

DESERT exposure



40 Days, 40 Nights
Page 11



Arts Scene
Page 9



Romance in Cloudcroft
Page 8

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FEBRUARY 2023

Volume 28 • Number 2



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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK • ELVA K. ÖSTERREICH

For the Love of Film

Weaving light, art and time

Give me light, Here, New Mexico desert light strikes wonder in the heart, provides brilliant backdrops and translates to film. No winding here, just straight forward goldness at dawn, at sunset, where you always want to ride into it, into a new adventure, a story all your own.

Play with the white sand shadows as the sun goes down, flash a music video under the stars. Or take a horse drawn hearse through the flats where a black stallion stands in the crystalline clarity. Cowboys work to stay alive battling with six shooters through this metaphoric world under this unforgiving brightness.

Turn on the camera,

That rattling old reel rolling on the film scene, puts forth millimeters of celluloid now with scratches and dots, sometimes fire. They go tramping through mountains past stately old growth pines. They make their rough ways, sweating with stains spreading in their armpits, through desert sands tearing their shirts open on the mesquite. They are unstoppable, searching for that right place to take the shot and then, once

they find it, they make a whole crew follow them for the sight/site.

Action,

You never know what the silent, dark theater will bloom with when it comes alive. Our world lights up and up and our horizon can be seen on screen as races, loving, horses, drug dealers, railroads, trauma, drummers, snakes, laughter and, of course, cowboys, burst forth in shiny detail into our heads.

Stories all, allowing us to cry freely or laugh or growl. It's the light there on the screen, reflecting our New Mexico gold, that transmits the story and leaves us gasping. It's the vision of the filmmaker, sometimes confusing, sometimes terrifying and sometimes beautiful as they shine in their own light that transfer the story into a tangible way to give it to us to think about.

Now MovieMaker magazine has named Las Cruces as one of three New Mexico cities on their annual list of "Best Places to Live and Work as a Moviemaker" for 2023.

For the fifth consecutive year, Albuquerque ranks as one of the top Big Cities. For Small Cities and Towns, Santa Fe appears

on the list taking the number 1 spot, and Las Cruces joins the list ranking 7th.

"With three cities on the Moviemaker rankings list of best places to live and work in film, there is no doubt that New Mexico is the place to be for film and TV," Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham said.

In fiscal year 2022, the state announced a record-breaking \$855.4 million dollars in production spend, with approximately \$50 million attributed to production spend outside of the Albuquerque – Santa Fe corridor.

"Las Cruces is honored to be named amongst the most prestigious and well-known filming towns in America," state Senator Jeff Steinborn of Las Cruces said. "Our great locations and crew, top notch film incentives, and full-service film office makes Las Cruces and Doña Ana County an excellent filming destination."

Further advancing the New Mexico film industry and ecosystem is Lujan Grisham's recent announcement of the New Mexico Media Academy (NMMA), a collaboration with the Higher Education Department and 15 of their film and media programs statewide, Netflix, NBCUniversal, 828 Productions, and IATSE

Local 480. The NMMA will be an epicenter for industry-standard workforce training with facilities located in Albuquerque and Las Cruces.

"The reason they [the film industry] came here was for the light and the landscape," said Las Cruces artist Rush Allen. "And then what brought everyone to know New Mexico is film like the westerns."

Allen has been asked to create the official poster for the 2023 Las Cruces International Film Festival and he wants to "pull a little bit of narrative into that."

So for the film festival poster, Allen said he is pulling together a bunch of different references, combining everything together to reflect the roots of film in New Mexico. Since he went to New Mexico State University, the poster will also symbolize a message for the students.

"I wanted to represent the journey of life," Allen said. "Since I grew up here, I have always seen the Organs, the contour, as basically a metaphor for life. They change and they grow and so it feels like the different paths of life. There's always peaks and valleys."

Allen considers himself a painter of classical realism and said it is one of the biggest chal-

lenges an artist can take on.

"Every person is a puzzle with unique features," he said. "Every painting is just a new puzzle you have to figure out – the hue, value, chroma, structure, composition, light effect."

The Poster Reveal Party is on Saturday, Feb. 11 at The New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum in Las Cruces. Allen will be on hand to sign limited edition prints of the poster. The original artwork will be auctioned off at the event.

The film festival dates are April 12-16. For information and tickets visit www.lascrucesfilmfest.com

"We are all stories in the end, just make it a good one, eh?"

– Matt Smith as The Doctor

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



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Located 9 miles north of Historic Downtown Silver City, this beautiful Contemporary home combines mountain living with modern conveniences. Nestled on 4 private wooded acres, this home offers views of the Gila National Forest and those southwestern sunsets. Custom alder cabinets, antler chandelier, juniper stairway and mantel, central vacuum with an auto-dustpan feature, and Pella Windows. A formal dining room, private office/4th bedroom and two primary bedrooms, one on the main floor with walk-in shower, and double sinks combined with a sitting area that can be used as an office nook, extra sleeping space or yoga mat. Downstairs is another private bedroom and great room/kitchenette and a two car attached garage. A must see for any enthusiast. **MLS 39214. \$765,000**

Gorgeous views of Humboldt Mt! 65 acres adjoining BLM property. Minutes from Silver City & Fort Bayard Game Reserve. Property is on both sides of road. Includes 1/2 interest in well / 0.09 acre well tract. Site built only and septic needed. **MLS39481. \$195,000.**

Beautiful wooded lot in the exclusive Dos Griegos Subdivision. This .92 acre lot has city water and electric to the property line and all on a paved road with mountain views. Lot #151, which is adjacent to this lot, is also available. Site built only. Seller would prefer to sell the lots together as a package. BRING ALL OFFERS! **MLS38656. \$15,000.**

This historic two-story adobe hotel is located in Southwestern New Mexico. Built in the late 1800s, this property is thought to have served soldiers of the Buffalo Soldier Regiments of the U.S. Cavalry stationed at nearby Fort Bayard. The hotel is located in the heart of Santa Clara, New Mexico where residents are actively charting a renaissance for this charming community. Located at a gateway to the Gila Wilderness- the largest Wilderness Area in New Mexico and one of the few with protections from motorized vehicles. **MLS 39414. \$120,000**

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Spectacular views. Come build your dream home on the one of a kind lot. Views of mountains to the west, great sunset views. This wooded lot is in the exclusive Dos Griegos Subdivision. This 1.25 acres has city water and electric to the property line all on a paved road. Site built only. **MLS39101. \$38,500**

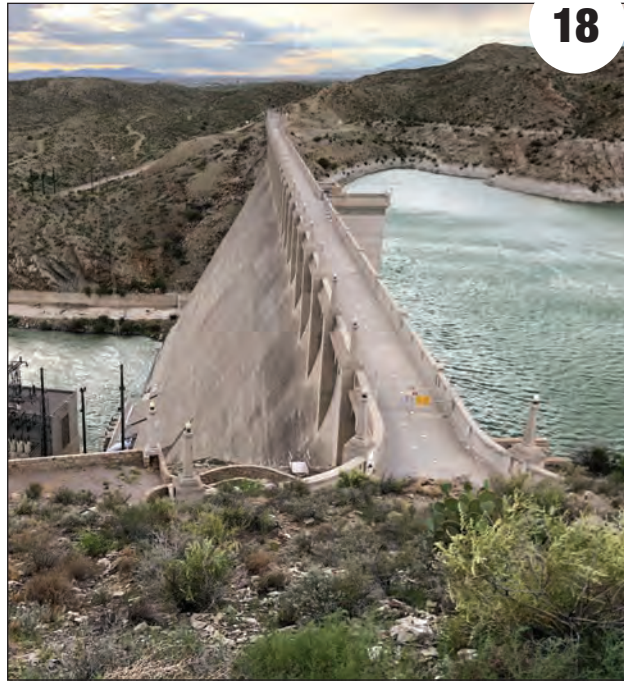
2019 doublewide with 4 bedrooms / 2 baths. Split floor plan. Large master bedroom with huge walk-in closet. Double doors into large master bathroom with soaking tub and shower. Office area with built in desk and closet. Laminate tile flooring throughout. All electric. **MLS39465. \$169,000.**

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Contents



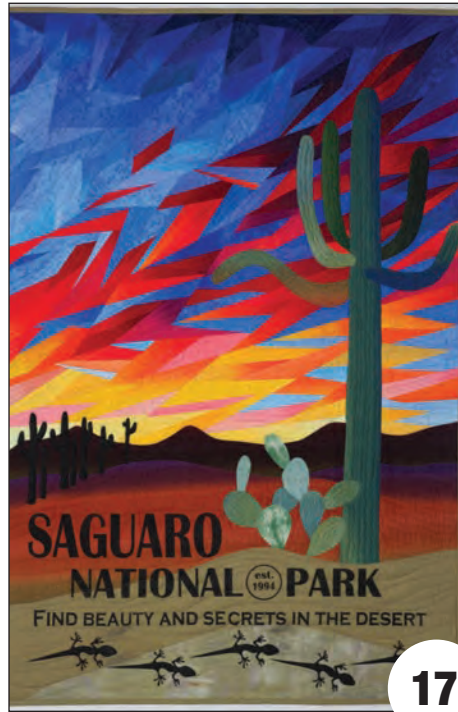
9



18



5



17

- 2 EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK • For the Love of Film**
Weaving light, art and time by Elva K. Österreich and Wendy Hamilton
- 4 RAISINGDAD • Green Slimy Stuff**
A good breakfast gone bad by Jim and Henry Duchene
- 5 GARDEN TRUTHS • Seen and Unseen**
What lies beneath the trees? by Betty Lambright
- 5 TUMBLEWEEDS • A Natural Victory**
Natural Curiosity gets generous donation
- 6 EVERYDAY OBSERVATIONS • Teens in the Borderlands**
Visiting the colors of life

- by Abe Villarreal
- 7 MAINSTREET MAGIC • Chocolate Fantasia**
Delicious tradition returns to Silver City
- 8 TUMBLEWEEDS • Mountain Romance**
Getaway to Cloudcroft for Valentine's by Sylvia Quintanilla
- 9 ARTS EXPOSURE • Arts Scene**
Upcoming area art happenings
- 11 40 DAYS AND 40 NIGHTS • What's going on in FEBRUARY?**
Area events in full swing

- 16 RED OR GREEN • Dining Guide**
Restaurant directory
- 17 QUILT TALES • Spring Fling**
Quilt show takes work, cooperation by Mia Kalish
- 18 ON THE ROAD • Damsite Day**
Delight, adventure at Elephant Butte lake
- 19 TALKING HORSES • Happy With Small Successes**
Where is the value in what we do? by Scott Thomson

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Valentine boxes full of chocolate can be found at the Chocolate Lady on the historic Mesilla Plaza, 2379 Calle de Guadalupe where a variety of chocolate treats can be found. For information call 575-526-2744. In Silver City the Chocolate Fantasia is coming up, Feb. 11, an opportunity to taste treats from businesses around the city. Visit www.chocolatefantasia.org or call 575-538-2505 for more on the event.



(Photo by Elva K. Österreich)

PHOTO OF THE MONTH



This photo by Diana Marquez was taken off of Lavender road near Elks Road in Las Cruces.

If you have a favorite recent photo depicting the nature or life of southern New Mexico please share it with us and we will consider it for publication please submit to editor@desertexposure.com or stick it in the mail to: Desert Exposure, 1740-A Calle de Mercado, Las Cruces, NM 88005.

Desert #80 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

"SWT SCM LTXOV? XCPAO C BOCHOB UCY OYNGLWDOY XO. G SGNN MFGJ DWO CHHCXM ZCXGNP JKY WOBO." - LCABGONO DOGUW, TY LTXOV JOCF GY DWO NGDDNO SCNYKD HCP KMO CBOC

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

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

Previous Solution: "THE HEALTH SECURITY FOR NEW MEXICANS CAMPAIGN, A DIVERSE COALITION OF 170 ORGANIZATIONS AND THOUSANDS OF NEW MEXICANS, HAS DEVELOPED A HOMEGROWN SOLUTION." - MARY FELDBLUM *Secret Words: "INSURED MOB PATCHY"

Congrats to #79 solvers: Mike Arms*, Will Adams*, David Pino*, Skip Howard*, Kaustuv Sengupta*, & Sue Merrick*!

March Deadlines
All stories and notices for the editorial section due Friday, Feb. 17.
Space reservation and ad copy due Monday, Feb. 20.

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RAISINGDAD • JIM AND HENRY DUCHENE

Green Slimy Stuff

A good breakfast gone bad

Sometimes, in between all the bad news, I wonder about things. Does the universe go on forever? Can life exist on other planets? Will Tide clean better than the next leading brand?

And then there's bears. Why are they so fast?

They're big, they're fat, they're lumbering... how is it they can outrun a human being? An average man running for his life can reach 12 mph. A bear chasing that man can easily catch him at 35. Even Usain Bolt, the world's fastest man, can't outrun a bear. Why

the discrepancy? Humans were designed for running. Bears, for hibernating up to 8 months out of the year. Just like my ex-wife.

What also doesn't make sense is how a good morning can turn bad in the blink of an eye. You'll remember in my last column (January 2023) I told you how, even though it was raining, my father insisted on going on his daily walk. Well, for every bad choice there is an equally bad outcome. I believe that's one of Newton's lesser-known Laws of Physics.

I was sitting in my favorite chair at the head of the kitchen

table, enjoying a nice hot cup of coffee. I'm frugal, so that leaves me extra cash for the gourmet variety. I've learned in life that the money you don't waste on nonsense you can spend on the things you really want.

My wife, meanwhile, was making breakfast. Not because she has to, but because she loves me. Also, she's the better cook. The last time I cooked the flies got together and fixed the hole in our screen door.

"Good morning, dad," she greeted my father, who walked in just as I was getting ready to eat.

I looked at my breakfast. Two eggs, crispy around the edges. Just the way I like them. Crispy bacon. Crispy hash browns. If my coffee were crispy, that would mean I was in Heaven.

"Good morning, pop," I said, but my attention was elsewhere. I was eyeing my breakfast like it was Ann-Margret at the beach.

"Good morning," he grunted, but I knew he was talking to my wife.

"Are you ready for breakfast?" she asked him.

My father ignored her question. He had something else on his mind.

"Well, I'm feeling better," he announced.

Feeling better?

I didn't even know he wasn't feeling well.

"I blew my nose this morning," he continued, settling in right beside me, "and some green stuff came out."

I'm not easily grossed out, but I don't care to hear about bodily functions, fluids, or failings when

I'm about to eat. Unfortunately, my father's usual routine is to come in and tell me about his latest struggle with constipation. I don't know how my father gets constipated, because he's always complaining how much I annoy the crap out of him. Anyway, I was trying to tune him out, so I could eat my breakfast.

"At first, my mucus was light green, and slimy..."

I cut up my eggs... "...but now, when I blow my nose..."

...grabbed a slice of bread... "...the mucus is a darker green..."

...and looked at my eggs.. "...and even more slimy."

Even more slimy? Is that possible? Slime is slime.

"I'm blowing my nose constantly..."

I dropped the bread on my plate, having lost my appetite.

"...I don't know what it is..."

My wife doesn't get grossed out the way I do. Maybe it has something to do with raising babies. Or maybe it has something to do with living with me.

"...but it sure is disgusting."

I took a sip of coffee. I couldn't agree more.

Thank you, pop, for that wonderful report.

"I'm feeling better," my father finally said. Then, to accentuate his point, he took out his handkerchief and gave his schnoz a good, hard honk. He concluded by taking a peek.

My breakfast concluded, as well.

Handkerchiefs?

Yeech!

I can't think of anything more revolting.

Unless it's green slimy stuff.

I'm not saying my father shouldn't be allowed to have a handkerchief in his pocket. I'm saying he should keep it there. He folded his handkerchief like sticky origami and stuffed it back into his pants. I'm always impressed by the decibel levels he achieves.

He blows his nose so ferociously it's surprising he doesn't find his brains in that filthy rag of his. Why can't he just use Kleenex instead?"

Kleenex, I think to myself. Ah, the brilliance of American ingenuity.

Assuming, of course, that Kleenex was invented by an American. I'd look it up, but that would require something too close to actual work. Anyway...

My breakfast... the eggs... they began looking slimy to me as well.

"Would you like some toast?" my beautiful wife offered, sensing a disturbance in The Force. "Or a cracker?"

That wasn't quite the breakfast I was hoping to enjoy.

I got up to leave the kitchen instead.

My father immediately hopped into my chair.

If I didn't know better I'd think that's what he had in mind all along.

If you think my story's funny, it's snot. theduchenebrothers@gmail.com, @JimDuchene

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GARDEN TRUTHS • BETTY LAMBRIGHT

Seen and Unseen

What lies beneath the trees?

“And don't think the garden loses its ecstasy in winter. It's quiet, but the roots are down there riotous.”

– Rumi

Some of you may remember a comic strip called “Rick O'Shay” that ran from the late 1950s until the early 80s. It was set in the western mountain town of Conniption where Rick is the deputy sheriff, and his best buddy is a somewhat reformed gunslinger called Hipshot Percussion. I always enjoyed the strip's images of snow-capped mountain ranges to visualize some landscape other than the flat dreariness of West Texas where I grew up. Hipshot was not a religious person in the traditional sense. Many Sunday frames showed him riding his horse past the town church toward a wilderness that was vastly superior to any cathedral in order to say hello to “Boss.” That approach to spirituality resonated with me and helped inform my approach to nature.

I have long felt a connection to plants, one that made me wonder if there was some innate intelligence to these beings that provide humans with oxygen and nutrition. Science is now providing tantalizing information about how trees interact with each other and their environment. This information comes from studying the symbiotic (beneficial) relationship between a root and a fungus, which is called mycorrhizae (mai-kuh-rai-zee). You could look at it as the original internet, with Mother Earth as the developer. This underground pipeline connects tree root systems, and instead of bytes of data being transferred, plant nutrients and water are exchanged between the trees.

Dr. Suzanne Simard is a professor at the University of British Columbia who has been studying this vast underground network. She and other scientists now talk of plants possessing intelligence like animals regarding learning, memory, and decision-making.

“I've used the word intelligence in my writing because I think that scientifically we attribute intelligence to certain structures and functions,” Simard said. “When we dissect a plant and forest and look at those things – Does it have a neural network? Is there communication? Is there perception and reception of messages? Will you change behaviors depending on what you're perceiving? Do you remember things? Do you learn things? Would you do something differently if you had experienced something in the past? – those are all hallmarks of intelligence. Plants do have intelligence. They have all the structures. They have all the

functions. They have the behaviors.”

Human brains have a neural network of links and nodes. In the forest, the trees are nodes and the mycorrhizae are the links. If you or I had Superman vision, we could look underground and see a vast network of information flowing between tree nodes in much the same manner as information is transferred between our brain's neurons. Plants mainly communicate with each other via chemical signals. When a caterpillar starts munching on a plant's leaves, that plant starts emitting volatile compounds that alert nearby plants to the danger. If the warned plants are healthy, they will start producing cellular chemicals to ward off the hungry caterpillar. The nearby plants have received the message and changed behavior accordingly. Scientists are even measuring acoustics in trees and learning about sounds that we can't hear, so we may need to move beyond our concepts of vocalization.

You might scoff at the idea of

this communication having any purpose or awareness of the information being exchanged. The research that really blows me away is that of kin recognition between trees and seedlings of their own kin. The biggest, oldest trees in a forest ecosystem are called the mother trees and they will provide more nutrients to their kin seedlings in relation to a strange seedling. Even when the mother tree is ill and dying, she will provide more resources to her kin. There is a purposefulness in the mother tree's actions. The depiction of the mother tree in the movie Avatar is a great visualization of what research is now proving.

It is easy during spring and summer to observe plants as being alive, what with the burst of greenery and flowering. However, we tend to look at them at this time of year as in a deep slumber. Nothing could be further from the truth. Even during the time of winter solstice, the “internet” is humming with mes-

TREES

continued on page 6

A Natural Victory



Natural Curiosity, Inc.'s 18 month long fundraising effort to purchase the Hermosa property and create a conservation field school has come to a fairy-tale ending. On Nov. 29, one day before the deadline, a generous and visionary donor made a single large donation that propelled the campaign across the finish line. There are two programs on the 2023 schedule for Hermosa, a 3-week course in May simply titled “Wilderness,” and the now semi-famous “Wild Semester” to be taught in the fall. Visit natural-curiosity.org to learn more. (Courtesy Photo)



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I'm writing a collection of poems, not sure if I should call it a book yet, about living in the borderlands. It's the hardest thing I've ever done.

In doubting moments, I ask myself if I should keep writing these poems. "What do they mean?" is another question, and "Who wants to read them?" is a third question.

And there are other questions. Then there are moments when writing feels easy and the words go from mind to arm, from arm to hand, from hand to pen, and from pen to paper. Those are the best moments.

In everything we do, simple or complex, there are questions on why we do it. Questions we ask ourselves and questions that others ask of us. For some reason, questioning our way of doing something is easier than jumping forward and doing that something.

Yet, I'm determined to keep writing. I don't know who the audience will be or what I'll find to say about this magical place I call home, but I know writing is something that won't go away.

One of the poems is titled "Mi Mexico Lindo," which translates to "My Beautiful Mexico." It's written from the perspective of a

young man named Vincente who is asking himself questions. As a teenager, he's in that in-between, where things aren't so black and white.

He sees the colors of life, and also the grays. His observations turn into thoughts. His thoughts turn into questions. As he writes, he begins to see something more meaningful, something deeper. He notices the differences in people, in cultures. He wonders what makes people happy and why happiness is not enough depending on where you live.

Vincente's mind is growing, his eyes are opening. If he keeps asking questions, even if they are his own questions, in his own mind, he will begin to understand his community, and grow a deeper appreciation for who is and what he has in his life.

When Vincente is alone, he writes down his questions and his answers:

Is everyone happy here? It feels like it when I'm at home and we are having dinner. Smiles are on everyone's faces during get-togethers and fiestas.

When my tios are sitting on the front porch without a worry in the world, I see happiness. They talk about sports, mostly futbol, about business, and about beau-

tiful women.

It seems like here it's easier for people to be happy than it is for people in America. Over there, people are worried. They have fears and anxieties.

Their bellies are full, and houses are big. Everyone has a new phone, and everything in the cars they drive works. Still, they are nervous people. They fear they don't have enough. Having everything is not enough.

Maybe they don't have every-

thing. I see smiles where I live. Doors are broken. To close them we use strings and wire hangers. There is no air conditioning, only stand-up fans in some rooms. The windows are always open.

People aren't moving so much. They sit still. They take time do nothing. These are the things that make mi Mexico lindo.

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



TREES

continued from page 5

sages being shared. Rumi was a 13th century Sufi mystic, which means he participated in the religious experience of ecstatic dance. That experience opened him up to unseen realities that

our cutting-edge science is just now acknowledging. This makes total sense...but it blows me away just the same. I hope the neighbors understand when they see me whirling around the garden that I'm just trying to channel some of Rumi's wisdom!

Betty Lambright has 40-plus years of experience in gardening. She lives in Silver City and can be reached at betty.lambright@gmail.com.




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MAINSTREET MAGIC

Chocolate Fantasia

Delicious tradition returns to Silver City

The Mimbres Region Arts Council presents Chocolate Fantasia 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11, is back with some changes to keep public health a priority, and create a new experience for the community and business owners.

All the chocolates will be served at one main downtown site called The Chocolate Factory located at The Hub Plaza, 601 N. Bullard Street. This will allow quality and health standards to be more efficiently monitored.

There will be a new fun activity called "The Golden Ticket." Businesses will have chocolate bars, some with golden tickets, to sell to people wanting to try their luck to get a Golden Ticket which can be redeemed at The Chocolate Factory for prizes valued at \$50. To add to the excitement

"Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" will be shown at the Silco Theater. And there will be costumed characters and music throughout the town.

Tasting tickets for \$25 are on sale now. Proceeds from the event benefit the programs of the Mimbres Region Arts Council.

"Silver City has its own unique charm. Add in gourmet, handmade chocolate confections, and you'll see why February is a sweet time to come visit," said Gretchen Lopez, event coordinator. "This event is one of our most anticipated annual events. We encourage those interested in attending to purchase tickets early as the event sells out each year."

Ticket holders can cast their people's choice votes for best



Silver City sprouts a figurative chocolate factory on Saturday, Feb. 11 for some delicious exploration. (Courtesy graphic)


chocolates, best costumes, best music and best business decorations on the back of their tasting tickets, and turn in their tickets by 3 p.m. at the Chocolate Fantasia Factory. Awards will be given out at the closing ceremonies at 4:30 p.m.

Proceeds from Chocolate Fantasia are used to fund the Mimbres Region Arts Council programs and events which provide

access and opportunity to anyone wanting to participate in meaningful arts experiences. For tickets or more information on the Chocolate Fantasia, visit www.chocolatefantasia.org,

call 575-538-2505 or email frontdesk@mimbresarts.org. For more information on all there is to see and do in Silver City, or to plan your visit, go to www.visitsilvercity.org.

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NM ARTIST WORKSHOP SERIES

Johnny Ortiz-Concha

2/16 Artist Talk / Q&A
Light Hall Theater

2/17 Gathering & Tasting
The Commons




WNMU PERMANENT COLLECTION

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Francis McCray Gallery

Exhibit open through February 16



Friday, March 3 @ 7PM



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Fine Arts Center Theatre
Tickets \$15



BUY TICKETS

TUMBLEWEEDS • SYLVIA QUINTANILLA

Mountain Romance

Getaway to Cloudcroft for Valentine's

Cloudcroft, New Mexico, is a little over a 90-minute drive from Las Cruces. With Valentine's Day quickly approaching, if you haven't made plans with your sweetheart, check out a few options that can be done the weekend before without a reservation.

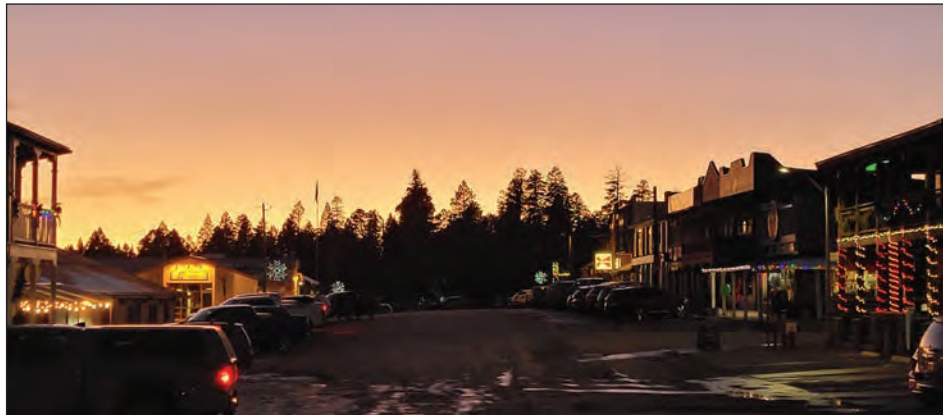
James Sewell Ice Rink

The James Sewell Ice Rink is located on 751 James Canyon Highway, is the only natural ice rink in the Southwest. Their season runs through the winter months weather permitting. Covered over the ice rink, customers can enjoy skating whether it is snowing or not. Do you need a warmup in between skating? There is a warming hut and snack bar. Grab a hot chocolate and warm up by the fire.

All skating levels are welcome. The access to the ice is at no charge. Skate rentals are \$10 for ages 10 and below and \$15 for ages 11 and up. James Sewell Ice Rink is open daily from 10 a.m.-8 p.m. For more information, check them out on Facebook.

Cloudcroft Brewing Co.

Cloudcroft Brewing Co. located on



Cloudcroft Burro Street Exchange at Dusk. (Photo by Sylvia Quintanilla)

1301 Burro Ave. With two musical stages, a sizeable selection of beer, wine and artisan pizza, stop by CBC for a down-to-Earth celebration.

From Friday to Sunday, CBC has live music from 6-9 p.m. Next to the outdoor patio is an indoor stage in the large dining area. CBC is an ideal location for a low-key Valentine's Day evening for couples and families. If you would like to listen to the music, but enjoy your company more, CBC has a smaller area by the bar with a fireplace.

On tap, CBC has its own staples on the menu like Amber Ale, Railspike Red Ale and the Trainwreck IPA. They also have several guest taps from breweries around New Mexico like Bosque Brewing Co., Canteen Brewhouse, Sandia Hard Cider, Santa Fe Brewing Co. and Sierra Blanca Brewing Company to name a few. Looking for vino to go with your pizza? St. Clair and Noisy Water Winery are also available.

Contact Cloudcroft Brewing Co. at 575-682-2337 or www.cloudcroftbrewing.com.

The Burro Street Exchange

The Burro Street Exchange located 505 Burro Avenue, in the heart of the mountain village, is a shopping center with eateries and retail shops. Take some time on your trip to relax, to shop, take in the lovely backdrop of the trees and mountains and indulge along the wooden path of the shopping strip.

Burro Street Bakery is open daily from 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Not only do they have fresh baked items like danishes, brownies, lemon bars, scones, but they have pies and espresso lattes. The Caramel Apple Walnut and Cloudcroft Pie are among a few of the local favorites. RedWall Jewelry has handmade turquoise, raw gemstone and gold pieces. Want to show your love for New Mexico. The jewelry store also has Zia Symbol items like earrings and pendants.

Contact the Burro Street Exchange at 575-964-7889 or look for them on Facebook.

Sylvia Quintanilla is a freelance reporter and may be reached at sylviaq02@gmail.com



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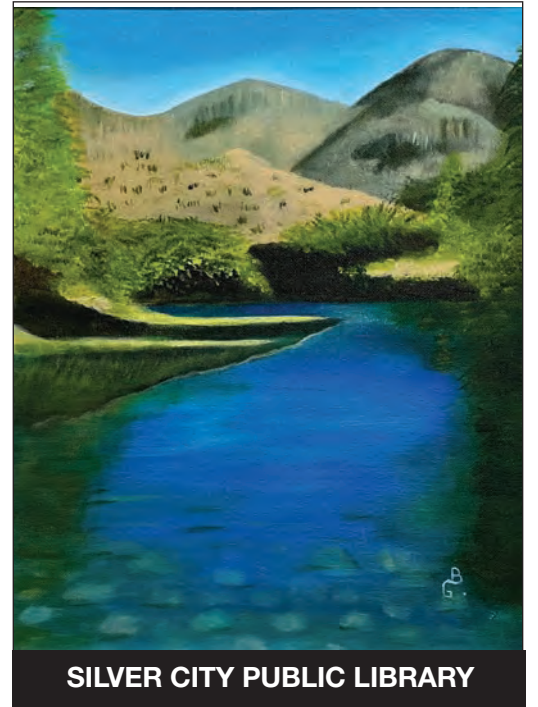
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GCAG, SILVER CITY



GALLERY 925, LAS CRUCES



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ARTS EXPOSURE • ELVA K. ÖSTERREICH

Arts Scene

Upcoming area art happenings

OPPORTUNITY

• Photographic artists are invited to participate in the third annual Grant County photography exhibition titled “Magical Light.” Exhibition dates are March 3 - April 1 at **Light Art Space** in downtown Silver City. Ready to hang photographs will be due at the gallery Feb. 27. Contact Karen Hymer to participate at karen@lightartspace.com, 520-240-7075. Light Art Space is open by appointment only the months of January and February. Info: www.lightartspace.com.

SILVER CITY

• Three artists have joined up to provide an art display at the **Silver City Public Library** opening from 3-5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3. **Diane Cornelius**, **Thia Utz**, and **Beatriz Giraldo** are the featured artists in the Public Library main room during the months of February and March 2023. They are all members of the **Grant County Art Guild**. Cornelius said, “depicting NM rivers, skies, mountains, and creatures is my passion. Using oils, acrylics and watercolor, I attempt to share the beauty of nature with others.” Utz is a local artist who enjoys oil and acrylic painting. She delights in capturing the light, shapes and colors of the natural world. Beatriz Giraldo enjoys painting and haiku inspired by the manifestations of Mother Nature and by her own introspection. Her highest intention is to convey to the viewer/reader the peace she finds through her painting and haiku, to offer a moment of pause and appreciation for the beauty in the world.

• Feb. 11 is a don't-miss day for **Downtown Silver City**, with **Chocolate Fantasia** festivities plus downtown merchants offering **Love Local** discounts and specials. The **Grant County Art Guild Gallery's** contribution includes multiple drawings

for free art. Sign up is Feb. 11 only. Winners will be notified Sunday, Feb. 12. This month, the Guild is opening a new downtown Silver City venue, **The Studio**. The motto for The Studio will be “Create, Teach, Exhibit.” Classes and open studios previously held in the GCAG Annex have moved to this new location. GCAG is pleased to welcome textile artist **Donna Foley** to its downtown Silver City gallery. Foley has been weaving for 30 years and is a well-known favorite in the local textile art community. A one person “farm to gallery” operation, Foley raises sheep, then processes, dyes and weaves their wool. Her gallery display will be ever-changing as she plans to show a rotation of tapestries and wearables. The **GCAG Gallery** is located at 316 N Bullard in Silver City, in the historic Hester House (Look for the big purple building). Hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. every day. Info: gcag.org.

DEMING

• The February exhibit at the **Deming Art Center** features the creations of the local quilting club, **The Quilting B's**. On display are bed-size quilts, along with wall hangings, challenges, dolls, bead art and smaller quilted items. Many are on sale. This year's drawing quilt is a group project featuring colorful cactus appliques. The exhibit will be up through Feb. 27. There will be a time to meet the quilters, from 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5. The Deming Art Center is located at 100 S. Gold St., Deming. Info: 575-546-3663 and at www.demingarts.org.

ALAMOGORDO

• “**Shari Adkisson: A Retrospective 1994-2023, A Lifetime of Lovingly Created Works of Art**,” is at **Otero Artspace**, located at 1118 Indiana St. (the corner of 12th Street and Indiana Avenue) in Alamogordo, and highlight her



A retrospective of the work of Shari Adkisson is on display at the Otero Artspace in Alamogordo. (Courtesy photo)

work from the 1990's to the current day. Adkisson, a self-professed life-long artist, has experimented with a number of mediums throughout the years, including fiber, photography, ceramics, Gelli printing, collage, and digital art. All of the pieces that will be on display during the exhibition are special to the artist, and include art quilts she designed for the International AIDS Quilt Project and the International Quilt Festival, including one she was asked to design after 9/11, as well as photography, pottery, collages, and digital art. A reception will be held 5-7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3. The exhibit is open from 1-4 p.m. Thursday through Sunday and continues throughout February 2023. Info: www.oteroarts.org or follow Otero Arts on Facebook.

LAS CRUCES

• The **Doña Ana Arts Council**, has moved to a new address in the **Las Cruces Arts and Cultural District** to 230 South Water Street. For most of its first 50 years, the Arts Council was located at several street addresses in what would eventually become the ACD in 2018. “We are thrilled to be in such a great spot, and back, if you will, in the ACD,” said **Greg Smith**, outgo-

ing DAarts Executive Director. The Arts Council is open from 9 a.m.- 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Info: 575.523.6403 or director@daarts.org.

• For February's **The Love of Art Month Agave Artists Gallery** welcomes new artist **Linda Gendall**. A celebration is coming up noon-8 p.m. on Saturday, Feb 11 at 2250 Calle De San Albino. Info: 575-339-9870.

• **Gallery 925** presents “**For the Love of Art – Painting and Photography Show**” featuring artists **Diane Alire**, **Diana Ayres**, **Nancy Frost Begin**, **Emmitt Booher**, **Savannah and Vikki Cordova**, **Kyle Cunningham**, **Linda Gendall**, **Shaunna Foster**, **Matt Henn**, **Candice Hogan**, **Cassandra Lockwood**, **Bonny Allen Rice**, **Jim Rodgers**, **Storm Sermay**, **David Sorensen**, **David Stevenson**, **Mel Stone**, **Gabriele Teich**, **Leslie Toombs**, **Victor Whitmill**, **Jean Wilkey**, **Nolan Winkler** and **Gail Ann Wodz-in**. The gallery is celebrating February with a show that presents a selection of New Mexico painters and photographers. The opening reception is 1-8 p.m., First Friday, Feb. 3, with artists and refreshments. The First Friday features free trolley rides from all open Mesquite

galleries from 5-8 p.m. Work will be on display from Feb. 3 to March 5. Gallery hours are 1-5 p.m. Fridays and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Artist talks are 1-3 p.m. every Sunday. Gallery 925 is located in the Mesquite Historical District near the corner of Spruce Street. Info: gallery925nm.com.

• **The New Mexico Watercolor Society Southern Chapter** presents “**For the Love of Art Exhibit 2023**,” at the **Frame and Art Center**, 1100 S. Main St., Ste 108, in Las Cruces. A reception is from 4-6 p.m. at the gallery. Info: nmwatercolor-society.org.

• **The Tombaugh Gallery** features the art work of **Song Finger**. Finger is originally from South Korea and currently lives in Las Cruces. She moved to the United States in 1971. She was passionate about being an artist and attended several art schools. She has worked in advertising and also doing freelance fashion illustration from 1981 to 2000. She has a wide variety of styles from portraits to modern art. The exhibit opens on Feb. 5 with a reception from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and continues through Feb. 26. Visit the Tombaugh Gallery at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 2000 S. Solano Drive. Las Cruces. The gallery is open 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday and 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday. Info: jelicht@gmail.com.

• **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 February, **Bonnie MacQuarrie** and **Arlene Tugel**. MacQuarrie specializes in art tile. Originally from San Francisco, she is a graduate of San Francisco State University. Her work is influenced by Marc Chagall and Henri Matisse. Tugel

ART SCENE
continued from page 9

likes the pure, glowing color that can be achieved with watercolor, her preferred medium. **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.mesillavalleyfinearts.com.

• Two exhibitions at the **New Mexico State University Art Museum** help usher in 2023 in collaboration with the Department of Art. They are focused on artists who teach. One, **"Together Through as Within,"** is scheduled from Jan. 20 through March 11, features the work of staff and faculty within the Department of Art in NMSU's College of Arts and Sciences, where each educator is also an artist. A second exhibition running concurrently is **"Ad Infinitum: Artists Against War and Imperialism,"** scheduled from Jan. 20 through May 20. The show features war-era posters and artworks from the **NMSU Permanent Art Collection** in the **Bunny Conlon Modern and Contemporary Art Gallery**. The artwork highlights twentieth-century imperialism and its effects such as militarization, the nuclear arms race, the destruction of human lives and damage to the natural environment. The UAM is at 1390 E. University Avenue. Art museum hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

• An exhibit at the **Branigan Cultural Center**, 501 N. Main St., Las Cruces, **"Vale la Pena"** (It's Worth It), features artwork by **Gina Gwen Palacios**. She is multi-media artist who draws upon her family history and Mexican American identity to create portraits of herself and her family's lived experiences. The exhibit is up through March 25. The Branigan Cultural Center is open 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Tuesday to Friday and 9 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. Saturday. There is no admission charge. Info: 575-541-2154.

• **Carlitta Harvey's** artwork is featured in a new exhibit at the **New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum** in Las Cruces. **"Rural Life in New Mexico: Paintings by Carlitta Harvey"** is open in the Museum's Arts Corridor. Growing up on a



The work at **Bonnie MacQuarie** is featured at the **Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery** in Mesilla. (Courtesy photos)

farm, Harvey's inspiration and foundation as an artist were cultivated at an early age. She painting farm scenes when she was old enough to buy her own watercolors. Coming from four generations of farmers, and marrying a cattle rancher, her love of the rural life is apparent in her paintings. She frequently creates her work "plein air," outdoors on site. There are 23 paintings in the show, which will be on display through April 2. 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.

OTERO ARTSPACE
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MARDI GRAS, SILVER CITY

40 DAYS AND 40 NIGHTS • ELVA K. ÖSTERREICH

What's going on in FEBRUARY?

Desert Exposure would like to include your special events, from any southern New Mexico community. 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 575-443-4408.

Presented by Dam historian Will Dooley. Info: 575-744-5923.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Alamogordo/Otero County

Middle Eastern Dance Class — 5:15-6:30 p.m. at Otero Artspace, 1118 Indiana Ave, Alamogordo. Longtime dance teacher Claudia Powell offers this class. Cost: \$5 over 65 and \$8 under 65 donation to Otero Arts. Info: 575-442-3029 or claudia@tularosa.net.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

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

Truth or Consequences/
Sierra County

Free Lecture: History of Truth or Consequences — 6 p.m. at Elephant Butte Lake State Park, 101 Highway 195, Elephant Butte. Learn about the town formerly known as Hot Springs.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Silver City/Grant County

"The Lone Ranger" with Clayton Moore double feature — 6:30 p.m. at the Santa Clara Armory. Film series, "How the West was Fun" presented by the Fort Bayard Historic Preservation Society. Cost: free. Info: 575-388-4862.
"Romeo and Juliet" with Virus Theater — 7 p.m. at El Sol Theater at 406 N. Bullard St., Downtown Silver City. Highly physical and emotive theatrical style brought to William Shakespeare's classic tragedy. Info virustheater@gmail.com.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Silver City/Grant County

Future engineers — 3:30-4:30 p.m. at the Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave. in Silver City. Info: silvercitypubliclibrary.org.
"Romeo and Juliet" with Virus Theater — 7 p.m. at El Sol Theater at 406 N. Bullard St., Downtown Silver City. Highly physical and emotive theatrical style brought to William Shakespeare's classic tragedy. Info virustheater@gmail.com.

40 DAYS 40 NIGHTS
continued on page 12

Support Groups

MONDAY

Silver City/Grant County

New Hope Al-Anon Family Group — noon at First United Methodist Church, 314 W. College Ave. Silver City. Info: 575-313-7791.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

Grief Share Program — 2 p.m. Thursdays at Sierra Vista Community Church, 514 N. Telshor Blvd. Info: Robin Rice, 575-536-9535.

WEDNESDAY

Silver City/Grant County

Arenas Valley Al-Anon Family Group — 6-7 p.m. at the Arenas Valley Church of Christ, 5 Racetrack Road, Arenas. Info: 575-313-7791.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

Meditation and Healing Service — 6 p.m. each Wednesday at Unity of Las Cruces, 575 N. Main St. Through meditation, experience the presence of God. A new service with Rev. Jennifer Kleitz. Info: 575-523-4847.

SATURDAY

Las Cruces/Mesilla

Epilepsy Support & Education Services — Inc. meetings. 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. second Saturday of every month at Thomas Branigan Memorial Library, 200 E. Picacho Info: 575-636-4500 or EpilepsySupportNM.org.
Breast Cancer Support Group — 9:15 a.m. on the fourth Saturday of the month, at Memorial Medical Center Annex meeting room (entrance on the west side of the hospital). Info: Maricela at 505-453-1789.

SUNDAY

Las Cruces/Mesilla

Grief Share Program — 3 p.m. Sundays at Morning Star Church, 2941 Morning Star. Program lasts for 13 weeks. Contact: Cris Fernandez, crisfern@me.com.

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DESERT exposure

50 years in Business as of Feb. 7, 2022

40 DAYS 40 NIGHTS

continued from page 11

Return of the Mischief with DJ Mischievous — 9 p.m.-midnight at Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St. Silver City. Track killer and hip-hop enthusiast. Info: 575-956-6144.

Las Cruces/Doña Ana County Las Colcheras Quilt Show — 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Las Cruces Convention Center. Info: lcqg.org/quilt-show/.

"Love, Loss and What I Wore" — 8 p.m. at the Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Main St. Las Cruces. A play of monologues and ensemble pieces about women, clothes, memory and more. Info: 575-523-1223.

Alamogordo/Otero County Launch Pad Lecture — 9 a.m. at the New Mexico Museum of Space History, 3198 State Route 2001, Alamogordo. Info: 575-437-2840.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4 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.

Live music: Open Mic — 2-4 p.m. at the Tranquil Buzz Coffee House, 112 W. Yankie St. Info: 828-542-0216.

"Romeo and Juliet" with Virus Theater — 7 p.m. at El Sol Theater at 406 N. Bullard St., Downtown Silver City. Highly physical and emotive theatrical style brought to William Shakespeare's classic tragedy. Info: virus theater@gmail.com.

Live music: The Rudy Boy Experiment — 8-11 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St. Silver City. Winging

dirty blues with that true rock 'n' roll feel. Info: 575-956-6144.

Alamogordo/Otero County Alamogordo Evening Lions Club Gun and Knife Show — 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at 401 Fairgrounds Road, Alamogordo. Cost: \$6. Info: 575-430-8681.

Sunspot Dunn Solar Telescope Tour — Starts at noon, 3001 Visitor Center Drive, Sunspot. Cost: \$5. Info: 575-434-7190.

Oliver Lee Ranch House Tour — 1-4 p.m. at Oliver Lee Memorial State Park, 12 miles south of Alamogordo, 409 Dog Canyon Road. Built in 1893, the house provides a window into the history of early ranching in the Tularosa Basin. Info: Katherine.german@emrnm.gov.

Live Music: Camerata Del Sol — 7 p.m. at Otero Artspace, 1118 Indiana St., Alamogordo. Seven-member ensemble and a string quartet performing innovative string repertoire including "Through the Refining Fire," a setting of works from the 1920s. Cost: \$25. Info: www.oteroarts.org.

Las Cruces/Doña Ana County Farmers Arts and Crafts Market — 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces and along Main Street. Info: 575-805-6055.

Las Colcheras Quilt Show — 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Las Cruces Convention Center. Info: lcqg.org/quilt-show/.

"Love, Loss and What I Wore" — 8 p.m. at the Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Main St. Las Cruces. A play of monologues and ensemble pieces about women, clothes, memory and more. Info: 575-523-1223.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5 Silver City/Grant County

Live music: Maximiliano — 2-4

p.m. at the Tranquil Buzz Coffee House, 112 W. Yankie St. Info: 828-542-0216.

Live music: Mystic Maude — 1-4 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St. Silver City. Variety blues, swing Motown and world music. Info: 575-956-6144.

"Romeo and Juliet" with Virus Theater — 2 p.m. at El Sol Theater at 406 N. Bullard St., Downtown Silver City. Highly physical and emotive theatrical style brought to William Shakespeare's classic tragedy. Info: virus theater@gmail.com.

Alamogordo/Otero County Alamogordo Evening Lions Club Gun and Knife Show — 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at 401 Fairgrounds Road, Alamogordo. Cost: \$6. Info: 575-430-8681.

Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County

Black Cat Poetry Reading — 1 p.m. at Ingo's Art Café, 422 Broadway T or C. No judgement, just enjoyment. Info: 360-628-4499.

Las Cruces/Doña Ana County "Love, Loss and What I Wore" — 2:30 p.m. at the Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Main St. Las Cruces. A play of monologues and ensemble pieces about women, clothes, memory and more. Info: 575-523-1223.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Alamogordo/Otero County Auditions for actors and singers — 7 p.m. at Otero Artspace, 1118 Indiana Ave. Alamogordo. Alamogordo Experimental Theater Company casting for a new original musical "Ghost Town," Info: 914-388-4576.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Silver City/Grant County Movie: "Frozen II" — 3:30-5:30 p.m. at the Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave. in Silver City. Info: silvercitypubliclibrary.org.

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 8

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.

Landscaping with native plants — 7 p.m. at the NMSU Herbarium/Biology Annex (NW corner of Stewart and Williams intersection). A talk by Jackye Meinecke and resented by the Native Plant Society of New Mexico, Las Cruces Chapter. In person and on Zoom. Info: lc@npsnm.org.

Alamogordo/Otero County Auditions for actors and singers — 7 p.m. at Otero Artspace, 1118 Indiana Ave. Alamogordo. Alamogordo Experimental Theater Company casting for a new original musical "Ghost Town," Info: 914-388-4576.

Middle Eastern Dance Class — 5:15-6:30 p.m. at Otero Artspace, 1118 Indiana Ave, Alamogordo. Longtime dance teacher Claudia Powell offers this class. Cost: \$5 over 65 and \$8 under 65 donation to Otero Arts. Info: 575-442-3029 or claudia@tularosa.net.

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, FEBRUARY 9

Silver City/Grant County Introduction to Stage Acting — 10 a.m.-noon, Trinity Lutheran Church, 2900 Elks Drive. Runs for four weeks. Cost: Free. Info: 614-370-2850.

"Paint Your wagon" with Clint Eastwood and Lee Marvin — 6:30 p.m. at the Santa Clara Armory. Film series, "How the West was Fun" presented by the Fort Bayard Historic Preservation Society. Cost: free. Info: 575-388-4862.

"Romeo and Juliet" with Virus Theater — 7 p.m. at El Sol Theater at 406 N. Bullard St., Downtown Silver City. Highly physical and emotive theatrical style brought to William Shakespeare's classic tragedy. Info: virus theater@gmail.com.

Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County

Square Dancing — 1-3:30 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/Doña Ana County Introduction to Stage Acting — 10 a.m.-noon at Trinity Lutheran Church, 2900 Elks Drive, Las Cruces. Four-week class. Cost: Free. Info: 614-370-2850.

Culture Series: Mountain Pride Stagecoach — 7 p.m. at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road, Las Cruces. Steve Dobrott visually relates his research on the old stagecoach that ran the Hillsboro stage line 1889-1916. Info: 575-522-4100.

"Love, Loss and What I Wore" — 7 p.m. at the Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Main St. Las Cruces. A play of monologues and ensemble pieces




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es about women, clothes, memory and more. Info: 575-523-1223.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Silver City/Grant County

Game Day — 3:30 p.m. at the Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave. in Silver City. Info: silvercitypubliclibrary.org.
“Romeo and Juliet” with Virus Theater — 7 p.m. at El Sol Theater at 406 N. Bullard St., Downtown Silver City. Highly physical and emotive theatrical style brought to William Shakespeare’s classic tragedy. Info virus theater@gmail.com.

Las Cruces/Doña Ana County Diamonds and Denim father and daughter dance — 6-8 p.m. at the Frank O’Brian Papen Community Center, 304 W. Bell Ave. Dinner, entertainment, a photo booth and a parting gift are included. Info/registration: 575-541-2454.
“Matilda the Musical” — 7:30 p.m. at the Las Cruces Community Theatre, 313 N. Main St. Downtown Las Cruces. Production based on the novel by Roald Dahl.
“Love, Loss and What I Wore” — 8 p.m. at the Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Main St. Las Cruces. A play of monologues and ensemble pieces about women, clothes, memory and more. Info: 575-523-1223.

SATURDAY, FEB. 11

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.

Volunteer Appreciation Day: Literacy Link-Leamos — noon-2 p.m. at the Silver City Library. Everyone is welcome. Info: director@literacylinkleamos.org.

Poetry reading — 2-4 p.m. at the Tranquil Buzz Coffee House, 112

W. Yankie St. Info: 828-542-0216.
“Romeo and Juliet” with Virus Theater — 7 p.m. at El Sol Theater at 406 N. Bullard St., Downtown Silver City. Highly physical and emotive theatrical style brought to William Shakespeare’s classic tragedy. Info virus theater@gmail.com.
Live music: Alex Wilkerson & his Band — 8-11 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St. Silver City. Indie rock with surf tendencies. Info: 575-956-6144.

Alamogordo/Otero County

Alamogordo Otero County Farmers Market — 8-10 a.m. in Alameda Park, 1987 White Sands Blvd. in Alamogordo. Info: farmersmarketsnm.org.

Oliver Lee Ranch House Tour — 1-4 p.m. at Oliver Lee Memorial State Park, 12 miles south of Alamogordo, 409 Dog Canyon Road. Built in 1893, the house provides a window into the history of early ranching in the Tularosa Basin. Info: Katherine.german@emnrn.nm.gov.
Camarada: Tango Obsession — 7 p.m. at the Flickinger Center for Performing Arts, 1110 New York Ave. in Alamogordo. A delicious variety of tango styles for this program of Tango Nuevo. Info: 575-437-2202.

Truth or Consequences/Sierra County

Second Saturday Art Hop — 6 p.m. downtown Truth or Consequences. Info: director@tocmainstreet.org.

Las Cruces/Doña Ana County Farmers Arts and Crafts Market — 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces and along Main Street. Info: 575-805-6055.

Poetry, Comedy and Music — 6

p.m. at Art Obscura, 32 Harrelson Dt. Las Cruces. Fundraiser for NAMI of Southern New Mexico. Info: 575-494-7256.
“Matilda the Musical” — 7:30 p.m. at the Las Cruces Community Theatre, 313 N. Main St. Downtown Las Cruces. Production based on the novel by Roald Dahl.
“Love, Loss and What I Wore” — 8 p.m. at the Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Main St. Las Cruces. A play of monologues and ensemble pieces about women, clothes, memory and more. Info: 575-523-1223.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Silver City/Grant County

Live music: Paul Hotvedt — noon-2 p.m. p.m. at the Tranquil Buzz Coffee House, 112 W. Yankie St. Info: 828-542-0216.
“Romeo and Juliet” with Virus Theater — 2 p.m. at El Sol Theater at 406 N. Bullard St., Downtown Silver City. Highly physical and emotive theatrical style brought to William Shakespeare’s classic tragedy. Info virus theater@gmail.com.

Alamogordo/Otero County New Mexico Museum of Space History Astronomy League — 7 p.m. at the Clyde W. Tombaugh Education Building on the campus of the Museum of Space History, front classroom. Info: www.nmspacemuseum.org.

Truth or Consequences/Sierra County

T or C Story Lab — noon-1 p.m., at El Cortez Theater, 415 Main St. T or C. Info: torcstorylab@gmail.com.

Las Cruces/Doña Ana County “Matilda the Musical” — 2 p.m. at the Las Cruces Community Theatre, 313 N. Main St. Downtown Las Cruces. Production based on

the novel by Roald Dahl.
“Love, Loss and What I Wore” — 2:30 p.m. at the Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Main St. Las Cruces. A play of monologues and ensemble pieces about women, clothes, memory and more. Info: 575-523-1223.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Silver City/Grant County Widows Community — 10:30 a.m. sign in at Cross Point Church, 11600 U.S. Highway 180 E. Entertainment is followed by lunch. Everybody welcome. Cost: Lunch is \$14. Info: jimccord@yahoo.com.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Silver City/Grant County Silver City Public Library program: Robot building — 4-6 p.m. at the Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave. in Silver City. Info: silvercitypubliclibrary.org.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 15

Silver City/Grant County Silver City Farmers Market — 3-6 p.m. 3025 U.S.-180 in Silver City. Info: www.silvercityfarmersmarket.info.

Truth or Consequences/Sierra County

Free Lecture: Creepy crawlies of Elephant Butte Lake State Park — 6 p.m. at Elephant Butte Lake State Park, 101 Highway 195, Elephant Butte. Learn about the town formerly known as Hot Springs. Presented by Austin Wilson. Info: 575-744-5923.

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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Silver City/Grant County “They Call Me Trinity” a classic satire — 6:30 p.m. at the Santa Clara Armory. Film series, “How the West was Fun” presented by the Fort Bayard Historic Preservation Society. Cost: free. Info: 575-388-4862.

Truth or Consequences/Sierra County

Square Dancing — 1-3:30 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, FEBRUARY 17

Deming/Luna County State Park Astronomy Program — 6 p.m. at Rockhound State Park. Info: 575-536-2800.

Las Cruces/Doña Ana County “Matilda the Musical” — 7:30 p.m. at the Las Cruces Community Theatre, 313 N. Main St. Downtown Las Cruces. Production based on the novel by Roald Dahl.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18

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.
Live music: Open Mic — 2-4 p.m. at the Tranquil Buzz Coffee House, 112 W. Yankie St. Info: 828-542-0216.

State Park Astronomy Program — 6 p.m. at City of Rocks State Park. Info: 575-536-2800.

Live music: The Chumlees — 8-11 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery, 200 N.

40 DAYS 40 NIGHTS

continued on page 14

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40 DAYS 40 NIGHTS
continued from page 13

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**Alamogordo/Cloudcroft/
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.

Oliver Lee Ranch House Tour — 1-4 p.m. at Oliver Lee Memorial State Park, 12 miles south of Alamogordo, 409 Dog Canyon Road. Built in 1893, the house provides a window into the history of early ranching in the Tularosa Basin. Info: Katherine.german@emnrd.nm.gov.
Meet live birds of prey — 1-4 p.m. at Oliver Lee Memorial State Park, 12 miles south of Alamogordo, 409 Dog Canyon Road. Meet a hawk, owl and vulture in person with New Mexico Raptors. Info: Katherine.german@emnrd.nm.gov.

**Truth or Consequences/
Sierra County**

Farmers Market — 8:30-11 a.m. at Ralph Edwards Park, Riverside at Cedar in T or C. Fresh seasonal produce, baked goods, prepared

foods and handmade items. Info: 575-894-9375.
Damsite Day 2023 — 11 a.m. start at the Elephant Butte Damsite, 55 Damsite Road, T or C. Includes Casita Art Crawl, Polar Bear Plunge, and music and strolling in the evening. Info: 575-894-2073.
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.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County Vines in the Pines Wine Festival — noon-6 p.m. at the Ruidoso Convention Center, 111 Sierra Blanca Drive, Ruidoso. Sip and shop wine, handmade goodies and more. Info: 575-257-7395.

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.

Weaving for Justice textile sale — 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at First Christian Church Atrium, 1809 El Paseo Road, all proceeds go to Maya weaving cooperatives in Chiapas, Mexico. Info: www.weaving-for-justice.org.

Las Cruces/Doña Ana County "Matilda the Musical" — 7 p.m. at the Las Cruces Community The-

atre, 313 N. Main St. Downtown Las Cruces. Production based on the novel by Roald Dahl.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19 Silver City/Grant County
Live music Tim and Sister Jo — noon-2 p.m. at the Tranquil Buzz Coffee House, 112 W. Yankie St. Info: 828-542-0216.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County Vines in the Pines Wine Festival — noon-6 p.m. at the Ruidoso Convention Center, 111 Sierra Blanca Drive, Ruidoso. Sip and shop wine, handmade goodies and more. Info: 575-257-7395.
Las Cruces/Doña Ana County **"Matilda the Musical"** — 2 p.m. at the Las Cruces Community Theatre, 313 N. Main St. Downtown Las Cruces. Production based on the novel by Roald Dahl.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21 Silver City/Grant County
Movie: "Toy Story" — 3:30-5:30 p.m. at the Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave. in Silver City. Info: silvercitypubliclibrary.org.
Mardi Gras at the Toad — 8-11 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St. Silver City. Cajun feast, party favors and live music with the Oliver White

Group. Info: 575-956-6144.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 22 Silver City/Grant County
Silver City Farmers Market — 3-6 p.m. 3025 U.S.-180 in Silver City. Info: www.silvercityfarmersmarket.info.
Arenas Valley Al-Anon Family Group — 6-7 p.m. at the Arenas Valley Church of Christ, 5 Race-track Road, Arenas. Info: 575-313-7791

Alamogordo/Otero County Middle Eastern Dance Class — 5:15-6:30 p.m. at Otero Artspace, 1118 Indiana Ave, Alamogordo. Longtime dance teacher Claudia Powell offers this class. Cost: \$5 over 65 and \$8 under 65 donation to Otero Arts. Info: 575-442-3029 or claudia@tularosa.net.

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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23 Silver City/Grant County
"Blazing Saddles" with Slim Pickins and Gene Wilder — 6:30 p.m. at the Santa Clara Armory. Film series, "How the West was

Fun" presented by the Fort Bayard Historic Preservation Society. Cost: free. Info: 575-388-4862.

Truth or Consequences/Sierra County Square Dancing — 1-3:30 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, FEBRUARY 24 Silver City/Grant County
Create a February Craft — 3:30-4:30 p.m. at the Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave. in Silver City. Info: silvercitypubliclibrary.org.

Truth or Consequences/Sierra County Annual Gathering of Quilts — 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Truth or Consequences Civic Center/Ralph Edwards Auditorium, 400 W. Fourth St. T or C. An annual display featuring all locally made quilts, appraisals, vendors and a drawing. Info: 575-894-2959.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Billy the Kid Festival: "The Trial of Billy the Kid" — 7 p.m. at the Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St., Las Cruces. Directed by Ross

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Las Cruces/Doña Ana County "Matilda the Musical" — 7 p.m. at the Las Cruces Community Theatre, 313 N. Main St. Downtown Las Cruces. Production based on the novel by Roald Dahl.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Silver City/Grant County Silver City Farmers Market — 9 a.m.-12 p.m. 901 N. Pope St. in Silver City. Info: www.silvercityfarmersmarket.info.

Storytelling — 2-4 p.m. at the Tranquil Buzz Coffee House, 112 W. Yankie St. Info: 828-542-0216.

Live music: Lottie & the Ohm Wreckers — 8-11 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St. Silver City. A night of dance music. Info: 575-956-6144.

Alamogordo/Otero County Alamogordo Otero County Farmers Market — 8-10 a.m. in Alameda Park, 1987 White Sands Blvd. in Alamogordo. Info: farmersmarketsnm.org.

Oliver Lee Ranch House Tour — 1-4 p.m. at Oliver Lee Memorial State Park, 12 miles south of Alamogordo, 409 Dog Canyon Road. Built in 1893, the house provides a window into the history of early ranching in the Tularosa Basin. Info: Katherine.german@emnrd.nm.gov.

Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County Annual Gathering of Quilts — 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Truth or Consequences Civic Center/Ralph Edwards Auditorium, 400 W. Fourth St. T or C. An annual display featuring all locally made quilts,

appraisals, vendors and a drawing. Info: 575-894-2959.

Las Cruces/Doña Ana County Farmers and Crafts Market — 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces and along Downtown Main Street. Info: 575-805-6055.

Billy the Kid Festival movie: "Young Guns" — 1 p.m. at the Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St., Las Cruces. A group of young gunmen, led by Billy the Kid, become deputies to avenge the murder of a rancher. Info: 575-541-2290.

Billy the Kid Festival: "Sing the Legend" — 7 p.m. at the Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St., Las Cruces. A musical presentation with Crow and Karla and more. Info: 575-541-2290.

Las Cruces/Doña Ana County "Matilda the Musical" — 7 p.m. at the Las Cruces Community Theatre, 313 N. Main St. Downtown Las Cruces. Production based on the novel by Roald Dahl.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Silver City/Grant County Live music: 3-Rivers — 2-4 p.m. at the Tranquil Buzz Coffee House, 112 W. Yankie St. Info: 828-542-0216.

Las Cruces/Mesilla Billy the Kid Festival: "The Trial of Billy the Kid" — 2 p.m. at the Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St., Las Cruces. Directed by Ross Marks, this play recreates the trial of the famous outlaw. Followed by a talk about Billy's actual murder trial with a historical perspective by David G. Thomas. Info: 575-541-2290.

"Matilda the Musical" — 2 p.m. at the Las Cruces Community The-

atre, 313 N. Main St. Downtown Las Cruces. Production based on the novel by Roald Dahl.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Silver City/Grant County Minecraft — 4-6 p.m. at the Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave. in Silver City. Info: silvercity-publiclibrary.org.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1

Silver City/Grant County Arenas Valley AI-Anon Family Group — 6-7 p.m. at the Arenas Valley Church of Christ, 5 Race-track Road, Arenas. Info: 575-313-7791

Alamogordo/Otero County Middle Eastern Dance Class — 5:15-6:30 p.m. at Otero Artspace, 1118 Indiana Ave, Alamogordo. Longtime dance teacher Claudia Powell offers this class. Cost: \$5 over 65 and \$8 under 65 donation to Otero Arts. Info: 575-442-3029 or claudia@tularosa.net.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story — 7 p.m. at the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts, 108 Spender Road, Airport Highway 220, Alto. A Broadway hit, the tale of the young rock icon's rise to fame. Info: 575-336-4800.

Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County Free Lecture: What Lives in the Lake? — 6 p.m. at Elephant Butte Lake State Park, 101 Highway 195, Elephant Butte. Learn about the town formerly known as Hot Springs. Presented by Chris Bolen. Info: 575-744-5923.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

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

THURSDAY, MARCH 2

Silver City/Grant County "Rustlers' Rhapsody" spoof of singing cowboys and white hat good guys — 6:30 p.m. at the Santa Clara Armory. Film series, "How the West was Fun" presented by the Fort Bayard Historic Preservation Society. Cost: free. Info: 575-388-4862.

SATURDAY, MARCH 4

Alamogordo/Otero County Children's hour puppet play: "A Packrat's Holiday: Thistletoe's Gift" — 10 a.m.-noon at Otero Artspace, 1118 Indiana Ave., Alamogordo. Linda Wilson, children's author, performs the show based on her book written for ages 3-8.

Info: oteroarts.org.
Book Talk with Jennifer Bohnhoff: "Where Duty Calls" — 1p.m. at Otero Artspace, 1118 Indiana Ave., Alamogordo. Bohnhoff will talk about the history behind her book a middle grade novel set in New Mexico during the civil war. Info: oteroarts.org.

Ruidoso/Lincoln County Rhythm of the Dance — 7 p.m. at the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts, 108 Spender Road, Airport Highway 220, Alto. Award winning show enters 22nd year of dance brilliance. Info: 575-336-4800.

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



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This project made possible by the New Mexico Arts, a Division of the Department of Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Red or Green? is Desert Exposure's guide to dining in southwest New Mexico. We are in the process of updating and modifying these listings.

We 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!



GRANT COUNTY

Silver City

ADOBE SPRINGS CAFÉ, 614 N. Bullard St., 538-3665. Breakfast items, burgers, sandwiches: Sunday B L, all week B L D.
BIRDWELL'S VINTAGE VIBES, 602 N. Bullard St. 956-6467.
CAFÉ OSO AZUL AT BEAR MOUNTAIN LODGE, 60 Bear Mountain Ranch Road, 538-2538. B L, special D by reservation only.
CHAOS SANDWICHES, 801 N. Hudson St. 654-8175.
CHINESE PALACE, 1010 Highway 180 E, 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.
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.
GOLDEN STAR, 1602 Silver Heights Blvd., 388-2323. Chinese: L D
GRINDER MILL, 403 W. College Ave., 538-3366. Mexican: B L D.
HIGH DESERT PIES, 315 N. Texas St.
JALISCO CAFÉ, 103 S. Bullard St., 388-2060. Mexican. Monday to Sat-

urday 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., 534-4980. 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, 601 N. Bullard St. in the Hub 519-0955.
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.
SILVER BOWLING CENTER CAFÉ, 2020 Memory Lane, 538-3612. American, Mexican, hamburgers: Daily L D.
TASTE OF VEGAS, 303 E. 13th St., 534-9404. Daily L.
TRANQUILBUZZ COFFEE HOUSE, 300 N. Arizona St. 956-6476.
WRANGLER'S BAR & GRILL, 2005 Hwy. 180E, 538-4387. Steak, burgers, appetizers, salads: L D.
W&Z ASIAN BISTRO AND SUSHI BAR, 1740 US HWY 180

956-6219.

WOLF GROUNDS COMMUNITY COFFEE HOUSE & CAFE, 188 E. 8th St. 284-6708.

Bayard

EL BURRITO CALIENTE, 106 Hurley Ave., 575-537-3967
M & A BAYARD CAFÉ, 1101 N. Central Ave., 575-537-2251

Hurley

THE PATIO 100 Cortez Ave., 575-537-4938

Mimbres

LA TIENDA (RESTAURANT) DEL SOL 2674 Highway 35, San Lorenzo, 575-536-3140.

Pinos Altos

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

DOÑA ANA COUNTY

Las Cruces & Mesilla

ABRAHAM'S BANK TOWER RESTAURANT, 500 S. Main St. 434, 523-5911. American: Monday to Friday B L.
ANDELE'S DOG HOUSE, 1983 Calle del Norte, 526-1271. Mexican plus hot dogs, burgers, quesadillas: B L D.
ANDELE RESTAURANTE, 1950 Calle del Norte, 526-9631. Mexican: Monday B L, Tuesday to Sunday B L D.
AQUA REEF, 141 N. Roadrunner Parkway, 522-7333. Asian, sushi: LD.
THE BEAN, 2011 Avenida de Mesilla, 527-5155. Coffeehouse.
THE BEAN AT JOSEFINA'S, 2261 Calle de Guadalupe, 652-3337. Eclectic, B L. Closed Thursday.
A BITE OF BELGIUM, 741 N. Alameda St. No. 16, 527-2483, www.abiteofbelgium.com. Belgium and American food: Daily B L.

BOBA CAFÉ, 1900 S. Espina St., Ste. 8, 647-5900. Sandwiches, salads, casual fare, espresso: Monday to Saturday L D.

BRAVO'S CAFÉ, 3205 S. Main St., 526-8604. Mexican: Tuesday to Sunday B L.

BURGER NOOK, 1204 E. Madrid Ave., 523-9806. Outstanding green-chile cheeseburgers. Tuesday to Saturday L D.

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

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

CHACHI'S RESTAURANT, 2460 S. Locust St.-A, 522-7322. Mexican: B L D., 505 Joe Gutierrez St., Doña Ana.
CHILITOS, 2405 S. Valley Drive, 526-4184. Mexican: Monday to Saturday 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.

DAY'S HAMBURGERS, 2420 W. Picacho Ave. Suite B, 386-0554.

DAY'S HAMBURGERS, 2420 W. Picacho Ave. Suite B, 386-0554. 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

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

champagne brunch buffet.

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

ENRIQUE'S MEXICAN FOOD, 830 W. Picacho Ave., 647-0240.

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

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

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

THE GAME II: EXTRA INNINGS SPORTS BAR & GRILL, 4131 Northrise Drive, 373-4263. Live music on weekends. American, Southwest, now serving weekend brunch 10 a.m. Saturdays and Sundays: L D.

MEZCLA, 705 S. Telshor Blvd. (Hotel Encanto), 532-4277. Mexican: BLD.
GO BURGER DRIVE-IN, Home of the Texas Size Burrito, 1008 E. Lohman Ave. , Las Cruces, NM 88005, 524-9251. Monday - Saturday, 7 a.m. - 3 p.m. Specializing in relleno burritos and mexican food.

GOLDEN STAR CHINESE FAST FOOD, 1420 El Paseo Road, 523-2828. Chinese: L D.

GRANDY'S COUNTRY COOKING, 1345 El Paseo Road, 526-4803. American: B L D.

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

HACIENDA DE MESILLA, 1803 Avenida de Mesilla, 652-4953.

Steaks, barbecue, seafood, sandwiches, salads, pasta: L D.

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

KEVA JUICE, 1001 E. University Ave., 522-4133. Smoothies, frozen yogurt: B L D.

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

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

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

LE RENDEZ-VOUS CAFÉ, 2701 W. Picacho Ave. #1, 527-0098.

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

LORENZO'S PAN AM, 1753 E. University Ave., 521-3505. Italian, pizza: L D.

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

LOS COMPAS CAFÉ, 603 S. Nevarez St., 523-1778. Mexican: B L D.

LOS COMPAS, 1120 Commerce Drive, 521-6228. Mexican: B L D.

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

LOS MARIACHIS, 5600 Bataan Memorial E., 373-0553. Mexican, L D.

LA MEXICANA TORTILLERIA, 1300 N. Solano Drive. 541-9617. Mexican: B L D.

MATTEO'S, 1001 E. University Ave. C-1, and 138 S. Main St. 888-4310, Authentic Mexican: Monday through Saturday: B L D. Wonderfully simple menu, pleasant dining room and delicious aguas frescas.

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QUILT TALES • MIA KALISH

Spring Fling

Quilt show takes work, cooperation

More than a dozen people have labored for more than a dozen months to bring the Las Cruces Quilt Guild “Spring Fling” Quilt Show to fruition. It is scheduled for Feb. 3-4 at the Las Cruces Convention Center. They have created an event in which the excitement spreads beyond quilters and their families and out into the community at large.



Snail Trails raffle quilt, Best of Show award winner at Doña Ana County Fair, 2022. (Photo by Dianne Herrmann)

Putting on a show such as this is a nearly Herculean task with many moving parts. Efforts began toward the end of 2021, when members responded to emails from president Dianne Herrmann to chair show committees. These committees would select vendors; arrange for judges; plan the quilt intake and return; and, ensure the arrival of the racks and curtains used in the exhibit. And critically, solicit guild volunteers to help handling the many beautiful quilts at the different stages of the process.

Care is being taken to see that visitors could enjoy the exhibit comfortably, assisted by “angels” who would answer questions about quilts and quilting while ensuring that visiting hands were kept away from the quilts to keep them clean and safe.

Part of the planning effort included development of blueprints of the main ball room for that showed where and how quilt racks would be set up and how the vendor area would be structured. These seemingly minuscule details must conform to New Mexico State Code and are very important.

Every quilt show, regardless

of where it’s held, has a featured artist. This year, a special exhibit will feature art quilter Vicki Conley’s famous National Park series and she will teach a two-day workshop on the unique machine pieced, turned edge technique that she uses to create her famous quilts.

Makers of the top quilts in judged categories will be awarded ribbons and monetary prizes. This year’s judge is Nancy Fuka from Lamy. She is certified by the National Association of Certified Quilt Judges.

Many people in and around the quilting community contribute to the excitement of the event by sponsoring the category prizes like best appliqué; best use of color and best hand quilting and best machine quilting – longarm, respectively. And, Conley, the featured artist, is sponsoring best machine quilting – stationary.

Not all the “Best of...” awards are based on quilting skills. The Women’s Information Network is sponsoring the Viewer’s Choice Award, which is selected by attendees’ votes. The Judge’s Choice Award is based on the judge’s personal choice, in other words, the quilt the judge liked best. Sometimes a quilt touch-

es an emotion or a memory for those who interact with it, and these two awards recognize the quilts that start songs in one’s heart.

Local quilt shops participate both as vendors, offering beautiful fabric and sometimes hands-on demonstrations, and as sponsors. This year’s show theme is Spring Fling, and Threadbear is sponsoring the award that the show judge has decided most authentically represents the theme. The local shops may choose to sponsor a category that represents one of their specialties or particular interests, like Sew What’s New with their ongoing sponsorship of the Best Embroidery category. With the exception of Viewer’s Choice, which won’t be determined until Saturday afternoon, attendees will be able to see the winning quilts and admire the gorgeous rosettes affixed to them.

The two top prizes this year are the Best of Show Award and the Sponsor’s Choice Award.

Every quilt has a story, and like the Viewer’s Choice and

Judge’s Choice awards, Sponsor’s Choice award creates a window for someone to say, I just liked it!

Attendees will be able to purchase last-minute raffle tickets for the exquisite “snail trails” quilt created by Guild members that won both Best of Show and Best Machine Quilted, Track Mounted Machine at the Southern New Mexico State Fair this past fall.

Spring Fling is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Tickets are \$7 for one day or \$12 for both days and may be purchased at the door.

Mia Klish lives in tiny San Miguel, NM. She began sewing couture clothing at



16, got away from it as life took over; and then became fascintaed with quilting about 5 years ago. Follow her on Instagram @Joe’sRoomQuilts.

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The view of Elephant Butte lake from the Damsite property



(Photo by Elva K. Österreich)

ON THE ROAD

Damsite Day

Delight, adventure at the lake

Elephant Butte Lake's Damsite Day from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Feb. 18, is at the Damsite Historic District just 5 miles east of Truth or Consequences. Festivities include the annual Polar Bear Plunge at the marina, 20+ arts and crafts vendors, local food, displays and demonstrations by the Sierra County Rock and Gem Society, 1,000 luminaria, historic Damsite tours, and music. Admission is free.

The day kicks off with more than 20 vendors offering items such as one-of-a-kind art, punched tin art, jewelry, various fiber arts, botanicals, and more. Vendors will be housed in the 1940s-era casitas as well as rooms in the historic lodge. For those who enjoy jumping into the inviting waters of Elephant Butte Lake in February, sign up for the Polar Bear Plunge by calling Damsite at 575-894-2073, go to the Elephant Butte Historic District events page on Facebook, or simply show up. Free hot dogs for jumpers and watchers alike.

When you've thawed out, check out the minerals

on display and rock tumbling demonstrations by the Sierra County Rock and Gem Society (SCRAGS). Posole, potato soup, and pastries will be on hand for purchase at the Geronimo Springs Museum booth, and Big Lou will sell kettle corn.

Throughout the day, free mini-tours will fill you in on the extensive history of the dam. For example, Elephant Butte got its name from a volcanic formation in the lake that resembles an elephant—your tour guide will point it out. Also, the lake is New Mexico's largest body of water, and the dam is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Take a tour and find out why.

From 5 pm to 8 p.m., stroll the grounds of the Historic District to ooh and ahh at 1,000 luminaria, accompanied by music from RGeE Duo. Hot chocolate, hot dogs, and soft pretzels await at the Welcome Center.

It's a three-day Presidents Day weekend, so book your favorite soaking spot in T or C and be part of the dam festival.



"You become responsible forever for what you've tamed."

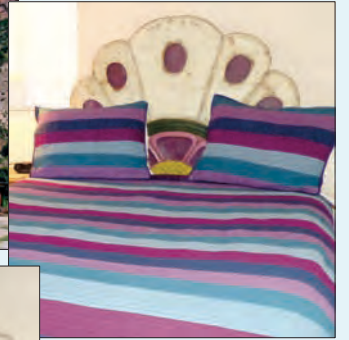
—Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

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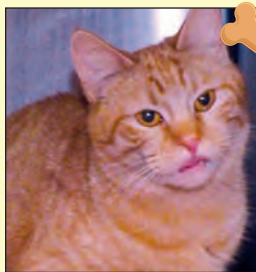
Monthly
Vaccination
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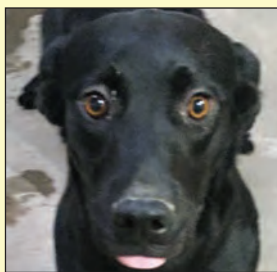
Kris
Shepherd/husky, male, 1-2 yrs

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Blitz
adult female, orange tabby,
about 1 yr

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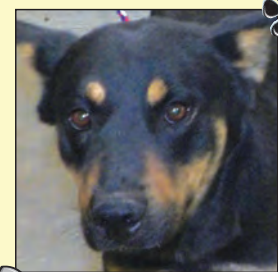
Ebony, Lab mix, female
5 months

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Chise, DSH Tortie, female
about 8 months

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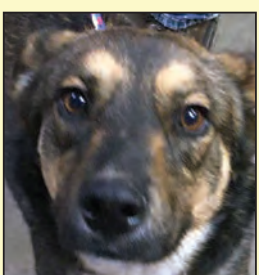
Maple, Shepherd/Heeler,
female, about 1 yr

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Joy, DSH Tortie
female, about 1 yr

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MONIKA AND JOHN



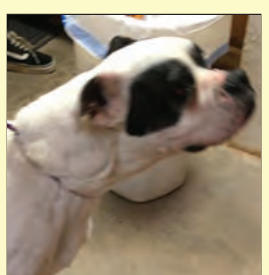
Milo, Husky/Heeler,
male, about 10 months

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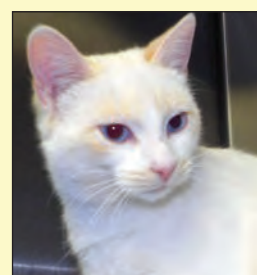
Kit N Kat
Gray & white tabbys, 9 wks

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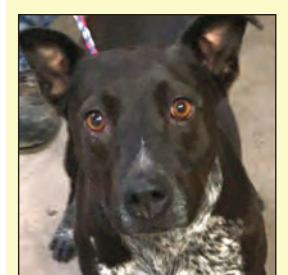
Rocker, Boxer mix, male,
2-3 yrs.

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Sugarbee, female, flame point,
about 1 yr

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Zoey, German Shorthair/pointer mix,
female, about 1 yr

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CHARIS MOSELY



Toph, DMH, grey white tabby
female, about 2 yrs.



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TALKING HORSES • SCOTT THOMPSON

Happy With Small Successes

Where is the value in what we do?

As I begin my 14th year writing for this wonderful little newspaper, there are two questions I hear frequently from readers and horse people. First, how do I keep coming up with topics after so many years writing about almost every aspect of life with horses? Second, why do I keep writing these columns? Or, to put it another way, do I think my words make any difference at all to current or would-be horse owners.

The first question is pretty easy to answer. Every trip down to the barn to play with, observe or just hang out with my horses provides new ideas and insights into the world of horses. Every time I work with a student or see someone else riding or handling – or mishandling – their horse I see things that could easily be a subject for a future column. These animals have been around for millions of years but we have been deeply involved with them for just a few thousand of those years. New information about how they think, why they behave as they do, best practices for their mental and physical health, and our responsibilities for their care and well-being surfaces every day. I've always taken the educational component of my role as an equine professional very seriously, which is why I'm always looking for something new I can pass on in my columns.

To paraphrase a great horseman – no good horseman has done it all, seen it all or knows it all, so you have to keep learning and helping where you can.

The second question is a bit more complicated. When I started my horse journey for real a little over 25 years ago, my first mentor told me to be prepared for a life of disappointments if I decided to make horses my life's

work. What he meant by this was in his experience, maybe only 1-5 percent of horse owners were really interested in going as deeply into the horse human relationship as I wanted to go and what I wanted him to teach me. This was not some arrogant knock on horse owners and riders that saw things differently or didn't see any added value in the techniques or philosophies of natural horsemanship. It was a simple observation that horses mean different things to different people and the curiosity, passion and enthusiasm for what I was doing simply wouldn't be of interest to most of the people I would encounter along the way. But don't let that stop you from trying.

I think I've always had this comment in the back of my mind as I've worked with literally hundreds of riders and horses over the years. A few months ago, I stumbled on a short column that expressed this same fact of horse life and why you just have to keep going in this business if you believe in what you're doing.

The column appeared in Equus magazine and was written by Christine Barakat, the content manager for Equus. I've read a lot of her work over the years and have adopted many of her suggestions about best practices for the care of our equine partners.

Paraphrasing this column, titled "Unheeded Advice," her story went something like this. Over the years she adopted a policy of trying not to let anyone know what she does for a living after she realized that once someone knew what she did, she would immediately get hit with a barrage of questions she couldn't, or wouldn't, answer because she is not a vet or a trainer and didn't feel qualified to advise another

owner on what they should do with their horse. So best to just keep to herself on this part of her life.

But, one day at her boarding facility another boarder, who knew who she was and what she does, asked her what she was working on for her next article as they each were cleaning their stalls. Christine told her about an upcoming article about hay, and especially about the importance of knowing how much hay a horse should actually be fed. This involved understanding a basic equation involving percent of body weight and a dry matter factor, as well as workload, age and breed to a degree. It also involved figuring out how to weigh your daily rations of hay, and taking the time to actually do it. Although all this is based on science, the other owner thought this sounded pretty ridiculous, and couldn't see most horse owners wanting to take the time nor complicate the basic act of giving your horse hay. Her feeling was there's enough to do with horses already and no need to add to the workload with this task.

Christine wondered yet again whether or not what she did really mattered as something so obviously right for any horse made no sense to another horse owner. However, as this conversation was evolving, another owner came down the aisle in the barn and after overhearing the topic of hay rations, chimed in with a comment about how weighing hay and feeding the appropriate amount actually saved her horse's life. Her horse had a slow but life-threatening weight loss at another facility where the owners insisted on feeding the horses by volume (so many leaves per day) rather than by weight. She would always be

grateful for learning about this aspect of horse care and for figuring out how to get it done every day for her horse.

Spirits lifted again, Christine thought to herself, this is why I do what I do.

And this is why I do what I do and why I keep writing these columns. I know much of what I say will not be of interest to many horse owners, and that the extra time it takes to change or to add some different approaches will seem like an added burden to an already time-consuming activity. Everyone has to prioritize what's important to them with their horses and how they use them.

But maybe if just a few owners along the way take some of this to heart, I know I will have had a hand in helping a horse or two be healthier in mind and body because their humans saw the benefits and found a way to make the changes. If a few take

the initiative to contact me for a deeper conversation about a topic to see if it makes sense for them, it's why my door is always open to any horse owner.

So, as depressing as it sounded at first when my mentor talked about how few people I might actually reach and influence in my horse career, it feels like even that small percentage has made for a satisfying and rewarding journey as an advocate for the horse and good horsemanship. So I'll keep the reins in one hand and the keyboard in the other, and hopefully help a horse or two as I ride on.

Morgan Smith writes frequently about border issues and can be reached at Morgan-smith@comcast.net.



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