

AUGUST 2024 | VOL. 29 NO. 8

EXPERIENCE SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO

# DESERT exposure

PAGE 6

## Festival season is here!

FESTIVITIES IN AUGUST **PAGE 6** | A VALENTINE FOR HATCH **PAGE 16** | RED DOT TOUR **PAGE 18**



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**4**  
**EDITOR'S NOTE**  
 Where We Find Ourselves  
 By David Salcido

**5**  
**PHOTO OF THE MONTH**  
 Rainbows Over Bayard  
 By Paulo Laney

**6**  
**FESTIVITIES**  
 Celebratory Events

**8**  
**PROFILE**  
 Departing Editor Reflects  
 By Justin Garcia

**10**  
**MUSIC**  
 Symphony's New Season  
 By Mike Cook

**12**  
**HOTLIST**  
 Notable Happenings

**13**  
**ARTS SCENE**  
 Upcoming Art Happenings  
 By David Salcido

**16**  
**ART SPOT**  
 A Valentine for Hatch  
 By David Salcido

**18**  
**STUDIO TOUR**  
 On the Dot  
 By Marcia Tinker

**20**  
**DESERT SAGE**  
 Shards of Handwritten Glass  
 By Algernon D'Amassa

**23**  
**EDITORIAL**  
 Featured Columns  
 By Jim and Henry Duchene, Scott Thomson,  
 and Abe Villarreal

**24**  
**EVENTS**  
 What's Happening in August  
 By David Salcido

**31**  
**FILM**  
 125 Years of NM Film  
 By Michael Swickard, Ph.D.

# DESERT Exposure

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**Desert #98**  
**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](http://www.nmsr.org/secretword.htm) and [www.nmsr.org/cypher-how2.jpg](http://www.nmsr.org/cypher-how2.jpg)

"EQH TLDB OQS SQ XJKZ LCW KTQQIB EQHP YLSSMBI. J RQHMW  
 ISJMM KPLRM LKPQII STB WBIBPS QC OMLII JC L THCWPBW LCW  
 SRBCSE WBOPBB TBL S JV JS GBLCS L OJO." - ILOB OBCSMBRJC O

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: "I BEAM WITH PRIDE HOW LAS CRUCES SERVES AS AN EXAMPLE IN EMBRACING OUR PUBLIC LANDS." - DAVID CRIDER, ON TEN YEARS OF ORGAN MOUNTAINS-DESERT PEAKS NATIONAL MONUMENT  
 \*Secret Words: "DIGS PUNCHY TEAMWORK2  
 Congrats to #97 solvers :  
 Sue Merrick\*, Will Adams\*,  
 Skip Howard\*, Claudette Gallegos\*,  
 Connie Tull\*, Shorty Vaiza\*,  
 George P. Burdell\*, David Pino\*, and Kaustuv Sengupta\*!

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**SEPTEMBER DEADLINES**  
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**This haven extends beyond the eastern facing, light-filled rooms.** Step outside onto a spacious outdoor patio, already transformed into your own tranquil sanctuary. Imagine taking in the breathtaking mountain views all day and cozy evenings under the stars. Perfectly situated on a quiet street just a few minutes from town. Inside, the kitchen is a chef's dream. A walk-in pantry provides ample storage for all your culinary creations, keeping things organized and clutter-free. This well-stated, southwest style home features beamed vaulted ceilings, radiant floor heating and refrigerated air, Integrity windows by Marvin and ceiling fans throughout. The large primary bedroom and bath feature a large walk-in closet and all 3 bedrooms have their own attached bathrooms. Adventure in the Gila National Forest with phenomenal hiking/biking trails is just moments away. **MLS#40456 \$519,000**



**Country meets modern amenities in this BEAUTIFUL custom home** on almost 12 acres in the Lower Mimbres Valley. This gated and fenced horse property features a detached drive through garage, a separate 25x35 ft insulated/heated/cooled shop with half bath, and a 20x30 ft metal carport with a storage room. Horse facilities consist of a 36x12 ft stable with tack room, corral and hay barn plus a run in shed and pasture. Fenced 30x30 ft garden with raised beds. The home features 9 ft ceilings, a newly remodeled kitchen/granite counters, custom cabinets and newer appliances. The primary bedroom/bath features a jetted garden tub. Both showers are custom, designer tiled. Murphy bed highlights the guest bedroom. Ceiling fans and window coverings throughout plus 4 security cameras. The yard is meticulously landscaped with beautiful plantings, decorative crushed rock. **MLS#40306 \$495,000**



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**Cowboy's dream with this remodeled farm house** on 9+ acres with 250' X 160' roping arena and horse pens. Tons of privacy! Play hard all day and enjoy the views of the Cottonwoods along the Gila River from the back porch! Several outbuildings offer storage/tack room/shop/hay storage. Lots of large trees offer shade. Property has a boundary with State Land and close to the Gila River for your enjoyment. Turn this property into YOUR dream! **MLS#40420 \$350,000**



**Absolutely darling home in the Skyview Estates.** This home has had a lot of improvements including new kitchen with Kraftmaid maple cabinets with soft-close drawers, quartz countertops, new appliances, new refrigerated air unit and heater in 2020 and new luxury vinyl tile in all rooms but bedrooms. It also features a very large fenced-in back yard with a covered patio area. All appliances will stay including a standing freezer in garage and furniture can be negotiated. Garage also has a Liftmaster opener with a digital camera and automatic close after 5 minutes. Seller needs at least a 30 day close. This house should have no problem qualifying for any kind of loan. Close to schools and hospital but a very private feel. **MLS#40465 \$315,000**



**Peaceful seclusion with easy access!** Efficient 3/1 home on almost 9 acres with tons of privacy! Ceramic tile floors throughout with custom wood cabinets and wonderful wood trim. Clear story adds nice light. Lampbright draw runs through the property with live water at times for you to enjoy from the back patio. Enjoy an early morning hike with nothing but the sound of nature. Home has a 2 car carport as well as a garage/shop. Trees! Privacy! Serenity! You won't want to leave! **MLS#40464 \$275,000**



**Wonderful opportunity with this 3/2 home with Public Land Boundary!** 10 gorgeous acres at the end of the road nestled among the trees and mountains with fabulous views of the Gila National Forest with your own access to hike or ride directly from the property. Comes with a 30X30 Garage/Shop with attached, large covered area for parking your RV/Trailer. Two sets of double doors on shop for easy vehicle access. Also has a small Hay Barn/Tack Barn and fenced for animals. Just 30 minutes from Silver City, NM. Add your own touches and create a wonderful, peaceful home. Home has newer windows and the outside has been stuccoed for easy maintenance and extra insulation. Relax and enjoy it all from the spacious covered deck. Bring your friends! Bring your family! Bring your critters! Come on! **MLS#40042 \$265,000**



**Located in the heart of the Mimbres Valley!** 2 bedrooms with 1 1/2 bath 1512 sq. ft. Large living room and dining room with built in oak cabinets & shelves. Bonus area near kitchen for an office. Insulated roman shades throughout. Bedroom with loft area and private entrance. Master bedroom features 1/2 bath and private entrance. Radiant heat, on demand water heater plus passive solar. Floors are tile, laminate & poured concrete. Level 1 acre with highway frontage and lots of parking. Plenty of room to add a garage or shop. 200-amp service. Commercial grade construction, it could also be used for work, gallery, deli, store etc. 4-bedroom size septic passed inspection on June 2023. **MLS#40328 \$235,000**



**Discover your new oasis** at this charming 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom home in Hurley, NM. Boasting a spacious layout and a serene ambiance, this home features a beautifully landscaped yard with inviting covered porches both in the front and back. Recent outdoor improvements include (but are not limited to) a new roof, fresh exterior paint, a large storage shed, a two car carport, additional RV parking in the backyard, and new weatherized windows. Inside you will find a comforting wood burning stove in the living room, spacious closets throughout, a Vivint home security system, and a new washer and dryer. This home is handicap accessible. Hurley has much to offer, including a public swimming pool, library, post office, historic churches, popular El Patio restaurant, and more. Hurley is a ten minute drive from the Grant County Airport. **MLS#40430 \$225,000**

## EDITOR'S NOTE | DAVID SALCIDO

# Where we find ourselves

It's another gorgeous day in southern New Mexico. As a native of these parts, I have a deep appreciation for the wild, sprawling landscapes of my youth. Despite having spent 25 years in the creative trenches of San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York City and Phoenix, that appreciation has never left me. I returned to New Mexico 16 years ago – a little more worldly, hopefully a little wiser – and have never looked back. Maybe that's why I'm so elated to have been handed the reins of the groovy little newsprint magazine you find yourself holding.

Like me, Desert Exposure has been around for a long, long time. It's seen some things. It's had its rough patches, and it's had its triumphs. It's gone through a few changes along the way, but the one thing it has never lost is its love of our little corner of the world. Southern New Mexico is a wonderland of wide-open spaces, hidden treasures, expressive cultures, and deep historical roots. There is so much to discover here, whether you're a native like me, a long-

time resident, a recent transplant, or a thrill-seeking visitor.

The one thing I would like you to know about this recent change in management is, I promise to pour every ounce of passion I possess into each issue of Desert Exposure. I am constantly on the lookout for exciting opportunities to make you aware of, whether it be creative new ventures, forgotten lore, fascinating personalities, exhilarating road trips, or just great ways to spend a few hours exploring the wealth of possibilities that surround us. This is how I live my life, and I am more than happy to share these experiences.

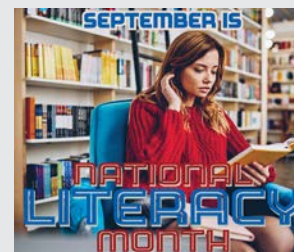
So, what say we get started? Read on, dear reader. Let's explore southern New Mexico together.

**David Salcido is editor of Desert Exposure and would love to meet Desert Exposure readers of southern New Mexico. Please contact editor@desertexposure.com.**



## Do you like to read?

Is there a book shop in your community worth noting?



September is National Literacy Month, and in celebration we would like to know where your favorite bookstore is located. To make it interesting, we only want to include locally-owned and operated shops. Go to [desertexposure.com](http://desertexposure.com) and take our survey. Once the results are in, we will compile the information into an article about your favorite community bookstores in southern New Mexico. You have until Thursday, August 8th to get your information in to us, so the story can be included in the September issue. Happy reading!

## PHOTO OF THE MONTH



“My favorite recent photo,” says Paulo Laney, who provides this month’s stormy photo of the mountain range overlooking his home. “I took this photo off my deck at the start of the first monsoon that hit Bayard.”

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](mailto:editor@desertexposure.com).

## ABOUT THE COVER



Chile ristras photographed at the Hatch Chile Festival in 2023.  
Photo by David Salcido



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### Old Lincoln Days

This weekend long celebration in the town of Lincoln brings food and craft vendors, reenactors, musicians, and more to the “most dangerous street in America.” Also included are a parade, lectures, children’s activities, a mobile museum, and the debut of a new exhibit, Billy the Kid in Pop Culture.

**Old Lincoln Days brings the West to life from 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Friday August 2 through Sunday, August 4, at the Lincoln Historic Site, 988 Calle La Placita, Lincoln. Info: 575-653-4025**

### Art & Wine in the Cool Pines

Enjoy wine tasting in the cool mountain forest of Cloudcroft, where oenophiles may sample and buy some of the best regional wines from throughout New Mexico. Relax and spend the weekend in the historical outdoor surroundings with food, music, art and the company of other wine and art enthusiasts.

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# FESTIVITIES

Celebratory events happening somewhere near you during the month of August 2024.

**Art & Wine in the Cool Pines raises a glass from 12-4 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, August 3 & 4, at Sacramento Mountains Museum, Cloudcroft. Info: 575-682-2733**

### 11th Annual Deming Pride

Join in the weekend celebration of diversity and service, beginning with a Pride Dance Party, followed by a full day of performances by Diamond Divas, Mileena Love Morningstar from Denver, the hottest DJs, regional drag performers, a special appearance by electronic pop artist HVXLII, and many more.

**The 11th Annual Deming Pride celebrates service to community from 7 p.m.-12 a.m., Friday and Saturday, August 9 & 10, at the Southwestern New Mexico Fair Grounds, 4100 Raymond Reed Blvd, Deming. Info: DemingPrideOfficial@yahoo.com**



### 5th Annual Brewdoso

For the fifth year in a row, New Mexicans can enjoy local beer, wine, food, arts, and live music in a family-friendly environment under the tall pines. Whether you’re a seasoned beer connoisseur or just looking for a good time, Brewdoso has something for everyone, with games, concerts, contests and more.

**The 5th Annual Brewdoso celebrates hop-**

**piness from 12-7 p.m., Saturday, August 17, at Wingfield Park, 300 Center Street, Ruidoso. Info: Brewdoso.com**

### 3rd Annual Otero County Heritage Festival & Street Dance

A day of history and culture celebrating all things Otero County takes place on the street in front of the Flickinger Center, with local artists and vendors presenting. Local documentary films will be presented in the theatre and Patron’s Hall will be transformed into a museum showcasing the county’s rich history.

**The 3rd Annual Otero County Heritage Festival & Street Dance celebrates history from 4 – 10 p.m., Saturday, August 17, at the Flickinger Center for Performing Arts, 1110 New York Ave., Alamogordo. Info: FlickingerCenter.com**

### Las Cruces ComicCon

Pop culture enthusiasts converge to get their nerd on for a full weekend of collectable fun featuring merchandise and memorabilia from the worlds of comics, games, film and television, while taking in Q&A sessions with comic book creators, influencers, actors, creators and more.

**The Las Cruces ComicCon celebrates nerd culture from 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, August 17 & 18, at Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave. Info: LasCrucesComicCon.org**



### Great American Duck Race

The summertime staple celebrates its 45th year, but as anybody who has attended can tell you, it’s about a whole lot more than competitive waterfowl. Included in the four-day event are the Duck Royalty Pageant, the Tournament of Ducks Parade, a carnival, a hot air balloon rally, outhouse racing, the tortilla toss, arts and crafts, food vendors, and more.

**The Great American Duck Race waddles up fun from 12-4 p.m., Thursday - Sunday, August 22 - 25, at McKinley Duck Downs, Courthouse Park, 700 S., Silver Ave., Deming. Info: 575-567-3905**



### 52nd Annual Hatch Chile Festival

Gather the family and head out to the epicenter of New Mexican chile, for a celebration of culture and cuisine like no other. Find out why Hatch Chile is world renowned, while also perusing the arts and crafts vendors, listening to live music, attending a parade or an auction, and much more. You can even buy a Ristra or learn how to make one yourself!

The Hatch Chile Festival heats things up from 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, August 31 & September 1, at Hatch Valley High School, Hatch. Info: 575-267-1095



### Franciscan Festival of Fine Arts

Now in its 19th year exploring fine art of both a spiritual and secular nature, attendees peruse works by local and regional artists, along with vendor booths, a beer and wine garden, and live entertainment on two stages on the beautiful Holy Cross Retreat grounds. Also included are the annual enchilada dinner, raffles and a silent auction.

The Franciscan Festival of Fine Arts rises to the occasion from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, August 31 and 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday, September 1, at Holy Cross Retreat Center, 600 Holy Cross Rd., Mesilla Park. Info: 575-524-3688



### 2024 Harvest Wine & Music Festival

Enjoy three full days of wine tasting – featuring over 100 selections from the top wineries in the state – along with nibble noshing at area food trucks, live music from Americana to Jazz on the main stage, grape stomping, children’s activities, unique arts and crafts finds from talented artisans, and so much more.

The Harvest Wine & Music Festival spreads cheer from 12-6 p.m., Saturday – Monday, August 31 – September 2, at Southern New Mexico Fairgrounds., 12125 Robert Larson Blvd., Las Cruces. Info: 575-649-8994

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# Departing Desert Exposure editor reflects on two decades of news

By Justin Garcia

It's going to be hard, acknowledged long-time reporter, photographer and editor Elva Österreich, to simply move on from journalism after more than two decades in the craft.

But she decided now was time to move on to a new chapter, leaving the Bulletin and its monthly magazine, Desert Exposure, on July 5.

Across a dozen newspapers and the shifting sands of southern New

Mexico, perhaps no one in the industry has been as much of a consistent presence as Österreich. She's had bylines in just about every newspaper from Ruidoso to Las Cruces to Socorro and beyond since she began writing news in 1998.

Österreich even wrote a book chronicling one of the pivotal moments in local (and world) history – the testing and denotation of the atomic bomb – called “Manhattan Project Trinity Test: Witnessing the Bomb in

New Mexico.”

On her last day, Österreich sat down for an interview, this time on the other side of the recorder, to reflect on her time in the news.

**What drew you to arts and culture reporting?**

“My degree is in creative writing. And so it's always something that I wanted to do. Then, I started writing for this little local newsletter in Alamogordo. I started doing a column before



Elva K. Österreich, editor of Desert Exposure and a staff writer for the Las Cruces Bulletin, departed for a career change on July 5. (Las Cruces Bulletin file photo)

animals, and that's how I ended up creating a feature on bugs.”

That bug feature, Österreich said, was one of her first plunges into journalism.

“When the job came open, it just sounded like it was my job because

that called ‘About the Critters,’ which was about the

# Writing Contest

**There are two categories:**

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**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



talking to people, assembling things, taking photos, that's what I do."

### What is your favorite story you've told?

"I cannot think of any particular story, but there is the timeline (of stories) around Spaceport (America) because this whole space thing started in the first place at an event held at Holloman Air Force Base. I was there when they did that."

When asked why the history of the spaceport was among her favorites,

Osterreich said, "Because I'm a science fiction nerd. ... The whole 'new horizons, going into space, brand new world – it's all that.'"

### You have been around the news in southern New Mexico for more than two decades. What kept you in the business?

"It's just been wonderful and fascinating. And there's the whole feeling of the newsroom trying to get things done. It's all been an exploration."

"When I got out of high

school, I was worried that was it (when it came to learning new things.) You learn so much as a young person from the time you're born until high school; you're just absorbing information. And I thought, I don't want this to stop. I gotta keep doing that. So, it's part of the learning journey."

"And (journalism is) the best way to just keep exploring the world. Every time we turn around, there's a new something. I guess that's why Desert Exposure was so well

suited; I got to go to all the communities and learn things about everything."

"There are definitely some things that you just do it again and again over the years. Stuff like elections, that you have to do as a journalist – that becomes old."

### The news industry contracted drastically during your career. How did that affect you?

"It's been interesting. It's, again, part of the journey, but I think

it's also been sad for journalism. Things are getting more and more fragmented because of the internet and because people can put out whatever information they want to put out, whether it's real or not. And that erodes trust. It erodes confidence."

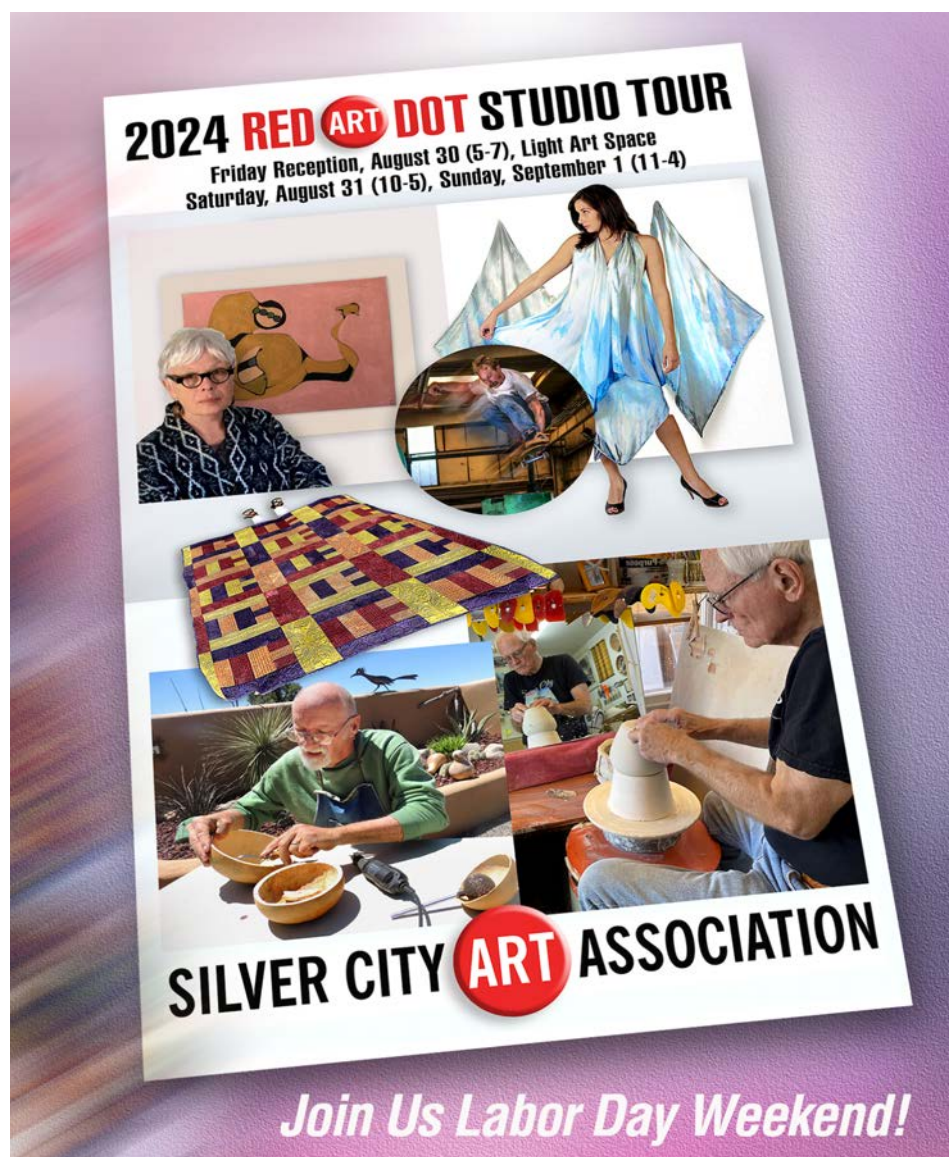
"When people go to look for information, they're more likely to go to information that they put out, which also creates more compartmentalization."

### What advice would you give newcomers

### to journalism?

"Always go out and learn things. Listen to everything. Don't be afraid to talk to us. To those of us who have been in the business, don't be afraid to walk into the building and say, 'Hey, can I speak to the reporter.' And don't be afraid to submit stuff."

"You don't have to be a graduate, or you can come in with a story idea. And somebody would likely say, go for it. Because we always need people to bring new information."





**2024 RED ART DOT STUDIO TOUR**  
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 Saturday, August 31 (10-5), Sunday, September 1 (11-4)

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# Las Cruces Symphony ready for 66th season

Mike Cook

The Las Cruces Symphony Orchestra is gearing up for its 66th season, which begins in September and continues through spring 2025 with live performances in Las Cruces of beloved popular and classical music, including the world premiere of a brand new work.

It will be “a wonderful and varied season,” said Music Director and Conductor Ming Luke, in his third year with the symphony.

The symphony enjoys “an outpouring of support” from the community it serves and the 12-member Symphony Association Board of Directors, Luke said.

The 76-member symphony comprises professional musicians from Las Cruces, El Paso and through-

out the region “who have been part of the music scene for years,” he said, including professors and students from New Mexico State University along with world-class guest artists and conductors.

LCSO has recently added a youth orchestra and a junior orchestra, which provide students of all economic backgrounds with the opportunity to learn to play musical instruments and to perform in concert, including performances alongside LCSO. The orchestras are also an important pipeline for the



## LCSO's 2024-25 season

- **Classics 1 Concert, Saturday-Sunday, Sept. 28-29**, “Pictures at an Exhibition,” French composer Maurice Ravel’s (1875-1937) arrangement of Russian composer Modest Petrovich Mussorgsky’s (1839-81) 1874 suite. The performance will include paintings by 20-30 members of the southern chapter of the New Mexico Watercolor Society, which they will create while listening to seven movements of the piece. The pictures will be matted for exhibition at the performance by Greg Groves at the Picture Frame Factory Outlet. Attendees at the Sept. 28 concert will be able to vote for their favorite compositions.
- **Classics 2 Concert, Saturday-Sunday, Oct. 26-27**, “Danse Macabre,” Russian composer Sergei Prokofiev’s (1891-1953) arrangement of the “tone poem” by French composer Charles-Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921), just in time for Halloween and Dia de los Muertos!
- **LCSO Candlelight Quartet concerts, Saturday, Nov. 16, 2024, and Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 15-16, 2025.**
- **Holiday Pops Concert, December 2024 date to be announced.**
- **Classics 3 concert, Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 18-19, 2025**, German composer Johannes Brahms’ (1833-97) “Academic Festival Overture Opus 80 Symphony No. 4,” featuring the winner of LCSO’s first ever Concerto Competition for LCSO Youth Orchestra members.
- **Classics 4 Concert, Saturday-Sunday, March 29-30, 2025**, “Earth and Space,” featuring American composer Christian Kriegeskotte’s “The Wind Is Causing the Stars to Sway,” which will have its world premiere with the LCSO performance; composer and pianist Heather Pinkham (a California native who lives in the Netherlands) will perform her piano concerto “No Where and No-When”; NMSU trumpet professor and composer Jacob Dalager’s “3futures”; and Czech composer Antonín Dvořák’s (1841-1904) “New World Symphony.” LCSO will perform with the Youth and Junior orchestras.

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symphony and its “very bright future,” Luke said.

The Junior Orchestra, for area middle school students, is conducted by Douglas Poff, director of El Paso’s Brown Middle School Orchestra and former director of two middle schools in Las Cruces. The Youth Orchestra, for high school students in the area, is directed by Michael Mapp, Ph.D., director of bands at NMSU.

The junior and youth orchestras “blow it out of the park” in the quality of their performances, said LCSO Interim Executive Director Carmen Rustenbeck.

LCSO members are outstanding professional musicians, Association Board President Michael Chang said, but they are also down-to-earth people who play music everyone can enjoy. It is perfectly appropriate to wear jeans to a symphony performance, Chang said. The important thing is to go.

Attending a LCSO performance “can move you,” he said. “It’s almost a spiritual experience. Just come one time – you’ll be hooked.”

LCSO has kept ticket prices down – even reducing the lowest ticket price



Photos courtesy of the Las Cruces Symphony Orchestra

es – “to be inclusive of our community,” Chang said. on the youth and junior orchestras.

The symphony was founded in 1958 when NMSU professor Oscar Butler “gathered Las Cruces resident-musicians to perform Brahms’s Requiem,” according to the LCSO website.

LCSO performs in Atkinson Recital Hall in the NMSU Music Building, 1075 N. Horseshoe St.

For individual performance and season tickets and more information, contact Rustenbeck at 575-646-3709 or [executivedirector@lascrucessymphony.org](mailto:executivedirector@lascrucessymphony.org). Visit [LasCrucesSymphony.com](http://LasCrucesSymphony.com) and click on the “Join Us” link for more information



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# The Hotlist

Notable, unique and unusual things to do in southern New Mexico



## Arts Lab Desert Peaks

Dark Circles Contemporary Dance ignites the summer with a transformative two-week workshop for professional dancers from prestigious companies like Dallas Black Dance Theatre, Eisenhower Dance Detroit, and Newport Contemporary Ballet, alongside pre-professional dancers from across the contiguous US, Puerto Rico, and Mexico, culminating in two free performances for the public.

Arts Lab Desert Peaks steps up with free performances at 9 and 10 a.m., Saturday, August 3, on the Plaza de Las Cruces stage, Downtown Las Cruces. Info: DCCDUSA.com



## Montopolis: Two Silent Classics, Two Live Scores

The brainchild of Texas composer Justin Sherburn, combining rock, electronic, and ambient compositions with silent film classics, Montopolis brings two silent masterpieces to the Fountain Theatre in Mesilla for one night only. The first is the 1916 western "The Return of Draw Egan," featuring the music of Ennio Morricone, the second is the 1911 adaptation of Dante's immortal classic "L'Inferno."

Montopolis: Two Silent Classics, Two Live Scores creates movie magic at 7:30 p.m., Friday, August 16, at the Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. Info: MesillaValleyFilm.com



## Champions for Children

Presented as a night of hope and advocacy benefitting Kid's Inc. Child Advocacy Center in Alamogordo, this glittering event promises to be a night filled with dining and dancing under the stars, and the chance to be a hero to children. On hand will be a live DJ to get attendees onto the dance floor, along with a silent auction and a catered dinner.

Champions for Children advocates for kids at 6:30 p.m., Saturday, August 17, at the Tea Shed, 5946 Hwy 54 South, Alamogordo. Info: 575-437-8689



## Georgia and the Butch

The New Mexico Actors Lab in Santa Fe premieres a brand-new play at the Las Cruces Community Theatre for one day only. The staged reading – directed by Robert Benedetti, and featuring Mary Beth Lindsey, Suzanne Lederer, and Kat Sawyer – explores the relationships between Georgia O'Keefe, Maria Chabot, and Mary Wheelwright, three powerhouse women who shaped the landscape of Santa Fe in the early 20th century.

Georgia and the Butch recreates history at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Saturday, August 31, at the Las Cruces Community Theatre, 313 N. Main St., Las Cruces. Info: LCCTNM.org



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## Arts Scene

## Upcoming area art happenings

## OPPORTUNITY

• **Ren Faire call for vendors and artists.** Applications are open for the **53rd Annual Renaissance Arts Faire**, set to take place on Nov. 2-3 at Young Park in Las Cruces. This event is an opportunity for entrepreneurs, artists, food vendors and non-profit organizations to showcase their talents. Interested artist applicants can visit [zapplication.org](http://zapplication.org) to complete the online application form. The deadline for submission is Aug. 16. Early applications are encouraged, and a payment plan is available. Interested food/non-profit applicants can apply at the **Doña Ana Arts Council** office or request an application to the email [admin@daarts.org](mailto:admin@daarts.org). For organizations interested in sponsoring the Renaissance Arts Faire and for more information on how to get involved and support this ongoing event visit the council office at 230 S. Water St. Las Cruces, NM. Volunteers are also needed. For information contact event coordinator Nikayla Rios at 575-523-6403.

• **OMDP monument call for artists.** The nonprofit **Friends of Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks** and **Federal Bureau of Land Management's Las Cruces Dis-**

**trict** announced a call to artists to apply for the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument Artist-in-Residence Program, taking place Sept. 1-30, 2024.

Applications for the September residency may be completed online at [OrganMountainsDesertPeaks.org](http://OrganMountainsDesertPeaks.org) with a deadline of Aug. 9. This year's theme will highlight the 10th anniversary of the Organ Mountains – Desert Peaks National Monument designation.

Artists are provided with housing for the residency and a \$1,000 stipend through the Friends organization. The artist is expected to produce a creative community project; a public event such as a tour, demonstration or workshop; and a completed project used in promoting the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument.

## SILVER CITY

• **The Grant County Art Guild Gallery**, 316 N Bullard in Silver City, will host a **“Meet the Artist”** event featuring local weaver **Wendi Kitting Oliveira**, from 5-7 p.m. on August 2, during the First Friday Art Walk. Oliveira will demonstrate freestyle frame weaving, and hand spinning on a suspended spindle. Visitors who want to try this



**Claudia Hollister's “Blue Magnolia” is part of the “Solace in Nature” exhibition at Light Art Space, opening August 2. (Courtesy photo)**

weaving technique can make their own woven key chain on one of Oliveira's custom-designed tiny frames.

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](http://gcag.org).

• **The Grant County Art Guild Studio** will host an exhibition for **Sally Tilton** titled **“Two Sides of a Coin,”** August 2-10. Tilton will show two bodies of work: the **“Red**

**Balloon”** series on environmental change, and **“Portrait of a Psyche.”** All sales from the Red Balloon series will be donated to the Silver City Youth Mural Program. 50% of the sales from Portrait of a Psyche will go to the Grant County Art Guild. Selections from the Psyche series are neurographic art. On Aug 4 & 10, at the top of each hour from 11am-4pm, Tilton will hold free drawing sessions where she will guide participants through the process of neurographic drawing. The drawing sessions are a drop-in event. No registration needed.

The Guild's annual **“Creatures of the Gila”** show will open August 30 and run from Labor Day weekend through September 8. In this engaging art and wildlife show, each entry depicts, or is inspired by, an actual “creature” (mammal, bird, reptile, fish or insect) that lives in the Gila River watershed. Prizes will be awarded at the opening reception, Aug 30 from 5-7pm. A People's Choice award will be announced the last weekend of the show. In addition to the “Creatures” show, the GCAG Studio offers classes and two Open Studios in August. The free drop-in Open Studios are Aug 8 and 22, from noon-3pm. Bring a creative project or use our art supplies. Visitors to town are always welcome.

The GCAG Studio, 211 N. Texas, Ste C, Silver City, is open from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. seven days a week, with additional hours for special events. To learn more about this and other upcoming Guild shows, classes and other art events, visit [gcag.org](http://gcag.org)

• **Light Art Space**, 209 W. Broadway in Silver City, presents two photography exhibitions featuring alternative processes. **“Solace in Nature,”** an international exhibition juried by Christina Z Anderson, in-

cludes work by 27 artists from across the globe. In the Flash Gallery work by Kathleen Koopman titled **“Wild Detritus: Touched by the Sun, Aged by the Earth,”** is on display, using found material and the light sensitive process of cyanotype. The opening reception for both exhibitions is 5-7 p.m. on First Friday, August 2. The gallery is open 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday; 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday; and by appointment. Info: [lightartspace.com](http://lightartspace.com).

• **Made in Silver City Gallery**, located at 206 W. Broadway St., presents an exhibition featuring landscape painter **Karen Danhauer**, running August 2-31. An opening reception for the artist will be held in the gallery from 5-7 p.m., Friday, August 2. The gallery is open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday to Sunday. Info: [MadeInSilverCity.com](http://MadeInSilverCity.com).

## ALAMOGORDO

• **Otero Arts** presents their featured artist for August 2024: **Pablo Vesej** who has been a professional artist for over 40 years. He has worked in a variety of mediums including wood, canvas,

## ART SCENE

*continued on page 14*

**EVENTS**

*continued from page 13*

clay, metal and semi-precious stone. He is known for painting the Southwest-Style murals on the iconic Classic Desert Aire Hotel in Alamogordo, where some of his framed work is also on display. As a former resident of Taos, New Mexico, he won 1st place in the furniture di-

vision at the Taos Art Invitational.

The exhibition opens with a reception 5-7 p.m. on Friday, August 2 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** features original art works by members

including paintings in several media, photography and photographic art, pottery, basketry, greeting cards and more. CAS holds meetings from March through November the first Sunday of the month at 1 p.m. in the historic "Red Brick Schoolhouse" in the heart of the Village of Cloudcroft. CAS also has a Gallery in the building and hosts shows there from

June through December. Info: ccartociety@gmail.com.

**DEMING**

• "Folk Art" is the subject of the August 2024 exhibit at the **Deming Art Center**. Folk Art has been described as art made from the heart and can be decorative as well as being created for practical purposes. The exhibit will be up from August

2-30, 2024. There will be a time to meet the artists, 1-2:30 p.m., Sunday, August 4. This project is supported in part by New Mexico Arts, a division of the Department of Cultural Affairs, and by the National Endowment for the Arts.

The Deming Art Center is at 100 S. Gold St., Deming. The gallery hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday and 10

a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturday. Info: 575-546-3663 and at www.demingarts.org.

**TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES**

• **Rio Bravo Fine Art** presents "The Poloroids," an exhibition of Polaroid SX 70 photographs by H. Joe Waldrum, the American modernist painter who founded Rio Bravo Fine Art in 1998. Waldrum

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was prolific in the use of the SX 70 format; a collection of approximately 7,000 of his SX 70 photographs resides in the photo archives collection at the Museum of New Mexico in Santa Fe. The exhibition can be seen August 10 through October 21, 2024.

Rio Bravo Fine Arts Gallery is at 110 N. Broadway in Truth or Consequences. Info: Rio

BravoFineArtGallery.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 exhibit 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: [www.lascruces.gov/museums](http://www.lascruces.gov/museums) or 575-541-2137.

• The **Branigan Cultural Center** presents **"It Came from Beyond the Border"** an exhibit featuring work by El Paso

artist Angel Cabrales that embraces the artist-ry of 1950s science fiction B-movie posters and futuristic art to create powerful pieces that confront and comment on current U.S. immigration policies in the United States. The exhibit is on view through September 21, 2024.

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: [www.lascruces.gov/museums](http://www.lascruces.gov/museums) or 575-541-2137.

• The **Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery**, 2470-A Calle de Guadalupe, across from the historic Fountain Theatre, features two local artists for the month of August: **Bob Zolto** and **Richard Spellenberg**. Zolto is a self-taught photographer

whose work is influenced by Ansel Adams, Joe McNally, and other photo-journalists. Spellenberg, a woodworker, is originally from California and has lived in Las Cruces since 1968. His interest in wood stems from his work as a biology professor at NMSU.

Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Info: 575-522-2933, [mesillavalleyfinearts.com](http://mesillavalleyfinearts.com)


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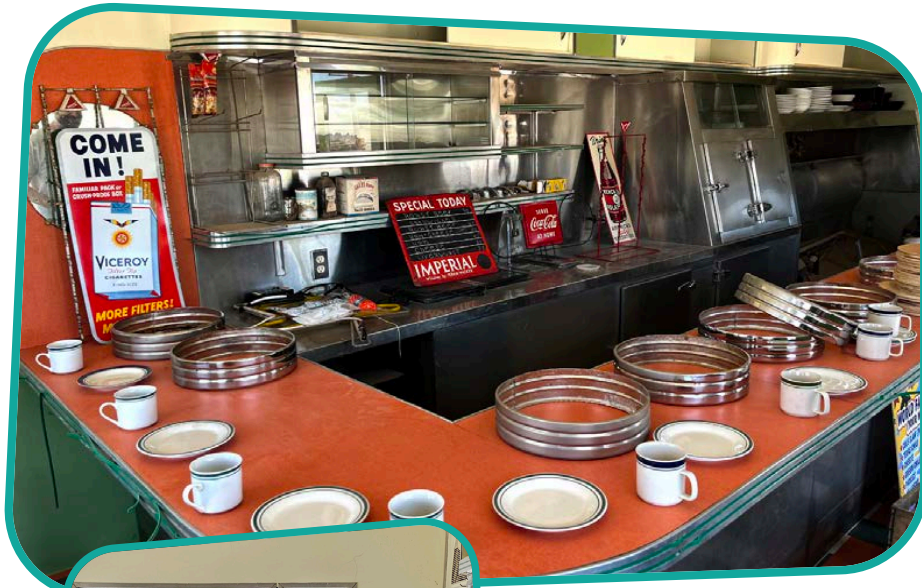
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# A Valentine for Hatch



By David Salcido

If you've lived in or traveled through southern New Mexico over the last decade and a half, you're no doubt already familiar with Sparky's, the award-winning burger emporium in Hatch. Even if you're one of those rare types who haven't stopped in for a bite, you will have noticed the many examples of vintage memorabilia littering the landscape on both sides of the road at the corner of Franklin and Hall Street. The couple behind both the restaurant and the memorabilia are Teako and Josie Nunn who opened Sparky's during the summer of 2008.

The Nunns latest project, however, is sure to bring just as much excitement to the bucolic village as the original did. For the past eighteen years, Teako has been slowly bringing a vintage roadside diner back to life, while Josie handles the aesthetics of color and style. In August of this year, they will reveal it to the public. The diner, an original "Little Chef" from the Valentine Lunch System, was built in 1949, and purchased by Teako "sometime around 2006." The Nunns' loving restoration will result in yet another roadside attraction for visiting tourists.

The history of the Valentine Diner is entwined with the history of expansion in the American West, and with it, the American

dream. After World War II, an enterprising young fellow named Arthur Valentine, who had worked for a hotel supply company that manufactured prefabricated mail order diners, went into business for himself. Unlike other existing companies, his concentration was on the states west of the Mississippi. The new Interstate Highway System beginning to flourish there created the necessary momentum.

Creating small diners that could be run by two people, the Valentine diners came complete with grill, counter and eight to ten stools. Once it was unloaded and placed on a cement slab, or bricks at each corner, it just had to be plugged in and it was ready to go. The Nunns' diner is 8 feet by 30 feet and is completely self-contained, even down to the restroom, which can be accessed from the outside of the building. Built in 1949 in Hutchison, Kansas, it was loaded onto a flatbed and transported out west.

"I found it in a warehouse in El Paso, 18 years or so ago, owned by a guy who buys and sells antique cars," Teako said. "He had purchased it years before from somewhere in Fabens, Texas, but had lost interest in it. It was dusty, but it hadn't been vandalized or anything. All the glass was good, the door opened and closed, it looked like everything was original. I didn't really know at the

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## Local entrepreneurs Teako and Josie Nunn rebuild an American dream ✨

me, but it was a rare find. It even has all four of the wings on the sides, which never happens. As they get moved, over and over again, they tend to lose them. We got lucky. I ended up trading him an antique jukebox, a muscle car and some cash for it." The purchase made, Teako began restoration on the diner right away. A new roof and paint job was a start, as was rewiring to bring it up to code. Light fixtures and an air conditioner and heater were added. Josie picked out the tile for the floor and was able to track down the original Formica for the counter. The stools were replated, and new seats created using another original material found by Josie. The rest is still being assembled, but only authentic items are under consideration.

"The pie cases are original. I have an old juke machine that I want to put in. I've got an old top hat neon that I want to hang in the window. I've got a cash register from the 30s that I'll put on the counter." Teako said, reeling off the list excitedly. "I also have an old jukebox, from 1948, that will play old 78s from the time. I want it to be completely authentic."

Now sitting in its new home in the lot on the southeast corner of Franklin and Hill Street, across from B&E Burritos, renovations continue. The plan is to have a showplace for tourists to visit, though Tea-

ko hasn't decided whether or not to open the kitchen. Even so, he's hoping people will stop by to check out his progress.

"I'm going to have the gate open while we're working on it, so people can come in and take pictures and stuff," he said.

Just as with Sparky's, the décor will extend beyond the building itself. "I want to put a couple of old gas pumps in," said Teako. "I've got an old Phillips 66 pump, '39 model, that's period correct. It's out of the 1930s. I won't restore them. I want them to look like they've been here a while. I'll probably put in a couple of old cars out front. Then I'll put in an old wooden fence, just to frame it. Of course, I'll probably end up hanging old signs on it. I'm trying to recreate what I always look for when I travel."

So far, a name hasn't been decided upon, but Teako has a few ideas he's throwing around. "I don't have a name for it yet, but I want something legit. Something soft and catchy, but I haven't figured out what it will be yet. Something classy. I want it to flow like butter."

In essence, the diner is an homage to the chasing of that illusive American dream, as imagined by creative thinkers a cen-

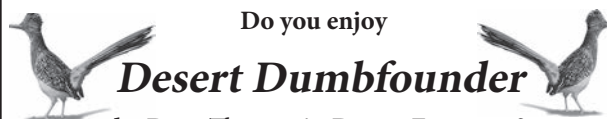


ture ago. Teako and Josie Nunn, creative thinkers themselves, are proponents of keeping that history alive, while adding to the already piquant flavor of the village they call home.

"People will know it's something special, even if they don't recognize its authenticity," Teako said. "It will be a legitimate roadside attraction. To me, it's an art project. Really, what is it? A piece of Americana. It really is art, to me."



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by Dave Thomas in Desert Exposure?

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# On The Dot

## Red Dot Studio Tour returns Labor Day weekend



Donna Foley at her Four Directions Weaving Studio and farm.

The Silver City Art Association Red Dot Studio Tour returns once again Labor Day Weekend, August 30 – September 2. An artist reception will kick off the weekend from 5-7 p.m. Friday evening, August 30, at Light Art Space Gallery, 209 West Broadway. Meet the artists, view a work representing each one's studio, and pick up a brochure to guide you on your weekend tour. Tour hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturday and 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday. The Studio Tour brochure is conveniently divided into two maps, in town and out

of town, for easy planning and traveling. This year's tour includes new to Grant County artists, as well as those for whom New Mexico has been their long-term base and muse. Experience a variety of art: functional and narrative clay work, paintings in diverse media including beeswax, photography,



Catherine Russo slab-built and wheel-thrown clay forms at Seedboat Center for the Arts.

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Betsy - Husky/Shepherd X, Female, 6 months

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Cotterpin/RumbleBugs - Pug X, Males, 11 weeks old

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Jarid - Black Mouth Cur, Neutered, 5+ years

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Mikey - Chihuahua, Male, adult

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montage, sculpture, digital, and fiber works. Follow the map down country roads, along scenic byways, as well as historic downtown Silver City, finding studios where you love the art.

New Studios on this year's Tour include Sally Tilton, Kathryn Schmid, and Joni Giovanna Hesley. Clay artists are Kathryn Allen, Susan Mach, Claude W Smith III, and Catherine Russo. Artists working in drawing and paint are Mimi Calise Peterson, Richard Harper, Kathryn Schmid, Diana Ingalls Leyba, Sally Tilton.

Contemporary and traditional metal sculptures

are created at Nick Barton's Imaginary Forge and Michael Metcalf's studio. Janey Katz and Bryan Hyde offer unique twists in photography and design. Visit Joe Kennedy for turquoise, paintings and drawings.

Fiber Art is big on the tour from Suzi Calhoun's quilted art, Donna Foley's natural dyed yarns and weaving, Gio Hesley's hand painted silk, to Marcia Tinker's Reimagined apparel. Pierre Nichol's Mimbres inspired gourd art and Diane Kleiss's encaustic sculptures cannot be missed.

The Youth Mural Program is also a Red Dot Studio project, whose vi-

brant art is seen on walls throughout the Silver City region. Many of the studio artists work in a variety of mediums other than mentioned.

The exchange between artists and visitors makes the annual Studio Tour

rich and unique. Visiting artists in their creative space gives insight into different media, processes, and the methods each artist has in applying their techniques. Included are works in progress, completed art and infor-

mative demonstrations. It is also a chance to discover some areas around Grant County that artists discovered before you.

To get an early preview of the studio tour artists, the art exhibit at Light Art Space opens to the

public on August 22. Tour brochures are available at Light Art Space, local businesses and at the Silver City Visitor Center. Studio artist information is always on the Silver City Art Association website at SilverCityArt.com.



Pierre Nichols artwork is made from humble gourds includes ethnic masks, bowls, and ollas representing the prehistoric Mimbres culture.



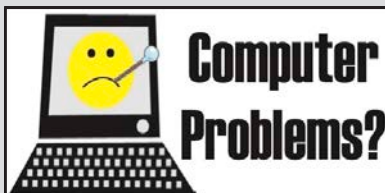
Youth Mural Program engages young people, teaching them about the history and culture of their community while creating over 70 public murals.

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# Shards of handwritten glass

## On reading other people's love letters

"I am eating a nice big juicy apple – wouldn't you like some? Well, try and get it."

Ruth depicts herself languishing on her bed, hair freshly washed, wearing clean pajamas: "I feel like a million." She is writing to Dill, as she often does and probably shouldn't.

"I have some news for you. I don't know whether to tell you yet or not. I guess I'll keep it until I'm sure."

It is December 1929. The stock market has recently crashed. Ruth is in college in Washington, D.C. while Dill, recently graduated from Cornell University, works at the legendary J. Walter Thompson advertising firm in New York

City. Ruth longs to visit him there.

Seven handwritten letters sit on my table, posted a century ago with 2-cent stamps, from Ruth and three other women in Dill's life, resembling colorful pieces of a puzzle. Dill's presence is in negative space: We have none of his letters, but it is evident that he wrote often and sweetly.

Among the endless variety of collectible items found online, antique letters by ordinary people from all walks of life and different eras may be purchased. Letters by historical figures carry steeper prices, yet there is much beauty to be found in letters by regular folks describing daily minutiae that, a century later, is

vivid history.

Do I read them as a historian, an aficionado of the written letter, or a voyeur? Perhaps all three.

Details about Dill can be found in alumni magazines and newspaper archives online. His obituary ran in the New York Times in 1990.

Dill did not marry any of these correspondents but seems to have kept these letters for a long while. How did they end up on eBay? An estate sale, perhaps boxed together in a desk or among mementos in an attic? Are there more letters out there?

Ruth had secrets, we know from these four letters. They are genuine love letters of the earnest

and unembarrassed sort. Writing one while seated in her car, she tells Dill: "I think about you too much and am always wanting to get away from people so I can think about you."

Her parents have caught on to them. It seems they snuck off together to Pittsburgh when she was supposed to be in Long Beach, and parents, being clever, know that a person cannot be in two places at once.

Our last glimpse of her, writing in bed in her pajamas, enticing him to sample her apple while encouraging him to move on and enjoy his life, is beautiful, her handwriting more elongated and less careful than in previous let-

ters, as if she were sleepy and receding into dreams.

Her secret news, which she kept under embargo "until I am sure," remains obscure – although I have a guess. What became of her?

And what to do with these lovely shards? Dill has descendants who could be found, but none of these letters were written by their mother or grandmother. It might seem odd to offer these papers to them. The women's descendants, I did not locate.

So they remain with me, for now, these seven love letters that evoke more than their young authors could have realized a century ago writing to their sweet Dill.

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



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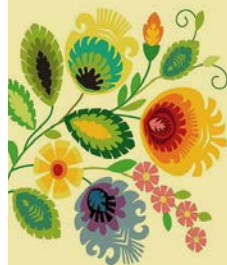
- Gila Watershed Partnership, Safford
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# Peripheral Neuropathy Breakthrough!



**"My feet feel like they're on fire." "Each step feels like I'm walking through wet paint." "I live in constant fear that I'll fall." "I can't sleep, my hands and feet tingle all night."**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Call (575)618-6900 to schedule an initial consultation or visit [sonoma-acupuncture.com](http://sonoma-acupuncture.com) to read more incredible success stories.

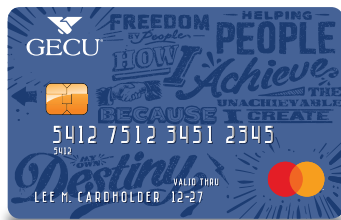




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## EDITORIAL

## Featured Columns

**RaisingDad**

Persnickety  
“The trouble with getting old.”

By Jim and Henry Duchene

I'd like to thank all my readers who wished me well in the aftermath of my full knee replacement surgery. I call it that to make the experience sound more dramatic than it actually was, but I'd like you to know that I didn't mention my surgery as a way to garner sympathy. I mentioned it hoping someone would start a Go Fund Me account.

Of course, I'm only kidding.

Well wishes weren't necessary, my friends, but they were very much appreciated. It's always nice to know that someone is out there reading these words I write, although recent correspondences have been more along the lines of “Where's the end of your story?”

Just so you know, I have nothing to do with that, but the situation is similar to the old National Lampoon Radio Hour shows from back in the 70s. It was a very funny hour-long show that eventually became a half-hour show. The

Lampoon was upset at what it considered a demotion, so it didn't bother updating the name to reflect the change and, in fact, began to end every half-hour episode with an enthusiastic reminder to “stay tuned for the second half of our show!”

This led to a lot of angry calls from angry listeners to the radio stations which broadcast the show, and believe me, you don't want a gaggle of angry hippies after you. To get even they might just fall asleep on your lawn.

To read the full column you've grown to love, scan the code or visit us at [desertexposure.com](http://desertexposure.com)

**Everyday Observations**

Automation can't do everything, and I hope it doesn't

By Abe Villarreal

In our new world of automation, I'm asking myself who will

be changing my kitty litter each day. Doesn't my cat want me to do it? Doesn't it say something about our relationship?

Automation may be solving problems, but it's not replacing, or it shouldn't, what we mean to each other. Person to person. Person to cat.

I have to take my own trash bag down from my second story apartment to the corner trash bins for the weekly collection. Automation hasn't figured out how to do that for me. Maybe one day it will.

The older I get, the more I sound like an old, grumpy man fighting against the advancement of technology. Progress is supposed to be a good thing, until it isn't. Until it changes the kind of society we all say we used to love to have when we were kids.

What we leave behind with progress is what we look back on with the most fondness. Having to go outside after school because there was more to do outdoors than there was inside. Cooking in the kitchen for hours because we had to use our hands to separate and to shape. We had pots that took time to boil ingredients until that perfect golden

hour.

Our modern-day anxiousness has us skipping steps, cutting corners, reducing quality, and thinking less. Time is now an enemy, not something we see as value. There was a desire, and there still is in other parts of the world, for us to sit and think. It meant something when we did that, and we always felt better after doing it.

To read the full column you've grown to love, scan the code or visit us at [desertexposure.com](http://desertexposure.com)

**Talking Horses**

The Handbook for Horses

By Scott Thomson

As I near the end of my long journey with horses, I often reflect on the one question I've heard more than any other. That is, why have I always felt a natural approach to teaching horses is the best way to establish a foundation on which you can develop the best possible equine

partner for your interests? I came to horses late in life, with no previous exposure or experience. It became clear very quickly that this was an activity that was far more challenging, and potentially much more dangerous, than I thought. I knew immediately I needed a lot of help. Fortunately, at the time I lived in an area where I had access to some of the best horsemanship practitioners in the country, and I had the time and the means to study with them from the start.

These horsemen gave me what I came to see was a real gift, essentially that natural horsemanship was the “owner's manual” for the horse. It allows you to reach and teach the horse in ways that make sense to him and that use his basic instincts to your advantage. A relationship with a horse, based on natural horsemanship techniques, makes more specialized or refined training go faster and smoother.

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**Little Foot  
and Third Seven  
Aug. 1**



**Victoria Bailey  
Aug. 3**

## EVENTS

# What's Happening

Events you won't want to miss in August

### THURSDAY, August 1

**Little Foot and Third Seven**, 6 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 Hwy 180 East, Arenas Valley. Info: 575-388-126

**Karaoke Outside Courtyard Party**, 7–10 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N Bullard St, Silver City. Info: 575-956-6144

**Los Pescadores del Rio Conchos**, 8 p.m. at Wingfield Park, 300 Center St., Ruidoso. Info: VisitRuidoso.com

### Amador Live presents Mt.

**Metal, Bleed the Vain** 9 p.m. at Jax Rooftop, 302 S. Main St., Las Cruces. Info: 575-541-7417

### FRIDAY, August 2

**Launch Pad Lecture Series**, 9 a.m. at New Mexico Space Museum, 3198 State Road 2001, Alamogordo. Info: NMSpaceMuseum.org

**Art & Wine in the Cool Pines**, 4-8 p.m. at Sacramento Mountains Museum, Cloudcroft. Info:

575-682-2733

**Pablo Vesey Reception**, 5-7 p.m., at Otero Artspace, corner of 12th Ave. and Indiana Ave., Alamogordo. Info: OteroArts.org

**First Fridays Art Walk**, 5-7 p.m. at Downtown Silver City. Info: SilverCityArt.com

**First Friday Art Ramble**, 5-8 p.m. in the Arts & Cultural District, Downtown Las Cruces. Info: 575-525-1955

**First Friday Fine Arts Flea Market**, 5-9 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces, Downtown Las Cruces. Info: 505-737-3278

**National Night Out**, 6-9 p.m., Main Street, Las Cruces. Info: 575-297-7982

### August 2–4

**Old Lincoln Days**, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Lincoln Historic Site, 988 Calle La Placita, Lincoln. Info: 575-653-4025

### August 2-8

**Mesilla Valley Film Society presents "Kinds of**

**Kindness**," 7:30 & 2 p.m. at the Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. Info: MesillaValleyFilm.org

### SATURDAY, August 3

**Sierra County Farmers Market**, 8:30-11:30 a.m. at 300 Riverside Dr., Truth or Consequences. Info: 575-894-1968

**Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces**, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces, Downtown Las Cruces. Info: 575-201-3853

**Arts Lab Desert Peaks Performance**, 9 & 10 a.m. on the Plaza de Las Cruces stage, Downtown Las Cruces. Info: DCCDUSA.com

**Farmers Market of Otero County**, 9-11 a.m. at Tractor Supply, 2900 N. White Sands Blvd., Alamogordo. Info: 575-430-2081

**Silver City Farmers Market**, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at 1120 N. Main St., Silver City. Info: SilverCityFarmersMarket.



**Art & Wine in the Cool Pines**, 12-8 p.m. at Sacramento Mountains Museum, Cloudcroft. Info: 575-682-2733

**Les Salons des Arts Divers**, 5-7:30 p.m. at Downtown Blues Coffee, 130 S. Main St. Info: 575-523-8828

**Joey Green in Concert**, 6 p.m. at Downshift Brewing Company, 2408 B Sudderth Dr., Ruidoso. Info: 575-257-5300

**The Gilbert and Sullivan Company presents "Trial by Jury" and "The Zoo,"** 7 p.m. at The Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Main St. Info: 575-523-1223

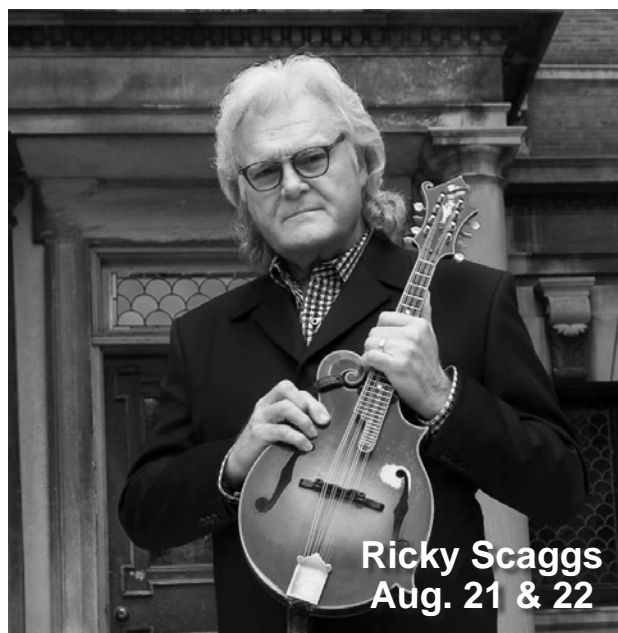
**Mandy Barnett in Concert**, 7 p.m. at the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts, 108 Spencer Dr., Alto. Info: 575-336-4800

**Victoria Bailey**, 7 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 Hwy 180 East, Arenas Valley. Info: 575-388-1266

#### SUNDAY, August 4

**Art & Wine in the Cool Pines**, 12-4 p.m. at Sacramento Mountains Museum, Cloudcroft. Info: 575-682-2733

**Black Cat Poetry Reading**, 1-2:25 p.m. at Ingo's Art Café, 422 Broadway, Truth or Consequences. Info: 575-551-8186



**Ricky Scaggs**  
Aug. 21 & 22

**The Gilbert and Sullivan Company presents "Trial by Jury" and "The Zoo,"** 2:30 p.m. at The Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Main St. Info:

575-523-1223

**MONDAY, August 5**  
**SUMAC, Portrayal of Guilt, Trigger Object**, 7 p.m. at

Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 Hwy 180 East, Arenas Valley. Info: 575-388-1266

#### TUESDAY, August 6

**Swing on the Plaza**, 7-11 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces, Downtown Las Cruces. Info: 575-541-2290

**The Los Angeles League of Musicians (La Lom)**, 7 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 Hwy 180 East, Arenas Valley. Info: 575-388-1266

#### WEDNESDAY, August 7

**Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces**, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces, Downtown Las Cruces. Info: 575-201-3853

**Ghost Funk Orchestra**, 7 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 Hwy 180 East, Arenas Valley. Info: 575-388-1266

#### THURSDAY, August 8

**The Black Hole in Concert**, 6 p.m. at Cloudcroft Brewing Company, 1301 Burro Ave. Cloudcroft. Info: 575-682-2337

**Chris Higgins in Concert**, 8 p.m. at the Inn of the Mountain Gods, 287 Carrizo Canyon Rd., Mescalero. Info: 800-545-9011

#### FRIDAY, August 9

**11th Annual Deming**

#### EVENTS

*continued on page 26*



## First Friday Art Walk • Aug. 2 • 5-7pm

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## EVENTS

*continued from page 25*

**Pride**, 5 p.m. at SWNM Fairgrounds, 4300 Raymond Reed Blvd., Deming. Info: 575-288-5132

**Max Gomez**, 8 p.m. at Wingfield Park, 300 Center St., Ruidoso. Info: VisitRuidoso.com

**Las Cruces Tennis Players Association Tennis Scramble**, 7:30 p.m. at Lions Park, 701 W. Picacho Ave. Info: LasCruces.tennis

**The Consequences**, 8 – 11 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N Bullard St, Silver City. Info: 575-956-6144

### August 9-15

**Mesilla Valley Film Society presents "Daddio,"** 7:30 & 2 p.m. at the Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de

Guadalupe, Mesilla. Info: MesillaValleyFilm.org

### August 9 - 25

**LCCT presents Hello Dolly!**, 7:30 p.m. at Las Cruces Community Theatre, 313 N. Main St. Info: 575-523-1200

### SATURDAY, August 10

**Sierra County Farmers Market**, 8:30-11:30 a.m. at 300 Riverside Dr., Truth or Consequences. Info: 575-894-1968

**Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces**, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces, Downtown Las Cruces. Info: 575-201-3853

**Farmers Market of Otero County**, 9-11 a.m. at Tractor Supply, 2900 N. White Sands Blvd., Alamogordo. Info: 575-430-2081

**Silver City Farmers Market**, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at 1120 N. Main St., Silver City. Info: SilverCityFarmersMarket.info

**Ice Cream Social**, 12 p.m. at the Kingston Ghost Town Museum, 28 Main Street, Kingston. Info: 575-895-5501

**Workshop: Perseid Meteor Showers & Dark Sky in Southern New Mexico**, 1 p.m. at Dam Site Lodging & Marina, NM-177, Truth or Consequences. Info: 575-740-7468

**Movies in the Park** series presents "Five Nights at Freddy's," dusk at Young Park, 1905 E. Nevada Ave., Las Cruces. Info: 575-541-2550

## 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

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.

### 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

**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 Anony-**

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

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

### 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.

**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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**11th Annual Deming Pride**, 5 p.m. at SWNM Fairgrounds, 4300 Raymond Reed Blvd., Deming. Info: 575-288-5132

**2024 Las Cruces Summer Beer Fest**, 5-11 p.m. on Plaza de Las Cruces, 100 N. Main St., Las Cruces. Info: 575-621-4612

**Second Saturday Art Hop**, 6-9 p.m. on Main Street, Truth or Consequences. Info: 575-894-1968

**Men Who Cook**, 6-10 p.m. at the Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave., Las Cruces. Info: 575-526-0100

**The Fabulous Thunderbirds in Concert**, 8 p.m. at the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts, 108 Spencer Dr., Alto. Info: 575-336-4800

**TUESDAY, August 13**  
**Flagship Romance Live**, 6 p.m. at The Lighthouse, Riverbed Hot Springs, 124 Austin Ave., Truth or Consequences. Info: 575-894-7625

**Swing on the Plaza**, 7-11 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces, Downtown Las Cruces. Info: 575-541-2290

**WEDNESDAY, August 14**  
**Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces**, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces, Downtown Las Cruces. Info: 575-201-3853

**THURSDAY, August 15**  
**The March Divide in Concert**, 6 p.m. at 575 Brewing Company, 234 W. 8th St. W., Alamogordo. Info: 575-437-8804

**Karaoke Outside Courtyard Party**, 7-10 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N Bullard St, Silver City. Info: 575-956-6144

**FRIDAY, August 16**  
**Silver City Poetic Outlaws Open Mic**, 5:30 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo, in the Lodge, 11786 Hwy 180 East, Arenas Valley. Info: 575-388-1266

**The March Divide in Concert**, 6 p.m. at Cloudcroft Brewing Company, 1301 Burro Ave. Cloudcroft. Info: 575-682-2337

**Montopolis: Two Silent Classics, Two Live Scores**, 7:30 p.m. at the Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. Info: MesillaValleyFilm.com

**The Dirt Live**, 9 p.m. at Picacho Peak Brewing Company, 3900 W. Picacho Ave., Las Cruces. Info: 575-647-4797

**SATURDAY, August 17**  
**Sierra County Farmers Market**, 8:30-11:30 a.m. at 300 Riverside Dr., Truth or Consequences. Info: 575-894-1968

**Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces**, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces, Downtown Las Cruces. Info: 575-201-3853

**Farmers Market of Otero County**, 9-11 a.m. at Tractor Supply, 2900 N. White Sands Blvd., Alamogordo. Info: 575-430-2081

**Silver City Farmers Market**, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at 1120 N. Main



St., Silver City. Info: SilverCityFarmersMarket.

**Fifth Annual Bug Fest**, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Museum of Nature and Science, 411 N. Main St., Las Cruces. Info: 575-522-3120

**Las Cruces ComicCon**, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. at Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave. Info: LasCrucesComicCon.org

**Las Cruces Monster Truck Wars**, 12-4 p.m. at Southern New Mexico Fairgrounds, 12125 Robert Larson Blvd., Las Cruces. Info: MonsterTrucks.fun

**5th Annual Brewdoso**, 12-7 p.m. at Wingfield Park, 300 Center Street, Ruidoso. Info: Brewdoso.com

**3rd Annual Otero County Heritage Festival & Street Dance**, 4-10 p.m., Flickinger Center for Performing Arts, Alamogordo. Info: 575-473-2202

**Featured Reading + Open Mic**, 6-8:30 p.m. at the Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main St., Las Cruces. Info: 575-541-2154

**Champions for Children – A Night of Hope and Advocacy, Benefitting Kid's Inc. Child Advocacy Center**, 6:30 p.m. at The Tea Shed, 5946 HWY 54 South, Alamogordo. Info: 575-214-2558

**Hooks & the Huckleberries**, 7 p.m. at Wingfield Park, 300 Center St., Ruidoso. Info: VisitRuidoso.com

**Las Cruces Comic Con After Party**, 7-10 p.m. at Rad Retrocade, 201 N. Main St., Las Cruces. Info: 575-556-9338

**DJ Mischievous**, 9 p.m. – Midnight at Little Toad Creek, 200 N Bullard St, Silver City. Info: 575-956-6144

**August 17-22**  
Mesilla Valley Film Society

presents **"20,000 Species of Bees,"** 7:30 & 2 p.m. at the Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. Info: MesillaValleyFilm.org

**SUNDAY, August 18**  
**Las Cruces ComicCon**, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave. Info: LasCrucesComicCon.org

## EVENTS

*continued on page 28*



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## EVENTS

*continued from page 27*

**The Over Souls**, 1–4 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N Bullard St, Silver City. Info: 575-956-6144

**Flagship Romance in Concert**, 6 p.m. at Downshift Brewing Company, 2408 B Sudderth Dr., Ruidoso. Info: 575-257-5300

**Mesilla Valley Film Society**

presents “Johnny Guitar,” 7:30 p.m. at the Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. Info: MesillaValleyFilm.org

**TUESDAY, August 20**

**Swing on the Plaza**, 7-11 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces, Downtown Las Cruces. Info: 575-541-2290

**WEDNESDAY, August 21**

**Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces**, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces, Downtown Las Cruces. Info:

575-201-3853

**Author Talk with Denise Chavez**, 1:30 p.m. in the Roadrunner Room, Thomas Branigan Memorial Library, 200 E. Picacho Ave. Info: 575-649-8786

**Ricky Scaggs in Concert**, 8 p.m. at the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts, 108 Spencer Dr., Alto. Info: 575-336-4800

**THURSDAY, August 22**

**Nikki Diamonds and Marley Hale**, 7 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 Hwy 180 East, Arenas Valley. Info: 575-388-1266

**Zach Aaron**, 6 p.m. at Wingfield Park, 300 Center St., Ruidoso. Info: VisitRuidoso.com

**Aggie Invasion End of Summer Bash**, 7 p.m. at Amador Live, 302 S. Main St., Las Cruces. Info: 575-541-7417

**Ricky Scaggs in Concert**, 8 p.m. at the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts, 108 Spencer Dr., Alto. Info: 575-336-4800

**FRIDAY, August 23**

**4th Friday**, 6-10 p.m. at Washington Park, Alamogordo. Info: 575-439-



## Third Seven Aug. 1

4159

**August 23-29**

Mesilla Valley Film Society presents **The Sundance Short Film Tour**, 7:30 & 2 p.m. at the Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla. Info: MesillaValleyFilm.org

**SATURDAY, August 24**

**Sierra County Farmers Market**, 8:30-11:30 a.m. at 300 Riverside Dr., Truth or Consequences. Info: 575-894-1968

**Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces**, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces,

Downtown Las Cruces. Info: 575-201-3853

**Farmers Market of Otero County**, 9-11 a.m. at Tractor Supply, 2900 N. White Sands Blvd., Alamogordo. Info: 575-430-2081

**Silver City Farmers Market**, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at 1120 N. Main St., Silver City. Info: SilverCityFarmersMarket.

**575 Cars presents the Las Cruces Car Show Fiesta**, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Sisbarro Buick-GMC, 425 W. Boutz Rd. Info: 575Cars.com

**Great American Duck Race**, 12-4 p.m. at McKinley Duck Downs, Courthouse Park, 700 S., Silver Ave., Deming. Info: 575-567-3905

**WNMU Welcome Back Bash**, 5:30 p.m. on Regents Square, 1000 W. College Ave., WNMU Campus, Silver City. Info: WNMU.edu/culture

**Lasso Up Western Dinner, Dance and Fun**, 6-10 p.m. at the Las Cruces Convention Center, 574 E. University Ave., Las Cruces. Info: 575-521-4794

**EVENTS**

*continued on page 30*

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## 2024 Fall Season

### 8.24 Welcome Back Bash

**The Mango Cakes, DJ Dirtyverbs**  
Gates open at 5:30pm Regents Square

**8.28 Distinguished Speaker Series — J. Doyne Farmer**  
Author of *Making Sense of Chaos: A Better Economics for a Better World*  
7pm Light Hall Theater

**9.19 Alejandro Brittes Trio with Gertie Lopez and The T.O. Boyz** Accordion  
7pm Light Hall Theater

**9.24 Distinguished Speaker Series — Judith Fein**  
Author of *Slow Travel New Mexico*  
7pm Light Hall Theater

**9.26 Creede Repertory Theater** Young Audience Outreach  
10:30am Fine Arts Center Theatre

**9.26 Sidy Samb & Afroflamenco** Senegalese Spanish fusion  
7pm The Gardens at Light Hall

**10.08 President's Chamber Music Series**  
**Kevin Dvorak and Satoko Goellner** cello and piano  
7pm Light Hall Theater

**10.11 Edwina & Charles Milner Women in the Arts**  
**Andrea Polli**, UNM Professor of digital media  
Lecture 7pm Light Hall Theater

**10.17 Edwina & Charles Milner Women in the Arts**  
**Lois Duffy Retrospective** 10/17-11/14  
Lecture 6pm Light Hall Theater  
Opening Reception 7pm McCray Gallery

**10.22 Catapult** *Magic Shadows* - shadow dance theater  
7pm Fine Arts Center Theatre

**10.31 CimaFunk** Afro Cuban funk  
Halloween costume dance party  
9pm Graham Gym

**11.05 President's Chamber Music Series**  
**WÖR** 18th century melodies with a modern twist  
7pm Light Hall Theater

**11.14 Pamyua** Inuit Soul  
7pm Light Hall Theater

**11.21 Las Migas** Spanish flamenco  
7pm Light Hall Theater

**12.04 Iris DeMent / Ana Egge** Americana  
7pm Fine Arts Center Theatre

**12.06 Jingle and Mingle** seasonal fun  
5:30pm Regents Square

**12.14 Mariachi Christmas Spectacular**  
7pm Fine Arts Center Theatre



Pamyua



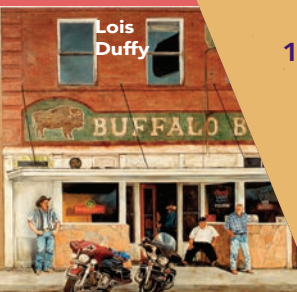
Sidy Samb



Kevin Dvorak



Gertie Lopez



Lois Duffy



WÖR



Iris DeMent



Las Migas

## August Events

**DANCE PARTY**

**Saturday,  
August 24**  
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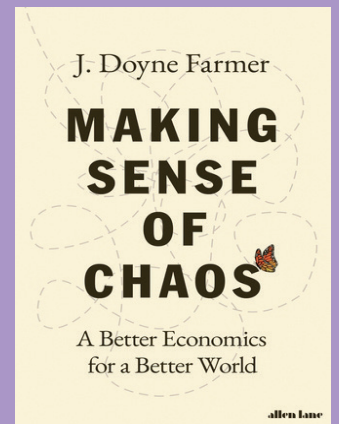
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**J. Doyne Farmer**  
Author  
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## Season Passes Available



2024-25 Season Pass

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Music Series Pass

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## EVENTS

*continued from page 28*

**Shine On Floyd – Pink Floyd Tribute Band**, 7 p.m. at the Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St., Las Cruces. Info: 575-541-2290

**Red Corvette – A Prince Tribute Band**, 8 p.m. at the Inn of the Mountain Gods, 287 Carrizo Canyon Rd., Mesalero. Info: 800-545-9011

**Rhythm Mystic**, 8–11 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N Bullard St, Silver City. Info: 575-956-6144

**Movies in the Park series presents “Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny,”** dusk at Young Park, 1905 E. Nevada Ave., Las Cruces. Info: 575-541-2550

## SUNDAY, August 25

**Great American Duck Race**, 12-2 p.m. at McKinley Duck Downs, Courthouse Park, 700 S., Silver Ave., Deming. Info: 575-567-3905

**Jazz Brunch with John Mitchell and Friends**, 1 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 Hwy 180 East, Arenas Valley. Info: 575-388-1266

**Mama’s Kitchen Sink**, 1–4 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N Bullard St, Silver City. Info: 575-956-6144

## TUESDAY, August 27

**Swing on the Plaza**, 7-11 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces, Downtown Las Cruces. Info: 575-541-2290

## WEDNESDAY, August 28

**Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces**, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces,



**Fabulous Thunderbirds**  
Aug. 10

Downtown Las Cruces. Info: 575-201-3853

**Distinguished Speaker Series presents J. Doyne Farmer**, 7 p.m. Light Hall Theatre, 900 W. College Ave., WNMU Campus, Silver City. Info: WNMU.edu/culture

## THURSDAY, August 29

**Songwriters Showcase**, 6 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 Hwy 180 East, Arenas Valley. Info: 575-388-1266

**Benny Bassett in Concert**, 6:30 p.m. at 575 Brewing Company, 234 W. 8th St. Wl, Alamogordo. Info: 575-437-8804

## FRIDAY, August 30

**Trick Meyers Outlaw Folk Music**, 5-8 p.m. at Truth or Consequences Brewing Company, 410 N. Broadway St., Truth or Consequences. Info: 575-297-0289

**Beth Lee and the Breakups in Concert**, 7:30 p.m. at Downshift Brewing Company, 2408 B Sudderth Dr., Ruidoso. Info: 575-257-5300

**Chris Young in Concert**, 8 p.m. at the Inn of the Mountain Gods, 287 Carrizo Canyon Rd., Mesalero. Info: 800-545-9011

**August 30 – September 2**  
**Red Dot Studio Tour**, 5 p.m.

throughout Grant County. Info: SilverCityArt.com

## SATURDAY, August 31

**Sierra County Farmers Market**, 8:30-11:30 a.m. at 300 Riverside Dr., Truth or Consequences. Info: 575-894-1968

**Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces**, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces, Downtown Las Cruces. Info: 575-201-3853

**Franciscan Festival of Arts**, 9-5 p.m. at the Holy Cross Retreat Center, 600 Holy Cross Rd., Mesilla Park. Info: 575-524-3688

**Farmers Market of Otero County**, 9-11 a.m. at Tractor Supply, 2900 N. White Sands Blvd., Alamogordo. Info: 575-430-2081

**Silver City Farmers Market**, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at 1120 N. Main St., Silver City. Info: SilverCityFarmersMarket.

**Hatch Chile Festival**, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. at Hatch Valley High School, Hatch. Info: HatchChileFestival.org

**New Mexico Wine Festival**, 12-6 p.m. at Southern New

Mexico Fairgrounds, 12125 Robert Larson Blvd., Las Cruces. Info: 575-649-8994

**New Mexico Actors Lab presents “Georgia and the Butch,”** 2 and 7:30 p.m. at Las Cruces Community Theatre, 313 N. Main St. Info: 575-523-1200

**La Reunion Norteña**, 3:30 p.m. at Wingfield Park, 300 Center St., Ruidoso. Info: VisitRuidoso.com

**Gila River Band**, 8-11 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N Bullard St, Silver City. Info: 575-956-6144

## SUNDAY, September 1

**Hatch Chile Festival**, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. at Hatch Valley High School, Hatch. Info: HatchChileFestival.org

**Franciscan Festival of Arts**, 10-4 p.m. at the Holy Cross Retreat Center, 600 Holy Cross Rd., Mesilla Park. Info: 575-524-3688

**New Mexico Wine Festival**, 12-6 p.m. at Southern New Mexico Fairgrounds, 12125 Robert Larson Blvd., Las Cruces. Info: 575-649-8994

**Aaron Golay & The Original Sin**, 1–4 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N Bullard St, Silver City. Info: 575-956-6144

## TUESDAY, September 3

**Swing on the Plaza**, 7-11 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces, Downtown Las Cruces. Info: 575-541-2290

## WEDNESDAY, September 4

**Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces**, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces, Downtown Las Cruces. Info: 575-201-3853

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# 125 Years of New Mexico Film

By Michael Swickard

It was in October of 1897 that the very first film was shot, and it happened right here in New Mexico. It was made by Thomas A. Edison, who came on the train to shoot it in the New Mexico Territory, since New Mexico wasn't a state yet. You can watch this movie 126 years after its release. The title is "Isleta Indian School." It is a good descriptive movie title.

Running only twenty-eight seconds, this cinematic first was filmed from a single camera position and used only one camera. Of course, it was filmed in black and white since color in movies was forty years away with such classics as "The Wizard of Oz" or "Snow

White and the Seven Dwarfs." I am sure when the film was released, on February 24, 1898, audiences were amazed.

The film opens and closes on the doorway of a school building that has a sign proclaiming it to be the Isleta Indian School. What you see is a small number of Native American children and their teacher leave the school down a couple of stairs and, in a quick plot-twist, they all walk right back into the school.

It could have been a fire drill since this was a silent film, however, you don't see any smoke. They were the first New Mexico film stars, and we don't have their names. From the pictures we see that the children were ten years of age or less.



A still from "Isleta Indian School." Courtesy photo

As a technical note, the camera operator was Frederick Blechynden, and the production assistant was James H. White. In those days the film camera had to be hand wound at just the right speed or the

people would look like cartoons walking too fast or too slow. A hundred and two years later the film images were transferred to the Library of Congress where you can view them using the Internet.

This was the first of about 250 movies, part or all shot in New Mexico. Not much until 1940 and "The Grapes of Wrath." Others in the next thirty years include "Flying Tigers" and the movie, "Them!" In Las Cruces there was "Hang 'em High" and "Up in the Cellar." Other movies included "The Cheyenne Social Club," and "Journey to the Center of the Earth," which was shot in Carlsbad Caverns. Not surprisingly, the majority of those 250 movies has mostly been filmed in the last 30 years.

Michael Swickard is a podcaster about New Mexico for the Fresh Chile Company in Las Cruces. Email: michael@freshchileco.com

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 shanedaltongallery.com  
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