

Bottom Line

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GREATER LAS CRUCES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE • DECEMBER 2024 • WWW.LASCRUCES.ORG

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GREATER LAS CRUCES
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
150 E. LOHMAN AVE.
LAS CRUCES, NM 88001
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Spirit of Santa"

The sound of holiday music is beginning to permeate many of our homes and businesses and reminds us that the holidays are right in front of us. Again this year, the big debate remains, as I've witnessed on several Facebook pages and in conversations, is the "when" to decorate. Is it before or after Thanksgiving? Is it totally "taboo" to begin before Halloween? Unfortunately, there are no rules, nor do I believe there should be rules when it comes to decorate your home, remember the "magic" of the season lies year-round within your heart. The lights, bows, trees are a simple reflection of your heart.

And so here we are, close to the end of the year and the holiday season. We all can find the "Spirit of Santa," that magical feeling which somehow energizes us and keeps us going. Throughout the years, I've been asked many times "why" I collect Santa's. well, it's simple. It is the magic that this bearded, red-suited gentleman brings to the world. For a brief season in time every year, the magic replaces the negativity, pessimism and sadness with positivity, optimism and joy.

We all have the ability to apply these five simple elements of this "magic" to our lives and make a true impact in our community.

1. Magic of Making a Difference – There's something very special of giving to a non-profit during the holiday season. This simple gesture of giving of your time and/or dollars to make a difference in someone's life mirrors the joy of the season in so many ways. Take a moment to reach out to those organizations that make such a difference in our community. Teaching our children and grandchildren the art of "giving back" makes the holidays a perfect teachable moment.

2. Magic of Friends and Family – Although the stress of the holidays can often be overwhelming, the company of friends and family can also calm us. I always enjoy watching the preverbal "happy

ending" holiday movies. While real life is not always full of happy endings, I have to say that at least for moments of magic during the holidays, they can be a reality. Whether its friends or family or both, connecting with those we love can brighten our lives as much as the tree lights do our homes.

3. Magic of Food – The holiday season brings such traditional foods. In New Mexico, these traditions include, but certainly not limited to, biscochitos, tamales, posole and of course, our own pecan pies. Being raised in Oklahoma, our traditions included chicken and noodles, green bean casserole and cranberry jello salad and Aunt Bill's Brown Candy. The highlight of my memories growing up, however, is my Aunt Sylvia's divinity and fudge. I can still hear the click of the lid on the metal tin where she kept them under layers of wax paper. It's not so much I remember the tastes of the food, once again, it's the magic of the moment.

4. Magic of Shopping – Shopping during the holiday season can, depending on its definition, be calming or stressful. For years my daughter and I would be the first in line at many of the stores at the crack of dawn to catch all those bargains. In retrospect, I don't remember the bargains, the money we saved or the crowds we encountered. What I do remember is the "magic" of the morning. Spending time with my daughter, laughing as we stood in line or conversing over hot coffee or hot chocolate. Yes, we were often cold as we stood outside, but now, those memories keep my warm. P.S. Always remember to shop local – your investment makes a big difference in our community.

5. Magic of Laughter – One thing most lovable about Santa is his "Ho, Ho, Ho" you hear almost constantly whenever you see him. It always makes me smile and laugh myself. In my collection of Santa's I have ones that sing, dance and read stories.

There are times when I drive my family nuts because I get them all singing, dancing and reading at the same time...and then I find myself laughing. Laugh with someone this holiday season... it'll make your day.



DEBBI MOOREGLCC President & CEO

Be strong. Be kind. Be giving. Be supportive. Be available. All of these define what "being a community" really is. Our wonderful, special community which, while we often have differences, comes together to overcome. Together we turn every challenge into an opportunity. The key is that we do this...TOGETHER!

Am I "over the top" for the holiday, Santa, ribbons, bows and all the colors they bring? You bet I am! The sounds, the sights, the colors...all come together to create the "Magic of the Season." It's my tradition that as the season concludes for another year, I keep a Santa out all year, a simple gesture to remind me that the magic of Santa can be yearround, if we only believe. In my version of those famous words, "Yes, my friends, there is a Santa Claus. Enjoy the magic of the season.

To wrap up 2024, I want to take a few moments to thank our chair, Dr. Michael Law, for his leadership, as we all once again navigated another year to find our "new norm." On behalf of the Board of Directors and the Chamber staff, we thank you for your expertise, leadership and professionalism as you've lead the Board of Directors and the Chamber through this year. You represent all that's good, kind and caring in business...Thank you!



Executive Committee

2024 (hair Dr. Michael Law

Warren & Law Dental

2025 Chair Rico Gonzales

El Paso Electric

2023 (hair Jason Lazich

Virgin Galactic

Secretary/Treasurer Kevin Merhege

Pioneer Bank

Vice Chair Building Community Sector

Mike Tourtilott

Sisbarro Volkswagen

Vice Chair **Grow Your Business Sector**

Barbara Torres

Nothing Bundt Cakes

Vice Chair **Investor Services Sector**

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Getz, Funeral Home

Vice Chair

Public Policy Sector

Richard Haas Desert Peak Architects

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Blue Halo

Directors Matthew Conrad

MountainView Regional

Medical Center

Brandy Darden

Nusenda Credit Union

Directors Joah Franzoy

EBID

Directors Kevin Horner

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Directors Amy Hummer

BH&G/Steinborn Real Estate

Courage Idemudia Directors

Wells Fargo

Directors Royal Jones

MVT Services, Inc.

Michael Lutz

American Linen Supply of NM

Directors Scott McLaughlin Spaceport America

Directors Monica Torres

Doña Ana Community College

Directors Mike Woods

Burrell College of

Osteopathic Medicine

Chamber Staff

Debbi Moore President & CEO Ella Vistine Administrative Assistant

Cyndi Armijo Director of Operations

Ed Helsel

575-523-2505

Anniversary Date: 7/13/1972

Say hello to our new & renewing members for November 2024. Take a few minutes to visit or call these wonderful businesses.

NEW INVESTORS

OUR MEMBER

INVESTORS

Direct Therapy Services 1090 Med Park Drive Las Cruces, NM 88005 575-523-7243

direct the rapy services.com/ Anniversary Date: 10/1/2024

US Storage Centers

WE LOVE

8590 Bataan Memorial East Las Cruces, NM 88011 575-500-3995 usstoragecenters.com/storage-units/nm/ las-cruces/8590-bataan-memorial-e Anniversary Date: 10/30/2024

Winston Water Cooler, LLC

1734 Buildtek Court Las Cruces, NM 88005 575-222-1330 winstonwatercooler.com Anniversary Date: 11/1/2024

RENEWING MEMBERS

American Medical Response 920 S. Valley Dr Las Cruces, NM 88005-3077 575-523-0225

amr.net

Anniversary Date: 8/13/2007

Bank of the Southwest

1043 North Main St. Las Cruces, NM 88001-1225 575-527-5498

bankofsw.com Anniversary Date: 9/27/1999

Casa Autoplex

470 W. Boutz Las Cruces, NM 88005 575-525-4500

Anniversary Date: 12/1/2023

Comcast Cable

2750 Mall Drive Suite 300 Las Cruces, NM 88012-8704 575-523-2531 comcast.com/default.cspx Anniversary Date: 11/12/1974

Dona Ana County Humane Society PO Box 1176

Las Cruces, NM 88004-1175 575-647-4808 dachslc.org

Anniversary Date: 12/28/2012

NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS

2211 N. Main St. Las Cruces, NM 88001-1180

Education Trust Board -The Education Plan

1516 Paseo De Peralta Santa Fe, NM 87501-3722 505-476-3860 www.theeducationplan.com Anniversary Date: 7/1/2018

Hamilton Roofing Co.

918 N. Main Carlsbad, NM 88220-6357 575-885-6676 hamiltonroofingcompany.com/ Anniversary Date: 9/1/2022

Holiday Inn Express Las Cruces

2142 Telshor Court Las Cruces, NM 88011-8245 575-522-0700 hiexpress.com/lascruces-n Anniversary Date: 10/31/2011

Insta-Copy Imaging

318 N. Main St. Las Cruces, NM 88001-1273 575-526-6602 insta-copy.com Anniversary Date: 7/12/2000

Jardin de los Ninos

999 W. Amador, Suite E Las Cruces, NM 88005-2739 575-522-2111 jardinlc.org Anniversary Date: 12/2/2011

Judy Enterprises SIG

4096 Demos Ave Las Cruces, NM 88011-4209 575-640-5640 Anniversary Date: 1/3/2014

Kemp Smith LLP

3800 E Lohman Avenue, Suite C Las Cruces, NM 88011-8273 575-527-0023 kempsmith.com Anniversary Date: 9/13/2010

La Clinica de Familia -Administration

385 Calle de Alegra Bldg A Las Cruces, NM 88005-3423 $575-526-1105 \times 2420$ lcdfnm.org/about_lcdf.php Anniversary Date: 8/30/2010

Las Cruces First

5605 Bataan Memorial West Las Cruces, NM 88012-5023 575-524-0654 lascrucesfirst.com/ Anniversary Date: 9/26/2008

Lori D. Allen, Financial Advisor, Edward Jones

1121 Mall Drive Suite B Las Cruces, NM 88011-8102 575-522-4341 edwardjones.com Anniversary Date: 6/2/2014

MCH Family Outreach, Las Cruces 230 S. Alameda St. Suite 201 Las Cruces, NM 88005

575-222-0177 mch.org/locations/las-cruces/ Anniversary Date: 12/1/2023

Mesilla Valley Economic Development Alliance

277 E. Åmador Ste 304 Las Cruces, NM 88004-1299 575-525-2852

mveda.com Anniversary Date: 12/1/2008

Mesilla Valley Public Housing Authority

926 S. San Pedro St Las Cruces, NM 88001-3637 575-528-2000 mvpha.org/ Anniversary Date: 7/1/1990

Pioneer Bank

3831 E Lohman Las Cruces, NM 88011-8447 575-532-7500 pioneerbnk.com/ Anniversary Date: 5/29/1979

Stroll & BeLocal Las Cruces 331 West Las Cruces Avenue Las Cruces, NM 88005

575-654-5622 n2co.com Anniversary Date: 8/1/2018

Tharp Farms 6000 N. Valley Dr. Las Cruces, NM 88007-6001 575-524-4935 Anniversary Date: 11/14/1972

Transforming Life with Heidi

1180 Commerce Dr Box 13122 Las Cruces, NM 88013-4605 720-245-1211 transforminglifewithheidi.com Anniversary Date: 11/1/2023

Wells Fargo 425 S. Telshor Blvd. Building A Las Cruces, NM 88011-8237 575-521-6873 wellsfargo.com/ Anniversary Date: 6/1/1984

Unifirst

6928-A Commerce Ave El Paso, TX 79915-1102 800-537-9074 unifirst.com Anniversary Date: 7/6/1993



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FUTURE EVENTS

please scan

IMPORTANT DATES

Dec 13 - 7:30-9:00am

Eggs & Conversation with Sabrina Martin Rehabilitation Hospital of SNM Dec 19 - 5:30-7:00pm

Business After Hours Courtyard by Marriott NMSU

Feb 1 thru 3

Las Cruces Day in Santa Fe La Fonda Registration now open

For more information, please contact us at 575-524-1968



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GREATER LAS CRUCES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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RIBBON CUTTINGS



On Wednesday, November 6, the Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce welcomed new member Winston Water Cooler, 1734 Buildtek Ct, with a ribbon cutting. Allen Ruddick, Managing Partner, held the proclamation while Anna Lueras, Sales, cut the ribbon.



The Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce, the Las Cruces Green Chamber of Commerce, and the Las Cruces Hispanic Chamber of Commerce joined El Caldito Soup Kitchen, 999 W. Amador, to celebrate their 40 Year Anniversary with a ribbon cutting. Gabe Anaya, President, Michael Lilley, Secretary, and Herb Torres, Treasurer, held the proclamations while Steve Chavira, Executive Director, cuts the ribbons.



The City of Las Cruces held a ribbon cutting on Friday, November 22, to celebrate the completion of the Keep Las Cruces Beautiful mural behind Kohl's. Councilor Cassie McClure and Councilor Becki Graham are present while Breanna Yazzie, Artist, cuts the ribbon



The Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce welcomes new member Muojicare Medical Center, 4502 S Sonoma Ranch Blvd, on Friday, November 22. Dr. Yvonne Muojieje holds the proclamation while Dr. Chukwudi Muojieje cuts the ribbon.

COURTESY PHOTOS

FROM THE AMBASSADOR CHAIR

"Chair of Honor"

As I write my final article as Chair of the Ambassadors I can't help but look back and reflect on these last two years. The time has flown by and it has been absolute honor to serve as the Chair. Thank you to my executive council who has stuck with me these past two years, I appreciate every one of their perspectives and ideas. Our group has grown and changed a lot and I have enjoyed meeting and welcoming new Ambassadors into our group. I have been an ambassador for about 10 years now, and I am so happy that I made the decision to join. The friendships, business connections and knowledge that I have gained are priceless. As my time as Chair comes to an end, my participation and dedication to the Ambassadors does not. I look forward to what our new chair, Lensi Shakra has in store for us in 2025, I know that we will have a great year!



BY LYNDSAY MARTIN 2024 Ambassador Chair

Leadership 32

Unlocking Leadership Potential with Clifton Strengths

Leadership is a much about self-awareness as it is about guiding others, and this is precisely what the 32nd leadership class uncovered during the November 15th class day. The class learned about their natural talents and strengths and how to leverage them to foster better team collaboration in their professional and personal lives. We were honored to have Bill Lee, CEO of the



Gallup McKinley County Chamber of Commerce and Certified Strengths Finder Coach, lead the daylong session with his engaging teachings and insights of the assessment results for the class combined as well as each individual. The class was hosted in a conference room by Holiday Inn Express North, starting the day with a full breakfast and then treated to a delicious lunch by Salud! De Mesilla complete with their delightful deserts. The class gained a renewed sense of confidence in their leadership capabilities which will help them as they begin work on this year's community project.



On Wednesday, November 20, the 2024/2025 Jr. Leadership class participated in a Narcan training held at Dona Ana County. Trainers, Crystal Alfaro, Substance Use Prevention Coordinator, and Jesus "Jesse" Solis, Overdose Prevention Educator, taught the class places to rub to check for responsiveness when someone has overdosed due to the sensitivity of that area.





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