

APRIL 2024 | VOL. 29 NO. 4

EXPERIENCE SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO

DESERT exposure

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THAT MAKE US**

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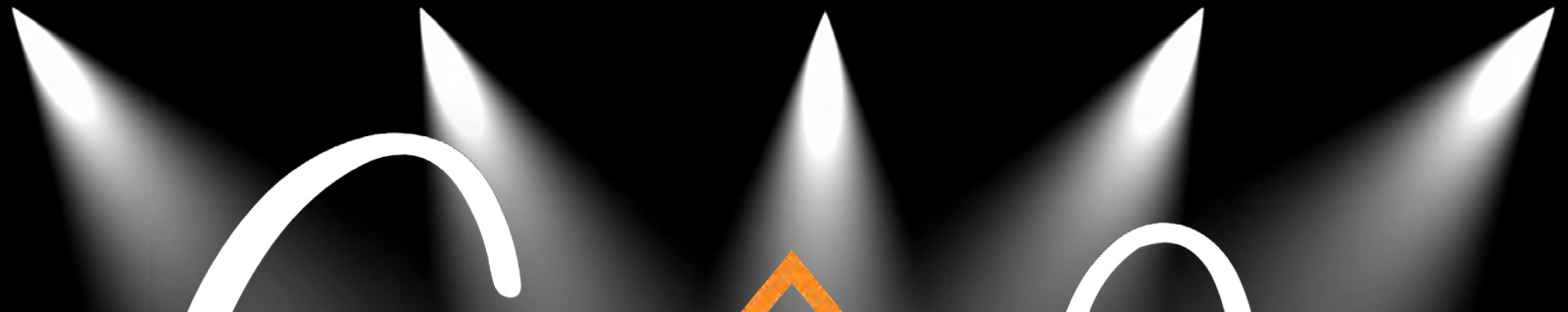


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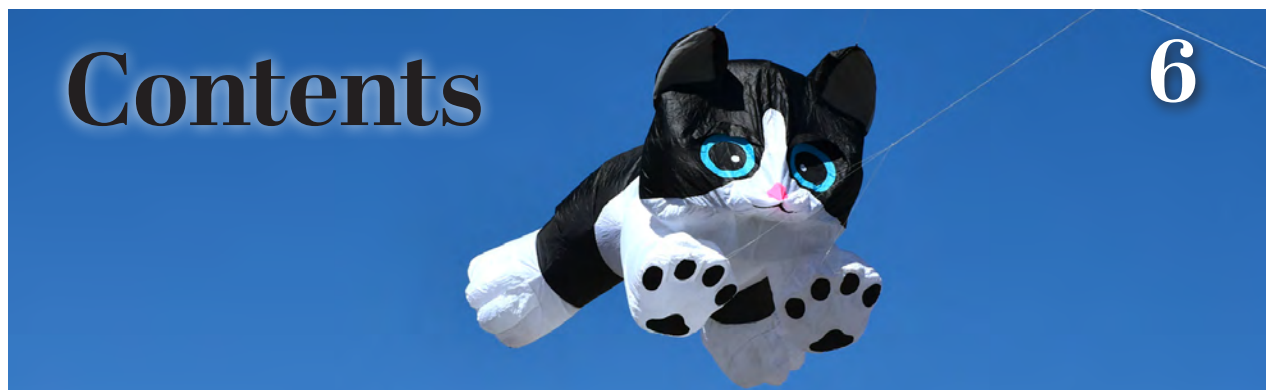
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MAY DEADLINES
All stories and notices for the editorial section
due Friday, April 19
Space Reservation and ad copy
due Friday, April 19.

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**Desert #94
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

"WE AI EQ LWNRI PQ YOEQW EY NHH WMI GIEGHI NQJ BEF YIIH WMI
IQIORB NQJ BEF XFLW YIIJ EYY EY WMIZ. PW'L NQ PQJILDOPANAHI
IZEWPEQ." - ZEOPDN RNODPN, EQ WMI PHHFLPEQ ANQJ.

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: "THIS IS A DISCOVERY DECADES IN THE MAKING." Congrats to #93 solvers :
- DR. ANTHONY FIORILLO OF NMMNS, ON A JAWBONE DISCOVERED YEARS Kaustuv Sengupta*, Mike Arms*,
AGO AT ELEPHANT BUTTE BEING RECOGNIZED AS A NEW Shorty Vaiza*, Will Adams*, Skip Howard*,
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Views, views and more views! This custom built Clayton Modular home is a split level, 2 story home with 6 bedrooms, 3 baths. Upstairs is the primary bedroom with 2 walk-in closets, large bath and a sliding glass door that leads out onto the wrap-around deck. Enjoy the large living room w/fireplace that flows into the open kitchen with an island, walk-in pantry, breakfast bar, breakfast nook and a formal dining room. The downstairs has 2 bedrooms, 1 full bath, another full kitchen, dining room, living room, hobby/office, laundry room and a storage room with a built-in safe. The top of the home is a triple wide modular with the bottom being an exact replica of the top floor. This home has 2X6 exterior walls and the bottom is built of ICF blocks. The home also has solar panels that leaves you with a \$7.85 electrical bill every month! Make an appointment today!
MLS: 40002. \$725,000



Solar dream home offers seclusion and amazing craftsmanship on this open floor plan layout. 400 amp service, 27solar panel installation, Generac whole home back-up generator, all on almost 7 acres bordering BLM. Nestled in the juniper, oak, and pines, this home boasts 10-14 ft vaulted ceilings, a Chef's dream kitchen with large granite prep island and custom cabinetry. The primary bedroom is as big as some homes, including an office and craft/artspace. The main level can serve as single level living with two bedrooms, one currently used as a home theater. Downstairs is a fully equipped 1200 sq/ft apartment with separate entrance. Great rental potential. The 2000 sq/ft shop with 10' ceilings and solid 12' reinforced concrete walls has been drywalled and is ready to suit your needs, including already being ducted for A/C and Heat. Custom arches adorn this light filled home and the outdoor Trex. MLS: 40183 \$695,000



Public Land Boundary! End of the road with fabulous views! 10 acres with 30X30 Garage/Shop as well as small HayBarn/Tack Barn and fenced for animals. Just 30 minutes from Silver City, NM. Enjoy the covered deck with endless views of the Gila National Forest. Hike, bike, ride your horse right into the Forest! Add your own touches and create a wonderful, peaceful home. FYI. For some reason Zillow shows this property in the wrong location and I can't get it corrected! Please know this property is located 30 minutes SW of Silver City in the Burro Mountains off of Hwy 180W, Mangus Valley Road and Red Rock Road. Thank you! MLS: 40042 \$265,000



This home could be a 5 bedroom 4 bath home and is currently rented as 4 units. This historic building was once the New Mexico Cottage Sanatorium which was founded around 1905. This is a historic building that put Silver City, New Mexico on the map as it was touted that no region in the world equals the high altitude of the southwest for tuberculosis and was deemed a health resort at the turn of the century. The structure sits on approximately 2.88 acres, to be determined by a new survey. Close to forest access and just 2.5 miles north of Highway 180 West. Call today to schedule a showing.
MLS: 40213 \$240,000



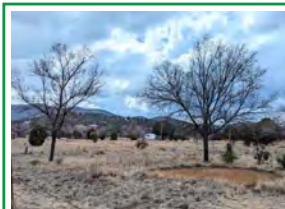
This 3 bedroom 2 bath home with mezzanine, may have once housed doctors and nurses who worked at the New Mexico Cottage Sanatorium. This historic structure sits on approximately 1.6 acres, to be determined by a new survey. Close to forest access and just 2.5 miles north of Highway 180 West. Call today to schedule a showing.
MLS: 40212 \$190,000



A very well-maintained 3 bedroom, 1 bath home in Tyrone, New Mexico. Features include newer shingle roof, gas forced air heating and covered carport with storage room. Great elevation and location, providing spectacular mountain views in the distance. Approximately 5 miles from downtown Silver City, New Mexico. Make an appointment today, this won't last long!
MLS: 40207 \$160,000



This 3 bedroom 2 bath fixer home sits on approximately .735 acres. Close to forest access and just 2.5 miles north of Highway 180 West. Shared septic with property to the east. Call today to schedule a showing.
MLS: 40218 \$125,000



Nice land, close to Bear Mountain Forest access just 2 miles away. Great homesite, mostly cleared and vacant land with great southern exposure. Site built or manufactured home ready. Call today for an appointment or directions. MLS: 40217 \$19,000



Southwestern style home with amazing views of the mountains and sits on almost an acre of land. This home boasts beautiful Saltillo tile throughout, a large living room with built-ins and a gas fireplace. Kitchen offers custom wood cabinets, tile backsplash, S/S farmhouse sink, S/S appliances and adjacent to the kitchen is a large family/dining room with a NEW gas fireplace along with a large built-in bar for entertaining and a sliding glass door that leads out to a large covered patio and backyard. The home also has a metal roof, NEW solar panels, a 6 ft. wooden privacy fence w/a frame-in-field fence that surrounds the large backyard with RV access as well. There is also a bonus room that could be an office/hobby room. Other features include a tiled walk-in shower, central vacuuming system, refrigerated air, east facing covered front porch with built-in bench seating and a 1 car garage. MLS: 40181 \$415,000



Cabin nestled in the tall pines! Overlooking Sapillo creek with fantastic views of the Admiral Cliffs and Gila Wilderness. Located on the Gila National Forest boundary, 2 bedrooms on main floor, additional bedroom in the walk out basement. Workshop and hobby room downstairs. Nice deck for entertaining. Bonus room off the bedroom is perfect for office, gym or TV room. One car detached garage perfect for storing UTV and ATV's. Attached carport. Short drive to Lake Roberts, Spirit Canyon pictographs and hiking trailheads. Abundant wildlife. Homesite includes two additional to build a shop, additional dwelling etc. Game Management Unit 24. Call your favorite broker for a showing. MLS: 40148 \$275,000

EDITOR'S NOTE | ELVA K. ÖSTERREICH

Pegs to Hang Ideas On

Never a rule, ending with prepositions

Recently Merriam-Webster declared that English sentences may end with prepositions – a bit redundant since, there was never an actual rule against ending sentences with prepositions but, much has been made of this declaration in recent days.

A preposition is a word that creates a relationship between other words. It's been said that prepositions often deal with space and time. For example, the prepositions “above,” “by,” and “over” all say something about a position in space for example: The picture is above the fireplace; The

nightstand is by the bed. And the prepositions “before,” “after,” and “since” all say something about time: We went for a walk before dinner; We had dessert after dinner.

As examples that this is not a new habit of English speakers and writers:

“We are such stuff / As dreams are made on.” — William Shakespeare

“Houses are built to live in, not to look on.” — Francis Bacon
“... soil good to be born on, good to live on, good to die for and to be buried in.”
— James Russell Lowell

“All words are pegs to hang ideas on.” — Henry Ward Beecher

Then there is the prisoner who asks a female guard to marry him on the condition that she help him escape. This is a man attempting to use a preposition to end a sentence with.

So here are some stories you can expect in this edition of Desert Exposure:

Kite Picnic in Glenwood starts up.

Hikers Gila trails draw in.

Delicious Dutch oven mixes found within.

Tapestry of Talent creations found models amid.

Cloudcroft lodge new chef inside.

Pearlman more words beside.

Area community arts happen near.

Toxins in water, don't draw from

Apparently, I am not terribly good at this preposition thing, there are a lot of problems with which I'm dealing with. But with this I don't really know where I am going to. You can find me in the clouds somewhere among. But here I stand my soapbox on. I don't even know what I am discoursing for!

Elva K. Österreich is editor of Desert Exposure and would love to meet Desert Exposure readers of southern New Mexico. Please contact her at editor@desertexposure.com or by cell phone at 575-443-4408.



LETTERS We would like to hear from you, so please don't hesitate to share your thoughts. We welcome letters to the editor including your opinions and feedback regarding news, events and issues published here. Traditional letters to the editor offer an opportunity to start a new discussion, share your opinions or provide information you believe is of interest to other readers. Desert Exposure reserves the right to review, edit or refuse letters to the editor. Include your full name, city, state and phone number. Only your name and city will appear in print, but we need to be able to verify the author. The views and opinions expressed in letters to the editor published by Desert Exposure do not necessarily reflect those of Desert Exposure or its advertisers. It is the responsibility of the reader to research facts/opinions expressed in the letters to the editor to form their own opinions from an informed position.



PHOTO OF THE MONTH

City of Rocks in February, taken by Nicho J. Mageras on his Sony A7iii camera with a 24 to 70 f 2.8 Sony lens, shot at 24mm.

If you have a favorite recent photo capturing 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.



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ABOUT THE COVER

Las Cruces-based painter Vicki Henley designed the poster art for the 2024 Las Cruces International Film Festival.

Henley said her style is loose and fluid. She has been doing a lot of Van Gogh-style backgrounds lately, working on large canvases but also on minis. She said she has something for everyone and one recurring subject has earned her "the cow lady" for a nickname.

"I paint with my heart and I think it comes out in my paintings. People say they make them happy."

The five-day festival will be in-person at the Allen Theatres Cineport 10. Tickets are available now at lascrucesfilmfest.com.



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Saturday, April 6, 2024

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

FLYING HIGH

Annual Take Off

The sky's the limit at the Kite Picnic in Glenwood

By Cheryl Thornburg

This year 100 Kites are expected to fly at the 18th annual Whitewater Mesa Kite Flying Picnic in conjunction with the 100th anniversary

of the Gila National Wilderness. The event, set for Saturday, April 6, features a plethora of kites of all colors, shapes and sizes against the backdrop of the Gila. The kite event is not just

for pros – everyone from toddlers to senior citizens test their kite-flying skills.

This event is sanctioned by the American Kitefliers Association, which was founded in Silver City. As a result, kite fliers come from all around the state and around the country to show off their spectacular creations.

There is plenty of space to park for a tailgate picnic

and to fly kites with no fences or power lines to tangle the strings. Pick up a free raffle ticket on arrival. There will be a drawing for a kite at 2:30 p.m.

You can also walk a trail in the Gila. Gold Dust trail #41 starts right at the kite field.

In addition, for a completely different experience, walk one or all six of the labyrinths and a maze



Kites of all shapes and sizes show up for this annual kitefest in Glenwood. (Photos by Cheryl Thornburg)

across the road at Whitewater Mesa Labyrinths.

It all happens from noon to 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 6 at Whitewater Mesa Labyrinths, 355 Bursum Road (NM 159) off Hwy 180, between Glenwood and Alma, NM 88039.

Admission is free.

Water, kite-mending supplies, a Porta-potty and loaner kites are provided.

For more information, go to townlabyrinths.com or contact Cordelia Rose 575-313-1002 (call or text)

FOOD + ADVENTURE

Dutch Treat

A surefire way to savor great flavors

By Cheryl Thornburg

Going Dutch has a special meaning in Glenwood. Every April it's time for the annual Glenwood Dutch Oven Gathering. This year, it will be held Saturday, April 13, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Glenwood Community Park located on Catwalk Road (Highway 174.)

Cooking teams from New Mexico, Texas and Arizona are often represented at the event.

Full meals are served at individual campsites at 1:30 p.m. Menus for each campsite are posted in the pavilion and also at the campsites. Meal tickets go on sale at 10 a.m. Tickets are \$15. Come early and buy your tickets because they sell out quickly. You can then browse the park and observe how it's done.

A variety of other vendors will be



Food to please just about everyone's taste is served at the Dutch Oven Gathering. Organizer Molly Bryan serves up some mighty fine chow at the event. (Photo by Cheryl Thornburg)

on hand. Organizers say they always need more cooking teams and vendors. Contact Molly Bryan for more information at 575-574-7704 (call or text), 575-539-2714 or email 3mollymules60@gmail.com.

The event is a fundraiser for different activities that benefit the community. Last year's proceeds were given to the Community Park, the Library's Children's Reading Program, The 4th of July Fireworks and Parade and 4-H Kids Projects.

Glenwood Community Library will set up its Spring Book Sale featuring a wide variety of books, DVDs, audiobooks and CDs available by donation.

If you're a bargain hunter, Glenwood Woman's Club will be holding its annual Rummage Sale nearby from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Glenwood Community Center at 21 Menges Lane. It features clothing, household items, furniture and more.

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

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When bicycles take over the roads



One of North America's top stage races, Tour of the Gila, is on the calendar for the last week of April. Tour of the Gila attracts amateur cyclists wanting to experience southwest New Mexico's notoriously steep and scenic roads while testing their physical limits. Since 1987, Tour of the Gila has highlighted the state's rich history and landscape. Visit tourofthegila.com for information and registration.

"Tour of the Gila is still the place where amateurs can compete on the same roads on the same days as the pros," Board President Michelle Geels said.

"With 2024 being an Olympic year, we are expecting our best and most international women's and men's fields ever," Race Director Michael Engleman said.

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WESTERN NEW MEXICO UNIVERSITY Cultural Affairs

APRIL EVENTS



Brit Taylor
7pm, Wednesday, April 3
Whiskey Creek Zocalo

Brit Taylor, Appalachian mountains country artist, combines the edgier side of honky-tonk with the prettier side of country. This is a free ticketed event for WNMU students, faculty, staff and community. Tickets available online at Culture.wnmu.edu or whiskeycreekzocalo.com.



Scrap Arts Music
7pm, Saturday, April 6
Fine Arts Center Theatre | \$15

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SPEAKER SERIES



Distinguished Speaker Series:
Judith Fein | Tuesday, April 23
Light Hall Theater | Free

Judith Fein, award-winning travel journalist, will discuss her new book *Slow Travel New Mexico*, with photography by Paul Ross.



Distinguished Speaker Series:
Hampton Sides | Monday, April 29
Light Hall Theater | Free

Hampton Sides is an American historian, author and journalist. He will be signing his latest book *The Wide Wide Sea*.



WESTAF

Tickets
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COMMUNITY SPIRIT

Give Grandly! Give Local!

Raising essential funds for area non-profits

The Give Grandly Coalition of nonprofits, with the help of the Grant County Community Foundation, celebrates over a decade of giving in southwest New Mexico. In this, its 11th annual community fundraising event, Give Grandly supports scores of nonprofits in small communities throughout Grant, Luna, Catron and Hidalgo counties, many of which depend heavily on volunteers, grants and donations.

Give Grandly provides the community with the opportunity to give back to

those who add to the quality of life here in Southwest New Mexico. Participating nonprofits represent the many communities in our rural corner of New Mexico, and the money raised at this event provides vital operational funds for these local area nonprofits, which ripples into the communities they serve. Give Grandly also benefits the heart of the community by creating a spirit of giving and camaraderie among the nonprofits. It is said that a rising tide lifts all boats, and this is very true with Give Grandly, a

fundraiser that benefits everyone.

“Give Grandly has been CPC’s trusty sidekick, weaving a web of community connections to keep donations flowing,” said Kalah Carrasco, Community Partnership for Children. “With their outreach wizardry and event pizzazz, Give Grandly has been the superhero behind spreading the word about CPC’s noble mission. Their dedication has been a game-changer, empowering CPC to help those in need and sprinkle some positivity in the neighborhood.”

The event has raised more than \$1.6 million for area community organizations in the past decade. Last year alone, the event raised more than \$325,000.

“Give Grandly is now the largest and most effective fundraising mechanism in Grant County,” said Patrice Mutchnick, Heart of the Gila. “We appreciate the opportunity to participate.”

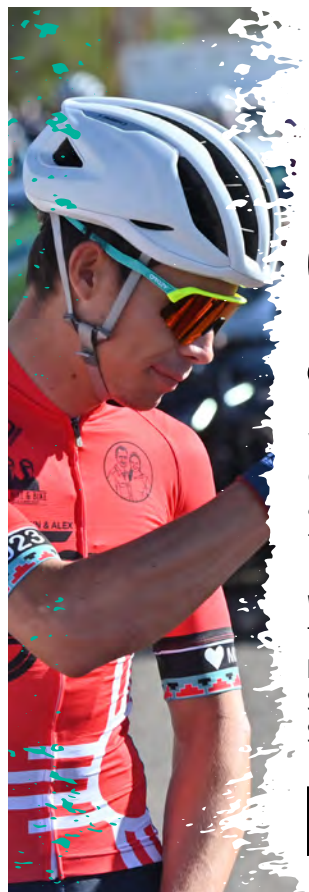
On Saturday, May 4, Give Grandly will be live in downtown Silver City, where participating organizations will showcase their work to the local commu-



Shelby Hallmark talking to Candice Burke and Mitch Hellman. (Photo by Bruce Bloy)

nity and everyone can enjoy music and fun. Future Forge will again host the event on the opening day of the Maker’s Market in the Main Street Plaza locat-

ed off Bullard Street, next to Big Ditch Park, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Gila Mimbres Community Radio 89.1 will broadcast live interviews with the nonprofits.



SILVER CITY, NM | APRIL 24-28

Watch pro cyclists and recreational racers during the downtown criterium, where kids activities, a bike rodeo, and a beer garden add to the fun!

Wednesday: Mogollon Road Race
Thursday: Inner Loop Road Race
Friday: Tyrone Individual Time Trial
Saturday: Downtown Criterium
Sunday: Gila Monster Road Race

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CELEBRATE WILDERNESS

Trail Days Returns to Silver City

Annual event draws community involvement from across the Gila region

Organizations of the greater Gila region will host their annual Trail Days in Silver City, April 19-21. The Continental Divide Trail Coalition (CDTC) and partners are planning the weekend in connection with Gila Earth Day as a celebration of the landscape and communities that surround the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (CDT). The two-and-a-half-day event boasts speakers, activities and a festival, and showcases local and regional partnerships.

Special activities are planned to mark the co-celebrations and emphasize the natural beauty and cultural significance of the CDT while incorporating some of the work happening to protect the Gila Wilderness. Events will take place starting on Friday with a Community, culture and Landscape Speaker Series at the Silco Theater. Several presenters will focus on the Gila region, sharing experience and exper-

tise on topics from hiking in the Gila to wolves.

The weekend highlight is Saturday's Gila Earth Day Festival at Gough Park, where over 100 vendors will gather for a family-friendly day of activities. Community hikes will be hosted in collaboration with Heart of the Gila on Sunday and will provide an opportunity for the community to connect on the trail.

The spring event also kicks off the hiking season for northbound CDT hikers attempting to traverse the 3,100-mile-long Continental Divide or sections of it. The trek to Silver City from the Mexico border for Trail Days acts as a celebration of the first completed segment for northbound hikers aiming to complete the CDT.

For more information visit continentaldividetrail.org/trail-days-2024/ or contact outreach@continentaldividetrail.org.

"Our goal is to serve the greater community and to amplify appreciation for the



Hikers walk the CDT. (Courtesy photo)

unique and diverse landscapes of the CDT and the greater Gila Region," said CDTC Executive Director Teresa Martinez. "We look forward to the next 10 years and what else will

emerge from our work with the community of Silver City."

Among the event organizers are the Gila Resources Information Project (GRIP), Heart of the Gila, the Silco Theater, Silver City Waterworks, and the Town of Silver City.

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TABLE TALK

New Chef Brings New Menu

Lodge of Cloudcroft Rebecca's presents chef Richard Lepree

By Chris Edwards,
2nd Life Media
Alamogordo Town News

The Lodge of Cloudcroft has gone through a makeover this past year upgraded and remodeled rooms and changes to the culinary department, the Lodge is excited to recognize the ex-

cellent brigade of chefs led by the new Executive Chef, Richard Lepree. He was the previous owner of Lepree's Global Comfort Food in Cloudcroft and oversees Rebecca's at The Lodge of Cloudcroft.

When it comes to dining, gratification awaits even the most discriminating of palates at Rebecca's.

Named after our resident ghost, Rebecca's serves lunch and dinner, as well as brunch on Saturdays and Sundays.

Chef Lepree earned his culinary degrees from Oxford University in England and has trained with Michelin Star chefs from +++around the world. His studies included classi-

cal French and English butchery, charcuterie, fishmongery, confectionery, advance pastry, guest expectations and culinary science

The chef has a passion for creating unique and "sexy" culinary dishes

CHEF

continued on page 15



The crew behind the scenes at Rebecca's are Chef Bentley McNab, Chef Jody Mancillas, Executive Chef Richard Lepree, Sous Chef Caelan Bickel and Pastry Chef Jewlyn Palmer. Not pictured is Chef Chloe Nash. (Courtesy photo)



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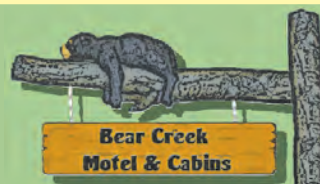
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Some lofty visitors to The Lodge in Cloudcroft

Theodore Roosevelt (26th President) is the first president that has visited The Lodge. There are historical travel records that show he visited Cloudcroft during his presidency in 1902. That same year he travelled to Las Vegas New Mexico for the first annual reunion of his Rough Riders.

Upon his visit to New Mexico and to Cloudcroft, he announced his candidacy for president and promised to work for New Mexico statehood. In May of 1903, he was reminded of his promise when his train arrived in Albuquerque at the Alvarado Hotel. The Lodge was connected by a train route that went through New Mexico and trains were a popular method for presidents to use at the time.

President William Howard Taft (27th President) visited Cloudcroft and the Lodge during his presidency as part of his broader efforts to escape the summer heat of Washington and seek cooler climates. Taft's visit to Cloudcroft contributed to the area's reputation as a desirable mountain retreat for relaxation and escape from the summer heat.

It's no secret that many politicians have been hosted at the Lodge and fed many a great meal to include many New Mexico governors. There have also been several celebrities, artists and authors, photographers and business leaders. With easy access by train and a great climate as well as the private atmosphere, Cloudcroft had been an attractive place to stay for many during the heyday of rail service.

The tradition of hospitality to dignitaries and common folk continues and the tradition of breaking bread with friends, families and strangers continues with new chef Lepree joining the fold.

MIND, BODY, SPIRIT

Out of the Darkness

Suicide prevention walk honors victims, supports survivors

By Sylvia Quintanilla

New Mexico State University will be hosting its first Out of the Darkness Campus Walk on April 13. The event will be a collaboration with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention and the NMSU School of Nursing. In 2023, a community walk was held for the cause in Las Cruces.

The Out of the Darkness Campus Walk is the signature student fundraising event for the American Foundation of Suicide Prevention. The walk will begin at 9 a.m. at the NMSU Corbett Outdoor Stage, 2795 S. Locust St. Onsite registration time begins at 8 a.m. and the walk route will be 2.18 miles. Participants will have the opportunity to choose between 10 honor beads to wear during the walk. Each color symbolizes their reason for walking.

“The Out of the Darkness Walks are journeys of

remembrance and events that unite a community. It is an acknowledgment of the ways in which suicide and mental illness have affected our lives and our loved ones. We all wear honor beads – each color shows our personal connection to the cause, and helps us identify others who understand our experience,” said Sheena Merino, Mental Health Education Specialist at NMSU’s Office of Health Promotion.

Each color of the honor beads and what wearing them can mean to a person are: white for loss of a child, red for loss of a spouse or partner, gold for loss of a parent, orange for loss of a sibling, purple for loss of a relative or friend, silver for loss of a first responder/military, green for a personal struggle or attempt, teal for supporting someone who struggles or has attempted, blue for supporting suicide prevention and rainbow to honor the LGBTQ community.

“This cause is extremely important because in our community and on the NMSU campus there are those affected by suicide,” Merino said. “By raising awareness and having the Out of Darkness Walk be at NMSU, we are strongly sending the message that suicide can be preventable and that no one is alone. Suicide is preventable and mental health is just as important as physical health. Together we can change the conversation and create a world without suicide.”

Registration for the walk can be done on supporting.afsp.org and selecting NMSU. Teams and individuals can register and there is no fee to join. NMSU has a fundraising goal of \$10,000 and has raised over \$3,000 so far. Participants that fundraise \$100 individually will receive an official walk shirt. There are other ways to support the cause as well, by becoming a sponsor or volunteering at



Out of the Darkness walks take place across the United States at various time of the year. This one, held in Las Cruces in September, maintains the spirit of prevention and compassion.

the walk.

“For this being the first annual suicide Prevention walk for 2024 at NMSU I believe it is such a huge community effort,” she said. “You can see how everyone plays a role in shining the light on this matter. From our community partners in Las Cruces being a sponsor and donating for this walk, there is much proactiveness from everyone that you might not see in different areas.”

“Suicide is the 11th the leading cause of death in the United States and the third leading cause of

death amongst ages 15-24,” Merino said. “A 2022 Harris Poll revealed that 75 percent of adults in the U.S. believe it is more important than ever to make suicide prevention a national priority. Your support will help bring our work to our schools and community, as

Walk in September

On Sept. 14 there is an Out of the Darkness walk held at Young Park in Las Cruces. This will be the 5th annual event held at the park.

Contact:

Robyn Rehbei-Narvaez

Contact Phone:

575-496-8532

Contact Email:

robynrehbein@gmail.com

well as show your customers and employees that you care about mental health and preventing suicide.”

For more information, contact Merino at merinos1@nmsu.edu. If you are in crisis, call the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline at 998 or contact the Crisis Text Line by texting 741-741.

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OPPORTUNITY

Call for Veterans & Military Connected Artists: In Alamogordo, Otero Arts will hold its "Second Annual Otero Veteran Arts Showcase" (OVAS) in June at the Otero Artspace, 1118 Indiana Ave., Alamogordo. OVAS will feature a month-long art exhibition, performances and writing workshops all featuring Veterans and Military connected artists. Deadline for entering is May 1. To apply: contact Lori Arella, drloria@gmail.com or call 845-797-3642. Info: Oteroarts.org.

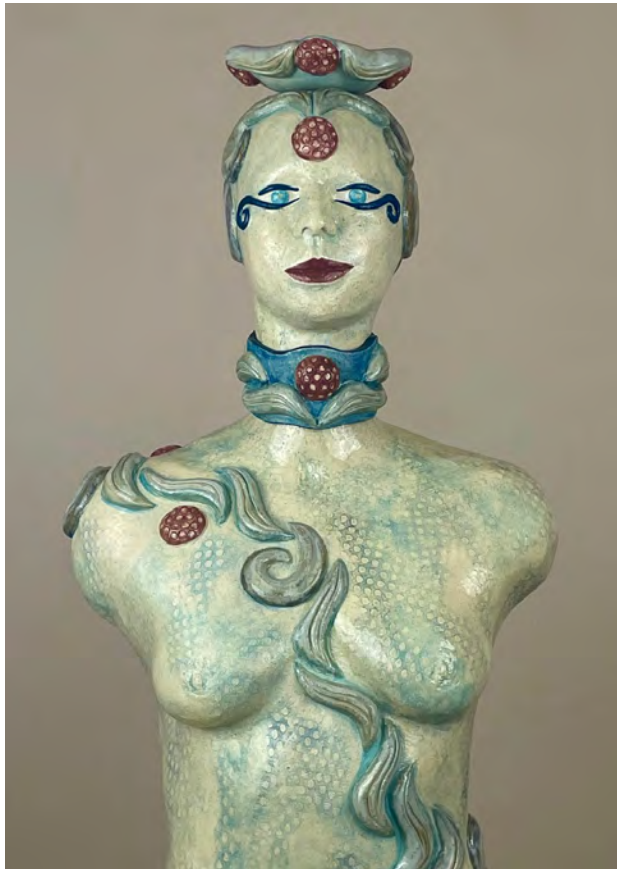
SILVER CITY

• **RA@W Gallery** in Silver City opened on March 23. Four local artists opened the gallery: **Tasha Marshe**, **Amy McBroom** and **Kathryn Schmid** from Silver City; and **Ismelda Garza** from Deming. All artists are contemporary in nature and the gallery is collective in practice. All pieces are in their original states of paper or canvas and hung salon style on wires. All four were at Western New Mexico University enrolled at the same time in similar painting and drawing classes within the fine arts. RA@W Gallery is for artists seeking exposure within Silver City in a quaint venue at 104 Yankee Street. Interested arts can email Amy at rawgalleryandartspace@gmail.com or visit the gallery 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday. All artwork accepted does not need to be matted or framed. Future

workshops will be offered for adults and children. An art club for 6-12 year olds, called **Dabble!** is currently available for activities. To register email at dabbleartclubsilver@gmail.com.

• **The Silver City Art Association** hosts a **First Friday gallery walk** on April 5 in the Historic District of downtown Silver City. Galleries and their business friends will be open from 5-7 p.m. for receptions, art talks and other art events, with several galleries featuring artists on site to discuss their work. First Fridays are held from 5-7 p.m. on the first Friday of every month. For a map of participating galleries, or for more information about the Silver City Art Association, see silvercityart.com.

• **Light Art Space**, 209 W. Broadway in Silver City, Commemorating the Gila Wilderness 100 anniversary, Light art Space features **"Four Artists Celebrating Wilderness,"** an exhibition of paintings and drawings by **Jane Seavers**, **Fred Barraza**, **Gay Scheibl** and **Paul Hotvedt**. These four Silver City artists interpret the wilderness in their work. Curated by Paul Hotvedt. **"Inspirations From the Wild"** is an exhibition of photography and clay works by Karen Hymer and Zoe Wolfe. The reception for both exhibitions is scheduled for 5-7 p.m., Friday, April 5. The gallery is open 11 a.m.-5 p.m.



Light Art Space gallery features work ceramic work by Zoe Wolfe. (Courtesy photo)

Thursday, Friday and Saturday; 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday; and by appointment. Info: lightartspace.com.

ALAMOGORDO

• Otero Arts features the second annual **"Student Art Exhibit"** at the **Artspace** located at 1118 Indiana Ave. in Alamogordo. The artwork spans K-12 grades and includes various media including pottery, sculpture, drawing and painting. The exhibition opens with a reception 5-7 p.m. on April 5.

The gallery is open 1-4 p.m. Thursday to Sunday every week. Info: oteroarts.org.

DEMING

• April 2024 at the **Deming Arts Center** features the **Deming High School** art students. The exhibit will be up from April 3 - 29. There will be a time to meet the artists, 1-3 p.m. on Sunday, April 7. Also, the month of April will bring the **Guatemalan Mercado** back for two days - 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Friday, April 5 and 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, April 6. The Deming Arts

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 demingarts.org.

TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES

• **RioBravoFineArt**, 110 North Broadway in Truth or Consequences, presents a combined artists show by two New Mexican artists, **Nolan Winkler** and **Raul Dorn**. The show runs through April 21. For this joint show, Winkler has chosen the title of **"The Dance Begins"** for her pieces. This show for combined artists is an opportunity to compare the styles of two different artists while gaining an enhanced understanding of the distinctive characteristics of each one. Rio Bravo Fine Arts Gallery is at 110 N. Broadway in Truth or Consequences. Info: riobravofineartgallery.com.

CARRIZOZO

• Artists and community members in **Carrizozo** are celebrating World Art Day April 13 at various venues across the town. visit www.worldartdaycarrizozo.com for updates, times, locations and to see exhibits and artworks spanning 2018 to present. 2024 scheduled celebration events include **Limina Arts Foundation**, 1108 E Avenue, liminaartsfoundation.org with **Floral Nouveau**, an exhibition showcasing how the enchanting beauty of flowers

has been a source of inspiration for artists throughout history; the **Tularosa Basin Gallery of Photography**, 401 12th Street, photozozo.org; and music by **Lone Piñon** at 4 p.m. and **Paul Pino and the Tone Daddies** at noon at Carrizozo Music Inc. 1108 E. Ave., carrizozomusic.org.

• Artist **Joan Malkerson**, known for paintings, ceramics, sculpture and installations, is set to unveil a solo art show centered around the theme of seeds. The exhibition, titled **"The Seed Woman,"** showcases a diverse collection of artworks that delve into the aesthetic and profound significance of seeds in our world. There will be an opening reception 5-7 p.m., Saturday, March 2. **The Red Door Gallery** is located downstairs in the Lutz Building at 401 Twelfth Street, at the Photozozo Gallery of Photography in Carrizozo. 88301. Info: 612-963-1499.

MAGDALENA

• Danielle Rae Miller's ink on vellum drawings are featured at **kind of a small array**, 106 N. Main in Magdalena. Miller's drawings layer density on transparency to reveal inter-species juxtapositions in bilaterally symmetrical arrangements suggestive of ritual. The artist's hand is evident in the careful overlay of images, which are arranged as if to be read by creature code. Info: kindofasmallarray.com.

LAS CRUCES

• **The Artist INC Express** workshop is coming to Las Cruces on April 6 and 7. Hosted by the **Doña Ana Arts Council**, this free workshop helps artists of any discipline develop the building blocks for a thriving and enduring arts practice. Led by a team of experienced, working artists, this 10-hour, hands-on workshop helps artists address specific needs and challenges they face throughout their careers. Through discussions, activities and hands-on exercises, artist-peer-facilitators, and a new network of peer artists, participating artists are supported in setting goals for their practices, writing about their work and building a personal brand. Info: Araceli Solis, at director@daarts.org.

Interested artists can quickly and easily register for the free program at the following link:

maaa.org/event/artist-inc-express-new-mexico-las-cruces-in-person/.

• **Gallery 925** presents Jan Archey, potter with **“Ninety-Nine Bottles on the Wall and Other Vistas Seen.”** This is a show of bottles, 99 of them, and wall pieces of images seen on various travels since the pandemic. Archey



Otero Arts Student Art Exhibit (Courtesy photo)

enjoys many firing techniques, and this show will have examples of woodfired ceramics, high fire stoneware, raku and saggar fired work as well as her wall pieces exhibiting unique surfaces achieved from using minerals from the Earth as her colorants. An opening reception is First Friday, 4-7 p.m., April 5. Jan Archey will give 2 gallery talks about her work, time TBA. Gallery 925 is at 925 N



“Winding Road,” is on display at the new RA@W Gallery in Silver City. (Courtesy photo)

Mesquite St. Gallery hours are 1-5 p.m. Fridays and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Info: gallery925nm.com.

• **Agave Artists Gallery** features **Paul Maxwell**, a long-time member of the gallery in Mesilla as April artist of the month. As a painter, he focuses on the raw beauty of the desert southwest landscapes through water-

color, acrylic or oil paintings. His art appears in other galleries and venues in New Mexico, Texas and sometimes internationally, showing exotic views from Asia or Europe. Maxwell's work tells stories of the world around him - people and animals alike. From 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, April 20 Maxwell will offer a painting demonstration at the Gallery. He's offering a 20 percent discount on a 10" x 14" acrylic pet portrait for anyone who attends and brings a photo of their pet. The gallery is open 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday to Monday and until 8 p.m. on the second Saturday of each month at 2250 Calle de San Albino. Info: 575-339-9870.

• **The Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery**, 2470-A Calle de Guadalupe, across from the historic Fountain Theatre features two local artists for the month of April: **Bonnie MacQuarrie** and **Arlene Tugel**. MacQuarrie specializes in art tile. She said her work is influenced by Marc Chagall and Henri Matisse. Tugel likes the pure, glowing color that can be achieved with watercolor, her preferred medium. In addition, the 30 artists of the gallery offer art in various media. The gallery is open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. daily. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Info: 575-522-2933, mesillavalleyfinearts.com.



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FASHION + EARNINGS

Tapestry of Talent

Fashion show fundraiser provides means to earn income

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

The show is at 2 p.m. with doors opening at 1:30 p.m., Saturday, April 6, at the historic Silco Theater located at 311 N. Bullard St. in downtown Silver City.

Funds raised by the event will go to support classes, outreach to the community and sales events.

"SWFAC was founded in 2005 to provide rural fiber

artists a means to earn income, share fiber art skills with others and promote fiber art as a cottage industry," said Colette Kelly, a board member. "Through-

out the years, we have gone to shows across the state, had a gallery, and now focus on pop-up events, our annual fiber art show and the Tapestry of Talent fash-

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ion show fundraiser.”

In addition to the show, there will be drawings for gift baskets. SWFAC members and community members have donated items to make the baskets appeal to everyone.

Tapestry of Talent models prepare to be paired with their assigned fashions.
(Courtesy Photo)



CHEF

continued from page 10

using fresh, local ingredients grown by local farmers.

Lepree has instilled enthusiasm and knowledge amongst the team of chefs, all working together to provide a top-notch dining experience at the top of the mountain. He has created a new and fabulous dinner menu

featuring items such as hand rolled gnocchi, ratatouille, bone-in pork chops and more.

Per a hotel spokesperson, “We look forward to serving the community of Cloudcroft, our neighboring towns and our guests from all across the country. Stay connected with us for upcoming specials and events.”

The dress code at Re-

becca's is resort casual for breakfast and lunch. Although dinner at Rebecca's is considered fine dining resort casual wear is always acceptable.

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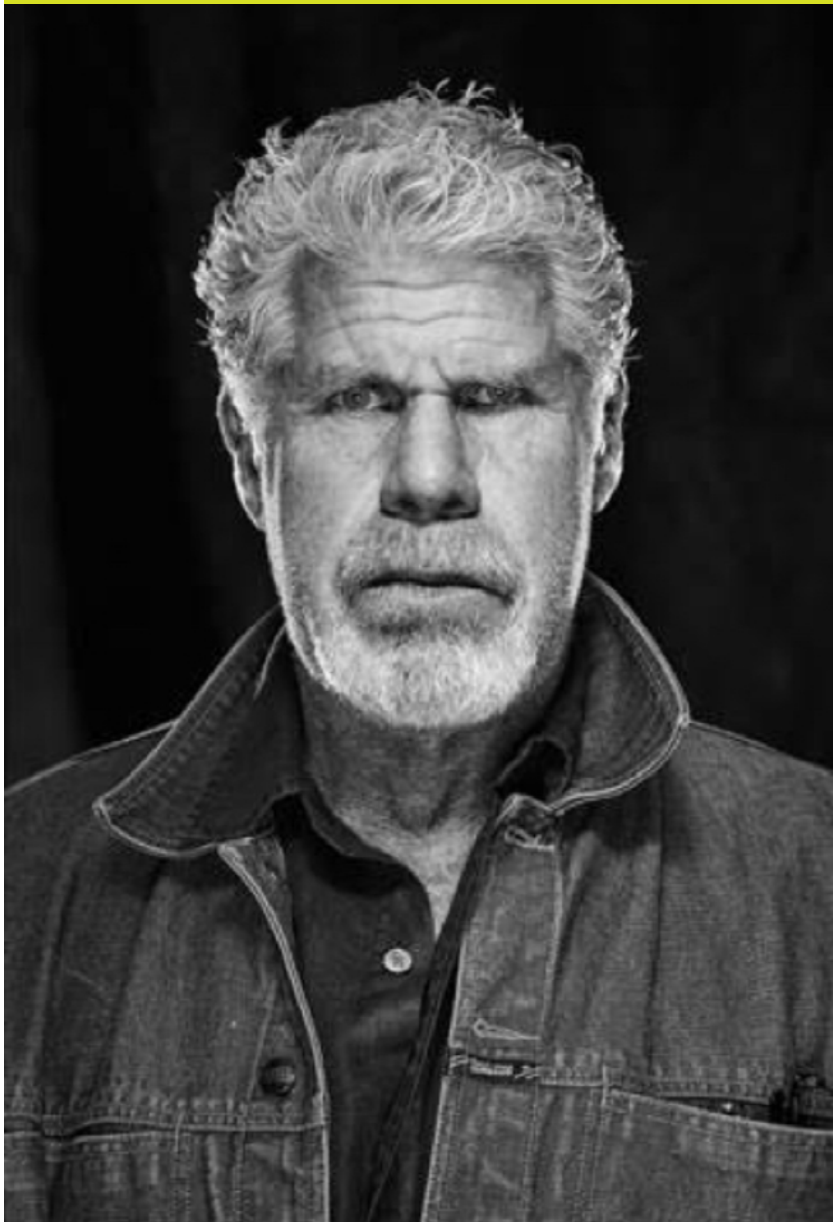
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SPECIAL GUEST



If aliens landed and found Ron Perlman in the desert, he would give them no information other than rank and serial number. When asked what his rank is, he said corporal.

"In the big military of life, I'm just a corporal doing all the grunt work," Perlman said. "I would be more interested in hearing from them (the aliens) and getting their takeaway about what they see here."

Although he can be described as surly and opinionated, Perlman takes little credit for his life's work and the success in the industry he has seen. Having worked on

numerous films, television shows, and voiceovers for animations and video games, he said, "What you see is a representation of a guy who was just trying to put his kids through school and keep the lights on."

"I feel like I have been the recipient of a great deal of fortune," he said. "It looks like I have something to do with the shape and scope of my career, but I have little to do with it. Most has come out of the blue."

But today he is working to make systematic changes in the industry and leave a mark on how grateful he is to cinema. While it's almost

like an act of God even gets work, he said there's a great deal of responsibility in what you do.

"When you receive a great deal of responsibility to make something of it that you can, leave your mark on the dance floor or in the living room," he said. "It's putting everything all into a beautiful chaos that somebody wrote."

Perlman said his revelation that great writing is unequalled and starts with the written word and everything emanates from it.

"When you have been blessed with the imagination of a great writer and he has

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Name, Rank & Serial Number: Ron Perlman Has More To

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Perlman is disgusted with changes in his industry that involve the corporation of everything including art forms, he said.

"It's mostly degradation that comes along with the corporation of the studios," he said. "It's the opposite of growing the industry and almost unrecognizable. Now they think they can deliver everybody's culture into their homes. Once you had to go see a movie, sit in a darkened place with 200 other people. If you think those two things are the same, I have a bridge to sell you in Brooklyn."

He said the model of staying home and delivering things to your house is unsustainable.

"I feel like cinema and all the things it provides is way too important to turn into a business that looks like selling blue jeans," he said. "You can only belittle it for so long before it roars its way back."

The film festivals have always been a celebration of the "power and glory, poetry, sound, fury that movies provide – as important as any of the humanities."

In 2014 Perlman launched a production company Wing and a Prayer Pictures. He said he enjoys all the

aspects of the work of putting pictures together as a producer.

"I love everything about how holistic it is in terms of projects, from picking the script to the font on the poster," he said. I love doing everything that gets that movie from the page to the screen. It's the most engaging thing I've ever done via my relationship with movies."

He is looking forward to a visit to New Mexico, as he will be in Las Cruces for a couple of days. In addition to participating in talk with students at New Mexico State University's Creative Media Institute, Perlman will be doing Q & A sessions in conjunction with screenings of his film, "Hellboy," on the evening of Thursday, April 4.

"I will be at the mercy of the people bringing me down there," he said, which he loves. "You see the world through the people who live there. Those are the colleagues who live in an area. You sort of create these families throughout the world, far away from your little circle and it's a great privilege.

"I have no idea what they were thinking or whether they were thinking at all, but I am grateful," Perlman said, referring to his invitation to the film festival and being given the "Outstanding Achievement in Entertainment" award.



The five-day festival is held at Allen Theatres Cineport 10. VIP passes are \$150, All-Access Passes are \$75, Day Passes are \$25 and admission to the Outstanding Achievement celebrity screening is \$25. Tickets are available now at lascrucesfilmfest.com.

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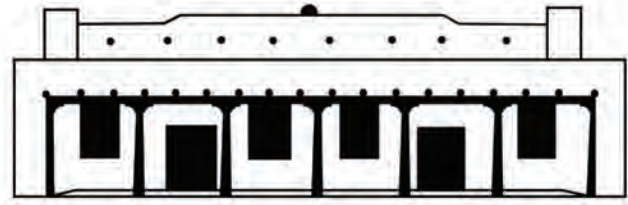
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OTERO ARTSPACE

1118 INDIANA AVENUE, ALAMOGORDO

Happening at the Artspace in April



Three Rivers Concert

(neo-country-folk)

Julia Cozby
and Friends

April 14; 2-4 \$5.00

Otero Arts Reading Series



Photo by Christopher Diaz

Slam Poet
Zachary Kluckman
Nationally Ranked
Slam Poet

April 19, 6-7:30 pm
no charge

Shakespeare Birthday Revue!

Featuring Alamogordo's (not yet)
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Snippets from some of The Bard's

Most Famous Works

April 26, 7:00 pm \$10.00

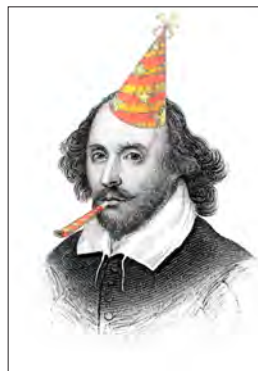
Tickets: oteroarts.org

Events sponsored by Otero Arts and funded in part by New Mexico Arts, a division of the NM Department of Cultural Affairs.

Gallery Open Thursday thru Sunday 1 to 4 pm

1118 Indiana Avenue, Alamogordo

oteroarts.org



TUMBLEWEEDS

Look But Don't Drink

Concerns raised about toxins
in Otero County lake

Story and photos
by Joan E. Price

Only a few months ago, a scientific announcement was picked up in internet news across the country. An interdisciplinary team of archaeologists and colleagues confirmed something long suspected. Prehistoric humans and giant mammals such as giant sloths interacted in the vast wetlands that surrounded White Sands National Monument, a natural wonder and tourist destination along U.S. Highway 70 connecting Las Cruces and Alamogordo.

Visitors in RVs, travel vans and those camping out of their cars can find a convenient free recreational area, Holloman Lake, only a few miles down the road from WSNM offered by Holloman Air Force Base. Bird watching, camping with an open fire, quiet vast skies with often dramatic cloud reflecting sunrise or sunset colors, a few trees and shoreline reeds offer a convenient stop and restful stop. Wildlife come to the shores – exotic oryx game animals introduced by New Mexico Fish and Game for hunting come down to the waters and perhaps a coyote or desert fox, all of which are introduced at the White Sands visitor center and exhibits.



A few miles northeast of White Sands National Monument, Holloman Lake, created by Holloman Air Force Base, offer free overnight parking sites for RV's, camping out of your car and everything in between for tourists exploring Southern New Mexico. However, activities are restricted to campfires and watching beautiful sunsets and sunrises.

However, a slowly emerging consensus of scientific studies of groundwater that has concerned water researchers has now become a quietly discussed fear that visitors and hunters who come in RVs, campers or open tents beside cars still don't know. The warnings of toxins built up since the United States Air Force established Holloman Air Force Base along with several other bases after the Trinity Test sent warfare into the atmosphere.

But, unlike the landscape of long long ago, the

fragile desert ecology that remains today is profoundly different. Surface water is a rare green jeweled treat of ferns, snake grass, flowers of unique habitats, snakes of and lizards of unique types evolved over long passages of time and cycles of climate. Most of its sustaining life is out of sight – flowing in an underground system of eroded limestone formations called karst, eroded limestone from an ocean bottom thousands of years ago that dried up. Imagine a stone hard swiss cheese like structure created by

flowing water twisting and turning underground through undulating channels far from the northern lava fields in the Tularosa Basin on a gradient dropping down to the borderlands of El Paso-Juarez.

This groundwater water surfaces in historic artesian springs or recharges by snowmelt running off the mountain slopes. There are small oases at these locations and the benefits of the surrounding wetlands are celebrated.

Audubon.org identifies the Holloman Lake site as an important bird area in the region with 137 species of birds including important shorebirds and vital habitat for many ducks in migration to and from winter feeding grounds. Shorebirds (particularly Wilson's Phalarope) in passage average 500 to 1,000, while breeding snowy plover average two to 12 in their counts.

Audubon states that "Holloman has received a number of awards and other recognition for its wetland area protection, and this is likely to guard its biological integrity."

Seeking the peaceful great outdoors, many tourists on the road go to internet sources for the best places to go. Many bloggers on www.iOverlander.com are pleased to tell of the free access any time of the day or night. Many mention the sometimes rank smell and a few connect that to the unpredictable path of the wind blowing across the lake. Several advise of the "toxic" water they read into the Holloman warning sign at the entrance warning the public and the em-



An official sign prohibits most lakeside activities at Holloman Lake due to non-potable water. Most visitors think that means toxic water and head into the free parking sites.

ployees of Holloman that, as a wastewater evaporation pond, "... the WATER IS NON-POTABLE. Swimming, boating, fishing and hunting are prohibited and YOU MAY BE SUBJECT TO CRIMINAL PROSECUTION."

Out of approximately 163 entries over eight years, only one blogger was aware of an issue between the state of New Mexico and the Air Force about toxic contamination, the accountability and the cleanup at stake.

In the spring of 2021, Cristina Hadly noted in a blog: "The lake is treated sewage and was shut down in the summer of 2020 due to pollution and high levels of toxic contaminants. The state of New Mexico is suing the Air Force to try to get them to clean up this lake along with a few others near other bases."

In February of this year, a team of researchers from The University of New Mexico's Museum of Southwestern Biology (MSB) reported that birds

and mice, all on the food chain for the whole ecology of a wetlands oasis, are heavily contaminated with several harmful compounds known as "forever chemicals," or per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). Even low concentrations of PFAS are known to cause cancer and developmental, reproductive, immune system and endocrine problems in animals and people according to their report.

Across 23 species of birds and mammals at Holloman Lake, PFAS concentrations averaged in the tens of thousands of parts per billion. Forever chemicals such as the 14 -17 kinds found in the PFAS class had been accumulating since at least 1974 in the birds they studied.

Employing state taxpayer dollars, NMED is bringing this contamination into focus through hazardous waste. In late 2019, they provided an extensive study to the Otero County Soil and Water Conservation District in Alamogordo with results of over 17 PFAS types entering the regional groundwater including the Brackish Groundwater National Desalination Research Facility, 20 private wells of ranchers and five wells on WSNP. PFAS are showing up in small amounts through ground water movement. The astronomical numbers at the public recreational lake and the Air Force base have led to legal "complaint(s) for imminent and substantial endangerment..."

DRINK

continued on page 32

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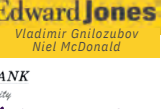
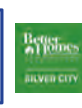
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EDITORIAL

Featured Columns

RaisingDad
I Retired For This?

By Jim and Henry Duchene

My wife and I were cleaning our oakwood floors downstairs.

Wood floors need a good, old fashioned cleaning and waxing several times a year to keep it rich looking, and all that cleaning and waxing takes an awful lot of elbow grease. With the grease usually coming from MY elbow. The whole affair takes too long to do all at once, so we break it up into sections.

Which reminds me of the following joke:

What did the broom say to the vacuum cleaner?

"I'm tired of people pushing us around."

But I digress...

By we, I'm not including my father. He was sitting in his (my) favorite chair. I couldn't see him from where I was, but I knew he was there because I could hear his usual noises.

"Mmm... smack, smack, smack! Ahh, click, click, click! Ohh, weee! Smack! Ahhh!"

I'm almost positive he doesn't know he's making them. They just erupt out of him like the various other eruptions that emanate from various other parts of his body.

"Ahhh – smack, smack, smack – what are you all doing?" he asked, getting up. Not to help, but to be nosy.

We were both using a cleaner and micro towels. My father could see exactly what we were doing. He was just making conversation.

I thought to myself, "What are we doing? What does it look like

we're doing? Praying in church? If we were, I'd be asleep"

"We're cleaning the floors, pop," I told him. I'm not nice when I'm in the middle of hard work – my beautiful wife will attest to that – so I tried to sound civil. Civil, but without the invitation for a long conversation.

My wife, saint that she is, got up from her knees and took a little more time to explain it to him.

"We're cleaning the floors, dad," she told him. "Right now, we're using a wood cleaner, because your son is going to have to wax it. We have to clean it in sections, because it's too much work to do all at once. The floor will look better when we're done. You'll see."

That was a lot of wordage just to tell him the same thing I did. I think she just wanted to take a break.

"Yeah, I thought so," my father said to us.

You know, when we were buying the house, wooden floors seemed like a good idea. They're beautiful to look at, but who the heck knew they were so much work? We had an option to buy fake wooden floors that looked just as good as the real thing, but I thought that would be taking the cheap way out. I didn't realize that, because of those wooden floors, I'd be spending some of my retirement working harder than I ever did when I was employed.

Later – much later – after we did an excellent job of cleaning the floor, I was adding a wax finish to it.

My father walked by on his way to doing nothing.

"Still working on it, huh?" he observed. He stood close, but

not close enough for me to put him to work. He was inspecting – not admiring – the great job I was doing. That's right. I'm patting myself on the back. Somebody has to.

"Yes," I said. "Now I'm waxing it."

Smack, smack, smack!

"Yeah, I thought so," he said.

Smack!

He lifted his nose and sniffed around.

"What's that smell?" he asked.

"What smell?" I asked him back.

"THAT smell," he said, waving his arms like an excitable muppet indicating the air.

"I don't smell anything."

"You don't smell it?"

"Smell what?"

"That smell."

"What smell?"

To read the full column you've grown to love, scan the code or visit us at desertexposure.com.

**Everyday Observations**

Grief, obituaries, choosing words to say

By Abe Villarreal

I helped a friend write an obituary this week. It was one of those acts of kindness that come after you tell your friend that you are there for them and will do anything, not knowing what anything really means. It's just a feeling when you say it.

Grief is a complex enemy and friend. It comes and goes. It sucker-punches you just when you are

feeling better. It's there when you don't know it is. Sometimes you run away from it. Sometimes you can't escape it. You feel it all around, even when you can't feel anything. When you are numb to everyone and everything.

When you first learn you are losing a grandparent, you become a little kid. You never grow up when you think of what your grandparents meant to you. Summer vacations. Picking you up from school. Cookies. Big hugs. The kind that you get lost in.

When I was a kid, nana and tata gave us brothers a place to escape. When it was time to get picked up to go home, we always wanted to stay longer. Everything is fun when your parents aren't around to stop you from doing the things that grandparents always let you do. Life with them was always a little more open, a little riskier, a little more like the life you wanted.

Then we get older. Every few years, you lose a grandparent and then another. All those feelings come back. The kind of feelings that make you smile while tears run down your face. Feelings that remind you that you were the favorite, no matter what anyone else says.

A few years pass by, and then you lose another one. It doesn't get easier, but you are older and tell yourself that this is part of life. You try to make sense of something that doesn't make sense. Everything is supposed to make sense when you are older.

I don't have grandparents anymore. It's been about ten years since my nana passed away, and she was the last grandparent. Towards the end, she didn't know me. She rarely looked me straight in the eye and never called my name. The same name her husband had.

It was challenging to visit with her in that state of mind. To ask if she remembered the last time all the grandkids had Christmas in her old house on Rogers Avenue, across the street from Mormon Church. To not be able to hear her talk about her dad the musician, down in Cumpas. To listen to her voice, full with the cracks of time, as she sang "Mas Alla del Sol," one of her favorite hymns.

If I had written her obituary, I would have asked her if she remembered all those things. I would have asked her if it was ok to be sad about her leaving us. I would have told her that her death was one of the hardest things I had ever experienced.

The meaning of an obituary is to make a notice to the public that a loved one has passed. A notice of the date, the times of service, and the relatives left behind. The details you have to include but only get in the way of what you really want to say.

When it comes time to write my obituary, I hope someone includes that I liked to listen to seventies light rock while cooking at the soup kitchen, that everyone was worth meeting and most of them were worth making a friend, that my cat Nadya always waited for me to come home no matter how long or short I was away, and that even though I didn't say it as much as I should have, that I loved everything my family taught me and never forgot those lessons.

Also, that not everything is supposed to make sense, and that's okay.

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



¡Mira! Las Cruces
April 28



Coppélia with
Borderland Ballet Co.
April 25

EVENTS

What's Happening

Events you won't want to miss in April

MONDAY, April 1
Grant County
Square Dancing
3-5:30 p.m. at United
Methodist Church, 314 W.
College St. Silver City, use
side entrance
575-956-7186

WEDNESDAY, April 3
Grant County
Brit Taylor
Country Music
7 p.m. at Whiskey Creek
Zócalo, 11786 U.S. Highway

180 E. Arenas Valley
culture.wnmu.edu

Doña Ana County
Farmers & Crafts Market
of Las Cruces
8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Plaza de
Las Cruces Downtown,
Las Cruces
[farmersandcraftsmarket
oflascruces.com](http://farmersandcraftsmarket
oflascruces.com)

Arte and Aguas Class
6 p.m.-7 Frank O'Brien Pap-
en Community Center, 304
W. Bell Ave., Las Cruces

575-541-2454

Flor de Toloache
Latin Grammy winner
7 p.m. at the Rio Grande
Theatre, 211 N. Main St. Las
Cruces
riograndetheatre.org

THURSDAY, April 4
Grant County
Family Movie: "Strange
World"
4 p.m. Silver City Public
Library, 515 W. College Ave.,
Silver City

575-538-3672

FRIDAY, April 5
Grant County
Meet the artist: Donna
Foley
5-7 p.m. at the Grant County
Art Guild Gallery, 316 N.
Bullard St., Silver City
gcag.org

Snail Mate/Boosty/Flicker
Goth Wave and Electro
Punk plus a One-Man
Band
7 p.m. at the Lodge at Whis-

key Creek Zócalo, 11786
U.S. Highway 180 E. Arenas
Valley
whiskeycreekzocalo.com

DJ Mischievous
9 p.m. at Little Toad Creek
Brewery & Distillery, 200 N.
Bullard St. Silver City
575-956-6144

Otero County
Launch Pad Lecture
9 a.m. at the New Mexico
Museum of Space History,
3198 State Route 2001,

Alamogordo
nmspacemuseum.org

Luna County
State Park Astronomy
Program
Sunset, 7:40 p.m. at Rock-
hound State Park
575-546-6182

SATURDAY, April 6
Grant County
Future Engineers
LEGO play for ages 6-12
1 p.m. Silver City Public
Library, 515 W. College Ave.,

Silver City
575-538-3672

Tapestry of Talent Fiber Art Fashion show

2 p.m. at the Silco Theater,
311 N. Bullard St. Silver City
fiberartscollective.org

Scrap Arts Music Pop percussion with more than 100 invented instruments

7 p.m. at the Fine Arts Theater, Western New Mexico University
wnmu.edu/culture

The Mellows Rock & Roll

7 p.m. at the Lodge at Whiskey Creek Zócalo,
11786 U.S. Highway 180 E.
Arenas Valley
whiskeycreekzocalo.com

State Park Astronomy Program

Sunset, 7:40 p.m. at City of

Rocks State Park
575-546-6182

Live Music: Blues Dawg High-energy electric blues

8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St. Silver City
575-956-6144

Catron County Whitewater Mesa Kite Flying Picnic

Noon-5 p.m. at Whitewater Mesa Labyrinths, 355 Bursum Road (NM 156) between Glenwood and Alma.
wmlabyrinths.com

Otero County Coffee and Chat at Oliver Lee State Park

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

Guided Hike: Lawson Springs Trail

10-11:30 a.m. meet at Oliver Lee Memorial State Park visitor center, 409 Dog Canyon Road
575-437-8284

Luna County Saturday morning breakfast

8-10 a.m. at the Deming American Legion Bataan Post 4, 619 W. Spruce St., Deming
575-546-8385

Lincoln County Mike Super Magic and Illusion

7 p.m. at the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts, 108 Spencer Road, Alto
spencertheater.com

Doña Ana County Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces

7 p.m. at the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts, 108 Spencer Road, Alto
spencertheater.com



Scrap Arts Music April 6

8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces Downtown, Las Cruces
farmersandcraftsmarketoflascruces.com

Home & Garden Show
9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Las

Cruces Convention Center,
680 E. University Ave., Las Cruces
575-526-6126

SUNDAY, April 7 Grant County

Live Music: Pint & Half

1-4 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St. Silver City
575-956-6144

EVENTS

continued on page 24



First Friday Art Walk April 5, 5 - 7pm | silvercityart.com



MADE IN SILVER CITY
M.I.S.C.
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Wed, Thu, Fri 10:00-5:00
Sat 9:00-5:00
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575-388-5725

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Custom Juniper and Cholla
Art & Furniture
707 N. Bullard St.
Fri.-Sat. 10-4 & Appt.
602-515-7810
desertrockcreations.com

EVENTS

continued from page 23

Doña Ana County

Home & Garden Show

10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave., Las Cruces
575-526-6126

MONDAY, April 8

Grant County

Square Dancing

3-5:30 p.m. at United Methodist Church, 314 W. College St. Silver City, use the side entrance
575-956-7186

Doña Ana County

Veterans Benefits Seminar

9 a.m.-3 p.m. at American Legion Post #10, 1185 E. Madrid Ave., Las Cruces
915-227-6589

TUESDAY, April 9

Grant County

Robot building

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

Otero County

Scrap Arts Music:

Children of the Metropolis

7 p.m. at the Flickinger Center of Performing Arts,

1110 N. New York Ave., Alamogordo
flickingercenter.com

WEDNESDAY, April 10

Doña Ana County

Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces

8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces Downtown, Las Cruces
farmersandcraftsmarket
oflascruces.com

THURSDAY, April 11

Grant County

Make a craft: Cherry Blossom Trees

4 p.m. Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave.,

Support Groups

Can't stop drinking?

Have questions? Need help?

Take the first step ... Call the AA Hotline: 575-388-1802 Check out our meetings & info at nm-aa.org

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.

Bereavement Group

— The second Monday of the month, 1-2 p.m. at the Silver City Women's Club, 411 Silver Heights Blvd., Silver City. Info: 575-313-1082

TUESDAY

Silver City/Grant County

Co-Dependents Anonymous — 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 615 N. Texas St. Silver City. Info: CoDasilvercity@gmail.com

Adult Children of

Alcoholic and Dysfunctional Families meeting

— 6-7 p.m. at Brewer Hill Church, 600 N. Corbin St. Silver City. Info: 575-654-8435.

Deming/Luna County Bereavement Group

— The first Tuesday of the month, 1-2 p.m. at the Deming Luna County Senior Center Day Room, 800 Granite St. Deming. Info: 575-546-8823

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

day 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 United Methodist Church, 300 W. College Ave, Silver City. Info: 575-567-9410.

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

FRIDAY

Silver City/Grant County

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

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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FRIDAY, April 12**Grant County****Tejano Night**

7 p.m. at the Lodge at
Whiskey Creek Zócalo,
11786 U.S. Highway 180 E.
Arenas Valley
whiskeycreekzocalo.com

Live Music: Rhythm Mystic

8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek
Brewery & Distillery, 200 N.
Bullard St. Silver City
575-956-6144

Doña Ana County**Parent's Night Out**

6-7:30 p.m. at the Frank
O'Brien Papen Community
Center, 304 W. Bell Ave. Las
Cruces
575-541-2454

**The Hard Road Trio
Benefit Concert**

7 p.m. at the Rio Grande
Theatre, 211 N. Main St.,
Las Cruces
riograndetheatre.org

SATURDAY, April 13**Grant County****CAMMO Songwriting****Workshop**

for Active military,
veterans, retired and

**spouses, free but sign up
required**

9 a.m.-8 p.m. at Parotti
Hall, Western New Mexico
University
wnmu.edu/culture

**The Write Stuff Writing
Workshop****Capturing Great
Descriptions With Kris
Neri**

10 a.m.-noon at the Unitar-
ian Universalist Fellowship
of Silver City, 3845 N. Swan
St. Silver City
swwordfiesta.org/
the-write-stuff

**Live Music: Gila River
Band**

8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek
Brewery & Distillery, 200 N.
Bullard St. Silver City
575-956-6144

Catron County**Dutch Oven Gathering**

10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Glenwood
Community Park located on
Catwalk Road (Highway 174)
575-574-7704

Lincoln County**Ruidoso Books & Writing
Festival**

10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Eastern
New Mexico University, 709
Mechem Drive, Ruidoso



Brit Taylor
April 3

575-315-1140

**Rotary Club of Ruidoso
Duck Race**

11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Two River
Park, located behind the
Chamber of Commerce
Visitor Center, 720 Sudderth
Drive, Ruidoso
portal.clubrunner.ca/7257

Otero County**Jimmy Vaughan & the
Tilt-a-Whirl Band**

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

Sierra County**Second Saturday Art Hop**

6 p.m. Downtown Truth or
Consequences
director@torcmainstreet.
org

Luna County**Saturday morning
breakfast**

8-10 a.m. at the Deming
American Legion Bataan
Post 4, 619 W. Spruce St.,
Deming
575-546-8385

Doña Ana County**Farmers & Crafts Market
of Las Cruces**

8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Plaza de
Las Cruces Downtown,
Las Cruces
farmersandcraftsmarket
oflascruces.com

SUNDAY, April 14**Doña Ana County****Classics 3 with the Las
Cruces Symphony**

3 p.m. at the Adkinson
Recital Hall, 1075 N.
Horseshoe St., Las Cruces
lascrucessymphony.com

MONDAY, April 15**Grant County
Square Dancing**

3-5:30 p.m. at United
Methodist Church, 314 W.
College St. Silver City, use
the side entrance
575-956-7186

**Squishy Circuits: Play
with connective dough**

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

Bingo

6-8 p.m. at the Murray Hotel
Ballroom, 200 W. Broadway
St., Silver City
575-956-9400

WEDNESDAY, April 17**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 & Crafts Market
of Las Cruces**

8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Plaza de
Las Cruces Downtown,
Las Cruces
farmersandcraftsmarket
oflascruces.com

Otero County**Preschool Story Time**

10:30 a.m. at the
Alamogordo Public Library,
920 Oregon Ave.
Alamogordo
575-439-4140

THURSDAY, April 18**Grant County****"A Burlesque Take on the
History of Baseball in SW
New Mexico"**

With Dr. Doug Dunwiddie

Noon-1 p.m. at the Global
Resource Center, ABC
Room, WNMU, Silver City
silvercitymuseum.org

Future Engineers**LEGO play for ages 6-12**

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

J. Graves**Dance Punk/Funk**

7 p.m. at the Lodge at
Whiskey Creek Zócalo,
11786 U.S. Highway 180 E.
Arenas Valley
whiskeycreekzocalo.com

Live Music: Minda Lacey

8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek
Brewery & Distillery, 200 N.
Bullard St. Silver City
575-956-6144

Sierra County**Square Dancing**

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

FRIDAY, April 19**Grant County****CDT Trail Days music in
the courtyard**

8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek
Brewery & Distillery, 200 N.
Bullard St. Silver City
575-956-6144

Doña Ana County**Art Recycle Show**

5-8 p.m. at Plaza de Las
Cruces, 100 N. Main St.,
Las Cruces
575-528-4506

Contra Dance**Featuring Carol Fugagli
and the Mesilla Valley****EVENTS**

continued on page 26

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EVENTS

continued from page 25

String Band

7:30-10:30 p.m. at the Mesilla Community center, 2251 Calle de Santiago, Mesilla
575-636-5509

SATURDAY, April 20

Grant County

Love your library day
10 a.m.-2 p.m. Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave., Silver City
575-538-3672

Trail Days and Gila Earth Day

10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Gough Park, 1201 Pope St., Silver City
575-538-8078

Live Music: The Consequences

8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St. Silver City
575-956-6144

Lincoln County

Terry Lee Goffee – Johnny Cash Experience

7 p.m. at the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts, 108 Spencer Road, Alto
spencertheater.com

Sierra County

Old Time Fiddlers Saturday Dance

7 p.m. at the Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St., Truth or Consequences
575-744-9137

Otero County

Alamogordo Otero County Farmers Market

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

Earth Day Fair

9 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Alameda Park Zoo, 1021 N. White Sands Blvd.
575-439-4290

Third Annual Car Show

10 a.m.-2 p.m. at 201 Dale Scott Ave., in Alamogordo
575-376-7006

Guided Hike: Lawson Springs Trail

10-11:30 a.m. meet at Oliver

Lee Memorial State Park visitor center, 409 Dog Canyon Road
575-437-8284

New York Avenue Ghost, History and Art Walk

10 a.m., starts at Studio Q, 1209 New York Ave., Alamogordo
575-520-2785

Luna County

Saturday morning breakfast

8-10 a.m. at the Deming American Legion Bataan Post 4, 619 W. Spruce St., Deming
575-546-8385

Doña Ana County

Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces

8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces Downtown, Las Cruces
farmersandcraftsmarket



**J. Graves
April 18**

oflascruces.com

Wildlife Wonder: Bird Bonanza

9 a.m.-noon at the Asombro Chihuahuan Desert Nature Park, Las Cruces
asombro.org

Maya Textile Sale Weaving for Justice

10 a.m.-3 p.m. in the Atrium of First Christian Church, 1809 El Paseo Road, Las Cruces
weaving-for-justice.org

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Artist talk: Paul Maxwell
11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Agave Artist
Gallery, 2250 Calle de San
Albino, Mesilla
575-339-9870

SUNDAY, April 21
Grant County

Live Music: Burt Ferguson
1-4 p.m. at Little Toad Creek
Brewery & Distillery, 200 N.
Bullard St. Silver City
575-956-6144

Doña Ana County
Tour de Optimism
50K or 100K Bicycle Road
Ride

8 a.m., Burrell College of
Osteopathic Medicine,
1501 Arrowhead Drive, Las
Cruces
bikereg.com/tour-de-optimism

MONDAY, April 22
Grant County
Square Dancing

3-5:30 p.m. at United
Methodist Church, 314 W.
College St. Silver City, use
the side entrance
575-956-7186

Doña Ana County
Author talk: Jennifer
Bonhoff

“The Hunt for Pancho
Villa and New Mexico’s
Part in WWI”
1:30-3 p.m. at the Branigan
Memorial Library
Roadrunner Room,
Las Cruces
575-649-8786

TUESDAY, April 23
Grant County
Game Day
4 p.m. Silver City Public
Library, 515 W. College Ave.,
Silver City
575-538-3672

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“Slow Travel New Mexico”
author Judith Fein and
photographer Paul Ross
7 p.m. at Light Hall Theater,
Western New Mexico
University
wnmu.edu/culture

WEDNESDAY, April 24
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

Tour of the Gila
Mogollon Road Race
At various times and

locations in Grant County
tourofthegila.com

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

Doña Ana County
Farmers & Crafts Market
of Las Cruces
8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Plaza de
Las Cruces Downtown,
Las Cruces
farmersandcraftsmarketoflascruces.com

THURSDAY, April 25
Grant County
Tour of the Gila
Inner Loop Road Race
At various times and
locations in Grant County

tourofthegila.com

Songwriter’s Showcase
7 p.m. sign up at Whiskey
Creek Zócalo, 11786 U.S.
Highway 180 E. Arenas
Valley
whiskeycreekzocalo.com

Lincoln County
Coppélia with Borderland
Ballet Company
7 p.m. at the Spencer
Theater for the Performing
Arts, 108 Spencer Road,
Alto
spencertheater.com

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

EVENTS

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MORNING STAR

EVENTS

continued from page 27

Doña Ana County Flying Legends of Victory On display at the War Eagles Air Museum
noon-5 p.m. at the museum in Santa Teresa, 8012 Airport Road.
wareaglesairmuseum.com

FRIDAY, April 26 Grant County Tour of the Gila Tyrone Individual Time Trial
At various times and locations in Grant County
tourofthegila.com

Ask Carol Alternative Indie-Rock
7 p.m. at the Lodge at Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 U.S. Highway 180 E. Arenas Valley
whiskeycreekzocalo.com

Live Music: Designated Mind
8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St. Silver City
575-956-6144

Doña Ana County Flying Legends of Victory On display at the War Eagles Air Museum
2-6 p.m. at the museum in Santa Teresa, 8012 Airport Road.
wareaglesairmuseum.com

SATURDAY, April 27 Grant County Tour of the Gila Downtown Criterium and citizen fun races
At various times and locations in Grant County
tourofthegila.com

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

Future Engineers LEGO play for ages 6-12
1 p.m. Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave., Silver City
575-538-3672

Live Music: CW Ayon Band
8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St. Silver City
575-956-6144

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

Shakespeare Birthday Revue
7 p.m. at Otero Artspace, 1118 Indiana Ave., Alamogordo
oteroarts.org

Sierra County Sierra County Farmers Market
8:30-noon a.m., Ralph Edwards Park, 300 N. Riverside Drive, T or C
sierracountyfarmersmarket5@gmail.com

Old Time Fiddlers Saturday Dance
7 p.m. at the Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St., Truth or Consequences
575-744-9137

Luna County Saturday morning breakfast
8-10 a.m. at the Deming American Legion Bataan Post 4, 619 W. Spruce St., Deming
575-546-8385

Lincoln County Children's Day/Book Day
11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Wingfield Park, 300 Center St.,

Ruidoso
ala.org/alsc/initiatives/dia

Doña Ana County ¡Mira! Las Cruces Spring Celebration
2-9 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces Downtown, Las Cruces
visitlascruces.com

Flying Legends of Victory On display at the War Eagles Air Museum
2-6 p.m. at the museum in Santa Teresa, 8012 Airport Road.
wareaglesairmuseum.com

Saturday Night Light concert
4 p.m. at the stage at Young Park, 850 S. Walnut St. Las Cruces
cityonahill.one

Chalk the Plaza
6 p.m. on east Organ Ave. between Roberto V. Estrada

Pavilion and the BMO building, Las Cruces
575-541-2780

SUNDAY, April 28 Grant County Tour of the Gila Gila Monster Road Race
At various times and locations in Grant County
tourofthegila.com

Live Music: March Divide
1-4 p.m. at Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St. Silver City
575-956-6144

Doña Ana County Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces
8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces Downtown, Las Cruces
farmersandcraftsmarketoflascruces.com

Flying Legends of Victory On display at the War

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Eagles Air Museum
2-6 p.m. at the museum in Santa Teresa, 8012 Airport Road.
wareaglesairmuseum.com

MONDAY, April 29
Grant County
Square Dancing
3-5:30 p.m. at United Methodist Church, 314 W. College St. Silver City, use the side entrance
575-956-7186

Distinguished Speaker Series
"The Wide Wide Sea" author Hampton Sides
7 p.m. at Light Hall Theater, Western New Mexico University
wnmu.edu/culture

WEDNESDAY, May 1
Doña Ana County
Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces

8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces Downtown, Las Cruces
farmersandcraftsmarketoflascruces.com

FRIDAY, May 3
Luna County
State Park Astronomy Program
Sunset, 8 p.m. at Rockhound State Park
575-546-6182

Lincoln County
Smokey Bear Days
10 a.m.-11 p.m. at Smokey Bear Historical Park, 118 Smokey Bear Blvd. Capitan
575-354-2748

Socorro County
Spring Migration Celebration
Workshops begin at 6:30 a.m. at Bosque del Apache, 1001 NM Highway 1, San Antonio
[friendsofbosquedel](http://friendsofbosquedelapache.org)

apache.org
SATURDAY, May 4
Grant County
Give Grandly
Local giving event
9 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Main Street Plaza off Bullard Street.
givegrandly.org
Chrysalis Chamber Players With Mary Bowden on trumpet
7 p.m. at the Fine Arts

Theater, Western New Mexico University
wnmu.edu/culture
State Park Astronomy Program
Sunset, 8 p.m. at City of Rocks State Park
575-546-6182

Lincoln County
Smokey Bear Days
EVENTS

continued on page 30



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EVENTS

continued from page 29

10 a.m.-11 p.m. at Smokey Bear Historical Park, 118 Smokey Bear Blvd. Capitán
575-354-2748

**Luna County
Saturday morning
breakfast**

8-10 a.m. at the Deming American Legion Bataan

Post 4, 619 W. Spruce St.,
Deming
575-546-8385

**Socorro County
Spring Migration
Celebration**

Workshops begin at 6:30 a.m. at Bosque del Apache, 1001 NM Highway 1, San Antonio
**friendsofbosquedel
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The Pursuit of Happiness?

How the founders linked happiness to virtue

If Benjamin Franklin was right when he said virtue and a trade are a child's best portion, succeeding generations of Americans have neglected at least part of that birthright.

Mass education, often captured by the interests of universities and industry, tends to emphasize economic fitness as the purpose of education, and even discussions of other values – instilling a lifelong love of learning, civic participation and self-reliance – gravitate

back to economic development.

In our time, we often invoke “the Founders” to borrow their authority without acknowledging how different they were than us, beginning with how they were educated and what they discussed with each other through their lives. Their religious views varied, yet even the Christian beliefs and practices were different than how most Americans associate church, prayer and faith to daily life today.

A new book, “The Pursuit of Happiness: How classical writers on virtue inspired the lives of the founders and defined America,” offers an intellectual history, reader's guide and even some practical suggestions aligning with how “happiness” was linked inextricably to the development of certain virtues. Its author, Jeffrey Rosen, is a law professor and writer who heads the National Constitution Center. The book was published in February by Simon and

Schuster.

“The pursuit of happiness” is upheld in our Constitution as an inalienable right next to life and liberty, and thus a foundational idea of the U.S., but what the makers of that document thought happiness meant – based on what they wrote in diaries, letters and recommended reading lists among other documents – had less to do with gratification and more to do with a lifelong practice of improvement, self-mastery and em-

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bodying goodness. It's an idea rooted in the classical literature that was part of their education: Happiness was about being good, not so much about desire.

Rosen explores the guiding notions of virtues such as temperance, frugality, industry, justice and the like through the classical works they often cited, from authors like Cicero, Xenophon, Epictetus, Seneca, and the influence of certain Christian leaders seeking to reconcile theology and rational philosophy.

And Rosen does not shy away from pointing out that the founders weren't consistent in their practice, exposing in particular the self-conscious and admitted hypocrisy of Thomas Jefferson and other slaveholders who knew human bondage violated their

precepts but, out of avarice, refused to do without them.

What emerges is a humanizing portrait of some of the most familiar characters from 1776, along with an introduction to some of the books that shaped their consciences (if not always their habits). The same ideas also inspired other figures showcased in the book, such as Frederick Douglass and Phyllis Wheatley, who emerged from slavery as exemplars of learning, resilience and affecting change.

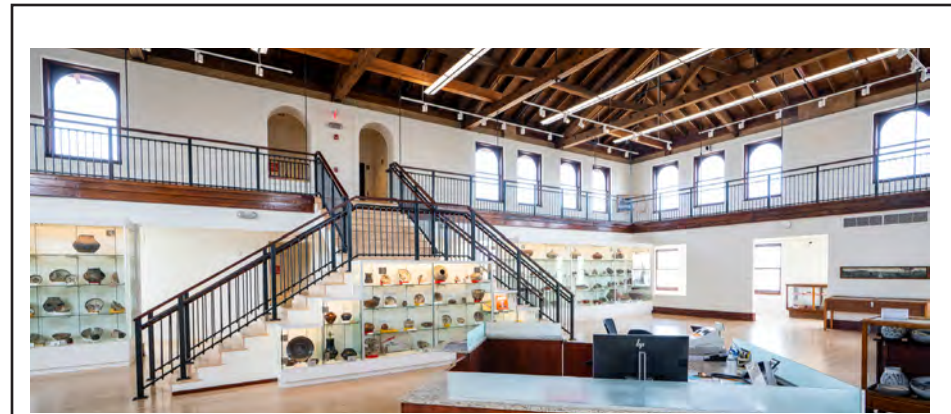
Yet this is no dry history, as Rosen includes his own shadow in the margins of every chapter, reading and applying classical ideas and practices to his own



life during the early months of the Covid-19 pandemic, rising at dawn to read instead of browsing social media and writing sonnets about what he learned.

It is a congenial book rich with enthusiasm for a life of reflection, a love for history and a call to consider what we lose when we seldom read or converse about the behaviors that constitute a good life.

Algernon D'Amassa married into Deming and has been raising a family in Luna County since 2008.



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DRINK*continued from page 19*

The leading cause of contamination is thought to be the fire-fighting foam that was deployed over decades by the U.S. Air Force, marketed to and supplied by the huge petrochemical industries 3M and Dupont and spin-off companies headquartered in St. Paul, Minnesota, and Wilmington, Delaware, respectively. Starting around 1970, the foam was widely used for training exercises at military installations. At Holloman A.F.B., runoff from runways and practice training flowed into overall wastewater catchment lagoons and then released to the Holloman Lake and the rich wild-

life environment.

The foam contained a mix of toxic PFAS that have since been phased out of manufacturing while 3M kept internal studies of impacts on humans quiet for 20 years without informing as required by law to the United States or the state of New Mexico Environmental Department Hazardous Waste Division. To this day, PFAS are not regulated by congressional action.

Christina Hadly believed Holloman Lake would be closed for years. However, NMED Hazardous Waste is caught up in a lengthy series of lawsuits with the federal gov-



ernment and the Air Force base to have Holloman Lake closed down. Expensive studies that take years of thorough documen-

Tracks of shorebirds and the holes from their beaks pressed into contaminated soils as they hunt food line the perimeter of Lake Holloman.

tation are suggesting a plume of contaminants draining into the wetlands may be entering our groundwater. But there is no expensive filtering or dredging at Holloman lagoons for PFAS before they send their effluents along reedy

channels to the lake. The isolated desert wetlands that have formed an oasis for

wildlife constructed for recreation and hunting by Holloman have acted as a trap for the accumulation of “forever chemicals” accumulating in that wildlife with few studies yet done about the impacts on these creatures.

“Creating this productive wetland ecosystem was great for biodiversity, so it is critical that we continue conducting research that may help guide its recovery,” said Dr. Christopher Witt, lead author on the UNM study.

But the timing could be very tricky in face of generations of birds in their cycle of return and their dependence on a man made oases modeled after natural wetlands that recharge ground water.

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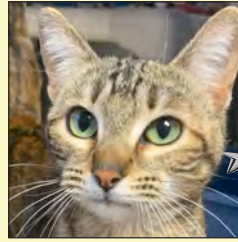


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Black Jack, DSH,
8 week old, male

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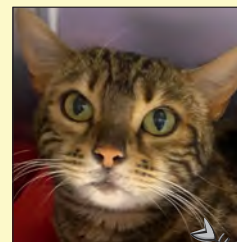
Haley, DSH, Brown Tabby,
6 month old, female

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Hermione, DSH, Brown Tabby,
1 year old, female

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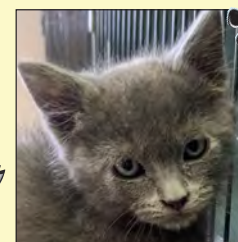
Hilda, DSH, brown Tabby,
6 months old, female

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Iris & Pansy, DLH, Dilute Calico,
8 week old, females

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DESERT EXPOSURE



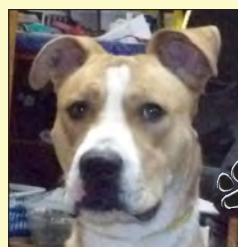
Smokey, DSH, Russian blue,
8 week old, male

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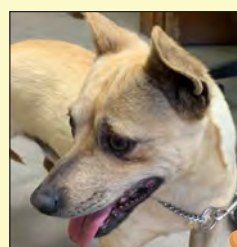
Cash, Lab/Hound,
8 month old, male

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Daisy, Husky/Mastiff,
1 year old, female

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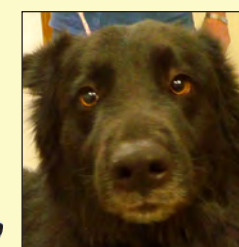
Georgie, Chihuahua,
6 year old, male

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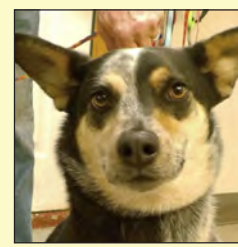
Pickle, Heeler X,
3 years old, female

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Simon, German Shepherd,
2 years old, male

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Yoki, Cowboy Corgi,
11/2 years old, male

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