

EXPERIENCE SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO

MAY 2025 | VOL. 30 NO. 5

# DESERT



# exposure



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## Singing the Blues

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## June 5-8

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**Desert #107**  
**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](mailto: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)

"DG RLXTZNV I MLZV TR VBI IOVNZI SIIW NJ SBIO VBI VNOG  
FNVVFI TOIJ FNOI CM VT ZLKI TOI BCOUZI U GLZUJ UCZNOP VBI  
UTSOVTSO JNFXIZ KNVG KZNVIZNCD." - UNZIKVTZ YLKW EZIOOLO

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: "THE WINDY SEASON IS HERE. TO BE HONEST, IT ARRIVED SOMETIME IN JANUARY. I DON'T THINK THERE'S A CORNER OF OUR DUSTY LITTLE PATCH THAT DOESN'T FEEL ITS STING." - DAVID SALCIDO  
Secret Words (\*): "CONSIDERABLY UGH"

Congrats to #106 solvers: Claudette Gallegos\*, Brandy Malone\*, Mike Arms\*, Shorty Vaiza\*, Skip Howard\*, David Pino\*, Sue Merrick\*, George P. Burdell\*, Connie Tull\*, and Will Adams\*!

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**JUNE DEADLINE**

All stories and notices for the editorial section,  
space reservation and ad copy are  
due Thursday, May 15.





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**This is a fantastic opportunity to own an established Restaurant and a Historical building** with a prime location in Downtown Silver City, NM. Designated parking area in the back and a large street-facing corner patio. Adobe Springs has been a turnkey restaurant established for over 30 years showcasing a history of success and community engagement. It is close to the Main Street Plaza, Big Ditch Park with walking tours and the Visitor Center close by. The restaurant has had steady revenue growth over the last 14 years, and beloved menu "staples" that have a history of over 30 years of popularity, seating for 60+ with expansion potential. There is an unfinished room which is used for storage but can be easily turned into a banquet room or extra seating.  
**MLS #40595 \$950,000**



**A grand home with stunning views this remarkable property offers luxury and functionality.** The primary suite boasts a spa-like bathroom with a jetted tub, a large walk-in shower, and dual vanities, plus direct access to a south-facing patio – perfect for morning coffee. Each additional bedroom features sliding doors that open to the outdoors, seamlessly blending indoor and outdoor living. The spacious kitchen is a chef's dream, ready for culinary creations, while the covered patio is ideal for entertaining or unwinding. A separate guest house above the garage provides privacy and comfort for visitors. With ample space for gardening, this home invites you to bring your green thumb and make it your own. **MLS #40758 \$665,000**



**Privacy is exactly what this home has to offer** and only minutes to town and a mile to the Gila National Forest. Located on 3.45 acres, house features 3 bedrooms, two baths, two living areas, custom kitchen, concrete and hardwood floors, 2 car carport and several outside entertaining areas. There is even a "glamping" area over the bridge and through the woods next to the seasonal stream with both water and electricity. There is plenty of flat, usable acreage for RV parking and a fenced backyard for the fur babies. The spectacular view is free. Take the virtual tour. **MLS #40898 \$550,000**



**The former Blue Dome Gallery** located in one of Silver City's most iconic buildings is ready for its new owner! Amazing location on the corner of Yankee and Texas, this gets tons of foot traffic. Was leased until recently and could potentially be split into living/work space or two buildings as there are two entrances. With 1300 s.f. of wide open space and a bathroom, it has the potential to be whatever an artisan wants. New electric and survey in 2023, it is updated and very chic. **MLS #40840 \$320,000**



**High traffic location across from Q's Restaurant and next to HMS Medical services**, this building has a lot of opportunity measures in place such as barred windows, security lights and alarm system that buyer can activate. Laminate floors in main areas. Inside is a large "reception" area with 4 separate offices, two bathroom and little kitchenette. ADA compliant. Lots of off-street parking. **MLS #40582 \$250,000**



**Solar dream home offers seduction** and amazing craftsmanship on this open floor plan layout. 400 amp service, 27 solar panel installation, Generac whole home back-up generator, all on almost 7 acres bordering BLM. Nestled in the ponderosa, oak, and pines, this home boasts 10-14 ft vaulted ceilings, a chef's dream kitchen with large granite prep island and custom cabinetry. The primary bedroom is as big as some homes, including an office and craft/art space. The main level can serve as single level living with two bedrooms, one currently used as a home theater. Downstairs is a fully equipped 1200 sq/ft apartment with separate entrance. Only four owners use this dead end road. The 2000 sq/ft shop with 10' ceilings and solid 12" reinforced concrete walls has been drywalled and is ready to suit your needs, including already being ducted for A/C and Heat.  
**MLS #40843 \$680,000**



**Forest Boundary and Highway frontage above the Mimbres River** is this stunning 328-acre property, offering spectacular views and or privacy. Features one leveled building site, perfect for a cabin, hunting camp or an RV / Manufactured home. Ideal for those who love wildlife, nature and privacy. Hunting - Game Management Unit 24. This is your chance to own a large parcel with Forest Boundary. These Forest Boundary properties are highly sought after. Call today for more details or to schedule a tour...  
**MLS #40922 \$656,000**



**Kitchen with a view. The interior is equally captivating:** Newer laminate floors and vaulted ceilings grace the living room and formal dining area. The kitchen radiates functionality with custom cabinets, serving counter, a skylight, and a prep island. The primary bedroom with large walk-in closet also features a walk-in shower and a jetted tub. Two additional bedrooms offer large closets and great lighting with southern exposure. Upon entering the property, find a two-car garage, a detached metal barn/workshop carport and RV access with septic hookup. The covered porch and yard offer a natural sanctuary with some of the best long range views around. Located near the golf course, this low-maintenance property with an exterior block finish is a must-see today.  
**MLS #40893 \$370,000**



**3 bedroom, 2 bath Palm Harbor manufactured home** in Oakwood Estates. Split floor plan with a spacious kitchen, pantry and eating area. Covered patio in back makes for a great sitting area. Detached double carport. Nice corner lot with city water and city sewer. There is also a parking area for an RV too! **MLS #40901 \$267,000**



**Don't miss this home! Absolutely beautiful setting** and ready for a new owner. 3 bedroom 1 bath home with enclosed garage. A New Roof in 2022 and blow-in insulation, plus the addition of a new grid tied solar giving you practically free electricity / bring your electric vehicles. There's also room for RV parking and a large backyard with a private setting, sharing a boundary with a wildlife filled 550+/- acres. **MLS #40834 \$227,500**

## EDITOR'S NOTE | DAVID SALCIDO

# Change is in the air!

Welcome to the marvelous month of May! All around us the desert is popping with new growth while in the higher elevations, the greening is even more prominent. May is an interesting month, in that it not only represents new beginnings, but is also filled with special holidays recalling our history. Included in that list are May Day (1st), Cinco de Mayo (5th), Mother's Day (11th), Armed Forces Day (17th), National Maritime Day (26th) and Memorial Day (26th), as well as less serious celebrations like No Socks Day (8th) and Dance Like a Chicken Day (14th).

There's just so much to be thankful for in these troubling times and we count our blessings regularly. From my viewpoint, Desert Exposure is a celebration of life in southern New Mexico. One I hope you enjoy reading as much as I enjoy putting together. This month alone has been a joy to compile, because it features articles that span a wide range of interests, from the Silver City Blues Festival to a new Haberdashery enterprise in Alamogordo, and for the foodies among you, several places to grab a

special meal in the Boot-heel of the state.

We also have a new wildlife article by citizen scientist and award-winning author Sharman Apt Russell, as well as the next installment of the series on the BLM's restoration efforts in Lake Valley. Then there are the quirky featurettes, covering events like the Uke Fest in Las Cruces, as well as documenting the prize-winning efforts of Deming school kids to make filmmaking a dream come true. And of course, you don't want to miss the Hotlist and Community Calendar for up-to-date coverage of events and happenings throughout southern New Mexico.

Moving on to the future, as you may already be aware, there have been a lot of changes here at the Las Cruces Bulletin headquarters, where the Desert Exposure has its base. New management, new prospects, and if the stars align the way we would like, a possible expansion of your favorite life and leisure guide. I can't reveal much, but let's just say that every day I am presented with new ideas and suggestions for making Desert

Exposure more accessible and enjoyable for a wider audience.

This also provides an opportunity for you, the reader, to let me know what you like and don't like about Desert Exposure. In a couple of months, I'll be celebrating one year at the helm of this offbeat publication and, with our numbers growing at an acceptable rate, we can afford to break out of the routine. What would you like to see more of? What are we missing? Obviously, we can't accommodate every taste, but your input is invaluable to me.

Send me your suggestions or just drop a line at David@DesertExposure.com and let me know how we're doing. I don't think I need to say keep it friendly, but it never hurts to remind some people that negativity is never appreciated. I encourage you to stay positive in all aspects of your life, because life is too short not to appreciate the good things when they present themselves. Until next month, be safe, be generous, and most of all, be the change you want to see in the world. Your kindness could be somebody else's lifeline.

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







PHOTO OF THE MONTH

This close up picture of a Painted Red Start was submitted by Brandi McCauley, who spotted the vibrant specimen at the Bear Creek Cabins in Pinos Altos.

If you have a favorite recent photo capturing the nature of life and living in southern New Mexico, please share it with us, along with some words about the image and where it was taken. It will be considered for publication in a future issue of Desert Exposure. Submit photos to editor@desertexposure.com.



ABOUT THE COVER

Felix y los Gatos return for another round of music at the Silver City Blues Festival, taking place May 25 & 26. Read more about it beginning on page 10.

Photo courtesy of Franky DeAngelis Art.



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# The Hotlist

Notable, unique and unusual things to do in southern New Mexico during the month of May 2025

## Truth or Consequences Fiesta

Held annually since 1950 with a city-wide celebration that includes a parade, contests, a rodeo, vendors, a beer garden, a kid’s fishing derby, live entertainment by Chacalacas, Tequila Nights and Rockabilly Strangers and more.

Celebrate community from 4 p.m., Friday, May 2 through 4 p.m., Sunday, May 4, throughout the town of Truth or Consequences. Info: [TorCFiesta.com](http://TorCFiesta.com)



## The Last Angry Brown Hat

Alfredo Ramos’ poignant one-act drama brings together four Chicano friends who reflect on their lives, their bond, and their shared history as members of the Brown Berets, a powerful activist group during the Chicano movement of the 1960s and 1970s.

Acknowledge history at 7 p.m., May 2 – 11, at the Starlight Theater, 1915 N. Gold St., Silver City. Info: [SilverCityCommunityTheater.com](http://SilverCityCommunityTheater.com)

## Bloomsday

An Irish time-travel love story following two people who met only briefly in their youth, but find themselves confronting their heartache with wit and humor to create a moving appeal for making the most of the present before it is past.

Confront regret at 8 p.m. & 2:30 p.m., May 2-18, at the Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Main St., Las Cruces. Info: 575-523-1223



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## May Specials

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**Benefits of Ascorbic Acid**

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**Benefits of B - Complex**

- Reduces inflammation, limits signs of aging, and increases cellular regeneration
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- Hydrates skin

**Benefits of Biotin**

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SILVER CITY

### Give Grandly

The Gila Community Foundation presents its annual community-wide fundraising campaign for local non-profits, which will be set up throughout the park, handing out information and answering questions.

Dig deep and give from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, May 3, at Gough Park, 1201 N. Pope St., Silver City. Info: GilaCF.org



ALAMOGORDO

### Cinco de Mayo Brew Fest

Gather your Friends, raise a glass, and sip, savor and celebrate Cinco de Mayo with craft beer and fine wine from across the state, live entertainment by

Tequila Nights Band, Frequenzia, and DJ Movado, a salsa competition and more.

Celebrate culture from 4-11 p.m., Saturday, May 3, at Otero County Fairgrounds, 401 Fairgrounds Rd., Alamogordo. Info: 575-434-0788

### Diana Krall

The Canadian jazz pianist and singer whose albums have sold over 15 million copies worldwide and who has been ranked as one of the greatest jazz artists of the century, continues her world concert tour.

Get jazzy at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, May 3, at the Plaza Theatre Performing Arts Center, 125 W. Mills Ave., El Paso. Info: 915-532-3776



EL PASO

### Journey Down the Gila

Heart of the Gila and New Mexico Wild present a free screening of the documentary that tells the story of three New Mexico teens, who died in service to the wild places they loved, and their mother's trip down the river they sought to protect.

Take a journey down the river at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, May 8, at the Silco Theater, 311 N. Bullard, Silver City. Info: HeartOfTheGila.org/journey-down-the-gila/



GILA



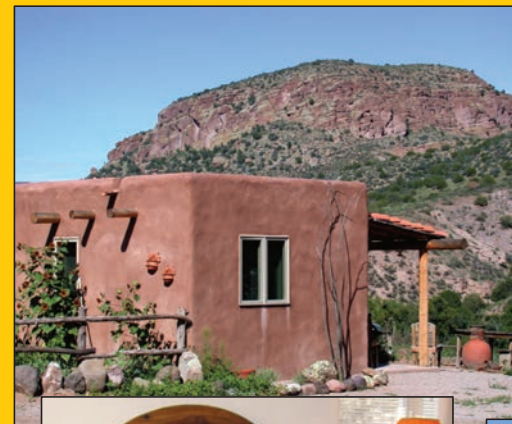
KINGSTON

### DNA Songwriting Camp

Emerse yourself in music at the Desert Night Acoustic Music Camp and spend time with world class musicians giving small classes and taking part in joyous jams in a warm welcoming creative atmosphere.

Get musical at 5 p.m., May 8-11, at the Black Range Lodge, 50 Main St., Kingston. Info: DNAMusicCamp.com

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# More Hotlist



LAS CRUCES

## Dwight Yoakam

The legendary Country music singer/songwriter/actor hits the road with the Mavericks for the Cosmic Roundup & Rodeo Tour in support of his latest release *Brighter Days*, his first studio album in nine years.

Kick up some dust at 7:30 p.m., Friday, May 16, at the Pan American Center, 1810 E. University Ave., Las Cruces. Info: 575-646-1420



RUIDOSO

## Lincoln Forest Renaissance Faire

Don your finest medieval attire and immerse yourself in the magic of another time with a bustling marketplace, delicious Renaissance fare, enchanting children's activities, talented jesters, fortune tellers, troubadours and more.

Get medieval from 4 p.m., Friday, May 16 through 5 p.m., Sunday, May 18, at Wingfield Park, 300 Suderth Dr., Ruidoso. Info: OsoProductionsRuidoso.com

## Las Cruces Ukefest

Nonprofit community group the Las Cruces Ukes present the annual festival for lovers of the four-stringed instrument, bringing in-demand ukulele instructors from across the country for workshops and a concert.

Uke out at 7 p.m., Friday through Sunday, May 16-18, at the Atkinson Recital Hall, 1075 N. Horseshoe St. and NMSU Corbett Center Student Union on the International Mall of the NMSU Campus.



LAS CRUCES

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SILVER CITY

## Silver City Blues Festival

The Mimbres Regional Arts Council presents one of the premiere blues festivals in the Southwest, featuring the brightest rising stars of the Blues genre, alongside respected performers that have toured the world.

Feel the music at 11 a.m.-8:30 p.m., Saturday, May 24, and 12-6:30 p.m., Sunday, May 25, at Gough Park, 1201 N. Pope St., Silver City. Info: SilverCityBlues-Festival.org

## School of Rock

LAS CRUCES

Based on the hit movie, Andrew Lloyd Webber's sparkling musical follows a failed wannabe rock star who turns a class of straight-A students into a guitar-shredding, bass-slapping, mind-blowing rock band.

Feel the music at 7:30 p.m., May 30 through June

15, at Las Cruces Community Theatre, 313 N. Main St., Las Cruces. Info: 575-523-1200

## Peter Rivera

The original lead singer and drummer of the classic R&B band Rare Earth continues to rock at age 77, bringing his Top 40 hits to the desert, including "Born to Wander," "I Just Want to Celebrate," "Get Ready," and "Hey, Big Brother."



LAS CRUCES

Get funky at 7 p.m., Friday, May 30, at the Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St., Las Cruces. Info: EPHardins.org

## Democracy is Blowin' in the Wind

SILVER CITY

The music of a true American original will be spotlighted, featuring local musician and Dylan-ophile Joe Neri, along with musical performances by the Mittlestadts, Steven Baird, JonRo Crow, Wally Lawder and Blues Dawg.

Celebrate a fading democracy at 7 p.m., Saturday, May 31, at The Hearth, 1915 N. Swan St., Silver City. Info: Joe at Joe12bar@gmail.com



EL PASO

## Dallas Cowboy Cheerleaders on Tour

The iconic troupe brings the sizzle, spirit, and signature power-kicks to the stage in a show-stopping, 100-minute spectacle for all ages, featuring jaw-dropping choreography with inspiring stories from the women behind the uniform.

Perk up at 7 p.m., Saturday, May 31, the Abraham Chavez Theatre, 1 Civic Center Plaza, El Paso. Info: 915-999-5727

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# Celebrating 30 years of blues



SILVER CITY

By Sylvia Quintanilla  
For Desert Exposure

This Memorial Day weekend, the Silver City Blues Festival will celebrate 30 years of music, memories and community in Gough Park, 1201 N. Pope St. Scheduled for this year's musical line up on Saturday and Sunday, May 24 and 25 are blues artists from not only New Mexico, but Nashville, Southern California and more.

Stephen Lindsay and Mary Stone are the Event Coordinators for the Silver City Blues Festival. Though the event

has grown and morphed in the last 30 years, the intimate setting and comradery have remained.

"Even if you're there for one band in the park and then you're going to trip around downtown, you're still going to be part of the blues festival. It's really just a community driven event," Lindsay said. "I think that's what makes it so, so impactful and gives people lasting memories from attending. It's becoming part of our community's culture."

Likewise, Stone reiterated that the people make the festival stand out from other events during the holiday.

"I think it's mainly about the atmo-



sphere," she said. "I think it's more about connecting with people. You don't just sit in a crowd and listen to music. You're really connecting with people that are next to you. Silver City folk just happen to be this kind of breed of people that makes things homey and happening. You're gonna end up going to dinner with some of those random people that you end up sitting by."

With a banner anniversary year, the Mimbres Region Arts Council, host of the event, worked on bringing in artists from all over the country while also keeping returning bands in the lineup.

On Saturday, Kara Grainger and Tullie Brae from Nashville, TN will hit the stage. The Bill Magee Band from San Diego, CA and Ray Fuller and Bluesrockers from Columbus, Ohio will also perform. From Albuquerque, NM, Felix y Los Gatos will return to the festival.

On Sunday, Jeremiah Johnson from St. Louis, MO and Amanda Fish from





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attendance all the time. The chances to meet people like this or do things like this are just ever increasing. I think being a part of that is more like

a movement. It's really being a part of something bigger than yourself."

The Silver City Blues Festival is a free, family-friendly event, running

10 a.m.-9 p.m., Saturday, May 24, and 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Sunday, May 25. MRAC is always looking for volunteers for the event. Volunteers get an

exclusive t-shirt and VIP area access. For more information or to view the full list of performers, please visit [SilverCityBluesFestival.org](http://SilverCityBluesFestival.org).

Washington, MO will entertain the crowd. The task of closing out the festival goes to the Chase Walker Band out of Southern California.

This year, the festival is going back to three days with Friday hosting a kick off at several locations including the Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 US-180 East, Arenas Valley, N.M., who will have the returning Kara Grainger at 7 p.m. Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery, 200 N. Bullard St., Silver City, will have Little House of Funk perform at their kick off from 6:30-9 p.m. on Friday.

Little Toad Creek and Q's Southern Bistro will both be available in the Beer Garden. Food vendors will be there with

traditional festival treats like turkey legs and vendors from the Maker's Market will be in attendance. Stone noted that retail vendors from the Maker's Market are locals that make only handmade, homemade or homegrown products.

The feedback from the community has been how they felt safe, happy and enjoyed their time at the festival. Stone said MRAC strives to bring in a diverse range of talent and look for ways to improve the experience for all.

"A lot of festivals are fun, but we bring something else to it that makes it special," she said. "It's got like a certain charm to it because of the environment. We're growing in



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# Las Cruces UkeFest: New Mexico's Only Ukulele Festival



By Cheryl Fallstead  
For Desert Exposure

New Mexico's only ukulele festival, the Las Cruces UkeFest, will be held May 16 – 18, 2025. This popular festival is for novice to advanced ukulele players who want to enjoy a weekend jamming and learning new skills with fellow lovers

of the four-stringed instrument. The festival is hosted by the Las Cruces Ukes, a nonprofit community group of ukulele enthusiasts who have practiced and performed together for more than a dozen years.

## Festival Basics

The festival begins Friday, May 16, at 7 p.m. with a concert at the NMSU Atkinson Recital

Hall. The concert is included in festival registration. Tickets are only \$10 for those who simply want to enjoy a fantastic evening of ukulele music performed by ukulele professionals Casey MacGill, Rachel Manke, Abby Lyons, and Devin Scott. Children 12 and younger

## UKULELE

*continued on page 26*



Rachel Manke will return to the Las Cruces UkeFest in 2025 to perform and teach workshops



Casey MacGill returns to Las Cruces UkeFest to share his decades of musical knowledge.



Abby Lyons will make her debut at Las Cruces UkeFest 2025.



Devin Scott will be part of Las Cruces for the first time this year.

## Artists of Picacho Hills Presents *Art in the Garden*

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**SILVER CITY**

• **a)s p.”A”©eStu-dio•Art•Gallery** presents resin, wood, metal sculptures and bird paintings on aluminum panels by **Butch & Melissa Mauer**. The exhibit opens Friday, May 2 and runs through the month of July.

The gallery is open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday to Sunday, 110 West 7th St., Silver City. Info: aspace.studiogallery@gmail.com, 575-538-3333

• **Francis McCray Gallery of Contemporary Art**, 101-237 W. Rhoda Rd., Silver City, hosts “**Ephemeral Threads**,” the BFA & BA Graduates Exhibition, featuring the works of **Charlee Alexander, Zandra Darrow, Sophia Egge-Ogas, Jasper Eyrich-Bingham, and Victoria Prejean**, and exploring themes of transience, connection, and transformation through ceramics, painting, photography, and sculpture. The exhibition runs through May 8.

Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Tuesday-Friday. Info: 575-538-6517

• **The Grant County Art Guild Studio**, 211 N Texas, Silver City will host the **Silver City High School** art exhibi-

tion over two weekends, May 3-4 & 10-11, then again 12-3 p.m., on Thursday, May 8, for Open Studio. The opening reception will be held from 5-7 p.m., Friday, May 2 during the First Friday Art Walk.

Studio exhibition dates are 10 a.m.-5 p.m., April 5 & 6, and 11-13. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday-Saturday with extended hours for special events. Info: gcag.org.

• **The Grant County Art Guild Gallery**, 316 N Bullard in Silver City, has added two new artists to its downtown Silver City gallery: **Paula Manning-Lewis** and **Kenneth G Hadlock**. Manning-Lewis is a landscape painter rooted in the heart of Southwestern New Mexico. Hadlock grew up in the Chicago area and received a Ph.D. in Biological Chemistry from the University of Michigan. The gallery regularly shows the work of 35 local artists.

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. Info: gcag.org.

• **Light Art Space**, 209 W. Broadway, Silver City, presents “**Earth Matters**,” photographs by the Photographer’s Eye: A Creative Collec-



Michael Copland’s “Trees II” can be seen as part of the “Veteran Arts Showcase” at Otero Artspace in Alamogordo throughout the month of May. (Courtesy photo)



“Twenty-three Stars Over El Paso,” by Paul Maxwell is part of the exhibition for May at Agave Artists Gallery. (Courtesy photo)

tive made up of 16 artists from all over San Diego County. The Flash Gallery features “**Dialogue: Art and Poetry Speak of Spring**,” a conversation between visual arts and poetry. The exhibitions run May 1-June 1, with an opening reception at 5-7 p.m., on Friday, May 2.

Gallery hours are 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Thursday, Friday and Saturday; 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday; and by appointment. Info: LightArtSpace.com.

• **The Murray Ryan Visitor Center**, 201 N. Hudson St., Silver City, presents **The Art of Val Weston**, a local photographer and digital artist who uses modern tools to create artwork across the themes of life that connect us all. The exhibition runs through June 1.

Visitor Center hours are 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Saturday; and 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Sunday. Info: 575-538-5555

• **The Silver City Museum**, 312 W. Broadway St., Silver City, hosts “**Nuestra Voz: The Chihuahua Hill Story**,” a permanent exhibition told through personal memories and photographs from longtime residents, which explores the everyday lives, struggles, and contributions of those who have called the

neighborhood home for generations. An opening reception will be held at 2 p.m., Saturday, May 17.

Museum hours are 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Tuesday-Friday, and 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays. Info: 575-597-0230

**ALAMOGORDO**

• **Otero Artspace**, 1118 Indiana Ave., Alamogordo, presents “**The 3rd Annual Veteran Arts Showcase**,” featuring the work of active service members, veterans and their families. The exhibition opens with a reception from 5-7 p.m. on Friday, May 2, and runs through Sunday, May 25 with a closing ceremony and community drum circle.

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

**CARRIZOZO**

• **The Malkerson Gallery 408**, 408 12th St., Carrizozo, presents “**Through the Veil... Through This Life and Into the Next**,” a Celtic exploration of time featuring the works of Judy Pekelsma. The exhibition runs through May 25.

The gallery is open 10

**ART SCENE**

*continued on page 14*



## ART SCENE

continued from page 13

a.m.-5 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays, and 12-5 p.m. Sundays. Info: ccartsociety@gmail.com

## CLOUDCROFT

• **The Cloudcroft Art Society**, Nivison Library, 90 Swallow Pl., Cloudcroft, presents its annual Memorial Day Show and Sale featuring original works of art by our members including framed and matted paintings in many

art mediums, photography and digital photo art, greeting cards, pottery, glass art, fiber art, greeting cards and more., 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, May 24; and 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Sunday, May 25.

Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturdays from June through November. Info: CCArtSociety@gmail.com

## COLUMBUS

• **Bud's Thrifty Arts and Crafts**, 327 Higday, Columbus, features paintings by Teras, Jerry Portrey, Jeane Canfield, and Carolyn Lamuniere, pottery by Colleen Weak, crafts by Ruth



"The Jaurequi Family" is just one of many memories on exhibit in the "Nuestra Voz" exhibition at the Silver City Museum. (Courtesy photo)

Hodia and Ravelle Flores, crafts by Palomas Artisans, and fabulous thrift store finds, from furniture and clothing, to craft supplies.

Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Wednesday thru Saturday, or by appointment. Info: 575-494-1972 or 773-612-4165

## DEMING

• **The Deming Arts Center**, 100 S. Gold St., Deming, presents the **Latino Cultural Art Show**, showcasing the artwork of talented Deming artists. The show runs May 2-30, with an opening

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reception 1-2:30 p.m., Sunday, May 4.

Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday; 10 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturday. Info: 575-546-3663 and Deming-Arts.org

## TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES

• **Rio Bravo Fine Art**, 110 N. Broadway, Truth or Consequences, presents a dual artist show in the Installation Room, featuring current works by **Gregory Montreuil** and **Roy van der Aa**. The exhibition runs through May 25. In the Waldrum Gallery, the works



The work of Noel Sandino will be part of the Annual Printmaking Show running through the month of May at Gallery 925. (Courtesy photo)

of **Nolan Winkler** and **David D. Sorensen** will be on display through May 25.

Gallery hours are 12-5 p.m., Wednesday-Sunday, and by appointment. Info: www.riobravofineartgallery.com

## LAS CRUCES

• **The Agave Artists Cooperative Gallery**, 2250 Calle de San Albino, Mesilla, presents as their artist of the month, **Paul Maxwell**, who paints at his studios in Las Cruces and Alto, focusing on landscapes and local subjects from our desert southwest and else-

where. The exhibit will run throughout the month of May, with a demonstration at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 17.

Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday-Sunday. Info: 913-302-1111

• **The Artists of Picacho Hills** presents the annual **Art in the Garden Tour**, featuring five locations and seventeen artists working in a variety of mediums, including painting, ceramics, jewelry, photography, mosaic art,

## ART SCENE

*continued on page 16*

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## ART SCENE

continued from page 15

mixed media and fiber art. The tour takes place from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, May 10.

Start the tour at the Santa Fe Restaurant, 1338 Picacho Hills Dr., Las Cruces. Info: ArtistsOfPicachoHills.com

• **The Branigan Cultural Center**, 501 N. Main St., Las Cruces, presents **“Aliento a Tequila,”** featuring 39 photographs by Joel Salcido that explore and celebrate the landscape, culture, and traditions that gave birth to tequila. The exhibition opens at 5-7 p.m., Friday, May 2 with an opening reception and runs through August 9. **“Wildlife of the Mesilla Valley,”** featuring the wildlife sculptures and the Nature Journals of fourteen artists runs through Saturday, May 24.

The Branigan Cultural Center is open 10 a.m.- 4:30 p.m., Tuesday-Friday, and 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Saturday. Admission is free. Info: 575-541-2154.

• **Duende Arte Gallery**, 921 Mesquite St., Las Cruces presents the **Ten**



**“Government Camp in the Round” by David Marsh is part of the exhibition by The Photographer’s Eye, at Light Art Space through June 1. (Courtesy photo)**

**O’Clock Artists “InTention”** exhibit, showcasing prints to paints to collage to sculpture, each illustrating the artist’s intent. The exhibition runs through the month of May.

Gallery hours are 12-5 p.m., Friday-Sunday. Info: GabrielTeich.com

• **The Dona Ana Arts Council**

**Gallery**, 230 S. Water St., Las Cruces presents **“Stitched With Soul,”** an extraordinary exhibition in collaboration with the **Las Colcheras Quilt Guild**. The exhibit runs through mid-May.

The Dona Ana Arts Council is open 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Tuesday-Friday, and 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday. Info: 575-523-6403

• **Gallery 925**, 925 N. Mesquite St., Las Cruces, presents the **Annual Printmaking Show** featuring many different techniques including collagraphs, etchings, gel prints, letterpress, linocuts, monotypes, photogravures, screenprints and woodcuts. The exhibit will be on display May 2-25, with a First Friday reception 4-8 p.m., Friday, May 2.

Gallery hours are 1-5 p.m., Fridays; 11-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. Info: Gallery925LCNM.com

• **The Las Cruces Museum of Art**, 491 N. Main St, Las Cruces presents **“Engaging Masters: Parody Art”** in which contemporary artists borrow from recognizable historical works to create pop culture pieces that are new and thought provoking while also being

playful and nostalgic. The exhibit is on view through May 30.

The museum 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: 575-541-2137

• **The Mad Hatter Gallery**, 221 N. Main St., Ste C, Las Cruces, presents **“Desert Heroines,”** a collaboration between two Las Cruces organizations, Success Partnership and NMCO, featuring photographs recognizing women from Dona Ana County who advocate for equity, diversity and inclusion. The exhibition will be on display May 1-24, with an opening reception from 5-8 p.m., Friday, May 2.

Gallery hours are 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Wednesday- Friday; 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturday. Info: 575-528-9297

• **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 May 2025: Mixed Media artist **Naida Tucker** and painter **Roberta “Bobbie” Widner**.

Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Info: 575-522-2933, mesillaval-

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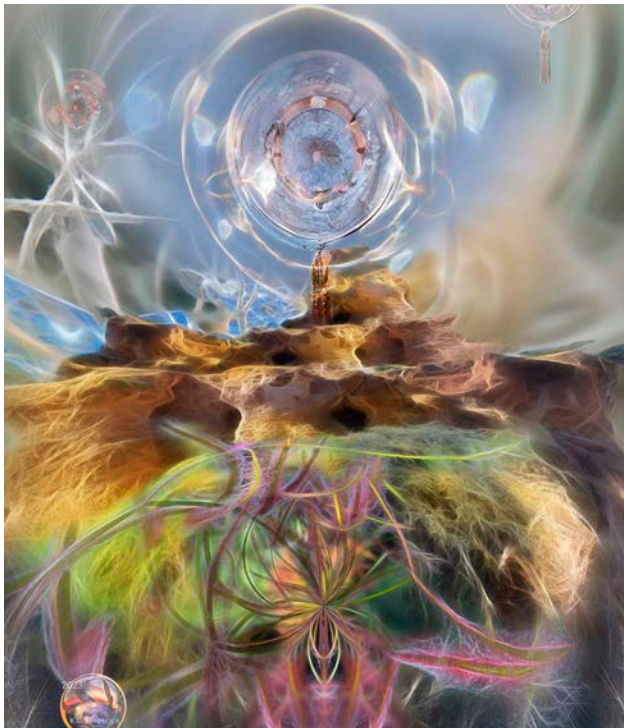


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**"Passive Observers" by Kenneth G. Hadlock is just one example of the work on display at the Grant County Art Guild Gallery. (Courtesy photo)**

leyfinearts.com

• **Nopalito's Galeria**, 326 S. Mesquite St., Las Cruces presents **"Crossing Borderlines"** an exhibition of artwork by seven Chicano/a, Indigenous artists – Tonio LeFebvre, Eric Sarracino, Amanda Santistevan, Celeste Santistevan, Jimmy Sanchez, Dave Sanchez and Victor Lucero. The exhibition will run May 2-31, with an opening reception at 5 p.m., on Friday, May 2 and a closing reception on Saturday, May 31.

The galeria is open 4-7 p.m., Fridays, 12-3 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday. Info: 574-524-0003

• **The New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum**, 4100 Dripping Springs Rd., Las Cruces presents **"AgrAbility,"** which sheds light on how people with disabilities in rural areas gain access to technology to maintain their livelihood.

The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Info: 575-522-4100

• **The Studio of Paulo Rivera**, 221 N. Main St., Ste E, Las Cruces, presents the exhibition **"Inner Visions,"** featuring vibrant works influenced by nature, divine symmetry, numerology, literature, medicinal plants, music, the cosmos, and the inborn human potential to transcend the human condition. The exhibition runs through May 3.

Studio hours are 12-5 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays. Info: 575-993-7376.

• **The University Art Museum**, 1308 E. University Ave., Las Cruces, presents **"Stone, Glass,**

**Light, Silk: 2025 MFA Thesis Exhibition,"** featuring work by MFA candidates: Alfred Gyasi, Elham Sabri, Johanna Typaldos, and William Morée. The exhibition will be on display through May 10.

Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday-Saturday. Info: UAM.NMSU.edu

• **The University Art Museum**, 1308 E. University Ave., Las Cruces, presents a group exhibition showcasing artwork by **Andy Warhol** and his contemporaries, including **Jasper Johns, Roy Lichtenstein, Sol Lewitt, and Fritz Scholder.** The exhibition will include loaned artwork from the Tucson Museum of Art and works from the NMSU Permanent Art Collection. **"Warhol & Friends"** will be on display through July 19, 2025.

Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday-Saturday. Info: UAM.NMSU.edu

• **The University Art Museum**, 1308 E. University Ave., Las Cruces, presents **"Ceramics and Culture: A Window into Casas Grandes,"** a student-curated exhibition offering a unique opportunity to explore the ancient Casas Grandes culture, with pottery and artifacts from the museum's collection highlighting the story of the Paquime archaeological site in northwestern Chihuahua, Mexico. The exhibition will be on display through Spring 2027.

Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday-Saturday. Info: UAM.NMSU.edu



The student-curated exhibition **"Ceramics and Culture"** will be on display at the University Art Museum on the NMSU campus through Spring 2027. (Courtesy photo)

# THUNDER IN GOUGH PARK!

## Memorial Day Weekend SILVER CITY BLUES FESTIVAL 2025

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- Tullie Brae
- Bill Magee
- Ray Fuller and the Bluesrockers

**SUNDAY LINEUP**

- Jeremiah Johnson
- Amanda Fish
- Chase Walker Band



# Bootheel Bites: Eating Well

## DEMING

Most steakhouses don't highlight paranormal investigations on their website, but Adobe Deli Restaurant, 10 miles outside of Deming on Highway 549, is not like other steakhouses.

Opened in 1978 in an old elementary school house, with rustic wood, taxidermied animals, and aging tin lining walls inside and out, the place looks like it would attract ghost hunters. But it's the food that has kept its loyal following coming back for more than 40 years.

The menu is extensive, with 22 different appetizer options. The onion soup, made with Adobe Deli Dusty Cab and toasted

Acosta Asadero cheese, is legendary.

Prices are reasonable, considering the quality of the fare: a 10-ounce bacon-wrapped filet mignon, cooked to perfection with a choice of sides, runs just \$37.95 and is the highest price on the menu. Pork chops are \$26.95, and huge, overflowing sandwiches run between \$16.95 and \$19.95.

Bread lovers can't miss the garlic or rosemary homemade loaves, each \$11 and baked fresh in house. The bar has plenty of big-name beers on tap and live music occasionally, and diners can finish their meal with a hand-rolled cigar in the funky smoking lounge.

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- 🌐 adobedelirestaurant.com
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- 💰 Prices: \$\$-\$\$\$

**Best Bets:** Onion soup, oysters in a half shell, USDA prime steaks.

The Bootheel region of Southwest New Mexico has a surprisingly robust food scene that includes a pair of historic steakhouses and a Mexican cafe, all of which are worth a road trip.

By Jason K. Watkins, For Desert Exposure





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# in Southwestern New Mexico

## LORDSBURG

The most authentic Mexican restaurant in the Bootheel is Ramona's Cafe, a woman-owned institution in Lordsburg that recently relocated to the building once occupied by Cranberry's Restaurant on Main Street. Ramona's is just south of Interstate 10, so it makes a great dining spot for travelers passing through. (It even has parking for semis and RVs.)

Owner Maria Garcia has perfected her family recipes and has been serving the community for more than two decades. Locals love the combination plates, with heaping servings of excellent refried beans and rice, homemade tamales, beef tacos, and some of the best red and green chile sauce in the whole state.

The prices are just as good as the chile. Combination plates are around \$16, and piping-hot fajitas are only \$18.95. The homemade chips and salsa, a crucial part of the Mexican food experience, are nothing short of exceptional. The hamburgers are also amazing, smothered in cheese and green chile. The best bet, though, is the shredded-beef chimichanga plate, "Christmas style" with both red and green sauce, for just \$14. Add a Mexican-style bottled Coca-Cola to complete the meal.

Now open every day, Ramona's serves breakfast, lunch and dinner, and features a full-service salad bar. They also cater and host special events, and they welcome to-go orders.

### Ramona's Mexican Cafe

Traditional, authentic – and hot – New Mexican cuisine at a great price.

- 📍 1405 Main St. in Lordsburg
- ☎ (575) 542-3030
- 🌐 Find them on Facebook
- 🕒 Mon.-Sat. 8 a.m.-8 p.m., Sun. 8 a.m.-2 p.m.
- 💰 Prices: \$\$

**Best Bets:** "Christmas"-style Mexican plates, salad bar, Sunday menudo.

## PINOS ALTOS

Walking into the Buckhorn Saloon and Opera House is taking a step back in time. Diners enter the thick-walled adobe building through a dimly lit bar and hear live music from one corner and see a scantily-clad lady mannequin suspended in a cage over another. (It operated as a brothel up until 1970.) Old West art and artifacts adorn the walls.

A 10-minute drive north of Silver City to the small village of Pinos Altos, 7,000 feet above sea level, the Buckhorn is nestled high up in the Gila National Forest. It features a casual bar with a fireplace and live music, as well as separate fine-dining and a historic opera house that hosts live events and entertainment.

The food is worthy of the setting: locals rave about the green chile stew and the occasional spaghetti specials, but it's the

steaks that have been bringing people back for decades. They serve top quality USDA prime beef, grilled to order and seasoned perfectly by chef and owner Thomas Bock.

Prices are what you'd expect at a good steakhouse. A 22-ounce "cowboy cut" ribeye is \$59. The prime rib, served on Fridays and Saturdays, costs \$33 and \$44 for 9-ounce and 16-ounce cuts. The shrimp scampi is \$24.

Silver City is an artsy mining town with a vibrant social scene, shopping and plenty of good food, but the Buckhorn is special. It's steeped in history, it serves top-quality steaks and seafood, and it's one of the most memorable atmospheres in all of New Mexico. And everyone should eat there at least once in their lives.

### Buckhorn Saloon and Opera House

A classic steakhouse and bar in a historic setting, serving prime beef and homemade dishes.

- 📍 32 Main St. in Pinos Altos, north of Silver City
- ☎ (575) 538-9911
- 🌐 Find them on Facebook
- 🕒 Mon.-Thurs. 3-8 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 3-9 p.m., closed Sunday
- 💰 Prices: \$\$\$

**Best Bets:** Quality steaks, green chile stew.



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# Stylish handmade hats for every occasion

By Elva K. Österreich  
For Desert Exposure

Coming to Otero County as a military spouse, Chelsea Hayes fell in love with Alamogordo — the area and the community. Even after a divorce, she had no interest in leaving.

“There is something about this place that has this homey feel to it,” she said. “It has a sense of community, and I really am blessed that even in the short time that I have been here, I have been able to connect with so many types of people.”

She heard about a MainStreet business incubator program in the area and jumped right in to learn about beginning a business of her own. There she met Rhianon Farley and the two realized their business ideas were comparable. Now they have opened a store front together with both businesses bustling, Hayes’s Ebenezer Hats and Farley’s Boujee Bandit.

Hayes said her hat business started with her love of wearing hats. She was frustrated because she could never find hats that fit.

“Whenever I would buy them at a retail shop, they wouldn’t fit because I have very thick hair,” she said. “If I want it to fit, I have to straighten my hair and that’s not my true hairstyle.”

She started thinking



about hat companies with more inclusive sizing and, she said, there really isn’t one. Yes, there are custom hat makers out there, but you pay a premium. It can be hard to afford.

“So, I thought, ‘let’s find something in the middle, so I prayed about it,’ she said. “And I came up with

the idea of having a hat company called Ebenezer (pronounced Eh-ben-neh-zer) Hats.” She said she didn’t want people to associate her with Ebenezer Scrooge, so she changed the pronunciation.

During a soft launch event, Hayes said she got orders for custom hats and has been able to cre-



ate a six-tier system from the head measurements taken. Once she gets several hat orders, Hayes will send the information to an overseas manufacturer which will create the hats.

“Sustainability is very important to me,” she said. “It is not the most expensive hat out there, but it is an investment.”

She wants people to be excited about their hat investment and feel good about it. There are three types of materials the hats can be ordered in: Australian wool is the highest premium fabric at \$175; suede is \$80; and felt is \$75. She also has

three colors available — hunter green, deep brown and black.

While some other retailers are in a similar price bracket, Hayes said the difference is her hats have silk lining and a Velcro string, so customers are getting a little bit more for the right price.

“The cool thing with my hats is, there is a hidden string on the inside that

you can hide underneath the band which reduces the size as much as three centimeters. So, if you do change your hair style around, or do it differently, or shave your head, you can reduce that, so the size still fits.”

Hayes said she finds joy in being able to help people.

“I love seeing people light up when I tell them about my business,” Hayes said. “They get to put on the hat and say, ‘this feels great!’ That, to me, is the million-dollar response.”

Ebenezer Hats/Boujee Bandit can be found at the Granada Shopping Center, 700 E. First Street, Suite 712 in Alamogordo. Open hours are 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Tuesdays to Saturdays. Info: 575-228-7735.



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## That Black and White Aesthetic

By Sharman Apt Russell  
For Desert Exposure

Where I live in rural New Mexico, I see striped and hooded skunks throughout the year. I see skunk tracks all the time, every day, around my house, in the fine substrate of the road that leads up to the irrigation ditch and in the garden enclosed against deer and javelina but not skunk. Skunks regularly explore my wrap-around porch, so that my husband and I watch the animal out one window and then hurry to see it from another.

Skunks are often under the bird feeders. We smell them in the morning—the result of some interaction with another animal. We've startled them in the early evening. They jump. We jump. Once, jumping back, a hooded skunk fell off the rise of the porch onto his back. Chagrined, he waved his paws in the air before more calmly turning over and galumphing away. These skunks have never sprayed or shown us any threatening behavior. We don't have any pets for them to worry about. If we live companionably with any wild mammal, we live companionably with skunks.

Sometimes we see skunk families, mothers



(Photo by Elroy Limme)

and juveniles. Once I saw a mother determinedly waddle and forage while an addled youngster, also determined, dragged under her belly still trying to nurse. Juvenile males disperse at three months or so. Juvenile females might stay for almost a year. Mostly we see the solitary skunk. It's like a fashion show. Something from Chanel. A bit of art deco. That black and white aesthetic.

We are lucky in New Mexico to have four skunk species. The striped and hooded skunks have what biologists call an "honest signal," two lines pointing to the rear end where two anal glands produce and hold about an ounce of concentrated sulfurous fluid. The hog-nosed skunk is particularly adapted to the desert, with a powerful upper body for climbing in rocky areas, an elongated snout, and long claws for digging.

The back of a hog-nosed skunk is often luminous-

ly white, from the top of the head to the beautiful white tail. The western spotted skunk has a coat of partial stripes or spots. As well as their defensive spray, spotted skunks intimidate by doing a handstand on their front feet, performing a split with their back legs, and walking forward in imitation of a flying carpet. Stop and imagine that for a moment. Google it on YouTube.

The print of an adult striped skunk is about 1½ to 2 inches long and can look, unnervingly, like a small human hand. On both front and back feet, the three middle toes are partially fused to facilitate digging and face forward, with Toe 1 (on the inside of the track, like your thumb) and Toe 5 slightly splayed to the side. Front and hind tracks usually show handsome claw marks, with the digging claws of the front feet much longer than the hind.



# Speak Easy in Silver City



By Marcia Tinker  
For Desert Exposure

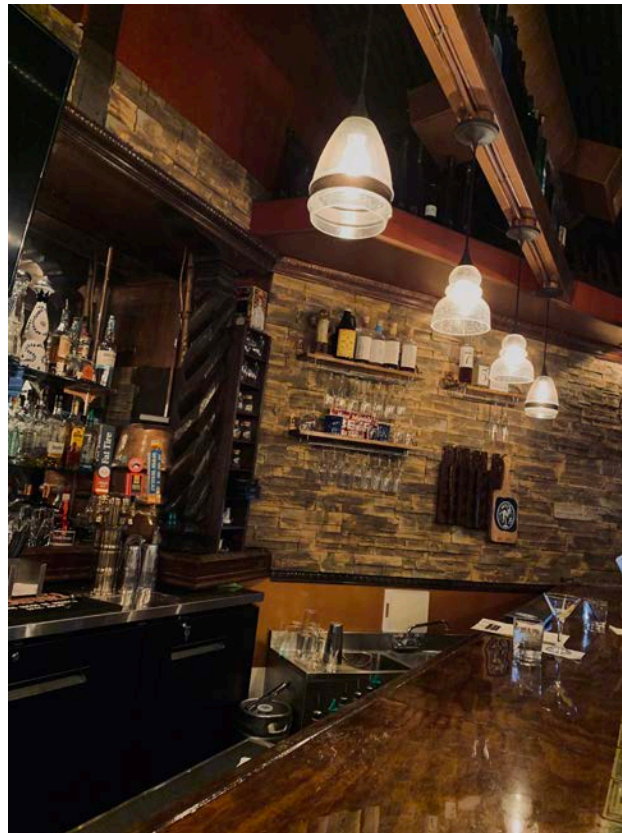
A Speakeasy in 2025, in Silver City? An upscale lounge, casual but intimate, cozy, elegant, vibrant atmosphere, hide-away gem, laid back, fine dining, little known, live music and serves Prohibition-themed cocktails? Where is such a place? That would be Mick's 33 Lounge, hidden in a corner of downtown Silver City, New Mexico. Located at 101 East College Avenue, Mick's 33 is a small Speakeasy style lounge and restaurant hidden behind a beautiful but unlabeled copper barn door.

Mick's 33 opened in 2019 by local resident Anthony Quintana, who has been in the restaurant business 16 years and is a graduate of the California Culinary Institute of America. Mick's refers to Anthony's grandfather, Miguel "Mickey" Grado Sr., who Anthony describes fondly as, "the cornerstone and pillar of my family who was deep rooted in Grant County and

Silver City. Naming the lounge after my grandfather means a lot to our family."

Mick's 33 refers to, not only the last year of Prohibition, but the year Mickey Grado was born and the age Anthony was when he created this modern speakeasy lounge, which sits next door to Q's Southern Bistro, another eatery owned by Quintana. Mick's is a small and intimate dining experience with only 9 tables and bar seating. The intimate size and private location has been a Silver City secret that has recently become known as a culinary destination!

The casual but upscale menu is American and regional Southwest cuisine specializing in NM prime Black Angus steaks, seafood, and homemade pastas. All menu items are prepared from scratch in-house using local and regional ingredients. Lunch offers a featured lunch special and a range from Artichoke or Pesto Pinon salads, traditional or pardelle pastas, Mexican classics, sandwiches with



not your average ingredients, and the lounge's steaks and seafoods.

The dinner menu offers a wide range of amazing appetizers such as Ahi Tartare, Caprese Bowl, or Jumbo Crab Cakes. Dinner entrees of Chicken Picatta, Rainbow Trout, Lobster Risotto and Black Angus steaks are sure to

please everyone at your table. Vegetarian options are available. Lunch items are also available on the dinner menu for a smaller or more casual appetite.

Mick's 33 can host private events and will cater to suit the needs of any meal or event. A full bar serves classic Prohibition

Era cocktails such as a Sidecar or a Gin Fizz plus all your favorite wine and beer. Live music flows from a loft above the lounge every Thursday, Friday and Saturday evening.

In March 2025 Restaurant Guru rated Mick's 4.5 out of 5. Diners agree, proclaiming, "Food was

amazing. Service on point. Drinks were perfect. Highly recommend Mick's 33." "Best steaks and food in town, definitely a must if you're in the Silver City area." "Great spot that's warm and inviting the moment you walk in. Great bar that you can tell regulars attend."

**MICK'S 33**

Mick's is open 11 a.m.-9 p.m., Monday through Thursday; 11 a.m.-10 p.m., Friday and Saturday; and 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday. Follow on Facebook at Mick's 33 Lounge. For reservations 575-597-1933



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# A former boomtown's second life as storyteller in New Mexico

Part 2

LAKE VALLEY

By Derrick Henry  
For Desert Exposure

This is the second in a three-part series about the efforts of the Bureau of Land Management to restore the historic mining town of Lake Valley.

In 1881 miners hit it big, reviving Lake Valley's economic engine. The discovery of a vein of silver, nicknamed the Bridal Chamber, began an intense growth of Lake Valley from a mining camp to a town of about 4,000 people.

"The silver apparently was so pure you could just break it

off the walls. It was ultra-pure and there was just tons of it," said Martin Goetz, Bureau of Land Management archaeologist. "Because of that, all of these people came here, and they set up claims all over the place. From that came in the stores and the mining supplies and the clothing stores and everything else that comes in with a town."

The Bridal Chamber yielded 2.5 million ounces of silver, half of the entire 5 million ounces mined from Lake Valley's various mines between 1878 and 1893, according to production records from 1895. Profits



Water towers along Railroad Avenue at the BLM's Lake Valley Historic Townsite in New Mexico. (BLM photos by Derrick Henry)

displayed at the Denver Exposition in 1882 drew even more attention and press reports lavishing praise on Lake Valley's mines, including the legend that candle flames could melt pure silver off the walls.

"When we were brought before a large silver mass, I hit it with my pick; it was soft, and involuntarily my knife came out and I cut it and mashed it, the metallic luster following

rolled in with silver at \$1.10 per ounce, about \$34 today. More people and investment followed, along with demand for housing and places to build. A 640-pound slab of silver

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each test,” a reporter from the Santa Fe New Mexican wrote in June 1882. “The lighted candle being applied, the native silver globules would fall.”

That same year, Lake Valley, which was open around the clock, hired gun-fighter Jim Courtright—a.k.a. “Long-hair Jim”—as Town Marshal. He brought some order to the town, which in addition to numerous shootings and robberies, grew to have a smelter to process ore, a stamp mill, three churches, a school, two weekly newspapers, saloons, brothels, hotels, general stores and various shops. In 1884, a railroad line extended to Lake Valley, replacing wagons to ship ore.

But beneath the excitement and all the bubbly newspaper accounts, Lake Valley’s demise had been taking form.

Between late 1883 and throughout



The exterior of the Saint Columba Episcopal Chapel, built in 1920, at the BLM’s Lake Valley Historic Townsite in New Mexico. The chapel was originally a home.

1884, expectations of finding another Bridal Chamber overshadowed the

work of the Sierra Companies, which ran various mines in Lake Valley. While operators continued to find enough ore, they also struggled to find another pocket like the Bridal Chamber. There were also accusations of stock fraud, which devalued the company. Bad weather, meanwhile, hampered regular ore and supply shipments.

“Shipments have been almost at a standstill during this month on account of the wretched weather and bad roads,” wrote mine manager Fredrick Endlich in February 1884, about efforts to get ore to the nearby town of Nutt, located about 13 miles southeast. The railroad was still under construction at the time. “We are pushing all we can, but the road is strewn with broken wagons and even when we do get the ore away from here, we are not sure when

it may reach Nutt.” Newspapers began reporting less jubilant news. By August 1883, the Mining Journal and other publications described the mines as being “cleaned out” with no new discoveries to rival the Bridal Chamber. Still, operations remained profitable. Until 10 years later, when a change in U.S. monetary policy brought hard times on Lake Valley.

In 1893, the U.S. abandoned silver in favor of gold to back the U.S. dollar. The price of silver fell about 24% over a three-month period that year. Mines began to close all over the territory. With nothing else to drive the local economy, people began to leave.

Then in the pre-dawn hours of June 1, 1895, a combination of wooden buildings and high desert winds set in motion the crowning end of Lake Valley.

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## UKULELE

continued from page 12

are admitted free with a paying adult, and concert tickets can be purchased online or at the door.

The festival continues Saturday and Sunday at the NMSU Corbett Center Student Union, with workshops for all levels of players taught by those same talented musicians. It also includes a jam session, open mic, catered lunch on Saturday, and a ukulele marketplace.



Las Cruces Ukes (Courtesy photo)

### Meet the Instructors

Casey MacGill has a long career, beginning with busking in Southern California in the 1960s. Since then, he has appeared on "The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson," "The

Gong Show," and in the movie "Frances" with Jessica Lange. He played the ukulele to open the Broadway musical "Swing!" With his trio, Mood Indigo, he has even inspired Fred Astaire to break into dance.

Rachel Manke has been playing the ukulele since the late 1990s and performed on A Prairie Home Companion. She studied with Joel Eckhaus, a student of the famed Roy Smeck. She loves Tin Pan Alley songs

and other old-time music.

Abby Lyons is coming to Las Cruces UkeFest for the first time, adding to the long list of festivals where she has performed and taught. You can hear her singing on Life on Our Planet with Mor-

gan Freeman on Netflix and The Wheel of Time on Amazon Prime. She teaches ukulele, songwriting, and piano at the Old Town School of Folk Music in Chicago.

Devin Scott is the director of the Rocky Mountain UkeFest. He performs everything from old-time classics to pop and has turned his passion for the ukulele into the opportunity to live his best life traveling the country teaching workshops, leading jam sessions, and performing.

Beatles tunes. Manke will teach workshops on the I IV V song structure, songs of Roy Smeck, and developing a stage plan. Lyons is teaching the beginner track with everything from Ukulele 101 to songwriting. Scott, who will lead the jam session, has workshops on picking, soloing, and "stage presents."

### Register in Advance

The full festival, including catered lunch, the concert, and all the workshops you can fit into your weekend, is \$225. A special rate is available for full-time students. Advance registration is required for the full festival, but concert tickets will be available at the door.

Learn more about the festival and register at [lascrucesukefest.com](http://lascrucesukefest.com).

### Workshops at Las Cruces UkeFest

Each instructor will teach four workshops over the weekend. MacGill's offerings include workshops on strumming patterns, songs by Slim Gaillard, and favorite

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## MAY 2025 LATINO CULTURAL ART SHOW



Deming Arts Center  
 100 S. Gold Ave., Deming, NM  
 Open Monday-Friday 10 am to 4 pm  
 Saturdays 10 am to 1 pm  
[www.demingarts.org](http://www.demingarts.org) -- Phone 575-546-3663

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

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# Local students win state filmmaking prize

By David Salcido  
Desert Exposure

Student filmmakers, teachers and parents packed the Kiva Auditorium in Albuquerque on Sunday, April 6, for the awards ceremony for Film Prize Junior New Mexico's 4th annual student short film festival. After a record-breaking 192 student short films were screened at the festival, twenty-nine winning films were announced and over \$12,000 in scholarships and media grants were awarded to students, teachers and schools at the ceremony.

Among the schools winning prizes at the event were Organ Mountain High School in Las Cruces, winning Best High School Documentary for "Henry C. Trost: Architect of Arid America"; Deming High School winning Best High School Drama for "Ukiyo"; Red Mountain Middle School, also in Deming, winning both the Middle School Audience Choice and Best Middle School



All of the students who took part in Film Prize Junior on Sunday, April 6. (Courtesy photos)

Film Poster for "Coulrophobia"; and Mescalero Apache High School winning High School Emerging Native Filmmaker for "Isdzana Tleesh: White Painted Woman."

Now in its fourth year in New Mexico, Film Prize Junior is the student version of the award-winning Louisiana Film Prize, a short film competition with the largest cash prize in the world for an independent short film. The Film Prize Junior program supports

middle and high school classrooms to experience the entire process of creating a short film, from story and script development to production and editing.

The 192 short films were created by middle and high school students from 83 schools in 22 NM counties, representing rural, urban and Tribal communities across the state. The program organizers believe that the process, which culminates in all completed

films being featured on the big screen at the festival, is transformative for the kids.

Taking home prizes for the fourth year in a row, the Deming High School Media Club has earned a reputation for being award winners. Something media teacher and sponsor Jesse Kriegel is very proud to discuss.

"We've been with Film Prize Junior since the first year and, not to toot our own horn, but we are the winningest school in

the competition," Kriegel said. "The first year we won Best of Show and Audience Choice in the high school category, the second year we won Audience Choice, Best Thriller and Founder's Choice. Last year, we had a middle school student join us and she won Best Animation, Audience Choice and Best of Show and this year that same student won Audience Choice and Best Movie Poster, while one of our high school students won Best Drama. We're just thrilled to be part of the event in general, but the experience has been phenomenal. I think it's great that the students have this kind of outlet to tell their stories through film."

In addition to screening the 192 films and audience members voting for the audience choice awards, the Film Prize Junior New Mexico

Festival featured panel discussions with film industry professionals and hands-on equipment demos led by Central New Mexico Community College's film department.

"The packed theaters and incredible group of student films made this a magical year for Film Prize Junior New Mexico," said Gregory Kallenberg, Executive Director of the Prize Foundation and Film Prize Junior. "While I'm incredibly proud of our winners, I'm equally proud of all of the students and teacher mentors for making a film and showing it at our fest. We've loved seeing the excitement around and growth of this program, and we can't wait to see the films these amazing students create for Film Prize Junior New Mexico 2026!"

With a growing reputation for being the

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Deming High School winners of the Best Drama award for "Ukiyo," from left: Kinari Marquez (Actor), Mariana Dominguez (Director), Yadier Acuna (actor).



Deming Middle School winner Hannah Gutierrez and her cousin, holding awards for Audience Choice and Best Movie Poster for "Coulrophobia."

premiere film school for high school and middle school students, as well as producing future filmmakers like Kriegel's son, who is currently enrolled at NMSU in the CMI program, you can bet that Deming will be among the schools represented in next year's competition.

"We've already got another group of students coming up who are in-

spired," Kriegel said. "We take our whole media club with us to the competition, so we had some students who didn't produce films this year, but before the weekend was over, they were already brainstorming ideas for next year. I think that's what it's all about."

To learn more about Film Prize Junior, visit [FilmPrizeJr.com/new-mexico/](http://FilmPrizeJr.com/new-mexico/).

# Otero Arts Presents

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Alamogordo, New Mexico

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**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE** (last rev 4/10/25)

**FRIDAY MAY 2nd, 5pm SHOWCASE OPENING & Meet the Artists**  
Alamogordo HS ROTC Presents the Colors  
Gallery Hours Thursday—Sunday 1-4pm, May 4-25, 2025

**FRIDAY MAY 9th, 5:30pm WRITERS WORKSHOP** pre-registration required

**FRIDAY MAY 16th, 5:30pm OPEN MIC** for writers & performers

**FRIDAY MAY 23rd, 5:30pm CIVILIAN-VETERAN DIALOGUE**  
Music, Readings and Candid Discourse on the Human Consequences of War

**SAT MAY 24th 2-4pm VETERAN EXPRESSIVE ARTS:** a Presentation  
Guest Speaker: Everett Cox, Vietnam Veteran \* Combat Paper and EXIT12 Dance

**SUNDAY 2-4 pm SHOWCASE CLOSING CEREMONIES & COMMUNITY DRUM CIRCLE**

Supported in part by New Mexico Arts, a division of the Dept of Cultural Affairs, and by the National Endowment for the Arts

For Information: [OTEROARTS.org](http://OTEROARTS.org)  
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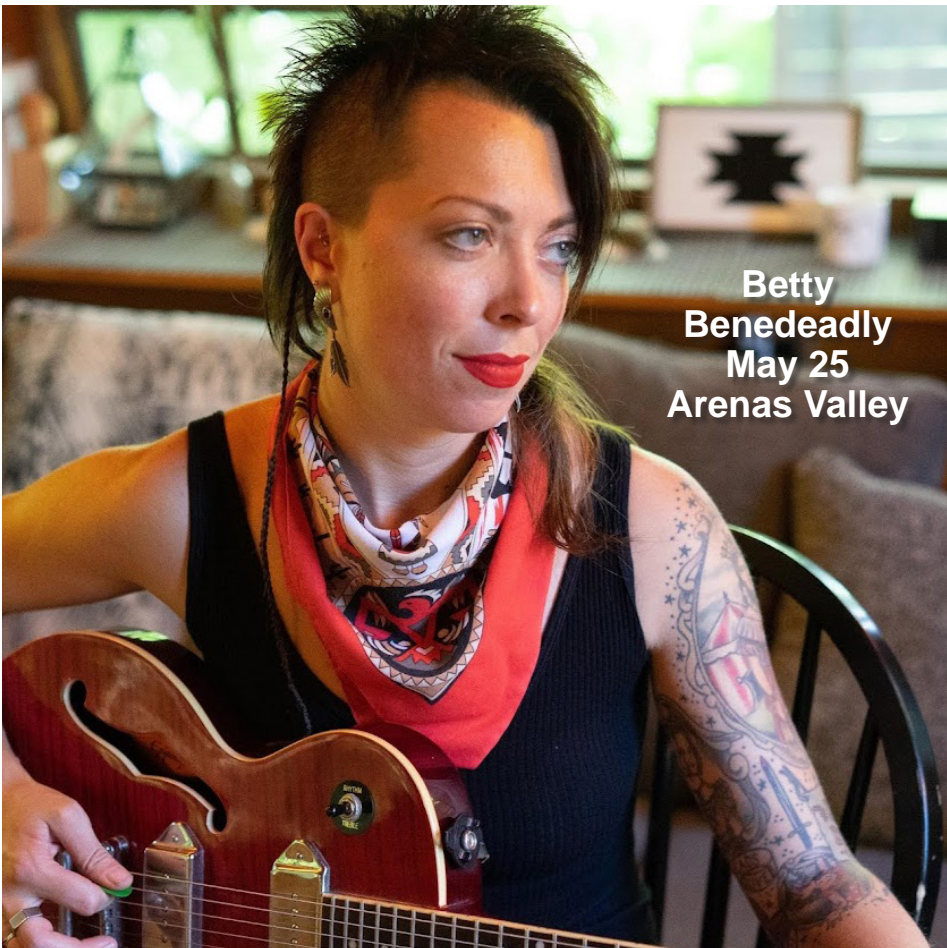
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Benedeadly  
May 25  
Arenas Valley



Butterfly Flutterby  
May 17  
Las Cruces

EVENTS

# What's Happening

Events you won't want to miss in May

**Thursday, May 1**

**17th Annual Lou & Mary Henson Community Breakfast**, 7 a.m., at New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Rd., Las Cruces. Info: 575-526-1519

**Desert Night Acoustic Music presents Anne Luna**, 5 p.m. at the Black Range Lodge, 50 Kingston Main Street, Kingston. Info: 575-895-5652

**Acoustic Jam**, 5-7 p.m. at

Whiskey Creek Zócalo in the Lodge, 11786 Hwy 180 East, Arenas Valley. Info: 575-388-1266 or WhiskeyCreekZocalo.com

**Mesilla Valley Stamp Club meeting**, 6:30 p.m., at Belton Bridge Center, 1214 E. Madrid Ave., Las Cruces. Info: 575-202-1937

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

**Friday, May 2**

**City of Las Cruces Parks**

**& Recreation Department hosts Hiking Trails in the Southwest: Mesilla Valley Bosque Trail**, 9 a.m., at 5000 Calle del Norte, Mesilla. Info: 575-541-2454

**Health and Information Fair**, 12 p.m., at Alamogordo Public Library, 920 Oregon Ave., Alamogordo. Info: 575-439-4148

**Doña Ana Arts Council presents Paul & Carlos Meyer Author Event**, 5-7 p.m., at Zia Comics, 125 N. Main St., Las Cruces. Info:

575-523-6403

**Opening Reception: Crossing Borderlines**, 5-9 p.m., at Nopalito's Galeria, 326 S. Mesquite St., Las Cruces. Info: 719-671-3244

**Sex on Stage Book Launch**, 7 p.m., at the Doña Ana Arts Council Gallery, 230 S. Water St., Las Cruces. Info: 575-523-6403

**Burt Ferguson and Sierra County Line – Country/Classic Rock**, 8 – 11 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N

Bullard St, Silver City. Info: 575-956-6144

**May 2-3**

**Smokey Bear Days**, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., at Smokey Bear Historical Park, 118 Smokey Bear Blvd., Capitan. Info: 575-354-2748

**May 2 – 4**

**Truth or Consequences Fiesta**, 4 p.m., at Bank of the Southwest Parking Lot, Ralph Edwards Park, and the Rodeo Arena, Truth or Consequences. Info: info@

TorCFiesta.com

**May 2-11**

**Silver City Community Theatre presents The Last Angry Brown Hat**, 7 p.m., at the Starlight Theater, 1915 N. Gold St., Silver City. Info: SilverCityCommunityTheater.com

**May 2 - 18**

**No Strings Theatre Company presents Bloomsday**, 8 p.m. & 2:30 p.m., at The Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Main St., Las



Cruces. Info: 575-523-1223

**Saturday, May 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, 100 N. Main St., 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

**First Friday Tornado Movie Marathon**, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., at Thomas Branigan Memorial Library, Kiva Room, 200 E. Picacho Ave., Las Cruces. Info: 575-528-4005

**New Horizons Concert Band free performance**, 3 p.m. at Atkinson Recital Hall, 1075 N. Horseshoe St., NMSU. Info: NHBandLC.com

**Cinco de Mayo Brew Fest**, 4-11 p.m., at Otero County Fairgrounds, 401 Fairgrounds Rd., Alamogordo. Info: 575-434-0788



**Kayla Von Der Heidi and Ben Barry - Americana**, 7 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 Hwy 180 East, Arenas Valley. Info: 575-388-1266 or WhiskeyCreekZocalo.com

**Diana Krall**, 7:30 p.m. at the Plaza Theatre Performing Arts Center, 125 W. Mills Ave., El Paso. Info: 915-532-3776

**Ray and the Sunshines -**

**Americana/Jazz/Indie**, 8-11 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N Bullard St, Silver City. Info: 575-956-6144

**Sunday, May 4**

**Chapter 431 Vietnam Veterans Food Drive**, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., Save Mart, 495 N. Valley Dr., Las Cruces. Info: 575-449-1926

**Gus Miller and Rachel Cole - Americana/Bluegrass**, 1-4 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N Bullard St, Silver City. Info: 575-956-6144

**Mesilla Valley Chorale Spring Concert: Swing into Spring - Music from the 30s**

**and 40s**, 3 p.m., at the Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St., Las Cruces. Info: 262-490-7968

**Monday, May 5**

**Guided Bird Walk**, 8-10 a.m., at Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park, 5000 Calle del Norte, Las Cruces. Info: MesillaValleyAudubon@gmail.com

**Cinco de Mayo Party with Ramona & Twin Seas - Latin Psychedelia/East L.A. New Wave**, 7 p.m. at

**EVENTS**

continued on page 32

**SILVER CITY ART ASSOCIATION****SILVERCITYART.COM****ART**

**First Friday Art Walk • May 2 • 5-7 pm**  
**Blues Fest Sunday Art Walk • May 25 • 10 am-2 pm**

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## EVENTS

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

**Tuesday, May 6**

**All the World is Sleeping a film by Ryan Lacer**, 6:30 p.m., at Light Hall Theater, 1000 W. College Ave., Silver City. Info: 575-538-6300

**Wednesday, May 7**

**Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces**, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces, 100 N. Main St., Las Cruces. Info: 575-201-3853

**Rachel Cole with Gus Miller - Americana**, 7 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 Hwy 180 East, Arenas Valley. Info: 575-388-1266 or WhiskeyCreekZocalo.com

**Thursday, May 8**

**Performer's Showcase Open Mic**, 6 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 Hwy 180 East, Arenas Valley. Info: 575-388-1266 or WhiskeyCreekZocalo.com



**Marc Yaxley**  
**May 21**  
**Arenas Valley**

**Singo!**, 7-8 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N Bullard St, Silver City. Info: 575-956-6144

**Journey Down the Gila screening**, 7:30 p.m. at the Silco Theater, 311 N. Bullard, Silver City. Info: HeartOfTheGila.org/journey-down-the-gila/

**May 8-11**

**Desert Night Acoustic Music Camp**, 5 p.m. at Black Range Lodge, 50 Main St., Kingston. Info: DNAMusicCamp.com

**Friday, May 9**

**City of Las Cruces Parks & Recreation Department hosts Hiking Trails in the Southwest: Veterans Park**

**Dam**, 9 a.m., Roadrunner Parkway, Las Cruces. Info: 575-541-2454

**The Doo Wop Project**, 7-9 p.m. at the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts, 108 Spencer Dr., Alto. Info: 575-336-4800

**Hi Lo Silvers Spring Concert**, 7 p.m., at The Hearth Event Center, 1915 N. Swan St., Silver City. Info: 575-388-8771

**DJ Mischievous**, 9 – 12 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N Bullard St, Silver City. Info: 575-956-6144

**Saturday, May 10**

**Guided Bird Walk**, 8-10 a.m., at Sagecrest

**Can't stop drinking?** Have questions? Need help? Take the first step ... Call the AA Hotline: 575-388-1802. Check out our meetings & info at nm-aa.org

**MONDAY Silver City/Grant County**

**New Hope Al-Anon Family Group** — noon at First United Methodist Church, 314 W. College Ave. Silver City. Zoom ID: 389 907 739, Password 658776. Info: nmal-anon.com.

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

**TUESDAY Silver City/Grant County**

**Co-Dependents Anonymous** — 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 615

## Support Groups

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

**Adult Children of Alcoholic and Dysfunctional Families meeting** — 6-7 p.m. at Brewer Hill Church, 600 N. Corbin St. Silver City. Info: 575-654-8435.

**Deming/Luna County**

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

**WEDNESDAY Silver City/Grant County**

**Arenas Valley Al-Anon Family Group** — 6-7 p.m. at the Arenas Valley Community Church, 19 Racetrack Road, Arenas. Zoom ID: 781471031; password: 954941; info: nmal-anon.com

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**

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

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

**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.

**Las Cruces**, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces, 100 N. Main St., 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-

Park, 601 Roadrunner Parkway, Las Cruces. Info:

MesillaValleyAudubon@gmail.com

**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**

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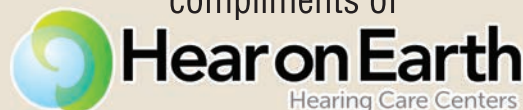
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**Silver City Farmers Market**, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at 1120 N. Main St., Silver City. Info: SilverCityFarmersMarket.info

**Wildlife Sculpting Demonstration**, 10 a.m., at Branigan Cultural Center, 501 N. Main St., Las Cruces. Info: 575-541-2154

**Dark Circles Contemporary Dance presents a Free Community Dance Class**, 10-11 a.m., at Rentfrow Hall, 3165 Williams Ave., Las Cruces. Info: DarkCirclesContemporaryDance.com

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

**Jennings & Keller - Fusion Folk Americana**, 7 p.m., at the Doña Ana Arts Council Gallery, 230 S. Water St., Las Cruces. Info: 575-523-6403

**Next Big Thing Performance Showcase**, 7-9 p.m., at the Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St., Las Cruces. Info: 575-541-2290

### Sunday, May 11

**Enchanted Valley Trio – Americana/Jazz**, 1 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 Hwy 180 East, Arenas Valley. Info: 575-388-1266 or WhiskeyCreekZocalo.com

**Mineral Hill – Americana/Funk**, 1-4 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N Bullard St, Silver City. Info: 575-956-6144

**El Paso Community Foundation Jewel Box Series presents The Mad Flower**, 2:30 p.m. at the Philanthropy Theatre, One Civic Center Plaza, El Paso. Info: 915-533-4020

**Mesilla Valley Concert Band**



## Smokey Bear Days May 2-3 Capitan

**free performance**, 3 p.m. at the Atkinson Recital Hall, 1075 N. Horseshoe St., NMSU. Info: MesillaValleyConcertBand.org

**Hi Lo Silvers Spring Concert**, 3 p.m., at The Hearth Event Center, 1915 N. Swan St., Silver City. Info: 575-388-8771

### Wednesday, May 14

**Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces**, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces, 100 N. Main St., Las Cruces. Info: 575-201-3853

**Author Talk with George Pintar on "Las Cruces: Where Culture and Charm Converge,"** 1:30 p.m. in the Roadrunner Room, Thomas Branigan Memorial Library, 200 E. Picacho Ave. Info: 575-649-8786

### Thursday, May 15

**Kruse Brothers – Desert Country**, 7 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 Hwy 180 East, Arenas

Valley. Info: 575-388-1266 or WhiskeyCreekZocalo.com

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

### Friday, May 16

**City of Las Cruces Parks & Recreation Department hosts Hiking Trails in the Southwest: La Cueva Loop Trail**, 9 a.m., **Dripping Springs Natural Area**, 15000 Dripping Springs Rd., Las Cruces. Info: 575-541-2454

**WILL Summer Course Registration**, 9 a.m., Western Institute of Lifelong Learning, 104 Rhoda Rd., Silver City. Info: Will Community

**Poetic Outlaws Open Mic**, 5:30 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 Hwy 180 East, Arenas Valley. Info: 575-388-1266 or WhiskeyCreekZocalo.com

**Mesilla Valley Contra Dance with Carol Ann Fugagli and the Mesilla Valley String Band**, 7:30-10:30 p.m. at Mesilla Community Center, 2251 Calle de Santiago, Mesilla. Info: 575-636-5509

**Dwight Yoakam Brighter Days Tour**, 7:30 p.m., at Pan American Center, 1810 E. University Ave, New Mexico State University Campus. Info: 575-646-1420

**Astronomy Friends of the Parks**, 8:00 p.m. at Rockhound State Park, 9880 Stirrup Rd. SE., Deming. Info: 575-546-6182

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

### May 16-18

**Kayak Fishing Tournament**, 7 a.m., at Elephant Butte Lake State Park, 101 Hwy 195, Elephant Butte. Info: 505-908-1133

**Lincoln Forest Renaissance Faire**, 4 p.m., at Wingfield Park, 300 Sudderth Dr., Ruidoso. Info: OsoProductionsRuidoso.com

**Las Cruces Ukefest**, 7 p.m., at Atkinson Recital Hall, 1075 N. Horseshoe St., NMSU. Info: LasCrucesUkefest.com

### Saturday, May 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, 100 N. Main St., 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

**Butterfly Flutterby**, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., at the Chihuahuan Desert Nature Park, 56501 N. Jornada Rd, Las Cruces. Info: Asombro.org

**Weaving for Justice Maya Textile Sale**, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at First Christian Church atrium, 1809 El Paseo Rd., Las Cruces. Info: Weaving-For-Justice.org

**Veterans Legal Clinic**, 1-4 p.m., at Thomas Branigan Memorial Library, 200 E. Picacho Ave, Las Cruces. Info: 915-525-4567

**Astronomy Friends of the Parks**, 8:00 p.m. at City of Rocks State Park, 327 NM-61, Faywood. Info: 575-536-2800

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

### Sunday, May 18

**Chapter 431 Vietnam Veterans Food Drive**, 7:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Walmart Supercenter, 3331 Rinconada Blvd., Las Cruces. Info: 575-449-1926

**Mark Winters – Soft Rock**, 1-4 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N Bullard St, Silver City. Info: 575-956-6144

### Monday, May 19

**Las Colcheras Quilt Guild**, 6 p.m., at

## EVENTS

continued on page 34

**Aileen Shepherd**  
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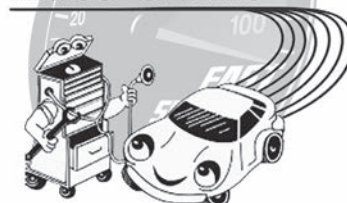


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## EVENTS

continued from page 33

American Legion Post 10, 1185 E. Madrid Ave., Las Cruces. Info: Linnea at 575-521-0521

**Film Las Cruces presents The Wrap**, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St., Las Cruces. Info: 575-805-3456

**Wednesday, May 21**

**Guided Bird Walk**, 8-10 a.m., at Tellbrook Park, 4290 E. Winchester Rd., Las Cruces. Info: MesillaValleyAudubon@gmail.com

gmail.com

**Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces**, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces, 100 N. Main St., Las Cruces. Info: 575-201-3853

**Marc Yaxley – Instrumental Guitar**, 4-6 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 Hwy 180 East, Arenas Valley. Info: 575-388-1266 or WhiskeyCreekZocalo.com

**Thursday, May 22**

**Performer's Showcase Open Mic**, 6 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 Hwy

180 East, Arenas Valley. Info: 575-388-1266 or WhiskeyCreekZocalo.com

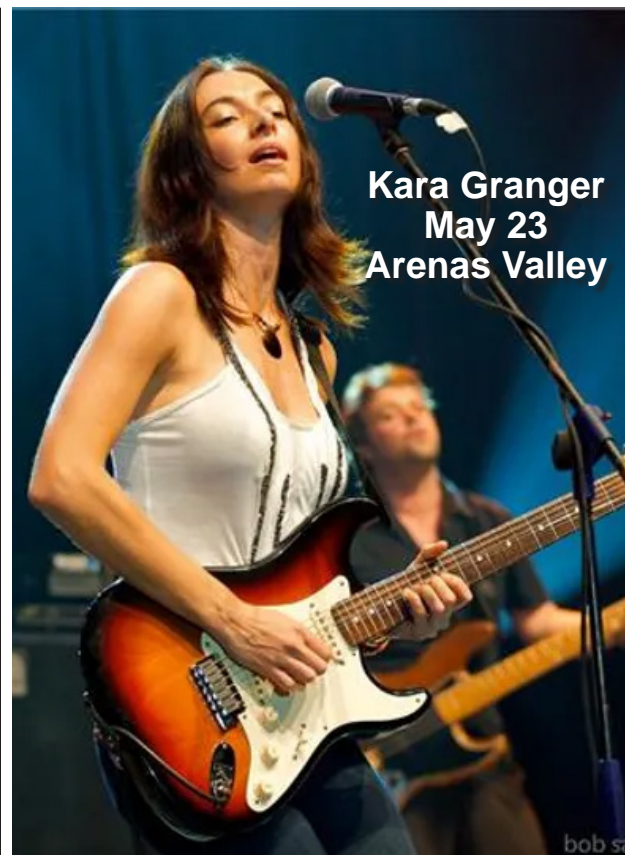
**Blu Egyptians – Bluegrass/ Funk/Reggae**, 8 – 11 p.m., at Little Toad Creek, 200 N Bullard St, Silver City. Info: 575-956-6144

**Friday, May 23**

**City of Las Cruces Parks & Recreation Department hosts Hiking Trails in the Southwest: "A" Mountain**, 9 a.m., Dripping Springs Road Parking Lot, just east of Sonoma Ranch Blvd. intersection, Las Cruces. Info: 575-541-2454

**Blues Fest Kickoff with Kara Granger and Fatigo – Blues/Latin Rock**, 7 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 Hwy 180 East, Arenas Valley. Info: 575-388-1266 or WhiskeyCreekZocalo.com

**Rudy Boy – Southwest Rock/Blues**, 9 – 11 p.m. at



**Kara Granger  
May 23  
Arenas Valley**

Little Toad Creek, 200 N Bullard St, Silver City. Info: 575-956-6144

**Saturday, May 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, 100 N. Main St., 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

**Nature Journaling**, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park, 5000

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**Kayak Fishing Tournament**  
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**Elephant Butte**

Calle del Norte, Las Cruces. Info: MesillaValleyAudubon@gmail.com

**Silver City Blues Festival**, 11 a.m.-8:30 p.m., in Gough Park, 1201 N. Pope St., Silver City. Info: SilverCityBluesFestival.org

**Ghetto Vaquero – Country/ TexMex**, 1-4 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N Bullard St, Silver City. Info: 575-956-6144

**CW Ayon Blues Fest Jam Session**, 9 – 11 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N

Bullard St, Silver City. Info: 575-956-6144

**Sunday, May 25**

**Silver City Blues Festival**, 12-6:30 p.m., in Gough Park, 1201 N. Pope St., Silver City. Info: SilverCityBluesFestival.org

**Little House of Funk – Blues/ Rock/Soul**, 1-4 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N Bullard St, Silver City. Info: 575-956-6144

**Dave Hadley & June Star**, 4 p.m.,

Truth or Consequences Brewing Company, 410 N. Broadway St., Truth or Consequences. 575-297-0289

**Blues Fest Wrap-up with Daiistar and Betty Benedeadly – Alt-Indie-Psychedelic-Rock ‘n Roll**, 6 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 Hwy 180 East, Arenas Valley. Info: 575-388-1266 or WhiskeyCreekZocalo.com

**Metropolis Man – Soul/Folk/**

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

**Tuesday, May 27**

**Monthly Blues Jam**, 7-9 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N Bullard St, Silver City. Info: 575-956-6144

**Wednesday, May 28**

**Farmers & Crafts Market of Las Cruces**, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces, 100 N. Main St., Las Cruces. Info: 575-201-3853

**Thursday, May 29**

**Songwriter’s Showcase**, 6 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo, 11786 Hwy 180 East, Arenas Valley. Info: 575-388-1266 or WhiskeyCreekZocalo.com

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

**Friday, May 30**

**Peter Rivera in Concert**, 7 p.m., at the Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main St., Las Cruces. Info: EPHardins.org

**Rolling Dusk – Sonoran Psych Rock**, 8 – 11 p.m. at Little Toad Creek, 200 N Bullard St, Silver City. Info: 575-956-6144

**May 30 – June 15**

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

**Saturday, May 31**

**Guided Bird Walk**, 8-10 a.m., at

Leasburg Dam State Park, 12712 State Park Rd., Radium Springs. Info: MesillaValleyAudubon@gmail.com

**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, 100 N. Main St., 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

**Performance Artist Aurelia Cohen**, 6 p.m. at Whiskey Creek Zócalo in the Lodge, 11786 Hwy 180 East, Arenas Valley. Info: 575-388-1266 or WhiskeyCreekZocalo.com

**Southwest Brawl presents Gods of War**, 7 p.m., at the Pan American Center, 1810 E. University Ave, New Mexico State University Campus. Info: 575-646-1420

**Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders On Tour**, 7 p.m., at Abraham Chavez Theatre, 1 Civic Center Plaza, El Paso. Info: 915-999-5727

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



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# From Pain to Possibility: How Sonoma Acupuncture Integrative Health is Redefining Life with Fibromyalgia

*Living with fibromyalgia can feel like a never ending battle, but at Sonoma Acupuncture Integrative Health, personalized treatments like O3 ReBoot Therapy® are helping patients break free from the cycle of pain, brain fog, and fatigue, reclaiming their energy, clarity, and lives.*

Living with fibromyalgia is far more than a daily struggle. It's a constant battle that affects nearly every aspect of life. A chronic condition that causes wide spread pain that never truly subsides, extreme fatigue that doesn't go away regardless of rest, and a range of other debilitating symptoms - fibromyalgia often leaves sufferers feeling like their body is at war with itself.

For Angela of Las Cruces, it meant every task had a trade-off. "Everything I do feels like a trade-off," she explains. "If I do a load of laundry, then putting together lunch that day becomes much harder. By the end of the day, the pain makes it hard to concentrate and the pain killers I was relying on to fall asleep weren't helping matters."

Her story is not unique.

At Sonoma Acupuncture Integrative Health, a growing number of patients seek care for fibromyalgia, many of whom have gone undiagnosed for far too long. According to Angela, "There's definitely not enough awareness of fibromyalgia. The average person hasn't even heard of it, and even those in healthcare often don't fully understand the day-to-day impact it has on my life." Sonoma Acupuncture Integrative Health is dedicated to changing this narrative by offering personalized care that addresses the invisible and complex nature of fibromyalgia, providing treatments designed to help patients like Angela reclaim their lives.

This commitment to compassionate care has made all the difference for Angela. At Sonoma Acupuncture Integrative Health, individuals managing fibromyalgia and chronic pain receive the understanding and attention they need and deserve.

"I would just like people to understand that fibromyalgia is not something that just goes away," shared Director of Patient Care, Maira Gaytan, "And that everyone's experience is different. We take the time to understand their particular experience. We think about how we can accommodate them, and sometimes the smallest things can make a world of difference."

For Angela, the most challenging symptoms was "brain fog," which often made remembering if she took her pain medications a struggle. "I would pay for it when I forgot," she said.

She also faced the frustration of others not fully understanding her condition. Some friends and family suggest she take aspirin, while others jokingly refer to fibromyalgia as "fibro-my-lazy," assuming that her pain is just an excuse. "On the worst days, even the clothes you wear bother you," she shared. "It's an invisible disability."

"O3 ReBoot Therapy® treats brain fog at the source by improving oxygen utilization and enhancing cellular function," shared Maira.

"Furthermore, our treatments address pain at the cellular level, focusing on actual healing rather than masking symptoms with medications. This isn't about 'bandaids' - it's about helping people heal."

Thanks to her treatments at Sonoma Acupuncture Integrative Health, Angela has seen a dramatic improvement in her quality of life.

"The difference it's made in my day-to-day life is simply amazing," she said with gratitude. "I can bowl again. I joined my first league in years. I had the energy to spend Christmas with my family, something I thought I had lost forever." She also shared how her mind feels clearer now. "I can think so much more clearly, and I don't have to use this 'seeing clearly' just to remember if I've taken my pain meds," Angela said. "It's like a weight has been lifted, allowing me to focus on the things I love again."

Angela credits the team at Sonoma Acupuncture Integrative Health for helping her regain her life. "The team at Sonoma Acupuncture Integrative Health truly cares about my well-being," she explained. "I don't know where I'd be without their help"

If you or someone you know is struggling with the invisible, but very real pain and suffering of fibromyalgia, Sonoma Acupuncture Integrative Health is here to help. With personalized care and a commitment to understanding each patient's unique needs, Sonoma Acupuncture Integrative Health is making a real difference for those with fibromyalgia.