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EXPERIENCE SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO

DESERT exposure

CLAY FESTIVAL

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DESERT exposure

MANAGING EDITOR

Algernon D'Ammassa

EDITOR

Elva K. Österreich
575-443-4408
editor@desertexposure.com

ADVERTISING

Barry Heifner
575-519-8582
barry@desertexposure.com
Lauri Champion
Sandra Moulton

ADVERTISING COORDINATOR

Anita Goins

NEW BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Katie Jansen

LAYOUT AND DESIGN

Matthew Meerbott, Christy Anchondo,
Elva K. Österreich

COLUMNISTS

Algernon D'Ammassa
Jim and Henry Duchene
Tom Vaughn

WEB DESIGNER

Matthew Meerbott, Elva K. Österreich

DISTRIBUTION

Becky Jimenez

506 S. Main, Suite 250
Las Cruces, NM 88001
575-524-8061

Desert #97 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

" B WNOP QBMJ FSBAN JRQ VOD ISGIND DNSXND OD OH NYOPFVN
BH NPWSOIBHC RGS FGWVBI VOHAD." - AOXBA ISBANS, RH MNH
KNOSD RZ RSCOH PRGHMOBHD-ANDNSM FNOTD HOMBRHOV PRHGPNHM

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: "OASIS ODYSSEY" IS WILLIAM REED'S INAUGURAL US EXHIBITION, USING THE CONCEPT OF THE OASIS AS DISPARATE ELEMENTS CONVERGING TO FIND NOURISHMENT." - LYDIA ASPEN RENTERIA
*Secret Words: "BIG FLOWERY SANCTUM"

Congrats to #96 solvers :
Mike Arms*, Kaustuv Sengupta*,
Sue Merrick*, Will Adams*, Skip Howard*,
Claudette Gallegos*, Shorty Vaiza*, David Pino*,
George P. Burdell*, and Veronica Robledo*!

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AUGUST DEADLINES


All stories and notices for the editorial section
and space reservation and ad copy
due Friday, July 19.

Better Homes and Gardens REAL ESTATE


Main Office: 120 E. 11th Street, Silver City NM
Office (575) 538-0404
www.bettersilvercity.com | karen@bettersilvercity.com

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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 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 \$700,000**




Nestled on a Bayard, NM city lot. across from the park is this fantastic 1994 Redman mobile home. A perfect opportunity to enjoy the unique lifestyle of this baseball town. Centrally located and walking distance to ball park, elementary, middle and high schools, this home boasts 1,288 square feet of living space with vaulted living room, this property will provide a comfortable and convenient living experience. **MLS #40332 \$110,000**




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 \$118,000**




A very well-maintained 3 bedroom, 1 bath home in Tyrone, New Mexico. Features include newer shingle roof, gasforced 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**




Spacious 4 bedroom, 2 bath home with a bonus office/hobby room. Enjoy the beautiful views of the mountains and the Mimbres Valley from the covered front deck. Large open kitchen w/ a breakfast bar that flows into the dining area and a large living room. Features include Solar Panels, metal roof, pellet stove, laminate wood and vinyl plank flooring and newer carpets in 2 of the bedrooms. This home is located on a cul-de-sac and is situated on 1.15 acres in Casas Adobes. Close to the Gila National Forest, Bear Canyon Lake and a short drive to Lake Roberts. **MLS#40355 \$247,500**




Fully furnished, updated cabin on nearly 1.5 acres, nestled in the tall pines. Lake Roberts Heights is inside the Gila National Forest. Property overlooks Sapillo Creek with one-of-a-kind views of the Admiral Cliffs and Gila Wilderness across the valley. Surrounded by ponderosa pine, oak and juniper trees; home lies on migratory bird path with abundant wildlife to enjoy. Master bedroom and guest bedroom are on main floor. Third small bedroom in daylight basement, along with workshop area and heated hobby room. Large deck with new roof. Small detached garage/shop for storing UTVs and ATVs, additional small tool shed, attached carport. Property includes two adjacent, level, cleared lots to build your dream shop, greenhouse, or additional dwelling. Game Management Unit 24. **MLS#40148 \$275,000**



Multi-use building centrally located in the heart of Bayard. Historic bank building built in 1955 that still has the original vault. Good rental history for building. Great live work situation, office building, gallery, restaurant, dispensary or brewery etc. Retail space currently housing the Future Glory re-sale shop with 1/2 bath. Three 1 bedroom/1 bathroom apartments plus 1 efficiency apartment. Building size is 5012 square feet. 1 apartment downstairs and 3 upstairs. **MLS#40222 \$279,000**



Located in the historic Mimbres Valley off Highway 61. Stunning views. 2015 Solitaire manufactured home. Energy star rated with tape and textured 4 x 6 walls. Living room features cove ceilings and new woodstove. Large addition for office, gym, hobby room etc. Master bedroom features huge walk-in closet with built-in dressers. Nice composite deck off the dining room. Electric bills under \$10/month with a new high output solar system with long-life lithium batteries hooked to the grid. System conveys with no loan or lease. Small carport, raised garden beds with drip system, greenhouse and storage shed. Well house has a RV plug. Additional area on the SE side of property for a 2nd dwelling, shop or barn on 12.84 acres. Horses allowed. Short drive to the Gila National Forest, La Esperanza Winery, Faywood Hot Springs and City of the Rocks. Well inspection in 2020 denoted 14+ GPM. MH title **MLS# 40273 \$320,000**



Prime Commercial Investment Opportunity Downtown Historic Silver City - a landmark western tourism/gallery destination, adjacent to bike shop, restaurants and art galleries. Heavy walking traffic especially on weekends in the Historic District. High visibility corner and accessibility. Limited parking in and around primary buildings, with a diverse Mixed use, retail etc. . . . Established mix of stabilized, long-term retail tenants, with at least two vacant spaces for your own business. **MLS# 40363 \$425,000**

EDITOR'S NOTE | ELVA K. ÖSTERREICH

Blowing Bubbles

Kindness is more than a random act

You don't hear the words "random acts of kindness" much anymore. Maybe they were overused. The thing is, it's more likely that people just don't want to be told what to do. They don't really need to be told.

The thing is, it's something you can use your creativity for. The other day I found a bottle of bubble fluid that somehow missed out being in a grandchild gift bag. I couldn't let it go to waste, so I started blowing bubbles out of my car windows at red lights. People smiled, girls giggled, phones popped up and social media posts appeared – just a little piece of light in the day.

But really, the kindness that poured out in the wake of fires in southern New Mexico, flowing from thoughtful and compassionate folks might not have been so random, but certainly were the most meaningful kinds of

acts.

For the areas of Ruidoso, Alto, Mescalero and Ruidoso Downs, the overwhelming heartbreak, home loss and terror engendered so much community response from neighboring towns and even further out that hope bloomed even for those who lost the most.

The communities of Roswell, Alamogordo, Tularosa, Carlsbad, Las Cruces, Timberon and everything in between opened doors, kitchens and purses to welcome, feed and provide beds for those evacuated, close to 8,000 people and those who have lost their homes, close to 1,400.

Having lived for a year in Ruidoso, I don't know if the little house I rented survived or not; but just the vision of the creek, the trees and the home in flames stops my day and sends me reeling. Knowing that there are those taking care to help is some relief.

Kindness can't be wrapped up in a box and given out like chocolate, the ripple effect can't be stifled easily. Whether it's giving out gloves and socks to cold people, blowing bubbles in the wind, or opening your door to a family displaced, not only helps someone else is good for the giver.

But we don't do it for ourselves, not because it makes us better, we do it for the world, small or big. Down the line, we don't know where we are going, but it's better if we do it with kindness.



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.



An ancient resident of Ruidoso looks over Sudderth Drive in the downtown shop area.

(Photo by Elva K. Österreich)

PHOTO OF THE MONTH

“A Tranquil Rest” is the title of this photo submitted by Smitty Smith, resident of Historic Downtown Silver City. It was taken at San Vicente Creek under the Veteran’s Memorial Bridge in Silver City.

“The heat of the day called for a sit by the trickling creek with my three-month-old puppy, Sparky Doodles.” Smith said. “I honor every drop of water and the beauty of our Enchanted New Mexico.”

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.



ABOUT THE COVER



Artist Jared Tso is the featured artist for the July 22-28 CLAY! Festival in Silver City and will be giving a workshop, is the one-man jury for the festival exhibition, “From the Earth,” at Light Art Space Gallery up all month, and featured artist in the gallery’s Flash room. For more about Tso and the festival see Pages 16-18. (Photo by Peter Held taken at King Gallery in Scottsdale, Arizona.)



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LETTER TO THE EDITOR**Calling for a solution for homelessness****Dear Editor,**

Last night, my wife and I attempted to enjoy a peaceful evening walk in our beautiful community. However, our experience was marred by the presence of homeless individuals engaging in dangerous activities under the Broadway bridge. We were forced to alter our route to avoid them, only to encounter more trash, human feces, and another individual in clear mental distress.

It is disheartening to see our lovely community plagued by these issues. We deserve better. The mentally ill deserve better. We urge our local leaders to take ac-

tion and provide support and resources to address homelessness, mental health, and public safety.

We need a comprehensive solution that includes affordable housing, mental health services and community cleanup initiatives. It's time for our community to come together to ensure that our public spaces are safe and enjoyable for all.

I am willing to be involved in the solution, whatever it is. It's time for our leaders to come up with one.

**William Lloyd
Silver City**

LETTER TO THE EDITOR**Staying safe when visiting Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks****Dear Editor,**

In May, we celebrated the 10-year anniversary of the designation of our beloved Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument. Just as we had done a decade prior, the community gathered to celebrate and honor this incredible area that has helped maintain our traditional ways of life, boosted our local economies, and put a star on the map.

As a state senator and president of the Las Cruces Green Chamber of Commerce, one of the most evident impacts of the designation has been the increase of visitors. A 2023 study commissioned by the Green Chamber showed that since the

designation, more than 60 percent of visitors to the national Monument have been locals. Additionally, 73 percent of non-local visitors to the area attribute OMDP as their reason for visiting southern New Mexico.

This visitation not only encourages an appreciation for our public lands but is also a boost to our economy. The study also showed that since the designation of the Monument, visitation has resulted in more than \$234 million in cumulative economic impact in the region.

While this is undeniably a good thing, we cannot ignore that with more visitors inevitably comes more drivers

on the road, which raises the possibility of wildlife vehicle collisions. There are roughly 1,200 collisions a year reported to law enforcement across the Land of Enchantment, costing lives and money. WVCs cost nearly \$20 million in property damage, emergency response, and healthcare costs every year, and can kill mule deer, elk, pronghorn, bighorn sheep, black bear, cougar, and even our Mexican wolves.

Thankfully, a collective effort led to the passage of the Wildlife Corridors Act in 2019, which created the Wildlife Corridors Action Plan that identified priority areas to build crossings and reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions. U.S.

Route 70 at San Augustine Pass, which cuts through the OMDP not only serves as a barrier to north-south connectivity of mule deer, bighorn sheep, and mountain lions, but historically has been a wildlife vehicle collision hotspot. With traffic not only to the monument, but New Mexico's newest national park, White Sands, continuing to increase, maintaining connectivity and keeping wildlife and drivers safe will become even more essential.

Most recently, there was even a sighting of a Mexican gray wolf in the Monument. As this population continues to grow and expand throughout New Mexico, it's essential that they can do so safely.

Wildlife like our "lobo" defines our history and regional identity in New Mexico and draws locals and visitors alike. As we celebrate the 10th anniversary of Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks we are reminded of how increased visitation could put more drivers on the road and pose a risk to wildlife and people. To address this issue proactively, it's time we invest in the priorities and recommendations identified in the Wildlife Corridors Action Plan. New Mexico continues to benefit from record budget surpluses, and in the next legislative session, we must commit some portion of that surplus to wildlife crossings that will benefit drivers and protect the wildlife that are so central to our state's identity

**Carrie Hamblen
CEO/President of the
Las Cruces Green
Chamber of Commerce**

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GUEST COLUMN

Plunging Onward ... Blindly

‘Whoa! Let’s stop and take a look at what we’re doing, and why?’

By Tom Vaughan

Nuclear radiation never goes away in our lifetimes. Nor do the consequences of our state’s commitments to the nuclear arms industry.

New Mexico opened the Atomic Age on July 16, 1945, when “Gadget” was detonated at the Trinity Site. Nearby New Mexicans who were unaware that the stuff falling from the sky on that day was radioactive have yet to be recognized and compensated for what their government did to them.

Less than three weeks later, the U.S. detonated “Little Boy” over Hiroshima, Japan, killing 135,000 instantly and many more in the aftermath. To drive home the horror of America’s new weaponry, “Fat Man” was exploded over Nagasaki on Aug. 9, 1945, eventually claiming the lives of another 120,000 people.

To “improve” this new weapon, “Ivy Mike” wiped out an atoll in the Marshall Islands (an American protectorate) on Nov. 1, 1952 – the first hydrogen bomb. This device released the equivalent of more than 10 megatons of dynamite, dwarfing the 15 and 20 kiloton yields of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki explosions.

In 1954, the U.S. staged its biggest test, “Castle Bravo,” once again in the Marshall Islands. Planned at six megatons, it turned out to be 15. The Marshall Islands were atom bombed by the U.S. 67 times ... and the residents are still trying to get the U.S. government to

compensate them for the damage done to their lives.

After the U.S.S.R. set off the biggest nuclear test ever – “Tsar Bomba” (50-58 megatons) – in Siberia in 1961, the U.S., Great Britain and the U.S.S.R. agreed to the Partial Test Ban in 1963, banning nuclear testing in outer space, the atmosphere and underwater. Since then there have been efforts to compensate local populations injured by the nuclear weapons industry, including uranium miners. In the meantime, radioactive byproducts of the industry continue to accumulate, as does environmental damage to the production sites, including Los Alamos and Sandia National Laboratories.

The Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons was signed by 191 nations and went into effect in 1970. In it, the nuclear weapons states agreed to “pursue nuclear disarmament aimed at the ultimate elimination of their nuclear arsenals.”

The global atomic arsenal declined after that, with 80 percent of the nuclear warheads being sidelined or deactivated. The 1986 peak of 60,000 warheads is now estimated to have been reduced to 3,880 active nuclear warheads in 2024. Most modern warheads are many times more powerful than “Fat Man” and “Little Boy.”

Today, the U.S. is “modernizing” its nuclear arsenal. This was expected to cost \$1.2 trillion over a decade when initiated by President Obama in 2016. The cost is now estimated at \$2 trillion and completion

is more than a decade away, if ever. There will be new ICBM missiles filling remodeled silos across the Midwest. The Department of Energy handles nuclear weaponry; they are spending more than \$9 billion annually at Los Alamos, Sandia and W.I.P.P. (Waste Isolation Pilot Plant) near Carlsbad.

The unknowns of nuclear weaponry

We don’t know whether radioactive materials can be permanently stored or mitigated safely. W.I.P.P. is “temporary.” The current Holtec proposal to build more waste storage in the eastern plains (opposed by the entire NM delegation) is also called “temporary.” Nobody is addressing the issue of permanent storage. If it can’t be done safely, that will undercut both military and civilian programs everywhere. Is a new warhead at Los Alamos or a new nuclear power plant anywhere worth an eternal toxic legacy?

Another problem is the deterrent value of nuclear weapons. Though most nuclear “accidents” - Three Mile Island, Fukushima, Chernobyl - have been at civilian power plants, there have been numerous fatalities in the production, storage and transportation of nuclear weapons. Their very existence is dangerous. Why have an armed weapon just sitting in storage until we are already under attack with a similar weapon (No First-Strike Doctrine)? Just because the other guy has one?

That may be what’s happening. While 122 nations ap-

proved the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons on July 7, 2017, and Pope Francis condemned possession and use of nuclear weapons on November 10, 2017, and the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons received a Nobel Peace Prize on December 10, 2017, the DOE grinds on with its goal of producing 30 plutonium pits (warhead triggers) annually at Los Alamos.

In a pastoral letter on January 11, 2022, Archbishop of Santa Fe John C. Wester boldly challenged us all to work toward elimination of nuclear weapons everywhere. “Ho hum” seems to have been the reaction around the state.

Here is our status in 2024:

- Every place we have ever worked with atomic weapons (and their radioactive components) since the Trinity Test in July 1945 is still dangerous to human life for generations to come.
- The same is true for every-

thing exposed to radiation in the production of nuclear weapons or electric power - expended fuel rods, gloves, tools, etc. It’s too dangerous to be around for lifetimes into the future. They’re out of sight in places like W.I.P.P. - because Congress doesn’t have the courage to directly address the question: Is permanent safe storage of radioactive materials even possible?

New Mexico’s addiction to nuclear weapons funding leads citizens and politicians to want more, even though this is a dead-end product, pardon the pun ... if it is ever used, it may signal the end of life on Earth.

We could say, “Whoa! Let’s stop and take a look at what we’re doing, and why.” as have Pope Francis, Archbishop Wester and the 70 nations that signed the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Or we can continue to plunge blindly onward. Myrriah Gomez, an assistant professor at


University of New Mexico, compared the present situation to the colonial influences of first the Spanish and then the Yankees in her 2022 book, “Nuclear Nuevo Mexico.” Under nuclear colonialism, the nuclear weapons industry uses jobs and contracts to ensure politicians across the state will support modernizing the nuclear arsenal, regardless of consequences and in spite of the futility of “deterrence.”

As a reminder of the effects of nuclear weapons in the past, Gila Friends Meeting (Quaker) will be hosting a public Hiroshima Peace Day remembrance in Gough Park in Silver City on Sunday, August 4, 2024. Bring a chair and join in a period of quiet contemplation at 12:30 p.m. In the three months following, there will be opportunities to challenge all congressional candidates about the role of New Mexico in this new nuclear arms race and the possibilities of turning in another direction.

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SUBORBITAL

End of an Era

Virgin Galactic Unity takes final flight

By Elva K. Österreich

“Release, release, release.”

The order to separate Eve and Unity, sending the later to 54.4 miles above the earth, leaving the mothership behind, has happened for the last time.

VSS Unity, a spaceship that flew 32 flights in total for Virgin Galactic, is being pulled off duty as the Delta class of VG spaceships begins to take shape. Galactic 07 was Unity’s 12th spaceflight to date, seventh commercial flight and the second space flight of the year.

Sometime in late 2025, the Delta class ships are planned to begin their flights, for which some 700 individuals have paid between some \$250,000 and



VSS Unity and VMS Eve rest in the hanger at the Gateway to Space at Spaceport America the day before the June 8 final flight. (Photo by Elva K. Österreich)

\$500,000 each.

Virgin Galactic president of operations Mike Moses said plans have changed due to economic factors. Previ-

ously, Unity was supposed to continue serving for two missions a month until Delta class was rolled out. The Delta spaceships are not very different externally from Unity but they will be a production ship, Moses said. They are being manufactured at the supplier’s locations and will be assembled in Phoenix, Ariz., come to Spaceport America for testing and, finally, take to the air. These ships will have the capacity to fly several times a week, possibly even several times a day.

Mothership Eve will continue to launch the ships, he said.

While several private astronauts flew on the Saturday, June 8, one Turkish researcher, Tuva Atasever, aka Astronaut 027, had a special role.

“Tuva was the most important pay-

load for us,” Axiom Space chief astronaut Michael Lopez-Alegria said. “He conducted seven experiments, three of which were carryovers from AX-3 (a previous private space mission to ISS).



Tuva Cihangir Atasever holding up the Turkish flag after his flight on the VSS Unity (Photo by Jewel Dominguez)

Writing Contest

There are two categories:
Prose and poetry
 Prizes include publication,
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\$100 grand prize.

Desert Exposure
 continues its
 longstanding writing
 contest.

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

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

Include name, postal address and email if you have one.

Entries cannot be returned.

Mail entries to:
 Desert Exposure

506 S. Main St., Ste. 250, Las Cruces, NM 88001

or email to: contest@desertexposure.com



Galactic 07 astronauts Tuva Atasever, Andy Sadhwani, Irving Pergament and Giorgio Manenti. (Photo Courtesy Virgin Galactic)

He also had an Axiom experiment involving an insulin pen, to accurately dispense and dose an amount in space.”

Atasever said he was able to carry out all the experiments he was carrying with success. One experiment looks at how blood dynamics change in the prefrontal cortex area of the brain. Data was collected on breathing and heart rate at various times.

“I’m really looking forward to seeing the results,” he said. “One of the things the Beacon Experiment is looking into has to do with the overview effect of how the brain changes. How the prefrontal cortex, which is the abstract thinking portion of the brain, conceptualizes the experience.”

The Galactic 07 autonomous rack-mounted research payloads included a Purdue University experiment designed to study propellant slosh in fuel tanks of maneuvering spacecraft, as well as a University of California Berkeley payload testing

a new type of 3D printing. Virgin Galactic has flown payloads for NASA’s Flight Opportunities program since the company’s first space flight in 2018 and was recently selected by NASA as a contracted flight provider for the next five years.

In addition to Atasever, three private astronauts were on the flight: Andy Sadhwani, Irving Izchak Pergament and Giorgio Manenti, who are now Virgin Galactic’s 28th,

END OF AN ERA

continued on page 11

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TUNES + NOTES

A Musical Life

Sage Gentlewing brings home NM Music Award

Story and photo
by Elva K. Österreich

One day in 1993, Sage Gentlewing was driving through California on Highway 46 between Highway 101 to Highway 5 and stopped at Jack's Ranch Café.

A tree with a monument sculpture, surrounded by bronze plaques, drew his attention. This, it turned out, was the place where James Dean died. So Gentlewing sat down and wrote the beginnings of a song, "James Dean's Crash Site." The next year, he made an effort to go back to that spot and finish the song.

Now, 30 years and several versions of that song later, he has taken home the best Americana song award from the New Mexico Awards, held May 19.

"They announced it as best production encompassing best performance of an original song and best production in terms of the sonic value," he said.

Two years ago, Gentlewing decided he was going to put out a new extended play album with six songs including "James Dean's Crash Site," having re-



written the arrangement. He heard the pitch from the New Mexico Music Awards and sent it in.

"I've always been the kind of musician who, on one hand, takes all those things with a grain of salt," he said. "But you have to know your worth. I know that I am good and I have earned it and worked at

it. There is no best. Everybody is great."

Gentlewing has been playing music professionally since he was 15, when he started as a drummer in San Francisco.

"We opened for Janis Joplin, we opened for Buffalo Springfield," He said. It was 1966.

But his budding career was cut short in 1967 when he was

busted for possessing cannabis and sent to a juvenile county farm in 1967.

"The irony is I don't even smoke anymore; and haven't for 30 years," he said.

He missed the Monterey Pop Festival Summer of Love because he was in jail and the music scene changed. When he got out, he switched to guitar and

has been playing it ever since.

"It took about 12 years to get my footing as a guitar player – to get where I was at as a drummer. By the time I got my act together the times were well into bebop and jazz and the scene was long gone," he said. "You have to strike when the iron is hot, because the moment will pass. You have to keep reinventing yourself."

So most of Gentlewing's life as a musician was spent working as a guitar player in other people's bands. He provided backup in more than 40 working bands over his lifetime.

With the Circus Vargus Band alone, he played 80 cities in 22 states in 11 months.

"I just loved it," he said. "Honestly, the fabric of my personality is that I am a working musician and I relish the work."

At 72, he admits "you do have to pace yourself as you get older." Today he still is a working musician but a bit more settled down.

"I'm happily married," he said. "Settled but still a working musician. You have to create a different type of environment for yourself to continue to per-

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form in, because performance is the lifeblood of your craft.”

Gentlewing did take a 10-year “backseat” from being a musician between 1986 and 1996, when he found himself following a muse to become a sacred dancer. He toured the country performing Tibetan and East Indian classical dance as a protégée to a couple he met while living in Sedona, Ariz.

“I ended up being on the cover of magazines as a dancer and I got Rockefeller grants to study and perform,” he said. “I did 72 one-man shows across the country. I was doing that when I wrote ‘James Dean’s Crash Site.’”

Today, he still makes his living playing his music and still enjoys the game.

“It’s been a rough-and-tumble life,” he said. “You have got to pick and choose your battles. I would still crawl across the desert on glass in 120-degree heat if it meant a gig. And what I figured out – I can make a pretty good living playing solo.”

To hear “James Dean’s Crash Site” and other pieces of Gentlewing’s music, visit sagegentlewing.com or just watch our local music venues for times and dates.



END OF AN ERA

continued from page 11

29th and 30th astronauts.

Moses called the 32nd flight of Unity a bittersweet moment.

“It ends a really incredible chapter,” he said. “This vehicle is really revolutionary. [The commercial flight program] really took off when we came to New Mexico.”

Going forward, Atasever said he will need much more time to process his experience in sub-orbital space.

“Words will not do it justice because it is experiential,” he said. “You feel it in the guts.”



Mission command at the ready for the June 8 final flight of VSS Unity. (Photo by Elva K. Österreich)



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MAKING THINGS RIGHT

Healing Historical Wounds

New Federal rules prompt changes at WNMU museum

by Elva K. Österreich

Across the country, museums are covering up their display cases and removing objects from exhibition. New York's American Museum of Natural History has shut down two entire wings, and closer to home, the Western New Mexico University Museum has been moving a number of Mimbres cultural items into storage. These removals, however, are not the latest attempt to ban cultural materials; rather, they are designed to comply with recent changes to the rules governing the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.

NAGPRA, which originally passed in 1990, requires institutions that receive federal funding to repatriate Indigenous human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects and objects of cultural patrimony to lineal descen-

dants or culturally affiliated tribes.

"What the law is saying," explained WNMU Museum Director Danielle Romero, "is that all cultural items cannot be accessed, researched or displayed without tribal permission [if they are] funerary, anything that can currently be used in rituals and ceremonies, and anything that is considered generally sacred."

While this law itself has been on the books for 34 years, a recent rule on NAGPRA establishes a five-year timeline and establishes processes for returning the items, including consultation between museums and tribes.

There are a number of steps required by NAGPRA. The first is to inventory the Native American materials in the collection, identify the ones that are potentially problematic and remove them from display. The next



Western New Mexico University Museum is in the process of bringing its collections into compliance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. The museum is home to the world's largest and most complete Mimbres pottery and artifact collection. (Courtesy Photo WNMU)

step is to consult with the tribes that are culturally or geographically connected to the specific Indigenous culture.

Part of what makes this challenging, said Romero, is that the Mimbres people dispersed into other Indigenous communities centuries ago, and consequently, it is not completely clear which tribes are culturally related.

She plans to consult with approximately seventeen tribes, primarily Puebloan peoples of New Mexico and Arizona.

An even greater challenge is the museum does not have a clear provenance for all the items in its collections. Because many early collectors of Mimbres pottery looted graves, and others simply did not keep track of where and how items were excavated, there are no records to establish whether many objects are sacred or funerary.

The task of inventorying the museum's Mimbres materials and consulting with tribes falls primarily on Romero, who is completing her Ph.D dissertation with a focus on the Mimbres culture. Romero says the amount of work that needs to be done differs among the four primary collections that make up the museum's

Mimbres holdings, the Elk Ridge Collection (the newest), the NAN Ranch Collection (academically collected from the 1970s and 1980s), the Clint and Dee Johnson Collection (notes from family only) and the Eisele Collection (has no documentation, from the 1920s and 1930s).

One of the clues that Romero will be looking at as she goes through the collection is whether a bowl has been "killed," or had a ritual hole punched through the bottom.

According to Romero, there was a long held belief if something was killed, that means burial. But that is not necessarily true, she said. "Early in Mimbres archeology, everyone thought that as you are buried, you are buried with a bowl over your head, with a ritual hole punctured in the center," Romero explained, "But as excavations have happened over time, we have learned that not every burial has a bowl, and not all bowls in burials are killed. And killed bowls can happen just in household context—it does not necessarily have to mean burial."

Most of the materials that Romero has removed from display so far are bowls. She has also removed jewelry and a pipe which were taken from a grave.

The process of identifying sacred objects is made even more difficult as, with some

of the objects, it is unknown what their purpose was. Romero cited small carvings of animals and humans as an example. "A lot of previous archeological interpretation has been that they were toys," she noted, "but what if they are effigies or fetishes that we know still have importance? Or perhaps [that determination] is context-dependent." The meaning of an object can be very different depending on whether the archeologist finds it in the remains of a house as opposed to a kiva, she said.

While the process of repatriating funerary and sacred objects may be onerous, Romero is nonetheless embracing it, as are many other archaeologists and museum directors.

"There has never been that sit-down conversation with the tribes about what [they] consider sacred," she said, "We are really hoping that the museum here can be one of the leaders of those conversations."

Romero sees the NAGPRA process as "making right" and healing some historical wounds. "History, anthropology and archaeology in the 1800s and early 1900s really did damage," she said, "Now we are asking ourselves how do we repair that as best as possible?"

"We want to figure this out," she added.



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SILVER CITY

• **The Grant County Art Guild Gallery**, 316 N. Bullard in Silver City, will be open all day on July 4. July 5, 5-7 p.m., during July's First Friday gallery walk, there is a **"Meet the Artist"** event at the gallery featuring clay artist **July Menefee**. Menefee will share the artistic and technical processes of creating her Mimbres-inspired

work. Raw materials, work in progress and finished art will illustrate the progression. Refreshments will be served. Also in July, the guild will be resuming the twice monthly Open Studios, which allow people to go in and practice creativity in the company of local creatives. Bring your own project or use our supplies – free of charge. Open studios are held at the GCAG Studio, 211 N Texas on the second and fourth Fridays of each month. Join the email list at studio@gcag.org and we will add you to our event notification list. The GCAG Gallery, 316 N Bullard, is open from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. seven days a week, with additional hours for special events. To learn more about the guild, enjoy a slide show of work by gallery artists, or see the gallery, studio and off-site event calendar, visit gcag.org.

• July is all about **CLAY**. **Light Art Space**, 209 W. Broadway in Silver City, features two clay exhibitions July 4-27. Opening on July 4 in the North gallery is **"From the Earth,"** a juried exhibition of work by 28 artists from across the county. In the Flash Gallery an exhibition of work by Juror Jared Tso is on display. The opening reception for both exhibitions is 5-7 p.m. on First Friday, July 5 and a closing reception will be held on Saturday, July 27, during the Silver City CLAY festival. The gallery is open 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday, Fri-



Above: "Still Life" by Karen Townsend is part of the emerging artists show at Otero ArtSpace in Alamogordo. (Courtesy Photo)

Below: The Fire and Fiber show with the Potter's Guild of Las Cruces Las Cruces is at the Deming Art Center for July. (Courtesy Photo)



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

• **ArtSpace Gallery** presents **"Dream Devas,"** paintings by Ann Lowe. Lowe said she set an intention and opened a space to merge forms with the canvasses she prepares with wrinkles. "When I start painting I look into the wrinkles and that's when the Deva shapes emerge," she said. "I never know what will appear." The gallery is open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday to Sunday, 110 West 7th St., in Silver City. Info: aspace.studiogallery@gmail.com, 575-538-3333.

ALAMOGORDO

• **Otero Arts** presents a trio of emerging artists in July. The exhibit will feature three women artists, **Carla Kerr, Karen Townsend and Pamela Vigo Sanchez** who have begun painting and drawing in recent years. Kerr is an author and actress who recently was part of the cast of the play "Ghost Town" that premiered at the Artspace in 2023. Townsend also began painting recently. Like many, she developed an interest in art during her high school years under the instruction of her art teacher. After a career as a dental tech and raising children, she recently returned to studying painting. Vigo Sanchez has had a long-time love of horses. She

began sketching and then transitioned to ink drawings with watercolors and graphics to capture a horse's many moods. The exhibition opens with a reception 5-8 p.m. on July 5 at the Artspace, 1118 Indiana Avenue. The gallery is open 1-4 p.m. Thursday to Sunday every week. Info: oteroarts.org.

CLOUDCROFT

• **The Cloudcroft Art Society (CAS)** is once again proud to invite everyone to its 4th of July Art Show at the **Nivison Library/Community Center** in Cloudcroft. The CAS show will be held in the back room of the building. Please enter through the side entrance as repairs are ongoing to the front. The exhibit features original art works by CAS members to include paintings in several media, photography and photo-artistic art, pottery, basketry, glass work, gourd art, greeting cards and more. Show dates and hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday July 6 and 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday July 7. The gallery is open throughout the summer from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Saturday. This year's exhibits feature original art works by CAS members to include paintings in several media, photography and photo-artistic art, pottery, basketry, greeting cards and more. Info: ccartsociety@gmail.com.

ART SCENE

continued on page 14

ART SCENE

continued from page 13

DEMING

• **The Potter's Guild of Las Cruces** presents the July 2024 **Fire and Fiber Show** at the **Deming Arts Center**. There are 18 artisans and more than 30 artworks. Works vary from elaborate pottery and macrame hangings to fine figurative sculpture with a bit of fiber. There are ravens, tortoises, and ancient cliff dwellings to a warrior goddess with a tile and

fiber crown. All work is for sale.

There will be a time to meet the artists, 1-2:30 p.m., Sunday, July 7. 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 deming-arts.org.

TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES

• **RioBravoFineArt**, 110 North

Broadway in Truth or Consequences, presents "The Quest, The Struggle, The Journey," a retrospective of work by Dave Barnett will be up through July 21. This much anticipated show will fill all three of the main-level gallery spaces. Barnett creates bold images of Southwestern flora and fauna, bosque and mountain landscapes, small town street scenes and geologic formations, both large and small. Rio Bravo Fine Arts Gallery is at 110 N. Broadway in Truth or



Work by Kakuko Ishii is on display Las Cruces Museum of Art as part of "Washi Transformed: New Expressions in Japanese Art," featuring nine contemporary Japanese artists. (Courtesy Photo)

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Consequences. Info: riobravofineartgallery.com.

LAS CRUCES

• At the **Las Cruces Museum of Art, "Washi Transformed: New Expressions in Japanese Art"** spotlights the works of nine contemporary Japanese artists who explore the artistic potential of handmade washi by pushing its boundaries in terms of texture, dimension and scale. The ex-

hibit is on view through Aug. 10. The museum is located at 491 N. Main St. and is open from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturday. Info: lascruces.gov/museums or 575-541-2137.

• **The Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery**, 2470-A Calle de Guadalupe, across from the historic Fountain Theatre features two local artists for the

month of July: Noel Sandino and John Glass.

Sandino is a multi-disciplinary abstract artist who uses bold colors and expressive ideas in her fine art printmaking. Glass, a watercolorist, is originally from rural Indiana and settled in the mountains outside of Deming. His pursuit of art is a daily routine. From 4-6 p.m. on July 6 the gallery celebrates **Frida Kahlo's** birthday with a party

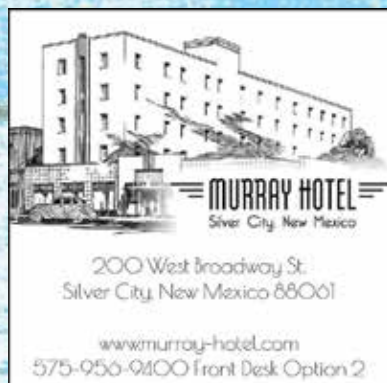
and display of Kahlo inspired artwork. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Info: 575-522-2933, mesillavalleyfinearts.com.

• **"Making as Knowing When I was Here, Thinking of There"** will run through July 20 in New Mexico State University's Devasthali Hall and features work from MFA candidates **Karly Jean Kainz** and **Blanca Martinez** as they

explore ideas of home and personal ritual. From 5 to 6 p.m. Saturday, July 13, **"Loteria Game Nights"** will close out the summer activities. Martinez invites the community to join her in playing Loteria, a tradition and game that has inspired some of her work in the exhibition. Curated in response to the exhibition and its events, UAM Collections Curator **Courtney Uldrich** and graduate assistant Oliv-

ia Juedeman are presenting a selection of works from NMSU's Permanent Art Collection. **"Selections from the NMSU Permanent Art Collection: 2024 MFA Thesis Exhibition"** continues until July 20. Visit uam.nmsu.edu for more information on the artists and the exhibition. The UAM is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday to Saturday at 1308 E. University Ave. in Las Cruces.

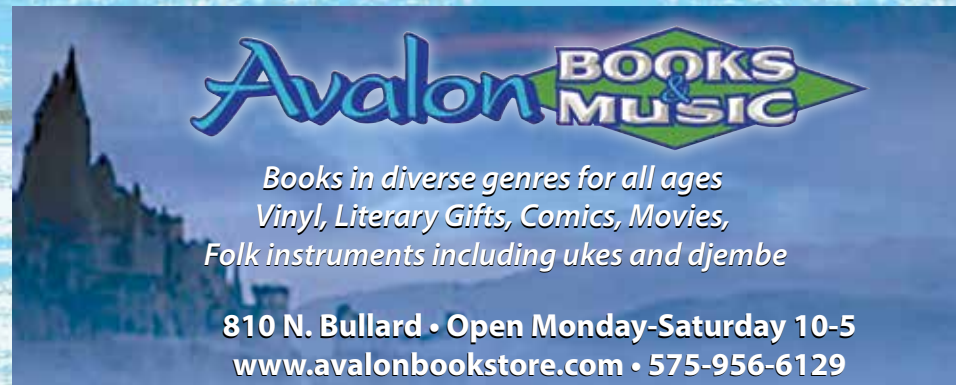
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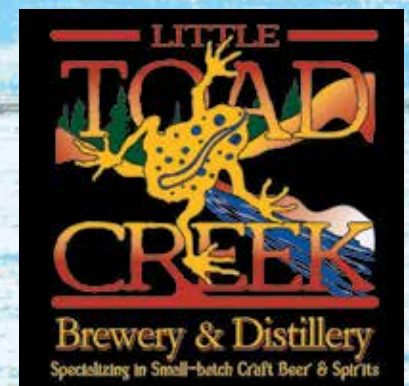
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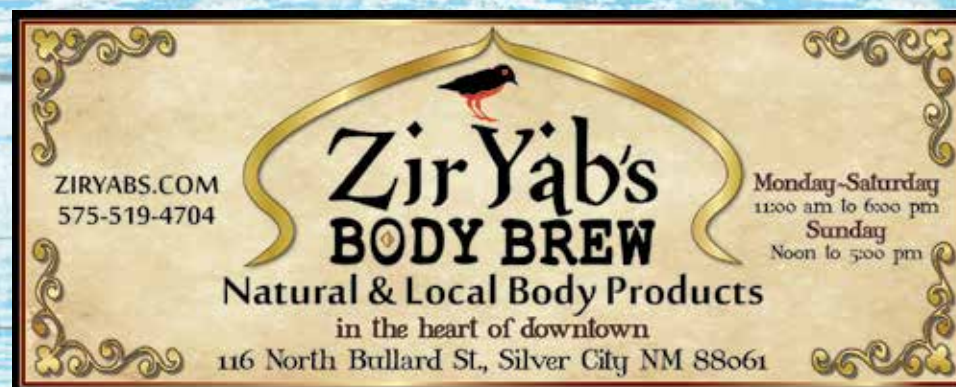
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Claude Smith III works in his studio. (Photo courtesy Susan Mach)

CELEBRATION

Festival Focus

Silver City event brings artisan

by Elva K. Österreich

Leading the efforts for putting together the Silver City 2024 CLAY Festival Market Susan Mach is no stranger to sharing her wares in market settings. The festival is July 22-28.

Going to college with a focus on print making, Mach fell in love with clay after she got out.

"I went into the peace corps, enjoyed the simplicity of hand building and firing and started taking more classes at community college," she said.

Mach taught high school in Ontario, Calif. for 23 years. She said she got to rebuild the ceramics program there. Three years ago, she moved to Silver City.

"A big part of it was the arts community here and knowing there was a good group of clay artists here," she said. "I started submitting to the clay fest. Melanie Zipin asked if I wanted to join, and I've been busy ever since.

This year she has had her hands full organizing the market part of the festival.

"It's been fun," she said, "Emailing back and forth to artists. There is such a great connection between (Silver City and) Tucson and northern New Mexico. I have loved walking through the market to see what people are making. It is an international show and it's interesting to see the styles people are working in."

The market will be open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, July 27, and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday, July 28. More than 15 local and visiting southwest clay artists will present a variety of functional and sculptural work for sale. She said there will be live music at the market, with Peter Dahl-Bredine and Marc Yaxley on Saturday and Barry Namm on Sunday. Food will also be for sale at the venue.

The market takes place in the ballroom of the downtown Murray Hotel, 200 W. Broadway St. in Silver City. Entrance is free.

The theme for the juried exhibit this year is "From the Earth," Mach said. This exhibit is held across the street from the hotel at Light Art Space Gallery, 209 W. Broadway.

Susan Mach
CLAY Festival
(Photo courtesy)

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ATE CLAY

Focus on Craft

ns from across the southwest



ch has plenty of experience showing her ceramic work at arts and clay markets. For the 2024 festival in Silver City instead of having her own booth, she is organizing the market event. (Photo courtesy Susan Mach)



Lizzie Slegeir's ceramic mugs and other creations will be available at her booth for the 2024 CLAY Festival Market at the Murray Hotel July 27 and 28. (Photo courtesy Susan Mach)

"Jarod Tso is the visiting artist," she added. "I always enjoy seeing who will be here giving workshops there is always some great artists for workshops."

In addition to a workshop with Tso, there will be "The Pigment Hunting Workshop" with Scott Sutton and "Clay Carving Workshop" with Athena Steen. Both of these workshops will take place at Whiskey Creek Zócalo. The "Painted Pot Workshop" with Bede Clarke will be held at Diana In-

galls Leyba Studio and Gallery.

In honor of CLAY Festival week and ceramics in general, Bear Mountain Lodge (60 Bear Mountain Ranch Rd., Silver City) serves a special brunch from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday, July 28. The creative menu and price can be found on the website. Reservations are necessary.

For further information on the CLAY Festival and Market, visit clayfestival.com.



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CELEBRATE CLAY

'From the Earth'

Jared Tso featured for CLAY Festival

by Elva K. Österreich

Jared Tso, a fourth generation Diné potter, is the visiting artist for this year's CLAY Festival, July 22-28. The festival includes several workshops, a juried show and the CLAY Market.

After getting his degree in electrical engineering and working as an engineer for a number of years, Tso backed up and returned to his roots. After returning to school to earn a master's in fine arts at the University of New Mexico, now he embraces his position as a fourth-generation potter, living in Nahata Dziil, just outside Sanders, Ariz.

For the CLAY Festival he will be leading a five-day workshop on the Western New Mexico University campus involving some of the traditional building and firing

techniques he uses in his work. He also is serving as the juror for "From the Earth," the festival's July 4-28 exhibition held at Light Art Space Gallery in downtown Silver City (209 W. Broadway Street).

The experience of being a lone juror was a new one for Tso.

"Every artist has a different approach," he said. "There is never a universal equation as to how to figure out that flow."

As a juror, one must realize everyone has their own biases, he said.

"I try to look at what the artist was trying to convey, what their technique is," he said. "I also tried to gather a group of work that could tell a story together — how each piece of a different artist might complement each other. I tried to think of novelty where I could kind of see the artists through their work rather than just the piece."



Jared Tso works the clay during a demonstration at the Scottsdale King Gallery. (Photo by Peter Held of Peter Held Art Appraisals & Associates, LLC)



Jared Tso (Courtesy photo)

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His experience with developing his own shows and growing his work has taught him a lot. Represented by King Galleries in Santa Fe and Scottsdale, Arizona, he said the galleries are supportive of the artist's ideas.

The themes he works with might depend on details as a show develops.

"The details develop as I make the work," Tso said. "You might get the aha moment on pot four or five. You have to plan ahead but also embrace the process and see where it takes you. Sometimes you just have to start working with clay to see, find that spark."

As of late, he said, his work has been overlapping more with the contemporary ceramic world, which has been sort of isolated from the native clay world.

Spending last summer at Archie Bray in Montana, a well-known contemporary ce-

ramic space, Tso found just being around those potters a very different experience. Over time being exposed to more differences of form and ideas about what makes a good pot have influences his work.

"I'm just fine tuning now," he said. "Paying more attention to the rim or the foot."

Using traditional processes, Tso doesn't use a wheel for his brand, he said. But he does throw in the wheel for projects that are fun.

"I don't sell that work," he said. "I mostly do it to encourage an overall fluency with the material – fine tune what I do. It complements my work elsewhere."

All his gallery and sale work is coil-built and fired in the ground. Test firing those is the tricky part, he said, "some became sacrificial in the learning process."

Much of Tso's inspiration has come from working with his uncle in the studio, he

said, "...how we talk about family designs, how it might overlap with the style, how it relates with my family."

His interest in clay and pottery grew early from observing technology and engineering in some of the earliest art forms. He saw the computations needed in baskets and weaving. There was more clay overlap with practical forms than as fine art and he wondered why the forms drifted so far apart. It led to collaborations with weavers, including dyed wool in the vessels he was building.

"I'm excited for being invited, for the workshop," Tso said. "It's been a while since I have taught something like this. I enjoy teaching."

For further information on the CLAY Festival and Market, visit clayfestival.com.



Jared Tso is developing a body of work celebrating the significance of sheep and rams alike. (Photo Courtesy Silver City CLAY Festival)

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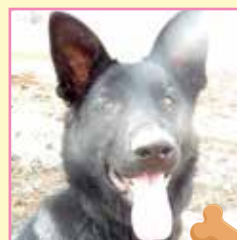
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Brandy-Shepherd X, tan with
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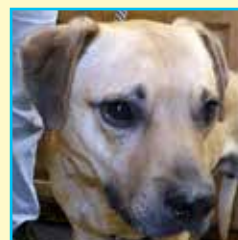
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Halona-Great Pyrenees, white
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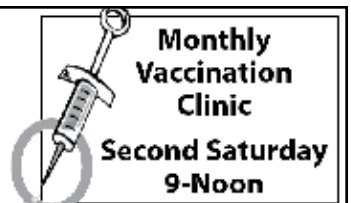


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HISTORICAL ADVENTURES

‘Following ‘Dangerous Dan’

Nonprofit looks to bring hidden history to light

by Elva K. Österreich

When “Dangerous Dan” Tucker appeared in southern New Mexico, he played many roles, including deputy sheriff, town marshal, deputy United States marshal, train agent and livestock inspector.

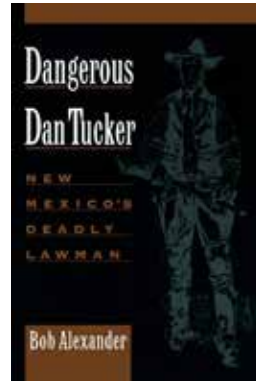
He was appointed as deputy sheriff of Silver City by Sheriff Harvey Whitehill in 1876 and became the first Marshall of Silver City in 1878, the same year as the Territorial Charter. Tucker was not one to back down and earned his title of “Dan-

gerous Dan” with his deadly methods of keeping order.

In Silver City a non-profit group, Hidden History of Silver City’s Old West, has taken on the job of making sure Tucker and other mostly unknown characters are remembered.

Two of the organizers, Ben Fredricksen and Gayle Trenberth, said they would like to see more western history come to light in Grant County.

Fredricksen found a book at the Silver City Museum, “Dangerous Dan Tucker: New Mexico’s Deadly Lawman,” by Bob Alexander and became fascinated.



“I just read the book and it impressed me so much, I pursued it,” he said. “This guy has a big connection with Wyatt Earp and Doc Holiday. He didn’t fool around, he took care of business and

nowadays we wouldn’t like the way he did it.”

Trenberth said the group has located some of the old building sites where Tucker earned his reputation, like the Centennial Saloon, where today’s Manzanita Ridge store is.

“He had a shootout in that saloon,” she said. “There are just interesting stories and it put us on a path.”

It was stories of Tucker that put the nonprofit on its path of discovery, she said.

They started with a “Dangerous Dan” Tucker display which can be found at the Ice Cream Emporium, 312 N.

Bullard St. Silver City. Now, Trenberth said, they are envisioning more hidden history spaces in local businesses.

“We could do women of the old west, the indigenous cultures, the migrants, the Jewish settlers or the Chinese,” she said. “If we got about five locations we could tie into the walking tour here, visitors can browse the shop and make it more of an interactive tour.

“You don’t realize what has happened here in silver city,” Fredricksen said. “There was a lady in Deadwood, South Dakota who won 6,000 bucks here in Silver City. Six thousand bucks at that time was like \$300,000 dollars in today’s money and that’s a big deal. She took her winnings to Deadwood and bought a whorehouse.”

Trenberth said it’s exciting to feel like they are able to give something back to the city and work to open up an area that hasn’t been opened.

“We’ve been here eight years now and we see stuff

that used to be here,” Fredricksen said. “Like the narrow-gauge railroad from the Hearst mine. There was a lot of different things that are kind of lost.”

He said people make a big deal over Billy the Kid who was a bad guy and it’s time to recognize a good guy too with Tucker.

By his own account, Tucker said he was “obliged to kill eight men” in Grant County alone. Overall, Tucker was involved in some dozen shooting scrapes and was shot four times.

In Silver City, he managed to stop the discharging of firearms on the city streets. He also killed a thief while trying to escape and was engaged in a gunfight with three horse thieves in a Silver City saloon, killing two of them and wounding a third.

Tucker was subsequently sent to various areas to “clean up” the towns, including Shakespeare and Deming. Find more about him at dangerousdantucker.com, the nonprofit’s website.

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The moon over my treehouse

Little burglars invade my library

We realized we had grown complacent as homeowners when we discovered neighborhood children wandering in our back yard one evening.

They had let themselves in through a gate with a broken lock. We found them exploring items at the rear of our house and chased them away. They had also discovered the detached garage we renovated for use as a home-schooling, exercise and storage room.

Upstairs of that is my personal library: A space I do not occupy nearly enough for my liking, as witnessed by the clutter. I walked up the wooden steps leading to my "treehouse" and found the

lights turned on.

One reason for leaving that door unlocked was that I encourage my own children to make unauthorized visits to this place, to flip on the window air-conditioner or ceiling fans, hang around and explore the shelves, picking up anything that interests them. This was the policy of my own childhood, my parents both having sizable collections of books, with the proviso that I handle every item with care and didn't leave a mess.

Extending such an invitation to unacquainted children who might have been looking for other things, who might not be trusted to demonstrate care and courtesy, was not my intention, I considered

while assessing any damages. Happily, I found none: The Buddha statue and meditation supplies were undisturbed, the desk and cabinets seemed untouched, and the disarray I found could only be blamed on me. It was as if the visitors had taken one look from the doorway, noted a dusty room full of books, and moved on to explore other spaces for more interesting items.

They were hardly more interested than my own children in what might be found among the books, magazines and DVDs on open display in this quiet room. The meditation cushion and mat set up on the floor, an open invitation to take a mind off one's load, has

never interested them, either. In a world where streaming services decide what choices of media are available to us, my children, including one who is inseparable from a phone I don't recall authorizing in the first place, exhibit no curiosity about exploring my shelves, pulling occasional items off and investigating. The seven-year-old did once, but has stopped visiting since video games monopolized his imagination. If I set up a scavenger hunt among my books, they might play; but they won't walk away with anything to read or watch.

Much less would I expect other children, who may not be surrounded by books and musical

instruments and curious objects, to sneak into my library and browse. It is a charming fantasy, to be sure, to think of someone slipping into the treehouse to look through a book, sit on a zafu, chill out and slip away, perhaps leaving a charred incense stick behind as a trace.

Would I mind? Not particularly; but surely it's a dream. With some sadness, I locked the door though it felt ill to restrict a space for reading and meditation. Here, I gave way to other concerns, even as I recalled the tale of the solitary monk Ryōkan, looking on as a thief took what few possessions he had, and observing that the thief couldn't take the moon.

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



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Fast Food Favorites

“Who stole my Dilly Bar?”

By Jim and Henry Duchene

My two favorite fast-food restaurants are Dairy Queen and Chick-fil-A.

Let me tell you why.

It's not just the Pumpkin Pie Blizzards and Peppermint Shakes, which are available seasonally. It's the free food I get with each purchase. You see, at the bottom of their receipts are online surveys. Take them and, for your trouble, you'll earn a complimentary Dilly Bar at Dairy Queen or chicken sandwich at Chick-fil-A. And free, my friends, is my preferred price point.

Unfortunately, the offer only comes out occasionally on the Chick-fil-A receipts, while they're on the bottom of every Dairy Queen receipt. That makes Dairy Queen my favorite fast food restaurant by default. If you think I can be easily bought, you're right.

The only problem is, unless Dairy Queen's policy has changed, customers can only get a free Dilly Bar

once every thirty days. I think this is a scam, because why shouldn't faithful Dairy Queen customers qualify for a free Dilly Bar with every purchase? When I go back for the free Dilly Bar, I usually buy something else, so that would be a sale they wouldn't have gotten otherwise. Despite what it sounds like, I'm not cheap. Just frugal. Although, when I die, I'm sure when I go toward the light I'll probably turn it off as I pass.

I get around the 30-day stipulation by first taking the survey on my computer. The next survey I'll fill out on my smartphone. After that I'll use my iPad. Then I'll borrow my wife's phone. Or my daughter's. As long as I have a family I'll never run out of Dilly Bars.

I go to Dairy Queen once a week. On Mondays, I take my nine-year-old granddaughter to her piano lesson, and, on the way back, I treat her to a kid's meal. Usually a cheeseburger. She likes it plain and dry. She won't eat it otherwise.

“I want nothing on it but the cheese and patty,” I tell whoever is behind the cash register. “No lettuce, no tomatoes, no pickles. No mustard, no mayonnaise, no special sauces.”

So far they've always gotten my order right, but you'd be surprised how often employees at other fast food franchises get an order wrong. I don't want to name names, but, if you're familiar with the song The Name Game by Shirley Ellis, it rhymes with banana-fana-fo-fonalds.

“Please, please, please make sure the fries are hot,” I'll continue, because lukewarm fries are another deal-breaker.

I don't know why she's so picky. Myself, I can eat anything. My wife, who is beautiful but also particular, doesn't understand how I can eat something that didn't come exactly as advertised.

“I thought you ordered a hamburger.”

“I did.”

“That's a fish sandwich.”

“I'll survive.”

Now the reason I told you all that is because I ran into a situation recently. It was bedtime, and I was at the tail end of filling out one of those surveys. I only had a few questions left when my granddaughter came into my room.

“Can you tuck me in?” she asked.

She likes me to tuck her in.

“I'll be there in a minute,” I told her.

Her eyes widened. I had never not jumped to her command before. I'm not saying she has me wrapped around her little finger, but if I did I wouldn't be lying.

“Why?” she wanted to know.

“I'm doing a survey for a free Dilly Bar and I only have a few questions left,” I told her.

She lowered her eyes.

“You love Dilly Bars more than you love me,” she said and left the room.

“Is grandpa going to tuck you in?” I heard her mother ask as she passed the living



room.

“All he cares about is his Dilly Bars,” she said.

I hate to say it, but I finished the survey anyway. After writing down the validation number, I put away my computer and went to tuck her in. She was already in bed.

“You love Dilly Bars more than you love me,” she repeated.

“That's not true,” I told her, “I love you more than anything.”

“Except Dilly Bars.”

“I love you more than Dilly

Bars,” I assured her.

“More than Dilly Bars?” she said.

“Of course I do.”

“How about pizza?”

“Yes, more than pizza.”

“Even hamburgers?”

“Even hamburgers.”

She was satisfied, and I was able to kiss her good-night without further incident.

The next day, I came home after being out and my wife had some bad news for me. My granddaughter had eaten my last Dilly Bar.

“Don't tell grandpa,” she told her grandmother.

“He'll get mad.”



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July 4**



**Neal McCoy
July 3**

EVENTS

What's Happening

Events you won't want to miss in July

MONDAY, July 1

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

WEDNESDAY, July 3

Grant County Wednesday Farmers Market

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

Sierra County Square Dancing

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

Socorro County Neal McCoy Independence Celebration concert Ticketed

7 p.m. at the Socorro Rodeo Facility on Rodeo Drive in Socorro
socorronm.org

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

Electric 5K & One-mile Fun Run

7:30 a.m. start at Meerscheidt Recreation Center, 1600 E. Hadley Ave., Las Cruces
runsignup.com/Race/Events/NM/LasCruces/LCElectric5k

Swing on the Plaza

7-11 p.m. on Plaza de Las Cruces Downtown Las Cruces
575-541-2290

Electric Light Parade

9 p.m. begins at Apodaca Park, 801 E. Madrid Ave. and travels south on Solano Drive, Las Cruces
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THURSDAY, July 4

**Grant County
40th Annual Ice Cream Social, Ice cream, live music and activities**
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Pop-Up performances

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Luna County Fourth of July Parade

10 a.m., West on Pine to Gold, south on Gold to Poplar in Deming
575-546-9501

Otero County Big Bang Festival

10 a.m.-5 p.m. at New

Mexico Museum of Space History, 3198 State Route 2001, Alamogordo
spacehalloffame.org

4th of July Parade

1 p.m., from Oregon Avenue along 10th Street to New York Avenue. Alamogordo
575-439-4279

July 4th Fireworks Extravaganza Drive In

6-10 p.m. at at New Mexico Museum of Space History, 3198 State Route 2001, Alamogordo
spacehalloffame.org

Al Hurricane Jr. July 4



Sierra County Square Dancing

1-3:30 p.m. at the New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St. in T or C
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Socorro County

Live music: All day
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11 a.m. at the Socorro Rodeo Facility on Rodeo Drive in Socorro
socorronm.org

Fireworks Display

9:15 p.m. at the New Mexico Tech Energetic Materials Research and Testing Center, 1001 South Road in Socorro
socorronm.org

Doña Ana County

City of Anthony 4th of July Parade

9 a.m., at the city Municipal Complex
cityofanthonymn.com

Fourth of July Concert and Fireworks

Black Jacket Symphony performs

6 p.m. concert; 9:45 p.m. fireworks at Pat and Lou Sisbarro Community Park, 3205 Arrowhead Drive, NMSU campus, Las Cruces
575-541-2550

FRIDAY, July 5

Grant County

First Friday at the Galleries

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

4th of July After Party

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

Live Music: Lottie & the Ohm Wreckers

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

Otero County

Launch Pad Lecture

9-10 a.m. at the Museum of Space History, 3198 State Road 2001, Alamogordo
nm spacemuseum.org

TUESDAY, July 9

Doña Ana County

First Friday Fine Arts Flea Market

5-9 p.m. on Plaza de Las

Cruces Downtown Las Cruces
505-737-3278

SATURDAY, July 6

Grant County

Silver City Farmers Market

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

Independence Day Patio Party With DJ Rotton Candy and Blues Dawg

3 p.m. and 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

Sierra County

Sierra County Farmers Market

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

Starlight Concert Series

6 p.m. at the Black Range Lodge, 50 Kinston Main St. in Kingston
575-895-5652

Old Time Fiddlers Saturday Dance

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

EVENTS

continued on page 26



First Friday Art Walk • July 5 • 5-7pm

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575-388-5725

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desertrockcreations.com

EVENTS

continued from page 25

Fireworks at Elephant Butte Lake

8:30 p.m. at Elephant Butte Lake State Park, 101 Highway 195 in Elephant Butte
575-744-5023

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

Sunrise over the Ruins Day

Site opens at 6 a.m., tour at 9 at Fort Selden Historic Site, 1280 Fort Selden Road, Radium Springs
575-526-8911

Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces

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

All About Rattlesnakes

10 a.m., at Fort Selden Historic Site, 1280 Fort Selden Road, Radium Springs
575-526-8911

Frida Kahlo Birthday Fiesta Film and party

2 p.m. at the Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla
mesillavalleyfilm.org

SUNDAY, July 7

Grant County

Live Music: Mineral Hill Salty Americana

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

Sierra County

Black Cat Poetry Reading

1-2:15 p.m. at Ingo's Art Cafe, 422 Broadway Ave. T or C
575-551-8186

MONDAY, July 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

TUESDAY, July 9

Doña Ana County

Swing on the Plaza

7-11 p.m. on Plaza de Las Cruces Downtown Las Cruces
575-541-2290

WEDNESDAY, July 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
farmersandcraftsmarketoflascruces.com

THURSDAY, July 11

Doña Ana County

Balia Las Cruces Dancing on the Plaza

7 p.m. lesson, 8:30 p.m. dancing, at Plaza de Las

Cruces, 100 N. Main St.
riograndetheatre.org

FRIDAY, July 12

Grant County

Live music: Gila Lobsters Country and classic rock

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

Luna County

Deming Music Festival

7 p.m. at the Southwestern New Mexico State Fairgrounds, 4300 Raymond Reed Blvd., Deming
915-305-8674

Doña Ana County

Fair Farmers Evening Market

4-10 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces on Main St. Downtown.
lascruces.gov

SATURDAY, July 13

Grant County

Live music: Emily Nenni Country soul and rock-n-roll

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

Live Music: Stoney Blue Fish Country and classic rock

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

Otero County

Book talk and signing

Amy M. Bennett
1-3 p.m. at the Alamogordo Public Library, 920 Oregon Ave., Alamogordo
575-439-4148

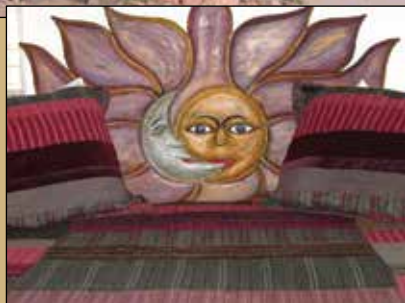
Extreme Dwarffanators Wrestling

7-9 p.m. at Sgt. Willie Estrada Memorial Civic Center, Alamogordo
dwarfanators.com

Astronomy League Star Party Serpents and Scorpions

8:30-10:30 p.m. at the Museum of Space History, 3198 State Road 2001,

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Alamogordo
nmspacemuseum.org

Sierra County Sierra County Farmers Market

8:30-11:30 a.m. at Ralph
Edwards Park, 300 N. River-
side Drive in T or C
sierracountyfarmers
market.org

Second Saturday Art Hop
6 p.m. Downtown Truth or
Consequences
director@torcmainstreet.org

Starlight Concert Series
6 p.m. at the Black Range
Lodge, 50 Kingston Main St.
in Kingston
575-895-5652

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

Beat the Heat Music Downtown

7-9:30 p.m. Lyendecker
Plaza, corner of Gold and
Spruce streets, Deming
demingms.org

Lincoln County Fort Stanton LIVE

9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at the Fort
Stanton Historic Site, 10-4
Kit Carson Road,
Fort Stanton
my.nmculture.org

Doña Ana County Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces

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

Lotteria Game Night with Blanca Martinez

5-6:30 p.m., New Mexico
State University Art Muse-

um, Las Cruces
uam.nmsu.edu

Movies in the Park: “Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem”

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

SUNDAY, July 14

Grant County Jazz Buunch with John Mitchell & Friends

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

**Live music: Maggie Valley
Band Indi and folk rock**
7 p.m. at Little Toad Creek
Brewery & Distillery, 200 N.
Bullard St. Silver City
575-956-6144

EVENTS

continued on page 28

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 Meth-
odist 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 Epis-
copal Church of the
Good Shepherd, 615

N. Texas St. Silver City.
Info: CoDAsilvercity@
gmail.com

**Adult Children of
Alcoholic and Dys-
functional 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, Are-
nas. Zoom ID: 781 471
031; password: 954941;
info: nmal-anon.com

**Las Cruces/Mesilla
Overeaters Anony-**

mous, hybrid on Zoom
at noon each Wednes-
day at St. James
Episcopal Church, 102
St. James St., Info: 610-
762-3779.

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

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 Anony-**
mous, 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 Sat-
urday of every month at
Thomas Branigan Me-
morial Library, 200 E.
Picacho Info: 575-636-
4500 or EpilepsySup-
portNM.org.

**Desert SW Cancer
Support Group**, 10
a.m.-noon on the fourth
Saturday of the month,
at Memorial Medical
Center Annex meeting
room (entrance on
the west side of the
hospital). Info: Maricela
at 505-453-1789.

SUNDAY

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



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EVENTS

continued from page 27

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

TUESDAY, July 16**Doña Ana County****Swing on the Plaza**

7-11 p.m. on Plaza de Las Cruces Downtown
Las Cruces

575-541-2290

WEDNESDAY, July 17**Grant County****Live music: The Glass Hours Americana**

Doors open at 5 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 U.S. Highway 180 E. Arenas Valley
whiskeycreekzocalo.com

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

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

Cruces
farmersandcraftsmarketo-
flascruces.com

Helathy Waters, Healthy Futures**Lectures with Dr. Fred Phillips and Dr. Peggy Barroll**

6 p.m. in Room 106, Domenici Hall, New Mexico State University Campus, Las Cruces
riograndewaves@gmail.com

THURSDAY, July 18**Grant County****Karaoke Party**

8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek

Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St. Silver City
575-956-6144

Otero County**Book talk and signing**

Amy M. Bennett
1-3 p.m. at the Alamogordo Public Library, 920 Oregon Ave., Alamogordo
575-439-4148

Doña Ana County**El Camino Mercado and Music**

6:30 p.m. at the Range, 3217 El Camino Real Road, Las Cruces
therangelc.com

FRIDAY, July 19**Grant County****Live music: AJ Woods****Folk Americana**

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

SATURDAY, July 20**Grant County****Gala in the Garden: The Art of Food****Fundraiser**

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

DJ Mischievous

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

Sierra County**Sierra County Farmers Market**

8:30-noon a.m., Ralph Edwards Park, 300 N. Riverside Drive, T or C
sierracountyfarmers
market5@gmail.com

Live Music: The Riffers

6-8 p.m. at the Hillsboro Community Center, 316 Elenore St. Hillsboro
575-894-1968

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

Maya Textile Sale Weaving for Justice

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

SUNDAY, July 21**Grant County****Live music: The Over Souls**

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

Starlight Concert Series

6 p.m. at the Black Range Lodge, 50 Kinston Main St. in Kingston
575-895-5652



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fcmlinc@gmail.com
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Doña Ana County
Jazz & Blues: Sam Barlow and his True Blue Band
 6:30 p.m. at Alma d'Arte Charter High School, 402 W. Court Ave. Las Cruces
mvjazzblues.net

MONDAY, July 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

TUESDAY, July 23
Grant County
 Live music: Gallivant Party styl, riff-based rock band

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

Doña Ana County
Swing on the Plaza
 7-11 p.m. on Plaza de Las Cruces Downtown Las Cruces
 575-541-2290

WEDNESDAY, July 24
Grant County
Live music: Sarah Shook & the Disarmers
Outlaw country
 7 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 U.S. Highway 180 E. Arenas Valley
whiskeycreekzocalo.com

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, July 25
Grant County
 Live music: JD Pinkus/

P.W. Long Americana
 2 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 U.S. Highway 180 E. Arenas Valley
whiskeycreekzocalo.com

EVENTS

continued on page 30

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EVENTS

continued from page 29

Doña Ana County

Balía Las Cruces

Dancing on the Plaza

7 p.m. lesson, 8:30 p.m. dancing, at Plaza de Las Cruces, 100 N. Main St. riograndetheatre.org

FRIDAY, July 26

Doña Ana County

Fourth Friday family night

6-10 p.m. Washington Park, 100 Washington Ave. Alamogordo ci.alamogordo.nm.us

SATURDAY, July 27

Grant County

Hummingbird Festival

8 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Mimbres Culture Heritage Site, 12 Sage Drive, Mimbres mimbrescultureheritagesite.org

CLAY Festival Market

10 a.m.-4 p.m. in the Murray Hotel ballroom, 200 W. Broadway St., Silver City

clayfestival.com

Foam Party

1-2 p.m. at Penny Park on N. Grant Street, Silver City **575-538-5555**

Live music: Ghetto

Vaquero

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

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**

Beat the Heat Music Downtown

7-9:30 p.m. Lyendecker Plaza, corner of Gold and Spruce streets, Deming demingms.org

Otero County

Live Music: Tiger Alley 'Sizzlin' Summer'

7 p.m. at Shady Pines, 200 Fox (facing Wren in Cloudcroft) **361-557-1960**

The Highwaymen Show

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

Sierra County

Sierra County Farmers Market

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

Starlight Concert Series

6 p.m. at the Black Range Lodge, 50 Kinston Main St. in Kingston **575-895-5652**

Doña Ana County Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces

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

flascruces.com

Wildlife Wonders:

Going Batty

7-9 p.m. at Chihuahuan Desert Nature Park, 56501 N. Jornada Road, Las Cruces asombro.org

Movies in the Park:

"The Marvels"

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

SUNDAY, July 28

Grant County

Hummingbird Festival

8 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Mimbres Culture Heritage Site, 12 Sage Drive, Mimbres mimbrescultureheritagesite.org

CLAY Festival Market

10 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Murray Hotel ballroom, 200 W. Broadway St., Silver City clayfestival.com

Live Music: Paul Barsom

noon-4 p.m., Tranquilbuzz Coffee House, 112 W. Yankee St. Silver City **828-542-0216**

MONDAY, July 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

TUESDAY, July 30

Doña Ana County

Swing on the Plaza

7-11 p.m. on Plaza de Las Cruces Downtown Las Cruces **575-541-2290**

WEDNESDAY, July 31

Grant County

Wednesday Farmers Market

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

Otero County

Preschool Story Time

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

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, Aug. 1

Sierra County

Square Dancing

1-3:30 p.m. at the New

Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St. in T or C

575-313-9971 or **505-804-3842**

FRIDAY, Aug. 2

Otero County

Launch Pad Lecture

9-10 a.m. at the Museum of Space History, 3198 State Road 2001, Alamogordo nm spacemuseum.org

SATURDAY, Aug. 3

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. in Alamogordo farmersmarketsnm.org

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

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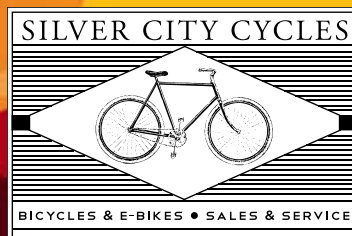


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GIVING CHRONIC PAIN SUFFERERS HOPE



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



Dr. Janet Quintanilla, DOM, Dipl.OM

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

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

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

Dr. Janet Quintanilla, who trained in China, practices Acupuncture at Sonoma Acupuncture Integrative Health, said a lot of the pain management field is skittish about prescribing pain medication.

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

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

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

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

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

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

"Patient's today realize that in 2024 there are non-invasive options out there and want to avoid surgery if possible." **Becker** said.

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

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

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

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

Becker said **"They get more active."**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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