







40 Days, 40 Nights Page 17



Bridging Cultures Page 25

NOVEMBER 2021 Volume 26 • Number 11



EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK · ELVAK. ÖSTERREICH

Creative Christmastime Oh no!

he world is backed up. Countries where stuff is made are behind in production. And even when the stuff is shipped, there are shipping containers piled up outside the ports. It's just plain HARD to get STUFF! Oh, and because of all that, stuff is getting just plain expensive.

Auto dealerships have empty lots because broken supply chains at key manufacturing plants around the world have slowed and even shut down resulting in a shortage of raw materials, including semiconductor chips.

Not only cars but also durable goods, even things as small as toaster ovens, have chips in them. And that has nothing to do with transportation — it has to do with production. Then you come to the supply chain after you have produced the toaster oven and you want to send it to the U.S. There is a bottleneck at the ports with loading and unloading.

If the manufacturers raise their prices, the demand for goods would drop. But because price competition is so intense, and consumers can compare prices for items on the Internet before buying them, manufacturers are reluctant to raise prices too high.

And then there is the employment problem, Americans don't want to drive trucks much, they don't want to work in retail stores much and feel they can now be choosy about employment. More slowdown in the system.

Backorders, backorders, backorders and they are still running the car commercials, the sales, the deals. Watch out for Black Friday! Here it comes. Walmart, Best Buy, Amazon, Lowe's Home Improvement and more are already advertising the beginning of Black Friday deals. "Experts" recommend consumers start shopping for holiday gifts NOW, ahead of Thanksgiving and Black Friday. But why?

Just avoid it altogether. Shop local industries. Local businesses are finding ways to adapt. Take trips in nearby parks and play a little. Put thought into gifts and purchases like you never have before.

My friends, the sister proprietors at MasArt in Las Cruces, are featuring a Christmas art show where their regular artists get to create and offer whatever they want on sale. And the framing side of the business is feeling the supply shortage because materials are not coming in, they can't create frames like they normally can. But this isn't stopping them. They are building their own wooden components and repurposing found frames from thrift stores and yard sales. They complete the orders they get.

If you have the time to get online and "tackle the holiday shopping early," you have the time to put thought into alternatives. The gift of time is one of the most important and meaningful.

A walk in the mountains with a friend; an afternoon of baking cookies with your mother; a scavenger hunt with the kids;

a movie basket with popcorn, soda and a trivia book are precious gifts beyond the STUFF.

My friend Suzanne sent me a card a couple of years ago with a picture of two chickens on it. It said she bought chickens, provided to some down-on-their-luck folks in Tanzania (or somewhere like that). Not only are there lots of charity organizations with these kinds of donation opportunities, you can also buy stars named after a friend, or a tiny plot of land in Scotland, or even slot on a rocket to space for cremated ashes.

Or how about support local businesses by giving a gift certificate to your favorite restaurant or bookstore; classes at the local gym, art museum, dance studio, soccer clinic or anything they enjoy or might enjoy.

And then follow up. Talk to them, just go ahead and bother to connect with your fellow human being, the best gift of all. STUFF, who needs it anyway?

Elva K. Österreich is editor of Desert Exposure and would love to meet Desert Exposure readers in Silver City or any of

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

SILVER CITY

LETTER5

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

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

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A MARKAN MARKAN MARKAN WANT (CHANGE) A CHANGE AN A MARKAN AND A CAMBA AND A CAMBA AND A CAMBA AND A CAMBA AND A



Hidden in Salt Creek Canyon lies a 13 acre jewel, bordering Gila National Wilderness. This turn key equestrian property could also serve as a perfect family, corporate or church getaway. The 2715 square foot executive homecomes partially furnished and boasts two custom kiva



Country living just over 15 miles from Silver City is waiting for you to build your dream home in the great southwest.Weather is about as delightful as you'll find, with Gila National Forest land nearby, to to hike, mountain bike, four-wheel and explore to your heart's content. This nearly 6 acre corner lot, has many building areas and will be apeaceful retreat from the fast paced city life. Call soon, as there is not as much land inventory anymore. MLS#38470. \$39,900.



and Gardens.

REAL ESTATE

les

This mountain getaway offers spectacular Spacious, two-story home with 12" steel I beam supports. Upstairs has 3 bedrooms. 2 views on five acres of land. Just minutes from Lake Roberts, Sapillo Creek and Gila Hot Springs. baths and an office. Openliving room/dining area with a built-in bar. Downstairs has a bedroom mountain living with a covered deck to enjoy all and full bath plus a large room that could beused as an exercise/playroom or a even separate the wildlife and native landscape on the property.



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Custom architect designed home with solar panels and 2x6 walls for double insulation in Indian Hills. This lovely 3bedroom, 2 bath with tile and laminate flooring also features an office with built-ins but could be used as a 4thbedroom. Living room with high ceilings and lots of



LOT IN DOS GRIEGOS PHASE 5. Beautiful views to the West, southern exposure opportunity, wooded, & justminutes to town. Paved road, underground power/telephone and city water. National Forest access just down theroad. MLS#37787 \$65,600.

fireplaces, 3 bedrooms, two baths with a large covered deckto sit back and take in the fresh mountain air. Two bedrooms are large enough to fit multiple beds. The 3rdbedroom has a loft, for even more sleeping area. The property has two large barns and round pen and could beyour gateway to endless riding or hiking in the Gila. A real sanctuary to an abundance of turkey, deer, elk, blackbear, bobcat, lion and prime hawk and eagle habitat. Brand new 18kw Kohler Propane with auto/transfer switch forpowering on and off. Privacy.MLS#38601. \$599,000.

Beautiful, peaceful, 11.1 acres on Bear Creek Road. There is public electric near the property for easy improvements. Bear Creek runs through the north part of the property, and seller will provide a 1/8 acre -foot water right (split from owners adjacent property. MLS# 37944. \$39,900.

Home is all electric (no propane to maintain), pellet stove heating as well. Large garage with drive thru doors on each side. Stunning wood cabinetry in the kitchen. Laminate floors and tiles throughout, MLS#38368, \$299,000.

This newer maintained home offers peaceful

apartment/mother-in law suite! Close to hospital. medical offices, schools and shopping! Call today for an appointment.. MLS#38611 \$293,500

light. The living room flows into the kitchen with a breakfastbar and a dining area that opens up to a covered patio and large fenced-in backyard with a storage shed. There isalso room for your RV, camper, or side-by-side. MLS#38589 \$348,500.



This park is easy to operate and shows a history of steady income. There are 35 units all owned and all existing mobiles convey with the park. The monthly rental income can be \$18,000/monthly with some very minor rent adjustments. Great opportunity for an owner operator and handy person. In the park center is a doublewide manufactured home for an owner or operator to have full view of the park. Call today. MLS# 38610. \$1,450,000.



Lake Roberts Motel owners have continu ously remodeled since purchase, which had a major overhaul in 2012 on almost every inch of the original structures. There are 6 "cabin style suites" that are more than adorable, the rooms are spotless, decorated with love in a southwestern theme. This place is becoming not just a place to stay, but a destination to repeat customers. There is also a cabin rental in addition to owners retreat and store. A "Woodhenge" fire pit area is equipped with roasting forks, a cooking grate, and a generous supply of firewood, topped off with Tiki torches surrounding the pit to create a special ambiance. Sellers have many beautiful memories here and are seeking to pass the torch to new owners with their fresh ideas and energy! There is hardly a place with such wonderful surroundings, abundant wildlife and beautiful night skies with 4 gentle seasons. MLS# 37199. \$489,000.



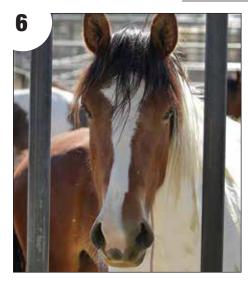
Solid, updated home in Indian Hills! Fenced, private backvard for wonderful outdoor space and your family pets!Newer roof and recently added mini split for heat/cool. Large, open living room and extra family room for lots ofliving space. Newer pellet stove in main living room for extra comfort. Close to town, schools, Hospital and Medical Facilities with a real country feel.. MLS#38545 . \$293,000

Awesome view lot overlooking the Mimbres Valley. Close to recreation in the Gila National Forest, Bear Canvon Reservoir and Lake Roberts. Underground utilities available including water. Site built or true modular homes allowed, 1300 minimum square footage. Want more acreage? Four additional 3/4 acre lots available on the south side. Septic needed. MLS#38272. \$219,000

MLS# 38506. \$175,000.

Clean and maintained duplex, 1 Bd 1 ba in each unit. Close to hospital and shopping.

Contents







2 EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK • **Creative Christmastime** Who needs stuff? by Elva K. Österreich

4 RAISINGDAD • **Somehow He Khows** All's right with the world by Jim and Henry Duchene

4 LETTERS TO THE EDITOR • **Readers Share** Space, zeitgeist and good

deeds

5 EVERYDAY OBSERVATIONS • Traditional Cuisine

Diverse dishes in America by Abe Villarreal

5 WRITING CONTEST • **Honorable Mention** Greasewood by Stan Walter

6 GUEST COLUMN • **Horses Part of History** Overpopulation narrative by Laurie Ford

7 SCOTTISH DISPATCH •

10 TUMBEWEEDS • One Step at a Time New footprint reveals by Kelly Carroll

11 ARTS EXPOSURE • Arts Scene

Upcoming area art happenings

13 ARTS EXPOSURE • Art to Order Artist welcomes visitor by Elva K. Österreich

14 ARTS EXPOSURE • 'Art Goes On' Chiricahua Gallery keeps moving by Dawn M. Aertes

15 ARTS EXPOSURE • **Making Murals** Celebrating diversity on the walls of Silver Citv

17 ARTS EXPOSURE • Lines of Force John Stermer retrospective

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ABOUT THE COVER:

"Hoot Owl" is an oil painting by Silver City's John H. Stermer and part of a retrospective show at the Francis McCray Gallery of Contemporary Art at Western New Mexico University commemorating Stermer's 100th birthday in 2020. The exhibit "Lines of Force," will be up through Dec. 9 and has an opening event Nov. 18 at 5:30 p.m. See story on Page 17.

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 What's Going on in Nov. Area events in full swing

22 WRITING CONTEST • **Honorable Mention**

25 ARTS EXPOSURE • Bridging Cultures

by Greg Smith

26 RED OR GREEN • **Dining Guide**

Restaurants in New Mexico

Swimming through the November sky

29 TALKING HORSES • 'Ain't Mis-Behavin''

19 40 DAYS AND 40 NIGHTS

The fall of winter by Efrem Carrasco

50 years of RenFaire

28 STARRY DOME • **Delphinus, The Dolphin** by Bert Stevens

ON THE ISIAND OF MULL

From Silver City to Scotland by Vivian Savitt

8 QUILT TALES • **Winning Quilts**

Just the right mix by Mia Kalish

comes to McCray Gallery

18 PUBLISHER'S NOTEBOOK • Art, Appreciation

The gratitude of art by Richard Coltharp

A horse is just a horse By Scott Thomson

30 YEARS IN SILVER CITY Women's Rights

What I wanted to say by Susan Golightly



"Desert Dumbfounder" by Dave Thomas is a simple substitution cipher; one letter stands for $\tilde{O} = M + X = \Lambda : \exists n \exists 0$ another. Solution is by trial and error. Solution will appear in next month's Desert Exposure. Send full solution, or just the Secret Words, to nmsrdave@swcp.com, and be recognized! TIPS:www.nmsr.org/secretword.htm and www.nmsr.org/cypher-how2.jpg

"JKI 2021 FIHLYDQ LC JKI LBDWAE SEQM KLFNIN CFLH JKIEF MINERBDJIM KDTEJDJ KDN IVXLNIM DQHLNJ IYIFZ CQDS JKDJ

KDN KENJLFEUDQQZ IVENJIM SEJKEB JKI TQH." - QDAFEI CLFM

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

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

Previous Solution: "JOIN US ON A TRAIL PROJECT - ALL TRAIL USERS WELCOME! THERE ARE MANY MORE MILES THAT NEED ATTENTION." - MELISSA GREEN OF THE GILA CHAPTER OF BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN *Secret Words: "WILDER HANGOUTS"

Congrats to #64 solvers : George Egert*, Will Adams*, Mike Arms* Skip Howard*, Joe Slothman, Claudette Gallegos*, and Shorty Vaiza*!

POSTCARDS FROM THE EDGE

Teresa Reynolds: Las Colcheras Quilt Guild president Dianne Herrmann, holding Geraldine quilt, described in . the October Desert Exposure; and Carol McGrath in Las Cruces enjoy their Desert Exposures.

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

RAISINGDAD . JIM AND HENRY DUCHENE

Somehow He Knows, Part I All's right with the world

y father. I don't know how he knows, but he does. He can't see to the end of the room, but whenever I'm doing any kind of work in the house, somehow he knows and a few seconds later he's situated himself right in the middle of it. It could be something as simple as my walking into the kitchen early in the wee morning hours to fix my wife a cup of coffee. I won't even turn on the light, but I'll see the light go on in the little in-law house in the front of our property. Then I'll see him walk out his door toward the main house. Sometimes I'm able to sneak back upstairs with our coffee before he makes it into the house, but sometimes...

"Where's my coffee?" my wife will ask when I walk back into our bedroom empty-handed.

"Um... ah... well..." I'll begin to explain.

"Your father?"

"Yeah."

For the last three days, I've

been trying to dust-mop and buff the oak floor downstairs. As usual, no sooner do I start to dust the floor, than he walks into the kitchen for his tea. And then, once he has his tea -- and also proving in the process that he doesn't need my wife to make it for him -- he sits himself in his favorite chair in the den to watch the TV. Sometimes, he even turns it on. These last few days, it's been on, and that meant I couldn't use the buffer. It makes too much noise.

Today, I finally got lucky and was able to finish dusting the floor. No dad. He was still in his little house. I quickly grabbed the buffer. Just as I was about to turn it on, guess who walked in? My father. Only, there I was with the buffer, standing between him and his favorite chair.

"Can't he see I'm busy in here?" I thought to myself.

So I pretended not to see him, and began fiddling with the buffer, giving him time to leave. Instead, he stood there looking at me fiddling with this and fussing with that. From the corner of my eye, I could see he was trying to figure out his next course of action. He stood there, not saying anything. No "Hi, how are you?" No "Good morning." No "You're in my way."

Smacking his lips, he attempted to let me know he was there. Smack, smack, smack! "Ahhhh, well..." Big sigh, then smack, smack, smack some more. He finally came up with a plan. Instead of coming straight in through the kitchen, he detoured down the hall and into the den.

"Oh, my..." he said to nobody in particular, plopping himself down in front of the TV. For some reason known only to him, he didn't bother to turn it on. He just sat there, watching a black screen. If she's around, my wife will usually turn it on for him, but today she's not around. She was upstairs, keeping herself busy and out of my way. My father, however, was never one to take a hint. Giving up, I began buffing the floor. I've never worked harder in my life than since I've retired, and there I was, building up a sweat, putting a fine finish on the floor. Back and forth. Back and forth. Back and forth. It was almost hypnotic. Very zen-like. My music was on, but I couldn't hear who put the bop in the bop shoo bop shoo bop because the buffer was so loud, but I swear I could still hear my father.

"Ah... oh oh... my my my..." After I finished, I figured I couldn't pretend not to see him any longer, so I asked him:

"Pop, do you want me to turn on the TV for you?"

"What?"

"Do you want me to turn on the TV for you?"

"What?"

"Do You Want Me To Turn On The TV For You?"

"Do I want you to what?" "TURN ON THE TV FOR

YOU!" "What are you yelling at me for?" If it wasn't for his constant lip-smacking, I would be more than happy to sit and watch TV with him, just no more baseball games. I'm still shell-shocked from the first year he moved in. I watched more baseball games in that one year than all the other years of my life put together, but I wanted him to feel at home, so I watched.

After that year, I told my wife, "Sweetie, I love my father, but I can't watch any more baseball." She understood. I think that's part of the reason she caters to my father more than she should.

I returned downstairs an hour later. He was still there. Sitting. In the den. The TV off. Eyes closed. Not moving. Was he asleep? Or was he... was he...

I stood there quietly.

- SMACK!
- I went back upstairs. All was right with the world.

Why is it the older I get, the earlier it gets late? theduchenebrothers@gmail. com, @JimDuchene

I went upstairs.



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Letters to the Editor

Giving Spirit

It's near the Christmas season again, even though there are no reindeers or snow yet. Donations for food for the southwest sector of Palomas would be very welcome by many poor families there. If we get enough money for food, we may be able to get adult diapers for sick and elderly people this year. But food is the main priority of director Maria Lopez Reyes, who's been helping people in this part of Palomas for three decades.

A month or so ago we got a large food donation from an elderly woman living in Deming named Ari who has worked in the chile plants with other members of her family here. She describes for us what hunger is like in Mexico by a bleak look on her face. She and her family donated as much as they could after seeing a sign we put up for donations

Please give for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Thanks! Call Marjorie Lilly at 575-313-3412 to see how you can help.

Wyou can neip. Marjorie Lilly Deming





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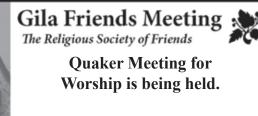
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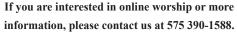
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EVERYDAY OBSERVATIONS . ABE VILLARREAL

Traditional Cuisine

Side dishes and main entrees reflect the diversity of America

n almost every home, of almost every community, somewhere there is a mom or a grandma awake before anyone else in the household doing what she knows best to bring a family together.

In some households, as the kids awaken, it is the smell of a freshly baked pie crust that greets their senses. Seems like the best way to start a day. The aroma of a flaky crust that will soon be filled with apples or peaches seems so American, and it is.

What is also American is the sight of rice and beans in a simmering pot. It might not be recognizable in some communities of this vast country, but it's as red, white andblue as jazz. Down in New Orleans and across the Gulf Coast, the combination of red beans and rice is what young Black kids grew up on, and it is what has helped unite a community that has been part of the multi-colored fabric of this nation for four centuries.

Mr. Louis Armstrong sung about many things but what he chose to say on paper was perhaps a message to us of what meant most to him. He often

signed his letters "red beans and ricely yours."

Outside of the bayou and well into the barrio, you can find beans and rice of a different kind. The kind that accompanies most meals and is usually scooped up with a tortilla. For Spanish-speaking households the pairing of refried beans and rice is a staple to any main course, and during the holidays when kids are waking up they are met with the aroma of tamales or menudo that have been on the stove since before the rooster crowed.

It isn't just on chilly mornings or during the holiday season; the food that we eat is a cultural passing-down of traditions, memories and storytelling. Looking down at a plate of turkey with gravy tells a history, sometimes a complicated one, of who we are as Americans from the time of our founding. It's a necessary history that for some can be hard to digest, but one that should be shared from generation to generation.

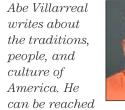
In households with families whose faces are not usually found in the school history books, their eating and cooking traditions are just as significant. The tamales in the Southwest, the creole cuisine of the deep south, it's all as American as corn on the cob.

Think of the husk that warmly embraces a red chile pork tamale. Its origin goes back to Mesoamerica, and its evolution handed down in different forms from Mayans and Aztecs to our tias and abuelas shows us how the people of our North American continent is made up of not just families but survivors.

One of my favorite aspects of being a hyphenated American is that I get to enjoy the riches of cultures as they come together in the kitchen and on my dinner plate. If you pay close attention, your next meal is telling the story of America. Your meats are influenced by early European settlers. Your sides of beans might be of the red kidney kind if you are of African descent and they may be of the pinto kind if you come from the indigenous populations of Mexico.

The sauces that you cover everything with are a taste of continents and places that seem far away but somehow are now part of your home.

Time spent with family and friends is a time of sharing laughter and life updates. Even more importantly it is a time of teaching and history as we celebrate the passing on of practices that continue to evolve and continue to bind us together one serving at a time.



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> Hacienda Really





excursion to the vacant desert north Honorable of town Mention

on a dirt road in the Kelly green pre-war Mercury family car.

reason for this

Roll the windows down, she ordered, and we all obeyed

We had arrived at her favorite place

to smell the greasewood in the rain.

When the rain is on the greasewood by the Rio Grande I remember mother fondly for natures gifts she wished to share, Her love for greasewood and desert sunsets. I still can feel her there.



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GUEST COLUMN · LAURIE FORD

Horses Part of Living History Overpopulation narrative could be mistaken

he Bureau of Land Management's online auction event for the Onaqui wild horses is over. Some, like Dreamcatcher, the tiny foal separated from her mother, went to good homes or sanctuaries but the majority will live out their lives in feedlot environments.

Now that the largest, and most brutal, roundup year ended on Sept. 30 – funneling roughly 18,000 more horses and burros into an unsustainable system - the BLM has accelerated the FY2022 roundup season - reiterating a false narrative "overpopulation" and "imof minent starvation" that never seems to pertain to the millions of livestock utilizing the same public lands. In October, close to 3,000 horses have already been removed with increasing Comprehensive Animal Welfare Program violations occurring and growing numbers of horses

being killed before even leaving the trap site. With the recent expansion of euthanasia guidelines simply being elderly are now grounds for instant death by captive bolt.

As current holding facilities near their capacity of 69,983, the BLM, rather than pursuing more humane long-term pastures, is seeking new contracts for more costly private intake facilities, such as the Winnemucca, Nevada site, - able to house 4,000 horses on 100 acres and closed to the public.

The largest single roundup in U.S. history is currently taking place over 3.4 million acres of designated wild horse habitat in Wyoming – a state that entices tourists with visions of wild horses and the opportunity to witness "the living history of the West." Most grazing permits on this land are held by the powerful Rock Springs Grazing Associ-



Wild horse populations are endangered by BLM policies removing them from their designated habitats. (Photos by Laurie Ford)

ation who own 500,000 checkerboard acres and are the driving force behind the roundup.

The BLM is removing 3,555 of 5,000 horses citing "overpopulation" - meaning the horses are consuming more forage than their allocated 10 percent on land where they are, by law, intended to be the principal recipients of the resources - food and water.

The goal is to further limit their forage to 9 percent and allocate the remaining 91 percent to livestock - an amount which

grazing program permit holders pay 1.35 per cow/calf pair or five sheep per month - the

could support 16,000 horses. The price tag to "facilitate this decades old partnership" between the BLM and RSGA is close to \$175 million -- the cost of the roundup and lifetime care for the horses. In addition, taxpayers will bear the expense of the hundreds of thousands of privately owned sheep and cattle remaining on land designated as wild horse habitat. Under the federal livestock

same as in 1985 - to graze their livestock on our public lands for personal profit. Of the country's 21,000 permit holders, producing less than 2 percent of the nation's beef, over half are held by wealthy associations, like the RSGA, billionaires and multibillionaire corporations such as Sinclair Oil and the Hilton Corp.. The annual cost of the program, including millions spent on services carried out by other government agencies that benefit the livestock industry, is close to \$1 billion.

One such indirect cost is the wild horse and burro program whose FY2021 budget was \$91.2 million. Leaving the horses on their designated habitat, and reducing or removing livestock grazing from these 27 million acres, would cost nothing, save millions and still leave over 200 million acres for livestock grazing that decades of GAO reports and BLM agency records reveal to be the primary cause of rangeland degradation.

The objective is to reduce the wild horse and burro population to 27,000 - almost the same number that provoked the passing of the 1971 Wild Free Roaming Horse and Burros Act to protect them from "fast disappearing from the American scene."

As of March 1, 2021, the on

the 18,000 gathered took place after March 1, bringing the excess numbers, including 2021 foals, down to an estimated 50,000 that still need to be removed.

Yet, the BLM is seeking additional funding to remove upwards to 150,000 horses - three times the number on the range today -- over the next 10 years. Simultaneously, they continue to leave behind non-viable and minimal reproducing breeding herds that will lead to more deaths than births and eventually zero out weaker herds.

One only needs to look at these numbers to see the lunacy behind a program that wants to continue spending tax dollars to look under every rock for a horse or burro and remove every foal the moment it drops to the ground.

Undoubtedly, the BLM will blame the horses for their own demise.

Laurie Ford moved to New Mexico 14 years ago. Photography and horses have always

been her



passion. For the past five years she has been travelling around the west, camping in wild horse areas to observe and photograph the animals in their natural environment.



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range population of wild horses and burros was 86,189 - an excess of 59,404. The majority of



Mares and their foals are sometimes separated too soon during roundup attempts to reduce horse populations and make room for grazing cattle.

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<u>SCOTTIGH DISPATCH • VIVIAN SAVITT</u> On the Island of Mull Building a life at Achaban House

chaban House on the island of Mull, sits on a grassy incline above Loch Pottie where mist often prevails. Its liminal quality is captivating: I watch how mist floats and hovers gauze-like, even engulfing the reflection of the loch's surface. In no time, I begin to feel its moist presence and wonder whether I will be transmuted into water droplets.

What I also feel on this island west of mainland Scotland, is a dreamy, gray peacefulness — a mindset that may have lured monasticism to the nearby island of Iona in the 6th century. Perhaps the same spell that enabled Christianity to take hold in Scotland, also affected Matt Oliver, a research ecologist, when he first visited the island.

I spent several days at Achaban House and learned that Matt's experience of coming to Mull, exemplifies how young persons everywhere attempt to fulfill their dreams. Times were not going well in Aberdeen, Scotland, neither for Matt nor his partner, Rachel, a marine biologist. Both hold PhD degrees, but an academic credit crunch — low funding at his university - and an unfulfilling government job for Rachel, motivated them to contemplate how to make a living in the islands. Previously Matt had secured grants for "a panorama of projects" doing ecological research in places as varied as Africa and Poland.

The pair envisioned running a hostel-type accommodation, and time seemed right to look for something to buy. Matt said he "took meaning in the task at hand."

Built in 1863 as a manse or minister's residence by the Duke of Argyll, Achaban House had been on the market two years when Matt saw it listed online. It was constructed of island-sourced red granite with three-feet thick walls. A pre-historic standing stone, perhaps from the Bronze Age, was extant on the property



Matt, Rachel and Hamish Oliver with the loch in the background. (Courtesy photo)

ground in tourism agreed. The owner also thought it a sensible idea and liked the young couple's enthusiasm for becoming part of the island 's community.

What happened next was the almost predictable series of ups and downs where real estate is concerned. Matt and Rachel's Aberdeen home went on the market and sold two months later. In Fife, however, at the home of Matt's mother, there were offers and counteroffers, promising prospects, then withdrawals. While financing hung in limbo, a developer had expressed interest in Achaban House. Matt had to secure a bank loan quickly or risk loosing the property.

As soon as he told the bank that he was a research scientist with no experience in the hospitality industry, financing was denied. Then one of Matt's good friends viewed his mother's house on a social visit and fell in love with it. An offer from him was eventually accepted which enabled the purchase of Achaban House in May 2017.

Six months later, during a freezing storm, the couple moved in.

"It was so cold," Matt recalled, "even the movers took breaks sitting in their van to stay warm."

Matt wondered if he had made a horrible mistake. Remodeling ensued and took about six months. and spruce trim was added, plumbing updated.

The first year, Achaban's dayto-day operation was grueling work for only two persons working 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Rachel often prepared meals every day for 14 people at a time. Even after Matt's mother took charge of laundering the linen during their second year, it was obvious that the original business plan had to change.

Season three incorporated change. Linen was outsourced and a cook was hired. A threeday minimum stay was instigated. Finally, there was time to get the garden truly underway.

One day, a Scottish National Trust officer stopped by to report that a footpath had been proposed on the loch edge directly in front of Achaban House. Matt was asked to serve on the committee to oversee its completion.

Matt and Rachel decided to marry and took their vows facing the standing stone — to "set their vows in stone."

During the Pandemic and Scotland's lockdown, Achaban

House was paralyzed for four months — then operated with restrictions for four more. On a positive note, the Olivers conceived a baby during that period.

Since July 2021, Matt and Rachel have enjoyed a strong season. With parenthood, the demands of their lifestyle continue, but they still find time "as naturalists to engage with the environment." Matt participates in bird counts and Rachel, an open water swimmer, observes the marine environment first-hand. Their organic garden should see its first asparagus harvest next year.

Overall, Matt is confident that their island lifestyle will allow "a feral upbringing for baby Hamish," similar to his own childhood in Fife. Dreams can come true.

Silver City writer Vivian Savitt has been part of the Desert Exposure team for



many years. She has had regular pieces appearing in the paper including the Southwest Gardner and then Maneuvering Elderdom columns. Now Savitt has hit the European road and is sharing her view as a New Mexican abroad.

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adjacent to the entrance.

In May 2016, Matt and Rachel took a proper look at the house — a six-bedroom property on the water — and were shown around by the previous owner. Its potential was obvious, and Matt's mother who had a back"The wood chips in the ceiling looked like shiny porridge," Matt said.

Pasqual, a Glaswegian plasterer from Rwanda, was hired to help strip the wallpaper and plaster walls and ceilings. Oak



Achaban House was formerly a manse or minister's residence built in 1863 in Mull, Scotland. (Photo by Vivian Savitt)

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color and variety.

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QUILT TALES • MIA KALISH Winning Quilts Just the right mix of art and technique

hy did that quilt win?" I blurted, eyeing both the blue ribbon and the distinctly different character of the quilt before me. "Oh, you should never say that," my companion chastised, "what if I had made that quilt?"

Well, she hadn't, but this particular quilt was so very different, more "traditional" than anything else on display, that it raised a question I had never asked before: "How are quilts evaluated?" This is to say, are there judging criteria? What are they? Who judges?

The Las Colcheras Quilt Guild

had a special show during the final weekend of the Southern New Mexico State Fair. There were 58 quilts entered in 12 lots, each specifying a different size, type or manner of creation, for example, Lot 5: Group Quilts; Lot 7: Art Quilts; or, Lot 8: Wall Quilts. The Guild submission process is designed to allow everyone to participate so there are no limits in the number of entries a quilter may submit. They idea is to have fun, show your work and maybe win a prize.

Different quilt shows have different categories. For example, the Broward Quilt Expo in Miramar, Florida, divides their categories by single/multiple makers. In Vermont, they have Best Modern, Best Pictorial and Best Quilt Outside of the U.S.

Shows will often have special challenges. In the 2019 Las Colcheras show, the Guild president's challenge was red or green. Those accepting the challenge had to choose either the red batik or green batik provided and then could use only white, black and shades of gray to develop the pattern.

So, the complexion of shows varies from place to place and from sponsor to sponsor. With this wide diversity, judging is both an art and a science. Many



Mia Kalish shows off her award from the Southern New Mexico State Fair. (Courtesy Photo)

shows employ judges who are certified by the National Asso-

ciation of Certified Quilt Judges and often the judges' information is posted prominently on the show site. Judges generally use some type of evaluation form or scorecard. Quilts may be judged in their own merits or compared to others in the class.

There are eight specific criteria that cover the visual impact, design and workmanship. The quilts must be clean and well manicured, without any stray threads or pet hairs. The quilts should be the same width top, bottom and down the sides. Binding should be full with mitered corners sewn closed. Other criteria are quilt basics: sharp



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"Hanging Gardens," is one of Mia Kalish's favorites at the Southern New Mexico State Fair because she enjoys Jane Sassaman's work. This quilt uses Sassaman fabric with coordinating colors and quilting motifs. (Photo by Mia Kalish)

points, even stitching, good construction.

Design and visual impact are perhaps the two most important features, judging by the points available for these criteria across the various scorecards. Visual impact is about whether or not the quilt "grabs" you. Is it mesmerizing? Do you want to look at it endlessly? Do you want to take it home? Although there is a specific judging category for visual impact, the Viewer's Choice Award also measures this impact and is the only award not decided by the judges. It is determined by all the votes that are cast by visitors to the show. There is a specific period during which votes are cast and counted. Once closed, the winning quilt is determined and the appropriate ribbon awarded for all to see.

Quilt design is crucial. The Association of Connecticut Fairs (ACF) judging sheet lists the criteria as "has unity, rhythm and balance; proportional to quilt size; quilting design complements pattern. Originality." The San Juan Quilt Guild entry form asks for the pattern, and if it was made from a kit. Las Colcheras asks whether the design is totally original, that is, not a pattern and not a derivative of someone else's work. Designs based on traditional or commercial patterns, or inspired by a workshop, class or book, etc., must be credited in the quilt description.

The criterion that I found most surprising, since I never see it talked about, is the appropriateness of the quilting. What we most hear about is stitch length and stitch consistency. And these are important because they affect the overall appearance of the quilt and speak to the quilter's skill and attention to detail. Las Colcheras Quilt Guild's most recent show had a separate category for quilts that that been professionally quilted, separating those quilts done by their makers and those that had had outside help but the ACF judging sheet asks specifically if the quilting design complements the pattern.

Having spent a good deal of time perusing quilting books, blogs and videos, I have seen an extensive collection of quilting motifs. While there is substantial attention to design and the beauty that results from various combinations of the patterns, people seldom talk about how appropriate one choice over another is for the quilt itself. Yet, the judging criteria ask: Is the quilting appropriate for the quilt? When I quilted Flowers in Burano for the "Say Yes To Kaffe Collective Challenge" in early 2021, I used a vertical wavelet pattern because Burano is an Island off the coast of Venice. Simulating the gentle waves in the bay seemed appropriate to the quilt that honored the little Island. I thought it was just a design choice that I was making. It wasn't until I started doing research for this article that I saw that it was more than just my simple design choice: Selection of a quilting pattern is a feature that the judges look for and use as a measure of the quilt's quality. Consistent density is also evaluated. Experienced quilters know that intermixed dense and sparse areas of quilting will prevent the finished quilt from hanging straight, something that judges notice right away.

But what is not necessarily included in the official criteria is how appropriate the quilting is for how that quilt will be used. Dense quilting makes the quilt stiffer, less cuddly, where less dense quilting with more widely spaced lines and motifs make a quilt that is perfect for wrapping up with on chilly winter's nights.

Mia Kalish lives in tiny San Miguel, NM. She began sewing couture clothing at 16, got away from it as life took over, and then became fascinated with the hugeness of quilting about 5 years ago. Her favorite projects are lap and pet quilts. She sews on her Bernina 475QE. Follow her on Instagram @Joe'sRoomQuilts.





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TUMBLEWEEDS . KELLY CARROLL One Step at a Time Fossilized footprints reveal human habitation earlier than thought

conducted at White Sands National Park in New Mexico has uncovered the oldest known human footprints in North America. The discovery reveals evidence of human occupation in the Tularosa Basin beginning at least 23,000 years ago, thousands of years earlier than previously thought.

"These incredible discoveries illustrate that White Sands Na-

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ew scientific research tional Park is not only a worldclass destination for recreation but is also a wonderful scientific laboratory that has yielded groundbreaking, fundamental research," Superintendent Marie Sauter said.

> The fossilized human footprints were buried in multiple layers of gypsum soil on a large playa in White Sands. Seeds embedded in the footprints were radiocarbon dated and analyzed

Guesthouses · Gallery

Nature Preserve

by the U.S. Geological Survey to establish their age. The research dramatically extends the range for the coexistence of humans and Pleistocene (ice age) megafauna and confirms that humans were present in North America before the major glacial advances at the height of the last ice age closed migration routes from Asia. The findings are detailed in an article published in the journal "Science."

"This study illustrates the process of science - new evidence can shift long-held paradigms," USGS Acting Rocky Mountain Regional Director Allison Shipp said.

White Sands contains the world's largest-known collection of Pleistocene age (ice age) fossilized footprints in the world and has been recognized as a mega-tracksite since 2014.

In addition to human footprints, tracks from the Columbian mammoth, saber-toothed cat, dire wolf and other ice age animals have been discovered. More information about the park's fossilized footprints is available at https://www.nps. gov/whsa/learn/nature/fossilized-footprints.htm.

Scientists from White Sands, the National Park Service, U.S. Geological Survey, Bournemouth University, University of Arizona and Cornell University, in connection with the park's Native American partners, have collaborated and consulted on this research.

White Sands protects and preserves the world's largest gypsum dune field, at least 23,000 years of archaeology, adaptive flora and fauna, as well as Works Progress Administration-era historic pueblo buildings.



White Sands National Park's David Bustos delicately reveals new fossilized footprints below the surface of the playa. (NPS Photo)

For more information visit Kelly Carroll is chief of www.nps.gov/whitesands.

interpretation for White Sands National Park.





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ARTS EXPOSURE • ELVAK. ÖSTERREICH Arts Scene Upcoming area art happenings

SILVER CITY



Print by Marco Sánchez

• Light Art Space, 209 West Broadway in Silver City, features "Bound," a juried printmaking exhibition through Nov. 13 and "Saints, Superheroes and the Demonized," woodcuts, linocuts and intaglio by Marco Sánchez through Nov. 27. Also, beginning Nov. 19, will be an exhibition called "Fiercely Independent," with the Silver City Art Association independent artists held Nov. 19-27, with a reception from 4-7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 19. Light Art Space hours are 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday to Saturday and by appointment. Info: lightartspace.com or 520-240-7075.



"Bulldogger" by John Stermer

• At the Western New Mexico University McCray Gallery the John Stermer Retrospective will run through Dec. 16. The exhibit opens at 5:30 p.m., Nov. 18 with a gallery talk at 6:30 p.m. Info: 575-538-6273.

DEMING

Center is the annual **Recv**- raising event to support workcle Show which is sponsored by Luna County and "Keep Luna County Beautiful." Featured will be pieces of art made from 90 percent recycled materials and crafted by artists of all ages. Intake is 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday, Nov. 1. The center is located at 100 S. Gold St., in Deming, and is open from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday to Saturday. Info: 575-546-3663.

CLOUDCROFT

• The Cloudcroft Art Society's annual Holiday Art and Crafts Show and Sale features art by the society's local artists as framed and matted paintings in many art mediums, photography and digital photo art, greeting cards, jewelry, pottery, glass art, fiber dolls, wood and gourd carvings and more. The artists will be on hand for a meet and greet opportunity. Times and dates are 10 a.m.-3 p.m. every Saturday in October-December weather permitting. It's at the east end of Burro Street where it intersects with Swallow Place in the old Red Brick School House that also houses the Nivison Library. Info: sznana@totacc.com.

MAGDALENA

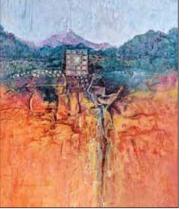


"Railroad Crossing" by Scott Martin

• "Adjacent and On the Side" large format photos by Scott Martin exhibition continues through Nov. 20 at Kind of a Small Array, 106 N. Main, Magdalena. San Antonio, Texas artist Martin said he loves deserts of the world and the Chihuahuan desert is the closest to him. Info: www.facebook.com/kindofasmallarray or 210-473-9062.

LAS CRUCES

• The students in the Metals Club at New Mexico State University are hosting the **39th** Annual NMSU Jewelry Sale on 7 a.m.-7 p.m., Monday, Nov. 1. The sale will be located at the coffee shop in the NMSU Book Store on University next to the Department of Art, 1400 E. Uni-• November at the Deming versity Avenue. This is a fund-



Art by the Tenners

exhibit, "Southwest Forms," opens Friday, Nov. 5, with a 4 to 6 p.m. reception during the First Friday Art Ramble in Downtown Las Cruces. An art demonstration by weaver Carol Eggers is scheduled for 5 p.m. Guitarist Lorenzo Montez will enliven the early evening event with music. The gallery is located at 340 N. Mesquite St. and hours are 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 2-5 p.m. Saturday. Info: 575-640-3502.

• The Branigan Cultural Center features "Place and **Re-Place: Las Cruces Ur**ban Renewal, 1960-1975," a new exhibition that provides a multi-faceted examination of the urban renewal efforts in Las Cru-



Urban Renewal Exhibit

ces that dramatically changed the nature of its Downtown and surrounding neighborhoods. The exhibition runs through Jan. 15, 2022. The museum is located at 501 N. Main St. and is open 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Saturday 9am to 4:30pm. Info: 575-541-2154.

• The Tombaugh Gallery



Watercolor on YUPO by Cheryl Lynn Nelson

presents "YUPO Watercolor Abstracts," an exhibit by artist Cheryl Lynn Nelson. The exhib-

ART SCENE

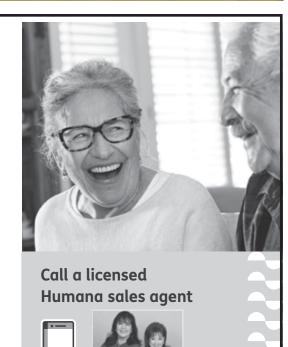
continued on page 12



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shops, field trip activities for the students, and visiting lecturers. Info: motoko@nmsu.edu.

• In November, Mesquite Art Gallery exhibits the work of a group of artists known as the Ten O'Clock Club (they call themselves Tenners, 10@10, as they create art at least 10 minutes each day, and meet at 10 o'clock on the 10th of each month). The of Medicare Advantage plans, Humana works to help you get the care you need.

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ART SCENE

continued from page 11

it opens with an artist reception on Sunday, Nov. 7, with a reception11a.m.-1 p.m. The show continues through Nov. 28. Nelson's paintings are YUPO watercolor abstracts, a compelling and unique alternative to traditional art papers. The Tombaugh Gallery is at 2000 S. Solano and is part of the Unitarian Universalist Church. Masks are required. The gallery is open Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

• Agave Artists' Gallery,



"Dover" by Roy Van Der Aa

2250 Calle De San Albino in Mesilla, features the work of Roy van der Aa in November. These painted collages are a way of re-imagining landscape painting. Traditional landscape is a static snapshot which freezes a scene. Born in Amsterdam, Holland in 1956, van der Aa grew up in Montreal, Canada. He is a founding member of ArtForms, the sponsoring organization for Las Cruces' annual Love of Art celebration. Gallery hours are 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday-Sunday. Info: agaveartists@gmail.com.

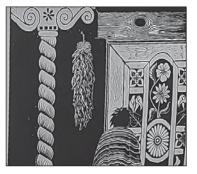
• The Doña Ana Arts Council is showcasing the Southern Chapter of the New Mexico Watercolor Society's (NMWS-SC) annual juried show titled



"Desert Child" by Ruth Vreeland

"Eureka! Inspiration in Watercolor" through Nov. 29. Patrons will see a wide variety of subjects represented in 36 paintings selected by juror **Robin Lee Makowski. Marisa Sage**, director and head curator of the New Mexico State University Art Museum, will judge the works for specific awards. The award ceremony will be held at 1p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 13. There are 29 artists in the show, and several have received regional and national awards for their work.

Learn more about the NMWS, founded in 1969, and the Southern Chapter at nmwatercolorsociety.org. The **Doña Ana Arts & Cultural Center** is at 250 W. Amador St. in Las Cruces and is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekdays, and from noon-5 p.m. the second Satureday of the month. Info: www.daarts.org or 575-523-6403.



"Pure New Mexico" by GabrieleTeich

• The Las Cruces Art Association's Member Show will be held at The Big Picture Gallery in Las Cruces. The association is happy to be displaying its work after a long hiatus. Members engage in a wide variety of mediums. The exhibit opens on Nov. 9 and will remain through December. Awards will be given and visitors are encouraged to vote for their favorite piece.

The Big Picture is located at 2001 E. Lohman Ave. Suite 109. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

www.desertexposure.com



"Seascape" by Arlene Zucker

in Mesilla, is well represented by gallery members who rotate the galleries artists' work monthly. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily with limited access. Info: 575-522-2933, www. mesillavalleyfinearts.com



La Calvera Catrina Dia de los Muertos Exhibition

• La Calvera Catrina Dia de los Muertos Exhibition, is a colorful and joyful show of large-scale skeleton sculptures at the Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main St. Discover seven 8-foot-tall sculptures created by Los Angeles-based artist Ricardo Soltero and installed in the museum's Shannon Gallery. Organized by Denver Botanic Gardens, the exhibition will be on view from through Jan. 8, 2022. The Branigan Cultural Center is open from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday. Info: www.las-cruces. org/Museums or at 575-541-2154. • The Las Cruces Museum



Dish Iznik Turkey Ottoman

of Art, 491 N. Main St., features "Allure of the Near East: Treasures of the Huntington Museum of Art," through Jan. 22, 2022. This exhibition explores the





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Auction by R.B. Burnham & Co. There will be approximately 250 lots of rugs and other Native American Art offered. Proceeds benefit Navajo weavers, Las Cruces Museums and the Foundation for Las Cruces Museums.



• The Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery, 2470-A Calle de Guadalupe, across from the historic Fountain Theatre features two local artists for the month November: Arlene Tugel of and Naida Zucker. Tugel likes the pure, glowing color that can be achieved with watercolor, her preferred medium. Zucker, a mixed media artist, combines gelatin monoprinting (hectography) with digital photography. She produces one-of-a-kind art pieces. First American Bank

arts and crafts traditions of the Near East and the West's historic fascination with its decorative items. The works, some of which are centuries old, include objects meant for palaces as well as ordinary homes, evoking a rich and comprehensive vision of daily life in the Near East, both recent and long ago. The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday to Friday, and from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday. Info: www.las-cruces.org/ museums.

Visit Desert Exposure's Virtual Gallery at www.desertexposure.com/ virtual-gallery

ARTS EXPOSURE • ELVAK. ÖSTERREICH

Art to Order Setting up in Silver City, artist welcomes visitors

lan Greene has been hooked on art since he was in middle school.

The Silver High School graduate has had an up-and-down life. He was born in Silver City on Easter Sunday in 1955, joined the Navy for two years, was released under honorable conditions and has been in and out of prison ever since.

Walking into his business, Rainbow Thug Gallery at 313 E. 13th St. in Silver City, there is art - paintings, metal sculpture, a refurbished bookshelf, and other curiosities. Many of the paintings are created on frayed squares of cloth, prison sheets torn into squares to make canvasses for an unstoppable artist to keep his work going on.

"This is just a chunk of bedsheet," Greene said, indicating an eerie piece with a study depicting numerous hands grasping prison bars. "I was limited in my resources so I just primered a sheet and left the rough edges."

But his gallery is not only prison sheets, but there are also older pieces there, found after 40 years stored in his sister's closet. He enthusiastically walks through the homemade gallery space talking and explaining the work there.



Alan Greene in his Rainbow Thug Gallery. (Photo by Elva K. Österreich)

Greene works and lives in the same place his artwork lives. He has built an easel, pulls out his box and he is off, happily creating his works in paint.

"This is how I work," he said. "Water here, paint there and I just hold forth. I also have a magic wand just in case I get in a tough spot – made it myself."

In between prison stays Greene has also left a legacy of murals. His work can be found in Albuquerque, Las Cruces and Silver City. He said he is available by commission for anything anyone wants painted, from portraits, to pets to large-scale murals. He is also a sign-painter.

One of his specialties is homoerotica, but these pieces are tastefully placed in his home gallery and not in your face when you walk in. And they are not always obvious, he said. The image mentioned above with the hands and the bars is really very erotic "because it's about how a man holds himself."

"I just love to paint," Greene said. "I like to make interesting wall art that is attractive and sometimes just pretty."

He calls his life in Silver City his latest prison sabbatical. But he is known behind the bars as an artist.

"I went to Hobbs (prison) and they hooked me up with paint and fabric and I started painting as soon as I got there," he said. "Then they transferred me to Clayton and the same thing happened. The state of New Mexico doesn't understand forgiveness or closure. I came out with all

these small paintings and as soon as I got here, I started making these big paintings."

Greene said people can call him with any of their art needs, he will paint, sculpt and make signs to order.

"I have plenty of paint and am looking forward to getting really busy here," he said.





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ARTS EXPOSURE . DAWN M. AERTS 'Art Goes On' Chiricahua Gallery keeps things moving

hen a mean haboob swept across Rodeo, New Mexico, last summer, it left a half-inch of sand at the historic Chiricahua Gallery with a layer of dust that settled atop cabinets, on walls and on some of the artwork.

"It was a pretty awful sight," said gallery coordinator Linda Jakse, who was the first on the scene. "Everything inside looked brown and as I stepped forward, I noticed a distinct set of footprints in the sand - mine!"

But old galleries like this one, don't easily give up. It wasn't long before local volunteers and

members arrived. They came armed with five vacuum cleaners, dust cloths and big brooms. "It took us most of a day to get things back to normal, back to show condition," Jakse said. "We all just pushed our sleeves up and joined in the cleaning."

You might say that neither a mean haboob or a "pesky" pandemic could stop their mission: To bring talented artists together and to share their creativity and passion for art with the community.

"We know the pandemic has shuttered doors over the past year," said Julie Prior-Magee,



The Chiricahua Art Gallery welcomes visitors to the Holiday Show 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday Nov. 13 and 14. Music wil be provided by Dennis and Christina Hanish, guitarist Billy Chadborn and Sue Burkhart. (Photo by Dawn M. Aerts)

board member and vice president of the non-profit, cooperative. "So, The Art Goes On' theme is an important message for us and we hope to remind the community -- 'Hey, we're still here!' We're celebrating, and to relay just how important art is for all of us."

Prior-Magee said the Holiday Show, set for Nov. 13-14. will highlight 35 artists who create a diverse slate of work including photography, Southwest landscape and nature-inspired paintings, fiber and tapestry art; unique jewelry designs, in addition to an exciting mix of ceramics, pottery and other handcrafted items.

"There will always be challenges," said Prior-Magee, who oversees projects at the historic building, "But since spring 2020, we have been closed, temporarily re-opened and then closed again. So we're looking ahead to a brighter tomorrow."

Jakse, who hangs new work and updates displays yearround, is excited to show visitors the interior renovations too. "When our doors were closed, we were able to focus on interior projects, and that was making the best use of our time."

According to Jakse and Prior-Magee, it's the resiliency of the arts community that keeps the gallery moving forward. The November Holiday Show weekend will feature a line-up of local musicians. "For board members, it's about bringing the arts and cultural events to this little community," Prior-Magee said. "We hope to highlight the diversity we have among artists and crafters, as well as the work of three newly juried artists -- Di Massey, Diane DeLaney and Alice Wakefield.

Massey, of Animas, New Mexico, is known for her fanciful paintings of farm animals and items she turns into one-ofa-kind sculptures. Wakefield has completed 300 hand-knitted projects over the years and draws her inspiration from 40 years of travel and time spent in Abiquiu and Taos, New Mexico; Alaska; California; and Arizona.

DeLaney, a native of Florida, is known for transforming raw clay into hand-layered "Totem" sculptures ideal for gardens. Her interest in art began in photography and oil painting, and more recently a move to Arizona where the Chiricahua Mountains has inspired her work in sculptures layered in rich, color schemes.

The Holiday Show invites neighbors, visitors, and artists to share in the work of the Chiricahua Art Gallery. "We have a handful of artists who were part of this gallery from the beginning," Jakse said. "We have come through many challenges together - and the 'Art Goes On.'"

The event will feature a raffle-drawing to win a vintage, handcrafted quilt by artisan Trudy Kimble. Raffle tickets are \$3 each or four for \$10 through Nov. 13. All proceeds go to the Gallery Scholarship for Youth. Tickets available now through Nov. 13 at the Gallery. See www. chiricahuagallery.net.

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> ~0r~ Spicy Flank Steak served with greens, roasted potatoes and veggies

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ARTS EXPOSURE • CHARMAINE WAIT

Making Murals Silver City mural celebrates diverse crafts at market

new Silver City mural depicts New Mexican folk arts and depicts the crafts and skills displayed at the town's Maker's Market.

The mural, done by artist Carlos Callejo, is located adjacent to the Main Street Plaza where the market comes alive every week.

The concept for the mural comes from reflecting the wide variety of artists in the state and celebrates their many talents and the culture of New Mexico, stated a press release from the Silver City MainStreet Program.

The mural is located on the south side of the Encore building at 704 N. Bullard and faces what will be a future small park and a pedestrian entrance into the Main Street Plaza.

grant from the New Mexico Department of Tourism's Clean and Beautiful Grant Program to be used for three separate beautification projects.

"New Mexico has a long tradition of folk arts that truly make this land of enchantment, enchanting," Callejo said.

The mural depicts pottery making, weaving, wood carving, folk music, ballet folklorico, santos, glass blowing, basket weaving, woodworking, farming and cooking and metal working.

The Silver Street MainStreet Program described the mural as "beautiful, colorful and has so many elements, it is truly a joy to look at." The organization, which promotes downtown Sil-

The mural was funded by a ver City, said it hopes the mural will inspire young people to learn and continue the culture of New Mexico folk arts.

> Callejo, an El Paso native who grew up in Los Angeles, has painted several murals in Silver City before. He painted the mural that is housed in the Murray Ryan Visitor Center and this past year also completed a mural at the southwest corner of Theodore and Richard streets, in one of Silver City's oldest neighborhoods on Chihuahua Hill. That mural depicts the cultural and economic influences of Silver City.

> Callejo has more than 30 years of experience in coordinating, directing and executing public arts projects and has earned a reputation for being an expert in creating murals.

> Callejo has played a major role in more than 40 mural projects both nationally and internationally. He has received public recognition and formal commendations from public officials, art institutions, schools and community groups who have benefited from his artistic talents and his dedication to community empowerment.

Blanca Aldana, Eddie Diaz and Javier Marrufo assisted Callejo with the mural.

The Clean and Beautiful Grant Program funds projects and initiatives that contribute to the following established goals, as identified through Keep America Beautiful and the Litter Control and Beautification Act: end littering, reduce waste, beautify communities, empower youth, and increase program capacity.

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." Visit www.silvercitymainstreet. com.



Carlos Callejo and Blanca Aldana worked on a mural in Silver City funded through the New Mexico Department of Tourism's Clean and Beautiful Grant Program. (Courtesy Photo)

Rainbow Thug Gallery OUTSIDER ART & HOMOEROTICA



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Carlos Callejo working on the mural facing a future parklet and pedestrian entrance to the Main Street Plaza. (Courtesy Photo)

Lines of Force: A Retrospective of Fine Artwork by the Late John Stermer



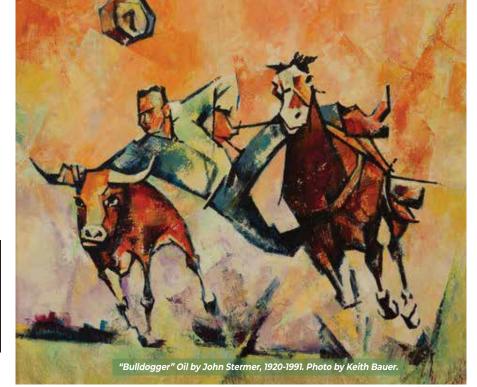
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ARTS EXPOSURE • PAULA GEISLER AND ELVA K. ÖSTERREICH

Lines of Force

Artist encourages Grant County to move into a new future

'n 2020, John Stermer would have been 100 years old. John and his wife, Lucy Anna, were pillars of Silver City society with John as a mover in the arts world and Lucy a politician who served several years as mayor of the town.

"My dad and mom were leaders in Silver City in the 70s and 80s," said Dorothy Stermer, who now lives in Albuquerque. "I think dad and mom cared about politics and art, but it didn't stop there. Dad founded the arts council, was on the New Mexico Arts Commission for 10 years and brought money and art projects down to Silver."

John recognized the mines were not going to last as the economic engine driving Grant County and had the vision for an arts community.

"He cared about the people and the place," Dorothy said. "He saw the community would have to evolve and that has happened."

Another of the Stermer's daughters, Peggy Stermer-Cox, said the family and others who knew John and his role in the Silver City arts scene wanted to keep him in people's minds so a retrospective of John's work was planned for his 100th birthday year. That was circumvented by the coronavirus, but now the show goes on.

A gala opening with libations, live music (quiet), and snacks will take place 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 18 at The Francis McCray Gallery of Contemporary Art, 1000 West College Ave. The event concludes with an artists' talk. The retrospective continues through Dec. 9 during regular Western New Mexico University hours.

"It's been about 30 years since he died and 25 (1995) since there was a retrospective in Grant County," Peggy said. "It's good to keep the artworks fresh in people's minds."

"We start when my dad was in his late teens and early 20s, through until his death at age 70," she said. 'We hope the viewer will enjoy seeing the journey and transformation of the artist."

Lucy is now 93 and will attend the opening of the show, Peggy said.

Stermer was a classically trained figurative abstractionist whose artwork is in many private and public collections in the West including Grant County. His large ouevre of paintings, prints and drawings are displayed at the retrospective, "Lines of Force," that opened in October.

"Lines of Force" refers to a painting technique where an artist amplifies and extends the gestures, thrust and motion of their motifs, either subtly or markedly, using color passages, lines and picture planes. The result is a composition that is electric and full of energy. One does not merely "look" at a Stermer; one enters a dialogue with his work, according to the show's curator and longtime Silver City artist Paula Geisler.

"John sought to perceive, understand and express the artistry within all forms," Geisler said. "He talked of the 'Circle in the Square,' an idea that permeated art salons in Barcelona and Europe since the time of Gaudi up to the present day."

Proponents believe all matter can be understood as a series of interrelated spheres, hemispheres, cubes, cylinders and truncated cones.

"The building blocks of life," John would say.

Giesler said he was an outstanding teacher, without ego, and always acknowledged that artists all stand on the shoulder of others who came before us walking the artist's path toward enlightenment. Like most figurative artists, John felt a sense of accomplishment in his mastery Peggy said a key theme for of the human form, including his retrospective is the develop- portraiture. Regular life-drawing was part of John's discipline



"Exit the Clown" by John Stermer

as a working, established artist throughout his entire career.

From his earliest efforts, living in upstate New York, John drew and painted people and places. When World War II happened, John joined the Navy and served in the Pacific as a Seabee. When the war ended, he returned to New York City and used the GI Bill to enroll in the prestigious Art Students' League. There, he honed his life-drawing skills, learned the alchemy of etching and aquatints, mastered color theory and composition and painted in oils and watercolors. He stretched and primed his own canvases, cooked rabbit-skin glue and built his own frames. John painted standing, with a compelling gaze focused on his subject matter, be it a person or a place.

Art energy originating in Paris and Barcelona was inspiring to John, so he and his wife, Lucy, hopped over the pond to Paris. John never stopped painting and found the cityscapes and built environment of Europe fertile ground for his artistic vision. Work from that era reflects his continuing appreciation of the female form, cityscapes and the built environment.

John was able to parlay his Navy skills into managing the

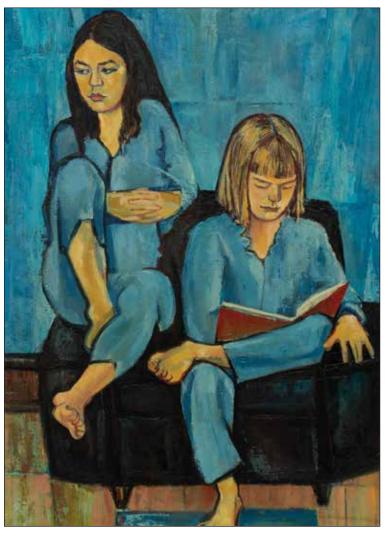
By the time John and Lucy moved to Silver City in 1971, his unique style had matured into what is called his late work: Masterful figurative abstractions, in which people, landscapes and places frequently dissolve and re-emerge in a dance over the entire canvas. Lines of Force, some subtle, some pronounced, help us to understand the ideas behind the artwork.

Until his death in 1991, John was the go-to portrait painter in Grant County. He also returned to making small format etchings and aquatints and conducted printing workshops around the area. He exhibited in juried shows. He painted outdoors and in his studio/gallery in the historic downtown of Silver City.

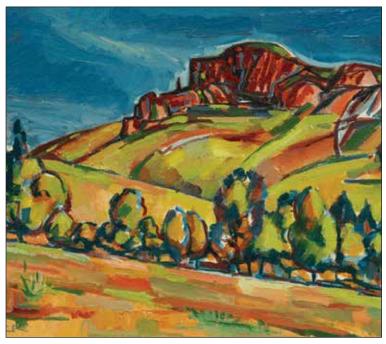
For John, it was always about people and places. During the late period, the Lines of Force within his paintings expanded beyond the canvas. Stermer served as the area's arts commissioner. He worked tirelessly to secure 1 percent for the arts money for the Silver City and Grant County region, but most significantly, John and Lucy Stermer started the Mimbres Region Arts Council. They foresaw the emergence of the fine arts as a major economic driver for the region and had the political savvy to establish a 501c-3 to use as a fiscal agent to bring federal- and state-funded performing and visual artists to southwest New Mexico.

Others who cemented the early direction for the fine arts in Silver City include Ruben Gonzales, Cecil Howard, Beth Menzer, Polly Hughes, Harry Benjamin, Dorothy McCray, Marilyn Gendron, Peter Glabberman and Kate Brown.

Visit johnstermer.com for more about John Stermer and his artwork.



ment of the artist.



"Kneeling Nun" by John Stermer.

Port of Barcelona, a huge responsibility at which John exceled. But he also never stopped painting. He participated in life drawing, art shows and deeply appreciated the energy in Barcelona. You can see elegant woodcuts of boats in Barcelona among his work.

Then, in 1959, he and Lucy returned to the United States. They settled in Bayard, New Mexico, where John worked for the mines and continued to paint. During this period, you can see a dual emphasis on portraiture of his children as they grew up and plein-air paintings of the saturated colors of the American Southwest. John, a city boy, fell in love with the cowboy way of life. Barns and windmills and boots appear with regularity in the work of this era.

"Suzanne and Michell" by John Stermer.



PUBLISHER'S NOTEBOOK • RICHARD COLTHARP

Art, Appreciation The gratitude of art and the art of gratitude

Y onsider a handcrafted ceramic bowl.

It could be a bowl you found at the Clay Fest in Silver City. It could be one you picked up at the Empty Bowls fundraiser in Las Cruces. It could be one your child or grandchild made for you in art class.

Consider how the bowl was made.

I've never actually "thrown a pot," as the expression goes, but I've seen people do it, and stood mesmerized as they grabbed the hunk of clay, and a bit of water perhaps, put it on the potter's wheel, spinning it with the power of their own feet.

Creating art both requires and creates gratitude.

Continuing to focus on the bowlmakers, consider the gratitude during the creation process.

Where did the clay come from? I'm glad to be working with the earth. Who built this potter's wheel? I appreciate the craftsmanship. The feeling of the clay between my fingers is alive. I am grateful the blood is coursing through my body, enabling my leg to power this wheel. These are some of the thoughts crossing through the potter's mind while creating.

Granted, there are other stray thoughts popping through the

brain as well, things such as: On Gilligan's Island, Who did the laundry so Gilligan's and the Skipper's shirts stayed so bright red and blue?

I happen to believe, though, when gratitude is in the artist's heart and mind, whether consciously or subconsciously, the finished work is richer and more powerful.

The finished product of that handcrafted bowl, in turn, generates gratitude in the user.

Gambling is not really my thing, but I bet five bucks you feel differently when you take from your kitchen cabinet a handcrafted bowl, especially if it was made by someone you know.

Whether you know them or not, you'll think of the artist. You'll think of the situation and the place you bought, or were given, the bowl. When you pour in your Golden Grahams or your Ol' Gringo salsa, you'll smile thinking of the bowl's maker, and you'll be thankful it feels somehow better than an "ordinary" bowl. Chances are, the food will taste better too.

In the month of Thanksgiving, let us all give thanks to the artists. The potters, the painters, the candlestick makers. The writers, the singers, sweet pastry bakers. The architects, the metal workers, the jazz piano players. The landscape designers, the actors, the craft beer makers. The chefs, the tailors, the hammer-and-nailers.

It's hard to imagine a world without art, but it might involve us all living in the same gray square boxes with beige interior walls, driving white four-door sedans without stereos (no music, after all), wearing the same dull clothes day in day out, males and females alike sporting buzz haircuts and eating bowls of Purina Human Chow.

Thankfully, here in southern New Mexico, art abounds on almost every corner. You can't go a mile in any direction without seeing a mural, a sculpture, unique architecture or a beautifully painted low-rider vehicle.

Be grateful for the art that gives life color and joy and keeps our world from being ordinary. More important, be grateful for the artists that make the art come alive.

See what you can do to spread some of the gratefulness today. Richard



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





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<u>AO DAYS AND 40 NGLITS · ELVAK ÖSTERREICH</u> What's Going on in November?

Desert Exposure would like to include your special events, from any southern New Mexico community, in our listing. Please submit your event title, time, location and contact information to editor@ desertexposure.com; Desert Exposure 1740-A Calle de Mercado, Las Cruces, NM 88005; or call Elva at 575-680-1978.

MONDAY, NOV. 1 Las Cruces/Mesilla

Annual NMSU Jewelry Sale — 7 a.m.-7p.m. in the coffee shop in the NMSU Book Store, 1400 E. University Ave. This is a fundraiser to support workshops and activities for the students. Info: motoko@ nmsu.edu.if.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 3 Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County Sierra County Twirlers — 1:30-3:30

p.m. (beginners come at 1) at the New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St. in T or C. Live music, toe-tapping mainstream dancing and refreshments. Info: 575-313-9971 or 505-804-3842.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Farmers and Crafts Market — 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Plaza of Las Cruces and along Main Street. Info: 575-805-6055.

"Culture of Empowerment Community Roundtable: The Disability Experience in Las Cruces" — 5:30 p.m. at the Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main Street in Las Cruces. Program moderated by Kay Lilley and Michel Wing of the Beloved Community. Info: las-cruces.org.

THURSDAY, NOV. 4 Silver City/Grant County

Farofa: Brazilian Jazz ensemble – 7-9 p.m. at Light Hall Theater, Western New Mexico University. Passion-filled, electrifying performance of traditional rhythms blended with modern stylings and influences. Info: 575-538-6273.

SATURDAY, NOV. 6 Silver City/Grant County Town and Country Garden Club Fall Crafts Fair — 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at 606



Farofa, a Brazilian Jazz ensemble comes to Western New Mexico University Nov. 4.

N. Bullard St. in silver City. Info: 615-218-9705.

Ironstrongman 4 — 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Ironworks 24-7 Fitness, 1775 Highway 18, Suite 3, Silver City. Strongman/strongwoman competition US sanctioned. Info: ironpodium.com/ browse/event/ironstrongman-4. **Rudy Boy Experiment live** — 7-10 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St. in Silver City. Info: 575-956-6144.

Alamogordo/Otero County Alamogordo Otero County Farmers Market — 9:30 a.m. at the Tractor Supply Co. parking lot, 2900 N. White Sands Blvd. in Alamogordo. Info: 575-430-2081.

Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County

Veterans Day Car Show — 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the New Mexico State Veterans Home, 992 S. Broadway St. in T or C. features antique and classic automobiles. Food available. Info: 505-894-4222.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Farmers Arts and Crafts Market —

8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Plaza of Las Cruces and along Main Street. Info: 575-805-6055.

Renaissance ArtsFaire — 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Young Park, 850 S. Walnut St. in Las Cruces. The theme is "Bridging Cultures" in the 50th year of the event. Cost: \$10. Info: 575-523-6403.

Live Animal Feedings — 11 a.m. at the Museum of Nature & Science, 411 N. Main St. Its brunch time. Watch and learn how different species of animals eat and what they eat. Info: 575-522-3120. *Ruidoso/Lincoln County* The Haggard Brothers: Tribute to Merle Haggard — 7 p.m. at the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts, 108 Spencer Road, Alto, NM. Sons Ben and Noel Haggard pay homage to their father's amazing musical legacy together with members of Merle's longtime band. Info: www.spenceretheater.com or 575-336-4800.

SUNDAY, NOV. 7 Las Cruces/Doña Ana County Renaissance ArtsFaire — Noon-4 p.m. at Young Park, 850 S. Walnut St. in Las Cruces. The theme is "Bridging Cultures" in the 50th year of the event. Cost: \$10. Info: 575-523-6403.

MONDAY, NOV. 8 Silver City/Grant County Widowed and Single Persons of Grant County: "A Trip to Mexico" — 10:30 a.m. at Cross Point Church, 11500 U.S. Highway 180 E. The speaker is Romeo Cruz, the new director of Grant County Silver City Chamber of Commerce. Lunch: \$12. Info: 575-537-3643.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 10

Las Cruces/Mesilla Farmers and Crafts Market — 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Plaza of Las Cruces and along Main Street. Info: 575-805-6055.

THURSDAY, NOV. 11 Alamogordo/Otero County Flowering Desert Garden Club meeting — 6 p.m. meeting location varies. Info: floweringdesertgardenclub@ gmail.com.

Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County

Sierra County Twirlers — 3-6 p.m. at the New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St. in T or C. Live music, toe-tapping mainstream dancing and refreshments. Info: 575-313-9971 or 505-804-3842. FRIDAY, NOV. 12 Silver City/Grant County Afterschool FiberArt Class — 3-4:30 p.m. at the Silver City Public Library. Children 8 and up are

> 40 DAYS 40 NIGHTS continued on page 20





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40 DAYS 40 NIGHTS

continued from page 19

welcome to join fiber artist Donna Foley to explore all things weaving and fiber arts. Participants will create pillows, scarves, dog leases and more. Several kinds of looms will be available. Masks are required at the facility. Info: donna. fourdirections@gmail.com or 575-263-3830.

Las Cruces/Mesilla The Las Cruces International Mariachi **Conference 2021 Spectacular Concert** 7-11 p.m. at the Pan American Center, 1810 E. University Ave. Las Cruces. Steeven Sandoval, La Voz del Mariachi are the featured performers. Info: 575-680-3123. "All Together Now" Broadway Music at the Rio Grande Theatre - 7 p.m. at the Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St. Doors open an hour before the show. A collaboration between multiple theater organizations in Las Cruces. Info: 575-541-2150.

SATURDAY, NOV. 13 Silver Citv/Grant Countv

Silver City Farmer's Market - 9 a.m.-noon at the corner of Pope Street and College Avenue, Silver City. Info: silvercityfarmersmarket@ gmail.com.

"Mining at the Margins: Booms and Busts in Old Hachita" - 11 a.m.noon at the Silco Theater, 311 N. Bullard St. with presenter Dr. Neal Ackerly. Mining in the Old Hachita district began as early as 1871 and accelerated through the lated 19th century. Info: www.will.community/#/lunchlearn.

The Senators live - 7-10 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St. in Silver City. Folk rockers and indi hipsters. Info: 575-956-6144.

Rodeo/Hidalgo County "Art Goes On" Holiday Show - 10

a.m.-4 p.m. at the Chiricahua Art Gallery. Featuring 35 artists and crafts displays. Info: 575-557-2225.

Alamogordo/Otero County Alamogordo Otero County Farmers Market - 9:30 a.m. at the Tractor Supply Co. parking lot, 2900 N. White Sands Blvd. in Alamogordo. Info: 575-430-2081.

Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County

Art Hop — 6-9 p.m. throughout downtown Truth or Consequences. Visit T or C downtown galleries offering exhibits, opening receptions and a chance to socialize with the artists. Info: 575-744-4708. **Old Time Fiddlers Dance** - 7-9 p.m. at the New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St. in T or C. Live music, toe-tapping and refreshments. Info: 575-744-9137.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Farmers and Crafts Market - 8:30

a.m.-1 p.m. at the Plaza of Las Cruces and along Main Street. Info: 575-805-6055.

Navajo Rug Auction, appraisals,

jewelry sale - 9 a.m. preview, noon bidding begins at the Center for Spiritual Living, 575 N. Main Street Downtown Las Cruces. Info: foundationlcm.com.

Book signing with Tony Lovitt $-\,10$ a.m.-noon at COAS My Bookstore in Las Cruces on Main Street. His first book, "Five Trees for Mina," was written to help children cope with pet loss and his second book is "The Cat With 20 Toes." Both books will be on sale at Coas. Info: 972-977-3538.

Live Animal Feedings - 11 a.m. at the Museum of Nature & Science, 411 N. Main St. Its brunch time. Watch and learn how different species of animals eat and what they eat. Info: 575-522-3120.

"All Together Now" Broadway Music at the Rio Grande Theatre - at noon and at 8 p.m. at the Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St. Doors open an hour before the show. A collaboration between multiple theater organizations in Las Cruces. Info: 575-541-2150.

SUNDAY, NOV. 14

Rodeo/Hidalgo County "Art Goes On" Holiday Show - 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Chiricahua Art

Gallery. Featuring 35 artists and crafts displays. Info: 575-557-2225.

Las Cruces/Mesilla "All Together Now" Broadway Music at the Rio Grande Theatre - 2 p.m.

at the Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St. Doors open an hour before the show. A collaboration between multiple theater organizations in Las Cruces. Info: 575-541-2150.

Watercolor artist Randy Hale demo - 2-4 p.m. at the New Mexico Watercolor Society meeting, 3011 Buena Vida Circle, Las Cruces. Hale is presenting by Zoom at the meeting. Info: nmwatercolorsociety. org/event-4444296.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 17 Virtual Southern New Mexico An Evening with Artemesia Publishing and Two Mystery Writers - 7 p.m.

on Zoom. Southwestern mystery writers Marty Everhardt and Vicky Ramakka discuss their books and learn what publisher Geoff Habiger looks for in a mystery. Info: martyeberhardt@earthlink.net.

Unique Climate Change Impacts on Water Resources of American Indians and Alaska Natives - 7 p.m. on Zoom. Speaker Dr. Karletta Chief presents an overview of climate change impacts on tribal water resources and the cascading effects on lifelihoods and cultures on tribal lands. Info: sustainability.nmsu. edu/nmsuccess/

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On Nov. 18, Dr. Selfa Chew discusses "Japanese Internment" at the Branigan Cultural Center in Las Cruces. (Courtesv Photo)

Las Cruces/Mesilla Farmers and Crafts Market - 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Plaza of Las Cruces and along Main Street. Info: 575-805-6055.

THURSDAY, NOV. 18 Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County

Sierra County Twirlers — 3-6 p.m. at the New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St. in T or C. Live music, toe-tapping mainstream dancing and refreshments. Info: 575-313-9971 or 505-804-3842.

Las Cruces/Mesilla "Japanese Internment" with Dr. Selfa **A. Chew** – 1 p.m. at the Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main Street

40 DAYS 40 NIGHTS continued on page 21

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO MADE THE 17TH ANNUAL GILA RIVER FESTIVAL A TERRIFIC SUCCESS! Rio Grande Chapter

SPECIAL THANKS Leia Barnett Mark Bundy Bureau of Land Management Dave Chandler Chiricahua Apache Nation Yen Chu The Commons Center for Food Security & Sustainability Michael Darrow Joel Davis Dylan Duverge Fort Sill Apache Tribe Gila National Forest Torie Grass Linda Hannan Senator Ben Ray Lujan Carol Martin Jody Norman Gabriela O'Keefe **Carlene Roters** Joe Saenz Allyson Siwik **Donna Stevens** Stream Dynamics Alex Tager & Western New Mexico University's **Officeof Cultural Affairs**

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See you in September 2022!





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Monday, Nov. 15 at 11AM: Space reservation, ad copy, all stories and notices for the editorial section due.

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40 DAYS 40 NIGHTS

continued from page 20

in Las Cruces. Discover history and culture through informal discussion. In 1942 President Franklin D. Roosevelt set in motion a massive displacement of the Japanese American communities in the US. Info: las-cruces.org.

"What's the Word: Arabic – a Trip to Tunisia" – 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main Street in Las Cruces. Learn about the culture, food and music from Arabic speaking countries. Info: las-cruces.org.

FRIDAY, NOV. 19 Silver City/Grant County

Afterschool FiberArt Class - 3-4:30 p.m. at the Silver City Public Library. Children 8 and up are welcome to join fiber artist Donna Foley to explore all things weaving and fiber arts. Participants will create pillows, scarves, dog leases and more. Several kinds of looms will be available. Masks are required at the facility. Info: donna.fourdirections@ gmail.com or 575-263-3830. Tommy Gibbons live - 7-10 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St. in Silver City. Rocking your socks off. Info: 575-956-6144.

Svetlana Somolina and Roberto Cani in concert — 7-9 p.m. at the Western New Mexico University Fine

ern New Mexico University Fine Arts Center Theater. Grant County Community Concert Association presents world renowned pianist and violinist performing a collection of well-known classical pieces. Info: gcconcerts.org or 575-538-5862.

SATURDAY, NOV. 20 Silver City/Grant County Silver City Farmer's Market — 9

a.m.-noon at the corner of Pope Street and College Avenue, Silver City. Info: silvercityfarmersmarket@ gmail.com.

Town and Country Garden Club Fall Crafts Fair — 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at 606 N. Bullard St. in silver City. Info: 615-218-9705.

Alamogordo/Otero County Alamogordo Otero County Farmers Market — 9:30 a.m. at the Tractor Supply Co. parking lot, 2900 N. White Sands Blvd. in Alamogordo. Info: 575-430-2081.

Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County

Old Time Fiddlers Dance — 7-9 p.m. at the New Mexico Old Time fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St. in T or C. Live music, toe-tapping and refreshments. Info: 575-744-9137.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

Farmers and Crafts Market — 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Plaza of Las Cruces and along Main Street. Info: 575-805-6055.

Live Animal Feedings — 11 a.m. at the Museum of Nature & Science, 411 N. Main St. Its brunch time. Watch and learn how different species of animals eat and what they eat. Info: 575-522-3120.

SUNDAY, NOV. 21 Las Cruces/Mesilla

Mesilla Valley Swing Band — 7 p.m. at the First Christian Church, 1809 El Paseo across from Las Cruces High School. Cost: \$5. Info: 575-640-8686.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 24 Las Cruces/Mesilla

Farmers and Crafts Market – 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Plaza of Las Cruces and along Main Street. Info: 575-805-6055.

THURSDAY, NOV. 25 Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County

Sierra County Twirlers — 3-6 p.m. at the New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St. in T or C. Live music, toe-tapping mainstream dancing and refreshments. Info: 575-313-9971 or 505-804-3842.

SATURDAY, NOV. 27 Silver City/Grant County

31st Annual Lighted Christmas Parade - 7 p.m. on Bullard Street in Silver City. Info: www.silversitymainstreet. com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Farmers Arts and Crafts Market — 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Plaza of Las Cruces and along Main Street.

Info: 575-805-6055. **Animal Encounters: Amphibians** – 11 a.m. at the Museum of Nature & Science, 411 N. Main St. Info: Info: 575-522-3120.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County The Hit Men — 7 p.m. at the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts, 108 Spencer Road, Alto, NM. Multimedia concert featuring five top rock-n-roll musicians with mega-hits on the concert list. Info: www.spenceretheater.com or 575-336-4800.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 1 Las Cruces/Mesilla Farmers and Crafts Market — 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Plaza of Las

Cruces and along Main Street. Info: 575-805-6055.

NOVEMBER 2021 • 21

THURSDAY, DEC. 2 Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County

Sierra County Twirlers — 3-6 p.m. at the New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St. in T or C. Live music, toe-tapping mainstream dancing and refreshments. Info: 575-313-9971 or 505-804-3842.

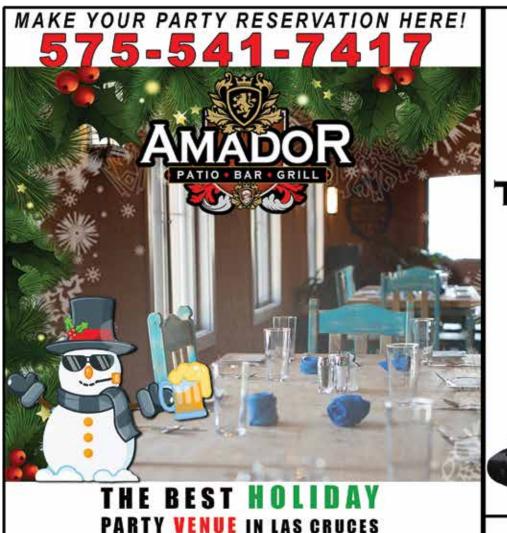
FRIDAY, DEC. 3 Silver City/Grant County Jingle & Mingle Down Cand Cane Lane

7-9 p.m. at Regents Square,
Western New Mexico University. A festive winter celebration with live music, children's activities, seasonal treats and a reading of "The Night Before Christmas" by the university president. Info: 575-538-6273.

SATURDAY, DEC. 4 Truth or Consequences/

Sierra County Old Time Fiddlers Dance — 7-9 p.m. at the New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St. in T or C. Live music, toe-tapping and refreshments. Info: 575-744-9137.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Farmers Arts and Crafts Market — 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Plaza of Las Cruces and along Main Street. Info: 575-805-6055.





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The fall of winter

will start with my confession. I was the one respon-Libble for the events which took place in the east wing of Breland Hall, at the campus of New Mexico State University, in the fall of 1970. To understand my story, one must first understand the background that led to those events, and keep in mind the rhetoric of the time and the makeup of our country. It was a time of war, of social unrest, of radical movements and protest—it was a time of freedom and change.

I was seventeen, a senior at Mayfield High School, and a youth with a sheltered view of the world—a product of a strict catholic upbringing and conservative thinking—coupled with the cultural thing (I'm third generation American). My grandmother was a woman of strong moral character and proper upbringing, and she raised me under her uncompromising rules, which were like addendums to the Ten Commandments-she was tough, curfew was at 8 p.m. and lights out by 9 p.m. She had all the makings of a drill sergeant. I stood at the threshold of manhood, but that was of no consequence to grandma-she treated me (or protected me) like a thirteen-year-old virgin (I'm surprised not to have had a quinceañera for my fifteenth birthday).

One evening, two of my friends arrived at the house in a blue Corvair to pick me up. We'd plan to go to Shirley's drive-in, on Valley Drive. It was the place to cruise, to pick up girls, or meet with other friends. Grandma must have looked out the window and recognized the Corvair from an incident of the previous year (no need to expand on that story). I got into the back seat, and just as we were about to leave, she dashed out of the house, ran towards the car with the clamor of her clapping hands, which were done with the rapidity of a flamenco dancer on speed, and shouted, "ey, ey," (hey with a silent h—it's a Hispanic thing). She stood in front of the car, and with a fierce look on her face, shook her finger at my friends and said, "Ocho! Ocho!" That was not a Spanish lesson; that was a warning-have him home by eight. By the features of their faces and the color of their skins, it was obvious my friends neither spoke nor understood the Spanish language, though, I may have been mistaken on that account, as they later nicknamed me "Ocho," and they said it with such fine pronunciation. But grandma took a more



liberal look on Saturday night curfew-10 p.m. I rushed home many times in fear my car might turn into a pumpkin. During my entire senior year, I went out on a total of two dates-an intentional decision to avoid teasing at school, plus, grandma thought I was too young to go out with girls. As my guardian, I depended upon her financial generosity to support my entertainment. On the two mentioned occasions, I took my dates to a school dance. I asked grandma for money and she handed me two dollars-both times. After the dance I took my dates to Sambo's Restaurant on El Paseo Drive. Fortunately, my friend Anita worked there as a waitress and rescued me from embarrassment on both occasions. It seemed to me that out of all the beautiful girls of Las Cruces, I chose the two who enjoyed the consumption of a bountiful meal. Two dollars did not defray the cost of a burger with cheese, French fries, several Cokes, and an ice cream sundae with all the toppings. I watched them devour their meals while I nursed a single Coke—I worked out a payment plan with Anita. Some things can affect a person's life. It made me hope that someday I may have the pleasure to dine WINTER

continued on page 23





Many thanks to the community businesses, nonprofits, supporters, presenters, and audiences who helped make the 2021 festival a great success!

WINTER

continued from page 22

with a girl whose only order is a glass of water and a house salad-I'm still hoping.

My choice of attire was of a particular concern to grandma. She threw away some of my favorite clothes, mostly new-all unretrievable. She said, "They are not befitting of a gentleman (the English translation)." Grandma abhorred flared or bell bottom pants and tie dye t-shirts. She said they made me look like a "joto," (slang for a man with feminine proclivities). Luckily, my uncle Jorge hired me as a part-time surveyor's assistant and I earned enough money to finance my own entertainment and purchase new clothes, which necessitated a hiding place-my uncle's house.

Graduation-that momentous occasion where high school boys and girls are set free into the world-finally arrived. The all-night senior party took place at the Pan Am Center at NMSU campus. I didn't stay long at the party as my friend Rocky invited me to join him and his entourage to celebrate the occasion in a more international fashion-a trip to Juarez (we didn't know Mexico was considered a domestic country). My life changed that night; I had a taste of freedom, and I had new friends who were full of spunk and delighted in the joys of life-all new to this sheltered boy. I was the new kid, cautious, and fearful of any risks, but I was accepted. We were like the Rat Pack—Rocky,

Gary, Bob, Dan, Steve and me, a gang (unlike today's gangs), and we were headed to college in the fall—sadly, we lost Gary that summer to a traffic accident.

On freshman orientation day, I walked the campus of New Mexico State University filled with excitement and hope-it was a bit daunting, though. I was to live in the dorms and no longer had a guardian to watch over me, I was completely responsible for myself, but the overwhelming sense of freedom overshadowed my fears and apprehensions, and I felt like a new hatchling seeing the world for the first time, or like a man finally getting out of prison, not that living with grandma was a prison, but in a sense, it was. I was now free to wear what I wanted, to go and do as I pleased, and I was not required be home by ocho.

I had a sound plan for my future: a dual degree in Police Science (now called Criminal Justice) and psychology, followed by a couple of years of military service (I hoped the war ended by then), a career as a homicide investigator, and a teaching post at a university after retirement from law enforcement. I was going places in life.

campus stood Breland Hall-an all-men's dormitory since 1948, a venerated building, a symbol of academic tradition and erudition. It was a square-cornered, C-shaped, three-story building with two wings of rooms extended north from each end of the main structure, I was assigned to the first floor near the entrance of the east wing. Our Resident Assistant (RA) was a man of commanding presence, and his rules were simple: "No alcoholic beverages, no smoking, no loud music, no parties, no animals, no drugs, and definitely No Girls!" He too had the makings of a drill sergeant.

Rocky Wilhelm was my best friend (still is) from high school. His family owned the Aggie Drive-in Theater on Valley Drive and the Fiesta Twin Drive-in Theaters on El Paseo Road. He chose to reside at home instead of the dorms, though one wouldn't know it from all the time he spent at Breland Hall, as did the rest of my gang. To guard the grounds of the movie theaters, his father had two types of registered German shepherds-pure white and pure black. One of the white females had a litter of white puppies and one black female-the pick of the liter. I fell in love with that expensive AKC pup. Eight weeks later, on a early Saturday morning, I was awakened by a strange weight on my chest. I opened my eyes and there was a



a girl of familiarity with many of the Las Cruces boys. She resided on Magnolia Drive, where she'd perform nightly shows out of her bedroom window, which explained the constant flow of traffic on that street. Miss Magnolia was not a proper name for a puppy of AKC quality. Therefore, I chose a simple, monosyllabic name-Easy. Everyone assumed her name was inspired by the movie Easy Rider. The truth was, I named her after a girl we all knew and held in high esteem. Easy became the east wing mascot and she had many fans who often stopped by to visit with her. That was her first and only semester at NMSU-she was an extremely smart dog with a pedigree and did not require further education. During Rush Week I toured

many fraternity houses, and it was then that I discovered the amazing décor of a particular frat room. It was a work of art, a representation of the timeindependent, forward-thinking, and rebellious. The room was covered wall-to-wall, top to bottom, with neatly pressed playboy centerfold pin ups, arranged by year and month (no surprise that men's magazines were abundant in the boy's dorms). A week later, my room was almost covered with pinups, there were a few bare spots (no pun intended). My room became an art museum and news traveled throughout the dorm, and many residents soon began to knock at my door to view the exhibits,

WINTER

continued on page 24



	tain Theatre	
Oct 30-Nov 3	Language Lessons	
Nov 5-10	Golden Voices Russian & Hebrew w/ subtitles	Mesilla Valley Film Society
Nov 13-17	Wife of a Spy Japanese w/ subtitles Theatre closed Friday, Nov. 12	
Nov 19-24	The Rescue	
Nov 26-Dec 1	I'm Your Man German w/ subtitles	
	at 7:30 p.m. Matinees Sat & Sun nesillavalleyfilm.org 575.524	

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WINTER

continued from page 23

nonstop-day and night. Several of the Breland boys added to the motif and integrity of my room through generous donations from their private art collections (plus, their art covered the bare spots on the walls). My room was a collage of figure studies. Most of the donations were of poor quality and below par-way, way below par-but they were donations, and I felt an obligation to exhibit them. The RA came in for the occasional viewing, though he called them room inspections, which he always conducted with pouted lips and a continuous "hmm" as he nodded his head—like an art critic. I supposed that meant my room passed the inspections to his satisfaction. The constant knocks on my door soon be-



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To Donate, visit www.lacasainc.org came an irritable nuisance. Had I the entrepreneurial spirit then, I could have made a fortune by charging admission, and keeping the profits for myself—I was living single in the room then.

The first time I saw my roommate was two weeks after the start of the semester. Steve Norwood hitchhiked his way from Washington D.C to Las Cruces. If there was ever a picture to be associated with the word hippie in any dictionary, or Wikipedia, it would be his. Steve was the quintessential hippie-he was definitely a head-mellow, dressed like a flower child, and walked around campus barefooted. As an anti-war activist, he was involved, and arrested, in some of the demonstrations and riots that took place in our nation, but most impressive, he was at Woodstock. Steve was in his junior year and he was everything I was not—a free-spirited, open-minded intellectual with experience. We were a match-a liberal and a conservative, a

freak and a red neck. We often

engaged in academic argumentation, and I was impressed with

Steve, not so much with his liberal ideas, but rather from what he represented—independent thinking and non-conformity.

He informed me his girlfriend was hitchhiking her way to Las Cruces, in the company of a female friend, and would be arriving sometime soon. One morning, after my biology class, I returned to my room surprised by the stack of backpacks on the floor and by the two long-haired, braless girls in t-shirts, wearing bell bottom jeans, leather sandals, and adorned with beads and headbands.

"This is my old lady, JoAnn, and that's Cindy," Steve said.

They greeted me with suspicion, perhaps my short hair made me look like a member of the establishment, or maybe Steve informed them I was a Police Science major (there was diametric opposition between the fuzz and the freaks in those days). The girls became east wing residents of Breland Hall for most of that semester (Cindy slept on the floor in her sleeping bag, of course). With two girls and a puppy in the room, the situation necessitated change. To discourage the constant visitations and the "inspections," I closed down the museum. I told the residents they can have all the art they wanted, on the condition they removed it themselves—the entire collection was removed in a single day.

There was a head shop (hippie store) in Old Mesilla (now the Galeria Art Gallery) that met everyone's hippie shopping needs. I purchased several items to decorate my room, and soon, picture posters and florescent posters covered my walls. In the dark, a pair of lava lamps gave the room an exotic-like appearance, enhanced by a four-foot black light that lifted the brilliance out of the multi-colored florescent posters-the peace sign, Jimi Hendrix's face, the flowers, and the butterflies. I also added a strobe light, and I must admit, to be in that room

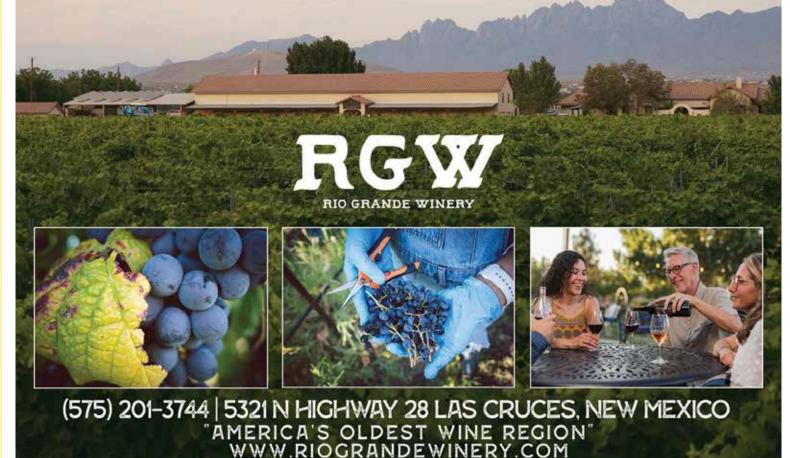
with lights off, black light on, and strobe flashing while listening to CCR's I Put a Spell on you...that was a trip, man.

I guess a part of me wanted to be a freak (hippie) or at least, enjoy their type of freedom and lifestyle.

To add music to the room, Rocky donated his stereo system: a radio-amplifier with an 8-track player, turntable, and two speakers with enough wattage to blow the doors off their hinges. I was ready to bring life to the east wing. The RA was usually away on the weekends, he had a girlfriend (somewhere in Las Cruces) with whom he visited on Friday afternoons until Sunday evenings. With the assistance of the east wing boys, my gang, and my roommate and his two girls, our first party was a major success—a single party composed of mini parties taking place within several rooms, all orchestrated by yours truly.

WINTER

continued on page 27





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ARTS EXPOSURE • GREG SMITH Bridging Cultures 50 years of RenFaire

or the 50th year of the Renaissance ArtsFaire, the Doña Ana Arts Council (DAAC) is honoring local diversity and our region's rich cultural heritage with a theme of "Bridging Cultures."

As historic authenticity is so important and even small mistakes can be considered profoundly disrespectful, the Arts Council has chosen to steer clear of representing precisely any historic figure from our area or any historic figure from Europe.

Instead, there is a man whose appearance alludes to Pre-Columbian Mesoamerica and a woman whose appearance alludes to the Italian Renaissance. The woman represents the tradition of the RenFaire across the last 50 years, but she also represents new connections, possibly a new Renaissance. The man represents an aspect of the RenFaire that has only occasionally honored traditions on this side of the Atlantic, traditions that the Arts Council wishes to be included more permanently and more prominently in future RenFaires.

We here in the Mesilla Valley live, work and play on land where a culture the Spanish referred to as "Manso" once lived. While we have no record now of what the Manso People called themselves, we know they were genuinely, historically of this place. Descendants of the Manso, as well as of the Piro and the Tiwa, live here even now, and some have long dedicated their efforts to the pursuit of important Federal recognition as a tribe. DAAC believes this is a part of our shared legacy that must be recognized and honored.

In and near our valley are pit-houses believed to have been



Performers at previous Doña Ana Arts Council Renaissance ArtsFaires (Photos are courtesy of Doña Ana Arts Council)

temporarily occupied during hunts thousands of years ago by the people we now call "Mogollon." There is, additionally, more recent history of the Chiricahua Apaches claiming lands to the west of the Rio Grande and the Mescalero Apaches claiming lands to the east of that ancient river running through our valley.

There are artifacts, traditions and stories predating the arrival of the Spanish; later, people from Mexico; and ultimately, people from the United States. Among the artifacts, more than a few speak to trade existing between Mesoamerica and what is now northern New Mexico, as well as points in between; others that speak to the arts and cultures of the peoples who were here on a more permanent basis. Some of the traditions honor spiritual beliefs too sacred to be treated as entertainment or performance. Some of the stories tell how families passed along a heritage that is foundational in our community.

"Renaissance" refers to "rebirth" and rediscovery of things previously known. There is much to rediscover about the Mesilla Valley, even as we embrace opportunities to grow from ongoing "rebirth." In "Bridging Cultures," DAAC is laying the structural pieces in place for 2021's 50th Renaissance ArtsFaire to be fun for the whole family as well as respectful of the rich tapestry of cultures woven throughout our past, which collectively inform and inspire our shared future.

Visit https://daarts.org/.

Greg Smith is the executive director of the Doña Ana County Arts Council.

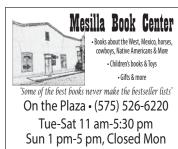
IF YOU GO

WHAT: The Doña Ana Arts Council's 50th annual Renaissance ArtsFaire WHERE: Young Park, 850 S. Walnut St. WHEN: Saturday, Nov. 6:

10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, Nov. 7: noon-4 p.m. (time changes from daylight to standard time at 2 a.m. Sunday)

HOW MUCH: Tickets are \$10 or two for \$15; available at all Pic Quik locations and at https:// daarts.org/ MORE INFORMATION: 575-523-6403







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'22 Summer Games is a qualifying event for the '23 National Senior Games scheduled for Pittsburgh, PA.

Visit www.nmseniorolympics.org for Game Schedule in early '22 "You don't stop playing because you grow old, you grow old because you stop playing.!"

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

GRANT COUNTY Silver City

ADOBE SPRINGS CAFÉ, 619 N. Bullard St., 538-3665. Breakfast items, burgers, sandwiches; Sundav B L, all week B L D.

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

CACTUS JACK'S, 1307 N. Pope St. 538-5042. Gluten-free, healthy groceries, grill fast foods and beverages. Monday to Friday B L D, Saturday and Sunday L.

CAFÉ OSO AZUL AT BEAR MOUN-TAIN LODGE, 60 Bear Mountain Ranch Road, 538-2538. B L, special

D by reservation only. CHINESE PALACE, 1010 Highway 180E, 538-9300. Chinese: Monday to Friday L D.

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

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

DIANE'S BAKERY & DELI, The Hub, Suite A, 601 N. Bullard St., 534-9229. Artisan breads, pastries, sandwiches, deli: Monday to Saturday B L early D, Sundav L.

DON JUAN'S BURRITOS, 418 Silver Heights Blvd., 538-5440. Mexican: B L. EINSTEIN BROS BAGELS, 1000 W. College Ave., 538-6555.

DRIFTER PANCAKE HOUSE, 711 Silver Heights Blvd., 538-2916. Breakfast, American: B L, breakfast served throughout.

FORREST'S PIZZA, 601 N. Bullard St., Unit J. 388-1225. Tuesday to Friday L D, slices until 7 p.m. FRY HOUSE, 601 N. Bullard St. Suite C. 388-1964. Seven days L, Sunday L. D.

GIL-A BEANS COFFEE SHOP, 1304 N. Bennett St., 538-2239. Monday to Saturday 8 a.m.-noon. **GOLDEN STAR, 1602 Silver Heights** Blvd., 388-2323. Chinese: L D GRINDER MILL, 403 W. Colege Ave., 538-3366. Mexican: B L D. JALISCO CAFÉ, 103 S. Bullard St., 388-2060. Mexican. Monday to Saturday L D Sunday B. JAVALINA COFFEE HOUSE, 117 Market St.. 388-1350. Coffeehouse.

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

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

KOUNTRY KITCHEN, 1700 Mountain View Road, 388-4512. Mexican: Tuesday to Saturday B L D.

LA COCINA RESTAURANT, 201 W. College Ave., 388-8687. Mexican: L D. LA FAMILIA MEXICAN RESTAU-RANT, 503 N. Hudson St., 388-4600. Mexican: Tuesday to Sunday B L D. LA MEXICANA RESTAURANT, 1105 Tom Foy Blvd., 534-0142. Mexican and American: B L.

LITTLE TOAD CREEK BREWERY & DISTILLERY, 200 N. Bullard St., 956-6144. Burgers, wings, salads, fish, pasta, craft beers and cocktails: Monday to Sunday L D. MI CASITA, 2340 Bosworth Drive, 538-5533. New Mexican cuisine: Monday to Thursday L, Friday L D.

MINT CHIP CREAMERY, 2340 601 N. Bullard St. in the Hub 575-597-8272.

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

REVEL, 304 N. Bullard St., 388-4920. Elevated comfort food. Weekdays LD, weekends BD, closed Wednesdays. SILVER BOWLING CENTER CAFÉ, 2020 Memory Lane, 538-3612.

American, Mexican, hamburgers: Daily L D.

SUNRISE ESPRESSO, 1530 N. Hudson St., 388-2027. Coffee shop: Monday to Saturday B L, early D. TASTE OF VEGAS, 303 E. 13th St., 534-9404. Daily L. TRANQUILBUZZ COFFEE HOUSE

300 N. Arizona St. 575-654-2057. WRANGLER'S BAR & GRILL, 2005

Hwy. 180E, 538-4387. Steak, burgers, appetizers, salads: L D. 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.

as specified.

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

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

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 OP-ERA HOUSE 32 Main St., 575-538-9911

DONA ANA COUNTY Las Cruces & Mesilla **ABRAHAM'S BANK TOWER** RESTAURANT, 500 S. Main St. 434,

523-5911. American: Mondav to Friday B L. ANDELE'S DOG HOUSE, 1983 Calle del Norte, 526-1271. Mexican plus hot dogs, burgers, quesadillas: B L D. **ANDELE RESTAURANTE, 1950**

Calle del Norte, 526-9631. Mexican: Monday B L, Tuesday to Sunday B L D. AQUA REEF, 141 N. Roadrunner Parkway, 522-7333. Asian, sushi: LD. THE BEAN, 2011 Avenida de Mesilla, 527-5155. Coffeehouse.

A BITE OF BELGIUM, 741 N. Alameda St. No. 16, 527-2483, www. abiteofbelgium.com. Belgium and American food: Daily B L. BOBA CAFÉ, 1900 S. Espina St., Ste. 8, 647-5900. Sandwiches, salads, casual fare, espresso: Monday to Saturday L D. BRAVO'S CAFÉ, 3205 S. Main St.,

526-8604. Mexican: Tuesday to Sunday B L. BURGER NOOK, 1204 E. Madrid

Ave., 523-9806. Outstanding greenchile cheeseburgers. Tuesday to Saturday L D.



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

BURRITOS VICTORIA, 1295 EI Paseo Road, 541-5534. Burritos: B L D. Now serving beer.

CAFÉ DON FELIX, 2290 Calle de Parian, 652-3007. Mexican, street tacos, mini-burgers: Wednesday to Saturday L D, Sunday brunch only 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

CHACHI'S RESTAURANT, 2460 S.

Locust St.-A, 522-7322. Mexican: B L D., 505 Joe Gutierrez St., Doña Ana. CHILITOS, 2405 S. Valley Drive, 526-4184. Mexican: Monday to Saturday BLD.

CHILITOS, 3850 Foothills Road Ste. 10, 532-0141. Mexican: B L D. DAY'S HAMBURGERS, 245 N. Main St., 523-8665. Burgers: Monday to Saturday L D.

PECAN GRILL & BREWERY, 500 S. Telshor Blvd., 521-1099. Pecansmoked meats, sandwiches, steaks, seafood, craft beers: L D. DELICIAS DEL MAR, 1401 EI

Paseo Road, 524-2396. Mexican, seafood: B L D.

DICK'S CAFÉ, 2305 S. Valley Drive, 524-1360. Mexican, burgers: Sunday B L, Monday to Saturday B L D DION'S PIZZA, 3950 E. Lohman Ave. 521-3434. 1060 El Paseo Rd · 623-2321, Pizza: L D.

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

EL SOMBRERO PATIO CAFÉ, 363 S. Espina St., 524-9911. Mexican: L D. ENRIQUE'S MEXICAN FOOD, 830 W. Picacho Ave., 647-0240.

Mexican: B L D. FARLEY'S, 3499 Foothills Road,

522-0466. Pizza, burgers, American, Mexican: L D.

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

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

THE GAME II: EXTRA INNINGS SPORTS BAR & GRILL, 4131 Northrise Drive, 373-4263, Live music on weekends. American,

Southwest, now serving weekend brunch 10 a.m. Saturdays and Sundays: L D.

MEZCLA, 705 S. Telshor Blvd. (Hotel Encanto), 532-4277. Mexican: BLD.

GO BURGER DRIVE-IN, Home of the Texas Size Burrito, 1008 E.

ROASTE

Bldg B1

88005, 524-9251. Monday - Saturday, 7 a.m. – 3 p.m. Specializing in relleno burritos and other mexican food.

GOLDEN STAR CHINESE FAST FOOD, 1420 El Paseo Road, 523-2828. Chinese: L D. GRANDY'S COUNTRY COOKING, 1345 El Paseo Road, 526-4803. American: B L D. D/T T/O HABANERO'S 600 E. Amador Ave., 524-1829. Fresh Mexican: B L D. HACIENDA DE MESILLA, 1803 Avenida de Mesilla, 652-4953. Steaks, barbecue, seafood, sandwiches, salads, pasta: L D. HIGH DESERT BREWING COMPANY, 1201 W. Hadley Ave., 525-6752. Brew pub: L D. JOSEFINA'S OLD GATE CAFÉ, 2261 Calle de Guadalupe, 525-2620. Pastries, soups, salads,

sandwiches: Monday to Thursday L, Friday to Sunday B L. KEVA JUICE, 1001 E. University

Ave., 522-4133. Smoothies, frozen yogurt: B L D.

LA NUEVA CASITA CAFÉ, 195 N. Mesquite St., 523-5434. Mexican and American: B L.

LA POSTA RESTAURANT DE MESILLA, 2410 Calle de San Albino, 524-3524. Mexican, steakhouse: L D, Saturday, Sunday and holidays also B. LAS TRANCAS, 1008 S. Solano Drive, 524-1430. Mexican, steaks, burgers, fried chicken: L D, Saturday and Sunday also B. LE RENDEZ-VOUS CAFÉ, 2701 W. Picacho Ave. #1, 527-0098.

French pastry, deli, sandwiches: Tuesday to Sunday B L.

LET THEM EAT CAKE, 1001 E. University Ave. Suite D4, 680-5998. Cupcakes: Tuesday to Saturday. LORENZO'S PAN AM, 1753 E. University Ave., 521-3505. Italian, pizza: L D.

LOS COMPAS CAFÉ, 6335 Bataan Memorial W. Drive, 382-2025. Mexican: B L D.

LOS COMPAS CAFÉ, 603 S. Nevarez St., 523-1778. Mexican: BLD.

LOS COMPAS, 1120 Commerce Drive, 521-6228. Mexican: B L D. LOS MARIACHIS, 754 N. Motel Blvd., 523-7058. Mexican: B L D. LOS MARIACHIS, 5600 Bataan Memorial E., 373-0553. Mexican, L D. * LA MEXICANA TORTILLERIA, 1300 N. Solano Drive. 541-9617.





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Mexican: B L D



WINTER

continued from page 24

More parties followed throughout the course of the semester, bigger and better, and the east wing became known as the party wing, and I the wing leader.

Every party was replete with spirits, cigarette smoke, students, non-students, lots of girls, and one puppy. Guest went from room to room or hung out in the hallway. The sound of laughter, music, singing, and academic conversations resonated throughout the wing. The Woodstock soundtrack was the popular album, and everyone sang along with Country Joe and the Fish:

And it's one two three What are we fighting for?

Don't ask me, I don't give a damn

Next stop is Vietnam...

The only room with a closed door was the one we called the darkroom, lit by a single black light and filled with the strong fragrance of patchouli. I don't know what went on in there, but Rocky and I decided to stay away, seeing that we'd planned to become future police officers.

It was a beautiful thing-freedom. Besides campus parties, we attended others throughout out Doña Ana County, and as the home boys, Rocky and I felt obliged to play host to the out-ofstate students-we took them on our weekly excursions to Juarez, Mexico. I begin to miss class, except for ROTC, Professor Farris's Introduction to Police Science, and Psychology 101. I managed to make some guest appearances in my less-important classes, like algebra and biology, but the parties continued.

Baby It's You was a popular song by a group called Smith, a male and female combo and their band. They came to play at the campus and after the concert, the gang and I went to Sambo's for dinner (our usual hang out) and then returned to the dorm. As I entered the east wing, I heard laughter and talking coming from my room. I opened the door, and there was Steve, JoAnn, Cindy, and the en-

tire group called Smith. Steve knew one of the band members, and so, extended an invitation to our room. It was a non-party evening, but after my discovery, the east wing immediately swung into party mode. Many years later I discovered a little-known fact-the female singer was Gayle McCormick, who went on to fame with her three solo albums.

Though I never took drugs (I was as strait-laced as Reed and Malloy—Adam-12) I became addicted to fun and parties. I didn't enjoy drinking, really, but I drank because it was cool (I thought) and I started smoking unfiltered Camels-that behavior only lasted three weeks.

A woman, of international background and questionable reputation, tutored me in the fine art of cigarette smoking. "You have to inhale," she said, and I did. The grim reaper swiftly wrapped his hands around my throat, and I couldn't breathe. Thanks to that woman, I became a non-smoker for life.

Change was in the air-winter was coming. With Finals Week rapidly approaching, the parties tapered, and JoAnn and Cindy moved off-campus-but female visitations to the East wing continued. Bonnie and Sherry, seniors from Las Cruces High School, usually made their presence in my room around 4 p.m., about the time my roommate left with his conga drum to jam with the other heads in front of the Student Union. Bonnie and I became good friends and Sherry became a quasi-girlfriend to one of the boys from the 2nd floor of the west wing.

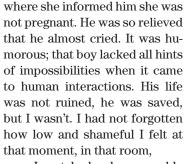
Kenny was a kid from back east, and from a prominent family. He was a serious student, good-looking, slender, blonde, Ivy League cut, and always neatly dressed, but he wasn't a ladies' man. He was shy, extremely sheltered, and a mama's boy. He was a poindexter (a smart kid) and he majored in a new curriculum called Computer Science (like that program was going anywhere). Rocky and I took him under our wings and showed him a life beyond textbooks and lectures, and we raised him to a higher level on Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs-self-indulgence (what did I know? I got a D in psychology). Kenny was a steady patron of our soirces and my art exhibits. He and I spend a lot of time with Bonnie and Sherry in my room (purely make out sessions only-really). That was the time I played the worst joke anyone could impose upon an innocent young man; it was also the time of revelation.

During one of their visits, Bonnie and I went to watch a jam session at the Student Union and left Sherry and Kenny alone in my room. When we returned, Kenny had a frightened look on his face, his hair in disarray, his shirt partially untucked, and without a word, he left my room in a rush. I asked Sherry what had happened.

"Nothing, really. We were just making out pretty heavy, that's all," she said.

I hadn't seen Kenny for about a week since, I thought he was busy studying for finals (as I should have been). I decided to pay him a visit and found him in an unwelcoming dispositionangry, rude, and referred to me as the serpent who forced him take a bite of the apple (I may have done a little encouraging). He ordered me to leave his room and said he never wanted to see me again. I was irritated by his rude behavior, but I remained composed. Before I walked out his door, I stopped, slowly turned, and in a low and calm voice said, "I just came by to tell you that Sherry is pregnant."

The only word that comes to mind is: devastation. Young Kenny fell to his knees crying uncontrollably as if his world had been destroyed-in his mind, it had. "What am I going to do? My mother will be disappointed... my life is ruined...all I wanted was to get my degree and make my family proud of me," he cried, and carried on for some time. What have I done? I felt terrible, even worse, I felt worthless. The next day I had Sherry come to Breland Hall to speak with Kenny. We met outside by the basketball courts, next to the dorm,



as I watched a boy crumble before me because of the malevolent words I chose to use. What have I become?

The semester ended and Christmas was around the corner. I came to the realization that it was my world that was ruined. I mishandled my freedom and I changed into something I never wanted to be-a loser. I had fallen badly. Out of sixteen credit hours, I received six. It was supposed to be the beginning of a great college education, a gateway to a promising future, but I failed-academically and in life. I packed my things, and my puppy, and I left Breland Hall without saying goodbye to anyone. In the parking lot, I took a final look at the building-it was a time of freedom and change.

Breland Hall is now the building that houses the Department of Criminal Justice (the irony). It was there where I received my true education, credited only towards my experience. I learned that change comes with freedom, and there's always a price to pay for its abuse.

I think about the parties and how they were never out of control—never a fight, no one was injured, no one sick, no damage to property, and the campus police were never summoned. And surprisingly, no one ever reported the girls, the alcohol, the loud

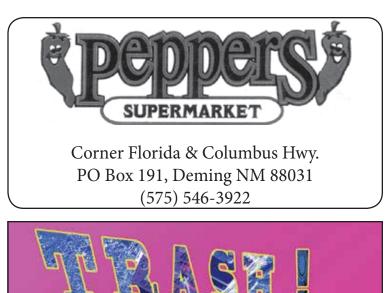
music, the cigarette smoking, the darkroom, the two girls who resided in my room, and my puppy. It was all out of the norm for Breland Hall-a change. How did I get away with it? Perhaps there was a general contentment with the change and that change represented a form of protest against the university establishment-after all, protests were the sign of the times.

So what happened to me? After NMSU, I attended Arizona State University and received good grades. I also received greetings from Uncle Sam and the war was still not over. My college deferment was rescinded, and I finally became acquainted with real drill sergeants. After military service, I became a police officer and continued with my education in psychology and management, and later entered the corporate world.

On my desk sits a tall glass embossed with the NMSU logo, which I bought at the bookstore as a freshman—I've always kept it on display as a reminder of my fall from grace in the winter of 1970.

As lecturer, I've preached lifelong learning as a way of life. My own has been one of continuous academic education, and I continue to do so even now. After 51 years, I will finally return to New Mexico State University and attend class in the fall, once again...if they'll have me.

Note: Since this story was written NMSU allowed my return. I now attend class at the Arts & Science Building – at Breland Hall. Life, no doubt, has a sense of humor. — E. Carrasco





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THE STARRY DOME . BERT STEVENS Delphinus, The Dolphin Swimming through the November sky

olphins do not just swim in the sea, but one swims through our November skies as well. Delphinus, The Dolphin, is about a third of the way south of overhead. It is a small diamond of third and fourth magnitude stars marking the body of the dolphin with a

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fifth star off to the south-southwest marking the dolphin's tail.

dancing with her sisters on the

Delphinus is a small constellation, 69th in area of the 88 official constellations. In Greek mythology, the sea god Poseidon spotted a beautiful Nereid named Amphitrite

The Nereids were sea nymphs that were the daughters of "the Old Man of the Sea" Nereus and the Oceanid (the previous generation of sea nymphs) Doris. Poseidon was smitten with Amphitrite, but she wanted to remain a sea virgin and hid in the Atlas Mountains in central Morocco.

isle of Naxos in the Aegean Sea.

Poseidon asked Delphinus, the dolphin king to find Amphitrite. After many weeks of searching, he finally succeeded. Delphius's kind and gentle nature drew Amphitrite to him, and he persuaded her that her calm and steadfast nature would balance Poseidon's erratic nature and bring harmony to the seas. Amphitrite finally agreed. After the weeding, Poseidon, in gratitude, put Delphinus in the sky.

The second brightest star in Delphinus is the blue-white Sualocin (Alpha Delphini), 254 lightyears away. It is an aging star that is past its prime, leaving the main sequence. This spectral class B9 star shines at magnitude +3.8. There are five smaller stars orbiting it. The brightest star in this constellation is Rotanev (Beta Delphini) at magnitude +3.6 with a spectral class of F5. This yellow-white star is also a binary star.

The names Sualocin and Rotanev first appeared in a star catalog assembled by Giuseppe Piazzi at the Palermo Observatory in Palermo, Sicily, Italy in 1814. Before that, they were unnamed. What the names meant or where they came from was a mystery for 45 years.

The British astronomer Reverend Thomas Webb discovered the explanation. Niccolò Cacciatore was Giuseppe Piazzi's assistant at the Observatory. Translated to English, Cacciatore's name is Nichola Hunter, which Latinized to Nicolaus Venator. Now the two names, spelled backwards are Sualocin and Rotaney. Since they have been in use for over three hundred years, both

Calendar of Events - November 2021 (MDT-MST)

04 3:14 p.m. New Moon 07 2:00 a.m. Daylight Savings Time ends. Mercury passes one degree north 09 9 p.m. of Mars. 11 5:46 a.m. First Quarter Moon 17 11 a.m. Leonid meteor shower peaks 19 1:57 α.m. Full Moon 27 5:27 a.m. Last Quarter Moon

have been accepted by the International Astronomical Union as the proper names for these stars. So Niccolò Cacciatore successfully got two stars named after himself.

Over a human lifetime, the stars seem to be fixed in the sky, but they are actually moving very slowly. After many thousands of years, the constellation shapes will become distorted and will be unrecognizable to us. Even though they appear to move very slowly in our sky, the stars are moving quite rapidly through space.

Our Sun is in a circular orbit around the center of our Milky Way galaxy traveling at a speed of 137 miles per second, at 26,000 light-years away from the center. Even at this speed, it takes 230 million years to make one turn around the Milky Way, during which time it covers a distance of one million million million (one quintrillion) miles. Space is really big.

The other stars near us have their own motion. We can measure that motion in two components. First is the speed toward or away from us, called the radial velocity. This can be found by measuring the Doppler shift in the star's spectrum. The other is the motion perpendicular to the radial motion, called the proper motion. This is the motion of the star in our sky.

Proper motion is what will eventually distort the constellations. Distant stars show very little proper motion, while nearby stars have a higher proper motion. Most of the bright stars that make up the constellations in our sky are nearer to us with higher proper motions.

One example is the magnitude +4.9-star Rho Aquilae. This star is only 150 light-years away from us and has a high proper motion in our sky, moving 80 seconds-ofarc every thousand years. This star was in the constellation of Aquila, The Eagle when constellation boundaries were laid out. Rho Aquilae's motion brought it into Delphinus in 1992.

The Planets for November 2021

Venus continues to be the first star to appear in our evening sky, 21 degrees above the southwestern horizon as it gets dark. Shining at magnitude -4.6, it moves from far western Sagittarius to the eastern end of that constellation. The Goddess of Love's disc is a 31.0 seconds-of-arc across, 40 percent illuminated crescent, setting around 8 p.m.

The Ringed Planet is 38 degrees above the south-southwestern horizon as it gets dark. It shines at magnitude +0.7, setting around 10:15 p.m. Saturn is moving slowly eastward in western Capricornus, with a disc that is 16.3 seconds-of-arc across. The northern face of the Rings is showing at a tilt of 19.0 degrees and they are 37.0 seconds-of-arc across at midmonth.

Jupiter is east of Saturn, glow-

STARRY DOME continued on page 29





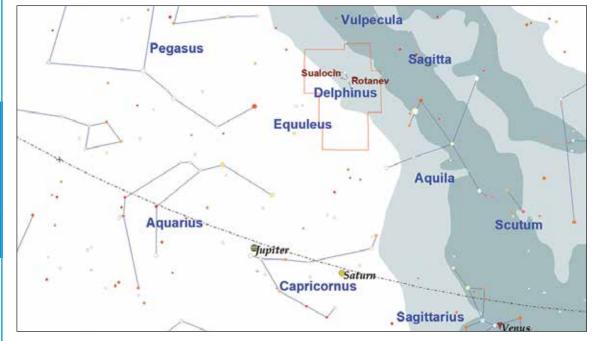
aged 65+ falls each year.

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A small constellation marked by a faint diamond-shaped grouping of stars two-thirds of the way up from the southern horizon is Delphinus, The Dolphin. This constellation is composed of third and fourth magnitude stars on the eastern edge of the Milky Way. Only two stars have named in this constellation, both named in 1814.

TALKING HORSES . SCOTT THOMSON 'Ain't Mis-Behavin'' A horse is just being a horse

had a final thought on the equestrian activities during this summer's Olympic Games in Tokyo, one that I believe has meaning for any horse owner. I get asked about this frequently - shouldn't horses know how to "behave," especially if they're trained? As humans, we see ourselves as the dominant species (a bit arrogant I think) and shouldn't we expect our domesticated animals to act the way we want them to in our world.

There is one other event in the Olympics other than the traditional dressage, eventing and jumping disciplines that involves horses. It is known as the Modern Pentathlon, and it's hardly modern as it's been in the games since the early 1900s. The event involves five different competitions - running, shooting, swimming, fencing and riding - and is meant to test the individual skills that a soldier might need in battle (at least in battles from long ago). The event is held for both men and women, although they do not compete against each other. The riding is a lower-level jump course in an arena. Total points earned in the five events determine the winner and other medalists.

To try to make the riding/ jumping portion of the competition as even as possible, athletes are not allowed to bring their own horses, but are assigned horses on a random basis from a pool of horses that are trained and used for this specific event. Each rider is given a short time in a warm-up arena to get to know the horse a bit. The idea is that a good soldier in those days should be able to get on any horse and do what was needed.

This event received a lot of attention worldwide this year for all the wrong reasons. A number of the horses in both the men's and women's competitions simply decided they were not interested in participating on that given day. Some refused to even enter the arena, some bucked off their riders in the warm-up area and some dumped their riders on the course. This led to some pretty dreadful human behavior, the worst of which was a German trainer photographed whipping and punching a horse trying to get it to behave before entering the course, while the rider added to the chaos with lots of kicking and slapping of the horse. The rider, who was leading the overall competition at that point, ended up coming in dead last because the horse just wouldn't do it, no matter how much they hit it.

There were many other scenes of similar "horsemanship," that is, a human trying to dominate, intimidate or punish a horse, during this competition. In this case, the trainer was banned from the Olympics on the spot and probably received other

punishment from the governing organization for this sport. I thought he should get a lot worse.

Interestingly, most of the riders were able to take an unknown horse, spend 20 to 30 minutes getting to know the horse and then ride a jump course - not always pretty, missing obstacles and knocking down rails, but probably better than most riders at any level could do, myself included.

What struck me was listening to the responses from the riders and trainers who had trouble with their horses. Most were along the lines of "these horses

didn't know how to behave, they didn't know how to do their jobs, they were bad horses and poorly trained." Not once did I hear anyone admit that sometimes this happens with horses, or maybe my riding was off that day, or maybe I was too heavy-handed with this horse and didn't read his personality quickly enough. Every complaint fell on the shoulders of the horses, as if they should know better about what they're supposed to do in such a major competition so the human could win a medal.

When I compared what I saw

HORSES continued on page 30



STARRY DOME

continued from page 28

ing at magnitude -2.4 as it moves slowly eastward in eastern Capricornus. It starts the night 42 degrees above the south-southeastern horizon, setting around 11:30 p.m. The King of the Gods' disc is 40.1 seconds-of-arc across.

After a few months near the Sun, Mars reappears in the morning sky this month. At the beginning of the month, it is on the east-southeast horizon as it gets dark. By the end of the month, it is nine degrees above the horizon after having risen at 5:30 a.m. Moving from eastern Virgo to central Libra this month, the God of War glows at magnitude +1.6 with a disc that is a tiny 3.8seconds-of-arc across.

ompletes its appearance in the morning sky, visible for only the first third of the month before sinking into the solar glare. On the first of the month, Mercury is nine degrees above the east-southeastern horizon as it gets light with an 80 percent illuminated disc that is 5.8 secondsof-arc across. It shines at magnitude -0.8. During the month, Mercury moves from central Vir-

go, through Libra, the northern panhandle of Scorpius and into southwestern Ophiuchus,

The Moon will pass through the Earth's shadow on the night of Nov. 18 in a partial lunar eclipse. The Moon goes deeply into the shadow, but at maximum eclipse, a thin strip on its southern edge will still be receiving some direct sunlight, so it is not a total eclipse. The Moon enters the penumbra where some of the sunlight is blocked by the Earth at 11:02 p.m., but the shading will not be obvious for at least a half hour. The Moon enters the umbra where the Sun is completely blocked at 12:18 a.m. on November 19. Greatest eclipse is at 2:03 a.m. The entire Moon is back into at least par-The Messenger of the Gods tial sunlight at 3:47 a.m., reaching full sunlight at 5:03 a.m. En-



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joy the lunar eclipse and "keep watching the sky"!

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



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HORSES

continued from page 29

in this event with what went on in the traditional equestrian events, it was like watching two

different worlds of horsemanship. There were many instances in the eventing and jumping competitions where a horse refused a jump, went off course or

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at the worst possible moment. The disappointment for the riders must have been immense as they saw their Olympic dreams end so quickly, but in most cases no rider focused on a moment of "bad behavior" but accepted what caused the wobble was something that only made sense to the horse at that moment, a rider error or just an athlete having a bad day.

just plain called it a day. Even

in dressage, there were horses

that refused to go into the arena

or threw an unexpected buck

What occurred to me was I was seeing two sides of the same issue. I've always felt there was a big difference between owning and riding a horse, and being good with horses. In this case, you had a group of athletes riding horses in competition, but only as one part of an event. These athletes had to also be well trained and competitive in four other completely unrelated events. So, they were riders but not necessarily good horsemen and women. Being really good with all aspects of horsemanship gave them no advantage in the competition. It would make sense that they would get more frustrated by a horse having a bad moment, as if the horse was a piece of equipment that broke unexpectedly. Blame the horse.

In the pure equestrian events, the riders know everything depends on the horse. They have to be good horsemen and women or they simply can't compete. They have to understand and accept the nature of the horse, they have to be able to communicate clearly and precisely with the horse and they have to spend years getting to know the personality and behavioral tendencies of their horse. They know it's up to them to teach their horses what is needed and to build their relationship of trust and respect. They don't leave that job to anyone else. It's never the horse's fault.

There is an important message in these two very different snapshots of horses and humans. At the center of the issue is the horse. An animal that is not willful, has no agenda, does not carry a grudge and does not really know the difference between right and wrong, good behavior and bad behavior. He has one way to communicate with us - his behavior. What we see in his behavior in any given situation or during his daily life is a statement about how he feels physically and mentally, or how he sees the world around him in that moment.

You have two choices when you look at how your horse is behaving. You can be like the owner that has a horse and rides every now and then as one thing they do in their life, but doesn't get any deeper into the psychology of the horse than that. You can look at unwanted behavior as a bad thing and blame the horse for not knowing better. You can punish him, withhold a treat, complain to your riding buddies, maybe get a little rough, call him some names and go on to your next ride. Whatever is going on, it's his fault. He's trained, he should know how to behave.

Or, you can be like a true horseman and look at behavior as the horse trying to tell you something in the only way he knows how. Maybe it's something you're doing with the way you ride or handle him. Maybe, your tack just doesn't fit anymore. Maybe, he hurts. Maybe, he sees where he is or what you're doing as a serious threat to his survival. Maybe, he doesn't see you as a trusted leader worth following. Maybe, you've never taken the time to train and prepare him for what you're asking. As a prey animal, maybe he's just scared. Whatever it is, he's not wrong. He's telling like it is for him.

I know which way I choose every time I'm around any horse.

Scott Thomson lives in Silver City and teaches natural horsemanship andfoundation



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32 YEARS IN SILVER CITY . SUSAN GOLIGHTLY

Women's Rights What I wanted to say at the rally

n Saturday, Oct. 2, there was a march in Silver City advocating for women's rights and protesting the anti-abortion laws recently passed in Texas. Approximately 200 people showed up and we marched from the visitors' center along Bullard Street to Gough Park. There were around 15 speakers scheduled and I was asked to be one of them.

That was Ok because I got nervous. Sometimes I can speak in front of people and not get nervous, and other times I get nervous. This rally was one of those

times I got nervous. I had made a list of the salient points I wanted to make, but I forgot to look at my list. I even forgot to take my mask off so people could hear me well. Anyway, I mumbled through my talk. Some people said I did OK, but I think they were just being nice. So, this is what I was trying to say in my speech.

I'm not a transgender woman. By the time, it was my turn to I'm a woman with a transgender speak half the people had left. history. Why do we put qualifiers or descriptors in front of some people and not others? For instance, I often get referred to as a trans woman. Like people will say, "You know Susan, she's that

trans woman." Why can't I just be a woman? I hear people often say a Black cab driver, a woman truck driver, an Hispanic professor, etc. However, one rarely hears someone say a white teacher, or a white cab driver, or a white anything. Why do we use a descriptor for people who are not white or male?

We do it because we are separating ourselves from those that are different from us. By adding a descriptor, we are "othering." Of course, white women do this too. That is, separating them-



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WOMEN'S RIGHTS

continued on page 31

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WOMEN'S RIGHTS

continued from page 29

selves from people who are not like them. In fact, all people have biases that need to be worked on. If we are going to say a woman truck driver, then we need to say a man truck driver. If we start saying a white schoolteacher, or a white police officer, we think it sounds a bit silly. However, it only sounds silly when we are unconscious of our biases. We all need to work on this. It's simple if you use a qualifier for one group, then you need to use a qualifier for all groups.

So, back to me being called a trans woman. To me, that means I'm not a real woman. I'm a trans woman. The same goes with using a qualifier or a descriptor with any person. It is implying that they are not real people. A form of systemic racism is when we think people of color need a descriptor. It's like saying only white people are real people. White people are the benchmark; everyone else is less than the benchmark. It's the same way with men. If a person is born with a penis, they are male, but if they are born without a penis, they are female. That is systemic sexism. Men are the benchmark and women are less than the benchmark. They are missing something.

Back in 1851, Sojourner Truth gave a talk in front of a women's rally much like the one we had in October. She is known for saying, "Ain't I a woman." The truth is, she did not say that. That was a transcription made 12 years later by a white woman. What she actually said was, "I am a woman's rights." Then she went on to describe how her life was much different than many

of the white women at the rally. She was implying that, though she looks different, she is still a woman working for equal rights. I identify with her because just like her, my life has been much different than most of the women who were at our rally. However, I am still a woman.

Another woman I identify with is Caster Semenya. Caster Semenya won two gold medals at the 2016 Olympics and three world championships. Later her wins were cast in doubt. Semenya was born with what is called a Disorder of Sex Development (DSD). Many of us prefer Difference of Sex Development or being intersex. Semenya was disqualified going forward because of elevated testosterone levels.

So then, why was there all the hoopla over Caster Semenya? In women's sports, there has always been a significant amount of negative press over female athletes that don't look "right."

In the Tokyo 2020 Olympics, there were approximately a dozen African female athletes disqualified for various reasons. Racism is alive and well with the International Olympic Committee.

I bring up Castor Semenya because transgender women are being systematically discriminated against for the same reasons. This last year, 26 states are introducing legislation to ban transgender girls from participating in school athletics. In some cases, even preventing elementary school transgender girls from participating in school sports. There are no scientific studies that show transgender women have an advantage over cis women (non-transgender women). Transgender women athletes have been allowed to compete in the Olympics since 2003. Until just recently, no transgender women athletes have qualified. The only time the issue of transgender athletes comes up is in the rare case when a trans woman actually wins something.

We live in a white patriarchal country. That means white heterosexual males dominate the power structures in our country. Women, people of color and all other minorities are systematically kept out of the power structures. This is done by promoting division amongst the people of our country through myths and lies about non-white male people. The sad thing is that many people who are oppressed by the patriarchal power structure often support it. For example, look at all the women that voted for Trump who has clearly demonstrated and promoted sexist and racist behaviors and beliefs.

The Stockholm Syndrome is where those who are being oppressed support their oppressors. Many of the oppressed: women, POC and gender and sexual minorities (GSM), must clearly suffer from the Stockholm Syndrome. Otherwise, how do all these racist, sexist, bigots keep getting elected? Our country still has not passed the Equal Rights Amendment. Only approximately 30 percent of the population of the U.S. is non-Latino white. That means that approximately 30 percent of the population is oppressing 70 percent of the population. What would our country look like if the 70 percent - women, POC, GSM and others voted to end patriarchy and systemic sexism and racism. Clearly, there are many people voting against their own interests.

Susan Golightly stays active riding her bicycles. She earned both a BA and MA from Western New Mexico

University. Both times she was valedictorian, the first time as a man and the second time as a woman.



She has lived all over the country and has had more than her safe of life-changing experiences.



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