

Experience Southern New Mexico

APRIL 2023 | VOL. 28 NO. 4

DESERT EXPOSURE

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BECOMING AN ALIEN

Actor Giancarlo Esposito talks
about immersing himself in his roles;
he is featured this year in the
Las Cruces International Film Festival
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A painting of a cowboy on a horse in a vast, open landscape. The cowboy is wearing a brown hat, a red shirt, and a dark vest, and is looking towards the viewer. The horse is dark-colored and is standing in a field of dry grass. In the background, there are rolling hills and a large, rocky mountain range under a sky with dramatic, colorful clouds. The overall style is that of a Western painting.



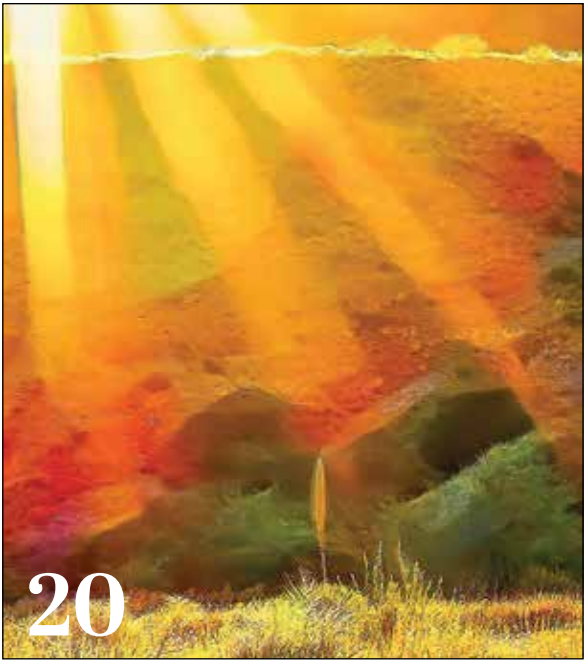
A photograph of a single-story house with a red-tiled roof and arched windows, surrounded by tall pine trees and a clear blue sky. The house is nestled in a wooded area with a paved driveway leading to it. The image is framed by a green border.

A photograph of a residential property. In the foreground, a large, leafless tree stands on the left side. To the right, a portion of a light-colored house is visible, featuring a red wooden deck or balcony. The background shows a clear blue sky and some distant structures.

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Desert #82 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

"BK H GCHUX UEHK, WI B GXJIXKJBO BMUXCIWWI HI NBK DCYDXK,
AO UXXUE BCX MYNN WM TCHU, TCHAX BIJ DCYIDEO ZHUK WM KBIJ
UEBU GXCX HI JXAHIT UEHK AWCIHIT." - CHDEBCJ DWNUEBCV

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: "WITH TWO MUSICAL STAGES, A SIZEABLE SELECTION OF BEER, WINE AND ARTISAN PIZZA, STOP BY CLOUD-CROFT BREWING COMPANY FOR A DOWN-TO-EARTH CELEBRATION." -SYLVIA QUINTANILLA *Secret Words: "PUB CRAWL ZONES" Skip Howard*, Paul Farrant, & Janie Epperson*!

Congrats to #81 solvers : Mike Arms*, Will Adams*, Kaustuv Sengupta*, David Pino*, Claudette Gallegos*, Shorty Vaiza*,

MAY DEADLINES

All stories and notices for the editorial section due Monday, April 17.
Space Reservation and ad copy due Monday, April 17.

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COOKING + ADVENTURE

Family Fun in the Great Outdoors

Glenwood’s Dutch Oven Gathering set for April 15

By Cheryl Thornburg
Photo by David Thornburg

It’s like a trip back to the Old West when you visit the annual Dutch Oven Gathering in Glenwood. There’s great food prepared the old-fashioned way in large cast iron kettles over charcoal by teams of cooks from New Mexico and adjoining states.

This year’s event is set for Sat-

urday, April 15, at Glenwood Community Park.

The cooks love to chat and share info about traditional and updated dishes. Each team prepares a full meal – a meat or main dish, a side dish, a bread, and a dessert. Water, lemonade, or coffee will be supplied with the meal. Each camp will have a menu on display.

Browse around and find the meal you would like most and then purchase a ticket for \$15 per meal. Menus are posted at each site and in the pavilion where tickets are sold. Buy your tickets early as meals sometimes sell out. Serving begins about 2 p.m. at each camp where the meals are being prepared.



You can enjoy your Dutch oven dinner at the park or take it home.

Other activities this year include games to pass the time and shopping from vendors selling food, crafts and other merchandise. There will also be a raffle.

Glenwood Library will set up its Spring Book Sale with tons of books, CDs and DVDs available by donation for readers and viewers to add to their collections.

Activities will run from 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. at the community park on Catwalk Road, Route 174.

But that’s not all – from 7-11

p.m., the Whiskey Fire Band will take the stage for your listening and dancing pleasure.

Admission is \$7 for adults and teens. It’s free for children. The Catwalk Cafe will be serving barbecue. Grass-fed beef burgers and hotdogs will be available by donation from the Glenwood Park Board.

The Dutch Oven event is a community fundraiser, and money after expenses is donated back into the community. Last year, proceeds were donated to the community park, the local 4-H kids, the community kids summer reading pro-

gram and the annual fireworks.

Organizer Molly Bryan said they are still looking for cooking teams and vendors to participate. There is a fee of \$25 for vendors. Contact Molly at 575-539-2714 or cell: 575-574-7704 or 3mollymules60@gmail.com for more information.

Glenwood is located on U.S. Highway 180 northwest of Silver City in the Gila National Forest.

The nearby Catwalk trail, as well as many other trails, are open for those who want to explore more of the area.



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Desert Exposure covers the things that make Southwestern New Mexico a great place to live!



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MUSIC + ENTERTAINMENT

Meeting Place

A family shares its passion

Story and photos by
Elva K. Österreich

In the Arenas Valley, right between Silver City and the Grant County mining district towns, a new place has bloomed at 11786 U.S. Highway 180.

“Zócalo designates a plaza or meeting place in Spanish,” said Melanie Zipin, one of the creators of Whiskey Creek Zócalo. “You see a lot of them in Mexico and Spain. We picked it because we have so many aspects going on and we want it to be a meeting place for food, drinks, music, camaraderie, community, creativity, natural building, gardening, workshops and more.”

Now, this meeting place is welcoming visitors who love music, open in April for several concerts, then more regularly as a restaurant as the summer comes in.

Melanie, her son, Rafael Zipin, and her husband, Jeff LeBlanc, have been working for a couple of years to come to this point. Renovated from an old schoolhouse, the family has put its creativity to work with their labor and life’s assets to offer this zócalo to the community.

“We are all artists and musicians,” Melanie said. “The three of us are doing this project together. It’s just us working on everything.”

Community hands have contributed artistry, and help. For example, the sound buffers on the ceiling were donated by a friend with a strong belief in the mission of the place, and another friend built some beautiful big doors that open behind the main performance space and an outdoor venue that is part of the next step.

“It’s been a fun project because we get to see the transformation,” Melanie said.

The stage is prominent and has the latest technology available because the family wants music to be the focus of the place.

“We intend to have more intentional music, instead of background music for people who want to talk,” she said. “We really want to have a place where you can come to see the music that’s the focus, to have a place about the music rather than let’s go eat and drink where there is some music in the background.”

With the family members coming from experience in the service



Jeff LeBlanc and Melanie Zipin pause in their work preparing Whiskey Creek Zócalo for opening.

industry, Melanie said that is what they know and are incorporating into their plans.

“This is a passion project for us,” she said. “We love the service industry, but we also love music and musicians.”

Positioned between the mining district and Silver City, part of their mission is to be a bridge between communities, Melanie said.

“We are not trying to be just a restaurant, we want a place for community,” she said.

The venue will initially serve beer and wine with tapas. Jeff is building a horno outside for wood-

fire pizza. Eventually they will get a crafters license for alcohol as well, Jeff said.

“With the crafter’s license, we can start with local spirits as well,” he said. “We will try and focus on serving some vermouth. That’s something we enjoy but you don’t see a lot.”

“We haven’t done anything in a traditional way,” Melanie said.

Music offerings include a variety starting April 1 with Stockdale and A.seb. The cover is \$10. Jono Manson brings his record release tour to the venue April 8 and the show is free. The big one, Rafael

said, is True Widow and People on April 14, cover \$15. Doors open at 7 p.m. and music starts at 8 for all the events.

“We are creating a venue for everyone,” he said.

Melanie sees the concept of Whiskey Creek Zócalo’s as multi-faceted.

“We are really trying to create a space in the community that we love and have been a part of for a long time,” she said.

The nursery part of the business opens Thursday, April 20.

Visit whiskycreekzocalo.com for more events and information.

Upcoming Concerts at Whiskey Creek Zócalo

SATURDAY, APRIL 1

Stockdale and A.seb

Doors open at 7 p.m., show starts at 8 p.m.

Stockdale is a hip-hop trio from Germany with roots in New Mexico, blending genre and personalities into one cohesive energetic performance and A.seb is a solo singer, guitarist and piano player from New Mexico with emo punk roots and melodic love songs

SATURDAY, APRIL 8

Jono Manson Record Release Tour

Meet and greet at 7 p.m., show starts at 8 p.m

Manson has collaborated and played alongside Blues Traveler’s, Amanda Palmer, T Bone Burnett, Ray Wylie Hubbard, Bruce Springsteen, Taj Mahal, Emmylou Harris and Joan Baez (to name a few).

FRIDAY, APRIL 14

True Widow and People

Doors open at 7 p.m., show starts at 8 p.m

True Widow is an American rock band formed in 2007 and based in Dallas, Texas. The band’s expansive guitar-driven sound has led them to be cited as “drop-tuned, slow, repetitive, doom country, heavy, dreamy, and undeniably ear-wormy” and People is a drone punk dance party from Las Angeles and New Mexico; two-piece with bass, drum machines, vocals and pure venom.



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MUSIC + CELEBRATION

¡mira!

Embracing culture and community

By Sylvia Quintanilla

Close your eyes and picture Las Cruces. What is the first thing you think of? Is it the rich purple, blue and orange hues of its sunsets? Or the sound of country music? Maybe it's the irresistible smell of green chile roasting in the fall? On Saturday, April 29, Visit Las Cruces presents ¡mira! Las Cruces, a new festival celebrating all things that make Las Cruces one of a kind.

¡mira! Las Cruces is a multifaceted festival. Beginning at 2 p.m., at Plaza de Las Cruces, the event will focus on family-friendly activities including interactive booths,

which will contain live mural painting, a chalk art competition, face painting and a lotería selfie station. Throughout the event, there will be performances from mariachis, ballet folklórico, local high schools and more. Also featured at the festival are a car show and a small farmers market. There will be a beer and wine garden as well as food vendors. In the evening, the event will highlight the nightlife of the city.

“¡mira! Las Cruces is an event meant to represent our community and we want locals to rally around it. It's the first year and we'd like it to eventually become a signature event,” said Lorena Lozano, director of marketing for Visit Las Cruces.

There will be three live performances from Rodeo Norteño, Proud Pete and headliner Frank Ray.

“Each of our main acts represent the community in some way. Frank Ray is a stand-out talent that embodies the regions love for country music,” Lozano explained. “Rodeo Norteño represents our rich culture and our community's love for dancing. And Proud Pete is representative of Las Cruces as a college town and the positive impact the university has on residents in the community.”

Proud Pete is New Mexico State University's official cover band. The group has 17 members from the Pride of New Mexico Marching Band. Born from the need to break the marching band into smaller parts during the pandemic in the fall of 2020, Proud Pete is a horn band similar to Earth, Wind and Fire or Chicago, with rock elements.

Steven Smyth, director of Proud Pete and associate director of bands at NMSU, said Proud Pete does regular performances in the community including a monthly gig at The Game Bar and Grill. He noted this will be the 50th performance for this group of members and Proud Pete is getting into the second generation of students.

“It's always fun for me hearing these young students playing the kind of music I grew up with and the kind of music they grew up with. It's fun to hear that meld of different styles,” Smyth said.

Being a cover band, Proud Pete plays a bit of everything, including



Frank Ray

the B-52s, Bruno Mars and Bon Jovi.

“This festival is supposed to reflect the culture and the opportunity and energy that Las Cruces has. I think Proud Pete really does a great job representing our university, their students and the diversity of talents and the enthusiasm they have,” Smyth said.

Visit Las Cruces' hope is that ¡mira! Las Cruces is a festival residents will rally behind and enjoy. Lozano added that they want “tourists to come to this one event and

get a taste of Las Cruces and want to come back and explore.”

“More than any other time, we are all kinda recovering from a pretty nasty few years here and the more we can be together as a community,” Smyth said. “The more we can have these type of events and festivals where we celebrate each other. It's a whole lot easier to like each other and get along and have a really strong community.”

Sylvia Quintanilla is a freelance writer and may be reached at sylviaq@gmail.com.



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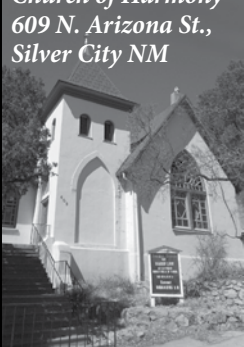
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GIVE LOCAL

Give Grandly

Area nonprofits gather, raise money

Photos by Bea McKinney

The Give Grandly Coalition (GCCF) of nonprofits, with the help of the Grant County Community Foundation, is building the 10th annual community fundraising event. Small communities in Grant, Luna, Catron and Hidalgo counties support scores of nonprofits, many of which depend heavily on volunteers, grants and donations.

Give Grandly provides the community with a chance to give back area nonprofits which add to the quality of life in southwest New Mexico.

“Give Grandly has showed us the power of a community,” said Mary Stone of Future Forge. “We are proud to be a part of this event, not only for the funds, but for the exposure, the connections, the friendships and the ability to act as a resource and partner to other nonprofits.”

In 2014, Give Grandly began as a statewide fundraising day. In 2015, when the rest of the state lost interest in the event, GCCF decided it was worthwhile to go it alone. Local community response has been overwhelming, raising more than \$1 million during the last eight years.

Last year alone, the community raised more than \$264,000 for the 59 participating nonprofits.

Every year, each participating nonprofit has the opportunity to earn up to \$500 in matching funds.

“The impact of matching funds on fundraising during Give Grandly is huge,” GCCF Executive Director Bernadette Smyth said. “It’s such a wonderful thing for local businesses or individuals to do for this community.”

“During Covid, we hadn’t been able to be there in person with our checkbooks,” one local philanthropist said, “so this has been a great way for us to continue to support our community. And it’s a great way for others to do so too.”

Annual matching fund supporters, including Freeport McMoRan, United Way of Southwest New Mexico, the Sherman Foundation, Griffin’s Propane, Vladimir Gnilyuzov and Jennifer McKeen Villegas of Edward Jones and Better Homes and Gardens have pledged funds again this year.

There is still time for businesses or individuals to sponsor this event by pledging matching funds. Contact Bernadette Smyth at grant-countycommunityfoundation@gmail.com.

The event, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 6, is in downtown Silver City, where participating organizations will showcase their work to the local community. The Future Forge hosts the event on the opening day of the Makers’ Market in the newly renovated Main Street Plaza located off Bullard Street, next to the Big Ditch Park in Silver City. Gila Mimbres Community Radio 89.1 is broadcasting interviews with the nonprofits all day.

In addition to in person, donations can be made by visiting www.givegrandly.org, where information on all the participating nonprofits can be found.

The website will be open for donations for two weeks before and after the in-person event.



Carol Ann Fugagli and Donna Stevens man the Wheel of Insects at the 2022 Give Grandly event.



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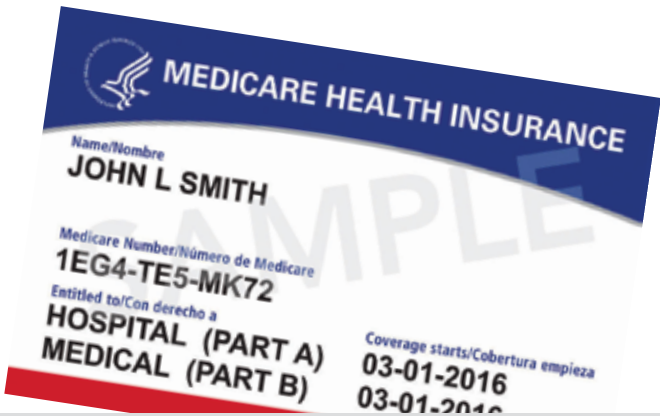


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Kite Festival, April 1, Hillsboro



Egg Splash, April 6, Las Cruces

EVENTS

What’s Happening

Upcoming events you won’t want to miss in April

SATURDAY, APRIL 1
Grant County
Silver City Farmers Market
9 a.m.-12 p.m., 901 N. Pope St. in Silver City.
www.silvercityfarmersmarket.info

Auditions for “Same Time, Next Year”
10 a.m. at Starlight Theatre (Gold and 20th streets) in Silver City. Performances are end of May/beginning of June
phylmcq64

State Street Ballet: “The Jungle Book”
7 p.m. Western New Mexico University Fine Arts Theatre, Cost: \$15
wnmu.edu/culture

Live music: Stockdale and A.seb
8 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo,

11786 U.S. Highway 180 E. Arenas Valley, cost: \$10
575-313-1002

Catron County
Kite Fest
noon-5 p.m. at Whitewater Mesa Labyrinths, 355 Bursum Road (NM 159) off Highway 180 between Glenwood and Alma.
575-546-3663

Luna County
Deming Arts Center benefit estate sale
8 a.m.-noon, 2815 Nine Iron Road SE., Deming.
575-546-3663

Community Easter egg hunt
2-7 p.m. at Milo/Viramontes Park, 500 E. 1st St. Deming
contact@d1.church

Otero County
Trinity Site Open House

8 a.m.-2 p.m. enter the site at the Stallion Range Gate off U.S. Highway 380 or caravan from the Tularosa High School parking lot leaving at 8 a.m. sharp
home.army.mil/wsmr/

Alamogordo Otero County Farmers Market
8-10 a.m. in Alameda Park, 1987 White Sands Blvd. in Alamogordo
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
Katherine.german@emnrd.nm.gov

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10 a.m., VFW Post # 1395, 1305, Highway 195, Elephant Butte
361-215-0152
Fiesta Casino Night

6 p.m., at the T or C Civic Center, 400 W. 4th St. in T or C
annualtorcfiesta.com

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

Home & Garden Show
9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Las Cruces Convention Center
lchba.com

Las Cruces Space Festival
11:30 a.m. 275 Downtown, Plaza de Mesilla. STEAM Saturday features hands on science, technology, engineering, art and math activities for all ages with a costume competition held at noon. The festival continues at various venues with Challenger Learning Center missions, Big Space Quiz, and

Moon-gazing on the Plaza.
lcspacefestival.com/schedule

SUNDAY, APRIL 2
Grant County
Live music: a.seb
1-4 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St., Silver City
828-542-0216

Live music: Tim & Sister Jo
2-4 p.m. at the Tranquil Buzz Coffee House, 112 W. Yankee St.
828-542-0216

Sierra County
Black Cat Poetry Reading
1 p.m. at Ingo’s Art Café, 422 Broadway St., T or C.
360-628-4499

Otero County
Sunspot Dunn Solar Telescope Tours
1 p.m., 3001 Visitor Center Drive,



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Doña Ana County
Home & Garden Show
10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Las Cruces Convention Center
lchba.com

MONDAY, APRIL 3
Socorro County
An evening of art, music and storytelling with Buttecup
6 p.m. at kind of a small array, 106 N. Main St., Magdalena
210-473-9062

TUESDAY, APRIL 4
Grant County
Auditions for “Same Time, Next Year”
7 p.m. at Starlight Theatre (Gold

and 20th streets) in Silver City. Performances are end of May/beginning of June. Looking for cast of two, one male and one female between 20 and 40.
phylmcq64.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5
Grant County
Wednesday Farmers Market
9 a.m.-noon at Old Valley Market, 412 Highway 211 at the corner of Clark Road, in Gila
silvercityfarmersmarket.info

The Gila Film School: Amplifying Voices in the Wilderness
noon-1 p.m. at the Western New Mexico University Global Resource Center/ABC Room, corner of 12th and Kentucky streets, Silver City. Available on Zoom.

will.community/#/lunchlearn

Sierra County
Square Dancing
1-3 p.m. at the New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St. in T or C. Square dancing and refreshments
575-313-9971 or 505-804-3842

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

THURSDAY, APRIL 6

Grant County
Movie: “Moana”
3:30-5:30 p.m. at the Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave. in Silver City.
silvercitypubliclibrary.org.

Distinguished speaker: Michael McGarrity
7 p.m. Western New Mexico University Light Hall Theatre

wnmu.edu/culture
Doña Ana County
Egg Splash and Duckie Derby
5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Las Cruces Regional Aquatic Center, 1401 E. Hadley Ave.. For children 4-12

575-541-2782

SATURDAY, APRIL 8
Grant County
Silver City Farmers Market
9 a.m.-noon. 901 N. Pope St. in Silver City.
www.silvercityfarmersmarket.info

Live: Poetry
noon-2 p.m. at the Tranquil Buzz Coffee House, 112 W. Yankee St.
828-542-0216.

EVENTS

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: nmal-anon.com.

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:nmal-anon.com.

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.

THURSDAY
Silver City/Grant County
Adult Children of Alcoholic and Dysfunctional Families meeting
— 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 615 N. Texas St. Info: 575-567-9410.

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.

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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EVENTS

continued from page 11

Live music: Jono Manson record release tour
8 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 U.S. Highway 180 E, Arenas Valley
575-313-1002

Live music: Lottie & the Ohm Wreckers
8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St., Silver City
828-542-0216

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

Easter in the Park
10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Washington Park, Alamogordo
575-439-4159

I Can't Drive 55 Car Show
10 a.m.-3 p.m., Sunset Run Park, W. 10th St., Alamogordo
575-415-6095

Lincoln County Bunny run/walk and Easter egg hunt at Cedar Creek
6:30-10 a.m. at Cedar Creek Recreation Area, 88 Forest Drive, Ruidoso
575-257-5030

Sierra County Easter Egg Hunt at Elephant Butte Lake State Park

10 a.m. at Elephant Butte Lake State Park, Highway 195, Elephant Butte
575-744-5421

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

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

SUNDAY, APRIL 9 Grant County Live music: Clark Andrew Libbey & Kristen Rad
1-4 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St., Silver City
828-542-0216

Sierra County Caballo Lake State Park's 26 Annual Easter Egg Hunt
10 a.m. at Caballo Lake State Park, Highway 187, Caballo
575-743-3942

Luna County Community Easter services
7 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. at the Pit Park amphitheater, 200 N. Country Club Road, Deming
contact@d1.church

MONDAY, APRIL 10 Grant County BuzzFeat begins
Events daily through April 16 at the Tranquil Buzz Coffee House, 112 W. Yankee St.



Seraph Brass, April 11, Silver City

828-542-0216
TUESDAY, APRIL 11 Grant County Build Robots
4-6 p.m. at the Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave. in Silver City, ages 6 and up
silvercitypubliclibrary.org.

Live music: Seraph Brass concert
7 p.m. at the Western New Mexico University Fine Arts Theatre, gccconcerts.org

Otero County State Street Ballet: "The Jungle Book"
7 p.m. at the Flickinger Performing Arts Center, 1110 New York Ave., Alamogordo
flickingercenter.com

Doña Ana County

Beer and Bards
7 p.m. on the side patio of the Spotted Dog Brewery, corner of Avenida de Mesilla and University Avenue in Mesilla. Public readings of folk tales from the Six Celtic Nations.
575-520-1916

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12 Grant County Wednesday Farmers Market
9 a.m.-noon at Old Valley Market, 412 Highway 211 at the corner of Clark Road, in deGila
silvercityfarmersmarket.info

Another Century of Wilderness
noon-1 p.m. at the Western New Mexico University Global Resource Center/ABC Room, corner of 12th and Kentucky streets, Silver City. Available on Zoom.
will.community/#/lunchlearn

Kick-ass Entrepreneur Story Time
5:30-7:30 p.m. at Enjoy the Journey Café and Gallery, 112 W. Yankee St., silver City. Steven Anderson of Metal Mysterium shares his journey.
www.silvercitymainstreet.com

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

Sierra County Square Dancing
1-3 p.m. at the New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St. in T or C. Square dancing and refreshments
575-313-9971 or 505-804-3842

Doña Ana County

"Trifecta Crisis and Natural Climate Solutions"
7 p.m. at the New Mexico State University Herbarium/Biologh Annex, NW corner of Stewart and Williams streets.
lc@npsnm.org

THURSDAY, APRIL 13 Grant County Expressive Arts BFA Show
6 p.m. Western New Mexico University McCray Gallery
art.wnmu.edu

Sierra County Square Dancing
1-3:30 p.m. at the New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St. in T or C
575-313-9971 or 505-804-3842

Santa Fe Opera Spring Tour
7 p.m., at the T or C Civic Center, 400 W. 4th St. in T or C
505-946-2423

FRIDAY, APRIL 14 Grant County Live music: True Widow/People
8 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 U.S. Highway 180 E, Arenas Valley
575-313-1002

Luna County State Park Astronomy Program
7:40 p.m. at Rockhound State Park
575-536-2800

Otero County Cottonwood Brew Fest
6-10 p.m. at Griggs Sport Complex, 3000 N. Florida Ave. Alamogordo
575-415-7322

Doña Ana County "Abandoned History"
7 jp.m. at the New Mexico Farm &

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JAZZ WEEKEND

April 15th | 7:30 pm

Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road, Las Cruces
575-522-4100

John Pardi with Haily Whitters
8 p.m., 1801 E. University Ave., Las Cruces
575-805-6055.

SATURDAY, APRIL 15
Grant County
Silver City Farmers Market
9 a.m.-noon. 901 N. Pope St. in Silver City
www.silvercityfarmersmarket.info

“A Sundry Mosaic: Clubs, Associations and Societies in Silver City”
11 a.m.-12:30, at the Silco Theater, 311 N. Bullard St., Silver City
www.silvercitymuseum.org

Tapestry of Talent Fiber Art Fashion show
1:30 p.m., Silco Theater, 311 N. Bullard St. Silver City
575-5901-1235

State Park Astronomy Program
7:40 p.m. at City of Rocks State Park
575-536-2800

Live music: Blues Dawg
8-11 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St., Silver City
828-542-0216

Catron County
Dutch Oven Gathering
9 a.m.-3 p.m., Highway 180 northwest of Silver City, in Glenwood
575-574-7704

Live Music: Whiskey Fire Brand
7-11 p.m., Highway 180 northwest of Silver City, in Glenwood
575-574-7704

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

Garden Tour: Native Plant Garden at the Library
10 a.m.-noon at the garden at the Library, intersection of 10th and Oregon streets

nativeplantgardenalamogordo@gmail.com

Meet Live Birds of Prey
3 p.m. at Oliver Lee Memorial State Park, 409 Dog Canyon Road, 12 miles south of Alamogordo
katherine.german@enmrd.nm.gov

Cottonwood Brew Fest
3-10 p.m. at Griggs Sport Complex, 3000 N. Florida Ave., Alamogordo
575-415-7322

Lincoln County
Carrizozo Music: World Art Day with N’Awlins Gumbo Knights
4-7 p.m. in the big tent near the juncture of Highway 54 and 12th Street in Carrizozo.
www.worldartdaycarrizozo.com

Sierra County
Denim & Diamonds: Gala Fund-raiser for Sierra Vista Hospital
5 p.m. at the Elephant Butte Lake RV Resort, 402 Butte Blvd., Elephant Butte
575-894-2111

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

SUNDAY, APRIL 16
Grant County
Live music: Famous Raymos
1-4 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St., Silver City
828-542-0216

Lincoln County
State Street Ballet: “The Jungle Book”
2 p.m. at the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts, 108 Spencer Road, Airport Highway 220, Alto
spencertheater.com

Live Music: Banjo Legends of Bluegrass
5:30-9:30 p.m. at the Flying J Ranch, 1028 New Mexico Highway 48, Alto.
flyingjbranch.com

MONDAY, APRIL 17
Grant County
Widows Community

10:30 a.m. sign in at Cross Point Church, 11600 U.S. Highway 180 E. with speakers Cecelia and John Bell with the Fort Bayard Historical Society
jimccord@yahoo.com.

TUESDAY, APRIL 18
Grant County
Movie: “Sonic the Hedgehog”
3:30-5:30 p.m. at the Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave. in Silver City
silvercitypubliclibrary.org

“My Octopus Teacher,” humane society fundraiser
7 p.m. at the Silco Theater, Silver City
silvercitypubliclibrary.org

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19
Grant County
Wednesday Farmers Market
9 a.m.-noon at Old Valley Market, 412 Highway 211 at the corner of Clark Road, Gila
silvercityfarmersmarket.info

Search and Rescue: Protection of Historical Resources in southwestern New Mexico
noon-1 p.m. at the Western New Mexico University Global Resource Center/ABC Room, corner of 12th and Kentucky streets, Silver City. Available on Zoom
will.community/#/lunchlearn

Sierra County
Square Dancing
1-3 p.m. at the New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St. in T or C. Square dancing and refreshments
575-313-9971 or 505-804-3842

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

FRIDAY, APRIL 21
Grant County
CDT/Gila Earth Day speaker series
9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Silco Theater, 311 N. Bullard St., Silver City
continentaldividetrail.org/trail-days

Game Day
3:30 p.m. at the Silver City Public

Library, 515 W. College Ave. in Silver City
silvercitypubliclibrary.org

Great Race Concerts: Stephen Sanchez with Frawley opening
Doors open 5:30 p.m. Western New Mexico University Regents Square

wnmu.edu/culture

Live music: Illusion Band
8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery, 200 N. Bullard

EVENTS

continued on page 14



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EVENTS	continued from page 13			
	St., Silver City 828-542-0216	9 a.m.-noon. 901 N. Pope St. in Silver City www.silvercityfarmersmarket.info	Sierra County “A Birdie Affair” silent auction and party 6:30 p.m. at Rio Bravo Fine Art, 110 N. Broadway St. T or C sierracountyarts.org	8-10 a.m. in Alameda Park, 1987 White Sands Blvd. in Alamogordo farmersmarketsnm.org
SATURDAY, APRIL 22				
Grant County				
Silver City Farmers Market				
		Live music: Like a Villain 8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St., Silver City 828-542-0216	Otero County Alamogordo Otero County Farmers Market	Farmers and Crafts Market 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces and along Downtown Main Street 575-805-6055
				Iris Show 1-4 p.m. at the Mesilla Valley Mall in Las Cruces cynthia-wilson@comcast.net
				Doña Ana County

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SUNDAY, APRIL 23
Grant County
Live music: Mystic Maude
1-4 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St., Silver City
828-542-0216

A Sunday Afternoon Recital: classical and meditative music
3 p.m. at the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, corner of 7th and Texas streets, Silver City
575-654-0825

TUESDAY, APRIL 25
Doña Ana County
Beer and Bards
7 p.m. on the side patio of the Spotted Dog Brewery, corner of Avenida de Mesilla and University Avenue in Mesilla. Public readings of folk tales from the Six Celtic Nations, Las Cruces
575-520-1916

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26
Grant County
Tour of the Gila
5-day stage race for international and local cyclists
tourofthegila.com

Wednesday Farmers Market
9 a.m.-noon at Old Valley Market, 412 Highway 211 at the corner of Clark Road, in Gila
silvercityfarmersmarket.info

Minecraft
4-6 p.m. at the Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave. in Silver City
silvercitypubliclibrary.org

Doña Ana County



True Widow, April 14, Arenas Valley

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

FRIDAY, APRIL 28
Grant County
Tour of the Gila
5-day stage race for international and local cyclists
tourofthegila.com

Create an April craft
3:30-4:30 p.m. at the Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave. in Silver City
silvercitypubliclibrary.org

SATURDAY, APRIL 29
Grant County
Tour of the Gila
5-day stage race for international and local cyclists
tourofthegila.com

Silver City Farmers Market
9 a.m.-noon. 901 N. Pope St. in Silver City
www.silvercityfarmersmarket.info

Spring Rock and Mineral Tailgate
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jweiner2011@hotmail.com
Otero County
Alamogordo Otero County Farmers Market
8-10 a.m. in Alameda Park, 1987 White Sands Blvd. in Alamogordo
farmersmarketsnm.org.

Earth Day Fair
9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Alameda Park Zoo, 1321 N. White Sands Blvd., Alamogordo
575-439-4159

Tularosa Wine & Arts Festival
noon-9 p.m. at 800 3rd St., Catholic church grounds pavillion area,

Tularosa
tularosawinefestival.com

Lincoln County
Live Music: Ronnie Milsap
8-11:30 p.m. at the Inn of the Mountain Gods, 287 Carrizo Canyon Road, Mescalero
innofthemountaingods.com

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

¡Mira! Festival
2-10 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces
575-541-2444

SUNDAY, APRIL 30
Grant County
Live music: Scott Van Linge
noon-2 p.m. at the Tranquil Buzz Coffee House, 112 W. Yankie St.
828-542-0216

Live music: Thrown-Out Bones
8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St., Silver City
828-542-0216

Growers meeting
4-6 p.m. at BOA Holistic, 208 W. Broadway St., Silver City
575-313-5006

Otero County
Tularosa Wine & Arts Festival
noon-6 p.m. at 800 3rd St., Catholic church grounds pavillion area, Tularosa
tularosawinefestival.com



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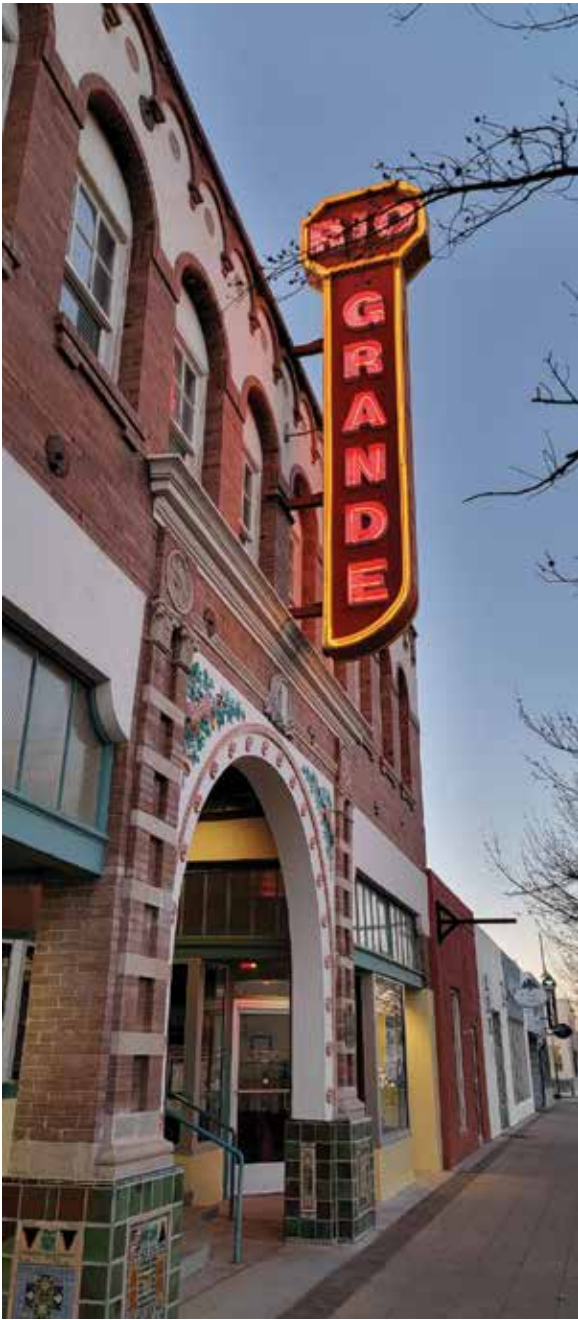


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MOVIE MADNESS

Classic Film Series

Big screen memories at the Rio Grande Theatre

Photos and story
By Sylvia Quintanilla

There is something about walking up the steps into a movie theater. The buzz of the audience, the smell of the fresh popcorn. The remembrance of a simpler time of enjoyment and wonder.

Now entering its fifth season, Rio Grande Theatre (RGT) presents the 2023 Classic Film Series. When the film series premiered, programming featured films previously shown when the Rio Grande Theatre was just a movie house. Soon after, the film series moved to showing the 100 Classic American Films.

“There’s kind of this magic in getting to see an old film back on the big screen. You get to enjoy it in the way that the filmmaker intended,” said RGT Interim Theatre Manager Topher Lininger,

For this season, Lininger said the theater leaned more toward films from the 1970s and ‘80s. There will be 11 more films this season, three of which have special dates or meanings. “Charade” is

going to show on June 10 in honor of the film’s 60th anniversary. “Stardust” will show Aug. 5 in honor of the film’s 16th anniversary.

Lininger said he has a soft spot for “Charade” because he was a huge Cary Grant fan growing up and Audrey Hepburn was an amazing American actress who did so many wonderful things.

Other films on the schedule this year are “Spaceballs,” “Cry-Baby,” “The Dark Crystal,” “Fantasia” and “Roman Holiday.”

Part of what has made the Classic Film Series successful is nostalgia. Lininger said people have come out more after the pandemic to see actors on the big screen. Often, the audience visiting the RGT will remember taking their children to a showing of the feature film at the theater. Or maybe they were the child taken to see the classic movie.

“We get a lot of people that come in and are like, ‘I remember sitting in here back when you use to bring in a milk carton cap as your token to get into the theatre,’” Lininger said. “They always

light up when they talk to their family members about the film they are about to see because they remember seeing it here or in another city and wanting them to experience the same feeling.”

Lininger said before each season he and his staff will sit down and throw out ideas for what kind of themes or what will be a good representation for an entire collective series. Once there is a list of 12-15 titles, the calendar is spaced out to prevent similar movies from being shown back to back.

In taking the time to review the schedule, RGT can plan for pictures with anniversaries, oriented around holidays and with special meanings.

This season, in addition to the two anniversaries, “V for Vendetta” will be shown Nov. 5 and “National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation” will kick off the holiday season Dec. 2.

During planning for this season, the RGT staff wanted to be more welcoming to children and families. In the past, many of the classic black-and-white films have been adult oriented and since

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Topher Lininger at work in his Rio Grande Theatre office.

the movies were older, many of the jokes and references went over kids’ heads.

“We thought it would be fun to try and incorporate some classic films that were more family friendly so the whole family could come out,” Lininger said.

Rock-musical-style movies also tend to be received well by the Las Cruces community, which is why RGT is bringing back David Bowie and Prince movies.

When RGT was using the 100

Classic American Films, it was also taking recommendations from Film Las Cruces and New Mexico State University film students. The NMSU students would give ideas of classic films they had heard of but weren’t regularly screened.

“It’s really nice to come out and re-enjoy something. And the greatest part about that is you get to share an old film that you might have remembered as a child or remember from your family that your friends don’t know about,” Lininger said.

For more information on the 2023 Classic Film Series or the Rio Grande Theatre, visit riograndetheatre.org or call 575-541-2290.

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

Classic film Schedule

“THE DARK CRYSTAL”
April 8

“THE NEVERENDING STORY”
May 20

“CHARADE”
June 10

“SPACEBALLS”
July 1

“STARDUST”
Aug. 5

“FANTASIA”
Aug. 12

“CRY-BABY”
Sept. 9

“LABRYINTH”
Oct. 7

“ROMAN HOLIDAY”
Nov. 4

“V FOR VENDETTA”
Nov. 5

“NATIONAL LAMPOON’S CHRISTMAS VACATION”
Dec. 2

FASHION TRENDS

Wearable Art

Tapestry of Talent fashion on parade

The Tapestry of Talent Fiber Art Fashion show, a fundraiser for the Southwest Women’s Fiber Arts Collective (SWFAC) features wearable fiber art and accessories. The fiber art fashions made by members of SWFAC showcase one-of-a-kind designs constructed especially for the event.

The show is Saturday, April 15, with doors opening at 1:30 p.m. at the historic Silco Theater located at 311 N. Bullard St. in downtown Silver City. Funds raised by the event will go to support classes, outreach to the community and sales events.

“We have been amazed at the quality and variety of garments and accessories submitted for the event. We have more than 70 items and a fabulous finale planned,” Marti Lew committee member. “All of the fashions are one-of-a-kind and include handwoven, knitted, felted, hand-dyed silks, hand



sewn, quilted items, up-cycled and more. We also have a variety of garments for men. This is our fifth fashion show and we agree it will have the best variety of unique and


hand crafted fiber art to date.”

Many of the fashions and accessories for the fashion show will be available for sale immediately after the show. All fashions will be listed along with their price in the Tapestry of Talent program.

In addition to the show, there will be three wonderful gift basket drawings. SWFAC members and community members have donated items to make the baskets appealing to everyone.

Seating for the event is open and attendees are encouraged to come early at 1:30 p.m. to be sure to get the seat they want. Refreshments will be available in the Silco Theater concession. Tickets are only \$10 and can be purchased online on our homepage at www.fiberartscollective.org.

Visit SWFAC at www.fiberartscollective.org for more information.



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The 36th Tour of the Gila is a five-day stage race for international teams, men and women and amateur racers in North America. It is held in Silver City and throughout the Gila Wilderness. "If racers want to experience European-style racing, Tour of the Gila is it," Jack Brennen, race organizer, said. "Racers can experience a top-quality event right here in Silver City."

Unlike most bicycle races of this stature, the Tour of the Gila includes divisions for various skill levels, as well as spectator activities for all ages and abilities. The top men's and women's divisions race for five consecutive days over five stages, covering around 340 and 258 miles, respectively. The 2023 dates are April 26-May 1. Registration ends on April 25, see www.tourofthegila.com for information.

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ADVENTURE

Revisiting a River Journey

Film shares story of healing, nature, advocacy

Film shares story of healing, nature, advocacy

By Elva K. Österreich

Patrice Mutchnick lives full time near the Gila River. Her ties to the river encircle her with connection to the land, the water and the world, past and future.

"I feel personally, as many people, very comfortable in my own body and in my own mind when I am with the river," she said. "It's something children instinctively know. With the sounds and the feeling with the water, we get our feet wet. With flowers and the critters, we are in the moment."

A founder of the nonprofit “Heart

of the Gila,” Mutchnick is the mother of Ella Jaz Kirk, one of one of three young people who died at age 14 in an airplane crash in 2014 while on a conservation discovery flight over the Gila Wilderness. She works through the organization to encourage conservation of the wild places and instill in the next generation a love of the wilderness.

On May 4, Heart of the Gila will screen the film "Journey Down the Gila," which explores grief, renewal and hope along the Gila River. The film will be shown at 7:30 p.m., at The Silco Theater in downtown Silver City.

This full-length documentary tells the story of three New Mexico teens who died in service to the wild places they loved, their mothers' journey down the wild river they sought to protect and the struggle to keep the Gila free forever. The film culminates with a trip the mothers made to Washington, D.C. to advocate for federal legislation to protect the Gila River.

The evening includes a Q and A about the making of the film and an update on the recent re-introduction of the "M.H. Dutch Salmon Greater Gila Wild and Scenic River Act. The legislation came out of a com-

munity-led proposal and protects nearly 450 miles of the Gila and San Francisco as wild and scenic rivers.

For ticket information visit www.heartofthegila.org/journey-down-the-gila

"I feel connected [to the river] to all the people who have lived in that place including my daughter," Mutchnick said. "I feel urgency to keep it for self and all the creatures.

I get to be in the flow — all things
past and future rushing by you at
the same time.”

She said sharing the film is part of sharing what connects all of us.

“We all have grief,” Mutchnick said. “We all have loss, and we all have challenges. This is a way to focus on doing something larger than ourselves that we can get meaning from. It makes me feel like a child.”

A Wild and Scenic Designation for the Greater Gila

The M.H. Dutch Salmon Greater Gila Wild and Scenic River Act proposes to protect segments of the Gila and San Francisco rivers and their tributaries as Wild and Scenic

- This Act will protect the traditional river values and uses while also permanently protecting the free-flowing nature of these river segments.

- The legislation was first introduced in 2020 by U.S. Sens. Martin Heinrich and Tom Udall of New Mexico, again in 2021, and now in 2023, on March 15, in the U.S. Senate by Senator Martin Heinrich, and in the House by Gabe Vasquez, D-N.M., of Las Cruces.

- Protects more than 450 miles of world class streams and rivers in the Gila and San Francisco river basins as Wild and Scenic Rivers

- Their natural flows support seven threatened and endangered species, such as the loach minnow and spike dace, some of the last intact cottonwood-sycamore bosque in the Lower Colorado River Basin, and more than 350 species of birds. The Gila is the centerpiece of the local outdoor recreation economy and its clean waters provide farmers with water for irrigation.

- The act protects existing land-owner rights and water rights and does not affect private land

- This legislation comes out of a community-led proposal and protects nearly 450 miles of the Gila and San Francisco as wild and scenic rivers, ensuring that these reaches continue to provide for traditional and current use of the rivers, critical wildlife habitat and the

outdoor recreation economy.

- To become law, the bill needs to

pass both houses of Congress and be signed by the president.

The advertisement is framed by a thick red border. At the top, the text "Las Cruces Transportation" is written in a large, bold, dark red serif font. Below this, there are three logos: "Las Cruces SHUTTLE" with a yellow swoosh and a small airplane icon, "Las Cruces TAXI" with a yellow swoosh and a small taxi icon, and a square logo for "JD Southwest Services" featuring a crown and the letters "JD". The central text "YOUR RIDE. YOUR WAY." is in a large, bold, black sans-serif font. Below this, "Las Cruces Shuttle - Taxi" and "Charter - Courier" are written in a bold, black sans-serif font. A red banner contains the text "VETERAN OWNED" and "7 DAYS A WEEK SINCE 1985" in a bold, red sans-serif font. A photograph shows a line of white shuttle vans and a dark sedan parked in front of a desert landscape with mountains. The bottom section has a red background with white text: "Call us to make a reservation today!", "We are Covid-19 Safe-Practice Compliant", "Call us at 800-288-1784", "or for more details", and "visit www.lascrucesshuttle.com".

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ARTS + OPPORTUNITIES

Arts Scene

Upcoming area art happenings

By Elva K. Österreich

OPPORTUNITIES
Artists

The Grant County Art Guild is seeking 2D & 3D art in any medium for the 2023 Memorial Day Weekend art show “WINGS.” Art should represent, or be inspired by, any kind of wings – real or imagined. A pdf entry form is at gcag.org, or a form may be picked up at the Grant County Art Guild Gallery, 316 N. Bullard St., Silver City. The deadline for entry form, fee and photos is April 23. The show will be held in the GCAG Studio, 200 W Market St., Silver City. Entries are subject to suitability and space restrictions. Info: jothomas@gcag.org.

Veterans: art, music, performance

Otero Arts is looking for veterans and/or their family members to participate in **Otero Veterans Arts Showcase** to be held May 19-23 as part of the celebration of Armed Forces Day. Events include a writer’s workshop, art exhibition, open mike reading of author’s works and musical presentation. Now accepting applications from visual artists (sculptures, framed artwork),

writers, musicians (instrumental, voice), and performers (spoken word, dance). For further information and to apply go to www.oteroarts.org

SILVER CITY

■ **The Silver City Art Association** First Friday Gallery Walk is from 5-7 p.m., April 7. During First Friday walks, SCAA downtown galleries stay open until 7 p.m. to hold receptions, and feature art demonstrations or other special activities. For a map showing SCAA downtown gallery locations, or to find out more about SCAA galleries, studios, and independent artists, see silvercityart.com.

■ **“Spring Celebration”** features work by the **Light Art Space** Artists: **Joel Armstrong, Joe Huebner, Karen Hymer, Kathleen Koopman, Rhonda Munzinger, Art Peterson, Susan Porter, Eric Renner, Nancy Spencer, Carmen Ruiz and Juan Velasco.** The show runs through May 28 with a reception 5-7 p.m. Friday, April 7. Light Art Space, 209 W. Broadway St., is open 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and by appointment. Info: www.lightartspace.com.

■ April 13 through May 5, **Francis McCray Gallery of Contemporary Art** presents “Affinity,” a **Western New Mexico University**

Expressive Arts graduating class art exhibition. There are seven participating graduating art students, each presenting a narrative of their relationship between their personal inspiration, their academic career, and their final art exhibition. At 6 p.m., Thursday, April 13, artist talks are held in Parotti Hall followed by the opening reception at 7 p.m. at the gallery on the WNMU campus. “Affinity” includes graduating seniors. **Jodi Bevill, B.S.,** sculpture; **Ashley Banegas, B.F.A.,** ceramics; **Brooke Foreman, B.F.A.,** painting and sculpture; **Ismelda Garza, B.F.A.,** painting and sculpture; **Kaitlyn Hopwood, B.S.,** photography; **Katarina Lowe, B.F.A.,** graphic design; and **Daniela Salas, B.A.,** graphic design and digital illustration. Info: 575-538-6517.

■ The **Grant County Art Guild** has doubled its First Friday offerings for April with an art demonstration at their downtown **Silver City gallery**, and an art show at the downtown **Studio**. The gallery will be open until 7 p.m. on Friday, April 7, with light refreshments and a watercolor demonstration by **Deborah Hutchings**. The Studio will also be open until 7 p.m. with a public reception for the art show “**Reflections by 2 Artists**,” a duo of colorful art: paper art by **Sally Tilton** and glass and copper mo-



saics by **Jo Thomas**. Show dates and times for “Reflections by 2 Artists” are 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Friday and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. The GCAG Gallery is located at 316 N. Bullard St. in Silver City. Hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. seven days a week. In addition to promoting the work of local artists in the gallery, the guild hosts open studios, classes, art shows and other events. Open Studios are at the

GCAG Studio, 200 W. Market St., noon-3 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month bring a creative project or use our basic art supplies. Info: gcag.org.

MAGDALENA

■ **La Posada Art Gallery**, 902 1st St. (U.S. Highway 60), is participating in the **Art Magdalena 2023 Gallery & Studio Tour** Saturday and Sunday, May 6 and 7. La



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Posada is featuring feature original paintings and artist proof serigraphs by **Louis De Mayo** (1926-2016); paintings by **Eddie Tsosie**, nephew of the late R.C. Gorman; pen and ink drawings by Montana wildlife artist **Robert Spannring**; antique and vintage Navajo and Zapotec rugs; Mata Ortiz pottery; and lots of photographs and paintings by New Mexico artists, Magdalena weavers, santeras and jewelry makers. Info: jsakel@aol.com.

DEMING

■ **“Many Facets,”** the title of the April 2023 exhibit at the **Deming Art Center**, will be just that. Expect to see jewelry, glass work, items made from lariats, paintings and more. Four local artists, **Jewelry Mosier, Diana Diaz, Karen Reid** and **Peggy Bishop** are joining together to bring this varied display. There will be an informal time to meet the artists 1-3 p.m. on Sunday, April 2, at the Deming Art Center. Also in April the Guatemalan Mercado is on Friday, April 21 (regular gallery hours) and from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, April 22. Deming Art Center, 100 S. Gold St., Deming. The gallery hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday and 10 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturday. Info: 575-546-3663 and at www.demingarts.org.

TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES

■ **Solomon Stone’s** art exhibition, **“Dancing Colors - A Celebration in Three Parts,”** is on display at **Grapes Gallery** in Truth or Consequences. This exhibition continues through April 30. Stone’s professional background in painting and advanced photography are equally evident in this colorful triptych of subjects, including Unique Rock Forms, a Magnificent Tree and Rose Portraits, each printed in vivid metallic ink. In 2018, 50 years after receiving a dual degree in Painting and Advanced Photography from the San Francisco Art Institute, Stone completed a graduate level digital photography course at Western New Mexico University and embraced emerging technology and embarked on a new photographic journey. Grapes Gallery is open daily noon to 5 p.m. and is at 407 Main St. in Truth or Consequences.



quences. Info: 949-371-7691.

■ **“Máscaras – Masked/Unmasked,”** remains at the Rio Bravo Fine Art Gallery, 110 N. Broadway St., T or C through April 23. **Darlene McElroy** and **Paul White** are featured. Through April 28 **“That Distant Goal”** exhibit by **Gregory Montreuil** features a suite of paintings, oil on canvas, as well as varied selections of works on paper. Montreuil had a very successful art career in New York City for more than 30 years. He continues his artistic endeavors these days as he splits his time between Arrey and Marseille France. In recent years in, he delved headfirst into the use of color and created a series “Wrestling with Color.” Info: www.riobravofineartgallery.com.

TULAROSA

■ **Paul Vesey**, featured artist at the **Dancing Dog Gallery** has worked as a professional artist for more than 40 years. He has enjoyed working in a variety of mediums including wood, canvas, clay, metal and semi-precious stones. Known professionally as “Pablo” he lives in Alamogordo and is known for painting the murals on the iconic Desert Aire hotel. Pablo is recognized for the clean lines and meticulous detail in his work. The gallery is in Tularosa at 313 Granado St. and can be found at: dancing-dog.art.

LAS CRUCES

■ **Gallery 925** presents **Gabriele Teich** and **David Stevenson** in its April show. Teich creates acrylic paintings, linocut prints and collages. Originally from Germany she moved to Las Cruces in 1999. A trained textile engineer, she first found her love for quilts and then moved to other disciplines over the years. Stevenson’s photographs on metal are distinguished with deep colors, accurate details and longevity. An opening reception is 1-8 p.m. at the gallery during first Friday, April 7. First Friday features free trolley rides from 5-8 p.m. between all open Mesquite district galleries. The work is up through April 30. The gallery is open 1-5 p.m. Fridays and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Stevenson gives a talk 1-2 p.m. Sunday, April 9 and Teich will talk 1-2 p.m. Sunday, April 16. Gallery 925 is located in the Mesquite Historical District at the corner of Mesquite and Spruce streets. 925 N. Mesquite St. Info: gallery925nm.com.


■ The **Las Cruces Museum of Art**, 491 N. Main St., features a retrospective exhibition at the Museum of Art, **“Gaspar Enriquez: Chicano Pride, Chicano Soul.”** Enriquez is a nationally recognized Chicano artist from El Paso, who uses an airbrush to created hyper-realistic portraits. The exhibit is on view through May 6. Enriquez is a self-defined Chicano artist who has been at the forefront of the national Chicano art movement for more than 50 years. The Museum of Art is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday. Info: 575-541-2137.

■ **Agave Gallery** Artist of April is **C Silvia Sierra**. She was born in Ascencion, Chihuahua, Mexico, and raised in Deming. Her interest in pastel and oil painting started at an early age. She eventually began incorporating acrylics and recycled glass, creating mixed medium pieces. This practice added a sense of dimension to her work, which will be one of the highlights of her upcoming artist talk at 4 p.m. on April 15. View her work at the Agave Gallery, 2250 Calle De San Albino, which is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday to Monday. The gallery is at 2250 Calle De San Albino. Info: 575-339-9870.

■ The **Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery**, 2470-A Calle de Guadalupe, across from the historic Fountain Theatre, features artists **Patricia Black** and **Jan Severson** for April. Black is a gourd artist and watercolorist. Severson spent

her professional life with a major computer company as an education consultant. By accident and with a good friend’s encouragement, she started weaving and found that it had become a passion that brought her a great sense of joy and accomplishment. First American Bank in Mesilla, is well represented by gallery members who rotate the galleries artists’ work monthly. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Info: 575-522-2933, www.mesilla-valleyfinearts.com.

■ **New Mexico State University Art Museum** has the **“Ad Infinitum: Artists Against War and Imperialism,”** running 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 20th-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 Ave. Art museum hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.



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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.

EDITORIAL

Featured Columns

Everyday Observations
Really big chocolate chip cookies are for dreamers

By Abe Villarreal

When I was in high school, the little store on campus sold giant cookies. They seemed about U.F.O. sized and everyone’s favorite choice was the chocolate chip kind because you could see endless amounts of chocolate chips through the plastic wrap that held it all together.

The computer lab lady always had one. I don’t think she took a break for lunch, and she rarely left the computer lab, so the big cookie was what sustained her and gave her the energy to keep things in order.

Computer labs were a special place. We were learning how to sign up for our first email accounts and surfing the net was something very different than it is today. I don’t remember exactly what there was to do on the internet in those days since there was no YouTube or social media. Still, we managed to waste time on the internet.

I like to think about the wheel-sized cookies the little store would sell us. Everything seemed bigger back then and cookies shouldn’t be left out of being preposterous in size. They must have cost about a dollar,

which was more expensive than the bag of chips or other snacks on the counter.

In our society, nothing can be too big. Cookies or cars. Houses or dreams. Until things do get too big, and then they become pocket-sized. High school computers and printers were larger. Hairdos too.

Everything seems bigger when you’re smaller. The size of the teacher’s ruler. The globe in the corner of the room. The school bus that could fit your whole class and more. The yearbook felt like an encyclopedia. The walk home. It was longer then.

We could use saucer-sized cookies in our lives. Not for the calories, but for the feeling that there are some things that are still too big for us to hold in our hands, and still we try.

We need to be more like our adolescent selves. The thinkers and the daydreamers. The backyard fort builders and the break things apart to make them better kind. Things didn’t always turn out the way we planned. They still don’t.

RaisingDad
The Sick Kid

By Jim and Henry Duchene

I walked out of the dentist’s office after getting my teeth cleaned.

Because of the pandemic it had been a year or two. Okay, three.

Don’t judge me.

Outside, I could hear children playing. I can’t tell you how sad that made me. You see, for the most part my eight-year-old granddaughter is a typical kid. She lives to play. In fact, we always have to get on her to eat because she’d rather be playing. One time, we stopped at her favorite restaurant, Chick-fil-A. This was before The Great Toilet Paper Shortage when their playgrounds were open. She liked scrambling through their playhouse, making friends. In fact, sometimes she didn’t want to come out at all because she was having so much fun.

“Eat first, play later,” I’d tell her.

“Eating’s not my thing,” she’d answer, matter-of-factly. “Playing’s my thing.”

The funny thing is, when she does eat it takes her forever to finish. She’ll sit there contemplating her next shenanigan. If I tell her to finish her food before it gets cold, she’ll explain, “I have a small mouth. Why are you trying to make me eat so fast?”

There’s a school down the block from my dentist’s office, so when I walked out to the sound of children playing it caught my attention. Healthy kids. Chasing each other. Yelling happily.

Sadly, my granddaughter has had to stay home these last three days because of her asthma. Don’t get

on me if I get some details wrong, but her pulmonologist took her off her medication because of a test he wanted to administer. She developed a small cough. When her coughing turned serious, we had to take her back. According to her doctor, she has the coughing kind of asthma. Which means, instead of wheezing, she coughs. The doctor prescribed something in addition to her usual routine and scheduled a chest x-ray.

“Her breathing sounds clear,” he told my eldest daughter, her mother, “but we just want to make sure.”

Who’s this “we” doctors always refer to?

Quilt Tales
Coming Back to the World

By Mia Kalish

On Feb. 3 and 4, Las Colcheras Quilt Guild of Las Cruces held its first show in three years. Our theme was Spring Fling, to create a sense of new life, joy and new beginnings.

Those of us who worked on assembling this magnificent event were on the show floor the day before, attending to last minute details and chatting with vendors. One such was Gail Tate, a woodworker who had made her way down from Albuquerque to offer her beautiful quilting tools to show goers. I




Woodworker Gail Tate

stopped to chat, attracted by the exquisite designs and colors.

As we chatted about how wonderful it was to be able to have a quilt show again, Gail shared the eeriness of the Covid impact on the school where she teaches. They were on break that week of March 8, 2020 when the first shutdowns began.

Gail recalls that they didn’t think much of it because after all, they were on break and weren’t scheduled to return until the following week. When the following week came, administrators put out the word that they would be out for a few more days.

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FILM + CREATIVE ART

Becoming an Alien

Esposito immerses himself in his roles

By Elva K. Österreich

Actor Giancarlo Esposito adapted to the New Mexico landscape, using it as inspiration during the time he was in Albuquerque filming the “Breaking Bad” series.

“I had great experiences shooting Breaking Bad,” he said.

But it was not his only time in the state. He remembers shooting “Maze Runner: The Death Cure” (2018) in the Sandia Mountains and worked on two smaller independent films here as well, “Stargirl” (2020) and “Unpregnant” (2020). And, of course, “Better Call Saul.”

“I spent 17 years in and out of New Mexico shooting film of different levels,” he said. “My experience in New Mexico is also about illuminating great crews.”

Esposito is the kind of actor who works to become the part he plays, no matter how big or small the role might be. New Mexico became part of the fabric of the story in the “Breaking Bad” universe and therefore was part of his creation of the character of Gustavo “Gus” Fring, chicken restaurant entrepreneur and dedicated narcotics distributor.

“New Mexico had a deep effect on how I played the role,” Esposito said. “I feel like Fring, who came from Chile, had a community he could relate to and a place that had a certain distance. He could blend into that community and become part of it and have space to hide in plain sight to forward his business.”

To Esposito, making a part his

own in depth and nature, honors the author’s words.

“I think what I do is a personal experience,” he said. “You can feel the difference because my choice to do a role is based on what resonates to me. I pick the material based on the statement it makes, and the impression it could make on a wide variety of people.”

In 1988 Esposito had his first major role in the Spike Lee film “School Daze” and it kicked off a friendship and more movies (four in total) with Lee. The two had a background in common, from growing up mixed race and raised in Catholic schools.

“He [Lee] called me an Afro-European actor,” Esposito said. “At the time we didn’t have any positive representatives of ourselves in the mainstream world. I have the blessing to be half European.”

“A very different impression was made on me, connecting me to both worlds of black and white. By being both, it allows me a space to understand how people connect and also disconnect. I am blessed to be in that position. We are all connected somehow, some way.”

When asked what he would tell an alien about himself, Esposito said he is an alien too.

“My definition of an alien is someone who is in but not of,” he said. “It’s about the creative expression of forward moving that may not be understood. I am a creative artist, using words, expressions physically, visually and creatively.”

Esposito’s experience is not lim-

ited to movies and television, he has also played a major part in the 2021 video game “Far Cry 6.”

The experience of playing the evil Anton Castillo took him back to his days of live theatre, he said. But there was no costume but a bulky helmet, a hundred cameras and greenscreen-wrapped furniture.

“It returned me to a black box theater situation,” he said. “There are no physical elements to relate to except your scene partner. It was challenging and interesting. I loved it, working in a very technical medium which I had to bring a human experience to.”

Esposito looks forward to new challenges.

“As an actor I’m embedded in the character,” he said. “I want [the audience] to see themselves, at least one trait they would want to be. I am obsessed with playing the everyman.”

Esposito will be in Las Cruces Thursday, April 13, for the 2023 Las Cruces International Film Festival and to receive the “Outstanding Achievement in Entertainment” award at the event. He is screening a film of his at Allen Theatres Cineport at 7 p.m. and hosting a question-and-answer session with the audience after the movie.

The eighth Las Cruces International Film Festival takes place



April 12-16, live and in-person at the Cineport. More information and tickets are available at www.lascrucesfilmfest.com.

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