sometimes on our walks, my owner not only speaks to me, but also thinks out loud — commenting on scenery, passers-by and her deepest thoughts. At the cemetery, we meander by gravestones and read epitaphs decorated with plastic flowers and shiny objects that seemingly symbolize a happy memory of the deceased or their kin.

Patting me fondly, my owner whispers that "to have lived at all was miracle enough."

Where the cemetery grounds end, the vista opens up. Here you see the distant Kneeling Nun — a focal point that adds a special touch to our outing.

I like this walk — it is unusual and contemplative, while providing plenty of exercise space.

Ben Altamirano Sports Complex -2900 32nd Bypass

For a grassy hilltop walk in town, this one deserves the canine seal of approval. Featured here are several playing fields with expansive swaths of lush greenery — perfect for turf frolicking, as well as sniff n'rub. Such attributes turn a quotidian stroll into a paradisiacal field day for writhing in the grass.

My owner appreciates the early morning views toward the Burros Mountains and sometimes Mexico.



Gila Trail

Back Country Horsemen work to keep trails open for all

BY MELISSA GREEN

xciting things have been happening in the Gila in 2021. There was a healthy burn through much of the Gila Wilderness, the Johnson Fire, which will hopefully help prevent future catastrophic fires. Improvements to our expansive trail system is another major improvement. Some trails, in disrepair for years and decades, have been reopened by Gila Back Country Horsemen (Gila BCH) and partners.

2021 celebrates the 20th anniversary of the Gila Chapter of Back Country Horsemen. The Gila Chapter is part of the larger Back Country Horsemen of America organization which has chapters in 32 states. The mission of BCH is to perpetuate the commonsense use and enjoyment of horses in back country and wilderness areas and ensure public lands remain open to recreational use. One way we do that is to assist public land agencies in the maintenance of trails. Our goal is to "To keep trails open for All."

Gila BCH has been doing trail work on the Gila National Forest for more than 18 years and has maintained over 1,200 miles of trail. Part of the way we are celebrating our anniversary is to greatly expand our trail maintenance activities by partnering with other trail user volunteers to help in our trail maintenance efforts.

There are many more miles of trails that need attention. https://www.gilabch.org/get-involved.



SILVER CITY ANIMAL SERVICES

HIGH DESERT HUMAN SOCIETY 3050 S. Cougar Way, Silver City, NM 88062 575-538-9261

Hours: 8:30 a.m.-5:30p.m. Tuesday through Friday; 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday.

Email: hdhs@gilanet.com

Website: www.highdeserthumane.org

The High Desert Humane Society operates the shelter which serves as an impoundment organization for Silver City and the unincorporated areas of Grant County, housing animals taken into custody by city and county animal control officers. It offers a spay and neuter program called HALT that is not based on income, monthley drive-through reduced rates on animal vaccinations and microchips, education programs, pet training services and pet cremation services. It is a 501(c)(3).

CONALI FIELD DOG PARK

1207 N. Virginia St., Silver City Hours: Daily, sunrise to sunset. On the campus of Western New Mexico University at the corner of N. Virginia and W. 13th streets.

SNAP

P.O. Box 1958, Silver City, NM 88062 575-388-5194; 575-297-9734; 575-519-2762 Website: www.snap-sw-nm.org Email: cbreenlee@yahoo.com

SNAP provides dog and cat spay/neuter assistance available to low-income persons in Grant, Catron and Hidalgo counties. Surgeries are performed at four partnering veterinary clinics in Silver City. Clients must call to make arrangements and a co-pay is required.



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Check us out each month at a location near you. Or subscribe by mail.

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PO Box 4068 Silver City, NM 88062 www.silvercitymainstreet.com

