

DESERT exposure

Arts & Leisure in Southern New Mexico



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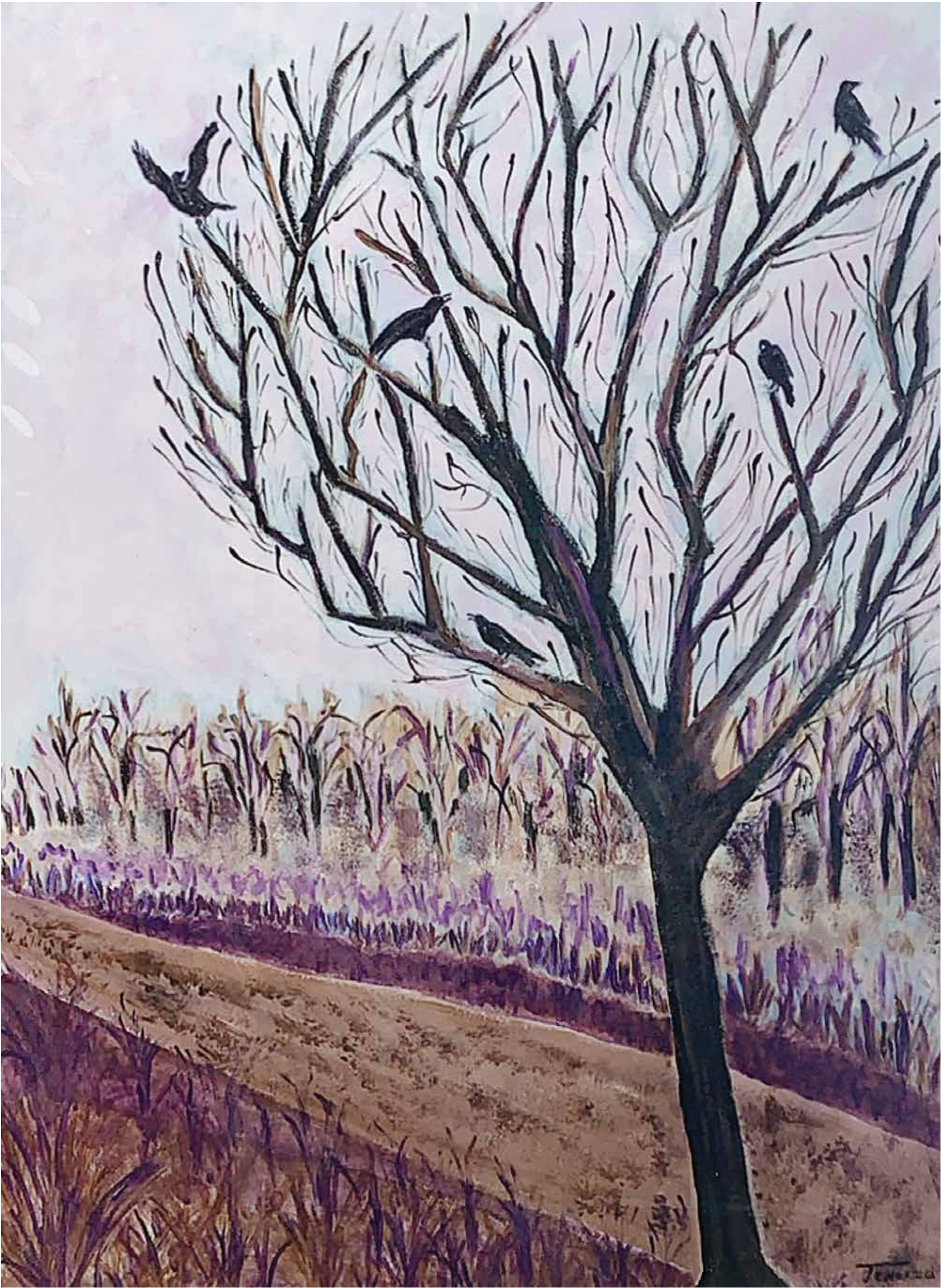
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JANUARY 2022

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POSTCARDS FROM THE EDGE Faces of Deming



Debbie Troyer, Executive Director of the Deming Chamber of Commerce is currently overseeing the "Passport to Fun," which is an opportunity to visit 31 active, exciting and interesting Deming/Luna County businesses. Pick up your passport in the suitcase at the visitors center on Pine Street, and then you are on your way to meeting some nice people, sharing a moment and getting your passport stamped. Community members have until Jan. 22 to return it to the visitors center. Deming businesses have reacted very positively by donating prizes for the drawing that will follow on Jan. 22. Check the Chamber Website at www.demingchamber.com (Photos by Stanley Sabre)



Karen and Trey Reed are the owners of Bishop's Pecans and are Stop 5 in your "Passport to Fun." In December "Christmas in the Orchard" for the community included a hayride tour of their property, Santa, vendors and free hot chocolate. Pictured are Trey and Karen preparing to deliver prizes from the Christmas in the Orchard raffle.

LETTERS

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. Desert Exposure reserves the right to review, edit or refuse letters to the editor. Include your full name, city, state and phone number. Only your name and city will appear in print, but we need to be able to verify the author.

ABOUT THE COVER:

This painting by Adrian Tenorio is in the Mas Art Gallery in Las Cruces. Tenorio enjoys working with inks, acrylics, and oils. He said was influenced by artists Audra Noblet and his daughter Adriana Tenorio. Mas Art is located at 144 Wyatt Drive, Las Cruces and can be reached at 575-526-9113; masartllc.com.



Desert #67 Dumbfounder
by Dave Thomas

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

"UF HMF UFIDCYETN TFU YFYKFMB GC DCYF CT KCHMZ. UF BLVVCMB
FHDO CGOFM, GC NFG EZFHB XMCY YETZ GC VFT GC VLKIEDHGECT."
- DOHMYHWT BHYLFIBCT CX GOF IHB DMLDFB UMEGFMB NMCLV

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: "NEW SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AT WHITE SANDS NATIONAL PARK REVEALS EVIDENCE OF HUMAN OCCUPATION IN THE TULAROSA BASIN BEGINNING AT LEAST 23,000 YEARS AGO." - KELLY CARROLL *Secret Words: "PLUCKY NEIGHBORS"

Congrats to #66 solvers : George Egert*, Mike Arms*, Will Adams*, Skip Howard*, Shorty Vaiza*, and Claudette Gallegos*!

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RAISINGDAD • JIM AND HENRY DUCHENE

Somehow He Knows, Part II

My father gets his revenge

Editor's note: Part I was printed in the November 2021 issue of Desert Exposure.

Just before dawn the next morning, I was making my beautiful wife a cup of coffee. I had on my baseball cap with a light in front that I use for hiking. The shutters were closed. All the lights in the house were off. Only the small bulb on my cap was on. In my mind, the theme to "Mission: Impossible" was playing.

Yeah, I know I sound like a nut. For no other reason than I had a feeling, I peeked outside and saw my father peeking back. He was looking out his front door, squinty eyes squinting.

His front door is actually a back door. He lives in a little

in-law house just in front of our main house, so his front door faces backward to the French doors that lead into our kitchen. Sometimes he'll sleep there, and sometimes he'll sleep in a bedroom we have for him in the main house, depending on how annoyed he is at me, I guess. It's not as confusing as I'm making it sound.

He was looking straight in my direction, but could he see me? The house was dark. I was hidden by shadows. I turned the light on my cap off and didn't move. Music was playing on my phone, but it was so low if you didn't know it was on you wouldn't hear it.

But my father could hear it. Somehow, and I don't know how it's even possible, some-

how, I knew he could hear it. He hears everything. Everything, that is, except the stuff he's supposed to hear.

I saw him open his door and take a cautious step outside. I saw him shut his door and lock it. I guess he's afraid his 3-year-old great-grandson will break into his house and steal his prized collection of celebrity nail clippings. Still looking in my direction, his eyes bugging out for better focus, he put on his mask and began walking across the courtyard. He stopped at the french doors and tested the doorknob.

Dang, why didn't I make sure it was locked?

Turning the knob, he pushed the door in... but too late. Like a ninja, I grabbed my wife's coffee and melted into the shadows.

"Heh, heh, heh," I chuckled victoriously to myself.

Later that afternoon, I was sitting at the kitchen table, sorting out the newspaper. My father had already had his way with it, so it was a mess. You would think the least he could do would be to put it back together when he was done, but you'd be wrong.

My father was in the den, sitting in his favorite chair. It used to be MY favorite chair, but when my father moved in with us, it became HIS favorite chair.

"Just sit somewhere else," my wife told me.

That was easy for her to say because it wasn't HER favorite chair.

For a change, my father was watching something other than baseball. He was watching re-

runs of "Hogan's Heroes." He likes Bob Crane. I once tried to tell him the sordid circumstances of how the actor died, but he would have none of it.

Meanwhile, I was still trying to put the newspaper back in order. I say "trying" because there was no sports section. No sports section? That's right, no sports section. "But why do you need the sports section?" I can hear you say. "You don't even like sports!"

I just do.

"Pop," I called out to him. No answer. I looked up. I could see why. Bob Crane was kissing Colonel Klink's sexy blonde secretary.

"POP!" I yelled.

"WHAT?" he yelled back.

FATHER
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MAY 5



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EVERYDAY OBSERVATIONS • ABE VILLARREAL

Snapshots in Time

An unfocused picture can teach us a lot about ourselves

I miss seeing pictures that showed people in not-so-perfectly practiced positions. Like the ones that capture us in uncomfortable moments and those with friends and family members making faces that weren't meant to be photographed.

How we want to be remembered for eternity seems to change with each generation. What we used to try to memorialize in a Kodak moment has now become a filtered-Instagram post. Today's photos make it difficult to know what is real. I think what I miss seeing on printed little squares of glossy paper is people simply being people.

When I look back at pictures from throughout the last 100 years, the kinds of feelings that

run through my mind give me a sense of knowing who people were and what they were thinking. I could tell when the photo was taken because it looks a little too yellow or a little too brown.

The furniture patterns, the height of the rug, the width of the TV set. What we wore and how we wore it. They were all giveaways to knowing how we lived and what was happening at the time.

I could tell that people were OK with being ordinary during ordinary moments. Friends outside a nightclub where almost all you could see was the light of the flash on their faces. Old neighbors on street corners, just standing there with a smile captured in one take. No asking for a second shot to show their

good side.

When I look at pictures of my grandparents' generation, they are usually a little creased on the corners. Sometimes they have water damage, but one thing is for sure, the people in the photos are just who they appear to be. The clothes they have on wasn't put on just to look their best in a photo. They aren't always standing next to colorful flowers. A skyscraper or national landmark isn't always positioned so that there is just enough room to show the people and the building equally.

And yet, the photos are perfect. People are not always staring directly into the camera. Sometimes what they are holding is blurry because of hand movements. Photobombing wasn't a concept. People

appeared in backgrounds because people are always in backgrounds in populated places.

I like the photos that make me wonder exactly what they must have been thinking. Are they walking away or towards the camera? Are they speaking to someone just outside the picture? Are they waving goodbye or hello?

I also like it when not everyone is smiling or standing in a perfect row. I like it when someone is caught with a spoon in his mouth or a stain on a shirt. I like it when a picture is taken for the sole reason of immortalizing how people were feeling, not noticing all the complexities and details of what was happening around them. It's nice to see life with imperfections and mistakes. Just like life always has

been.

If we start taking pictures like we used to, we'll pass along to the next generation a more realistic history of who we were and how we lived. What we felt and how we reacted. Life in good times and bad. Smiles and frowns. Moments of gratefulness and also moments that will be left open to interpretation.

I hope the generation sees us for who we were, not who we wanted to seem.

Abe Villarreal writes about life and culture in southern New Mexico. He can be reached at abevillarreal@hotmail.com.



FATHER

continued from page 4

"Do you have the sports section?"

"Do I have the what?"

"The sports section!"

"The sports ection?"

"Yeah."

"What would I be doing with the sports section?"

I don't know. Sitting on it? It

wouldn't be the first time.

"Did you take it someplace?"

"Take it where?"

"Someplace."

"Why would I do that?"

"To drive me nuts," is what I wanted to tell him, but what I said was: "Because you were reading it."

"I wasn't reading the newspaper."

It was my turn to go, "What?"

I looked at the newspaper in front of me. It was like an unmade bed with a pillow missing.

"What do you mean you weren't reading the newspaper?"

"What do you mean 'what do I mean'? I wasn't reading the newspaper."

I looked at my father.

My father looked at me.

"I... wasn't... reading... the... newspaper," he insisted.

What do I do?

Call him a liar?

Giving me the stink eye, he was daring me to do just that. I know inside he was laughing. Not at "Hogan's Heroes," but at me. He made his smack, smack, smacking noise, then turned back to the TV because

Sgt. Shultz was about to give his catchphrase: "I see nothing! I see nothing!"

I went back to the newspaper. I read it, but I didn't enjoy it.

No, sir... I didn't enjoy it at all.

May your troubles last as long as your New Year's resolutions. theduchenebrothers@gmail.com @JimDuchene



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1 tsp Spicy Sriracha Balsamic Vinegar to finish
2 tsp Cilantro, chopped

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Move Your Money and Change the World

Finding environmentally friendly investments

The following actions could literally change the world. If everyone who banks with fossil fuel investing banks moved their money into environmentally conscious financial institutions, climate change could be appreciably slowed. This means we could reduce the amount of fracking, drilling and combustion of fossil fuels to avoid heating the Eearth to catastrophic levels during our children's and grandchildren's lifetimes.

If your eyebrows lift and you find yourself saying, "Well, thank goodness that's not me. I'm not doing business with any fossil fuel banks" – think again. Most of us have at least some of our money tied up in banks, insurance companies, mortgage lenders, employer sponsored retirement funds, investment portfolios and credit card companies who are literally fanning the flames. While some progressive financial institutions do use some of your

cash to fund affordable housing or green technology, others pour billions into fossil fuels. We just don't realize it. Data on how banks invest is required to be reported by U.S. law so anyone can determine their bank's investment interests.

In the five years since the 2015 Paris Agreement, the world's 60 largest financial institutions have financed fossil fuels to the tune of \$3.8 trillion.

"Runaway funding for fossil fuel extraction and infrastructure fuels climate chaos and threatens the lives and livelihoods of millions," said writer and activist Bill McKibben. He calls money "the oxygen that fuels the fire of global warming. While the wildfires burning around the world are getting worse each year, it's like the world's bankers are blowing on those fires, making them even bigger."

The 60 global mega-banks include Goldman Sachs, Morgan Stanley, JP Morgan Chase,

Citigroup, Wells Fargo, Bank of America, and the Royal Bank of Canada to name a few. If you shift your banking away from any mega-bank to a financial company aligned with 100 percent green investing, a recent UK pension study predicted, you could reduce your carbon footprint by as much as 21 percent. That is more than doing things like not flying, becoming a vegetarian or switching your home to a renewable energy provider. There are critics and limitations to the heavily cited study, but the basic principle is worth considering. Move your money to where your values lie, and you won't be alone.

You don't have to be rich to be a socially responsible investor. Whether your assets are small or large your money is having an impact. Make a list of the banks you do business with – checking and savings accounts and credit cards are good places to start. For those people who are more diversified with stocks, bonds, mutual funds, retirement planning and the like, the list might be long but take it one step at a time. Start with the financial institution you do most of your business with. Examine their investment track record to determine their green index. Perhaps look at MightyDeposits.com. If you find your bank's investment strategies counter to your values, explore your alternative options at sites like GreenAmerica.org, GlobalAllianceforBankingonValues.org, BankforGood.org, BankLocal.info and BetterBankingOptions.com. The world of green banking is expanding

rapidly.

As you begin exploring your options, you may also begin to realize that switching banks can be stressful. Your relationship with your bank may be long-standing and complex. Untangling yourself can have emotional strings and take a surprisingly long time depending on the complexity of the services you're involved with. Enlist a friend or family member to make the same move along with you if the task seems overwhelming.

There is a good chance there are green options near you, especially if you're looking for a community development bank (CDB) or credit union. There are a handful in southern New Mexico and west Texas. CDBs and credit unions are not-for-profit institutions that put community investing first. They provide capital to rebuild economically distressed communities through targeted lending and investing that builds community infrastructure, sparks job growth, and reaches hard-to serve markets. Often you don't have to be employed by a particular business to join a credit union. They often serve anyone who lives in the area.

The next steps entail several actions so prepare ahead of time. After choosing your new financial partner, open your new account(s), transfer at least some initial funds, sign-up for a debit card, reroute employer direct deposit checks, set-up automatic online bill pay banking, and set calendar dates to carefully monitor items for the first couple months to be sure nothing

has been overlooked.

Once you feel your banking transition is complete, the final step is to close out all your business with your former bank and to tell the bank and its CEO why you are leaving. Hand in a goodbye letter. You could look at MazaskaTalks.org for content ideas. Consider making your departure a social media event!


Cutting off the flow of money to the fossil fuel industry is a crucial step in solving the climate crisis. And that's where people power comes in. We know that the country's largest banks care – a lot – about their reputations in the eyes of their customers. When reputations are at stake, banks start to listen and change. Just last year, in response to public pressure and organizing from a coalition of organizations, many of the country's largest banks cut ties with private prison companies.

It's time to tell banks to dump the greenhouse gas industries that are creating and profiting from the climate crisis. Funds focused on environmental, social and justice issues saw combined assets climb to \$2.3 trillion for their fifth consecutive quarter of growth in 2021. Switching investment streams is not only sustainable but profitable.

Nothing written here should be construed as investment advice. Keep in mind this is a very fluid market and there are many organizations working hard to redirect companies and financial institutions away from gre-

MONEY
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SCOTTISH DISPATCH • VIVIAN SAVITT

The Publican's Tale

A glimpse into a Glasgow pub

For two pounds/ 75 pence you get a whiskey side with a half lager or dark beer at the Lismore Pub in Glasgow's West End. For less than \$3.50, this "old man's drink," is a bargain.

On the afternoon following Donald MacDonald's funeral, it was imbibed in quantity while Gaelic tunes were sung throughout the pub.

My first interview with Helen Fraser, the Lismore's publican, didn't come off the day it was

scheduled, but the reason for the postponement was unknown to me at the time.

"Donald had been a regular for years," Helen told me the next day. "He was 70 years old and died of a massive heart attack. We have a table called the 'corner of the Donalds' named after five of our customers, including him."

Helen is a blonde, blue-eyed Glaswegian who looks too youthful to have put in 23 years at the Lismore. Her face appears

unstrained and relaxed.

"I treat this place like my home," she said. "We get to know our daytime customers who come in for companionship. If someone hasn't showed up for a week, I call them at home. I know their phone numbers and where they live."

Helen continues speaking as her eyes scan the Lismore's clientele, "I take people as I find them. The ones who look like they're going to be cheeky rarely get through the door. It helps avoid conflict to let a woman handle them. When called for, I can talk people down. The young men who work for me are mainly here to lift kegs and stay behind the bar. They know to let the female staff handle possible rows."

Helen admits to possessing pub radar, so I was not surprised to learn she met her husband at the Lismore. The Lismore has a soothing, traditional pub atmosphere with time-honored embellishments like dark wood, frayed upholstery and stained-glass windows.

Depicted on the windows are scenes commemorating the Highland Clearances and the

demise of the clans. With typical Scottish flair and wee humor, the commemoration extends into the men's loo. Admittedly these are the kinds of pubs I am drawn to — visually cozy, a lit fireplace, no blaring sports, no cocktails and a diverse crowd age-wise.

Yet I am hardly an ideal pub customer. I've never been a beer drinker, can only manage a whiskey toddy if a cold's coming on and a gin/tonic is strictly my summer drink. Mulled wine, however, is appealing this time of year in Glasgow.

Seemingly reading my mind, Helen said, "We're known as a talking man's pub although women feel comfortable coming in alone because the staff is watchful. We don't serve food

or cocktails. Music is kept low. There are two bar areas — one at the entry which is more working-class and another at the back that attracts professionals.

"We never had karaoke, but there is live Scottish music Monday and Tuesday evenings, and 'wee jazz' from 3 to 6 p.m. on Tuesday. This isn't a sports bar, but sometimes the college crowd — we are close to the Uni — like to watch Scotland games and tennis matches so at night we turn on the television for them."

The contrast between the Lismore pub and Lauder's downtown in Glasgow's City Centre

PUBLICAN
continued on page 8



Publican Helen Fraser at the facade of the Lismore. (Photo by Vivian Savitt)

MONEY
continued from page 6


enwashing (false claims about being environmentally friendly) and toward measurable and realistic climate change goals.

And finally, we all have a stake in this fight and our participation is essential. Moving our money is one of the strongest ways we can make our voices heard and our values known. Repairing our damaged earth is going to take everyone doing their part. Earth's repair is a series of participatory events so team up together to move your money and

change the world.

Wendy Hamilton, Ed.D, NMSU Emeritus Professor can be reached at whamilto@nmsu.edu. Hamilton's science background has led to her interests in anthropogenic factors causing global warming. Having traveled extensively she has seen many examples of positive community climate stewardship.





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—Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

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PUBLICAN

continued from page 7

is marked. With its dark blue facade, Lauder's looks a traditional pub, although it is edged by mediocre-to-dreadful modern buildings of steel and plate glass windows. Inside, however, the sounds of televised sports and pin-ball games are immediate – as is the smell of pub food. There is a lot more jostling about, but everyone seems to be enjoying themselves.

Unlike the Lismore with its sole proprietor and no ambition to change things, Lauder's is owned by a corporation with many pub holdings. Nonetheless, the assistant manager I spoke to there is as warm and engaging as Helen, and also loves working in a pub.

Both say that “every day is different.”

With the prospect of an Omicron scourge, publicans are worried once again.

“During lockdown, when the pubs were closed for so long,” Helen said, “people enjoyed themselves at home drinking cocktails in their pajamas. A lot of pubs died.”

She hopes that if new Covid restrictions are imposed, they won't amount to more than the

pubs having to close earlier. Septuagenarians like myself seek to hold on to the past and those fine, homey pubs like the Lismore. Although I am not feeling wobbly, I observe that the pub regulars with their “half and a half” are dying out.

As Helen put it – how this might affect the future of pubs will be “a whole new ball game.”

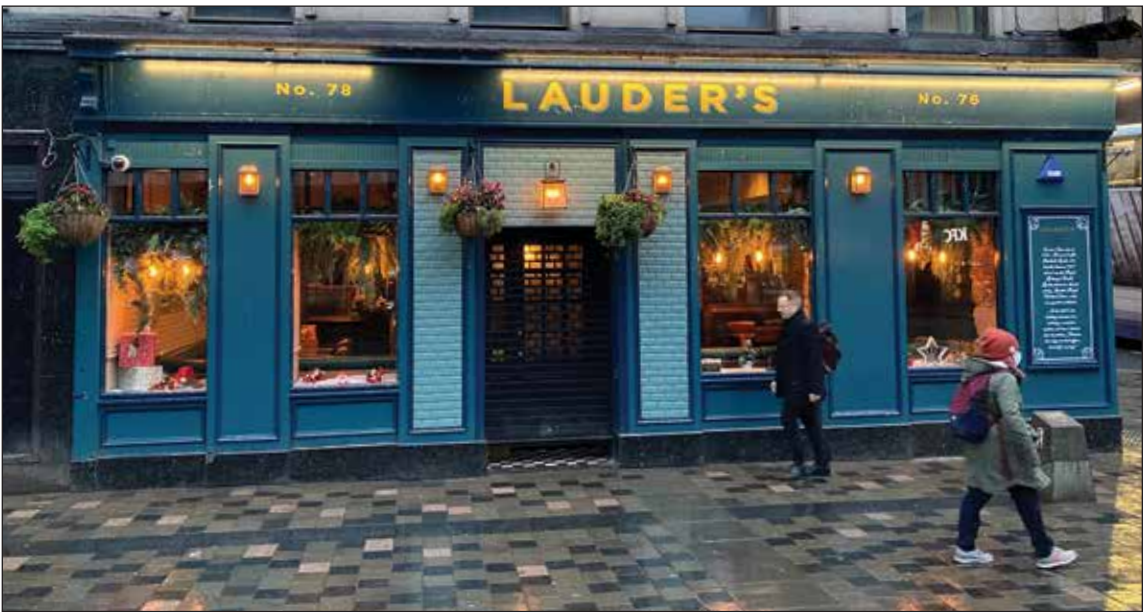
Two tips in regard to pubs:

It is standard practice to say “take one for yourself” to indicate that the server gets a one-pound tip.

A steward or bouncer standing outside a pub at night signals that the place is rowdy and requires security.

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 Gardener and then Maneuvering Elderdom columns. Now Savitt has hit the European road and is sharing her view as a New Mexican abroad.



The Lauder's pub, tidy and near symmetrical, resembles a set by filmmaker Wes Anderson.



A corner of the Lismore pub. (Photos by Vivian Savitt)

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Light Art Space calls for photographers

• **Light Art Space**, 209 West Broadway in Silver City, is closed for January but calling for photographers for a February exhibit called “**Living near the Borderlands: Photographic imagery by Grant County Photographers.**” The gallery is seeking photographic imagery that references the region and the experience of living in this area. The theme can be interpreted broadly. All subjects are welcome including but not limited to: landscapes, nightscapes, people, cultural and street images. All forms of photography are welcome. This will be an in-person exhibition in the North Gallery Feb. 4-March 5. A reception will be held Friday, Feb. 4. Submissions due Jan. 8. There is a \$20 (\$10 for students) submission fee used to cover gallery expenses. Each photographer will be invited to exhibit 1-3 works. Submit work digitally via email to Karen@lightartspace.com or make an appointment to meet with Karen in person. Info: lightartspace.com or 520-240-7075.



“Gifted Pathways” by Isadora Stowe

• **The Western New Mexico University McCray Gallery** highlights **Isadora Stowe** from Jan. 20-Feb. 17 as the guest artist

for the **Edwina & Charles Milner Women in the Arts Lecture & Exhibit Series.** Stowe is a New Mexico-based multimedia artist whose work focuses on the narrative of environment translated and coded into complex psychological landscapes. Stowe credits growing up in the Southwest border region with providing a heightened awareness of geographical and political boundaries; and a fascination with the exploration of identity of self and the construction of home in her work. Info: 575-538-6273.

DEMING

• In January at the **Deming Art Center** is an invitational show, “**Arts of the West: Cowboys, Ranching, Music & Poetry.**” Featured artists include **Robert “Shoofly” Shufelt, Ja-Neil Anderson, Jack Walker, Mel Stone,** and author **Steve Zimmer.** Zimmer lives outside Cimarron where he writes about Western art and ranch life. He is also the author of “For Good or Bad, People of the Cimarron Country;” “Western Animal Heroes, An Anthology of Stories by Ernest Thompson Seton,” and “Cowboy Days: Stories of the New Mexico Range.” A book signing will be held at “Meet the Artist” 1-3 p.m. on Sunday, Jan 2. Local artists **Velva Hurt, Dorothy Waddell, Lyn Orna** and **Janet Bishop** are also represented. **Mike Moutoux,** Cowboy songster and poet from Silver City, will perform at the Deming Art Center 1-3 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 8 and **Bob Eller, July McClure** and **Deb Oliver** from Columbus and Deming will perform cowboy songs and music at the 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 9. Free tickets for these events will be available at the Art Center – each session is limited to 25 people. The center is located at 100 S. Gold St., in Deming, and is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday to Saturday. Info: 575-546-3663.

ALAMOGORDO



New York Art & Music Studio in Alamogordo

• **New York Art & Music Studio** at 1120 New York Ave. in Alamogordo, represents around 40 artists ranging from traditional to contemporary styles in many mediums. The gallery has musical instruments for sale and offerings for art and music classes and event hosting. Info: 575-430-1306.

CARRIZOZO

• The “**Dialogue with Norma**” installation by **Joan Malkerson** continues through Feb. 6 at the **Red Door Gallery** in the **Lutz Building**, 401 Twelfth St. in Carrizozo. The exhibit follows the artist’s responses to the natural world of the druids in the opera, “Norma,” and the main character’s unveiling of deceit and remorse for her human love. Gallery hours are 1 a.m.-5 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and noon-5 p.m. Sundays. Info: 612-963-1499.

LAS CRUCES

• A deep appreciation of farm and ranch life in New Mexico is the impetus behind a new art show at the **New Mexico Farm**

& **Ranch Heritage Museum** in Las Cruces. “**An Enchanted Vision: The Artistic Celebra-**

ART SCENE

continued on page 10

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Windmill Sunset by Sue Nichols

ART SCENE

continued from page 9

tion of Farming and Ranching in New Mexico” features the artwork of artist Sue Nichols. Her paintings are on display in the Museum’s Arts Corridor. The 30 creations in Nichols’ show are mostly oil paintings, but there are also stained glass and

watercolor works in the show. Nichols’ art portrays a historical reflection of agrarian and indigenous New Mexico, ranging from depictions of past generations and days gone by to present-day youth engaged in agricultural endeavors. The show will be on display through March 2022. The museum at 4100 Dripping Springs Road in Las Cruces is open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Info: 575-522-4100.

• **The Branigan Cultural Center** features “Place and Re-Place: Las Cruces Urban Renewal, 1960–1975,” a new exhibition that provides a multi-faceted examination of the urban renewal efforts in Las Cruces 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.



Tombaugh Calligrapher’s Basket by John Garrett

• **The Tombaugh Gallery** presents the fiber and mixed media work of **John Garrett**. “Now and Then” includes representative pieces from his five decades of art making. Trained as a traditional weaver, Garrett has also investigated various industrial and recycled materials to use in his constructions. These include scrap metal, aluminum flashing, old tools, telephone wire, videotapes, envelopes, poker chips, plastic picnic ware, beads, buttons and rags. Rooted in craft, his work reflects his life in both urban and natural environments, focusing on transformation, possibility, changing perspectives and the joy of life. The exhibit runs through Jan. 16. The Gallery has a “Conversation with the Artist” session scheduled from 1-2 p.m. on Jan. 8. 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. Info: www.uu-churchlc.org.

• **Agave Artist Gallery**, 2250 Calle De San Albino in Mesilla, features **Kathy Baker**, a clay and fiber artist in January. Baker is offering two workshops during January. The first one is 2-3 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 14, and is an introduction to solar dyeing. The second workshop, 2-3 p.m., Friday, Jan. 21, features a discussion and demonstration on spinning art yarn using a diversity of fibers and sustainable resources. Both workshops require pre-registration at www.agaveartists.com as space is limited. Gallery hours are 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday-Sunday. Info: agaveartists@gmail.com.



Hummers by Jane Madrid



Woven wheel by Jan Severson

• **The Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery**, 2470-A Calle de Guadalupe, across from the historic Fountain Theatre features two local artists for the month of January, **Jane Madrid** and **Jan Severson**. Madrid has been a Las Cruces resident since 1959 and has painted since the age of 8. Her major artistic themes center around nature, with a particular emphasis on animals, flowers, birds and landscape. Severson spent her professional life with a major computer company as an education consultant. By accident, and with a good friend’s encouragement,

she started weaving and found that it had become a passion that brought her a great sense of joy and accomplishment. While she prefers the colors of nature, you will often find her weaving with colorful reed, yarns, wood objects and beads. “I hope those who give my creations a home find joy and beauty in them,” Severson said. **First American Bank 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. Info: 575-522-2933, www.mesilla-valleyfinearts.com.

• **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.



From the Allure of the Near East Exhibit

• **The Las Cruces Museum of Art**, 491 N. Main St., features “Allure of the Near East: Treasures of the Huntington Museum of Art,” through Jan. 22. This exhibition explores the 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.

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ON THE SHELF • EVE WEST BESSIER

'Pink Cadillacs'

Breakfast at Maggie's

Editor's note: Eve West Bessier a poet laureate emerita of Silver City, New Mexico. This is the opening story of her new collection, "Pink Cadillacs." Bessier introduced the book at the Southwest Word Fiesta, Oct. 24. The Fiesta website can be found at www.swwordfiesta.org. The site also hosts Bessier's monthly blog called, Write On. Her own website is: www.jazz-poeteve.com.

Sheriff Jack Spencer peeled the foil top off the single serving of creamer. He stared at his cup. It was too full. He leaned down and sipped a bit off the top. It was far from hot. He emptied the creamer carefully. The coffee still sloshed over

the rim and spilled onto the saucer. He lifted the cup slowly and sipped. Now it was close to cold and dripped from the bottom of the cup onto the paper placemat, where he'd written a few notes for Dobson.

"Damn," Jack whispered, watching the ink lift and blur. Dobson hadn't shown, so it didn't matter. Scott Dobson was a terrific deputy. He and Jack always met at Maggie's Cadillac Cafe for breakfast before starting their day. Jack had called Dobson twice but only got the dispatcher. Maybe last night's storm had made the roads more impassable than usual. He'd wait another ten minutes, then he'd have to leave.

He had a meeting at the Gal-

lup County Seat. After that, he'd pick up a load of firewood for his uncle. The old ranch house near Twin Lakes was getting draftier every year. Next weekend he'd go out there and do some repairs. For now, he'd make sure the old man had enough wood to stave off the chill. He wasn't sure how long uncle Joe could continue to live alone, but the man was a stubborn goat and not likely to leave until, as Joe himself put it, he was taken out feet first in a cedar box.

Jack stared out the window. There was a semi parked by the gas station. Maggie's Ranchero and Fred's Chevy truck were near the kitchen. He'd borrowed his girlfriend's old Ranger again for a couple of days. She was

getting tired of his car problems. So was he. The department Jeep was getting another patch job at the shop.

For a moment he caught his own reflection in the glass. His hair was graying at the temples, but on top it was still solid black. He should grow a mustache. He thought his upper lip looked kind of weak. It struck him that he was looking more and more like his father. He frowned.

He shifted his focus back to the parking lot. There were only two cars he didn't recognize: a blue Ford Escort and a white Dodge commercial van with Gomez Heating and Air painted on the side. Not a local company as far as he knew, must be passing through. The Ford probably belonged to the new waitress. Where was she? He really wanted some hot coffee. He hadn't slept well last night with the storm banging all the loose ends of his life around.

The wind was still vicious this morning. The Cadillac Cafe sign, shaped like the classic car's tail fin, was oscillating dangerously.

The cafe had been a real looker in its Route 66 glory days but was now sadly in need of repairs that Maggie couldn't afford. Still, it had its charm. The booths were red vinyl and each still had its vintage Select-O-Matic jukebox controller at the back edge of the Formica tabletop. There was no longer an actual jukebox in the diner, so the remote controllers were a moot point, but a nice homage to the past.

Over the years, customers had given Maggie to-scale models of classic Cadillacs. She had glued the toy cars precariously to the tops of the chrome juke controllers. Jack was sitting in the 1955 Eldorado booth. His favorite for the view. The miniature Eldorado convertible was cherry red, but the New Mexico sun had faded the side facing the window to a soft pink. Jack had long been tempted to turn the car around, so it could fade to pink on the other side as well. Make things even, balanced.

PINK CADILLACS
continued on page 12

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PINK CADILLACS
continued from page11

Maybe today was the day. He made sure Maggie wasn't looking his way, then tested the El-dorado to see if it was still firmly attached. It wasn't. The Super Glue on the toy's plastic tires had become crispy in the dry desert air. He could do it, but he'd be a fool to think Maggie wouldn't notice, and a bigger one to mess with the order of things in her domain. He left the car in its original orientation.

Jack scooted to the edge of the booth, leaned out and looked around. No waitress, but his adrenals gave his heart a quick punch.

How long had she been sitting there? The plate of half-eaten flapjacks indicated a while. She was facing almost completely away from him. She was wearing faded jeans, cowboy boots, and a black sweater. She looked small, tired, too skinny.

She must've come in after he was seated in the booth. He was

facing away from the door. But how had he missed seeing her walk in from the parking lot? His keen investigative skills were slipping, too much desk work lately. Did she sell her Toyota? Did she go into the heating and air business? That made him smile, just for a moment, as he imagined her inching through the crawlspace under some house to find the faulty duct. She was deathly afraid of spiders and snakes. Bit of a problem for a desert dweller.

She seemed preoccupied, staring at Maggie's bowling trophy display up behind the counter. He knew she had no interest in bowling and wondered what she was thinking.

"Damn," Jack whispered again. Her table was between him and the front door.

Maybe he should go over and talk to her. No. That was a bad idea. The last time he'd done that, they'd had a nasty fight. The looks she'd given him still burned. That had been over four

months ago.

She had that job at the Family Dollar in Ya-Ta-Hey, but it couldn't pay much. She could probably use some money. How much cash did he have with him? He'd just spent most of it on gas for the truck. She wouldn't accept it anyway. Too proud. He took a deep breath and let it out slowly.

Maybe she had seen him and was choosing to ignore him. She'd gotten good at that. He knew she didn't like his new girlfriend. He was beginning to wonder if he agreed with her on that.

He slumped back into the dip in the center of the vinyl bench and opened the paper's sports section, trying to distract his mind.

After a few minutes, he scooted back to the edge and looked at her again. She hadn't moved. Come on, Hun, he thought, just finish your breakfast and get on with the day. She had always been sort of a dreamer, never in any kind of a hurry. Unlike him.

He looked at his watch. 8:35. He really had to get going.

He didn't mind the dangers of his line of work. Things sometimes got a little rough. People didn't always take kindly to being apprehended. He could handle a physical skirmish. He'd even pull his gun if it was absolutely necessary, but this personal stuff was something else.

PINK CADILLACS
continued on page 14

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Chica, a PMU mare and her buddy, Abby, share a meal. (Photos by Laurie Ford)

HORSE STORIES • LAURIE FORD

Beginning at the End of the Road

Horse rescue provides journey of hope

While the Bureau of Land Management considers euthanasia the only option for horses or burros with infirmities – dubbed as an “act of mercy” even when the condition is non-life threatening – Carol Johnson, founder of End of the Road Ranch Horse Rescue in Silver City, has a totally different perspective. Instead, she opts to perform deeds of compassion and her tremendous success speaks for itself when you visit the ranch and encounter nothing but serenity among the horses and burros who have been given the opportunity to live out their lives in a safe and loving environment.

Like many girls, Carol loved horses at an early age – a passion that did not wane with age. Instead, it grew stronger as she dreamed of someday being able to provide a haven for horses and burros in peril. In 2005 her dream became a reality, compelled by the plight of PMU (pregnant mare urine) mares – female horses kept in a

constant state of pregnancy to produce the estrogen rich urine needed for hormone replacement drugs such as Premarin – and their foals. When no longer able to conceive the mares were routinely sent to slaughter along with the unwanted foals. Determined to provide refuge for these horses and other at-risk equines, End of the Road Ranch Rescue was conceived.

Today, one of the original PMU mares and two foals rescued still call the ranch home along with 29 other horses and a burro. Each one has a unique story, but all share the same common bond of previously being unwanted.

Most horses at End of the Road Ranch are obtained from the New Mexico Livestock Board (NMLB) after being seized, due to neglect or abuse, or found abandoned. The ranch is one of 11 rescues inspected and licensed by the NMLB to provide sanctuary and care for these horses who might otherwise have been auctioned off at a sale barn. They typically arrive with

physical and mental challenges, emaciated or terrified of people, and require strict personalized regimes to help them regain their health and confidence.

Elderly horses are provided with the proper nutrition and supplements. Those with severe tooth loss are prepared special diets. Arthritis is treated with beneficial medications and those suffering from blindness are placed with a buddy and monitored. Time and patience helps abused horses overcome their mistrust and training is tailored to the horses’ needs by local “gentle tamer,” Pat Buls. Although these requirements vary there is one remedy that is universal in the long and challenging road to recovery – never-ending fortitude and kindness.

It is also important to remember that neglect comes in many forms, and at times it is unintentional and often stems from lack of knowledge. Some horses are taken in after the passing of their longtime owner while others are surrendered by individuals who, due to financial or physical hardships, can no longer care for them properly. These instances can be avoided by making the proper arrangements in advance or reaching out for assistance to prevent the animal from ultimately becoming “unwanted” and in need of rescue.

With a perpetual commitment to the horses, and the support of their local community, End of the Road Ranch Rescue, will never stop with their mission to care for their current residents and maintain the ability to provide a safety net for other horses and burros at risk. While there is always a need for help with the daily fundamental chores, the ranch’s greatest wish is for more volunteers to spend time



Dakota and her colt have a family moment.

with the horses providing the interaction and love that is so instrumental in the healing process. With the desire, and some basic training and education on proper care and natural horsemanship practices, almost anyone can perform these tasks where both the animal and the provider benefit enormously. If volunteering is not possible, you could consider sponsoring a horse or burro of your choice or donating to help defer feed, veterinarian and farrier costs. And, there is always the possibility of providing a forever home for those horses that have been rehabilitated and are ready to be rehomed.

We, as kind human beings, know the options available to help animals in need are endless.

If you would like to visit the

ranch please contact Carol at 575-313-5714 or Endoftheroad-ranchrescue@gmail.com. Address: End of the Road Ranch Horse Rescue, PO Box 370, Silver City, NM 88062. For emergency feed assistance contact: Animal Protection of New Mexico, 505-803-3770; epf@apnm.

Laurie Ford lives near Glenwood in Catron County. Photography and horses have always been her passion. For the past several years she has been travelling around the west, camping in wild horse areas to observe and photograph the animals in their natural environment.



Carol Johnson takes Bella on a walk.

PINK CADILLACS
continued from page 12

Women and their entire emotional deal were a minefield, and he had big feet.

Maggie's had a service exit in back, but he'd feel like a complete coward if he used it. Plus, Maggie didn't take kindly to cus-

tomers traipsing through her kitchen. He'd never hear the end of it.

He downed a couple of sips of the cold coffee just for the caffeine, pulled out his wallet and left enough for the meal and tip under the saltshaker. He left the newspaper for the next customer.

He scooted out of the booth, put on his Carhartt jacket and cowboy hat, then walked as quietly as possible towards the door. Her back was to him now. Her long hair fell in a loose braid, blue-black and shiny as raven feathers.

He turned the doorknob and pulled lightly; the bells still jin-

gled loudly. He glanced back. She didn't turn around to look at him.

"Bye, Pop," she said, just like she used to as a kid. She was always late for the bus, running from the kitchen, lunch pail in hand, hair damp from her bath. Except now, her voice sounded sad.

He stopped breathing for a moment. Was she offering him a chance? A chance for what? He was caught in a tug-of-war with himself, and he didn't have time to talk. Maybe he would call her later. He already knew he probably wouldn't.

"Bye, Rabbit. Gotta go," he explained to the back of her head, wishing he hadn't used her old nickname. She didn't like it anymore. He wished she'd turn around and look at him but was also sort of grateful that she didn't. "Running late," he added.

"Yeah," she said. Her back a fortress. "Have a good one."

"You too."

He wanted to say something more. He wanted to tell her again that he'd always love her mother. Sherrie had moved on. It had been two years, he had to move on too. What more could he say? That he was sorry? He wasn't sorry. Not exactly. It was nobody's fault. It was just life. Things changed, but they were her parents and that was forever.

He fully opened the door. The chilled air entered the warmth of the diner. He stepped quickly outside and closed the door behind him.

He stood for a moment in the protected niche created by the diner's two alcoves. He could hear the soft hum of the Open sign in the window next to him and the high-pitched whir of a lug nut wrench at the gas station.

He looked down at his feet. A thin layer of red mud caked his boots. They'd be caked with a lot more of it soon. He looked out past the highway towards the mountains. A steel-grey cloud

bank approached from the north like a battleship heading in from Canada. The air already smelled like snow.

He heard the bells jingle. She stood next to him. They both looked at the menacing sky in silence.

"I'm moving," she said.

"Oh, yeah? When?"

She didn't respond for a moment, then said, "Today."

He let that sink in. If he hadn't seen her this morning, would she not have told him?

"Where to?"

"Albuquerque."

"To be with your mom."

"Yeah. She's not doing so great."

"I'm sorry to hear that," he said, and meant it.

He wondered how he had gotten so out of the loop.

"Is there anything I can do?"

"I don't blame you, Pop. I know you think I do."

"You sure seem plenty angry."

"I'm always angry at something, you know that."

"Is your mom gonna be okay?"

"Maybe. Maybe not."

He turned to look at her. This was alarming news.

"I got an appointment," he said, "but it can wait. Wanna go back inside?"

"I need to go, wanna beat this storm."

"I'd like to know how she's doing. I do care."

"I know, Pop."

"You leaving permanently?"

"Not sure."

He knew she'd considered it on and off.

"It's another reality down there," he said.

"I've been there lots, Pop."

"Visiting a big city is not the same as calling it home."

"Who said I'm calling it home?"

"You moving your stuff in that Dodge van?"

"Yeah. Cory borrowed it. I'm picking him up after his night shift. He's gonna help get my stuff to mom's, then drive back tomorrow."

"You're not taking your Toyota?"

She laughed. "I couldn't even get it started this morning."

"Yeah, it's seen better days."

"Figure I'll use mom's car, 'till I get a job and buy something used."

"Good plan. Promise you'll let me help, okay? You know, money, talk, whatever."

"Sure."

"You want some cash? I haven't got much on me, but it's yours."

"Nah, I'm okay. Thanks."

He turned to face her and reached out his arms, hoping she'd accept a hug.

The force of her coming into his chest surprised him, like she wanted to hide there. He wrapped his arms around her, held her as if she were five years old and afraid of the dark.



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40 DAYS AND 40 NIGHTS • ELVA K. ÖSTERREICH

What's going on in January?

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.

SATURDAY, JAN. 1
Silver City/Grant County
Silver City Farmer's Market — 9 a.m.-noon at Pope Street and College Avenue in Silver City. Info: silvercityfarmersmarket.info.

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.

Alamogordo/Otero County
Alamogordo Otero County Farmers Market — 9:30 a.m., Tractor Supply parking lot, 2920 N. White Sands Blvd. in Alamogordo. Info: farmers-marketsnm.org.

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.

MONDAY, JAN. 3
Truth or Consequences/
Sierra County
Sierra County Rock & Gem Society — 6 p.m. at the T or C Civic Center

Alamogordo/Otero County
Pet Vaccine Clinic — 5-7 p.m. at 1211 Cuba Ave. in Alamogordo. Register before 4 p.m. Rabies, distemper/parvo, Bordetella, rattlesnake and cat vaccines. Info: 575-434-4343

TUESDAY, JAN. 3
Alamogordo/Otero County
Middle Eastern Dance Class — 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Otero Artspace, 1118 Indiana Ave, Alamogordo. Long-time dance teacher Claudia Powell offers this class. Cost: \$10

donation to Otero Arts. Info: www.oteroarts.org.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 5
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.

Truth or Consequences/
Sierra County
Sierra Twirlers — 1-3 p.m. at the New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St. in T or C. square dancing and refreshments. Info: 575-313-9971 or 505-804-3842.

FRIDAY, JAN. 7
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 free. Participants will create pillows, scarves, dog leashes and more. Several kinds of looms will be available. Masks are required at the facility. Info: donna.fourdirections@gmail.com or 575-263-3830.

SATURDAY, JAN. 8
Silver City/Grant County
Silver City Farmer's Market — 9 a.m.-noon at Pope Street and College Avenue in Silver City. Info: silvercityfarmersmarket.info.

Alamogordo/Otero County
Alamogordo Otero County Farmers Market — 9:30 a.m., Tractor Supply parking lot, 2920 N. White Sands Blvd. in Alamogordo. Info: farmers-

40 DAYS 40 NIGHTS
continued on page 16



Every Friday in January an Afterschool FiberArt Class at the Silver City Public Library is for children 8 and up with fiber artist Donna Foley to explore all things weaving and fiber arts. (Courtesy Photo)

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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!"

40 DAYS 40 NIGHTS
continued from page 15

marketsnm.org.

Deming/Luna County
Western Art, Ranches, Cowboys, Verse and Music — 1-4:30 p.m. at the at the Deming Arts Center, 100 S Gold Ave. in Deming. Exploring cowboy music and more. Info: 575-546-3663.

Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County
Art Hop — 6-9 p.m., downtown Truth or Consequences. Info: direc-tor@torcmainstreet.org.

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/Doña Ana County
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.

SUNDAY, JAN. 9
Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County
Story Lab: "Parts Unknown" — 1-2 p.m., at T or C Brewing Company,

410 N. Broadway, T or C. Story Lab aims to educate, inspire and build community through the artful craft of storytelling. Info: 360-628-4499.

MONDAY, JAN. 10
Silver City/Grant County
***Widowed and Single Persons of Grant County** — 10:30 a.m. at Cross Point Church, 11600 Highway 180 E. The speaker is Randy Salars with a special holiday video. Cost for lunch: \$12. All singles are welcome. Info: Jimccord@yahoo.com.

TUESDAY, JAN. 11
Alamogordo/Otero County

Middle Eastern Dance Class — 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Otero Artspace, 1118 Indiana Ave, Alamogordo. Long-time dance teacher Claudia Powell offers this class. Cost: \$10 donation to Otero Arts. Info: www.oteroarts.org.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 12
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.

Gem Crafters and Explorers Club meeting — 6:30 p.m. at the Good Samaritan Auditorium, 3011 Buena Vida Circle, Las Cruces. This club is also known as the Las Cruces Gem & Mineral Club. Meetings are free and open to the public. Membership is required to participate in trips and activities. Info: 575-635-2020.

Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County
Sierra Twirlers — 1-3 p.m. at the New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St. in T or C. square dancing and refreshments. Info: 575-313-9971 or 505-804-3842.

THURSDAY, JAN. 13
Las Cruces/Doña Ana County
History Notes — 6 p.m. at the T or C Civic Center Auditorium, 480 W. Fourth St. in T or C. Me

FRIDAY, JAN. 14
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 free. Participants will create pillows, scarves, dog leashes and more. Several kinds of looms will be available. Masks are required at the facility. Info: donna.fourdirections@gmail.com or 575-263-3830.

SATURDAY, JAN. 15
Silver City/Grant County
Silver City Farmer's Market — 9 a.m.-noon at Pope Street and College Avenue in Silver City. Info: silver-cityfarmersmarket.info.

Alamogordo/Otero County
Alamogordo Otero County Farmers Market — 9:30 a.m., Tractor Supply parking lot, 2920 N. White Sands Blvd. in Alamogordo. Info: farmers-marketsnm.org.

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/Doña Ana County
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.

SUNDAY, JAN. 16
Las Cruces/Mesilla
Lush Life concert with Mesilla Valley Jazz & Blues Society — 7 p.m. at First Christian Church, 1809 El Paseo in Las Cruces. Cost: \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members. Info: 575-640-8752.

TUESDAY, JAN. 18
Silver City/Grant County
President's Chamber Music Series: Rahim AlHaj Trio — 7 p.m. at Western New Mexico University's Light Hall Theater. Iraqi oud virtuoso and composer Rahim Alhaj is joined by Iranian santour maestro Sourena Sefati and world percussion master Nicholas Baker. Info: 1-800-872-19668.

Alamogordo/Otero County
Middle Eastern Dance Class — 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Otero Artspace, 1118 Indiana Ave, Alamogordo. Long-time dance teacher Claudia Powell offers this class. Cost: \$10 donation to Otero Arts. Info: www.oteroarts.org.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 19
Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County
Sierra Twirlers — 1-3 p.m. at the New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St. in T or C. square 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.

THURSDAY, JAN. 20
Silver City/Grant County
Milner Women in the Arts Lecture and Exhibit Series — 6:30-8:30 p.m. at

40 DAYS 40 NIGHTS
continued on page 17





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Rahim AlHaj Trio
7 p.m. at Light Hall Theater • \$15

Iraqi oud virtuoso and composer Rahim AlHaj will be joined by Iranian santour maestro Sourena Sefati and percussion master Nicholas Baker.

Thursday, January 20

EDWINA & CHARLES MILNER WOMEN IN THE ARTS



ISADORA STOWE
6:30 p.m. Lecture | Parotti Hall
7:30 p.m. Reception | McCray Gallery of Contemporary Art
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40 DAYS 40 NIGHTS
continued from page 15

Parotti Hall and the Francis McCray Gallery of Contemporary Art, Western New Mexico University, 1000 W. College Ave. Silver City. Isadora Stowe is a New Mexico based multimedia artist whose work focuses on the narrative of environment translated and coded into complex psychological landscapes. Info: 1-800-872-9668.

FRIDAY, JAN. 21
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 free. Participants will create pillows, scarves, dog leashes and more. Several kinds of looms will be available. Masks are required at the facility. Info: donna.fourdirections@gmail.com or 575-263-3830.

Alamogordo/Otero County
Author reading with Rochelle Williams — 6-7:30 p.m. at Otero Artspace, 1118 Indiana Ave, Alamogordo. Williams is the author of short story collection, “Acts of Love and Ruin” and has had fiction and poetry appearing in several publications. She will be reading from her novel-in-progress, “Eye of Desire: Letters to a Dead Painter.” Info: www.oteroarts.org.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County
Conjunto Primavera — 6 p.m., at Inn

of the Mountain Gods, 287 Carrizo Canyon Road, Mescalero. Mexican Norteño Sax band started in 1978. Info: innoftthemountaingods.com.

SATURDAY, JAN. 22
Silver City/Grant County
Silver City Farmer's Market — 9 a.m.-noon at Pope Street and College Avenue in Silver City. Info: silvercityfarmersmarket.info.

Alamogordo/Otero County
Alamogordo Otero County Farmers Market — 9:30 a.m., Tractor Supply parking lot, 2920 N. White Sands Blvd. in Alamogordo. Info: farmersmarketsnm.org.
Bettman and Halpin — 7 p.m. at the Flickinger Center for Performing Arts, 110 New York Ave., Alamogordo. Fiddler, songwriter and vocal Stephanie Bettman and multi-instrumentalist and vocalist Luke Halpin play original folk/Americana. Info: 575-437-2202.

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/Doña Ana County
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.

TUESDAY, JAN. 25
Alamogordo/Otero County
Middle Eastern Dance Class — 5:30-

6:30 p.m. at Otero Artspace, 1118 Indiana Ave, Alamogordo. Long-time dance teacher Claudia Powell offers this class. Cost: \$10 donation to Otero Arts. Info: www.oteroarts.org.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 26
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.

Truth or Consequences/Sierra County
Sierra Twirlers — 1-3 p.m. at the New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St. in T or C. square dancing and refreshments. Info: 575-313-9971 or 505-804-3842.

FRIDAY, JAN. 28
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 free. Participants will create pillows, scarves, dog leashes and more. Several kinds of looms will be available. Masks are required at the facility. Info: donna.fourdirections@gmail.com or 575-263-3830.

SATURDAY, JAN. 29
Silver City/Grant County
Silver City Farmer's Market — 9 a.m.-noon at Pope Street and College Avenue in Silver City. Info: silvercityfarmersmarket.info.

Alamogordo/Otero County
Alamogordo Otero County Farmers Market — 9:30 a.m., Tractor Supply parking lot, 2920 N. White Sands Blvd. in Alamogordo. Info: farmersmarketsnm.org.

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/Doña Ana County
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.



Author Rochelle Williams will be reading from her forthcoming book “Eye of Desire: Letters to a Dead Painter” in Alamogordo on Friday, Jan. 21. (Courtesy Photo)



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Hope in the midst of bad news

Thirty-one migrants die attempting to cross the English Channel from France.

Tension over migration on the Poland-Belarus border.

1,600 migrant deaths in the Mediterranean Sea so far this year.

The mistreatment of Haitians in Del Rio, Texas.

New complaints regarding care at the Torrance County Detention Facility in Estancia, New Mexico.

Increasingly authoritarian leaders in the three Central American countries – Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador – that are sending the most migrants to the US border. Many predict that the past Honduran

President, Juan Orlando Hernández, will be indicted and extradited to the U.S.

Lots of bad news worldwide about migration, news that might get worse as climate change forces even more to flee their home countries.

However, there are bright spots, some of which have been overlooked and underutilized to date. Take a look at five programs that are helping migrants in the Juárez-Paloma-Deming area.

We began taking food and clothing to La Casa del Migrante in late 2018 and have always been amazed at the dedication, energy and humanity of its leader, Padre Javier Calvillo. He has had up to 500 migrants a night and they have always received safety, shelter, food, medical care. He is the leader in the Juárez area.

Ruben Garcia of Annunciation House in El Paso is the unquestioned leader on the US side and has been caring for migrants for 43 years, using a vast network of resources in addition to his own shelters. When I spoke to him in October, he was expecting as many as 200 sometime that day. How can he endure this constant pressure? “The people keep me young,” he says

The multi-story Respettrans building near the international bridge in Juárez looks like a wreck from the outside but inside there is order, cleanliness, ample food and an attitude of caring. When the director, Grecia Herrera is working at her day job, the migrant residents manage the facility. For example, a young man from the state of Michoacán named Gerardo Quevedo is in charge of the ground floor which includes the cooking and eating area.

When we were last visited, about 180 migrants were staying there, mostly women with chil-



Padre Javier Calvillo with family from Honduras at La Casa del Migrante (Photos by)

dren from Michoacán.

Much of their food and clothing comes from the Dignity Mission in Placitas, New Mexico which makes huge monthly deliveries to Dr. Eva Moya in El Paso who, in turn, gets them delivered across the border to shelters in Juárez.

The Tierra del Oro shelter in Palomas is much smaller, housing about 30 when I visited on November 19 and met the new director, Nidia Tejada from Saltillo, Mexico. Migrants often arrive suddenly at any time of the day or night. Fortunately, the shelter is supplied with food, clothing, baby supplies via the work of Border Partners in Deming, a tireless volunteer named Sandra Magallanes also from Deming and the Unitarian Universalist Church in Silver City led by Barbara Gabioud.

Last, I want to mention the volunteers in Deming who started a shelter in 2018 when the Border Patrol simply dumped hundreds of migrants in their community. Volunteers initially set up housing in an old airplane hangar and then moved to the armory. There was always a sense of enormous pride in their work and I remember Aaron Sera, the city manager saying, “Our goal is to be the model shelter on the Southwest border.”

The shelter had to close when the Remain in Mexico program began and now it is a food bank which is very much needed in Deming, one of New Mexico’s poorer communities. Ariana Saldares, the co-founder of Colores United which manages the food bank, says that her plan is to build a new shelter about 10 miles south of Deming which would house 100 migrants at the beginning. “We’re always welcoming,” she says. “We have to invest in humanity.”

This is clearly a program that should be given federal support but what will happen now that the Biden administration is being forced to reinstate the Remain in Mexico program?

These shelters are not connected administratively but they have a common bond in terms of their sense of humanity. Everyone who comes north to the US to seek asylum should be treated with humanity. That’s the message that these five shelters and their leaders convey. Can our respective governments work together to fully utilize these unique programs?

Morgan Smith has been documenting conditions on the border for the last decade. He can be reached at Morgan-smith@comcast.net.



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January 2022





February Deadlines

Friday, Jan. 14 at 11AM: Space reservation, ad copy, all stories and notices for the editorial section due.

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Life is Full of Miracles

All you have to do is believe

It seems my life has always been filled with miracles. For me, the miracles wash away the hardships. I have had my share of hardships, loneliness, despair and fear. I find it is often difficult for me to remember those times because in every case they were followed by amazing blessings. Blessings that seemed like miracles. What follows are a few examples of how what seemed like I was headed for nothing but misery and darkness, only to be rescued by amazing grace. I believe they were true miracles.

When I was 13, my living situation was problematic and even dangerous. My stepfather made me the object of his wrath. He came home from World War II with shell shock. We call that PTSD (Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder) now. When he discovered his stepson wanted to be a girl, he didn't know how to deal with it. Back in 1948, nobody had heard of being transgender. So, he tried to beat the girl out of the boy. We now know that there is no cure for being transgender. Forty-two percent try to cure it with suicide. That doesn't work either, but the suffering goes away. At the age of 13, I ran away.

I was sleeping in boxcars in the railroad yard near downtown San Diego. One night it was too cold to stay in the boxcar, so I decided to walk around to keep warm. The police found me and took me to the city jail. I found myself in a cell with a lot of drunks. It was scary, to say the least. I found a dry corner that wasn't wet with piss and vomit and kept my head down until morning. When I told the police I wasn't going to go home I ended up in the juvenile detention center. I thought this was an improvement over my last living situation. I would have been content to stay there. I thought the food was good and I felt

safe. However, after a couple of months, they sent me to a foster home.

This foster home was a miracle. Not my first miracle. I had many miracles before this one, but this is a good place to start. The family was Quakers and it was the most loving home I had ever been in. The father was a librarian who worked at a small branch of the San Diego Library. The dad got me reading and was able to instill in me a love of learning. The family played music together and couldn't have been more opposite of my family.

I think it was a miracle that I ended up in that family. I lived with that family for a year, then they moved to Stockton, California, and didn't take me with them. Rather than go back to "juvy" my great aunt Lexie took me in. She lived in a small trailer, and I was able to sleep on her couch in the living room. After that, I did a lot of couch surfing. Miraculously, I always found a place to stay.

I went into a bit of detail with that first miracle, but now I will just briefly list some of the miracles that have happened to me.

When I went absent without leave (AWOL) from the Navy, I hitchhiked up to Berkeley. At that time Peter Voulkos was the artist in residence at University of California Berkeley and took me in. I had never met him before, but he befriended me and introduced me to the art scene in the Bay Area. What could have been a grim time turned out to be a wonderful time. That was a miracle.

When I turned myself in from being AWOL, they put me in the brig. I was scared to death and thought about suicide. But, after my court-martial, they sentenced me to six weeks of hard labor. Which turned out to be sweeping the docks off in San Diego. Later, they gave me a

General Discharge under Honorable Conditions. They said I was not military material. I served a total of nine months in the Navy, not counting my two weeks of being AWOL. In my mind, that whole experience was a miracle.

When I left San Diego, I was around 19. I hitchhiked back up to Berkeley and fell in with a commune. I have no idea how I met them. I am still friends with one of the members of that commune. They became my new family. That was a miracle.

Later when some of us decided to go to New York, our car broke down in Globe, Arizona. We just left it there. Then we all split up and planned to meet in Austin, Texas. I made it as far as Sanford, Arizona, and ended up staying with a jazz musician who had been a sax player for Billie Holiday. I stayed with him for three days. We smoked pot, listened to jazz, and talked about Billie Holiday. Eventually, I got a ride to El Paso, Texas. That was a miracle.

And the last one I will write about. When I was released, I walked and walked because I was afraid to hitchhike anywhere near El Paso. Finally, a cowboy picked me up and let me ride in his horse trailer with his horse. It was January and it was freezing, so I hugged the horse to keep warm. When I finally got to Austin, Texas, I knocked on the door of the place where we were supposed to meet up. Janis Joplin answered the door. All my friends had continued on to New York, so I decided to stay in Austin with Janis for the next couple of months. Now that was a miracle.

I probably could write another 20 pages about the miracles that have happened to me and are still happening in my life. I believe that if you believe in miracles, then miracles will happen. I think miracles first start with

faith. Faith in your hopes, and the faith that your hopes will come to fruition. Hebrews 11:1 says, "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." (English Standard Version) I interpret that to mean if I set an intention to do something, like, go to New York, even though I have no money and no way to get there, it will somehow come about. I had faith in my hope even though I could not see the outcome.

My whole life has been like that. Recently, when my wife and I split up, I thought I was go-

ing to be alone for the rest of my life. I didn't want to be alone, so I hoped something would happen. Now I live in a house with six other women. I have a family again.

Life is full of miracles. All you have to do is believe.

Susan Golightly, 76, has lived all over the country and has had more than her share of life changing experiences.



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Fornax, the Furnace

Warming up the night sky

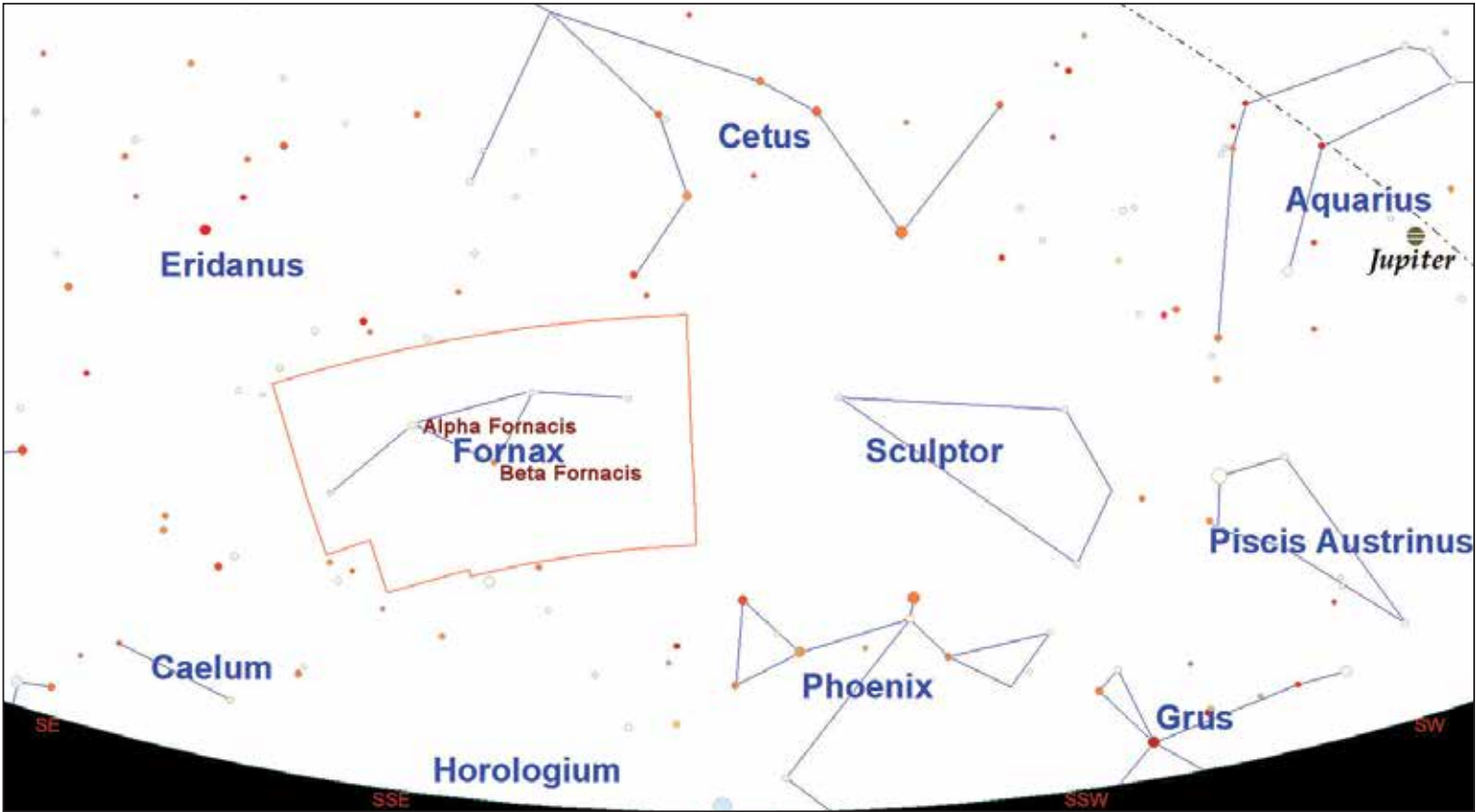
Cold January nights are warmed by a furnace hanging in our evening sky. A quarter of the way up in the southern sky is the faint constellation of Fornax, the Furnace. Composed of third magnitude and fainter stars, this constellation is in a bend of the river-constellation Eridanus that winds through this section of the sky. As a modern constellation, Fornax has no mythology associated with it.

French astronomer Nicolas Louis de Lacaille had travelled to the Cape of Good Hope in South Africa where he built an observatory on Table Bay in 1750. There he made observations of over 10,000 southern stars as well as the moon and planets over a two-year period. Lacaille constructed 14 constellations from the star catalog he compiled there. They were mostly named after scientific apparatus.

Fornax was originally called (in French) le Fourneau Chimique (the Chemical Furnace). It was later Latinized to Fornax Chimiae. In 1845 English astronomer Frances Bailey shortened the name to Fornax, along with all the other two-word names Lacaille had invented, in his British Association Catalog. It has been known as Fornax ever since.

The central three stars in Fornax form a squashed triangle with the brightest star in this constellation at its east point. This star is named Dalim (Alpha Fornacis or Alpha For for short) and it shines at magnitude +3.9. It is only 46 light-years away from us.

It is not a single star, but a double star system. With a mass that is 21 percent larger than our sun, the primary star (Alpha For A) is spectral class F8. Having been around for 2.9 billion



The faint constellation of Fornax, the Furnace, represents a chemical furnace. The stars in this constellation are no brighter than fourth magnitude. In 2003 the Hubble Space Telescope observed a tiny section of Fornax in four colors for just under a million seconds. Called the Hubble Ultra-Deep Field (HUDF), it showed an estimated 10,000 galaxies in a rectangle less than a 10th of the size of the Moon on a side. The oldest galaxy Hubble imaged here formed just 450 million years after the big bang.

years, it is a subgiant star that has just finished its time on the main sequence. It is starting to expand as nuclear fusion in its core slows and moves to a shell around the core. Alpha For A is now twice the size of our sun and will continue to get larger.

The secondary star (Alpha For B) orbits the primary every two hundred 69 years. At magnitude +6.5, it appears 4 seconds-of-arc from the primary in our sky. The secondary was closest in 1947 when they were only about a second-of-arc apart. They will be farthest apart in 2082 when they will be almost 7 seconds-of-arc apart.

This star system emits a surprisingly large amount x-ray ra-

diation. Alpha For A is a normal star, so it is not the source of the x-rays.

Alpha For B, however, is showing a great deal of activity with massive starspots (similar to sunspots on our sun, but much bigger), flares and strong solar winds carrying mass away from the star. Very young stars typically show this activity. However, since Alpha For B formed at the same time as Alpha For A, about 2.9 million years ago, it is not a young star.

A more massive star burns its hydrogen fuel so fiercely that it quickly consumes its larger supply of fuel much sooner than a smaller star with less fuel. Alpha For B started out as a binary star

in its own right. Its two stars formed fairly close together. Alpha For B's larger star reached the red giant phase before the smaller companion. The red giant's atmosphere had greatly expanded, and the nearby smaller companion started pulling hydrogen from its extended atmosphere.

The red giant's atmosphere is slowly transferred to the smaller star. The additional mass makes the smaller star burn its fuel faster just as if it had always been a larger star. This additional energy causes its surface to take on the same color as a normal (main sequence) star of that mass. Eventually, the red giant has surrendered all its atmo-

sphere to the formerly smaller star. All that is left of it is its core which no longer is fusing hydrogen, leaving it a white dwarf.

The formerly smaller star now appears as a larger, more massive, star that should have gone through its red giant phase but is still going strong. This type of star was first found in globular clusters where all the stars formed at the same time. The normal blue stars have turned into red giants, but these stars remained blue. They were given the name "blue stragglers," since they are "straggling behind" the other stars.

While we cannot see it due to its faintness, Alpha For B has a white dwarf companion

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Calendar of Events – January 2022 (MST)

| | | |
|----|------------|--|
| 02 | 11:33 a.m. | New Moon |
| 07 | 4 a.m. | Mercury greatest distance east of the Sun (nineteen degrees) |
| 08 | 6 p.m. | Venus passes between the Earth and Sun |
| 09 | 11:11 a.m. | First Quarter Moon |
| 13 | 6 p.m. | Mercury stands still |
| 17 | 4:48 p.m. | Full Moon |
| 23 | 3 a.m. | Mercury passes between the Earth and Sun |
| 25 | 6:41 a.m. | Last Quarter Moon |
| 29 | 1 a.m. | Venus stands still |

that that was originally larger and became a donor star. It was stripped to its core to energize the star the we can see today. This makes Alpha Fornacis not a double star system, but a triple star system.

The Planets for January 2022

Venus finishes its appearance in the evening sky this month. It is visible only for the first week of the new year before it passes into the sun's glare. On Jan. 1, it is only 4 degrees above the west-southwestern horizon as it gets dark, setting by 6:15 p.m. The Goddess of Love's disc is only 2 percent sunlit, but it is a huge 61.4 seconds-of-arc across. Venus moves slowly westward in northern Sagittarius as it passes between the sun and the Earth. It shines at magnitude -4.2.

Mercury is above Venus as it gets dark at the beginning of the month. It is traveling eastward from far eastern Sagittarius into central Capricornus before turning back westward, ending in eastern Sagittarius 6 degrees north of where it started. The Messenger of the Gods reaches its greatest distance from the Sun on Jan. 7, when its disc is 6.9 seconds-of-arc across and it is 56 percent illuminated. It shines at magnitude -0.5, 10 degrees above

the west-southwestern horizon as it gets dark, setting around 6:45 p.m. It disappears back into the sun's glare just after the middle of the month.

Saturn also ends its appearance in the evening sky this month. Shining at magnitude +0.7, it is moving slowly eastward in central Capricornus. At midmonth, its disc is 15.4 seconds-of-arc across while the Rings are 34.9 seconds-of-arc across which are tilted down 17.5 degrees with the northern face showing. It is 9 degrees above the west-southwestern horizon, not far from Mercury, setting around 6:45 p.m. It vanishes into the Sun's glare during the last week of the month.

Twenty-seven degrees above the southwestern horizon as it gets dark, Jupiter is moving eastward from western to central

Aquarius. It sets by 8:15 p.m., shining at magnitude -2.1. The King of the Planets' disc is 34.4 seconds-of-arc across.

After almost nine hours without a planet in the sky, Mars rises around 5:00 a.m., shining at magnitude +1.5. Its disc is just 4.2 seconds-of-arc across. The God of War is just 16 degrees above the southeastern horizon as it gets light. It moves from western Ophiuchus to central Sagittarius during the month.

After quickly passing the sun, Mercury and Venus will be in the morning sky. Venus will arrive just before the middle of the month, while Mercury waits until the last week of the month. Both will rise on the east-southeastern horizon. By the end of the month, Venus will be 19 degrees above the southeastern horizon as dawn breaks and Mercury will be only 6 degrees above the east-southeastern horizon. This gives us four planets in the evening sky at the beginning of the month, and three planets in the morning sky at the end of the month.

An amateur astronomer for more than 45 years, Bert Stevens is co-director of Desert Moon Observatory in Las Cruces.



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contact Pam Rossi at pam@lascrucesbulletin.com or 575-635-6614. We emphasize non-national-chain restaurants with sit-down, table service. With each listing, we include a brief categorization of the type of cuisine plus what meals are served: B=Breakfast; L=Lunch; D=Dinner. Unless otherwise noted, restaurants are open seven days a week. Call for exact hours, which change frequently. All phone numbers are area code 575 except

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



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

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Silver City
ADOBE SPRINGS CAFÉ, 619 N. Bullard St., 538-3665. Breakfast items, burgers, sandwiches: Sunday 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 MOUNTAIN 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, Sunday 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.
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 RESTAURANT, 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.
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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.
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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 green-chile cheeseburgers. Tuesday to Saturday L D.
BURRITOS VICTORIA, 1295 El Paseo Road, 541-5534. Burritos: B L D. Now serving beer.
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CHILITOS, 2405 S. Valley Drive, 526-4184. Mexican: Monday to Saturday B L D.
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. Pecan-smoked meats, sandwiches, steaks, seafood, craft beers: L D.
DELICIAS DEL MAR, 1401 El 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.
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PUBLISHER'S NOTEBOOK • RICHARD COLTHARP

Create Your NM To-do List

Enchanting adventure, entertainment abounds all around

It's another new year, and you may be making your list of goals and plans and hopes for 2022.

While the pandemic has cut into some of those plans, goals and hopes, maybe it has also given you a new set of eyes to appreciate what's right around you.

Chances are, if you're reading this, you are somewhere in New Mexico. And if you're reading this online or live somewhere else, you at least have an interest in New Mexico.

So, instead of planning a big European vacation, or a trip to Disney World or Disneyland, make plans right here in the Land of Enchantment. There is an incredible variety of things to see and do in this big state.

Big state is important to note. If this were Rhode Island or Vermont, all of the interesting things to do and see would be a short drive away. In New Mexico, you need to plan by regions, and build in a lot of driving time. That is good, because one of the best things about New Mexico is watching the scenery and the skies.

Also, for the most part, hotel rooms are relatively inexpensive compared to other travel destinations.

Without further adieu, here's a starter set for your New Mexico bucket list. You may or may not have interest in my specific ideas, but perhaps they can be jumping-off points for your own interests.

National Park Service sites:

- White Sands National Park – It feels like a different planet. Lie down in the white gypsum and let it draw all the stress from you. Some of the world's best sunsets. And moonrises.
- Carlsbad Caverns National

Park – Also feels like a different planet. You see things you won't find anywhere else. Don't be like me and wait until you've lived in New Mexico 13 years before you go experience this one-of-a-kind show.

- Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument – Humbling to see what was home to humans 800 years ago. Learn about the Mogollon peoples and consider how you live your own life. A bonus is all the great surrounding area, and opportunities for hiking and camping.

- Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument – Great hiking, great views, conveniently located to the other cool stuff in Las Cruces and Alamogordo.

Museums:

- Silver City Museum, Silver City – A great glimpse back into the early days of this unique town.

- Deming Luna Mimbres Museum, Deming – The building itself, created by the regionally renowned architects Trost and Trost as an armory in 1916, harkens back to New Mexico's unique role in World War I. The exhibits bring a whole range of history along with it.

- New Mexico Museum of Space History, Alamogordo – Fittingly, it's the most space-age looking museum in the state, and probably beyond. New Mexico played a surprisingly significant role in the development of space exploration, and the museum illustrates that well. Did you know that of the 12 people who have walked on the moon, two are New Mexicans?

- White Sands Missile Range Museum – Easy to incorporate a visit here with a trip to White Sands National Park, and well worth it. Lots of intriguing infor-

mation here. Did you know that President Kennedy visited the range? Or that the space shuttle landed here in 1982? Also learn about the birth of the atomic age.

- Branigan Cultural Center, Las Cruces – One of four entries in the City of Las Cruces museum system, the Branigan is another important building in itself, and features a wide variety of changing exhibits. Right downtown and across from the Las Cruces Museum of Art.

- New Mexico Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum, Las Cruces – In a society moving further away from rural settings, it's important to see the vital role this way of life had, and still has, in shaping this state.

Tourest sites:

- Toy Train Depot, Alamogordo – Great for kids of all ages, take a ride around historic Alameda Park. Especially enjoyable in the spring and fall, when Alamogordo's namesake cottonwoods are changing colors. Right next to the Alameda Park Zoo, the oldest zoo west of the Mississippi River, and a great way to spend an afternoon.

- Downtown Silver City – Walking around downtown Silver City is not only good exercise, but a bit of a time travel adventure.

The areas in and around Bullard and Broadway streets are silver mine of great finds, including art, shopping, dining and drinking. Multi-colorful and multi-cultural.

- Pancho Villa State Park, Columbus – About 30 miles south of Deming, this park offers interpretation of Villa's historic raid, and also serves as a gateway to intriguing Palomas, Mexico.

- Downtown Las Cruces Farmers and Crafts Market – Voted one of the top farmers markets

in the country, it's a great way to spend a Saturday morning. Uniquely crafted items make for great shopping. A variety of food trucks guarantee a great informal dining experience. People watching (and dog watching) at its best.

Dining recommendations:

If I listed my picks for great food in the region, it would fill up all the rest of the pages of this issue of Desert Exposure. Just trust your instincts and dive in. So many local bills of fare offer the unique food experiences of

New Mexico.

Summary:

It's not called the Land of Enchantment for nothing. Go out and find your own enchanting experiences of all kinds.

Richard Coltharp has lived in southern New Mexico since 1995, and is still finding enchanting discoveries at every turn.



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Innu
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Jogo
Male kitten, 4½ weeks, domestic medium hair

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Bert Steinzig



Shoji
Male cat 7 months old, domestic short hair

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Laurie and Paul



Chester
Male cat, about 2 or 3 years old, domestic short hair

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Monika and John



Yuugi
Male kitten, 10 weeks old, domestic medium hair

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Sadie
Pitbull, female, 1 1/2 years old

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Grinch
Rottweiler, male 1 years old

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Gandoff
Pitbull, male, 3 month old

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Linus
Beagle/aussie mix, male 11 weeks old

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Storm
Rottweiler, female, spayed, 2 years old

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Mi
Male kitten, 4½ weeks, domestic short hair



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