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SEPTEMBER 2023 | VOL. 28 NO. 9

DESERT

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Desert #87 Dumbfounder

by Dave Thomas

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

"EXX HYMPI BIEJP ML DJENHFNI - F EXUEBP UEGHIV HM VM E
YMJPI, GMU F NEG ZOPH VM HYIA, EGB YMJPI, EGB TJIIIV." -
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Use the answer key below to track your clues, *and* reveal Secret Words!

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Previous Solution: "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." - WNMU'S ITZELA DARKENWALD
*Secret Words: "YOUTHS RECLAIM"

Congrats to #86 solvers:
Kaustuv Sengupta*, Mike Arms*,
David Pino*, Shorty Vaiza*,
and Skip Howard*,!

ABOUT THE COVER

The White Sands Balloon Invitational is in its 30th year and set for Sept. 16 and 17. See Page 21 for more. (Photo by Elva K. Österreich)

OCtober DEADLINES

All stories and notices for the editorial section due Friday, Sept. 15.
Space Reservation and ad copy due Friday, Sept. 15.

EDITOR'S NOTE | ELVA K. ÖSTERREICH

Filling the Gaps

A journey through time, space and fantasy

My mom was always a big reader, as was I. My parents would yell at me to stop reading on long car drives as we were driving through the beautiful locations of the world. Many times, at summer camp or at my grandmother's house I would be hiding under the blankets with a flashlight and a book well after lights out. Clearly some things never change, my oldest granddaughter can be found in the car and in the bedroom past bedtime consuming the printed words like a starving man eating dinner.

In the 1990s at some point, my mom decided to read all the science fiction books in the Alamogordo Public Library and she started in the A's. I was impressed, that

seemed to me an amazing thing to do, ambitious and strange at the same time. She wouldn't read the fantasy, only the hard stuff, she has a logical sciencey bent and not much use for romantic and fantastic.

For myself, I read anything that would take me out of this place and entirely into another one, whether it be science fiction, fantasy or stories about animals in the wild. But now that is the world I live in and I love to share with you in the form of Desert Exposure. The world has become a more and more surreal place and we are on it for the ride.

In this edition the ride includes taking off from Spaceport America with Virgin

Galactic and its first civilian customer flight, it's been 14 years since I watched the first ground turned for the spaceport. The thing I remember most clearly is the costumed conquistadores walking across the Jornada del Muerto to the site with their helmets and spears – right into the future of space.

This month's ride includes the White Sands Balloon Invitational, a chance to watch the sun, and the colors of hot air balloons rise over the rolling white dunes – a fantasy brought to life.

And then there is the wild, as the Gila Wilderness approaches its 100th anniversary next year writer M. John Fayhee has

put out a book, one of the first published by Western New Mexico University's new Mimbres Press. Fayhee, who hiked with his dog, Casey, every day for 366 days, gave us a preview of his writing with one of last year's writing contest winners, "Hiking Sticks," a version of which appears in his book, "A Long Tangent: Musings from an old man and his young dog hiking every day for a year."

Elva K. Österreich is editor of Desert Exposure and would love to meet Desert Exposure readers. Contact her at editor@desertexposure.com.

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Overlooking the town of Silver City, this 5 bedroom, 3 bath home is impeccably designed & thoughtfully updated. Mountain Views, Built-in Bookcases, Custom Stone Fireplaces, Formal Dining Room and a sleek, Modernized Kitchen with Granite Countertops and Stainless Appliances. Primary suite boasts oversized bathroom with jetted tub, double vanity and a walk-in shower. Large patio offers a perfect space for entertaining. Seamless Metal Roof, Tankless Water Heater, A/C plus evaporative cooling, enclosed garages for 4 vehicles, workshop with restroom, gas fireplace inserts, hot tub. **MLS#39787. \$680,000.**



Dream mountain living with all the modern conveniences. 4 wooded acres, breathtaking views of Gila National Forest and southwestern sunsets. Custom cabinets, chandelier, stairway and mantel. Central vacuum, Pella Windows. A Private office/4th bedroom and two primary bedrooms, one on the main floor with walk-in shower, and double sinks combined with a sitting area that can be used as an office nook, extra sleeping space or yoga mat. Downstairs is another private bedroom and great room/kitchenette and a two car attached garage. A must see for any enthusiast **MLS#39214. \$699,000**



Gorgeous custom home and a guest house! Limestone floors, Pella doors and windows, butler's pantry with sink, freezer and dishwasher, copper tub in primary as well as walk-in shower. Heated Badu swim system outside w/wraparound deck. Guest house with 725 s.f. features kitchen, laundry and living/bed area. Garage/workshop all located on 5 acres with Forest boundary. **MLS#39700. \$735,000**



End of Mineral Creek Road lies a 120 acre jewel, bordering Gila National Forest. Irrigated pastures, an old orchard, all with a recently 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**



3,000 sq ft log home on 217+/- acres, with Forest and BLM boundaries. Extraordinary craftsmanship, native stonework and hand forged steel hardware throughout. Power is off grid and boasts a 14 Kw Solar array. Detached garage and use of the Association owned 6,000 sq/ft Headquarters, for guests and entertaining, and shared use of the almost 7,000 acre Greenwood Canyon Ranch. Located in the southwest corner of New Mexico. **MLS#39604. \$1,090,000.**



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. Two Anasazi Bear figures inlaid in the stone entryway below the 2 1/4" thick knotty Alder entry door. Peeled bark trees enhance the interior, complimented by peeled Shaggy Bark Juniper railings, Indian Box-Joint Pine walls, terracotta tile floors with towering 20+ foot ceilings. 840 sq/ft porch providing indescribable views, privacy and security of remote living in the southwest. **MLS#39636 \$1,330,000.**

POSTCARD FROM THE EDGE



Silver City and Grant County former Poet Laureate Elise Stuart, New Mexico State Arts Agency Executive Director Michelle Laflamme-Childs and New Mexico Poet Laureate Lauren Camp enjoy some Desert Exposure time during their visit to Deming Aug. 8 (Photo by Stanley Sabre).



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.

POETRY SQUARED

On Tuesday, Aug. 8, Deming and Silver City were visited by the New Mexico poet laureate, Lauren Camp, and the executive director of New Mexico State Arts Agency, Michelle Laflamme-Childs.

The Deming gathering was hosted by Unidos, On Gold Avenue Coffee Shoppe (www.coloresunited.org). After an introductory talk by Camp, she read two poems from her new book, "An Eye in Each Square." An open Mic then gave each person a chance to share one or two poems, and even a song. Next came a creative session, inviting everyone to write five sentences describing Deming, using each of the five physical senses as the foundation. Lauren has been sharing this exercise while exploring New Mexico during her tenure as Poet Laureate. She sees these sentences coming together as a possible "chap book" sharing an intimate look at each community.

The Tranquilbuzz Coffee House hosted the Silver City open gathering. This was facilitated by the former poet laureate of Grant County and Silver City, Elise Stuart.

Camp shared her poetry, followed by a book signing and an open mic.

The Church of Harmony (at Tranquilbuzz) created the perfect space for the poetry workshop. The workshop was a study of pantoums. A pantoum is a poem of any length, composed of four-line stanzas, in which the second and fourth lines of each stanza serve as the first and third lines of the next stanza.



New Mexico Poet Laureate Lauren Camp speaks at the Tranquilbuzz Coffee House in Silver City. (Photo by Stanley Sabre)



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ON THE SHELF

‘A Long Tangent’

Book reflects changing point in author’s life

M. John Fayhee, one-time publisher of the famed Mountain Gazette magazine, will read from and sign copies of his latest book, “A Long Tangent: Musings from an old man and his young dog hiking every day for a year,” at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 6, at Light Hall Theatre on the West-

ern New Mexico University campus in Silver City.

The book covers a lot of ground.

“As my 60th birthday approached, I decided to do something of relative note,” Fayhee said. “I had real-life responsibilities that did not allow me to, say, attempt to hike the Pacific Crest Trail. I had to concoct a challenging

scheme that I could integrate into my day-to-day life that would not incline my wife toward seeking the services of a divorce lawyer.”

The idea to hike every day for a solid year evolved from a similar, though less ambitious, endeavor undertaken the previous year when he hiked 41 straight days after determining to lose weight

for a high-school reunion. Hiking was not a new concept for Fayhee, who had undertaken previous forays along the Appalachian, Colorado, Arizona and Continental Divide trails, but he said he never went more than a fortnight without taking what is known in backpacking circles as a “zero day.”

While sitting on a barstool

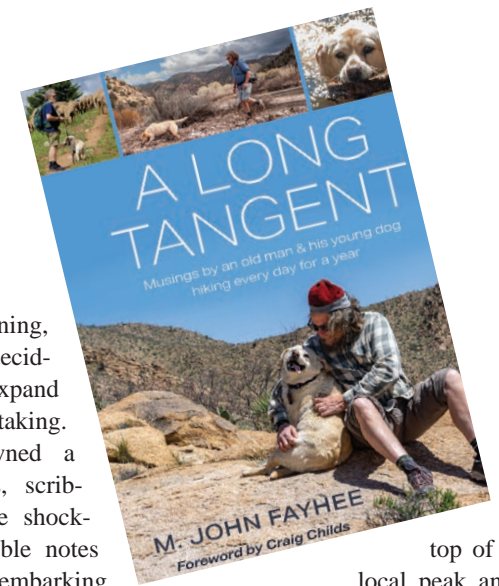
one evening, Fayhee decided to expand that undertaking.

“I downed a few pints, scribbled some shockingly legible notes about embarking upon a quest to hike every day for a year on a cocktail napkin, walked out to my ancient 4Runner and bounced the idea off my dog, Casey, who had been contentedly snoozing on the back seat,” Fayhee says. “Casey responded positively to the notion. So, the next day we bushwhacked to the

top of a local peak and hiked for 366 straight days.”

According to Fayhee, there were only two rules: First, each hike had to be at least 60 minutes (though most were longer) and each had to take place out in the forest. Strolls around town did not count.

“The overwhelming majority took place in my backyard



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– New Mexico's Gila National Forest, which is home to the world's first legally designated wilderness area," he said.

Though Fayhee's efforts were eventually successful, there were bumps along the way, including twisting an ankle avoiding a rattlesnake while jumping over a creek.

"At one point, Casey went completely blind for a week for reasons we never determined," he said. "I mislaid my car keys while out on the trail. I mislaid my car while out on the trail. A cook at a restaurant died while preparing my lunch. There were logistical challenges galore."

In the end, Fayhee and Casey logged an es-

timated 1,200 trail miles.

"A Long Tangent" is not just a linear tale. It includes many interfaces with memory lane. Fayhee writes about mortality, hiking sticks, trail names, the relationship hikers have with their vehicles, mystery mountains, stinky socks, debilitating hangovers, poison ivy, stupidity, getting lost, getting found, the gentrification of the American West and, most of all, his love of hiking through wild lands with his dog.

Fayhee's previous books include "Up at Altitude: A celebration of life in the High Country," "Bottoms Up" and "Smoke Signals."

WNMU HOSTS BOOK EVENT

Mimbres Press of Western New Mexico University will hold a reading and book signing at historic Light Hall on the Silver City campus on Wednesday, Sept. 6. The evening will begin on the Light Hall Patio between 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. with appetizers and refreshments provided by Bear Mountain Lodge from recipes that will be featured in the upcoming Mimbres Press publication, "Bear Mountain Lodge Cookbook."

At 6:30 p.m. in the Light Hall Auditorium, there will be readings from two books published by Mimbres Press, Arturo Magaña Amaya's "Nostalgias of November | Nostalgias de Noviembre," a bilingual Spanish and English collection of poetry, and M. John Fayhee's "A Long Tangent: Musings of an old man and his young dog hiking every day for a year." The readings will be followed by a question-and-answer session and book signings by the authors.

WEEKEND



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BORDER LIFE

Heat, Water, the Coming Surge

Driving south into Mexico

Story and photos
by Morgan Smith

Driving south from Santa Fe to Juárez or Palomas, Mexico has become like descending into a cauldron. It was 81 degrees on July 26 when we left Santa Fe, 90 when we stopped in Placitas to pick up beans and rice from the Dignity Mission, but 109 at the border at Santa Teresa. We've made

four trips in July and the heat had become the dominant issue. If this heat continues, I predict another migrant surge, built on heat and climate change-related crop failures and increasingly unendurable living conditions. Cities like Phoenix may have consistently hotter temperatures, but we Americans have air conditioning, showers, swimming pools, shaded areas, crop insurance and all sorts of protections that simply don't exist in

the many Latin American countries from which migrants come.

Here are some examples from our recent trips that show the situation in Juárez and Palomas, Mexico.

On arriving at the barren courtyard of a mental asylum named Punto Zero on the west edge of Juárez, the first person to greet me was an older woman mental patient named Socorro. She was wearing a wool cap tied around her head and a thick



Cecilia Vazquez, Mixteca woman selling wares at the Santa Teresa border crossing.

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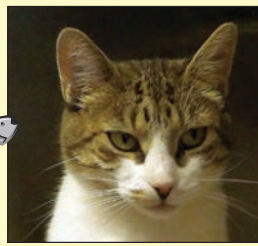
Feller - Male, 5 mos.
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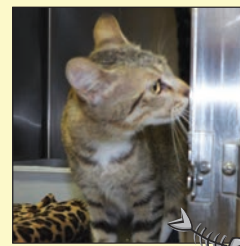
Katten - female, spayed, DSH,
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Maizey, Female, DSH, 3 yrs,
been here since 6/20/23

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Mala, Female, DSH, 2 yrs.
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Mick & Dude, 4 mos.
been here since 4/8/23

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Thaxter, Male, 4 mos.
been here since 6/30/23

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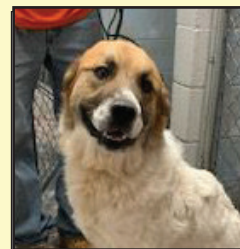
Jigsaw, Male, 2 yrs.
Aussie/Catahoula X

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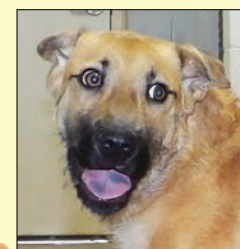
Female, 1 yr., Poodle/Terrier
Been here since 7/5/23

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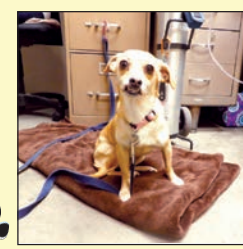
Rooster, 2 yr. old male Great
Pyrenees. Very Friendly.

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Roy Boy, young male, neutered,
Terrier mix. Ready to go.

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Rylie, Female, spayed, 3 yrs.
Chih/Doxy, been here since 7/6/23

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fleece jacket. She stood motionless next to my car and seemed completely oblivious to the 109-degree heat.

“She refuses to take that cap off,” Lupe, the director, said. Then Lupe tells me their refrigeration is broken, and they are waiting for a repairman.

“And we’re almost out of food,” she adds. She had 38 mental patients to care for but luckily my trunk was full of the beans and rice from Dignity Mission.

Earlier when I came across the border, three women approached my car, Cecilia Vazquez, a Mixteca Indian from Oaxaca plus Graciela from Toluca, Mexico, and her daughter. For years, they have been coming from Anapra where they now live to sell trinkets at this crossing, enduring the brutal heat in summer and the bone chilling winds in winter to try to eke out a living. I always pay them for photos and give them food and clothing. They had no shade to go to and seemed dazed by the heat but selling these trinkets meant survival.

The Recreativa Agua Park, the one public pool along the highway south of Santa Teresa was closed, the gate locked. However, the firemen in tiny Palomas, some 70 miles to the west had had a “sprinkle day” where kids could laugh, play and cool off under the water. There is



Socorro wears her cap through hot and cold at the Punto Zero mental asylum in Juárez.

no such thing in this area of Juárez; in fact, even the basic deliveries of water for cooking and household work have been delayed.

Some 600 houses in this area of Juárez are made of cinder block and were built by the nonprofit Siguiendo Los Pasos de Jesús. They have basic electricity but what about the hundreds of other houses made of patched together scraps of cardboard and plywood?

What about something as simple as shade? At Punto Zero there is a bench along the east side of a dormitory where there is shade. The patients sit there, slumped and

almost totally lacking in anything green. Due to the innovative work of the non-profit Border Partners, this may change in Palomas, at least in terms of vegetables and fruit, but that is a long-term project.

At Vision in Action, the other mental asylum I’ve been helping for a dozen years, there are roughly 120 patients, most of whom spend their days in a large open patio. Several years ago, we raised the money to close off about a third of the patio and create a space with air conditioning in the summer and warmth in the winter. I thought of it as an amenity but under today’s conditions of extreme heat, it is really about survival.

On Aug. 7, the alley behind the Sacred Heart church was full of young Venezuelans who were sleeping on the pavement. When we drove

through there to deliver clothing, it was 109 degrees.


For many years these trips to take food and supplies to a variety of Mexican humanitarian programs were monthly. Now we go at least twice a month because the need is greater. Now the dominant theme on these trips is the weather. I have the air conditioned car but what about Cecilia Vazquez trying to sell trinkets at Santa Teresa or Socorro who doesn’t know she should take off her wool cap or the hundreds of mi-

grants in crowded shelters. We Americans can escape – we have showers, air conditioning, refrigeration, irrigation for our crops and food supply – but in the countries from which so many migrants are coming, there are none of these protections.

Morgan Smith has been writing about conditions on the border for many years and can be reached at Morgan-smith@comcast.net.



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SUBORBITAL

Three Dreamers in Space

Virgin Galactic launches first civilians at Spaceport America

By Elva K. Österreich

Imagine being on an airplane flight, being invited to a promotion for a non-profit organization and filling out a form to go to space. There are thousands of other people who have filled out the forms and you know you don't have a chance. But ... then you get a call saying you are in the final 20 and your heart bumps a little. Then one day, there is a knock at the door at your home on the little island of Antigua. You open it and Virgin Galactic founder, Richard Bran-

son, is standing with his huge smile.

Keisha Schahaff and Anastatia Mayers, mother and daughter, from Antigua and Barbuda, had that experience. But it was just the start. It was Thursday, Aug. 10, at Spaceport America in New Mexico the experience came true, and it was literally beyond their wildest dreams. Mayers, at 18, became the youngest person to have gone to space.

Virgin Galactic's Galactic 02 took off at 8:30 a.m., reached apogee at 55 miles above the earth and landed at 9:30 a.m. Richard Branson watched virtually from Antigua with

the excited residents of those islands.

Schahaff had a message for her people back in the Caribbean islands of Antigua and Barbuda that she shared following the experience.

"We have to go beyond our fears," she said. "We have so much big dreams, a lot of times we are afraid to even voice it because it's too big and we don't want to be shut down by our dreams. But it is okay to dream big and voice your dream and you will be uncomfortable trying to get to that dream, but this is how we stretch ourselves and you have got to go beyond your limits and that's why you

get there."

Also on the flight, the first Virgin Galactic private astronaut flight Galactic 02, was Jon Goodwin from the United Kingdom, a former Olympian with Parkinson's disease. He was the fourth person to put money down, \$250,000, to buy a ticket for the journey to space 18 years ago.

Goodman, 80, said he thought the experience would be curtailed by the onset of his disease, but the people at Virgin Galactic made sure it would happen.

"I signed up in September 2005," he said.



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Virgin Galactic's Galactic 02 mission private astronauts Anastatia Mayers, Jon Goodwin and Keisha Schahaff say goodbye to onlookers as they make their way to the Range Rovers that will carry them to their ride to space. (Photo by Belinda Mills)



"It exceeded my wildest dreams. It was just completely surreal. I hope this inspires all others facing adversity and shows them challenges don't have to inhibit or stop them from pursuing their dreams."

Goodwin participated in the 1972 Summer Olympics in Munich as a canoeist and was the second individual with Parkinson's Disease to fly to space. In addition to taking his grandson, Sebastian's, photo and four rings that belonged to his wife, he wore a badge from his canoe club which, he said, inspired the first Olympic gold medal winner from Britain.

Thursday's flight marks a milestone in terms of private space tourism as none of the three international private astronauts had any kind of extensive prior training before traveling to the stars.

The flight is the third successful spaceflight in just over three months. Virgin Galactic expects to launch roughly one commercial flight each month from Spaceport America through the conclusion of 2023. With a fleet of third-generation spacecrafts – the Delta-class – currently in production, Virgin Galactic's launch cadence will increase further beginning in 2026.

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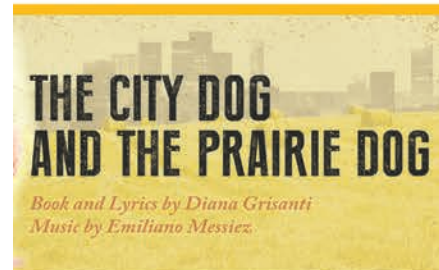
Thursday, September 7
**Cecil Howard
Retrospective**

6p Opening Reception
Francis McCray Gallery
Exhibit runs through October 5
Free event



Saturday, September 9
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Friday, September 15
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Tuesday, September 19
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ARTS + OPPORTUNITIES

Arts Scene

Upcoming area art happenings

By Elva K. Österreich

SILVER CITY

• The **Silver City Art Association First Friday Gallery Walk** is from 5-7 p.m., Sept. 1. 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.

• The **2023 Red Dot Studio Tour** exhibition is on display at **Light Art Space Gallery**, 209 W. Broadway in Silver City through Sept. 3. Enjoy the work of the studio artists and then visit their studios 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 2 and 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 3. Brochures and maps are available at Light Art Space. There will be a reception 5-7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 1.

• **“Trifecta.”** featuring artwork by **Charlee Alexander, Tom Manning,** and **Rebecca Rousseau** is at the Silver City Library, 515 W. College Ave. through Sept. 30. Info: 575-538-6359.

• From Sept. 7 through Oct. 5, **Francis McCray Gallery of Contemporary Art** presents, **“Cecil Howard – Retrospective Exhibition 1955-2023,”** a collection of over 60 years of his artistic career focusing on

collage, assemblages, painting, sculpture, and ceramics. The opening reception is at 6 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 7, at the gallery on Western New Mexico University campus. Howard taught art in Kansas before accepting a position at Western New Mexico University where he first taught ceramics and basic art and was director of the Francis McCray Gallery. The development of the fine arts program led to a later teaching emphasis on sculpture and painting. He retired in 1994 after 31 years in the Department of Expressive Arts, having been chair for several years. Howard’s six panel assemblage, **“Heritage,”** is permanently installed in the WNMU Fine Arts Auditorium foyer and he exhibits art in the Blue Dome Gallery downtown and at Bear Mountain Lodge. Info: 575-538-6517.

• At **Light Art Space Gallery**, 209 W. Broadway in Silver City, presents **“The Still(ed) Life: Celebrating Handmade Photographic Art.”** Juror **Diana Bloomfield** chose 48 images by 35 artists from across the United States. Each work on display was created by the artist using hand-made photography processes, many of them from the 19th and 20th centuries. **“First Light, Last Light: Eric Renner and Nancy Spencer, Pinhole Photographs and Assemblages”** will be on display Sept. 7-30 in the Flash Gallery with a re-



The work of Cecil Howard is celebrated at the WNMU Francis McCray Gallery of Contemporary Art.

ception planned Friday, Sept. 8. Also on view at the gallery is work in various media by the Light Art Space Artists: **Joel Armstrong, Joe Huebner, Karen Hymer, 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.

• The **Grant County Art Guild** is holding its annual **“Creatures of the Gila”** art and wildlife show Sept 1-10 at the GCAG Studio, 200 W Market St. in Silver City. This fun hybrid show features art that depicts, or is inspired by, “Creatures” (mammals, fish, birds, insects and reptiles)

who live in the Gila River watershed. Each piece is paired with a description of the actual creature on which it is based. Show dates and hours are Sept 1-10, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., with an opening reception Friday, Sept 1 from 5-7 p.m. during Silver City’s First Fridays Gallery Walk. For more information see gcag.org. The GCAG Gallery is open seven days a week, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., with extended hours for special events. The GCAG Gallery is located at 316 N Bullard. The Studio is at 200 W Market St., both in Silver City. Info: gcag.org.

DEMING

• **“Black and White, It Don’t Lie,”** is the title of the September exhibit at the **Deming Art Center**. It is presented by the **Mimbres**

Photography Alliance. The group consists of four award-winning, experienced photographers, dedicated to their art and to expressing their individual vision. The choice of black and white for this exhibition reflects their respect for the very roots of photography, using light, shadow, tone, and texture to capture the world around them. There will be a time to meet these talented photographers from 1-3 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 3. The exhibit will be on display Sept. 2 - 29. 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

• **Otero Arts** hosts its latest exhibition **“The Two Anns,”** 5-7 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 1, at **Otero Artspace** in the historic Women’s Club Building at 1118 Indiana Ave. (12th and Indiana) in Alamogordo. The public is invited to view works of art by Ann Bagby and Ann Becht, two dedicated educators-turned-painters, and Otero County residents. Bagby is a figurative, narrative painter and colorist working primarily with oil paint, pastels, and salvaged materials. Becht made the conscious decision to learn how to paint after she retired from a career in education. The gallery is open throughout the month 1-4 p.m. Thurs-

day through Sunday. Info: oteroarts.org.

CLOUDCROFT

• The **Cloudcroft Art Society’s Gallery (CAS)** annual Labor Day show and sale is coming up 1 a.m.-5 p.m. on both Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 1 and 2. The show features work by the society’s local artists as framed and matted paintings in many art mediums, photography and digital photo art, scratch art, greeting cards, pottery, glass art, fiber dolls, gourd art and carvings and more. The artists are on hand to visit with during those times. The show is on display in the back room of the Nivison Library in the old red brick schoolhouse, 90 Swallow Place, Cloudcroft. CAS 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 Cloudcroft, the surrounding Sacramento Mountain communities, and the Alamogordo-Tularosa area. Info: sznana@totacc.com.

MAGDALENA

• **Magdalena Main Street Gallery Walk for Sept. 2: Cruising Main,** next to **Judy Richardson’s studio,** 104 N. Main St.

Kind of a small array, 106 N. Main St.

Warehouse 1010, 110 N. Main St.

Info: 210-473-9062.

LAS CRUCES

• **Gallery 925** presents new works by **Diane Alire** and **Vickie Morrow** for the month of September. Alire is primarily a photographer and mixed media artist. She has owned and operated Gallery 925 for the past three years. Her work is photography based and this show features photos that have been hand colored with transparent oils and colored pencil. Morrow is an assemblage artist who lives in Las Cruces. She hails from Deming, originally. Her works are made by grouping found or unrelated objects. An opening reception with artists and refreshments is

1-8 p.m., First Friday, Sept. 1. Gallery hours are 1-5 p.m., Fridays and 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays. An artist talk with Morrow is from 1-2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 10 and Alire will give a talk 1-2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 24. Gallery 925 is located in the Mesquite Historical District near the corner of Spruce Street. Info: gallery925nm.com.

• **Agave's Artist of the Month** is **Coy Lowther**, one of Agave Artist's newest members. Lowther is a New Mexican artist drawn to and inspired by the beauty of the desert. She earned her BFA from NMSU and creates art

in the region, interconnecting nature and humanity. Her subject matter varies from intriguing to lighthearted and whimsical, creating an eclectic portfolio.

When she isn't in her studio, she supports the community by creating murals. To view her art, the gallery is open 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday to Monday at 2250 Calle de San Albino. Info: 575-339-9870. Her work can also be found at coysart.com or follow her on Instagram @coys_art. Agave Gallery's Art Garden is 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 16 and features multiple guest artists.

• For **Elizabeth Abrams**,

whose work is on display at the **New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum**, 4100 Dripping Springs Road in Las Cruces, the art of photography offers an opportunity to connect deeply with the world, especially in the form of nature. Her exhibit, **"Antidotes: Seeing Beauty, Finding Connection,"** continues in the **Museum's Arts Corridor** through Dec. 2. The show features 24 landscape and wildlife images by Abrams, who lives in Las Cruces. The show also includes the **"Death and Life"** display, a memorial work dedicated to horses and other animals. Info: 575-522-4100.

• 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**. **"Wild Pigment Project"** is

on display in the **Mullennix Bridge Gallery**. This group exhibition brings together painters and dyers, ink-makers and ceramicists, researchers, scientists and traditional cultural practitioners to explore pigments found in plants, minerals and the industrial waste stream. The University Art Museum is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday at 1308 E. University Avenue. Info: uam.nmsu.edu, call 575-646-2545 or email art-museum@nmsu.edu.


ART SCENE

continued on page 14

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ARTS SCENE

continued from page 13

• **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 Sept. 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.

• **The Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery**, 2470-A Calle de Guadalupe, across from the historic Fountain Theatre features two local artists for the month September, **Phillip Krumholz** and **Michael Nail**. Krumholz began metalsmithing as a hobby in 1991, learning the arts of blacksmithing, metal casting and jewelry fabrication then added lapidary work in 2004 by building his own sawing, grinding and polishing equipment. Nail is a lifelong New Mexico resident and has lived in Las Cruces



Work by Ann Beacht is featured at the Otero Arts gallery in Alamogordo.

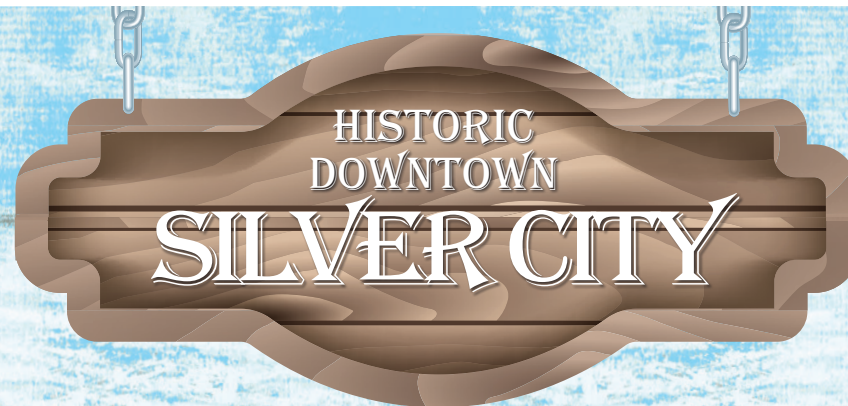
from an early age. He works primarily in pencil, charcoal and ink. First American Bank in Mesilla is well represented by gallery members who rotate the galleries artists' work monthly. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Info: 575-522-2933, www.mesillavalley-finearts.com.

• At **Branigan Cultural Center** the newest exhibition, “**Trinity: Legacies of Nuclear Testing - A People's Perspective**” is on view through Sept. 23. With collaboration from the **Tularosa Basin Downwinders Consortium** and

17 juried artists, this empowering and impactful exhibit exposes the long-term effects and ramifications of nuclear testing in New Mexico. Branigan Cultural Center, is at 501 N. Main St., in Las Cruces. In “Trinity: Legacies of Nuclear Testing - A People's Perspective,” featured artists shed light on the environmental injustices placed on New Mexico downwinder communities. The exhibit covers the period from the first use of an atomic bomb, the Trinity Test in 1945, to present day. The museum is open from 10 a.m.- 4:30 p.m., Tuesday through Friday and 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Saturday. Info: www.lascruces.gov/Museums or 575-541-2154.

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MOUNTAIN MUSIC

Pickamania in the Black Hills

This year's event a tribute to its founder

From its origins in the mid-1980s as a backyard party hosted in a garlic shed, Pickamania has evolved into an annual festival celebrating the love of acoustic music of all genres. Pickamania 2023 features a talented line-up of bluegrass, Americana, folk and blues musicians at the Black Range Lodge in Kingston. This year the theme throughout will be a tribute to, and celebration of life for, the originator of the event, Bill Bussmann.

Pickamania originator Bill Bussmann, who died in May, was a self-taught luthier, and his hand-crafted "Old Wave mandolins" were known world-wide. For more than 40 years he and his wife, Susie, lived along Animas Creek, near Truth or Consequences, raising a family and contributing to their community. Bill was also an accomplished bass player, performing in local bands, and, as Pickamania's master of ceremonies, injecting his special sense of humor into

the proceedings. On Sunday, Sept. 10, Pickamania will be dedicated to celebrating his life, with friends far and wide gathering to play music and honor his memory.

Sponsored by the Sierra County Arts Council, admission is \$20 for Friday, \$40 for Saturday, and Sunday will be

PICKAMANIA

continued on page 16

Pickamania 2023 – A Tribute to Bill Bussmann


- **September 8, 9, & 10**, at the Black Range Lodge, Kingston, NM
- **Tickets:** Fri. \$20 / Sat. \$40/ Sun. Donation only / 3-day Festival Pass \$50
- **Advance ticket sales:** www.sierracountyarts.org
- **Contact:** cat@blackrangelodge.com



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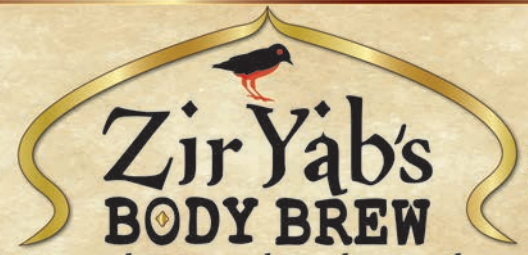
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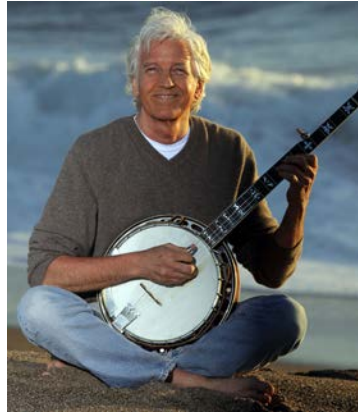
PICKAMANIA*continued from page 15*

free, with donations accepted. A three-day Festival Pass is \$50 per person. Advance tickets are available online at www.sierracountyarts.org.

Pickamania kicks off on Friday at 6 p.m. with original folk music from Gabrielle Louise, a singer/songwriter from Paonia, Colorado, with Ryan Dilts, www.gabriellelouise.com. Next, veteran songstress Wil Maring and her partner, guitar/fiddle virtuoso and Nashville session musician Robert Bowlin, will entertain with traditional and orig-

inal country, folk and bluegrass. www.wilmaring.com

On Saturday at 3 p.m. Albuquerque's Duke City Swamp Coolers will liven up the afternoon with their high energy traditional and original tongue-in-cheek bluegrass tunes www.dukecityswampcoolers.com. They'll be followed by banjo virtuoso Tim Weed, www.timweed.com, performing an eclectic blend of original music from traditional bluegrass, to soulful ballads, to classical instrumental compositions. Next, the duo of flat-picking guitar champion Peter McLaughlin and Chris Brashear (fiddle and mandolin) will offer an original

**Tim Weed**

blend of "southwestern" bluegrass music, shaped by the landscapes and legends of the west, www.petermclaughlin.info. Saturday

evening will culminate as Pickamania's all-stars combine their talents in an audience-pleasing "Super Jam."

Sunday music will begin at 11 a.m., with a "Gospel Hour" sing-along, followed by a community potluck lunch, and personal memories of Bill Bussmann. The afternoon will be filled with music from Bill's family, many friends and former bandmates, including the Hard Road Trio, the Hassle Family, the 24/7 Blues Band, the Miner's Garage Band, and many more, and notably his son Ezra Bussmann, who is highly accomplished on fiddle, dobro, and mandolin.

The outdoor pavilion and shady landscape at the Black Range Lodge offers a covid-safe environment for music and mingling. On Saturday refreshments will be available throughout the afternoon and evening, including pizza, ice cream and apple pie. Black Range Vineyards will be on hand to offer New Mexico wine and beer for purchase throughout the festival. blackrangevineyards.com

Since 2017 Pickamania has been held in the mountain community of Kingston, once a rich silver mining town, now a quiet hamlet surrounded by the Gila National Forest, about 30 minutes west of I-25.

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TABLE TALK

Simply Fresh

Healthy meals take Las Cruces by storm

Story and photo
By Sylvia Quintanilla

An injury, a chance meeting and a vision led to the formation of Simply Fresh, on 125 S. Campo St. in Las Cruces. Now, five years into their partnership, Chris Baca and Mike Gray have developed a strong team of chefs that pride themselves on their mission of making healthy food accessible and delicious.

Mike Gray, co-owner of Simply Fresh, had suffered a pecoral injury while powerlifting. After taking time to heal, he was ready to begin again and get healthy. He found himself in Nutrishop after deciding to get his life together. Gray went in to get protein and pre-workout and noticed Baca stocking BTC Fitness meals.

“Eating healthy is something I always wanted,” Gray said.

When Baca’s business partner left, Gray and Baca decided to take over the business together and rebrand it as AIM Fit Meals. Baca had prior restaurant experience with his restaurant Don Felix in Mesilla and had a food truck.

At the start of 2020, AIM Fit Meals locked in their current location on Campo Street. After renovations were complete in April 2020, they were ready to open their doors. However, the COVID-19 pandemic began affecting businesses. Luckily, they were able to secure a temporary license from the health inspector.

An unseen benefit from lockdown was the way AIM Fit Meals were available. Customers were able to order online for curbside pickup and delivery. As restrictions slowly lifted, they began allowing their customers to come inside their building and grab a meal to go. Those options are still utilized today. Customers can pre-order meals online Wednesday-Sunday. On Monday, customers can pick up their bag in the store, have their food delivered or pick it up curbside.

“Since people started to become more familiar with health and needing to become healthier because of the pandemic, they started to come in, ask questions and order more food,” Gray said. “There weren’t a lot of healthy options. Gyms were shut down due to the pandemic, people were putting on weight. They did not feel good about themselves. We gave them an out by eating our food.”

From 2019 to when they got their location, Gray said business tripled for AIM Fit Meals and has continued to grow each year.

Following a rebrand in 2022, Baca and Gray renamed their business Simply Fresh. They noticed with the name change, it made the business friendlier to all types of customers: the gym shark, police officers, the elderly, college students,



The Simply Fresh team took home the trophy for Best Taste of Las Cruces during the 15th Annual Taste of Las Cruces event in June.

health care workers and first responders.

“We started out because we wanted to try to create an experience for everybody whenever you first walk in,” Gray said. “I absolutely love hearing transformation stories, like, ‘Hey, I’ve been coming here for two months, and I’ve lost like 15 pounds or whatever. We get that all the time. It’s a big thing to hear.’”

On June 8, Simply Fresh entered the 15th Annual Taste of Las Cruces. More than 20 eateries in Las Cruces brought their best dishes to the competition. Simply Fresh took home the title of “Best Taste of Las Cruces.”

They brought four dishes; crepes, powerball protein balls, a buffalo chicken wrap and their green chile chicken enchiladas. It was the enchiladas that won the title for Simply Fresh.

Gray said the enchiladas are a customer favorite and they hear often that people don’t believe they are healthy. Gray explained the dishes, like all their dishes, are made from starch.

The enchiladas are three low-carb tortillas covered in creamy green chile sauce, shredded cheese and shredded chicken. The green chile is flavorful and spicy. Served with fluffy white rice and pinto beans, this meal is very filling.

“For us, to be able to win that competition against unhealthy enchiladas was one of the biggest take-aways for us there. We are super excited about that,” Gray said.

In the future, Simply Fresh hopes to make an impact in the community by expanding its menu into kids’ meals, compete in more competitions, and continue to sponsor local athletes,

high schools and more.

Follow Simply Fresh for the latest updates on Facebook and Instagram. For more information, please visit simply-freshco.com or call 575-500-4331.



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A DIFFERENT

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Do you ever wonder what it is that makes some Doctors so incredibly compassionate while others have a bedside manner better suited for the DMV?

In the case of Dr. Janet Quintanilla, DOM, Dipl.OM of Sonoma Acupuncture Integrative Health it is a case of true empathy. "I suffered from cluster migraines in my teens." Cluster migraines are named such for their debilitating pain that is a step above the norm. "I had migraine headaches 3-5 days a week that were so intense I was often bed ridden and would become physically sick." Being that migraine is one of those complicated conditions

not fully understood, Dr. Quintanilla's options were prescription medications that often did not work and to make lifestyle changes to limit triggers that often cause migraine. "It was no way to live," she shares "I was young and should've been living a bright vibrant life. Instead I was avoiding long exposure to fluorescent lights and doing my best to prepare for changing weather conditions.

As you can imagine, the summer heat and stormy seasons were especially rough.

It wasn't until her primary care doctor sent her to an acupuncturist that she found relief.

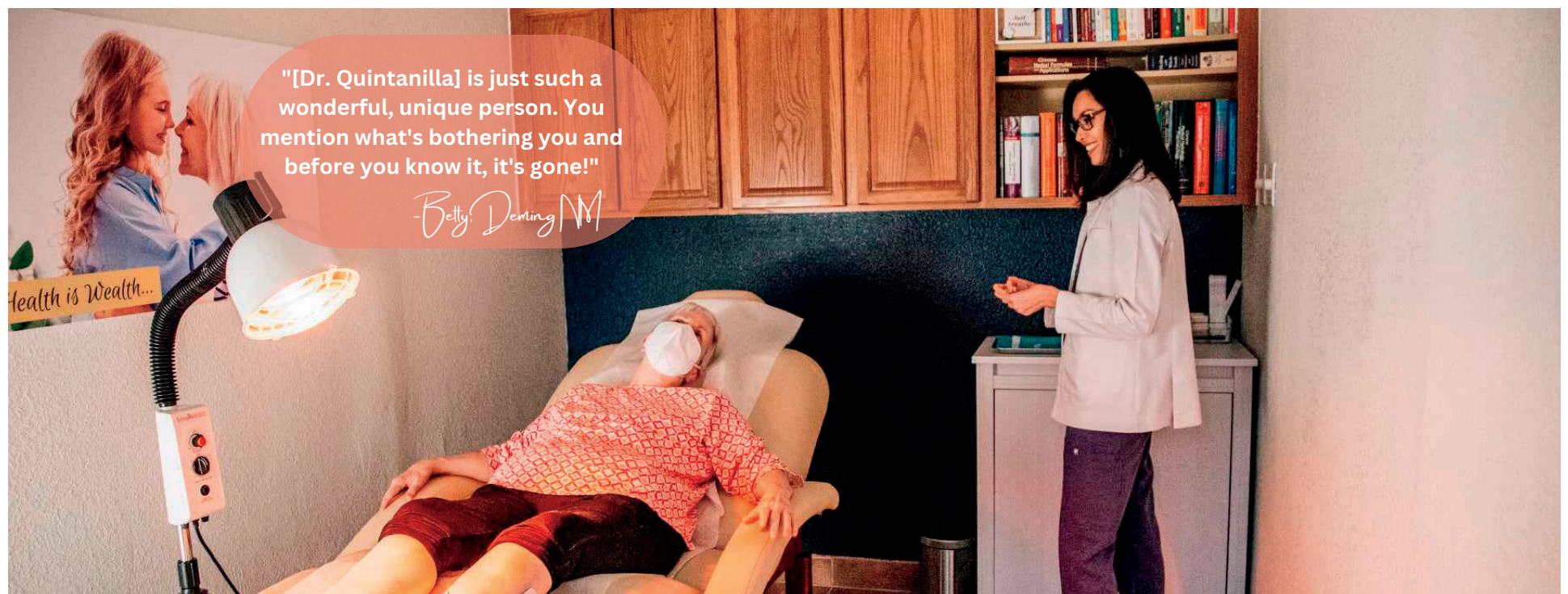
"This is why I often refer to my practice as 'The Last Resort With The Best Results.' You've been everywhere else and been given the same disheartening prognosis, prescribed the same medications and told 'this is just something you're going to have to learn to live with.'"

Soon after her incredible experience with the healing arts she made the life changing decision to pursue her doctorate in acupuncture, "acupuncture quite literally saved my life and I wanted to share that with the world," she proclaims.

Your Golden Years Should Be Golden

While in school she watched as her grandmother began to suffer from peripheral neuropathy. "Your golden years should be golden, not plagued with insufferable pain while doctors and specialists tell you there is nothing they can do."

Understanding that Eastern Medicine excels where Western Medicine fails, Dr. Quintanilla set forth to develop treatment protocols for all variations of Peripheral Neuropathy (including diabetic and chemotherapy-induced) and now has a 90% success rate in treating this once difficult to manage condition.



KIND OF DOCTOR

"I was tired of seeing the older generation suffer unnecessarily," shares Dr. Quintanilla. "Diagnosing them as 'just getting older and giving them a treatment plan of you're just going to have to get used to it' has never sat well with me so I wanted to offer them a real option for treatment and care."

Dr. Quintanilla had designed similar treatment protocols for other complicated, chronic conditions including fibromyalgia, rheumatoid arthritis, post-shingles pain, even macular degeneration. While each patient plan is tailored specifically to that patient's concerns and goals, all of her treatments are based on a framework that's 15 years in the making.

In addition, Dr. Quintanilla isn't opposed to more modern medical solutions.

"It's in blending the time-tested science of acupuncture with recent innovations in medicine that get me the best results. "One of those advancements is ATP Resonance BioTherapy", originally developed by NASA it aids nerves in regeneration by providing them the nutrients they need to repair and renew, "very similar to what water does for a plant!"

The Magic of Compassionate Care

And what do those in her care have to say?

"Dr. Quintanilla looked me in my eyes and wanted to know about me, not just my condition. I feel like a person, not just a patient." shares Perry. "In fact I don't think she ever used the word patient." Others proclaim "she saved my life", "her neuropathy treatments gave me my life back," and it's a miracle she treated my fibromyalgia, I don't know how else to explain it."

Dr. Janet Quintanilla has a long personal history in complicated, difficult to understand conditions and understands how tragic it can all be if left untreated.

"I have sat where my patients sit. I've experienced their pain and suffering in a very real way. I know the frustration of feeling hopeless on an intimate level.



It's why I practice the brand of medicine I do and why I've made it my life's mission to treat the 'untreatable'. It brings me incredible joy when I get to say 'I can help you!'"

Furthermore, Dr. Quintanilla has surrounded herself with staff that embraces this same approach to patient care. "You can ask any one of my patients and they will tell you that their favorite part about Sonoma Acupuncture is my staff."

"I just love everyone here" shares Betty, who has been a patient of Sonoma for almost two years. "The girls are always so kind, it's like going to the doctor with my girlfriends."

Dr. Quintanilla and her staff specialize in treating chronic pain, complicated neurological conditions and autoimmune diseases that leave other professionals scratching their heads. Ready to schedule? Call (575)618-6900 for a comprehensive consultation today. For more information about Dr. Quintanilla and what she treats, visit Sonoma-Acupuncture.com.

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COLUMNS

Surrender to Freedom

Everyday Observations

Choosing to surrender is choosing freedom

By Abe Villarreal

I've been reading about surrendering lately. It's something that's hard to do. Thinking about it makes us feel like failures, like we are not in control. Maybe that's the point.

Americans aren't supposed to surrender. Growing up, we read in our textbooks that we went to war. Many wars, and that we always won. There was no such thing as surrender for our founding fathers or our military leaders. That's not the American way.

But I feel like surrendering. Throughout our lives, we carry good and bad. We live with the decisions that we make. Sometimes they feel very heavy. We are weighed down by our feelings, our past actions. Those things we need to surrender.

It can't always be a bad thing to surrender or to admit that you are not strong enough to do something on your own. You need something else, someone else to help you accomplish what you are trying to achieve. Acknowledging that is a form of surrender.

Many of us, especially men, go our whole lives trying to prove something. That we are strong and independent. That we only need our very own minds to think things through. "I can handle this," we say to ourselves. "Don't worry, I got this," we say to others. What we are saying is that we don't need anyone else to give us support or help. That would be surrendering.

The more I think of surrendering, the more I like the concept. The acknowledgment that I alone am not enough to conquer my fears and my challenges. That I can't go through life living like I am the answer to everything around me. That I make better decisions about big things when I seek the advice of others.

I used to think that surrendering meant giving up. It does. It means giving up the idea that you are going through life alone. That you only have yourself to rely on in times of trouble. What would happen to this world if we all surrendered a little more? Rulers and decision makers. Bosses and heads of households. We could all use a little more surrendering.

Once I fully understood the concept of surrender, a feeling of freedom overcame me. For the first time in my life, I felt like I could take on the day no matter what came my way. The pressure of making choices, of meeting deadlines, of accomplishing goals, was lessened. We still have daily challenges. We still have to make choices. We still have goals we want to achieve. Yet, now, there is a sense of liberty that comes with it all.

Surrender can go both ways. We can choose to surrender to good or bad, to easy or hard. Surrendering to good isn't always easy. It takes humility and submission. Those aren't virtues we celebrate in our society. Doing so also means that our lives are not our own. They belong to someone else.

The world has some major troubles at the moment. Wars between nations. Diseases and extreme poverty. People are being imprisoned innocently. No

matter where you travel or what corner of the world you point to, trouble seems to be brewing.

Maybe those in charge aren't doing too much surrendering. They are relying on their finite minds, their own judgements to make decisions that impact all of us. They are not seeking wise counsel or trust in others.

We can't go through life on our own. We've done that for generations, and this world has become a messy place. I choose surrender.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." – Proverbs 3:5-6

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

RaisingDad

Let sleeping dogs lie

By Jim and Henry Duchene

When my granddaughter was four-years-old we were driving back from a road trip and she was asleep in her car seat. She looked like an angel, her hair a delicate tangle of curls. She was perspiring the way children sometimes do when they slumber.

Suddenly, she startled awake. "Are you okay?" I asked her. She looked around, slow to take in her surroundings.

"I dreamt my hair was on fire," she finally told me.

"Well, you're safe now," I assured her. After a few seconds I

dipped a toe into the water. "You woke up pretty quick," I said.

She nodded.

"You wake up fast when your hair's on fire," she told me.

I guess you do.

Now my granddaughter is eight, and she's a pretty bright kid (she gets it from me). She's back at school and was telling me they were teaching her about fire safety. She had learned to Stop-Drop-And-Roll, been re-acquainted with dialing 9-1-1, and that it's "Smokey Bear," not "Smokey THE Bear."

Playfully testing her knowledge, I asked, "What would you do if your clothes were on fire?"

"I'd buy some new ones," she said.

I've told you how my buddy Maloney and his wife Gail ended up living together, but I've never told you how they ended up getting married.

Maloney was laid low by an aggressive bout with the flu, and she moved in to take care of him. Unfortunately, once he got better, she didn't move out. As far as I could tell, taking care of him consisted of her eating bon bons and watching TV while Maloney slept the day away, but that's neither here nor there.

Well, maybe not here, but it DID end up there. At the Justice of the Peace, I mean. Where the two of them entered the first of what's considered a trifecta of fine institutions. Prison being the second, and a mental facility the third.

"You're already living together," I told him. "Why get married?"

"It's a case of opposites attracting," he explained. "SHE'S

pregnant and I'm not."

I was driving with my father recently.

We were on our way to lunch.

On my dime.

I don't want to say he takes advantage of being diagnosed pre-Alzheimer's, but it sure is convenient how he always forgets to reach for his wallet when the check comes.

Anyway, what happened next in the car made me lose my appetite.

"Did you just pass gas?" I asked my father.

My father gave me a sly grin.

"Of course I did," he chuckled. "What do you think, it's my natural aroma?"

When we got to the restaurant he continued being a little stinker.

"Where have you been all my life?" he flirted as the hostess showed us to our table.

Fortunately, the young girl could hold her own.

"Waiting to be born," she answered, sweetly.

"What are you doing?" my father asked me.

Wait a minute... cancel that.

Let me begin by saying that I hate having to sign up for new things on my old, out-of-date Apple computer and having to constantly come up with different passwords.

To read the full Let Sleeping Dogs Lie column visit us online at desertexposure.com.

GOING DOWNTOWN | RICHARD COLTHARP

Beautiful Balloons

Up, up and away in Alamogordo

It's hard to believe there's a place on this earth so quiet.

Technically, it's not exactly on the earth.

I'm talking about the silence when you're floating a few hundred feet off the ground in a hot air balloon. When the pilot fires the propane tank to heat the air in the balloon, well, that's certainly noisy, but as soon as it's shut off, the silence is deafening.

In October, people from all over the world will descend on Albuquerque for the annual fiesta there. If you want to fight the crazy traffic and the high hotel rates, be my guest.

However, Sept. 15-17 in Alamogordo, you have the opportunity to attend a more manageable and, to my way of thinking, a much more beautiful balloon fest.

It's the White Sands Balloon Invitational and this year marks the 30th anniversary of the event.

Why am I such a fan?

To start, I believe the most enchanting setting in all of the Land of Enchantment is White Sands National Park. Then imagine the added enchantment of a lot of colorful hot air balloons floating around out there. Then imagine you're in Alamogordo, dealing with Alamogordo traffic and hassles, and NOT in Albuquerque, dealing with Albuquerque traffic and hassles.

Maybe you're starting to see my point.

Alamogordo will be buzzing with balloon events the whole weekend. Many of the activities will take place at Ed Brabson Balloon Park, at 700 Lavelle Road, named for a longtime Alamogordo businessman



Hot air balloons take off from White Sands National Park during a previous White Sands Balloon Invitational event. (Photo by Elva K. Österreich)

and community advocate who was active in the founding and building of the invitational event.

Activities include a mechanical bull, chainsaw carving, custom-made cowboy hats, a dunk tank, folklorico dancers, inflatables, balloon animals and a performance by the band Crossin' the Line.

The lift-off at White Sands National Park is 7 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 16, although I would suggest getting their earlier if you can.

The balloon glow event is at 6 p.m. Saturday at Brabson Park. And if you haven't been to a balloon glow, it's a great sight, with the balloons tethered in close proximity, lighting up in the twilight sky.

Sunday morning, Sept. 17, the

balloons will lift off from Brabson Park.

My first White Sands Balloon Invitational was September 1995. I had only lived in New Mexico for just a couple of weeks, and was invited to crew a balloon. Crewing the balloon means you and others help unpack the balloon, set it up, then go chase the balloon after it lands, which is usually nowhere close to where you lift off. It can be a lot of work, but it's also a great way to learn about ballooning.

Driving to White Sands while it was still dark, I began to wonder what I'd gotten myself into. Then I saw the sunrise, casting its glorious magenta hue all over the White Sands. If there could be a better

"Welcome to New Mexico" moment than that, I haven't found it.

As all the crews unpacked all the balloons, and they all started inflating, that was another beautiful sight. And when they all took off, well ... it's a sight that can't be matched in Albuquerque.

Richard Coltharp is editor and publisher of Desert Exposure. One of his favorite things about ballooning is barking back at the dogs who all feel compelled to bark at balloons floating overhead.



30th Annual White Sands Balloon Invitational

Saturday, Sept. 16 – 7 a.m. Lift-off at White Sands National Park

Saturday, Sept. 16 – 6 p.m. Balloon Glow and activities at Ed Brabson Park

Sunday, Sept. 17 – 7 a.m. Lift-off at Ed Brabson Park

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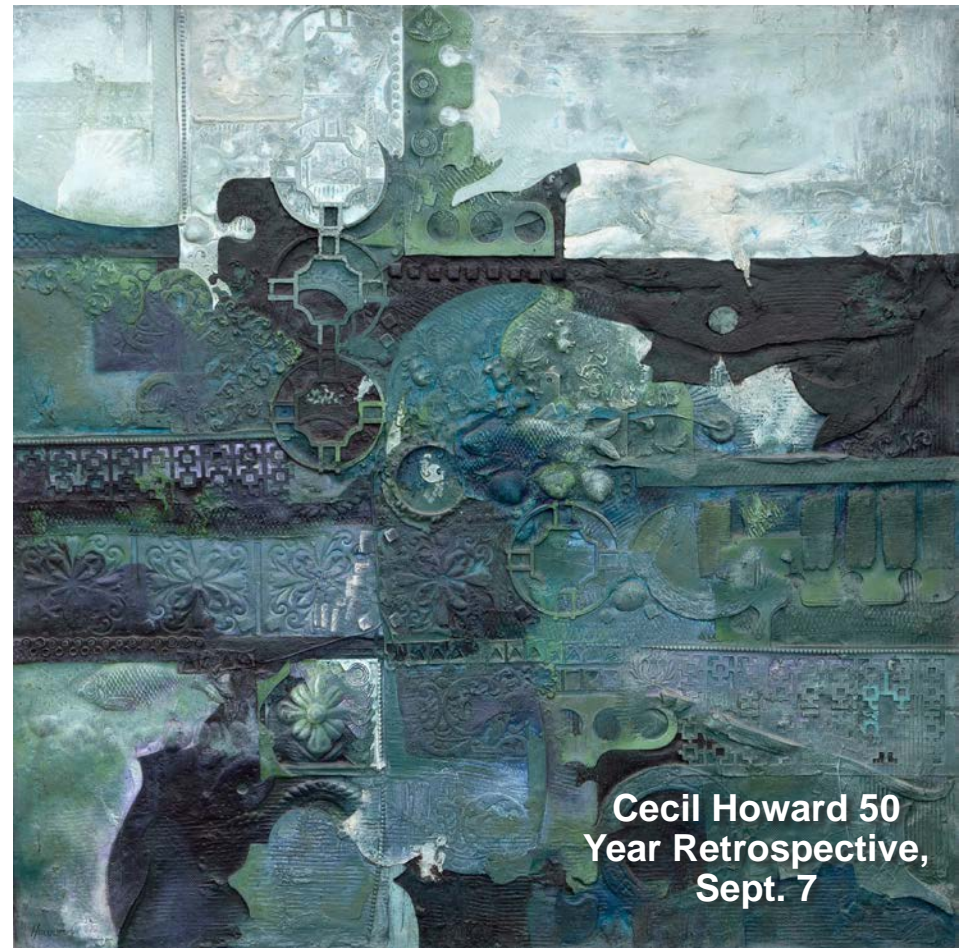
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The Chumleys,
Sept. 1



Cecil Howard 50
Year Retrospective,
Sept. 7

EVENTS

What's Happening

Upcoming events you won't want to miss in September

FRIDAY, SEPT. 1

Grant County

Gem & Mineral Show

11 a.m.-5 p.m. Grant County Veterans Memorial Conference Center, 3031 U.S. Highway 180. rollingstonesgms.blogspot.com

Architect's Delight

4-5 p.m. Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave., Silver City 575-538-3672

First Friday Gallery Walk

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

Live Music: The Chumleys

9-11 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St., Silver City littletoadcreek.com

Otero County

Downtown Nites

5-8 p.m. 800 and 900 blocks of New York Avenue in Alamogordo 575-437-6120

Doña Ana County

Hatch Chile Festival: Live Music 4 p.m. at Ice Box Brewery Yard, 119 E. Hall St. Hatch.

Info: hatchchilefestival.org.

Fine Arts Flea Market

5-10 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces, 100 N. Main St. Las Cruces 505-737-3278

Movement performance influenced by the "Origami in the Garden" exhibition

6:30-7:30 p.m. at the Museum of Art, 491 N. Main St. Las Cruces 575-541-2154

"Nice People Dancing to Good Country Music" with No-Strings

Theatre Company

8 p.m., at the Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Main St. Las Cruces 575-523-1223.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 2

Grant County

Silver City Farmers Market

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

Red Dot Studio Tour

10 a.m.-5 p.m. at various studios across Silver City. www.silvercityart.com

Gem & Mineral Show

10 a.m.-5 p.m. Grant County Veteran's Memorial Conference Center, 3031 U.S. Highway 180. rollingstonesgms.blogspot.com

Otero County

Farmers Market

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

Cars & Coffee

9-10 a.m. Casa Toyota, 3333 N. White Sands Blvd. in Alamogordo farmersmarketsnm.org

Coffee Chat at Oliver Lee Memorial State Park
9-10:30 a.m., 409 Dog Canyon Road, Alamogordo
575-437-8284

Sierra County Hillsboro Street Market
10 a.m.-4 p.m. Hillsboro General Store Cafe, 10697 NM Highway 152, Hillsboro
hillsborocommunitycenternm@gmail.com

Lincoln County All American Labor Day Weekend
1 p.m. Ruidoso Downs Race Track
raceruidoso.com

Lincoln Lecture: The Three Escapes of Billy the Kid at Lincoln Historic Site
2-4 p.m. Lincoln Historic Site, U.S. Highway 380 mile marker 97, Lincoln
nmhistoricsites.org

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

Hatch Chile Festival
Parade at 9 a.m., opening ceremonies at 11 a.m. at Hatch Valley High School Pecan Orchard, 170 E. Herrera St. Hatch.
hatchchilefestival.org

Franciscan Festival of the Arts
10 a.m.-4 p.m. Holy Cross Retreat Center, 4889 S. Main St. Las Cruces
575-524-3688

2023 Harvest Wine Festival
Noon-6 p.m. at the Southern New Mexico State Fairgrounds
nmwine.com/lascruces-

harvest-wine-fest/
"Nice People Dancing to Good Country Music" with No-Strings Theatre Company
8 p.m. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Main St. Las Cruces
575-523-1223

SUNDAY, SEPT. 3 Grant County Gem & Mineral Show
10 a.m.-4 p.m. Grant County Veterans Memorial Conference Center, 3031 U.S. Highway 180
rollingstonesgms.blogspot.com

Red Dot Studio Tour
11 a.m.-4 p.m. at various studios across Silver City
www.silvercityart.com

Sierra County Wild Irish Fiddle with Kate Rose Hillsboro Summer

Concert Series
3-5 p.m. 316 Elenora St., Hillsboro
575-895-3352

Lincoln County All American Labor Day Weekend
1 p.m. Ruidoso Downs Race Track
raceruidoso.com

End of Summer Bash
3-9 pm. Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort, 287 Carrizo Canyon Road in Mescalero
575-464-7059

Doña Ana County Franciscan Festival of the Arts
10 a.m.-4 p.m. Holy Cross Retreat Center, 4889 S. Main St. Las Cruces
575-524-3688

2023 Harvest Wine Festival
Noon-6 p.m. Southern New

Mexico State Fairgrounds
nmwine.com/lascruces-harvest-wine-fest/

"Nice People Dancing to Good Country Music" with No-Strings Theatre Company
2:30 p.m. at the Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Main St. Las Cruces
575-523-1223

MONDAY, SEPT. 4 Sierra County Three day Irish Music Workshop starts
3-5 p.m. 316 Elenora St., Hillsboro
575-895-3352

Doña Ana County 2023 Harvest Wine Festival
Noon-6 p.m. Southern New Mexico State Fairgrounds
nmwine.com/lascruces-harvest-wine-fest/

Lincoln County All American Futurity: The world's richest quarter horse race
1 p.m. Ruidoso Downs Race Track
raceruidoso.com

TUESDAY, SEPT. 5 Grant County Art Bots creation
4-6 p.m. Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave., Silver City
575-538-3672

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 6 Grant County Wednesday Farmers Market
9 a.m.-noon at Old Valley Market, 412 Highway 211 in the town of Gila
silvercityfarmersmarket.info

EVENTS

continued on page 25



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Michelle Diaz, MD (OB/GYN)

Anne Jones, CNM (OB/GYN)

Randi Murphy, NP
(Primary Care, Family, Pediatrics)

2 LOCATIONS

1618 E. Pine St.
(575)388-1561

1280 E. 32nd St.
(575)388-1889

EAST 32ND STREET LOCATION

Anna Rogers, MD (Primary, Family, OB)

Denise Galaz, NP (Primary, Family, Ped)

Candace Laramore, NP (Primary, Family,
Pediatric)

Amber Rose King, NP
(Primary Care Pediatrics)

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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, hybrid on Zoom at noon each Wednesday 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. meetings. 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. second Saturday of every month at Thomas Branigan Memorial Library, 200 E. Picacho Info: 575-636-4500 or EpilepsySupportNM.org.

Breast Cancer Support Group, 9:15 a.m. on the fourth Saturday of the month, at Memorial Medical Center Annex meeting room (entrance on the west side of the hospital). Info: Maricela at 505-453-1789.

SUNDAY

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



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- Red Flannel dog food
- Cattle mineral
- Farm Cat cat food 40lb. bag.



As always Happy Planting!

EVENTS

continued from page 23

**Reading and book signing
with the Mimbres Press
of Western New Mexico
University**

5:30-6:30 p.m. at Light Hall
Auditorium at WNMU
575-538-6353

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

**Author Talk with mystery
writer Carol Potenza**

1:30 p.m. in the Roadrunner
Room at the Thomas
Branigan Memorial Library

in Las Cruces
575-649-8786

THURSDAY, SEPT. 7

Grant County

**Cecil Howard 50 Year
Retrospective**

Opening reception

6 p.m. at the Francis McCray
Gallery on the WNMU
campus
nmpresenters.org

**Fall Film Series – As Fate
Would Have It: Survival
Stories in Film**

“A Night to Remember”

6:30 p.m. at the Santa Clara
Armory, 19990 U.S. Highway
180.
575-388-4862

Doña Ana County

**“Nice People Dancing
to Good Country Music”
with No-Strings Theatre
Company**

7 p.m., at the Black Box

Theatre, 430 N. Main St. Las
Cruces
575-523-1223.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 8

Grant County

**Live Music: J Graves
Portland-based, indie
dance-punk**

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

whiskeycreekzocalo.com

Drag Show Performance

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

Sierra County

Pickamania 2023: A

Tribute to Bill Bussmann

6 p.m. kickoff at the Black

Range Lodge, Kingston, NM.
sierracountyarts.org

Luna County

**State Park Astronomy
Program**

Sunset-7:15 p.m. at
Rockhound State Park
575-546-6182

Otero County

Oktoberfest

6-10 p.m. at Club Holloman,
761 W. New Mexico Ave. on
Holloman Air Force Base
575-572-5597

Lincoln County

Low Class Car Show

Noon p.m. at the Ruidoso
Convention Center, 111

EVENTS

continued on page 26

ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS

Dr. Jim Skee is opening his schedule
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SILVER
HEALTH CARE

PRE-ORDER EVENT
**Bear Mountain Lodge
COOKBOOK**
Wednesday, September 6
5:30-6:30 Reception – Light Hall patio
appetizers and refreshments featuring recipes from the cookbook
6:30 Introductions – Light Hall Auditorium
Dr. Marvel Harrison, Publishing Director, Mimbres Press

EVENTS

continued from page 25

Sierra Blanca Drive, Ruidoso
lowclass.co

Doña Ana County

“Nice People Dancing to Good Country Music” with No-Strings Theatre Company

8 p.m., at the Black Box Theatre,
430 N. Main St. Las Cruces
575-523-1223.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 9

Grant County

Silver City Farmers Market

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

Future Engineers, for ages 6-12

1-2:30 p.m. Silver City Public
Library, 515 W. College Ave., Silver
City
575-538-3672

State Park Astronomy Program

Sunset-7:15 p.m. at City of Rocks
State Park
575-536-2800

Live Music: Brennen Leigh
Full-throttle fiddle, weeping
steel guitar

7 p.m. at the Gardens at Light Hall
on the WNMU campus
nmpresenters.org

\$1.98 Show

8 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo,
11786 Highway 180 E. Arenas
Valley
www.whiskeycreekzocalo.com

Live Music: Baracutanga

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

Sierra County

**Pickamania 2023: A Tribute to
Bill Bussmann**

3 p.m. at the Black Range Lodge,



**Robert Bowlin
& Wil Maring,
Sept. 8**

Kingston
sierracountyarts.org

Second Saturday Art Hop

6 p.m. downtown Truth or
Consequences
director@tocmainstreet.org

Luna County

Main Street Market

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

Ave. Deming

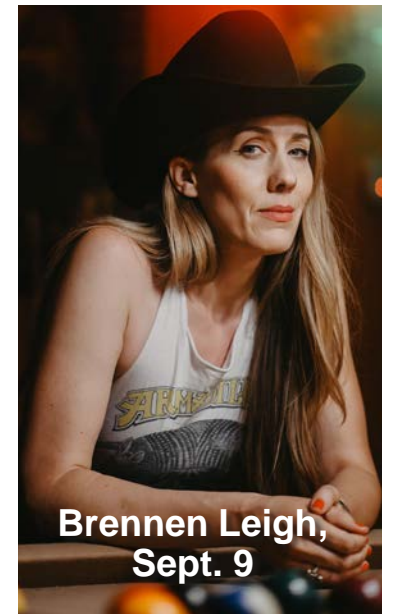
Otero County

**Alamogordo Otero County
Farmers Market**

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

**Climb the Cube:
Memorial stair climb**

7-10 a.m. at the New Mexico Mu-



**Brennen Leigh,
Sept. 9**

seum of Space History, 3198 State
Road 2001, Alamogordo
575-437-2840

Lincoln County

Cruise to the Pines

C10 Truck Show

9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Wingfield Park,

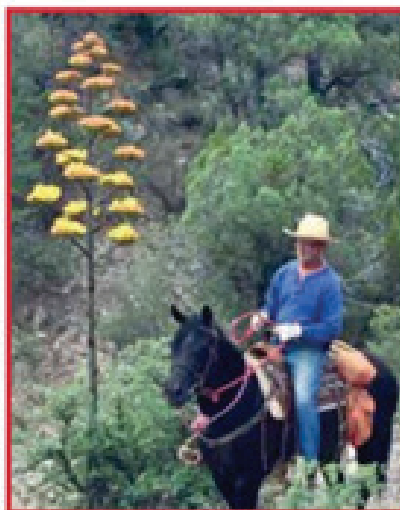
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EMAIL: fharabians@zianet.com
575-654-6431**

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ruidosoparksandrec.com

An afternoon of tea and crafts at Fort Stanton

10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Fort Stanton Historic Site, 104 Kit Carson Road, Fort Stanton
575-354-0341

Low Class Car Show

Noon p.m. at the Ruidoso Convention Center, 111 Sierra Blanca Drive, Ruidoso
www.lowclass.co

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

Iris Rhizome Sale

11 a.m.-8 p.m. at Mesilla Valley Mall, 700 S. Telshor, Las Cruces
cynthia-wilson@comcast.net

Healthcare and Biz Expo

10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Las Cruces Convention Center
575-524-1968

A Celestial Evening: Ancient Native story telling of the Navajo night sky

6-9 p.m. 56501 N. Jornada Road, Las Cruces
877-808-6877

"Nice People Dancing to Good Country Music" with No-Strings Theatre Company

8 p.m., at the Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Main St. Las Cruces
575-523-1223.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 10

Grant County

Live Music: Jason Dea West

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

Sierra County

Pickamania 2023:

A Tribute to Bill Bussmann



Baracutanga,
Sept. 9

11 a.m. kickoff with a Gospel Hour sing along at the Black Range Lodge, Kingston
www.sierracountyarts.org

Lincoln County

Low Class Car Show

Noon p.m. at the Ruidoso Convention Center, 111 Sierra Blanca Drive, Ruidoso
www.lowclass.co

Doña Ana County

Iris Rhizome Sale

Noon-6 p.m. at Mesilla Valley Mall, 700 S. Telshor, Las Cruces
cynthia-wilson@comcast.net

Artist talk: Vickie Morrow

1-2 p.m. at Gallery 925, 925 N. Mesquite St. in Las Cruces
gallery925nm.com

My Artsy Summer

NM Watercolor Society Southern Chapter meeting

2-4 p.m. at the Good Samaritan Society's Creative Arts Room, 3011 Buena Vista Circle, Las Cruces
nmwatercolorsociety.org

"Nice People Dancing to Good Country Music" with No-Strings Theatre Company

2:30 p.m., at the Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Main St. Las Cruces
575-523-1223.

MONDAY, SEPT. 11

Grant County

Widows Community

Speaker: Nancy Stephens,

Imagination Library

10:30 sign in at Cross Point Church, 11600 U.S. Highway 180.
ileen@signalpeak.net

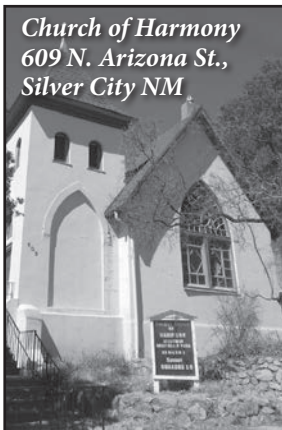
TUESDAY, SEPT. 12

Grant County

Movie; "The Secret of Nimh"

EVENTS

continued on page 28



Church of Harmony
609 N. Arizona St.,
Silver City NM

Gila Friends Meeting

The Religious Society of Friends

◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇

Quaker Meeting for Worship is held Sundays 10:00am- 11:00am

◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇

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EVENTS

continued from page 27

4-6 p.m. Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave., Silver City
575-538-3672

Active Hope Series: "Thomas Berry and Climate Crisis" video discussion

6-8 p.m., Lotus Center, 211 W. Broadway, Silver City

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 13

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

Doña Ana County Farmers and Crafts Market

Downtown Main Street
575-805-6055

THURSDAY, SEPT. 14
Grant County Childhood Education Symposium

All day at the Western New Mexico University College of Education
575-538-6353

Candy Sushi at Penny Park

4-6 p.m. Silver City's Penny Park
575-538-3672

Fall Film Series – As Fate Would Have It: Survival Stories in Film "Everest"

6:30 p.m. at the Santa Clara Armory, 19990 U.S. Highway 180
575-388-4862

Sierra County Square Dancing



Duke City Swamp Coolers at Pickamania, Sept. 9

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

FRIDAY, SEPT. 15
Grant County

"The City Dog and the Prairie Dog" Bilingual musical for grades K-9

10 a.m. at the Fine Arts Center Theatre on the WNMU campus
575-538-6469

Lincoln County Concerts in the Park

Gates open at 4 p.m. at Wingfield Park, 300 Center St. in Ruidoso
ruidosoconcertsinthepark.com

SATURDAY, SEPT. 16

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Grant County**Silver City Farmers Market**

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

www.silvercityfarmersmarket.info

Color Run

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Bataan Memorial Park, 33 Fort Bayard Road, Santa Clara
colorfunrun@grantcountycpc.com

Live Music: Jono Manson

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

Live Music: Mineral Hill

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

Otero County

White Sands Balloon Invitational Balloon Glow

7:30 a.m., lift-off at White Sands National Park
575-439-4100

Alamogordo Otero County Farmers Market

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

Lumberjack Day and arts and crafts show

Event sign up starts at 8 a.m., competition at 9 a.m. at the Cloudcroft Chamber of Commerce, 1001 James Canyon Highway, Cloudcroft
chamber@cloudcroft.com

White Sands Balloon Invitational Balloon Glow

6-10 p.m., Ed Brabson Balloon Park, 700 Lavelle Road, Alamogordo
575-439-4100

Lincoln County Photography Tour at Fort

**Stanton**

10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Fort Stanton Historic Site, 104 Kit Carson Road, Fort Stanton
575-354-0341

Flashlight Tour at Fort Stanton

7-10 p.m. at Fort Stanton Historic Site, 104 Kit Carson Road, Fort Stanton
575-354-0341

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

Doña Ana Doll Club's annual Doll Show and Sale

9 a.m.-3 p.m. Scottish Rite Temple, 195 E. Boutz Road
575-644-4224 and gail1952@comfast.net

Art Garden

11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Josefina's Blue Gate, 2250 Calle de San Albino, Mesilla
www.agaveartists.com

SUNDAY, SEPT. 17 Grant County

Live Music: Meagan Dian Dream Country Disco

2 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 Highway 180 E. Arenas Valley
whiskeycreekzocalo.com

Otero County**White Sands Balloon Invitational Balloon Glow**

7:30 a.m., lift-off at Ed Brabson Balloon Park, 700 Lavelle Road Alamogordo
575-439-4100

Doña Ana County Music in the Park

Joshua Lucero and Papayas Con Chile
7 p.m., Young Park, 850 S. Walnut St. Las Cruces
575-541-2550

TUESDAY, SEPT. 19**Grant County Minecraft Club**

4-6 p.m. Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave., Silver City
575-538-3672

Active Hope Series: "Journey of the Universe" video discussion

6-8 p.m., Lotus Center, 211 W. Broadway, Silver City
text 575-590-5561

Distinguished Speaker Series: Monica Ortiz Urbe and Patricia Michaels Speaking on the crises of missing women

7 p.m. at the Light Hall Theater on the WNMU campus
575-538-6469

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 20 Grant County**Wednesday Farmers Market**

9 a.m.-noon at Old Valley Market, 412 Highway 211 in the town of Gila
silvercityfarmersmarket.info

EVENTS

continued on page 30

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EVENTS

continued from page 29

**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, SEPT. 21
Grant County
Robot building for ages 6 and older

4-6 p.m. Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave., Silver City
575-538-3672

**Fall Film Series – As Fate
Would Have It: Survival
Stories in Film**

“The Perfect Storm”
6:30 p.m. at the Santa Clara Armory, 19990 U.S. Highway 180.
575-388-4862

**Sierra County
Square Dancing**

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

Otero County
**Otero County Fair and
Rodeo**

Gates open 11 a.m. at 401 Fairgrounds Road, Alamogordo
oteroountyfair.com

FRIDAY, SEPT. 22
Otero County
**Otero County Fair and
Rodeo**

Gates open 11 a.m. at 401 Fairgrounds Road, Alamogordo
oteroountyfair.com

Fiesta de La Luz

5-11 p.m. at Our Lady of the Light Catholic Church, 4 La Luz Road, La Luz
575-434-9460

Lincoln County
New Mexico 4X4 Rally

11 a.m.-6 p.m. at the Ruidoso Convention Center, 111 Sierra Blanca Drive, Ruidoso
nm4X4Rally.com

**Live Music: Cinderella's
Tom Keifer**

6-10 p.m. at the Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort, 287 Carrizo Canyon Road in Mescalero
575-464-7059

SATURDAY, SEPT. 23
Grant County
Silver City Farmers Market

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

**Saturday Story Time with
Toys**

1-2:30 p.m. Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave., Silver City
575-538-3672

Live Music: Blues Dawg

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

**Otero County Fair and
Rodeo**

Gates open 11 a.m. at 401 Fairgrounds Road, Alamogordo
oteroountyfair.com

Lincoln County
New Mexico 4X4 Rally

9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Ruidoso Convention Center, 111 Sierra Blanca Drive, Ruidoso
nm4X4Rally.com

Ruidoso Kite Festival

10 a.m.-5 p.m. at the White Mountain Sports Complex, 685 Hull Road, Ruidoso
575-257-5030

**Smokey's Educational
Garden Experience**

5-6 p.m. in Smokey's Garden, 901 Mechem Drive, Ruidoso
575-937-2725

SUNDAY, SEPT. 24
Grant County
**Live Music: Dolly Creamer
Band**

2 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 Highway 180 E. Arenas Valley
whiskeycreekzocalo.com



**Key of G,
Garth Brooks
tribute
Sept. 26**

Lincoln County
Ruidoso Kite Festival

10 a.m.-5 p.m. at the White Mountain Sports Complex, 685 Hull Road, Ruidoso
575-257-5030

New Mexico 4X4 Rally

11 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Ruidoso

Convention Center, 111 Sierra Blanca Drive, Ruidoso
nm4X4Rally.com

Doña Ana County
Artist talk:
Diane Alire

1-2 p.m. at Gallery 925, 925 N. Mesquite St. in Las



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Sept. 16**

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TUESDAY, SEPT. 26

Grant County

Family Movie: "Kubo and the Two Strings"

4-6 p.m. Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave., Silver City
575-538-3672

Live Music: Key of G Live! Garth Brooks Tribute

7 p.m. at the Fine Arts Theater at WNMU campus
gccca@gcconcerts.org

SATURDAY, SEPT. 29

Grant County

Silver City Farmers Market

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

Otero County

Nichols Ranch Apple Festival

9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Nichols Ranch, 236 Cottonwood Canyon Road, La Luz
nicholsranch
andorchards.com

Doña Ana County

Farmers and Crafts Market

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

Live Music: Judy, Joan and Joni - 3 Women Who Defined an Era

6 p.m. at the Doña Ana Arts Council, 230 S. Water St. in Las Cruces
575-523-6403

SUNDAY, OCT. 1

Otero County

Nichols Ranch Apple

Festival

9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Nichols Ranch, 236 Cottonwood Canyon Road, La Luz
nicholsranch
andorchards.com

MONDAY, OCT. 2

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

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 4

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



PHOTO OF THE MONTH

Common sunflowers on Aguirre Spring Road on the East side of the Organ Mountains. The iconic "Rabbit Ears" peaks feature can be seen in the background. The photo is by Mel Stone of Las Cruces.

If you have a favorite recent photo depicting the nature of life and living in southern New Mexico please share it with us and we will consider it for publication. Submit photos to editor@desertexposure.com.

"You become responsible forever for what you've tamed." - Antoine de Saint-Exupéry



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Board Certified in Clinical Health Psychology
and Geropsychology

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Mimbres Valley Harvest Festival

Poster Art by San Lorenzo Student Elizabeth Powell

Produced by Mimbres Valley Health Action League



**Saturday October 7
10 AM until 4 PM**

**San Lorenzo
Elementary School**

LIVE MUSIC, FREE HEALTH FAIR, PIE CONTEST, ARTS & CRAFTS, FARMERS' MARKET, CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES, FOOD VENDORS, VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS, FRIESIAN HORSES, AND MUCH MORE!

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