

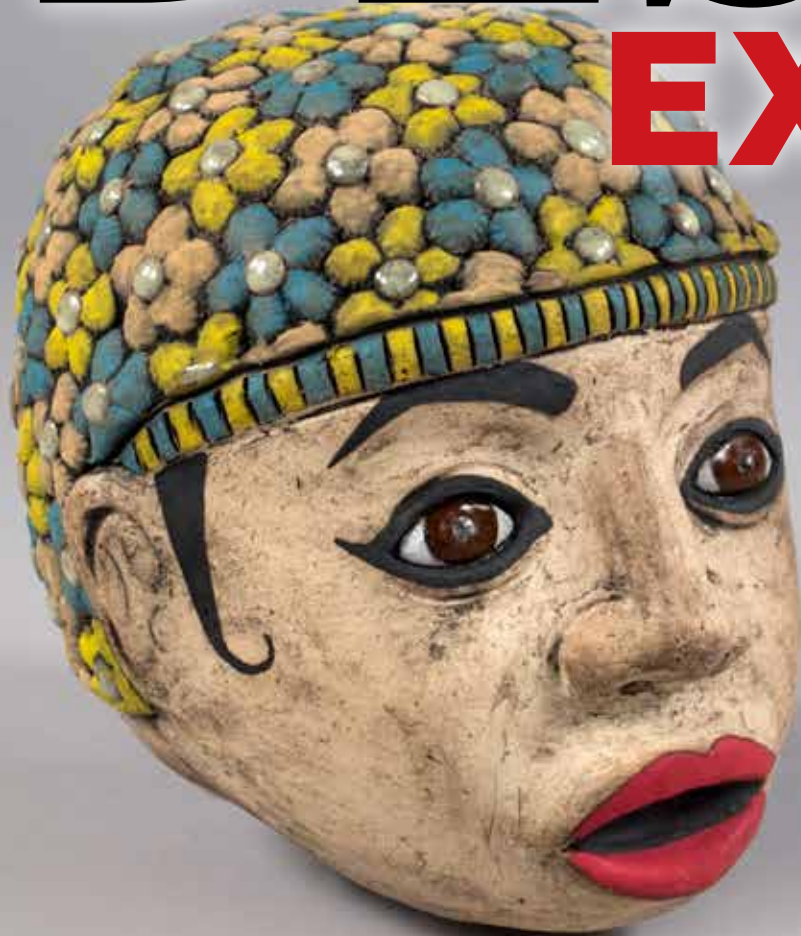
Experience Southern New Mexico

JULY 2023 | VOL. 28 NO. 7

DESERT EXPOSURE

ESTABLISHED IN 1996

CLAY FESTIVAL



Sculptor George
Rodriguez comes to
Silver City to judge and
lead from exhibits set
up around the country
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Grown with Pride in Southern NM

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**COMING SOON!
NEW STORES IN
LAS CRUCES!**

EDITOR'S NOTE | ELVA K. ÖSTERREICH

Building Spirit out of Mud

Getting back into our heritage of contact with the earth

Singing about the earth, playing in the dirt and the mud, we rise into our adulthoods with a yearning to reach out with our hands and take charge of something. Why not clay?

In Silver City the whole month of July takes a dirty turn as people build spirals, mold creatures and throw pots and other vessels into existence during the CLAY Festival which officially takes place July 10-16 with exhibits, workshops, lectures and energy across the town.

Pottery can be an escape from mass production and consumerism, an act of defiance in the modern world. The ancestors relied on their hands and the earth for useful ves-

sels, why shouldn't we take our hands to it as well?

The touch of clay also can plunge us back into childhood when we wandered the hill-sides, picked up sticks and rocks and put creations from our minds into solid reality. I remember a time my family built a wall around our house out of adobe. We rented a mixer, dumped in straw and mud and poured it into forms. When that dried into bricks, we mixed fresh mud in a wheelbarrow to use as mortar and stacked the wall. It seemed so easy then, I know better now but relearning that art is something I think about often – because, I think, of the visceral touch and strength of the work.

Clay is a medium of powerful symbols, all the ancient elements could be said to be included in production of a finished product. Earth and water, fire and air; all are needed to bring together a sculpture, a mug, a home. And if spirit is the fifth element, certainly the magical combination centers on what clay can do for us – beauty, utility and heart.

When the Grant County community comes together to follow the clay trail every July, it welcomes the rest of the rest of New Mexico to join in. Lovers of all kinds of muddy endeavors can converge whether their thing is ancient Mimbres pottery, building strawbale houses with clay floors, sculpting political comment or tiling a bathroom.

Visit our story about CLAY special guest, sculptor George Rodriguez on Page 8. You can find a page of events and schedules on Page 40. And remember, don't be shy about digging in.

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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3,000 sq ft log home, on 217+/- acres, with Forest and BLM boundaries. The million dollar views and the extreme attention to custom detail, make this log home and frame guest home incredibly unique! Log craftsmanship and native stonework throughout. Hand hewn juniper railings and hand forged steel hardware throughout. Bonus features include: a detached garage and use of the Association owned 6,000 sq/ft Headquarters, for guests and entertaining. **MLS 39604. \$1,155,000**



Amazing opportunity for this home overlooking the San Francisco River! Wonderful outdoor flagstone and tile patios for entertaining. Established garden. Tongue and groove vaulted ceilings with wood beams throughout. Sliding glass doors throughout. Each bedroom has its own sliding glass door to the outside. Easy access off of Hwy 180 with outstanding views in every direction. Come and see for yourself! Soon! **MLS 39484 \$545,000.**



Solar dream home offers seclusion and amazing craftsmanship on this open floor plan layout. 400 amp service, 27 solar panel installation, Generac whole home back-up generator, all on almost 7 acres bordering BLM. 10-14 ft vaulted ceilings, a Chef's dream kitchen. Primary bedroom includes office space. Main level has two BR. Downstairs is a fully equipped 1200 sq/ft apartment with separate entrance. Rental potential. **MLS39527. \$799,000**



9 miles north of Historic Downtown Silver City. 4 private wooded acres, views of the Gila National Forest. Custom woodwork throughout. Formal dining room, private office/4th bedroom and two primary bedrooms, one on the main floor with a sitting area that can be used as an office nook. Downstairs is a bedroom and great room/kitchenette and a two car attached garage. A must see for any enthusiast. **MLS39214. \$699,000.**



Gorgeous custom home in the pines and a guest house! Turkish limestone floors, Pella doors and windows, butler's pantry with sink, freezer and dishwasher, cherry cabinets, copper tub in primary as well as walk-in shower. Radiant heat floor which is a dual fuel Tarm boiler as well as Jotul woods stoves. There is a heated Badu swim system outside as well as wraparound decking. Guest house is an AIR Lok cabin equipped to function on or off the grid, it is 725 s.f. and features a kitchen, laundry and living/bed area. Heated garage/workshop and all located on 5 acres with Forest boundary. **MLS 39700 \$760,000.**



This 2358 sq/ft 3/2 home is designed to incorporate native stone foundations, porch column piers and steps and fireplaces with heavy timber beams/columns, portraying the true spirit of the old western character. You will be greeted by the two Anasazi Bear figures inlaid in the stone entryway. Peeled bark trees enhance the interior, complimented by peeled Juniper railings, terracotta tile floors, 20+ foot ceilings. The porch provides indescribable views, privacy and security of remote living in the incredible southwest. **MLS39636. \$1,330,000.**



Historic Downtown Silver City property in the center of Yankee Street Art District. Building has a large open room up front, could be a dining area or large living room. 1BR/1BA ready to live in or rent out. Upstairs is an unfinished bedroom with much potential. The back of the building has a kitchen and large living area separated from the large front area. Walking distance to coffee shops, restaurants, and food co-op. **MLS39660. \$399,000.**



Custom designed home on almost 40 acres. This 2560 sq/ft 4 bedroom, 2 bath manufactured home is 2x6 construction with 9' ceilings. ample space and storage for the larger family. Custom kitchen with logs of cabinet, pantry storage and counter space. Private well. Metal barn, pipe corral, pens, roping arena, plus a storage container! Approx. 15 minutes from downtown Silver City! Great place for 4-H animals... Schedule an appointment today. **MLS 39736. \$445,000**



BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY!! Coin-operated laundromat with a 1 bath studio apartment attached for additional rental income. Call today for a showing! **MLS39679. \$175,000.**



End of Mineral Creek Road lies a 120 acre jewel, bordering Gila National Forest. This unique property has all the water you've dreamed of, including irrigated pastures, an old orchard, all with a recently engineered and updated irrigating system ready to open up the flood gates. There are 11 acre feet of water rights that include surface, ditch and irrigation rights. Wild New Mexico game frequent the pastures and orchard making this a once in a lifetime opportunity to own a property with this much water in the great southwest. **MLS 39635. \$950,000**

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DESERT exposure

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AUGUST DEADLINES

All stories and notices for the editorial
section due Monday, July 17.
Space Reservation and ad copy
due Friday, July 21.

Desert #85
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.jsp

"CLAO LV DYOCO HGCD 2000-CLAODYEMS BOGKC. DY0 HLCD-RGT
WKLFOCC EC DY0 CGAO GC VKLA WKO-KLAGM DEAC0, LMHB RO YGUO RGB
JODDOK AGDOKEGH." - FLHODDO JOOKC, LM HEVO-CEN0Z CFXHWDEMS

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: "WHAT SETS OUR CAMPS APART ARE THE FACULTY,
THE BLACK RANGE LODGE AND THE PEOPLE." - SINGER/SONGWRITER
CHRIS SANDERS, ON UPCOMING "DESERT NIGHT ACOUSTIC MUSIC
CAMPS". *Secret Words: "THE FOLKSY MAGIC"

Congrats to #84 solvers:
Mike Arms*, David Pino*,
Kaustuv Sengupta*, Will Adams*, Skip
Howard*, George P. Burdell*, and Connie Tull*!



POSTCARD FROM THE EDGE

Rocky Pease of Las Cruces reads his Desert Exposure on the ship Eurodam on vacation. Behind him is Margerie Glacier in Glacier Bay National Park, Alaska. (Photo by Terri Pease)



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

FACES OF DEMING

June Davidson of Deming had a birthday on June 1. It was her 85th revolution around the sun and her family visited in Deming from both coasts to help her celebrate. June has lived in Deming since 2006 when she made the choice between Hawaii and the High Desert. After enjoying the winter, she decided to relocate from the snow of Eastern Washington to her new home in Country Club Estates,

"I am completely wrapped up in my family and I have always worked hard at being kind and loving, not as a religion, as a way of life," June said.

From left to right are Jay, Gary, Kathleen, Rachel and Jessica with the happy birthday girl sitting in the center.



WRITING CONTEST

Desert Exposure continues its longstanding writing contest.

Winners will be featured in the October and November issues of Desert Exposure.

There are two categories: Prose and poetry

Prizes include publication, four \$25 runner-up prizes and a \$100 grand prize.

**Mail entries to:
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contest@desertexposure.com

Submit your best article, short story, essay, poem or other piece of writing by Aug. 15. Entries must be previously unpublished and will be judged on quality and how well they express some aspect of life in southern New Mexico. Please limit entries to a maximum of two. Maximum length per entry is 4,000 words.

Include name, postal address and email if you have one. Entries cannot be returned.

Clockwise: Parakeets in the the walk-through aviary; peacock inside the walk-through aviary; Taveta golden-weaver; Taveta golden-weaver; bobcat; red-eared slider turtles; red-eared slider turtles.



ADVENTURE + PLAY

Escape for the Day to the Zoo

Alamogordo boasts oldest zoo in state

Story and photos
By Sylvia Quintanilla

We often take for granted the close proximity of several cities making day trips accessible. With summer here, the open road offers opportunity to take any day of the week and find enjoyment.

On a very sunny Tuesday afternoon, we loaded up the car and headed on a cruise to the zoo. In just over 60 minutes from Las Cruces is the Alameda Park Zoo, located in Alamogordo, Alameda Park is the oldest zoo in the state and was founded in 1898.

Guests enter via the gift shop to pay admission and get a chance to view the stuffed animals of some of the animals in the park.

Walking through the 12-acre property, guests encounter several different animals that call Alameda Park Zoo home. On our walk, we saw lemurs, owls, bears, a camel and several confident peacocks.

Close to the turkey vultures and raven, was a sassy bobcat ready for her lunch. Near the bobcat was an exhibit for rac-

coons lounging among the trees. Neighbors to the raccoons were the river otters, who were having a joyful day swimming and playing what seemed to be a game of tag.

By far, the exhibit that carries the most character is the walk-through aviary. Housed in an enclosed standalone building, the walk-through aviary has 10 different animals. There are eight species of birds, ducks, fish and turtles.

Going into the aviary, you go through a secure double door. Trees provide shade and paint a backdrop of serene nature. There is a bridge over the pond that has koi fish. Turtles take in the sun on the moist rocks and ducks nest nearby.

Watching the white peacocks walk by and quails scurry is really a sight to see considering all of these different types of animals coexist.

Kate Rogers, zoo manager, said "For any exhibit, we will research diets, climates, prey/predator, and compatibility of animals."

Rogers said she believed the aviary was completed in 2014; the Alamogordo Friends of the Zoo donated a project.

"Alamogordo Friends of the Zoo started while Bud Wiser was the zoo manager back in the 1980's. The group has been active until 2023," she said.

Taking a moment and observing the animals in the aviary was truly relaxing. We enjoyed watching the small yellow Taveta Golden-weaver find twigs to weave its nest in the trees.

Rogers said the zoo has great support from the community and Alamogordo city management. "This support is allowing us to provide better care to the animals, staff, and guest experience," she said.

"We are a small zoo providing the public the opportunity to see different animals in their natural environment. We are growing and improving the facility all the time," Rogers said.

The Alameda Park Zoo is located on 1021 N. White Sands Blvd., Alamogordo. It is open daily from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Last entry is at 4:30 p.m. Admission for children four and under is free, children five to 12 is \$2.50, guests 13-59 are \$4, seniors (60+) \$2.50 and active/retired military members are \$2.50. For more information, call 575-439-4290.

COMMUNITY

Inspired by Dumpster Diver

WNMU student launches recycling program

Provided By Western New Mexico University

When students were moving out of the Western New Mexico University residence halls this spring, they may have observed something unfamiliar: donation boxes set

up by the Choose to Reuse program.

Choose to Reuse is the brainchild of Kinesiology major Itzela Darkenwald, who explained what motivated her to create the program,

“When I was a freshman here and ... everyone was moving out, I noticed that a lot of people were throwing

away good, reusable stuff because they couldn’t take it back home – it wouldn’t fit in their car, or they didn’t need twin sheets or a mini-fridge once they had graduated – so a bunch of stuff was going to waste,” Darkenwald said. “We really needed to do something about it.”

She was also concerned

the move-out process was encouraging dumpster divers on campus.

A conversation with a person taking material from the dumpsters, however, revealed that some of those collecting the students’ cast-offs were from the local homeless shelter and they were looking for items that would benefit their clients, such as towels.

When Darkenwald realized this and saw that the items were going to be reused by people who needed them, she became determined to create a program



that allowed students to directly donate their unwanted items.

“I reached out to the Silver City Gospel Mission which has a thrift shop and soup kitchen, and they help people get back on their feet when they are struggling,” she said.

As a resident assistant in Student Housing, Darken-

wald spoke with her supervisor to get started. She then created a flyer to spread the word about the program, coordinated with Facilities and Maintenance to provide a drop zone for donations, and set up donation boxes provided by the Gospel Mission. Her goal was to make everything as easy as possible to encourage students to participate, so she set up the donation boxes near the dumpsters where students would usually take their unwanted belongings.

“Once I set up the [donation] tables, people were using them . . . It made me so happy to see it all come into play,” she said.

She was also pleased she could help bridge the gap between the university and the community of Silver City. Through the program, said Darkenwald, “We are reaching out and helping the local community.”

“It was a win-win situation in my head,” she said, “We will get rid of dumpster diving and make the university a more welcoming and better-looking place, and we will give back to the community. . . It’s really not that difficult to put something [like this] together.”



FIGURE DRAWING

The Doña Ana Arts Council is offering a 2-hour live figure drawing session on Saturday, July 8, from 12-2PM. All skill levels are welcome and space is limited. The cost is \$35 for Doña Ana Arts Council Artist Members and \$45 for nonmembers.

For more information or to register, call or email the Council at 575-523-6403 or Gallery@DAArts.org.



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HERITAGE

'The Chinese Experience in the Borderlands'

Branigan Center opens cultural exhibit

"The Chinese Experience in the Borderlands, 1880-1930" opens Friday, July 7 and closes Saturday, Oct. 7 at the Branigan Cultural Center in Las Cruces. An opening reception will be held 5:30-8:30 p.m. Friday, July 7 at the center.

The exhibit discusses the use of Chinese immigrant

labor in the U.S. and Mexico and the impact it had on regional Chinese settlements.

It addresses anti-Chinese backlash by Borderland citizens and the U.S. and Mexico governments that resulted in anti-Chinese immigrant laws, particularly the federal Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 and the

New Mexico Alien Land Act of 1921.

Through this changing political landscape, a small Chinese settlement developed in El Paso. There also was a thriving Chinese-owned truck farming business in Deming and several small businesses in Las Cruces. Chinese artifacts from the El Paso settlement

that were uncovered during a 1980s urban archeological excavation are featured in the exhibit.

Exhibit curator Jennifer McClung will discuss the research and resources that went into developing this exhibit from noon to 1 p.m. Thursday, July 20 in the Swartz Room at Branigan Cultural Center.

Branigan Cultural Center is open from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday to Friday and from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday and located at 501

N. Main St. in Las Cruces.

For information, visit the Museums System website at www.lascruces.gov/museums or call 575-541-215



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ART + INSPIRATION

Embellished Stories

CLAY Fest guest brings expression to clay

By Elva K. Österreich

Sculptor George Rodriguez works in expression. Physically a long way from his El Paso roots, every piece reflects home in the borderlands even as it leaves behind the constraints of expectation.

The special guest of the Silver City CLAY Festival this year, Rodriguez was born and raised in the border city. Not sure he was going to college, he finally decided to attend the University of Texas in El Paso and thought he would want to do something in arts. Starting in design, he found he didn't enjoy it much and, after some introductory classes, fell in love with ceramics.

"It's about the possibilities," he said. "You start with a lump and transform into anything you can imagine. Sculptural forms drew me. I love the way it felt but there was also – you can make everything."

He said the ceramics was difficult for him, for a long time he was unable to fully grasp fully the material.

"I did painting at same time," he said. "I had more control over painting but stuck with ceramics because I wanted to get more control."

But he persevered to get his bachelor of fine arts degree in ceramics from UTEP, then went on to receive a master of fine arts degree from the University of Washington. That was followed as a recipient of a Bonderman Travel Fellowship which allowed him to travel across the world through most of 2010, an experience which, in his words, "had a profound impact."

Now he lives in Philadelphia but also has a studio in Washington State, where he loves to work.

Rodriguez's work tends to be expressive, decorated and sometimes political. The faces on his sculptures speak volumes with the single twist of an eyebrow or quirk in the mouth.

"I think my sculptures are not highly realistic," he said. "They look like people, but you wouldn't mistake it for a human if you see that face. They are representations – trying to embody a feeling – and when I get that feeling I kind of stop trying to alter the facial features. It's like very minute change that alters your emotions and perceptions. And once I find something that I think works, I will stop messing around with it."

He said for him, color adds a big part to

emotive quality. Warm tones or cool tones can change everything.

Many of Rodriguez's pieces have a deep humor to them. They are serious but sometimes make you smile about how he deals with the subject.

"I am very conscious of doing that," he said. "For me, it's like humor is an entry point in a conversation."

Even if a piece has political or serious messaging, the initial reaction is to see bright color and ornamentation and the viewer will be drawn to it.

"For those who are more invested," he said, "they can get deeper into the stories. Nobody likes to be preached at, but you can get an entry that way."

Working with decoration has become a fascination for Rodriguez. He said decoration can be parasitic, not adding anything to the piece but he likes to cover a lot of surface.

"Usually decoration is extra," he said. "The form is there without the decoration. I like to cover a lot of the surface, where it almost becomes so much that you kind of forget it's there – it's not like one emblem that really stands out. With my decoration

12 YEARS OF CLAY

Founded in 2011 by Lee Gruber, the Silver City CLAY Festival celebrates and explores interpretations of clay, mud and earth as the common ground of New Mexico's culture and history.

CLAY Festival gathers artists, collectors, educators, and families for a week-long series of events to explore clay in its many forms as well as its impact on our history, present and future. Each year, internationally acclaimed artists are invited to contribute to the dialogue of clay craft, host workshops, lectures and jury the International CLAY Juried Exhibition, this year titled "Grace."

More about the CLAY Festival can be found at clayfestival.com and the back page of this issue of Desert Exposure.

there is so much of it, it sometimes takes over the forms."

Rodriguez works with joy and that is often reflected in his art. His self-portrait,

“George With Flowers,” shares the twinkle in his nature and replaces his hair and beard with colorful flowers. In fact, as you look at many of his faces, you can see the George in them along with the other themes.

In fact, he starts pieces, no matter how they end up, with his own face. Then he transforms his face into other faces.

“There’s a George Washington, Curious George (for example),” he said. “It physically represents something completely different. There is a two-way connection.”

This process is a way to connect with other cultures, describing them through himself as everyone must see through their own eyes and experiences.

“I try and learn a lot about those things but still making them through my own interpretation,” he said.

The whimsical nature of Rodriguez’s work is reflected in subject matter and decoration. He has a series called the “Mexican Zodiac,” using

expressive creatures and a series of dresses, “In Costume” that speaks volumes about wearers without even a wearer in sight. He recently finished a large-scale installation for a new terminal at the Kansas City Airport – a series of nine jazz players, “Let the Music Take You,” incorporating Kansas City trademarks like the Art Institute, barbeque and jazz.

Arriving in Silver City for the CLAY Festival following a month travel his roles there include jurying the exhibition show called “Grace,” giving a talk at the opening of the show as well as having some of his own pieces in a side gallery at the same venue, Light Art Space, 209 W. Broadway St., Silver City. He is also teaching a workshop called “Embellished Stories.”

“I feel like the majority of my work now is really about community,” he said.

Rodriguez’s website is georgerodriguez.net and he can be found on Instagram under Gerogesclupts.



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Jim, DLH
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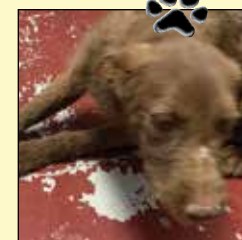
John, DMH
Male, brown tabby, male, 2 yr

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Bingo, 8 mos.,
male heeler mix

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Lulu, Airedale mix,
female, 8-10 mos

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Choir, adult female, black and
white, blue eyed husky

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REDGE AND PHYLLIS



Buffy, 4 mos DMH female

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MONIKA AND JOHN



Cinna, 3 year old male, black
and white husky

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Reggie, 8 mos. neutered male,
red and white heeler mix

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Angel and Dede, 9 wks,
white/gray DSH and DSH Torti

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Magenta, 6 yrs, DSH,
spayed female

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Tammy, 1 yr
female DSH buff tabby

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ARTS + OPPORTUNITIES

Arts Scene

Upcoming area art happenings

By Elva K. Österreich

OPPORTUNITIES Artists/Photographers

Open Call for Art: “**Creatures of the Gila**” art show, to be held Sept 1-10, at the **Grant County Art Guild Studio**, 200 W Market in Silver City. Deadline for entry is 11:59 p.m., July 23. This is an open call, you need not be a Guild member to enter the show. All entries must depict, or be inspired by “Creatures” (mammals, fish, birds, insects or reptiles) who live in the Gila River watershed. All mediums and styles are welcome. Prizes to be awarded include \$250 for Best in Show, \$50 first place. Info: gcag.org.

Otero Arts in Alamogordo is seeking artists for month long **First Friday Art Exhibitions** in 2024. All exhibitions are held at **Otero Artspace** located at 1118 Indiana Avenue in Alamogordo. The Artspace is large with ProPanels and professional lighting to create an excellent presentation. To apply visit oteroarts.org. With your application include five images of your work in jpeg format and an artist’s statement or bio.

The **Doña Ana Arts Council** (DAAC) is seeking nominations for its 2023 Community Arts Awards, which honor individuals and organizations who are actively involved in promoting

and enhancing the visual, performing and literary arts in the community through leadership, support and advocacy. The deadline to submit a nomination packet is 5 p.m. on Friday, July 15. Awards will be presented at DAAC’s 36th annual Community Arts Awards reception. Nomination forms are available on-line at www.daarts.org, by calling 575-523-6403 or by emailing gallery@daarts.org.

Stage/Film

Is there a play you always wanted to direct or produce? **Silver City Community Theater** is soliciting proposals for the 2023-2024 season. The kick-off takes place in August-September at El Sol. Info: aryann@silvercitycommunitytheater.com.

SILVER CITY

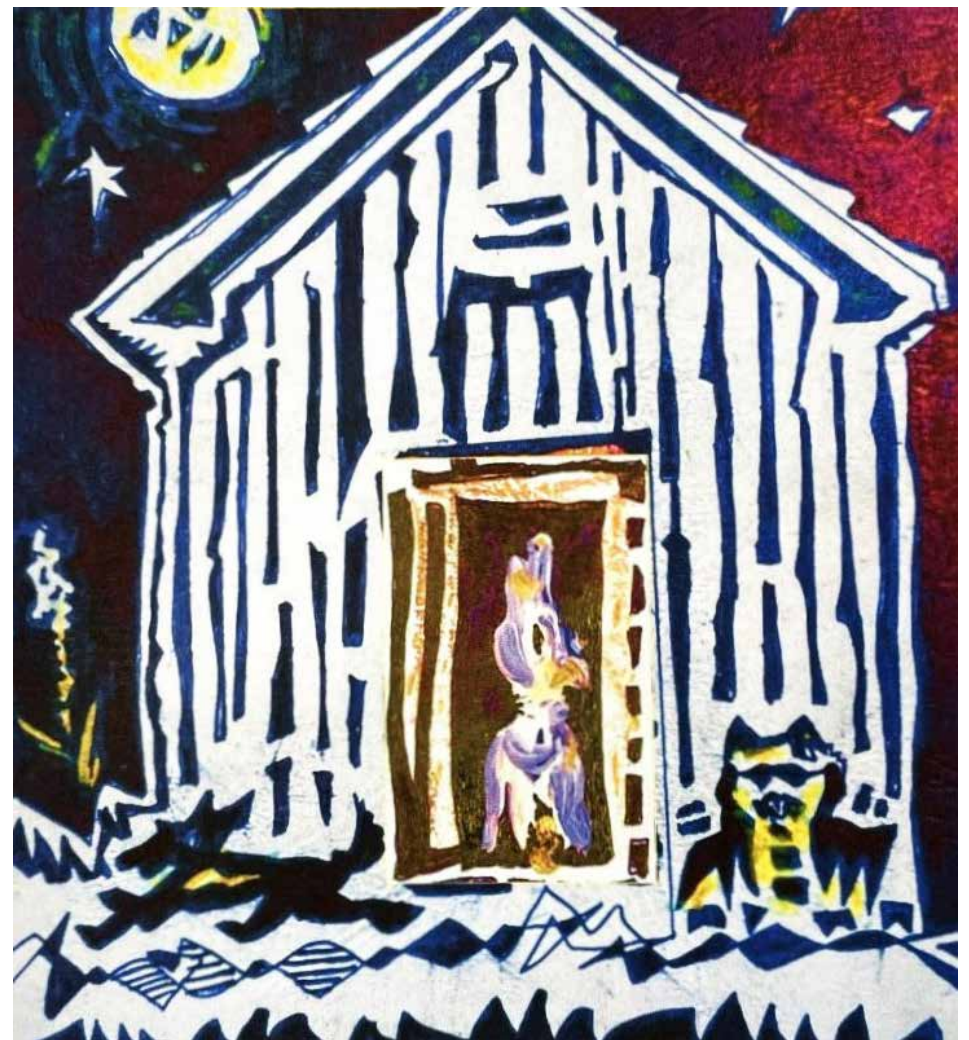
• The **Silver City Art Association First Friday Gallery Walk** is from 5-7 p.m., July 7. During First Friday walks, SCAA downtown galleries stay open until 7 p.m. to hold receptions, and feature art demonstrations or other special activities. For a map showing SCAA downtown gallery locations, look for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

CLAY • At **Light Art Space** gallery “**GRACE: Expression Through CLAY**” is the juried exhibition for the CLAY Festival this year.

Juror George Rodriguez chose 34 works by 27 clay artists from around the United States and Mexico. The CLAY Festival reception and artist talk is 6-8 p.m., Saturday, July 15 with a juror talk following at 7 p.m. Rodriguez’s work will also be on display. Also on view at the gallery is work in various media by the Light Art Space Artists: **Joel Armstrong, Joe Huebner, Karen Hymmer, Kathleen Koopman, Rhonda Munzinger, Art Peterson, Susan Porter, Eric Renner, Nancy Spencer, and Juan Velasco**. The gallery is open 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday-Saturday (until 7 p.m. on First Fridays); 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on Sunday; and by appointment. Info: lightartspace.com.

• At **a)s p...A”© e Studio•Art•Gallery** is a new exhibition titled “Mushroom Invasion” by **Christopher “Moppy” Thomopoulos**. Spreading love with his colorful fungi/mushroom art and nature inspired creations Moppy uses art as a way of healing and hopes to inspire others to create. The gallery is open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday to Sunday, 110 West 7th St., in Silver City. Info: astudiogallery@gmail.com, 575-538-3333.

CLAY • The **Grant County Art Guild Gallery** features the work of clay artist **Judy Menefee** for July for the CLAY Festival. Menefee is known locally for her



Mimbres inspired clay art, which includes jewelry as well as functional and decorative art. Extended hours and reception are 5-7 p.m., July 7. The GCAG Gallery is located at 316 N Bullard. **The STUDIO** is at 200 W Market, both in Silver City. Info: gcag.org.

CLAY • “**Two Friends Under the Influence**” art exhibition happens July 10-16 at the **Grant County Art Guild STUDIO**, at 200 W. Market St. in Silver City. This exhibition features the work of internationally recognized clay artists, **Marko Fields** and **Diego Valles**. Valles and Fields exhibit their work along with select works by some of the artists who have significantly influenced and

encouraged their growth and artistic development. These artists include **Carla Martinez, Oscar Gillespie, Lidia Quenzado, Patrick Teddy, Mike Negishi-Laidlaw, Suzann Beck, Dan Beck, Jesus Armando Trivizo** and others. There will also be a small trunk show of select works by master potters of **Mata Ortiz**, Chihuahua, Mexico.

DEMING

• “**Cars, Cars, and More Cars**” is the title of the July 2023, exhibit at the **Deming Art Center**. The exhibit will feature local artists and their impressions of the wheels that all of us depend on to get from here to there. There will be a time to meet the artists from 1-3 p.m. on Sunday,

July 2. Deming Art Center is at 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.

ALAMOGORDO/ TULAROSA

• **Otero Arts** presents the work of oil painter **Dan Pilgreen** in an exhibition of his landscapes and abstracts, “**Synapse: Artist Interrupted.**” Pilgreen says he works in oils “to create complex images of form and textures to express excitement and rhythm surrounded by strong color.” The opening reception is 5-7 p.m., Friday, July 7. The exhibition continues through the month of July. The gallery will also open

throughout the month 1-4 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. Otero Artspace located at 1118 Indiana Ave. in Alamogordo. Info: oteroarts.org.

CLOUDCROFT

• **The Cloudfcroft Art Society's Gallery** invites everyone to the 4th of July Art Show and Sale in the back room of the old red schoolhouse/library at the east end of Burro Street where it intersects Swallow Place in the historic village of Cloudfcroft, New Mexico. Show dates are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday July 1 and Sunday July 2. The exhibit features both two- and three-dimensional original art works by CAS members to include paintings in several media, photography and photo art, pottery, wood and gourd art, greet-

ing cards, fiber art, jewelry and more. The Cloudfcroft Art Society is a local non-profit organization whose mission is to promote individual creativity and understanding of the visual arts and to provide a showcase for area artists. CAS serves Cloudfcroft, the surrounding Sacramento Mountain communities and the Alamogordo-Tularosa area. Info: sznana@totacc.com.

LAS CRUCES

• **Sonya Fe**, whose work more often than not focuses on women and children, has a solo exhibit at the **Doña Ana Arts Council**, July 24. The exhibit, entitled "RAW," will include more than two dozen pieces, many of which have not been exhibited previously, primarily, according to Fe, because of their



graphic subject matter, such as child abuse. In comment-

ing on her work, Fe states that she wants "the viewer

to feel, see and understand what I am saying – to not be left behind." The Doña Ana Arts Council Gallery is open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday – Friday. Info: 575-523-6403.

• Three art exhibitions at **New Mexico State University's Art Museum** run through Sept. 16. "**Cara Despain: Specter**," is on view in the UAM's **Contemporary Gallery**, is an immersive multimedia exhibition featuring work by Miami-based artist **Cara Despain**. "**Agnes Martin & Karen Yank: Meditations on Mentor and Student**" is on display in the **Bunny Conlon Modern & Contemporary Art Gallery**. This exhibition explores the work and intersecting lives of the artists **Agnes Martin** and **Karen Yank**. For nearly 17 years. "**Wild Pigment Project**" curated by Wild Pigment Project's founding director **Tilke Elkins** is on display in the **Mullennix Bridge Gallery**. This group

• **Coy Lowther**, featured in July at **Agave Artist Gallery**, lives and works in Southern New Mexico. Her paintings and drawings are often a mix of realism juxtaposed with boldly graphic lines. Her themes follow people and nature. Then she hops into the realm of *Dia de Los Muertos* to capture movement and the fullness of life. When she isn't in her studio, Lowther creates murals in the community. To view her art, the gallery is open 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday to Monday at 2250 Calle de San Albino, Fri, Sat, Sun, and Mon from 11 am to 5 pm. Coy can also be found on Instagram @coys-art or coysart.com.

ART SCENE

continued on page 12

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ARTS SCENE

continued from page 11

exhibition, which originated at **form & concept gallery** in Santa Fe, brings together painters and dyers, ink-makers and ceramists, researchers, scientists and traditional cultural practitioners to explore pigments found in plants, minerals and the industrial

waste stream. The project promotes ecological balance and regenerative economies through a passion for wild pigments, their places of origin, and their cultural histories. Info: uam.nmsu.edu, call 575-646-2545 or email artmuseum@nmsu.edu. The University Art Museum is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday at 1308 E. University Avenue.

• **“From Mesilla to the Mountains”** is an exhibit of local scenes painted outdoors by watercolorist **Arlene J Tugel**. The show runs from July 7 through Aug. 7 at the **Mas Art Gallery**, 144 Wyatt Dr, Las Cruces. The opening reception 4-7 p.m. on Friday night, July 7 during the **First Friday Ramble**. A second reception will be held on Friday night, Aug. 4. Regular gallery hours are 9

a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday.

A resident of Las Cruces for 25 years, Tugel said “my preferred medium is watercolor because it allows me to reveal the play of light and shadow across the land. My paintings show how light in the Southwest creates magical landscapes.” Info: www.masartllc.com or 575-526-9113.

First Friday Art Walk — 5 to 7 pm, July 7th



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• **The Las Cruces Museum of Art**, is featuring **“ORIGAMI IN THE GARDEN: Transforming Paper to Sculpture,”** featuring innovative artwork of Santa Fe artists **Kevin and Jennifer Box**. Through a laborious process using the lost-wax technique, Kevin Box transforms both large- and small-scale paper origami pieces into metal sculptures. The exhibition is on view through September 23. The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday at 491 N. Main St. Info: www.lascruces.gov/museums or 575-541-2137.

• A photo exhibit captures the world of hummingbirds at the **New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum** in Las Cruces. **“Grace in Motion”** which features photography by **Nirmal Khandan**.

The exhibit features 36 portraits of hummingbird species common to the region interacting with local flora.

The show is free but regular museum admission is required to see the rest of the museum. The show will be on display through July 30 in the Arts Corridor at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Drip Springs Road in Las

Cruces. Info: www.nmfarm-ranchmuseum.org.

• **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 July: **Linda Hagen** and **Hetty Smith**. Hagen, who paints in oils, moved to Las Cruces from Ohio in 2004. She instantly connected to the light and landscape of New Mexico. Smith’s love for stained glass started a long time ago while growing up in Holland. Beautiful homes, apartments and churches in Europe were decorated with unique stained glass in the



windows, which inspired her creativity. The gallery also welcomes new artist, David Stevenson. Stevenson has been a photographic artist for 45 years. He began work

with two stock photography agencies, and doing shows and exhibitions in upstate New York.

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.

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ON THE SHELF

'Vertigo of Risk'

Renown author, photographer reads in Las Cruces

Author, photographer, translator and award-winning poet Margaret Randall, author, will read from her new collection of poetry, "Vertigo of Risk," at 6 p.m. Sunday, July 9, at Casa Camino Real Bookstore, 314 S. Tornillo St. in Las Cruces' Mesquite Historic District.

The event is free and open to the public, said Casa Camino Real owner and award-winning author Denise Chávez. A book signing and reception will follow the reading.

"Vertigo of Risk" is Randall's "aster opus," Chávez said, a "testimonio to a life lived in the blessed search of truth. The series of poems called "Dearest" which reads as letters to friends and inspirations, leads into a sharpened assembly of pieces that both celebrate and champion life and art, all with Randall's

rich candor and ear for language throughout, Chávez said.

Randall lived in Latin America (México, Cuba and Nicaragua) for 23 years. 1962-69, she and Mexican poet Sergio Mondragón co-edited "El Corno Emplumado" ("The Plumed Horn"), a bilingual literary quarterly "that published some of the best new work of the 1960s," Chávez said.

When Randall returned to the United States in 1984, "the government ordered her deported because it found some of her writing to be 'against the good order and happiness of the United States,'" Chavez said. With the support of many writers and others, her citizenship was restored in 1989.

Along with "Vertigo at Risk," Randall's recent poetry titles include "Against Atrocity,"

"Out of Violence into Poetry," "Stormclouds Like Unkept Promises," "Thinking About Thinking," "Artists in My Life," "Your Answer is Your Map," "Luck," "Home," "I Never Left Home: Poet, Feminist, Revolutionary" and "Che on My Mind," a feminist poet's reminiscence of Argentine revolutionary Ernesto "Che" Guevara.

Two of Randall's photographs are in the Capitol Art Collection in Santa Fe, Chávez said.

In 2019, Randall received an honorary doctorate of letters from the University of New Mexico. In 2022 she received the City of Albuquerque's Creative Bravo Award.

Randall lives in Albuquerque with her partner, the painter Barbara Byers, and travels extensively to read, lecture and teach,



Chávez said.

Many of Randall's books will be on sale during the July 9 reading, Chávez said.

For more information, contact Chávez at 575-649-9173 and comezon09@comcast.net.

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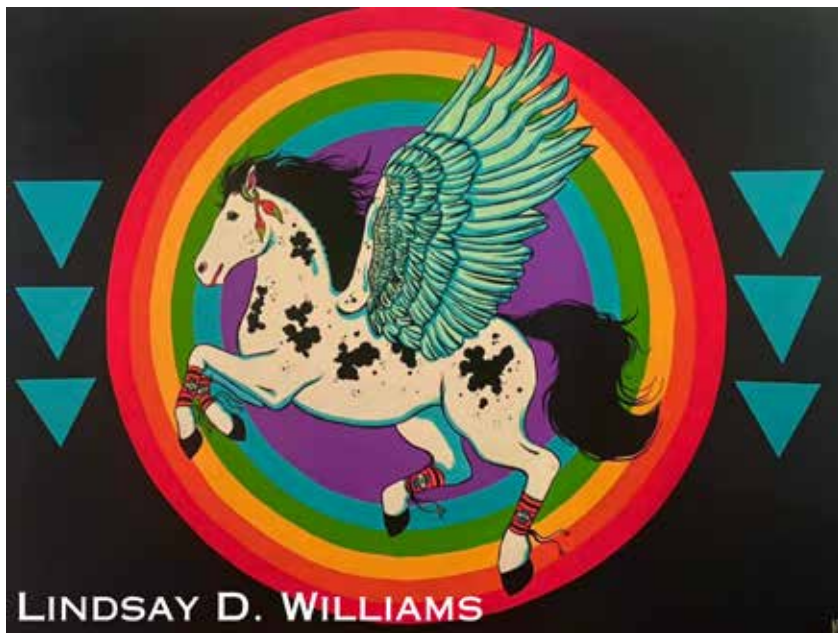
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Advertising deadline date: July 25, 2023
Publication date: September 2023



CENTER

from page 14

colors to his popular charcoal still-lives.

After 33 years living amid the Santa Fe arts community, gallery owner Art Burger said he was drawn to the nascent art scene in Truth or Consequences. A lifetime fine art collector, Art saw an opportunity to help grow the city's arts district, and to provide the youth of Sierra County the same levels of encouragement and to express their creative talents that are commonly available to their peers in the state capitol.

Burger said he was thrilled to acquire the lava-built Center Building in the town's Hot Springs Historic District as the site of the new Center Gallery of Fine Art, diagonally across Main Street from the recently renovated El Cortez Theater. Burger's activist spirit carries beyond his new home. Since Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the gallery has featured Chris Krieg's tribute to the people of Ukraine with his 10'x16' "Madala on the Ukrainian Flag" mural on the northwest exterior side of the gallery building.

Center Gallery Fine Art gallery hours are 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday to Friday and 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, at 201 S. Foch in TorC. Hours. It's also open 6-9 p.m. for Second Saturday Art Hop, and by appointment. For information call 505-428-8418 or visit TheCenterGallery.com or the gallery's Facebook page.



DANCE + ART

Twisting in Graceful Turns

Arts Lab Desert Peaks brings dancers from across the county

Arts Lab Desert Peaks is a transformative two-week workshop designed to provide young dance artists with a unique opportunity to participate in a creation process with renowned choreographer and Las Cruces native Joshua L. Peugh. The third annual workshop with Dark Circles Contemporary Dance in Las Cruces is from July 24 to Aug. 5.

The event welcomes 14 professional dancers from esteemed companies such as The Big Mud-

dy Dance Company, Verbs Ohio Contemporary Ballet, SERES Danza, and others. In addition, pre-professional dancers from across the country, as well as from Colombia and Mexico, will be part of this event.

The program aims to cultivate artistic growth by enabling participants to engage in a collaborative creative process, take technique classes from New York City-based choreographer and educator Mike Esperanza, learn repertory and

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contribute to developing a world-premiere ballet. Under the guidance of choreographer Peugh, participants can refine their skills, expand their artistic vision and explore new horizons in contemporary dance.

The culmination of the creation process will be showcased through two free and open-to-the-public performances on Saturday, Aug. 5, at the stage at Plaza de Las Cruces, coinciding with the Saturday morning Farmer's Market. These performances aim to captivate and inspire audiences, providing a unique opportunity for the community to witness the transformative power of contemporary dance, according to a press release from the dance company. The first performance begins at 9 a.m., followed by an encore presentation at 10 a.m.

"Dark Circles Contemporary Dance fosters innovation and excellence in contemporary dance within the Mesilla Valley," the release said. "Through Arts Lab Desert Peaks, the organization aims to position Las Cruces as a vibrant center for artmaking, ultimately establishing the city as a destination for artists and world-class dance. By hosting these talented artists for two weeks, the workshop also contributes to the region's economic development, creating new opportunities

for local businesses and the community."

Furthermore, the culminating performances in a shared community gathering space will entertain and stimulate viewers and emphasize the universality of movement as a language accessible to all communities, regardless of race, class, ability or gender.

"Dark Circles Contemporary Dance hopes that the audience will leave the performances with a deeper understanding of the power of movement as a unifying force and a source of inspiration," the release said.

Arts Lab Desert Peaks seeks to provide a supportive environment for participating artists, encouraging their professional development, fostering networking opportunities, and facilitating community building. By dedicating their full attention to their craft, dancers can immerse themselves in their art



and fully embrace the creative process.

Arts Lab Desert Peaks is sponsored in part by the New Mexico State University Department of Kinesiology and Dance. For more

information about Arts Lab Desert Peaks and Dark Circles Contemporary Dance, please visit www.darkcirclescontemporary-dance.com.

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ON THE SHELF

A Visit to Apache Lands

Q&A with author Daniel Aranda

By Jason K. Watkins

Las Cruces historian and writer Daniel Aranda has spent a lifetime researching the stories of the Southwest that make up his new book, “Episodes from Apache Lands,” available online and at local bookstores, and he has discovered new details about famous Apache warriors like Victorio and Josanie.

It has taken Aranda decades to finally publish his research, though, because he’s been busy doing other things. He spent his career as a firefighter and was once named Las Cruces’ Firefighter of the Year. He retired from NASA as an officer, and has worked as a caregiver for family members, yet still found time to research the rich and neglected history of the Southwest.

The results of his decades of study are 10 detailed chapters about important Apache leaders like Geronimo, famous battles, and forgotten figures. Among them are Santiago McKinn, a young American boy who was captured by Apaches. He was the only captive ever photographed while still in Indian captivity — the photograph appears on the cover of the book — and Aranda provides new details about his story through relatives and

people who knew him.

Another chapter covers the famed warrior chief Josanie’s 1885 raid into the U.S. Aranda provides new evidence that the number of people killed in the raid was exaggerated.

Aranda has also written for True West, Real West, the Southern New Mexico Historical Review, Desert Tracks, and other magazines.

“Apache Lands” is available on newsstands and online now for less than \$20.

“I have waited 36 years for a book by Dan,” writes Frank Brito in the foreword, “as distance does not allow me frequent access to his skill in relating a great story.”

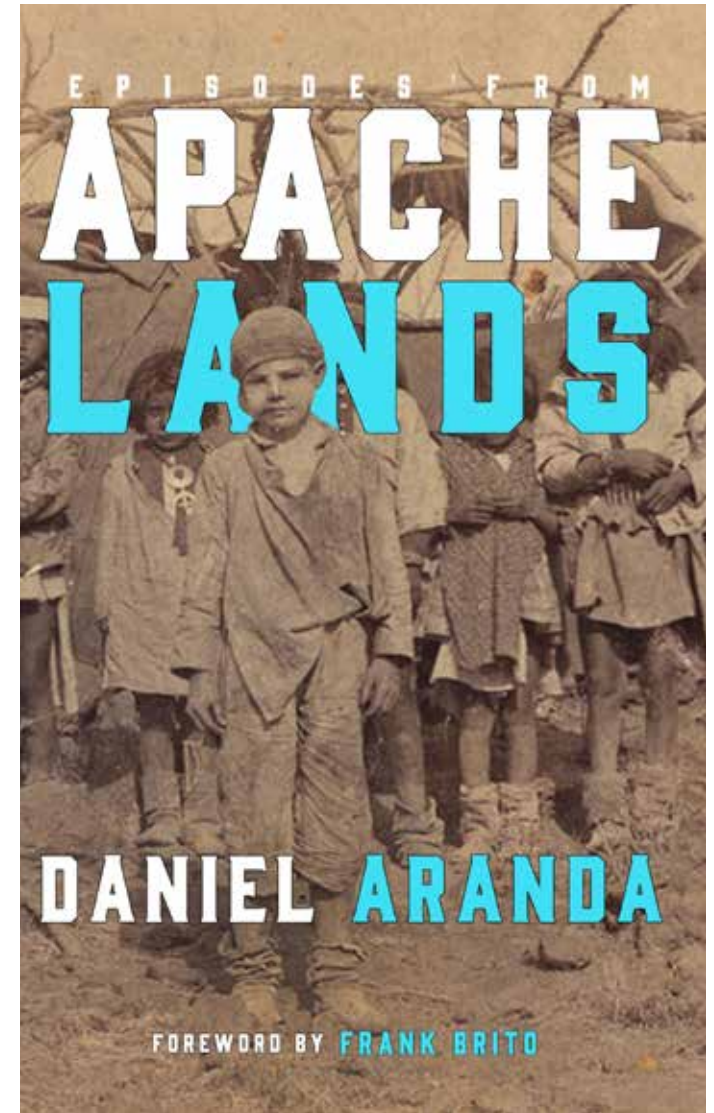
Brito is the son of one of Teddy Roosevelt’s Rough Riders and served in World War II.

“Episodes from Apache Lands” was published by ECO Publishing, a small press in New Mexico’s Boothell. Part of the Chiricahua Desert Museum, ECO focuses on regional history and science. The Desert Museum facility is a private campus that includes a botanical garden, event center, live reptiles, a gift shop, and lodging, all dedicated to preserving the natural history and human history of the Southwest.

Q&A

Apache Lands is a fast-paced, accessible book to read, but it’s also incredibly well researched. How long have you been working on it, and what kind of research did you do?

I have always been fascinated by the American Indian and with the nudging of Eve Ball and then later, by Dan Thrapp, Ed Sweeney, Lynda Sanchez, Keith Humphries, Lee Myers and many more, I decided to give it a try. I was in my twenties when I had my first article published by True West magazine and followed by other factual magazines and journals. I then had a long hiatus because of a workload and when I became a care-giver for many years before I could get back to what I had started. I have been to many depositories such as the National Archives, Huntington Library, Bancroft Library, Arizona Historical Society and many more universities. ‘Mom and Pop’ museums sometimes can surprise you with their collections. Also, in the early days, there were still people around who were not long removed from the events and were glad to



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contribute what they could. Newspapers can be used, but be very careful with them as they are notorious for exaggerating or reporting erroneous news. They are useful anyway for many other reasons such as names, weather reporting, dates, etc. Military correspondence, diaries, etc. are also useful. Of course, primary and secondary books are a must to get an outline.

The story of the little boy on the cover of your book, Santiago McKinn, is fascinating. What specifically did you learn about that case?

That much of what had been written about him wasn't true and that there was much information on him that had never been written about.

One of the more interesting stories from the book is your account of Josanie's raid and the aftermath. Why was the official number of dead so underreported?

Mainly because General Crook wrote that 38 had been killed. Newspapers reported many more, but they are also notorious for reporting things that never happened. I tried to report only the ones that were confirmed by military reports, lists, and on the veracity of those reporting the events. I suspect that several more

were killed, but never found, because of the nature of the terrain that Josanie traversed during the raid.

With a subject as fascinating and unexplored as the Apache, how did you choose what to write about? How did you narrow it down to a few chapters?

Actually, I was going to include two more chapters, but the publisher wanted to keep the book under 200 pages. There are many more relatively unknown or under reported, but yet interesting, episodes out there.

What stories did you hold that might be included in your next book?

Victorio's siege at Alma, the Johnson affair, and about a dozen others.

Where can people buy your book, in person and/or online?

It's available at ECO Publishing in Rodeo, N.M., Coas Books at 317 N. Main Main St. and at 1101 S. Solano, at Moonbow Books at 225 E. Idaho # 32 in Las Cruces, and at Bowlin's Book Center on the plaza. It's also available online at ecouniverse.com. It will soon be available at many other locations, as well as Amazon.

FITNESS

'Happy Trails to You'

Las Cruces works on trail system

By Cathy Mathews, Landscape Architect
City of Las Cruces Parks and Recreation Department

The City of Las Cruces recently completed design and construction of several trails within the city limits in cooperation with Elephant Butte Irrigation District. These trails include the Mesilla Drain Trail between the Outfall Channel Trail and Burn Lake (2.5 miles), the Armijo Lateral Trail between the Outfall Channel Trail and Burn Lake (three miles) and the Las Cruces Lateral Trail between the Outfall Channel Trail and Spruce Avenue near the Las Cruces Police Station and Fire Station #1 (1.5 miles).

These trails are in addition to other trails that are managed by the City Parks and Recreation Department; Triviz Drive Multi-Use Trail (4.5 miles) between the NMSU main campus and Kohls, the Outfall Channel Trail (4.3 miles) between Kohls and the river and the La Llorona/Rio Grande Trail (4.6 miles) connecting the Outfall Channel Trail with the Town of Mesilla.

Other trails within the city trail system include Alameda Arroyo Trail (0.7 miles) near Camino Real Middle School, Legends West Trails (1.2 miles) throughout the Legends West neighborhoods and the Twin Parks Trail (0.9 miles) on Engler Avenue between Mesa Dr and Jornada Drive.

The new trails in the city's system expand the recreational trail system within the city limits from over 19 miles in length to over 26 miles in length.

Upcoming city recreational trail projects include more Las Cruces lateral trails between NMSU main campus and Las Cruces High School and also connecting NMSU main campus to the Village of Tortugas.

Additional trails programming in the planning stages includes mountain bike trails in the vicinity of the East Mesa Public Recreation Complex. Also, the city is completing a park and trail wayfinding plan that will guide the placement and visual appeal of a comprehensive wayfinding sign system that will help guide park and trail users to destinations and routes that are accessible by pedestrians and bicyclists.

The Parks and Recreation Department trail system development is guided by the master plan which outlines our community's goal to provide a system of multi-use trails that support residents' and visitors' fitness, recreation and transportation needs while linking community destinations such as parks, open space, schools and other community activity centers. This goal is consistent with the city's Active Transportation Plan.

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What do all of these people have in common? They suffer from **peripheral neuropathy**. It is estimated that more than 20 million people in the United States have peripheral neuropathy. Unfortunately this figure may be significantly higher as the disease is often mis-diagnosed because of its wide array of symptoms.

Dr. Janet Quintanilla of Sonoma Acupuncture Integrative Health in Las Cruces shares this belief. "I've been treating neuro-pathy, in all its various forms, for over a decade and so often my patients come to me because of the symptoms, not because of a diagnosis. They saw one of my television specials, or read the testimonial of another patient and say to themselves 'hey, I feel the same thing'."

Frankie M. of Mesilla testified to this. "I remember my husband driving me to my consultation and I saw a woman running just outside our neighborhood. I was so envious - I just kept thinking 'I would give anything just to walk again'. My primary care doctor told me my troubles with pain and balance were just symptoms of old age and gave me a prescription. I was so depressed."

Fortunately Frankie would eventually see Dr. Quintanilla on the local news talking about similar symptoms and how she offers a real solution at Sonoma Acupuncture. "I just knew I had to see her. She was my last hope."

"Almost all of our patients come to us with a story similar to Frankie's. They've been told there's no hope. They've been told 'it's just part of getting older'." shares Heather, a Patient Care Technician at Sonoma. "It just breaks my heart but I know how much we can help people like Frankie so I'm always so happy when they walk through our door."

Those diagnosed with peripheral neuropathy often face a very grim reality; Western medicine declares that there is no solution while most alternative therapies carry large price tags and offer little to no resolve. Which is why Dr. Quintanilla and the staff at Sonoma Acupuncture pride themselves on being 'the last resort with the best results'.

Peripheral neuropathy is a result of damage to the nerves and this damage is commonly caused by lack of blood flow in the hands and feet. Lacking nutrients; the nerves then begin to degenerate and die which causes pain ranging from discomfort to debilitating. Because neuropathy is a degenerative condition, once those nerves begin to deteriorate they will continue to do so until they are completely expired, leaving those suffering with crippling balance issues. "In this case, the absence of pain is not necessarily a good thing," shares Dr. Quintanilla. "This usually indicated that your nerves are hanging on by a fragile thread."

So how exactly is Dr. Quintanilla able to reverse the effects of this degenerative disease? "Acupuncture has been used to increase blood flow for thousands of years which helps to get the necessary nutrients to the affected nerves. But the real magic happens when I integrate ATP Resonance BioTherapy. This is tech that was originally developed by NASA to expedite recovering and healing."

"I just can't say enough about Sonoma Acupuncture," Frankie just shared through tears of joy. "My husband and I moved here 3 years ago and he's gone out for a walk almost every day. I always stayed home because of the pain and discomfort. Yesterday I walked with him! And next week we're starting dancing lessons! I am truly living life these days."

According to Frankie's test results, she has seen a 74% improvement in pain and functionality, which is on par with a majority of our patients," shares Heather.

"But more important than those test results is the joy she's expressed being there and hearing about all the amazing things she's able to do so because she feels great!"

By seamlessly blending the ancient science of acupuncture with modern medical solutions Dr. Quintanilla has achieved a 90% success rate in reversing the effects of neuropathy. She starts each patient with an initial consultation during which a sensory exam is performed.

"This not only aids in making a proper diagnosis but it helps to define just how much nerve damage has occurred" tells the doctor. "This is important because if a patient has suffered more than 95% damage, there is little that I can do to help them. I'm familiar with the medical miracle but I know my limits as a practitioner and the limits of my medicine."

When it comes to treating peripheral neuropathy, regardless of its origin, early detection greatly improves your chances of a full recovery.

If you or someone you love is suffering with chronic pain that presents as burning, tingling, or 'pins and needles' or you've recently been diagnosed with peripheral neuropathy, it's important to know that there are options. There is hope.

Call **(575)618-6900** to schedule an initial consultation or visit sonoma-acupuncture.com to read more incredible success stories.



PAID ADVERTISEMENT

GIVING CHRONIC PAIN SUFFERERS HOPE

"It (acupuncture) was the last resort, with the best results." -Bob Hoskins



Dr. Janet Quintanilla, DOM, Dipl.OM

Patients find relief with fewer pills with Breakthrough new clinic in Las Cruces.

Those battling with pain but unable or unwilling to alleviate their condition with potentially addictive pills can feel as if they're on pins and needles waiting for a solution.

However, for some suffering from pain, pins and needles ARE the solution.

Dr. Janet Quintanilla, who trained in China, practices

Acupuncture at Sonoma Acupuncture Integrative Health, said a lot of the pain management field is skittish about prescribing pain medication.

Quintanilla said almost all of her patients cannot, or prefer not to take medications to assuage their conditions.

"I've been maxed out of nerve pain meds, and all the doctors said to just live with it." said **Bob Hoskins of Virginia**. "It (acupuncture) was the last resort, with the best results."

Hoskins began to see Quintanilla in October for lingering effects from a 30 foot fall he took from a tree in 1998.

"I think she does a heck of a job," **Hoskins** said. "I'd fallen and put my hip through the pelvic socket." Additionally, **Hoskins** had injured his ribs, vertebra, and tailbone.

"I hate pills. If at possible, I'd rather not take them." **Hoskins** said.

Dr. Ralph Becker, pain management physician for Mayo Clinic recommends acupuncture and said **Hoskins's** comments are common.

"Patient's today realize that in 2023 there are non-invasive options out there and want to avoid surgery if possible." **Becker** said.

Becker who's been practicing 20 years, said he learned about acupuncture during his fellowship and has enthusiastically recommended it to his patients for years.

"If people ask me, I encourage them to try it. Our saying is, "Can't hurt, often helps," **Becker** said.

Becker says, he has found acupuncture helps many of his patients with chronic pain and neurological conditions.

"You give them less medication, there are less uncomfortable side effects."

Becker said "They get more active."

For others struggling with pain management and staying independent, such as **Betty Hicks of Deming**, pills are not an option.

"I have nerve damage in my toes from when I broke my ankle." **Hicks** said. "They all told me, there's nothing they can do."

Hicks said the sensation in her extremities was painful and felt like "burning needles in her shoes."

"Sometimes, I'd be up all night because of the hurting."

Hicks said.

Dr. Quintanilla said initially she had told **Hicks** she could not be accepted as a patient, because she was skeptical that acupuncture could help her neuropathy (nerve damage).

Hicks said her pain has largely abated and she's able to do the hobbies she was used to doing since she began seeing Quintanilla in October. She said she did not expect the treatment to work, but is delighted it has. Quintanilla says that **Hicks** is an inordinately fast responder. Dr. Quintanilla says, "While we see these seemingly miraculous results day in and day out, Mrs. Hicks is an unusually fast responder. Typically, I expect patients to take a few more weeks to report these kinds of changes. But I'm very happy for her and all of us here at Sonoma Acupuncture are excited to see this look of amazement on our patients faces."

"I tell all my friends. I don't have the pain in there and rarely use my cane." **Hicks** said. "My husband doesn't have to rub my feet anymore."

WILD PLACES

Taking Flight

Hummingbird Festival on track for July

The Hummingbird Festival is once again hosted by Mimbres Culture Heritage Site,

With more than 25 craft vendors set up from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, July 29-30 live music and ice cream surrounds visitors as they learn about capturing and releasing hummingbirds. Speakers will be making presentations as well about native plants, hummingbirds and more.

There's will be a drawing for hummingbird items and the Duck Stop food truck is on hand with breakfast and lunche available. The volunteers at the Mimbres Culture Heritage Site are selling ice cream to benefit the museum, which will be open during the event.

The Hummingbird Festival is a community event and free of charge. Visit mimbrescultureheritagesite.org for more information.



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MUSIC + ENVIRONMENT

One Weird One Man Band

Musician Bob Log III
headlines outdoor Portal show July 8

By Jason Watkins

Bob Log III, a one-of-a-kind musical spectacle known for performing in a full-body cannonball suit and motorcycle helmet, is headlining a special show at the Portal Peak Cafe and Lodge in Portal, Arizona, on Saturday, July 8.

"This is going to be our biggest show of the season," said Mitch Webster, owner of the Portal Peak Cafe. "It's going to be special."

Formerly half of the musical duo Doo Rag, Log is based in Tucson but tours across the world as a one-man musical and comedy act, using audience participation and humor in his highly entertaining and popular shows.

In one song, Log introduces himself, "Bob Log the third, one-man band, Tucson, Arizona. Heyeeeh! Lemme introduce the band to ya. On cymbals, left foot. Over here on the bass drum we got right foot."

The Portal Peak Cafe is a historic alpine lodge nestled in the Chiricahua Mountains near Rodeo, New Mexico. Known as a "sky island," the mountain range has some of the most biodiverse terrain in the world.

The Cafe features simple guest accommodations with modern amenities, an outdoor stage with a bar, dance floor, dining area, and VIP seating.



The show starts at 6 p.m. A special dinner menu will be offered during the show including beer and wine specials. Cost for the show is \$15 at the door, and no one under age 21 will be admitted. Visit www.portal-lodge.com for info or call 520-558-2223.

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SPLASHING AROUND

Loose the Rubber Ducks!

Fundraising made fun in Tularosa

By Jennifer Gruger

The inaugural run of the Tularosa Duck Race is set to take place from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Village of Tularosa on July 29 with activities at the St. Francis de Paula Catholic school grounds in Tularosa's historic district. Rubber duck races will take place down

the acequia madre along Encino Road, just south of the school grounds.

"Tularosa is a unique community, a diamond in the rough landscape of the New Mexican desert," Duck Race Committee Co-Chair, Toby Pruett said. "If diamonds are simply coal put under pressure, our diverse community of artists, histo-

rians, ranchers and farmers have all been shaped by the pressure of the unforgiving landscape. Throughout history they have all come together to maintain our community's way of life. In this oasis in the desert, the water has always provided a lifeline."

The idea for the event came to Michael Gruger,

co-founder and Director of the Tularosa Arts and History Council (TAHC) while he was preparing his property to receive irrigation one "water day" in April. He approached the TAHC board as well as the Tularosa Community Ditch Corporation (TCDC) somewhat sheepishly, unsure what they would think of hundreds of rubber ducks floating down the ditch system. When he shared his vision and the mission to create awareness and educate the community, the response from both groups was positive.

The event features live

music including Sancho and the Sidepiece and Rosewater Blues, both Tularosa locals and crowd favorites. Master of ceremonies will be Shar Weehunt, 2022-2023 Eastern New Mexico State Fair Queen. There will be food trucks, art vendors, games for the kids (many involving water to help everyone stay cool), giveaways, and farm equipment demonstrations. Most important, there will be educational information on water preservation and how the acequia system works in Tularosa.

Gruger said the highlight of the event will be the rub-

ber duck races with cash prizes. The community can adopt a numbered duck for \$5 or \$25 for a "six quack" to compete in The Big Quack Race as well as chances to win in preliminary heat races. The first heat race starts at noon. Proceeds from the event benefit the missions of the TAHC and the TCDC and help to further educate the local community on the history and preservation of the treasured acequia system.

"Our community coming together will provide an opportunity to inspire while educating our younger generation on the importance of our historical way of life," Pruett said. "This will allow our community to build and prosper while maintaining our historic feel. We all might just have a little fun doing it too."

With 27 miles of ditches, this open irrigation ditch system is one of the largest acequia systems in New Mexico with its inception in 1870 preceding the finalization of statehood.

In addition to the properties located in the historic 49 blocks, the original township of Tularosa, farmers and ranchers who have water rights use the water from the acequia as well.

"Although there are many people that think our food comes from the grocery store, it's much greater than that," Pruett said, "Agriculture is not just a job; it is a lifestyle and a way of life."

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Agricultural resources made possible by the system include several types of hay and other feeds for the livestock, as well as apples, plums, apricots, pomegranates, nectarines, figs, pecans, melons, corn, chile and many more fresh vegetables. At one time Tularosa also grew so much cotton that a cotton gin was built to be able to process and ship it. Livestock is also plentiful with cattle, sheep, pigs, goats and chickens.

“There’s a miracle in farming” said Karen Lerner, commissioner secretary of the TCDC. “I know this because I was a farmer, but I was also a teacher, so I understand that when you can put your hands on something, the muscle memory can’t be forgotten. This event will help others put their hands on the water and helps them turn the page. You need to know where your food comes from.”

For more information on attending or being a vendor go to www.trytularosa.org or call Michael Gruger at 505-350-4531.

For more information on the Tularosa Community Ditch Corporation visit www.tularosacommunity-ditch.com



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Cerveza Board.



Strawberry Fields Salad.

TABLE TALK

Stay Grounded this Summer

Atmosphere, coffee, nosh - all you can ask from a café

Story and photos
By Sylvia Quintanilla

With summer-time here, the call of explor-

ing Las Cruces and its hot spots is louder than ever. Grounded Lounge is at 300 N. Main St. in Downtown Las Cruces. The corner spot is a prime location

with natural light emanating throughout the eatery.

Perched on the doorway of Grounded Lounge is a painted peacock. The turquoise and green hues draw you in and really set the tone for an appreciation of art and culture. On the outside, Grounded Lounge gives the

illusion of being compact; however, the lounge has three indoor dining options and an outdoor patio.

Right away, the friendly atmosphere is evident. The spacious locations of tables with the addition of vibrantly colored couches allows guests to feel at home

whether they are simply coming in to catch up with friends or choosing the location for their daily remote workstation.

Grounded Lounge is a family-owned restaurant by the Espiritu family. Established in 2022, the space not only has a unique and di-

verse menu, but also is host to local music and events.

In the month of July, there will be live music on Friday nights beginning at 7 p.m. from artists like Papayas Con Chile (07/07/23), Dark Canyon Fire (7/14), Sage Gentlewing (7/21) and Desirae Price (7/28). On July 29, Poetry and Writers Open Mic with Border Senses from 6-9 p.m.

Their Cozy Couch Concert will feature a concert from Esteromance on July 16 from 3:30-7 p.m. Cozy Couch Concerts are a more intimate concert for musicians and fans to connect. Tickets are available on the Grounded website for \$15.

Part of what makes Grounded Lounge a stand-out in Las Cruces is its menu. Staples like wood fire pizza, wine, beer and cider are available along with coffee.

On this outing, my dining party and I tried several items off the menu, starting with drinks, the Chai, Lovely Lavender Latte and Ja-

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Jamaica Suntea



Mural at Grounded Lounge

maica Suntea. For the coffee and tea, there are three milk options of almond, coconut or oat milk. Homemade syrups are also available.

For the Chai, it was served hot with a dash of cinnamon. Selecting the coconut milk brought a semi-sweet nutty flavor that was well balanced with the cinnamon. Upon first glance, the Lovely Lavender Latte is quite a sight. Delicately adorned with lavender, the latte delights the senses. The oat milk added a velvety whipped texture. Looking for a cold and refreshing drink? Try the Jamaica Suntea. Not only is the magenta color right for the summer, but the drink is light and has a tropical finish.

Plant based and healthy options are plentiful at Grounded. One way to keep the summer spirit year-round is

the Strawberry Fields Salad. With arugula, strawberries walnuts and creamy goat cheese and topped with orange balsamic vinaigrette, this dish is a meal in itself. Big enough to share, the mixture of peppery arugula and the crunch from the walnuts off set the sweetness from the fruit. Crumbles of goat cheese add a savory and creamy element.

For noshing, try the Cerveza Board. A trio of pretzel bites with queso, smokey cured meats and mixed nuts. Bite-sized pretzels with pillowy queso are hard to resist. The queso had just the right amount of chile to have spice, but not enough to stay away from if you are looking for something on the mild side.

Pizza at Grounded is from a wood-

fire oven. Traditional pizza enthusiasts can look to the Roni which has pepperoni and mozzarella. For more adventurous eaters, check out the Picoso pizza, house salsa, cotija cheese, red onion and jalapeno.

Our table shared the Shroom pizza. In addition to a generous amount of roasted mushrooms, the pizza had prosciutto, olive oil, mozzarella and red chile honey. On first bite, the earthy taste from the mushrooms is dominant, but allows for the salt from the prosciutto and sweet heat from red chile honey to shine through.

Grounded Lounge is open Monday-Saturday from 7 a.m.-9 p.m. For more information, visit thegroundedlounge.com, call 575-571-4047 or follow them on Facebook or Instagram.



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COLUMNS

The Perfect Cake for an Imperfect World

Everyday Observations Celebrating Simplicity

By Abe Villarreal

I forgot to tell people that I wanted a real birthday cake on my birthday. An honest-to-goodness real birthday cake. I had carrot cake and other kinds of cake. They were good, but they didn't feel like birthday cakes. There is a difference.

I'm talking about the kind that is white. It might have a filling, and it's decorated with white frosting and maybe sprinkles. Yes, definitely sprinkles.

Everyone tries to be fancy these days. They want to impress with macarons and tiramisu. Those are good for fancy occasions but not birthdays. On birthdays, I like a good old-fashioned birthday cake.

The kind that looks like it was made for a five-year-old. It has holes on top from where the candles were removed. The slices are served on paper plates with a scoop of Neapolitan ice cream. The sugar is almost too much to handle, but you tell yourself it's a once-a-year kind of indulgence.

When you see it, you feel like a kid. It doesn't have to have Disney characters on top or frosting that turns into different colors on the outer edges.

There's no need for candy to slide out of the middle when you slice into it. All that stuff is O.K., but it's not for me.

I didn't get a simple, traditional birthday cake this year, but I'm determined to have it next year. I think as I get older, I want it more. When we are kids, we like simple things. When we get

older, people think we like fancy things. A lot of times we don't. Life is too complicated during most of our adult ages. Simplicity is welcome when we can get it.

I want a birthday cake sitting at the center of a table. The table covered with one of those plastic covers you can only use once. The table filled with colorful paper cups. I want someone to count out the number of candles that match my age.

There doesn't have to be balloons or backdrops. No props with mustaches on sticks or oversized glasses. Those are fun but I don't need them. Just a white birthday cake with white frosting and sprinkles is enough.

We want everything to be "bigger" and "better" all the time. I don't know what these phrases mean. We feel like we have to be over-the-top, that experiences have to be lavish, expensive Hollywood productions. Maybe it's an American thing. Maybe we have something to prove to each other. We want to send a message about who we are as people.

I met a mom who stressed about finding the perfect cake. She searched online to find a baker who could make her a cake just the way she wanted it for our kid. It had to be a certain height, specific flavor, decorated with cartoon characters. I'm sure she paid a good amount to have it made just for her boy. A perfect cake for a perfect kid.

I'm not perfect, so I'm sticking to the kind of cake that a friend makes. No perfect edges. No fondant or writing that looks like it was written by a machine. Just a white cake with white frost-

ing and sprinkles. On the side, a scoop of melting Neapolitan ice cream.

To me, that sounds like perfection.

Abe Villarreal writes about the traditions, people, and culture of America. He can be reached at abevillarreal@hotmail.com.

RaisingDad Four Stories

By Jim and Henry Duchene

My father was one strict old coot. My brothers and I had it tough growing up, but our sisters had it worse.

When my older sister was going on her first date, my father wasn't about to let her stay out until all hours of the morning.

When the boy came by to pick her up, my father made it clear that he wanted her back home before 12, "and I'll be waiting to make sure that she is."

The kid was respectful. He recognized a potential kick in the behind when he saw one, but as soon as they were outside he asked my sister, "What happens at midnight? You turn into a pumpkin?"

"No," my sister told him, "but you better have me home before 12 because you don't want to find out what my father turns into."

My elderly, pre-Alzheimer's father's memory is not so great. Neither is mine, for that matter, but that's neither here nor there.

Back when I trusted his driving but he didn't trust mine, we were on a road trip to visit family in another town and we couldn't find the street we were looking for. Today, I could tap the address into my phone and let it do all the work, but I'm sure he wouldn't trust that either.

We stopped at a convenience store so my father could see a man about a horse, if you get my drift. On our way out my father asked the clerk. "By any chance do you know where such and such street is?"

The clerk did.

"You want me to write it down?" I asked, trying to be helpful.

"I'll remember," my father sniffed indignantly.

We jumped back into the car and immediately got turned around. It wasn't my father's fault. The streets were convoluted. We didn't find the street we were looking for, but we did find the convenience store again. My father pulled into the parking lot, just to the side of the door where he couldn't be seen.

He told me, "Go inside and get directions."

As I opened the door and started to get out, he stopped me.

"And don't forget to write it down," he said.

My granddaughter is eight now, but when the pandemic was in full swing she said something that gave me a chuckle.

She's not a picky eater, but she won't eat what she doesn't like. She WILL, however, give something a try. When I was a kid, if I didn't like something I would

just drown it in ketchup.

"What's that?" my granddaughter asked.

I was eating and she didn't recognize the food.

"Liver," I told her. "You want some?"

"Sure," she said, so I cut her a small piece.

By the look of disgust on her face, I could see she didn't like it.

"Ugh!" she said, spitting it out. "It tastes like COVID!"

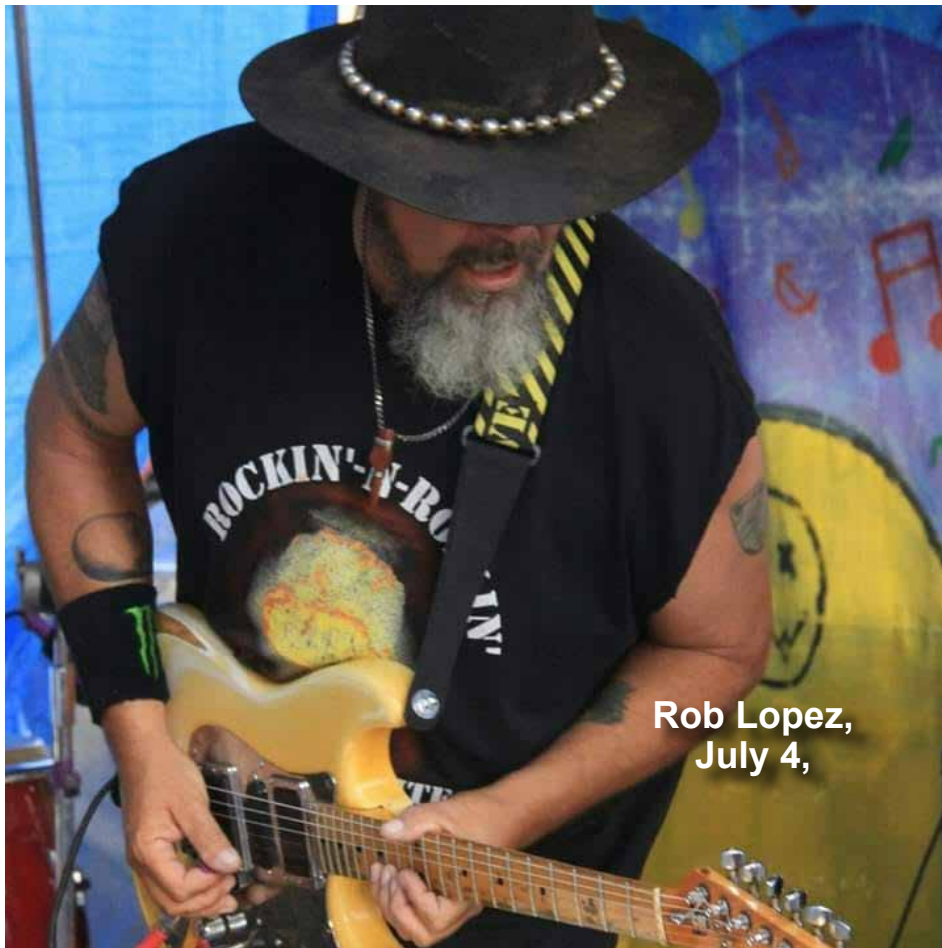
I had to get my father somewhere fast, so of course my car had a flat. Sure, I could have changed the tire myself, but my father was being feisty so it was easier to get on my smartphone and order a ride. In the middle of everything, someone sent me a text. It said, "I'm here for you."

Gee, that was thoughtful, so I texted back, "Thanks, I needed that."

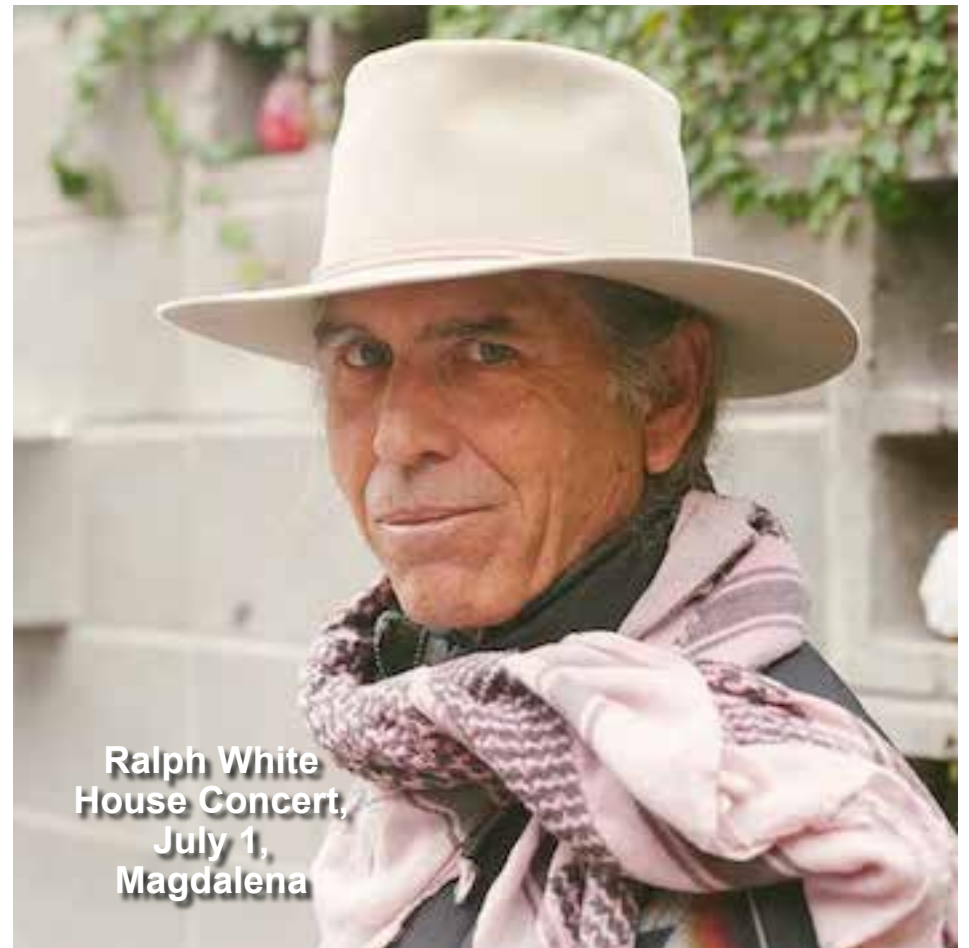
Maybe my father's doctor will have some good news for a change. The enemas I have to give him for his constipation aren't going to be any fun, but what can I do? I asked the doc how bad it was going to be. He said it would be "explosive." And "messy." And who's going to have to clean it up? Me. He's MY father, so I can't expect my wife to do it. Again, thanks for the support, but I've gotta go. We're waiting for the Uber driver."

"I AM the Uber driver," came the reply, "and I'm here for you."

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Rob Lopez,
July 4,



Ralph White
House Concert,
July 1,
Magdalena

EVENTS

What's Happening

Upcoming events you won't want to miss in July

SATURDAY, JULY 1

Grant County

Silver City Farmers Market

9 a.m.-12 p.m., 901 N. Pope St. in Silver City.

www.silvercityfarmersmarket.info

Live Music; Minda Lacy and Dan Bern

7:30 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 U.S. Highway 180 E, Arinas Valley.

www.whiskeycreekzocalo.com

Live Music; Alex Wilkerson Trio

8-11 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewert and Distillery, 200 N. Bulard St., Silver City
littletoadcreek.com

Otero County

Farmers Market

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

Mescalero Apache Ceremonial Dances and Rodeo

Starts at 1 p.m. at various locations on the Mescalero Apache Reservation

mescaleroapachetribe.com

Sierra County

Fireworks at Elephant Butte Lake

Dusk at Elephant Butte Lake State Park, 101 N.M. Hwy. 195, Elephant Butte

575-744-5923

Lincoln County

Lincoln County Art Loop

10 a.m.-5 p.m. across Ruidoso and Lincoln County

www.artloop.org

Lincoln Lecture Series

Page, Screen and Song: Analyzing Billy the Kid through Media

1-2 p.m. 104 Kit Carson Road, Fort Stanton

fortstanton.org

All American Tailgate and Drone Light Show

5-10 p.m. at the White Mountain Recreation Complex, 695 Hull Road, Ruisoso

mescaleroapachetribe.com

America's Patriotic Classics

8 p.m. at the Spencer Theater for

the Performing Arts, 108 Spencer Road, Airport Highway 220, Alto
www.spencertheater.com

Socorro County

Ralph White House Concert

7 p.m. at kind of a small array, 106 N. Main, Magdalena

hillssnyder@yahoo.com

Doña Ana County

Fourth of July Farmer's Market

EVENTS

continued on page 30

EVENTS

continued from page 29

7 a.m.-noon at Ardovino's Desert Crossing, 1 Ardovinos Drive, Sunland Park
ardovinos.com

Farmers and Crafts Market

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

Live Performance:

Le Salon

5-7:30 p.m., 130 S. Main St. Las Cruces
info@down-town-bluescoffee.com

Fort Selden 50th Anniversary

6-8:30 p.m. 1280 Fort Selden Road, Radium Springs
nmhistoricsites.org/fort-selden

SUNDAY, JULY 2

Otero County
Mescalero Apache Cere-

monial Dances and Rodeo

Starts at 1 p.m. at various locations on the Mescalero Apache Reservation

mescaleroapachetribe.com

New Mexico's Own 44th

Army Band

6 p.m. at the Flickinger Center for Performing Arts, 1110 New York Ave., Alamogordo

flickingercenter.com

Lincoln County
Lincoln County Art Loop

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. Zoom ID: 389 907 739, Password 658776. 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. Zoom ID: 781 471 031; password: 954941; info: nmal-anon.com

Las Cruces/Mesilla

Overeaters Anonymous — noon each Wednesday, hybrid on Zoom at St. James Episcopal Church, 102 St. James St., Info: 610-762-3779.

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.

Women Embracing Recovery Al-Anon Family Group — 5:30-6:30 p.m. First United Methodist Church, 314 College Ave. Silver City. Zoom ID: 411 858 127; password: 954941; info: nmal-anon.com

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

Overeaters Anonymous — hybrid on Zoom at 9:30 a.m. each Saturday at Peace Lutheran Church, 1701 Missouri Ave., Info: 575-405-9128.

Epilepsy Support & Education Services, Inc. — 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. third 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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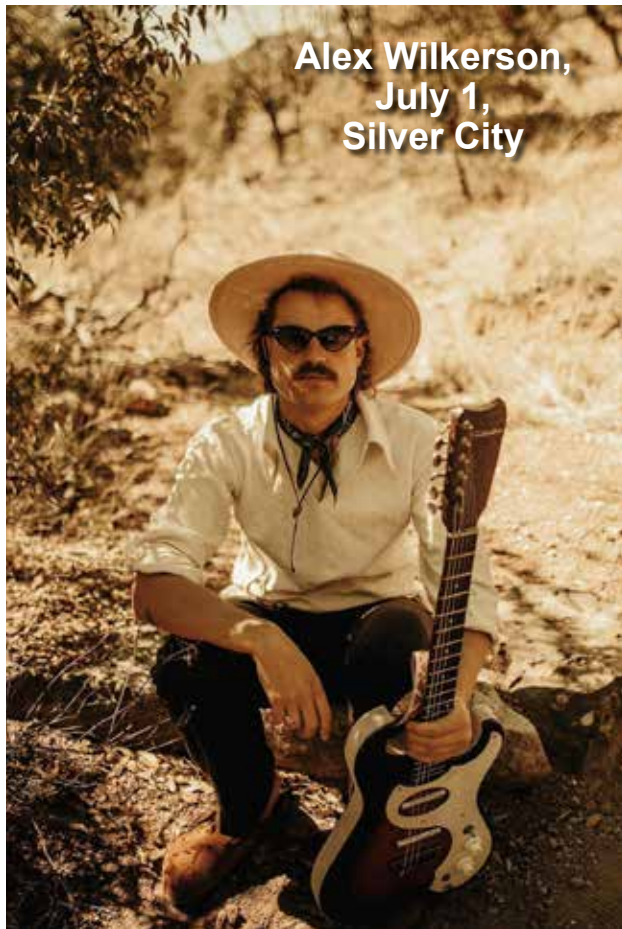
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**Alex Wilkerson,
July 1,
Silver City**

11 a.m.-5 p.m. across Ruidoso and Lincoln County
www.artloop.org

MONDAY, JULY 3

**Grant County
American Flag painting**
10-11 a.m. Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave., Silver City
575-538-3672

**Otero County
Mescalero Apache Ceremonial Dances and Rodeo**
Starts at 1 p.m. at various locations on the Mescalero Apache Reservation
mescaleroapachetribe.com

**Doña Ana County
Electric Light Parade**

"Red, White and Boom"
9 p.m., begins at Apodaca Park and finishes at the Maag Softball Complex in Las Cruces
575-541-245

TUESDAY, JULY 4

**Grant County
Live Music; Znora**
1 p.m. at Little Toad Creek

Brewery and Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St., Silver City
littletoadcreek.com

**Hidalgo County
Rodeo's 4th of July Celebration**

Starts with a parade

EVENTS

continued on page 32

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**Electric Light
Parade,
July 3,
Las Cruces**



**Et Allia,
July 4,
Socorro**

EVENTS

continued from page 31

6 p.m. at various venues in Rodeo

Otero County

Mescalero Apache Ceremonial Dances and Rodeo

Starts at 1 p.m. at various locations on the Mescalero Apache Reservation
mescaleroapachetribe.com

Lincoln County

Star Spangled Celebration

Live music, kids activities and fireworks

3-10 p.m. at the Inn of the Mountain Gods, 287 Carrizo Canyon Road, Mescalero
socorronm.org

Socorro County

4th of July Celebration Music, games, vendors and fireworks

noon-10 p.m. at the Socorro Rodeo and Sports Complex
socorronm.org

Doña Ana County

Desert Nights Market:

July 4th Bang

5:30-9 p.m. at Ardivino's Desert Crossing, 1 Ardivinos Drive, Sunland Park
ardivinos.com

Concert and Fireworks

6 p.m. at Pat and Lou Sisbarro Community Park, 3205

Arrowhead Drive, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces
575-541-2550

July 4th Fireworks Celebration

6-10 p.m., Western Playland, 1249 Futurity Drive, Sunland

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 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

THURSDAY, JULY 6**Grant County****Live Music; Lauren Andino and Glenn Fryatt Los Angeles based duo**

7:30 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 U.S. Highway 180 E, Arenas Valley.
www.whiskeycreekzocalo.com

FRIDAY, JULY 7**Grant County****First Friday Gallery Walk**

5-7 p.m. downtown in Silver City.
silvercityart.com

Otero County**Launch Pad Lecture**

9 a.m. at the Museum of Space History, 3198 State Route 2001, Alamogordo
www.nmspacemuseum.org

Doña Ana County**Garden Tour at Calhoun Flower Farms**

6-8 a.m. at Calhoun Flower Farms, 86 Haasville Road, Anthony
calhounflowerfarms.com

SATURDAY, JULY 8**Grant County****Silver City Farmers Market**

9 a.m.-noon. 901 N. Pope St. in Silver City.
www.silvercityfarmers-market.info

Bike Works Bike maintenance

1-2:30 p.m., Pope Park, N. Pope Street, Silver City
bikeworksnm.org

Live Music; Joe Baker

5 p.m. at Adobe Springs, 614 N. Bullard St. Silver City
adobespringscafe.com

Return of the Mischief with DJ Mischievous

9 p.m.-midnight at Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St., Silver City
littletoadcreek.com

Luna County**Main Street Market**

8-11 a.m. at the Luna County Courthouse Park, 700 S. Silver Ave. Deming

Sierra County**Second Saturday Art Hop**

6 p.m. downtown Truth or



Joe Baker,
July 8,
Silver City

Consequences
director@tocmainstreet.org

Lincoln County**Fort Stanton Live Living history event**

9 a.m.-4 p.m. 104 Kit Carson

Road, Fort Stanton
fortstanton.org

Vicki Lawrence & Mama: A Two-Woman Show

at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. at the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts, 108 Spen-

cer Road, Airport Highway 220, Alto
www.spencertheater.com

Otero County**EVENTS**

continued on page 34



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EVENTS

continued from page 33

**Alamogordo Otero
County Farmers Market**

8-10 a.m. in Alameda Park,
1987 White Sands Blvd. in
Alamogordo
farmersmarketsnm.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

Campfire Cooking

11 a.m. at Fort Selden 1280
Fort Selden Road, Radium
Springs
nmhistoricsites.org/fort-selden

Movies in the Park

"Puss in Boots The Last
Wish"

at dusk, Young Park, 1905 E.
Nevada Ave. Las Cruces
575-541-2550

SUNDAY, JULY 9
**Grant County
Live Music**

noon-2 p.m. at Tranquilbuzz
Coffee House, 300 N. Arizo-
na St. Silver City
575-956-6476

Live Music; Joe Baker

1-4 p.m. at Little Toad Creek
Brewery and Distillery, 200
N. Bullard St., Silver City
littletoadcreek.com

Sierra County

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

Doña Ana County
**Music in the Park
Dream Merchants**

7 p.m., Young Park, 850 S.
Walnut St. Las Cruces

575-541-2550

MONDAY, JULY 10
Grant County

Widows Community
Speaker Robert Lopez, re-
tired Marine is the speaker.
10:30 sign in at Cross Point
Church, 11600 U.S. High-
way 180.
ileen@signalpeak.net

TUESDAY, JULY 11
Lincoln County

**Live music: Sam Barlow
and The Moneymakers**
6-8 p.m. at the Ruidoso
Public Library, 07 Kansas
City Road, Ruidoso
www.ruidosolibrary.org

**Doña Ana County
Beer and Bards**

7 p.m. on the side patio of
the Spotted Dog Brewery,
corner of Avenida de Mesil-
la and University Avenue in
Mesilla. Public readings of
folk tales from the Six Celtic

Nations.
575-520-1916

WEDNESDAY, JULY 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

**Live Music; Minda Gutter
Town Four-piece, punk-
rock country band**

7:30 p.m. Whiskey Creek
Zócalo, 11786 U.S. Highway
180 E, Arenas Valley.
www.whiskeycreekzocalo.com

**Sierra County
Square Dancing**

1-3 p.m. at the New Mexico
Old Time Fiddlers Play-
house, 710 Elm St. in T or
C. Square dancing and re-



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July 21,
Silver City

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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

**"Climate Ready Trees:
Planting Smarter for a
Warmer Future"**
Presented by Dr. Marisa
Thompson
Native Plant Society Las
Cruces Chapter hybrid
meeting

7 p.m. in the NMSU Biology
Annex, Herbarium Build-
ing, 3080 Williams Ave.,
Room 101
lc@npsnm.org

THURSDAY, JULY 13
Grant County
**Future Forge
presentation**

3-4 p.m. Silver City Public

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

**Otero County
Astronomy League**

7 p.m. at the Museum of
Space History, 3198 State
Route 2001, Alamogordo
www.nmspacemuseum.org

**Sierra County
Square Dancing**

1-3:30 p.m. at the New Mex-
ico Old Time Fiddlers Play-
house, 710 Elm St. in T or C
575-313-9971 or 505-804-
3842

FRIDAY, JULY 14
**Lincoln County
Eddie Irving & The Classic
Swing Band**

Dinner Dance on Stage
6 p.m. at the Spencer The-
ater for the Performing Arts,
108 Spencer Road, Airport
Highway 220, Alto
www.spencertheater.com



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SATURDAY, JULY 15**Grant County
Silver City Farmers Market**

9 a.m.-noon. 901 N. Pope St. in Silver City
www.silvercityfarmers-market.info

“How the West Was Used: Mythicizing the American West”**With western writer Johnny D. Boggs**

Zoom available
11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Silco Theater in Silver City
silvercitymuseum.org

Grant County**Live Music; The Emerald Hour**

8-11 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St., Silver City
littletoadcreek.com

Otero County**Alamogordo Otero County Farmers Market**

8-10 a.m. in Alameda Park, 1987 White Sands Blvd. in Alamogordo
farmersmarketsnm.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

Bat Boxes

11 a.m. at Fort Selden 1280 Fort Selden Road, Radium Springs
nmhistoricsites.org/fort-selden

“The Little Mermaid”**With the Missoula Children's Theatre**

2:30 p.m. at Alma de'Arte Charter High School, 402 W. Court Ave. Las Cruces
daarts.org

Live Performance: Le Salon

5:30 p.m., 130 S. Main St. Las Cruces
info@downtown-bluescoffee.com

Tequila, Taco & Cerveza Fest

5-11 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces, 100 N. Main St. Las Cruces
www.ttcfest.com

A Night of Praise concert To benefit te World Youth Day 2023

8 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, 1240 Espina St. Las Cruces
575-523-7577

SUNDAY, JULY 16**Grant County****Live Music; Bobcat**

1-4 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St., Silver City
littletoadcreek.com

MONDAY, JULY 17**Grant County****Plant 101 with the Grant****County Extension Office**

10-11 a.m. Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave., Silver City
575-538-3672

WEDNESDAY, JULY 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

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, JULY 20****Grant County****Art for Hearts****Creating art project: a teen event**

3-4 p.m. Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave., Silver City
575-538-3672

FRIDAY, JULY 21**Grant County****K9 Unit with the Silver****City Police Department**

10-11 a.m. Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave., Silver City
575-538-3672

Live Music; Lottie & the Ohm Wreckers

8-11 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St., Silver City
littletoadcreek.com

EVENTS*continued on page 36*

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EVENTS

continued from page 35

Otero County**"Acid West" author reads Joshua Wheeler as part of Reading Series**

6-8 p.m. at the Artspace, 1118 Indiana Ave. in Alamogordo
oteroarts.org

Lincoln County**Ruidoso Art and Wine Festival**

noon-6 p.m. at the Ruidoso Convention Center, 111 Sierra Blanca Drive.
www.ruidosonow.com

SATURDAY, JULY 22**Grant County****Silver City Farmers Market**

9 a.m.-noon. 901 N. Pope St. in Silver City
www.silvercityfarmers-market.info

High Desert Gun Show

9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Grant County Conference Center, 3031 U.S. Hwy. 180, Silver City
gunshowtrader.com

Gala in the Garden Fundraiser for the Commons Center For Food Security and Sustainability

6-10 p.m., 501 E. 13th St. in Silver City
thecommonsgrantcounty.org

Live Music; Flicker

8-11 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St., Silver City
littletoadcreek.com

Socorro County**Mental Health Paint Party**

2-3 p.m. at the Socorro Public Library, 401 Park St., Socorro
www.adobelibrary.org

Otero County**Alamogordo Otero County Farmers Market**

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

Boy Band Review

7 p.m. at the Flickinger Center for Performing Arts, 1110 New York Ave., Alamogordo
flickingercenter.com

Lincoln County**Photography Tour at Fort Stanton**

10 a.m.-noon p.m. 104 Kit Carson Road, Fort Stanton
fortstanton.org

Ruidoso Art and Wine Festival

10 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Ruidoso Convention Center, 111 Sierra Blanca Drive.
www.ruidosonow.com

Ricky Nelson Remembered

8 p.m. at the Spencer Theater



**Lottie & the Ohm Wreckers,
 July 21,
 Silver City**

ater for the Performing Arts, 108 Spencer Road, Airport Highway 220, Alto
www.spencertheater.com

Flashlight Tour at Fort Stanton

8-10 p.m. 104 Kit Carson Road, Fort Stanton
fortstanton.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

Ranger-guided tour: Riparian areas

11 a.m. at Fort Selden 1280 Fort Selden Road, Radium Springs

nmhistoricsites.org/fort-selden

Movies in the Park

"Sonic the Hedgehog 2" at dusk, Young Park, 1905 E. Nevada Ave. Las Cruces
 575-541-2550

SUNDAY, JULY 23**Grant County****High Desert Gun Show**

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9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Grant County Conference Center, 3031 U.S. Hwy. 180, Silver City
gunshowtrader.com

**Lincoln County
Ruidoso Art and
Wine Festival**

11 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Ruidoso Convention Center, 111 Sierra Blanca Drive.
www.ruidosonow.com

**Doña Ana County
Music in the Park
Fungi Mungle and Mango
Cakes**
7 p.m., Young Park, 850 S.

Walnut St. Las Cruces
575-541-2550

**TUESDAY, JULY 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, JULY 26
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

**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, JULY 27
Grant County
K9 Unit with the Silver
City Police Department**

10-11 a.m. Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave., Silver City
575-538-3672

**Otero County
*New York Avenue Dis-
trict Art and Murals Walk**
1 p.m. starting at Roadrunner Emporium, 928 New York Ave.
cedwards121788@icloud.com

**FRIDAY, JULY 28
Grant County
End of summer Party
Featuring the Big Ditch
Crickets**

2-3:360 p.m. Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave., Silver City
575-538-3672

**Live Music; Silver City
Jazz Quintet**
8-11 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St., Silver City
littletoadcreek.com

**Otero County
Stuff the Bus School
Supply drive**
10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Walmart Super Center, Alamogordo
575-437-8409

**Fourth Friday
Family-friendly night of
live music**

6 p.m. at the Griggs Sports Complex, 3000 N. Florida Ave., in Alamogordo
jsides@ci.alamogordo.nm.us

**Lincoln County
"King Arthur's Quest"
Missoula Children's
Theatre production**

7 p.m. at the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts, 108 Spencer Road, Airport

EVENTS

continued on page 38

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EVENTS

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Highway 220, Alto
www.spencertheater.com

Doña Ana County
Summertime on the Farm
Ice cream making, plant sale and much more
4-9 p.m. at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road, Las Cruces
nmfarmbranchmuseum.org

SATURDAY, JULY 29

Grant County
Silver City Farmers Market

9 a.m.-12 p.m., 901 N. Pope St. in Silver City.
www.silvercityfarmers-market.info

Hummingbird Festival

8 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Mimbres Culture Heritage Site
mimbrescultureheritage-site.org

Live Music; Songwriter's Showcase**Showcase songs you've been working on**

7:30 p.m. Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 U.S. Highway 180 E, Arenas Valley.
www.whiskeycreekzocalo.com

Live Music; Stoney Blue Fish

1 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St., Silver City
littletoadcreek.com

Luna County
2023 Salsa Festival

1-10 p.m. at the Luna County Courthouse Park, 700 S. Silver Ave. Deming.
demingtrue.com

Otero County
Farmers Market

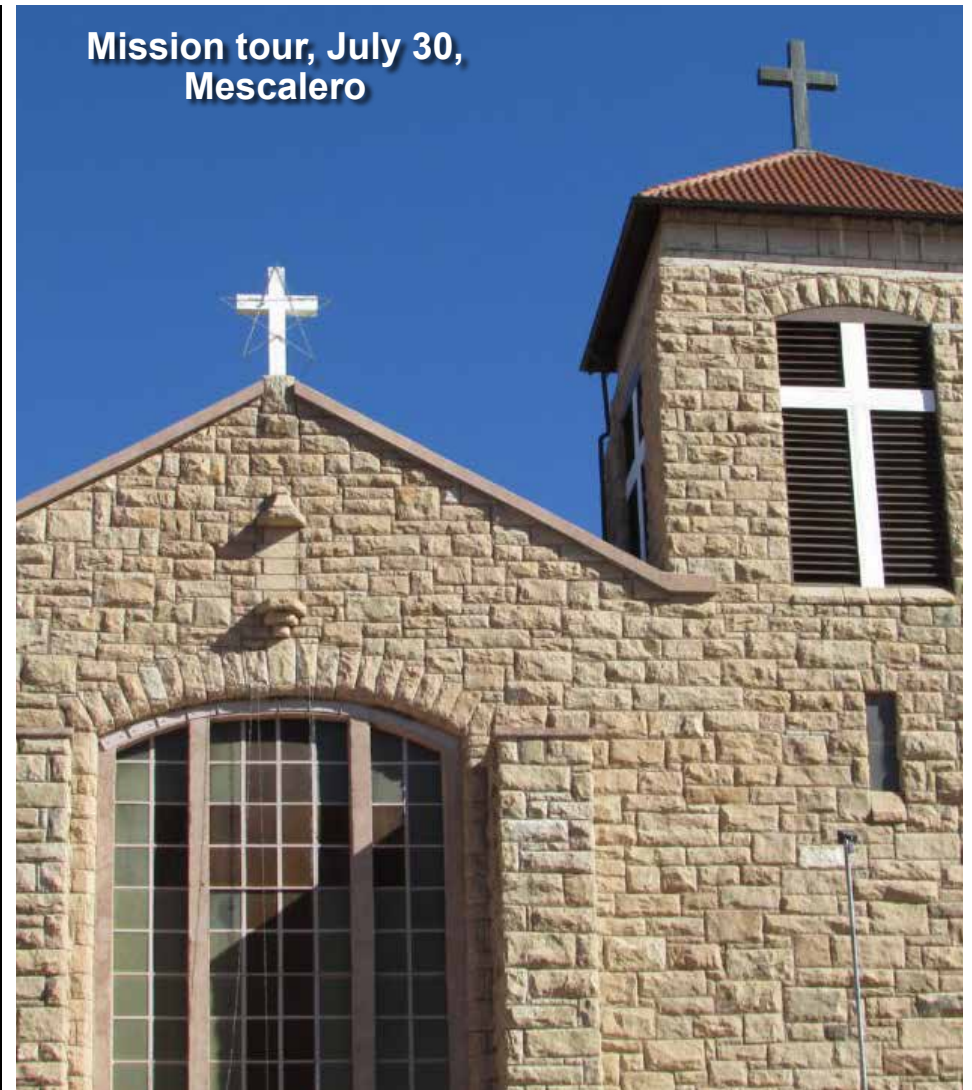
8-10 a.m. in Alameda Park, 1987 White Sands Blvd. in Alamogordo
farmersmarketsnm.org

Stuff the Bus School Supply drive

10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Walmart Super Center, Alamogordo
575-437-8409

Lincoln County
Doug Stone and the Stoned Age Band

8 p.m. at the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts, 108 Spencer Road, Airport Highway 220, Alto
www.spencertheater.com

**Mission tour, July 30, Mescalero****Doña Ana County**
Grden Tour at Calhoun Flower Farms

8-9:15 a.m. at Calhoun Flower Farms, 86 Haasville Road, Anthony
calhounflowerfarms.com

Farmers and Crafts Market

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

Live Performance:**Le Salon**

7-9 p.m., 130 S. Main St. Las Cruces
info@downtown-bluescoffee.com

Movies in the Park

at dusk, Young Park, 1905 E. Nevada Ave. Las Cruces
575-541-2550

SUNDAY, JULY 30**Grant County****Hummingbird Festival**

8 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Mimbres

Culture Heritage Site
mimbrescultureheritage-site.org

Otero County
Guided Tour of Mescalero and Three Rivers Mission Churches

11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. starting at St. Joseph Apache Mission, 636 Mission Road, Mescalero
nuevo-mexico-profundo.com

Doña Ana County
Music in the Park
Dream Merchants and Daniel Sanchez

7 p.m., Young Park, 850 S. Walnut St. Las Cruces
575-541-2550

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PHOTO OF THE MONTH

"Awesome power of the storm" was taken in the town of Elephant Butte on June 6 by Leeny Forbes.

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



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Friday, June 30

**GRACE: JURIED EXHIBITION
OPENING RECEPTION**
5 - 7 PM @ LightArtSpace Gallery

Workshops & Exhibits



**Monday, July 10 -
Friday, July 14**
**EMBELLISHED
STORIES:
GEORGE
RODRIGUEZ
WORKSHOP**
10 AM - 5 PM @
WNMU Francis
McCray Art Gallery



**Thursday, July 13 -
Saturday, July 15**
**PRINTING ON
CLAY:
MARY FISCHER
WORKSHOP**
10 AM - 3 PM @
Bear Mountain
Lodge

Tuesday, July 11 - Sunday, July 16
GRACE: JURIED EXHIBITION
11 - 5 PM @ LightArtSpace Gallery

Monday, July 10 - Sunday, July 16
**TWO FRIENDS UNDER THE INFLUENCE:
MARKO FIELDS and DIEGO VALLES**
12 - 6 PM @ 200 W Market St

Monday, July 10

WNMU MUSEUM YOUTH ACTIVITIES
10 AM - 3 PM @ WNMU Museum
10th Street on WNMU Campus
ARTIST TALK: GEORGE RODRIGUEZ
WNMU Light Hall Theater @ 7 PM

Wednesday, July 12

WNMU MUSEUM YOUTH ACTIVITIES
10 AM - 3PM @ WNMU Museum
**TWO FRIENDS UNDER THE INFLUENCE:
Exhibition Opening Reception with
MARKO FIELDS and DIEGO VALLES**
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM @ 200 W Market St

Thursday, July 13

WNMU MUSEUM OPEN HOUSE
10 AM - 3 PM @ WNMU Museum
**MARY FISCHER EXHIBITION
OPENING & ARTIST TALK**
4 - 7 PM @ Bear Mountain Lodge

Friday, July 14

WNMU MUSEUM YOUTH ACTIVITIES
WNMU Museum @ 10 AM - 3 PM
**OPENING AND GALLERY TALK FOR HELIX:
A Collaborative Exhibition**
SUSIE MESKILL and HUGH REMAR
6 PM Gallery Talk, Opening following until 8 PM
@ Made in Silver City Gallery, 206 W. Broadway

Saturday, July 15 >>>

Sunday, July 16

CLAY FESTIVAL BRUNCH *RESERVATIONS REQUIRED*
11 AM - 3 PM @ Bear Mountain Lodge,
60 Bear Mountain Ranch Road

Saturday, July 15

GALLERY WALK (see map below)
10 AM - 2 PM @ Downtown Silver City

MAKERS MARKET
10 AM - 2 PM @ Main Street Plaza



MATA ORTIZ POTTERY DEMO:
ORALIA LOPEZ
10 AM - 4 PM @ Silver City Museum

SILVER CITY MUSEUM YOUTH ACTIVITIES:
ORALIA LOPEZ
1:30 - 3:30 PM @ Silver City Museum

GRACE AWARDS CEREMONY with George Rodriguez
6 - 8 PM @ LightArtSpace Gallery

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Animalia Studio*
214 N. Bullard | 7. Makers Market*
Main St. Plaza |
| 2. Grant County Art Guild*
316 N. Bullard | 8. @Space
110 W. 7th St. |
| 3. Sterling Fine Art
307 N. Texas St. | 9. Gila Gallery
206 N. Bullard |
| 4. Made In Silver City
206 W. Broadway | 10. GCAG The Studio*
200 W. Market St. |
| 5. LightArtSpace*
209 W. Broadway | 11. Blue Dome Gallery*
307 N Texas St
and not on map:
60 Bear Mt. Ranch Rd. |
| 6. Silver City Museum
312 W. Broadway | |

*Ceramic-based exhibits

