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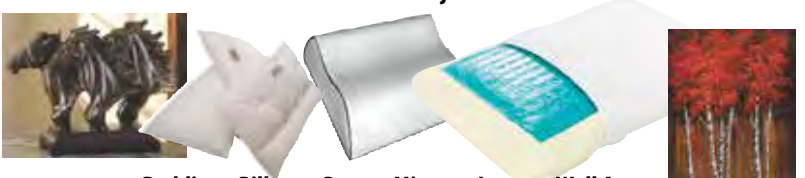
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About the cover: Created by wind and water from ancient dunes, the curves and angles of the Wave attract hikers and photographers from around the globe to the Paria Canyon-Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness on the Colorado Plateau. Photographer **Will Keener** tells about how he got this shot inside this issue.

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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK • DAVID A. FRYXELL

Holding Harmful

Grant County rams through a tax increase—seemingly, just because it could.

Apparently, democracy is just too much trouble for the Grant County Commission. You may recall how, a year ago, commissioners and other local officials pushed a ballot initiative that would have raised gross receipts taxes (GRT) by 1/4% to fund a \$10 million wish list of “economic development” projects. Voters soundly rejected that boondoggle by a two-to-one margin.

Not ones to take “no” for an answer, especially from pesky voters, the commissioners abruptly passed their own GRT increase last month. Don't like a 1/4% increase, voters? *Fine*, the commission seemed to be saying, *see how you like an even bigger, 3/8% increase!* The town of Silver City opposed the tax hike (for excellent reasons we'll get to below), as did members of the public at the meeting. But commissioners seemed impatient with such input and chose to ignore it.

Where will the \$1.6 million to \$1.9 million raised annually by this increase go? Later in the meeting the commissioners quickly passed a “Notice of Intent” to dedicate the funds to a bond issue they intend to slam through this month. No details were provided, but commission chairman Brett Kasten told GilaCommunity.net after the meeting that funds would pay for:

- Fixing the inside of the Business and Conference Center
- A new electrical and HVAC system for the district court building
- Finishing the front of the county administration building

• A county detox center with continuum of care.

Individually, each of these may be worthy of funding. (We need to get over the notion, though, that the ex-WalMart on Hwy. 180, shared with Ace Hardware, is a “convention center.” No one is going to hold a “convention” in a town with minimal air service, almost an hour off the interstate.) Exactly where this latest wish-list came from, however, is curious. Did it spring full-blown from the heads of the county commission? Or did they cook it up in private, in violation of the open-meetings law?

We've already railed against the regressive GRT—the last time local officials, apparently thinking tax dollars drop from the sky, tried to boost it. But this increase, paradoxically, will actually cost the county money from the state even as it hits citizens in the wallet regardless of ability to pay.

The county commission was taking advantage—if you can call it that—of poorly written legislation rushed through the state legislature in the closing hours of the 2013 session. That bill began a 15-year phase-out of the state's “hold harmless” payments meant to make up for the loss of gross receipts taxes on food and medicine, repealed during the Richardson administration. Grant County would ultimately lose \$350,000 a year and Silver City would lose \$1.7 million. The 2013 bill allowed counties and municipalities to raise GRT rates up to 3/8%, *without a vote of residents*, to offset these losses.

But Grant County falls below a 40,000-population threshold set in the bill; it could choose to keep the hold-harmless funding. As Kasten acknowledged after the meeting, the county did not have to raise taxes to make up for a pending loss of state funds. Now that commissioners have chosen to grab that 3/8%, however, that exemption from the phase-out vanishes. So county taxpayers lose \$350,000 a year from the state while forking out \$1.6 million or more from their own pockets.

With a population above the 10,000 threshold for municipalities, Silver City was already faced with losing its hold-harmless funds—and having to raise taxes to compensate. “Even after taking every action available to us, we'll still be short,” warned Mayor Mike Morones. Worse, those inevitable tax increases will now come on top of the county's unnecessary tax grab.

As of Jan. 1, 2015, consumers in Silver City—where most of the county's stores and service providers are—will pay 7.75% on non-food or -medical purchases. If the town eventually phases in its own 3/8% hike, that will total 8.125%. That would be higher than the current rate of any municipality in New Mexico besides Santa Fe, Espanola, Ruidoso, Gallup, Red River and Taos. (Other places, of course, may raise their own rates to make up for the hold-harmless phase-out.) Most of those places have per-capita incomes well above Silver City's.

It would even be more expensive to shop in Silver City than in Tucson, currently at 8.1%. (And of course Arizona taxes only goods—like New Mexico, exempting food and medicine—and not services, unlike New Mexico.)

“We're making Grant County a better place,” Kasten said in explaining the vote.

We think Morones, speaking for the town, was more on-target: “We wish there had been a little more public dialogue and debate.”

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The Children's Crusade

Why are Central American kids flocking to the American Southwest?

The ugliness of the protests against temporary housing of the influx of 57,000 migrant children—blocking buses in Murietta, Calif., and Oracle, Ariz., parading with assault weapons and “Don't Tread on Me” banners in Vassar, Mich.—almost makes one wonder why these youngsters would want to come to a country like this. Almost as ugly has been the instant politicizing of this humanitarian crisis. Of course, Republicans say it's all Obama's fault; next they'll be blaming the president for this summer's encore of the “polar vortex.” When the GOP isn't criticizing Obama for failing to act, they're calling him a “dictator” for taking executive action.

No one is happy about the ocean of displaced humanity suddenly lapping at America's southern border. To be clear, however, that influx has nothing to do with the nation's supposedly porous border or the lack of border security: As soon as these children reach the US, after crossing a thousand miles of Mexico, they throw themselves into the care of the first uniformed American they see. Short of invading Mexico and turning would-be migrant children back before they reach the border, this is not a problem “securing the border” can solve.

Nor is the Obama administration's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) policy, enacted after the failed attempt to pass the DREAM Act for illegal immigrant children, to blame. The influx of Central American youth began in the fall of 2011, before the June 2012 announcement of DACA, and those arriving now aren't even eligible for DACA. According to the nonpartisan Vox.com website, two separate surveys of unaccompanied migrant children have confirmed that extremely few, if any, knew about DACA and none cited it as their reason for coming. Notably, other neighboring countries also saw a sevenfold increase in applications for asylum from Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador last year versus 2009. So it's not just the “pull” of lax US policies that's causing the flight.

Rather, the immediate impetus for this surge seems to be a spike in drug-related gang violence in the children's home countries, coupled with a pent-up desire to be reunited with parents or other family already in the US. One study reported that 90% of the children coming from El Salvador had family in the US. Many of these parents have worked and saved for years to be able to

pay human smugglers to bring their children north.

It's true that a quirk in a well-intentioned 2008 law against human trafficking—signed by President George W. Bush—has made it more difficult to deport migrants from Central America. (The law does not apply to children from Mexico or Canada.) But replacing that law's protections with brusque interrogations by already-overworked Border Patrol agents, as proposed in a bill by Texas Sen. John Cornyn, is anything but what the bill's title, the Humane Act, pretends.

As Winthrop Quigley recently pointed out in the *Albuquerque Journal*, the long-term seeds of the current crisis were sewn with US intervention in Central America beginning in the 1950s, fueled by anti-Communist hysteria and the greed of the United Fruit Co. The CIA organized a coup in Guatemala in 1956, trained Guatemalan military at Fort Benning, and later supported the scorched-earth policies of President Efraim Rios Montt. (Ronald Reagan called the Guatemalan leader “a man of great integrity” who was “totally dedicated to democracy.” Rios Montt's regime was responsible for 200,000 deaths and he was convicted of genocide last year, though that was overturned on appeal.)

The story is much the same throughout Central America. Honduras has the highest murder rate in the world. Rather than being gang members, as some protesters have charged, many of the migrants are escaping gangs that forcibly recruit teenagers.

Obviously, we can't simply open our borders to all comers. And a case can certainly be made for deporting the children who are now crowding our immigration facilities—particularly those without families in the US. But we need to treat this problem for what it is: a humanitarian crisis that is in part of our own making in countries still broken by our long-ago interventions.

“Don't Tread on Me,” indeed. We spent much of the second half of the 20th century treading on these countries. Before we play politics with this human tragedy, maybe we need to learn a little history. ☘

David A. Fryxell is editor of Desert Exposure.



LETTERS

Wind, Sculpture & Schoolkids

Our readers write.

Mighty Wind?

Your "Powerful Blows" story on wind energy (July 2014) was accurate, entertaining and informative, but I wish you had been slightly more skeptical.

For starters, your map showing presently installed New Mexico wind farms should be contrasted with a map showing actually available wind resources, such as apps2.eere.energy.gov/wind/windexchange/maps_template.asp?stateab=nm. As I wrote in *Desert Exposure* for July 2009 ("Nauru and New Mexico"), New Mexico has a considerable wind resource along its eastern edge, near the Texas Panhandle, but the wind farm you show in Luna County apparently is built in a more or less dead zone for commercial-grade wind. What mystifies an engineer might be explained by a tax attorney.

Your picture caption gives the theoretical maximum wattage of some wind turbines, but I've never seen any monthly or annual production figures published. It's the watt-hours of energy that count, not the wattage. It's the same game with algae biofuel gallons produced figures from the taxpayer-supported fuel plant near the border. These outfits always mention their hoped-for pie-in-the-sky maximums, but leave taxpayer-investors guessing as to actual results.

Let's also mourn the dreadful loss of scenery which will result from running 240-mile and 500-mile extension cords on 300-foot towers, blocking the views of some beautiful mountains. I believe that our fast-disappearing scenic vistas generate more economic activity than any future power transmission line ever will. The power line issue is really a rural versus urban vote situation. Unfortunately, the power-hungry urbanites have us outnumbered, and don't mind trashing our nest.

This whole sorry plan of monster windmills linked by monster power lines is so completely unnecessary! The march of technology has now made it economical for each individual house to generate what electricity it needs right at home, using small-scale photovoltaics, without giant windmills or dangerous power lines. Distributed generation is the next big wave in the energy picture, but meanwhile we are leaving behind some huge eyesores as monuments to our folly.



and I attended Silver High School and WNMU whilst my parents were building their passive-solar adobe home back in the early 1980s. The view of the Burro Mountains from the lower patio at our parents' house and the clear starry night sky are two of my favorite memories. I now live near London and while it has its attractions and the English countryside is gently beautiful, it has none of the austere beauty of the Gila and surrounding area. I can't wait until my next return visit to see what new creations Jeff has added to his Totems.

Teal Martin
via email

Education Across the Border

Marjorie Lilly's Borderlines column is one of the first that I read. Her field observations are always insightful and reflect her knowledge of the border area.

Phoebe Watson was Mayor of Columbus when I moved here in the early 1990s, and I was and still am in total agreement with her philosophy (July). How can any thinking human being deny a child education? Unfortunately, new Village trustees at that time, some of whom were not native to this area, decided that since the parents of these children were not taxpayers, the practice of allowing Mexican children to get an education in the United States was halted, with some young people only months away from a high school diploma. I suppose the reasoning must be that if we keep people down, we can exploit them better.

Ignored were the protests of people in favor of education who stated that the Mexicans at that time often purchased farm equipment in the US that can cost tens of thousands of dollars. They also purchased their children's clothing and school supplies in the US and brought an influx of income into our economy, not to mention goodwill.

Fast forward to the children today who are making a dangerous trek through Mexico to get to our borders and find their parents. Some humanitarian aid is offered, but it is awful to think

that these children may be deported back to a deplorable situation where their lives are in danger and they have no hope. To add insult to injury, we have put a "Berlin Wall" on our border, which to me is a shameful thing, and which most Mexicans find hurtful and insulting. As Marjorie noted, especially in border communities, many people have relatives on both sides of the border.

I then reflect on how the original inhabitants of this continent must have felt when they were overrun by greedy people who kept pushing them back farther and farther as we took all their land from them—not even wanting to "share," we had to have it all. To that end, many trails of tears and other atrocities. Put up the wall, close the door. Nobody else can come in. Yet our very meddling in foreign affairs has caused a lot of the problem, and our insatiable demand for drugs has caused the rest of it.

Obama seems to promote global cooperation only as long as the US is "number one." We have turned into a police state and our lack of humanity is evident in our actions.

Maya nola
via email

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Joel Chinkes
Luna County

I really enjoyed your article about wind energy in New Mexico, but there's a few issues that are important that you overlooked. The wind can be quite episodic, leading to the need for some sort of bridging power when the sky is calm. Once in operation the carbon balance of a wind plant may be quite low, but it isn't zero. It takes lots of steel, composites, cement and copper to construct a wind farm and lots of construction and delivery inputs, intensely carbon based; these at least at present require large consumption of fossil fuels. Alternative energy may, in the long run, only slow down humanity's altering the climate. As new, lower-carbon modes of energy production become available, and the attendant urge for an increasing population to enjoy a decent life with its attendant upscaling of material wealth... Well, you can easily connect the dots here!

H. Marsden
Silver City

Taste of Home

I enjoyed Vivian Savitt's Southwest Gardener piece in the July issue of *Desert Exposure*, on the artists Jeffrey Smith and Carlene Roters, especially Jeff's un-garden. I know Jeff's home well, as I'm his sister

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DESERT DIARY

Stupidity, Sinning and Seniors

Plus dispatches from the battle of the sexes.

Losing the battle of the sexes, part I... New correspondent **PA**Charlie insists the following really happened. (Then adds, "OK, in part.") Either way, it's a good way to start off this month's Diary:

"My wife and I don't watch too many TV shows together, but one we like is Friday's 'Blue Bloods.' Lately she looks at the prologue and says that's a rerun. Last night the same, 'The grandfather has an affair a long time ago with his police partner and on and on.' Left me to watch on the other TV. I just enjoy the interaction of the people.

"Later on we went to bed. We leave the light on as we talk about things of the day. I wanted to give her a compliment and said, 'You sure have an uncanny memory for TV shows.' My mistake was I added, 'Then why is it you can never remember where you put your cell phone?'

"Good thing my dentures were out. My lips will heal in time."

Stupid is as stupid does... With apologies to any LSU fans out there (but hey, we root for Bama), here's this from **GeraldH**:

"Bubba went to LSU on a football scholarship. He was a great running back, but a poor student.

"Come graduation day, Bubba didn't have enough credits. But he was a great football star and the students held a rally and demanded the dean give him a diploma anyway. They were so insistent that the dean agreed if Bubba could answer one question correctly, he would give him a diploma.

"The one-question test was held in the auditorium and all the students packed the place. It was standing room only. The dean was on the stage and told Bubba to come up. The dean had the diploma in his hand and said, 'Bubba, if you can answer this question

correctly, I'll give you your diploma.'

"Bubba said he was ready and the dean asked him the question: 'Bubba,' he said, 'How much is three times seven?'

"Bubba looked up at the ceiling and then down at his shoes, just pondering the question. The students began chanting, 'Graduate him

anyway! Graduate him anyway!'

"Then Bubba held up his hand and the auditorium became silent. Bubba said, 'I think I know the answer. Three times seven is 21.'

"A hush fell over the auditorium and then students began another chant: 'Give him another chance! Give him another chance!'"

We know we can count on you to share your own favorite jokes and amusing anecdotes by emailing them to diary@desertexposure.com. Now don't let us down!

Oh heavenly daze... This little moral lesson was sent our way by **Shanty Shaker**:

"Murphy showed up at Mass one Sunday and the priest almost fell down when he saw him. Murphy had never been to church in his life. After Mass, the priest caught up with him and said, 'Murphy, I am so glad ya decided to come to Mass. What made ya come?'

"Murphy said, 'I got to be honest with you, Father, a while back, I misplaced me hat and I really, really love that hat. I know that McGlynn had a hat just like mine and I knew he came to church every Sunday. I also knew that he had to take off his hat during Mass and figured he would leave it in the back of the church. So, I was going to leave after Communion and steal McGlynn's hat.'

"The priest said, 'Well, Murphy, I notice that ya didn't steal McGlynn's hat. What changed your mind?'

"Murphy replied, 'Well, after I heard your sermon on the Ten Commandments, I decided that I didn't need to steal McGlynn's hat after all.'

"With a tear in his eye, the priest gave Murphy a big smile and said, 'After I talked about 'Thou shalt not steal,' ya decided you would rather do without your hat than burn in hell, eh?'

"Murphy slowly shook his head. 'No, Father, after ya talked about 'Thou shalt not commit adultery,' I remembered where I left me hat.'"

You're only as old as you feel... Two accounts of senior employment at Wal-Mart that should put a smile on your face. This one's from **The Packrat Out Back**:

"After landing my new job as a Wal-Mart greeter—a good find for many retirees—I lasted less than a day. About two hours into my first day on the job, a very loud, unattractive, mean-acting trailer-trash babe walked into the store with her two kids, yelling obscenities at them all the way through the entrance.

"As I had been instructed, I said, pleasantly, 'Good morning and welcome to Wal-Mart.' I then said, 'Nice children you have there. Are they twins?'

"The woman stopped yelling long enough to say, 'No, they ain't effin' twins. The oldest one's nine, and the other one's seven. Why the hell would you think

they're twins? Are you blind, or just effin' stupid?'

"I replied, 'I'm neither blind nor stupid, Madam. I just couldn't believe someone would have sex with you twice. Have a good day and thank you for shopping at Wal-Mart.'

"My supervisor said I probably wasn't cut out for this line of work."

According to **Kayo**, who shared this with us, this is an actual job application that a 75-year-old pensioner submitted to a Wal-Mart. Supposedly they hired him because he was so funny. We have a hard time believing Wal-Mart has that kind of sense of humor, but are glad someone does:

"NAME: Kenneth Way (Grumpy Bastard)

"SEX: Not lately, but I am looking for the right woman (or at least one who will cooperate)

"DESIRED POSITION: Company's Chief Executive or Managing Director. But seriously, whatever's available. If I was in a position to be picky, I wouldn't be applying in the first place—would I?

"DESIRED SALARY: \$150,000 a year plus stock options and a Barack Obama style retirement package. If that's not possible, make an offer and we can haggle.

"EDUCATION: Yes.

"LAST POSITION HELD: Target for middle-management hostility.

"PREVIOUS SALARY: A lot less than I'm worth.

"MOST NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENT: My incredible collection of stolen pens and Post-It Notes.

"REASON FOR LEAVING: It was a crap job.

"HOURS AVAILABLE TO WORK: Any.

"PREFERRED HOURS: 1:30-3:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday.

"DO YOU HAVE ANY SPECIAL SKILLS?: Yes, but they're better suited to a more intimate environment.

"MAY WE CONTACT YOUR CURRENT EMPLOYER?: If I had one, would I be here?

"DO YOU HAVE ANY PHYSICAL CONDITIONS THAT WOULD PROHIBIT YOU FROM LIFTING UP TO 50 POUNDS?: Of what?

"DO YOU HAVE A CAR?: I think the more appropriate question here would be: 'Do you have a car that runs?'

"HAVE YOU RECEIVED ANY SPECIAL AWARDS OR RECOGNITION?: I may already be a winner of the *Reader's Digest* Sweepstakes, so they tell me.

"DO YOU SMOKE?: On the job—no! On my breaks—yes!

"WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE DOING IN FIVE YEARS?: Living in the Bahamas with a fabulously wealthy Swedish supermodel with big breasts who thinks I'm the greatest thing since sliced bread. Actually, I'd like to be doing that now.

"NEAREST RELATIVE?: 7 miles

"DO YOU CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE IS TRUE AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF YOUR KNOWLEDGE?: Oh yes. Absolutely."

Losing the battle of the sexes, part II... Two more reports from the front lines of the gender wars. The first comes from the **Packrat Out Back** again, who notes, "A lot of jokes about blonde females float around the Internet but some may be surprised that there is a whole group of jokes about men that many do not see. Enjoy this other side of



Postcards from the edge... Going places? Take along a copy of *Desert Exposure* and snap a photo of yourself holding it "on location"—like **Lillian Galloway** here, who writes: "Here I am on Feb. 14 at the La Brea Tar Pits with my favorite local publication! The mammoth skeletons were incredible; it was an excellent Valentine's Day activity."

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Our second reader photo comes from Twana Sparks, who went cruising with her staff and writes: "The Sparks Clinic and their guests cruised into Cartagena, Colombia, en route to the 100th anniversary of the opening of the Panama Canal. Pictured (top down, left to right) are Jake Andazola, John McClure III, Myah Allen, Jonni McClure AuD, Rudy Bencomo, Dana Andazola RN, Stephanie Montoya, Martha Blacklock, Frances Bencomo, Twana Sparks MD, Marlene Allen, Ernie Olea, Roxanna Olea RN, Lisa Porras, Adrian Silva, Leticia Medina, Jordyn Andazola and Ana Maria Kelly."

Whether you're seeing prehistoric skeletons or sailing to Panama, snap a picture of yourself holding a copy of your favorite publication (ahem, that would be *Desert Exposure*) and send it to PO Box 191, Silver City, NM 88062, or diary@desertexposure.com.

the coin." We will indeed:

"One day my housework-challenged husband decided to wash his sweatshirt. Seconds after he stepped into the laundry room, he shouted to me, 'What setting do I use on the washing machine?'"

"It depends," I replied. "What does it say on your shirt?"

"He yelled back, 'Notre Dame!'"

"And they say blondes are dumb."

"A couple is lying in bed. The man says, 'I am going to make you the happiest woman in the world.'"

"The woman replies, 'I'll miss you.'"

"It's just too hot to wear clothes today,' Jack said as he stepped out of the shower. "Honey, what do you think the neighbors would think if I mowed the lawn like this?"

"Probably that I married you for your money,' she replied."

"Dear Lord,

"I pray for Wisdom to understand my man, Love to forgive him, and Patience for his moods.

"Because, Lord, if I pray for Strength, I'll beat him to death.

"Amen."

"Q. Why do little boys whine?"

"A. They are practicing to be men."

"Q. What do you call a handcuffed man?"

"A. Trustworthy."

"Q. What does it mean when a man is in your bed gasping for breath and calling your name?"

"A. You did not hold the pillow down long enough."

"Q. Why do men whistle when they are sitting on the toilet?"

"A. It helps them remember which end to wipe."

"Q. How do you keep your husband from reading your e-mail?"

"A. Rename the email folder 'Instruction Manuals.'"

"While creating husbands, God promised women that good and ideal husbands would be found in all

corners of the world.

"Then He made the earth round, and laughed and laughed and laughed."

A bit of equal time, of a sort, is this from **Old Grumps**:

"At breakfast, the husband says to his wife, 'What would you do if I won the Lotto?'"

"I'd take my half and leave you,' she says.

"Great,' he says. 'Here's \$6. I won \$12 yesterday! Stay in touch.'"

Annals of art criticism... The easily offended might want to look away from this funny from **Pop**. The rest of you, prepare to chuckle:

"At the National Art Gallery in Dublin, a husband and wife were staring at portrait that had them completely confused. The painting depicted three black men totally naked, sitting on a bench. Two of the figures had black penises, but the one in the middle had a pink penis.

"The curator of the gallery realized that they were having trouble interpreting the painting and offered his personal assessment. He went on for over half an hour explaining how it depicted the sexual emasculation of African-Americans in a predominately white, patriarchal society. 'In fact,' he pointed out, 'some serious critics believe that the pink penis also reflects the cultural and sociological oppression experienced by gay men in contemporary society.'

"After the curator left, an Irishman approached the couple and said, 'Would you like to know what the painting is really about?'"

"Now why would you claim to be more of an expert than the curator of the gallery?" asked the couple.

"Because I am the artist who painted the picture,' he replied. 'In fact, there are no African-Americans depicted at all. They're just three Irish coal miners. The guy in the middle went home for lunch.'"

Yumpin' yiminy!... Being part Scandihoovian, we couldn't resist another Ole and Lena joke, submitted by **Ned Ludd**:

"Ole and Sven were talking one afternoon when Ole tells Sven, 'Ya know, I reckon I'm 'bout ready for a vacation. Only this year I'm gonna do it a little different. The last few years, I took your advice about where to go. Three years ago you said to go to Hawaii. I went to Hawaii and Lena got pregnant. Then two years ago, you told me to go to the Bahamas, and Lena got pregnant again. Last year you suggested Tahiti and darned if Lena didn't get pregnant again.'

"Sven asks Ole, 'So, what you gonna do this year that's different?'"

"Ole says, 'This year I'm taking Lena with me.'"

Pondering the imponderables... Finally, these words of wisdom from the **Silver City Greek**: "I'm not saying let's go kill all the stupid people. I'm just saying let's remove all the warning labels and let the problem work itself out.

"I changed my car horn to gunshot sounds. People move out of the way much faster now.

"You can tell a lot about a woman's mood just by her hands. If they are holding a gun, she's probably angry.

"Gone are the days when girls used to cook like their mothers. Now they drink like their fathers.

"You know that tingly little feeling you get when you really like someone? That's common sense leaving your body.

"I don't like making plans for the day because then the word 'premeditated' gets thrown around in the courtroom.

"I didn't make it to the gym today. That makes five years in a row.

"I decided to change calling the bathroom the John and renamed it the Jim. I feel so much better saying I went to the Jim this morning.

"Dear paranoid people who check behind shower curtains for murderers: If you find one, what's your plan?" ❄

What's YOUR plan? It had better be to send your favorite anecdotes, jokes, puns and tall tales to Desert Diary, PO Box 191, Silver City, NM 88062, or email diary@desertexposure.com. The best submission each month gets a Desert Exposure mouse pad, scientifically proven to take the strain out of emailing jokes to Desert Diary.



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TUMBLEVEEDS • JEANIE McLERIE & KEN KEPPELER

Friends, Mates, Freunds & Amis

A Rolling Postcard from Bayou Seco's musical trip to the British Isles, Germany and France.

Editor's note: We once again share a "rolling postcard" from the popular Silver City "chilegumbo" musical duo, Bayou Seco. From April through June, they brought a little bit of Southwest New Mexico to Scotland, Ireland, England, Germany and France. Here's their report.

Yes, yes, another romp across the islands of England and Ireland and a bit of the Continent. Having taken last year off, we were keen to come over again and share our music with a diverse and hopefully willing audience, as well as have some adventures unlike any we could have in our Southwestern home. Spring is quite a lovely time to leave the New Mexican windswept fields and pollen-dusted surfaces. What we see over here is a verdant, lush countryside full of fruit trees in full blossom, daffodils by the thousands lining driveways and country lanes, and lots of pretty groupings of tulips, hyacinths and low-growing purple groundcovers in many of the town centers. The moisture is happiness to our parched skin and cracked fingers. We enjoy the drizzle and fog, and we laugh when the locals apologize to us about it. We wish very strongly that we could have sent it back home to New Mexico but unfortunately the westerly winds won't allow such an idea.

Landing in Paris, the first thing that strikes us is the crazy patchwork-quilt look of the fields in the French countryside. Borders are decided by little streams and big rivers, not by straight rulers. There are many colors of greens and browns this time of year, some fields still being plowed, and some crops already flowering a garish mustard-colored yellow—the rapeseed that makes canola oil and also makes our noses twitch. Driving our French leased Kangoo made by Renault, we get a nice view of the landscape as we sit up fairly high.

We played the first gig in Waardamme, Belgium, near Brugges at a place called Cowboy Up. The crowd was very enthusiastic and it was a great start to the tour. The next day it was only a one-hour drive to Calais, and a leisurely hour-and-a-half cruise across the Channel. Luckily the boat rides on this trip are allowing us time to work on our weekly radio show called "Roots and Branches" on KURU—Silver City's



Bayou Seco in Spilsby, England.

own community radio station (89.1 FM or GMCR.org). It airs on Saturdays from 8-10 a.m. in Silver City, but if we want to listen, we have to catch it Saturday afternoons over in Europe.

We have been doing a lot of interviews with musician friends we know over here, as well as some new friends we meet along the way. So along with all the music we play from the station's vast collection on the hard drive, we have been running these interviews on each show. It has been a fun addition to our already busy days.



So many goat cheese choices in France!

We drove right up to southwest Scotland, Dumfries, for a couple of nights. There was a good pub music session, and a wonderful stone circle just a few miles north called Twelve Apostles. An early ferry to Belfast was a short one-and-a-half-hour hop. Ah—living on Irish time! The gigs start pretty late and

you are lucky to be in bed by 4 a.m.

Conor O'Kane (aka Teknopeasant) set up three wonderfully diverse gigs for us. The first was in Derry City at a well-known pub called Sandinos, the second one in Buncrana in a wild pub called Rodden's in the countryside of County Donegal, and the third in a very old stone barn called Keady Clachen near Limavady.

We were so well taken care of by everyone. We ate freshly caught salmon and fish pie and of course lots of potatoes. The brown soda bread is a perfect complement to all the meals.

We also played for the opening of a community garden (while the five-year-old kids from the school next door planted potatoes) in a shopping center that has become a community-owned and -run center. It offers a computer lab to teach those skills, a film-making class, yoga and senior activities, as well as a grocery store. The shopping center had almost gone into ruin because it was in a dangerous area during the "Troubles," and had been abandoned by the commercial market that was the main lessor.



A coffee truck in Berlin.

Then we went to Belfast for a day and visited a friend who showed us some areas where the "Troubles" were centered. Annie took us to a bar on Sandy Row, which used to be a pretty wild and dangerous place but now is a little more sedate. All around the area



Beaghmore Seven Stone Circles in Northern Ireland.

there are murals on the walls of heroes who fought and sometimes lost. There was one mural of all the workers who built the *Titanic*, and quite a few of famous boxers. Things are more stable now in Belfast, but there is still a lot of unrest. It's hard to imagine all this is still going on but it is.

The rest of our time in Ireland was spent visiting old friends—Paddy Jones in County Kerry and Rick Epping near Sligo—and course seeing the stone circles wherever we could find them. Beaghmore, west of Cookstown, is a fantastic example; actually it's seven circles, only recently excavated in the 1940s.

We returned to England via Wales on a boat from Dublin. We played the next three weeks in many places—hotels, village halls, schools, community centers and of course pubs. Sometimes six concerts in a row—luckily only a few hours' drive between each venue. As usual it was wonderful to connect with old friends. We also really appreciated the diversity of the food—lovely fresh salads, unusual cheeses, and fine local veggies and meat.

On May 14 we took the boat back to France and drove straight to Berlin, where we visited our friends from Aldo Leopold High School in Silver City—Ruby Zeuner and Anton Sauer and his family—and our friends, the 17 Hippies Band. Four days in this amazing, fantastic city were filled with visits to the Holocaust Memorial (haunting and very thoughtful), and views of the old wall, a beautiful food market, several music parties and much more. The city of Berlin is like no other we'd ever seen. There is a lot of green space even in the center of the city.

We were so very impressed with the U-Bahn and S-Bahn system. We took a train from Anton's into the center of the city with the option to get off and on as much as we pleased and it cost only 6.70 Euros for the whole day of travel—about \$10. We were very surprised to see a lot of beer drinking on the subway. There is also a line on the S-Bahn train called the R-Bahn, which continually circles the city every 10 minutes in either direction. Apparently kids have parties

TUMBLEWEEDS continued on next page

The Tumbleweeds Top 10

Who and what's been making news from New Mexico this past month, as measured by mentions in Google News (news.google.com). Trends noted are vs. last month's total hits; * indicates new to the list. Number in parenthesis indicates last month's Top 10 rank. A slow summer news month, where the welcome relief of the annual monsoon can crack the Top 10.

1. (1) **Virgin Galactic**—243 hits (▼)
2. (5) **Gov. Susana Martinez**—241 hits (▲)
3. (4) **New Mexico drought**—223 hits (▲)
4. (3) **New Mexico + immigration**—189 hits (▼)
5. (2) **Sen. Tom Udall**—176 hits (▼)
6. (7) **Ex-Gov. Bill Richardson**—145 hits (▼)
7. (10) **New Mexico + Border Patrol**—125 hits (▲)
8. (8) **Sen. Martin Heinrich**—106 hits (▼)
9. (9) **Gubernatorial candidate Gary King**—94 hits (▼)
10. (-) **New Mexico monsoon**—89 hits*



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TUMBLEWEEDS continued

on this train and there is a lot of drinking.

We were fortunate to attend a CD release concert of the 17 Hippies in Aschaffenburg. This was an amazing event. The group (there are 13 now) played for two hours and 20 minutes without a break, standing up the whole time. The very large and tightly packed audience was also standing and, as the concert went on, everyone became more and more involved—dancing and hopping and jumping to the music. Arms waved with the horn section, people sang along on the numbers they knew, and it was a real happening.

The next day we heard the terrible news about the three dear young people in Silver City who lost their lives following their passion—the Aldo Leopold students killed in a plane crash. With this news, time stood still for quite a few days. There was little we could do to ease our pain. For Ken and me, the memories of the two Ellas were overwhelming. They were both members of the Fiddling Friends, both had win-

acoustics, and we also played for the neighbors and the mayor down in the plaza below Marie and Alain's house on a warm balmy evening.

By now we had been gone more than two months and were starting to think fondly of our own bed, but we had one more amazing thing to do. We went to an old time American music gathering called "Le Rencontre." It took place in the Ardeche area in a town called Chambon-sur-Lignon in a large four-story house named Le Coteau Fleuri. This area of France is largely Huguenot, and is famous for having saved more than 5,000 Jewish children during World War II. At the gathering we played mostly American music non-stop for three days. Everyone brought some food and we all cooked together. There were around 60 of us, mostly French. There were no scheduled events other than a concert on the last night. Most of the participants played or sang at that, and it was a memorable concert.

After this, we headed back up to our friends in the Haut-Marne, Phil and Francine Pierson, for a week of relaxing, and eating just a bit more goat cheese, and swimming in their pool. We always leave our two accordions, a guitar and a banjo with them, making our baggage load a bit lighter each trip. We played at a local pizza restaurant to a packed house. On the way to the airport we spent a day in Paris, and went to a Cleopatra exhibit at a new museum called the Pinacoteque in La Place de la Madeleine. That was very interesting, and it is always fun to have a day in Paris—such a beautiful city.

As we flew up out of Paris over the crazy-quilt French landscape, we headed right out towards Caen, over the Channel, directly over Jersey and Guernsey, and



At the Twelve Apostles.

ning compositions in the Hey Mozart New Mexico young composer contest back in 2009, and we felt a huge connection to them and their families. Luckily we didn't have any concerts coming up for a while. But every time we pick up our fiddles these days, we play for them.

After visiting friends in three more German cities—lovely, very old Göttingen, Altenstadt near Frankfurt, and Bad Saulgau in Schwaben in the south (Ken's cousin lives there), we crossed back over to France. The first visit was high in the mountains southeast of Vichy. Our American filmmaking friends, Yasha and Carrie Aginsky, have lived there in the summer for 21 years, and we love to go there. They have a big garden, and great music and food parties. We played a fun concert near Clermont Ferrand with them at a place called La Capitainerie.

We then headed down to St Guilhem-le-Desert near Montpellier to visit Silver City neighbors, Marie and Alain Duvergé. This town is very old, and you cannot drive in it. It is a stop on the Compostela Pilgrimage route, and so there are fountains with the telltale scallop-shell motif all along the way. The houses are all attached to each other, giving the feeling of a pueblo. There are lots of colorful pots of flowers on many doorsteps and a very friendly feeling. We gave a free concert in an old abbey that had terrific

across the southern edge of England and Ireland. We felt ever so lucky once again to be able to travel in this way. Playing music is of course fun, but there is a lot of work involved in getting to each concert on time, and being in good voice and so on. We have developed such a large wonderful family in all these countries, and love visiting them as often as possible.

And so another Rolling Postcard trip was over. But the good memories keep replaying in our heads. And we wait for some of these dear friends to visit us here in Silver City. We know they will. And we hope to return again next spring for a 22nd year of music and fun.

"Oh the rolling postcard, watch it all roll by,

From the trains and the planes and the boats and the buses, and a hot air balloon floating in the sky.

Oh the rolling postcard, watch it all roll by,

When you get on home to your own sweet bed, you can still watch it all roll by." 🌻

Jeanie McLerie and Ken Keppeler, aka Bayou Seco, will perform August 1 at noon in the Gila Regional Medical Center courtyard and August 2, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., at the Silver City Farmers Market. They will also play at the Bluegrass and Old Time Music Festival in Santa Fe on August 22.

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Life in a state of nature:

Readers continue to share their snapshots of the critters they see in our "Southwest zoo." Here's one from **Gordon Berman** of Las Cruces, who writes: "The greater earless lizard is the most brilliantly patterned lizard of New Mexico. They are fairly common in the Organ and Franklin Mountains. You can approach within a few feet of them if you move slowly, calmly and patiently."

Share your own photos of local creatures great and small. Send to editor@desertexposure.com or mail to PO Box 191, Silver City, NM 88062.



PRESENTS

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Growing Native

A botanical garden for Silver City showcases area native plants.

If you happened to be at the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden last June, you may have noticed a woman who looked distinctly ethnic wearing faded Asic Gel sneakers and an equally bleached-out straw hat, with a brown-bag lunch peeping from her tote. That woman was I, and although I was dressed decidedly Gulag casual—or perhaps just Silver Citan—the inner me is quite particular about botanical gardens regardless of my appearance.

Sited on a lake overlooking downtown, the Dallas Arboretum's 66 acres are carved from two family estates. The arboretum features their exclusive residences and gardens replete with ponds, curving brick pathways, stone balustrades and pedestals for sculpture.

Although the site is dramatic, the trees and shrubbery mature, the overall effect is over-groomed and under-capricious. Bedding plants tend toward humdrum annuals that surely produce an uneven ratio of toil to bling for the grounds crew—not to mention irrigation requirements.

In fact, the most memorable aspect of my arboretum visit was the abundance of brides in full matrimonial regalia posing for wedding portraits. On hand were photo stylists, some with battery-operated fans, moist towelettes, bottled water—even “Pachelbel's Canon” wafting from an iPhone.

With their sweeping trains arranged in curlicues on the emerald lawn, the gowned brides-to-be—radiantly white under the Texas sun—appeared like fantastic living Easter lilies. They were certainly the garden's most unique flowerings.

For the most part, botanical gardens have moved beyond providing a formal ambiance of tranquility among pretty flowers. Many feature herbariums with preserved plant specimens—a vital reference for plant identification and conservation. Older gardens like the prestigious Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis contain specimens collected centuries ago holding “priceless significance for botanical science.”

This grand botanical institution, and others like the New York Botanical Garden in the Bronx, support botanical research while also treating their member-patrons to living recreations of tropical rain forests, Japanese gardens, et al.

Such institutions are splendid, even otherworldly, in the monies they can muster for super shows, publications, educational programs, unique gift shop merchandise and onsite cafes. What I wouldn't give to view the New York Botanical Garden's re-creation of Frieda Kahlo's Mexican house and garden in an exhibition slated next year!

But what about Silver City? Well, soon we can look forward to the completion of Silva Creek Botanical Garden (SCBG) thanks to the Gila Native Plant Society and its president, Keller Suberkropp. Recently, the society received support totaling \$25,000 from a PNM Power-Up grant and another from the Wetterau Family Fund.

Situated across from Virginia Street Park (see



Above: A view from Virginia Street into the emerging Silva Creek Botanical Garden. Right: Charles Holmes and Betsy Kaido, volunteer for a work party at the SCBG. (All photos by Vivian Savitt.)



box), the garden is designed “to educate the population about native plants that grow in the area and their role in the landscape,” Suberkropp says.

He continues: “As we are experiencing lengthy droughts in New Mexico, it is increasingly important to use drought-tolerant native plants in home landscapes. Water-harvesting structures have been constructed in the garden to demonstrate the conservation of precipitation.”

I remember watching the garden's original emergence eight years ago. Labor was provided by Aldo Leopold School students remunerated with Youth Conservation Corps funding. This was an effort to “educate students on gardening techniques.”

Since then, I've witnessed the Silva Creek Botanical Garden's slow progress. Over time, however, many of the hardy native shrubs have matured—adding strong visual elements to the evolving parkscape. There has been plenty of time to recognize what plants do well.

Last month, with fresh funding in hand, volunteer gardeners under the Native Plant Society's aegis began participating in work parties—defining beds

Below: Elroy Limmer, garden committee chair. Right: Plan of the Silva Creek Botanical Garden by Angela Flanders.



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Silva Creek Stroll

Take a walk to the Silva Creek Botanical Garden: Friends and I enjoy this "destination" walk to the SCBG, which offers highlights of small-town life. Circumvent the dog park adjacent to 12th Street and West Avenue, then take Virginia Street across Hwy. 180 to the garden's entry opposite Virginia Street Park.

After viewing the garden, the return route takes you over the stunning iron bridge spanning Silva Creek at the rear of SCBG (which must offer a pleasant amusement for neighborhood children attending Jose Barrios Elementary School) and the side of the historic stone Waterworks Building on Cottage San Road. Continue walking in front of the school, crossing Hwy. 180 again at the Skate Park. A narrow pathway to the right of the Skate Park brings you to the back of Penny Park with its colorful tile murals and a convenient restroom stop if needed.

At this point, you can continue south behind Hidalgo Medical Services to Pope Street. Turn right when you reach Pope, where you will quickly approach tiny Pope Street Park. Proceed thru the grassy park to the planted lavender median on 10th Street.

From there, you can continue up 10th Street to the WNMU campus.



Two native species that grow at the SCBG: Angelita daisy (top) and Western yarrow. (Drawings by Denise Friedrich)

with stones, adding new soil and mulch, and getting the garden's central portion underway with raised beds to reduce water loss.

A new public area will be constructed—a small amphitheater serving as both meeting and classroom space. Two concrete pads for sculpture will be placed in the park. Another artistic addition will be metal panels surrounding the base of the historic (1906) railroad water tower featuring Mimbres-style art cut out of the metal. Information on topics such as native plants, water conservation and park activities will be displayed on a new kiosk.

Key players in helping to complete the effort include Charles Holmes, volunteer director, a retired history professor who also taught computer science to General Electric executives in the technology's early years, and Elroy Limmer, garden committee chair, an arborist and retired head of the parks department in Peoria, Ill.

Contact either of them if you would like to volunteer at SCBG: Charles Holmes, 388-1371; Elroy Limmer, 538-5513.

Vivian Savitt gardens at Ditch Cottage in Silver City.

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Hillsboro Community Center

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Now through Sept. 7 at the Hillsboro Historical Society

The History of the Ladder Ranch

The Ladder Ranch was formed in Sierra County in the 1880's, and is currently owned by billionaire Ted Turner. The exhibit highlights the 1930s with black and white photographs of working cowboys, and includes original Ladder Ranch working cowboy regalia.

The Hillsboro Historical Society is located in the center of Hillsboro on NM Highway 152, and is open 11AM - 4PM Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, 575- 895-3321.

Call 575-895-3324 for additional information on both events or visit www.blackrange.org and www.hillsboronm.org.

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Other Labor Day weekend events in Hillsboro include:

- Screenings of **Among the Dust of Thieves**, which dramatizes the days leading up to the Fountain disappearance
- **"Albert Fountain and the Spiderweb Trail,"** a presentation on the Fountain murder by noted southwest historian Karl Laumbach
- Take a self-guided walking tour of historic Hillsboro
- Visit the Black Range Museum, local Shops, Galleries & Cafes
- A **Cowboy Soiree** at Black Range Vineyards wine bar Sat. at 5pm
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100 HIKES • LINDA FERRARA

Up a Creek

Hiking with Nancy and Ralph Gordon along Sacaton Creek.

I've known Nancy Gordon since I moved here 14 years ago, but neither of us can remember when we met. It's one of those small-town relationships where you know common acquaintances, have attended common events, and have just drifted into knowing each other. I recall passing her and husband Ralph during my 100 hikes. It was hike number 98 and we were climbing the back side of Tadpole Ridge, and Nancy and Ralph were coming down the trail. We stopped briefly and talked and then continued on. So when I saw Nancy at the post office recently, I asked if she would be one of my victims—er, subjects.



The Gordons have lived in Silver City for 22 years. Ralph has a master's degree in teaching and most recently taught in Lordsburg before retiring. Nancy, who calls herself a professional job hopper, has a master's degree in civil engineering/hydrology. They've been trekking together since their second date 40 years ago (don't you just love it?). Their list of hikes is long and includes climbing Wheeler Peak (highest peak in New Mexico, coming in at 13,159), ascending Mount Whitney in California (at 14,505, it's the tallest mountain in the contiguous 48), and hiking in the Grand Canyon and in Big Bend National Park in Texas. They've even backpacked in Australia and through Abel Tasman National Park in New Zealand (after researching this one, I've concluded that the Gordons have hiked in paradise!).

They are intimately knowledgeable about trails in this area, and so when they agreed to share one of their favorites, I was one happy hiker.

Name: Sacaton Creek
Distance: 4.0 miles, round trip
Difficulty: Moderate

Directions: Starting at the intersection of Hwy. 180 and Little Walnut Road in Silver City, drive west on Hwy. 180 for 43.6 miles. On the right, you will see the Moon Ranch sign. Turn into Moon Ranch (it's a county maintained road). You will see a sign that says, "Sacaton 10-729." Stay right at the fork (the left is "729a"). At the 5.8-mile mark, there is a four-way intersection. Stay straight. Drive 2.3 miles to the trailhead.

Hike Description: This is a shaded walk along Sacaton Creek. Enjoy walking through the trees, stop to listen to the birds and look at the wildflowers and check out the old cabin. There are some short uphill climbs, a few downed trees and boulder fields to negotiate, and places to test your trail-finding skills—but other than that, it's easy going. At mile two you will find large boulders and a good place to lunch next to the creek. Explore the caves in the area. On the way back, see if you can locate the mine.

Notes: As you traverse the creek, you will see evidence of the 2012 Whitewater-Baldy fire. When we went in late June, there was little water and the

creek was easy to cross. If the water is flowing when you go, be careful with the crossings. I recommend you bring and use bug repellent. I also suggest you be careful where you step as there is lots of poison ivy (see photo).

I did some research on the name *Sacaton*. It turns out it comes from the New Mexican Spanish word *zacaton*, which means fodder grass. Guess who found a book called *The Place Names of New Mexico* by Robert Julyan at the library? Stay tuned to this column for more fascinating bits about our area.



Describe something unusual that happened on a hike: Ralph and Nancy have had close encounters with black bears on the trail, and both have accidentally stepped on rattlesnakes. Fortunately, all went their separate ways without tribulation.

Tell us what you are doing in retirement: Ralph has been playing golf and battling the bugs, birds, rabbits and deer to supply the

neighborhood with vegetables. Both he and Nancy have been restoring the historic Silver City Waterworks on Little Walnut Road for the past four years. Rehabilitating it has turned into a community-wide project, bringing together non-profits, local businesses, more than 100 volunteers, youth conservation groups, town staff, and state and federal agencies. As you can imagine, it has kept Nancy busy applying for grants, organizing volunteers, and learning about historic preservation. Since starting to work on it in 2010, much has been accomplished including: the one-story roof was replaced, the historic front porch reconstructed, and the exterior stone masonry was repointed using lime mortar. The Wellness Coalition's Youth Volunteer Corps and Aldo Leopold High School's Youth Conservation Corps have done several landscaping projects and painted the "faux" doors and windows.

For more information about the project, check out the feature article that appeared in *Desert Exposure* in January 2011 (www.desertexposure.com/201101/201101_waterworks.php) and Google "Silver City Waterworks." ❁

To read more about Linda Ferrara's 100-hike challenge, check out her blog at 100hikesinayear.wordpress.com. See a new collection of her previous 100 Hikes columns at www.desertexposure.com/100hikes.



ARTS EXPOSURE • MARJORIE LILLY

The Big Picture

Deming art teacher Jesse Kriegel is spending his summers painting murals of the ancient Mimbres people.

From early June to early August last year, Jesse Kriegel could be seen working on tall scaffolding inside Peppers Supermarket in Deming.

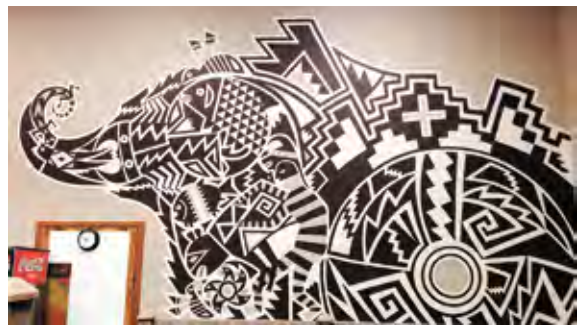
He devoted two months of his summer vacation to painting a larger-than-life mural of a young indigenous man making Mimbres pots. The powerful image now dominates the entrance to the store, looming over cafeteria seats, soda machines and grocery carts.

This summer he's painting another mural, outdoors on what will become the Deming City Conference Center. Fiber boards have been put over some of the windows, and he's creating another Mimbres-related mural.

Kriegel says he knew early on he'd be an artist. He grew up in La Union, NM, on a farm owned by his father, and in 1993, when he was 15, he moved to Deming with his mother. He was already preparing a portfolio for art school when he was a sophomore, inspired by high school art teacher Sherry Witt Goff. He ended up being an



Deming art teacher and muralist Jesse Kriegel. (Photo by Marjorie Lilly). Below left: Kriegel's mural in the Peppers café area depicts an ancient Mimbres potter, while on an adjacent wall he's created a Mimbres-style design.



art major and graduated with an emphasis on drawing and painting.

Kriegel combined his skills from his art education to produce the Peppers mural. He first had to do research on the culture and history of the Mimbres people. "I did a lot of work online," he says.

"Getting photos of Mimbres Indians is difficult," he adds wryly. The Mimbres culture flourished from 700 AD to 1100 AD in southwestern New Mexico.

After poring over scores of Internet documents, he came to the conclusion that "Papago Indians are very similar to Mimbres Indians. And Pimas, too—there are major similarities in their art, too." The Papagos and Pimas live in Arizona and Mexico.

"I chose a random image that embodied to me what I had seen in these potters," Kriegel says.

He took inspiration for the mural from the masters. "Los tres grandes—Siqueiros, Orozco and Rivera—are like my idols," Kriegel says of

ARTS EXPOSURE continued on next page

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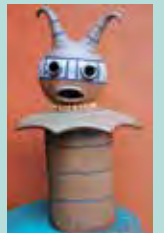
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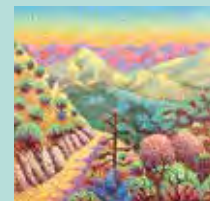
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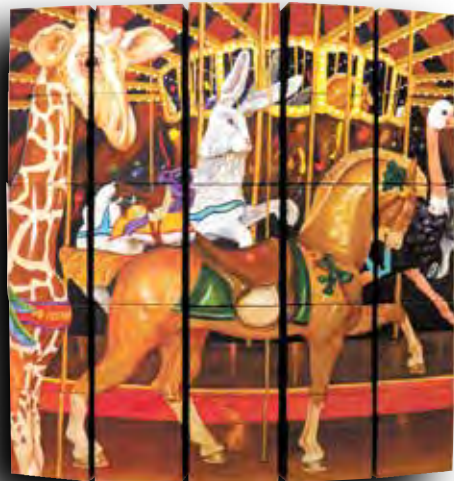


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ARTS EXPOSURE continued

the most famous Mexican muralists.

"Rivera and the others did a lot of egg tempera," he says. "They would put a fresh coat of plaster on and then paint on that. There is more of a permanent element in their work."

About his own mural he says, "It's all for the most part interior latex paint. The center is acrylic—the figure itself and the mountains."

"Oil painting is very time-consuming. If I had used that, it still would not be done. Acrylic is very quick to work with; it dries quickly. Acrylic on a large scale is the way to go."

Kriegel claims that Mimbres people are thought of by some today as the "Renaissance painters of their time. It's amazing what they did with chewed-up yucca brushes and home-made glazes."

He was careful about the designs he used for the pots in the mural. "They're all from referenced pots. I wanted to keep them as traditional as possible," he says.

When the subject of the gender of the potter comes up, Kriegel gets a little sheepish. "Everything we know of the Mimbres has been from their pottery," he says. "Based on how you see them, they are not very heavily clothed." In general, it's not clear what people wore.

"I talked to Mark, and he said, 'It might have to be an issue.'" Mark Shultze is the owner of Peppers, and he'd commissioned the mural. This is one reason Kriegel decided not to paint a woman, who would almost certainly have been uncovered from the waist up.

"It's a fact that the women did pots," he says. "But

women were not closely tied to ceremonial things."

Most of the pots Kriegel depicts, the pots with designs, were ceremonial pots used for burials. The plain ones were functional, household pots. "To me, it's almost crazy that men wouldn't be involved with ceremonial pots," he says.

The loincloth also came up in his discussions with Shultze. The fact that the painting was in a public place and in a family environment was taken into consideration, and the loincloth was painted in.

Kriegel now teaches high school art in the Deming Public Schools. His life is consumed by his job, his kids with their soccer games, and his part-time job at Peppers.

It's safe to say he's an inspiring teacher. In a recent student exhibit at the Deming Arts Council, 12 or 13 of the works out of a very restricted selection were by his students. Three of his students, one of whom is the son of a farmworker, will be going to art school in the fall.

In his own art Kriegel leans towards portraits of family members and self-portraits, with lots of black and white paint. He has an affinity for the photorealist painter Chuck Close, who specializes in portraits of people so close-up "you can see the pores in their skin," he says.

He even uses himself as a canvas—Kriegel's arms are a dense mass of tattoos. "I de-

signed most of them," he says.

Marjorie Lilly writes the Borderlines column.



Kriegel's other works are mostly portraits, whether in Día de los Muertos garb (top) or the simple bandana worn by "Quino" (above).



Above: "Tic." Right: "Self-Portrait with Heart."



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ARTS EXPOSURE

Arts Scene

The latest area art happenings.

Silver City & Grant County

The third annual **Silver City Clay Festival** continues through August 3, with three international juried exhibitions. "A Tile & A Vessel" is on view at the Historic Carter House August 1-3. The outdoor digital exhibition, "Private PROJECT," recognizes artists and their large-scale clay and mosaic private installations, which will be exhibited as digital projections on Bullard Street, beginning with dancing and music the evening of Saturday, August 2. "Neo-Mimbreno 2014" features contemporary works of all media, influenced or inspired by designs of the ancient Mimbres pottery of the Southwest. Pieces will be displayed at both the Western New Mexico University Museum and the McCray Gallery, opening August 2.



A sculpture by Sara Lee D'Alessandro, a sculptor living in Cuba, NM, installed at the Silver City Visitor's Center, in advance of her exhibition and talk, "Mud Like a Blessing," part of the Silver City Clay Festival.

Featured artist exhibitions include:

- **Patrick Shia Crabb** at Bear Mountain Lodge, 60 Bear Mountain Ranch Road.
- **Sara Lee D'Alessandro** at the El Sol Theatre Front Gallery on Bullard Street.
- **Marko Fields** at Lois Duffy's Studio, 211 N. Texas St.

Workshops during the festival will focus on Raku, Mata Ortiz pottery, china painting and architectural ceramics. A lecture series at the Seedboat Center for the Arts Performance Space, 214 W. Yankee St., August 1-2, will cover topics from contemporary ceramics to chocolate use and exchange in the Pre-

hispanic American Southwest. Panel discussions will include an archaeological panel titled "Clay is Life" as well as a Mata Ortiz panel discussion.

A weekend **Clayfest Market**, August 2-3, will provide a venue for artists and entrepreneurs to showcase their work while simultaneously featuring a variety of live demonstrations free and open to the public. The market will be located in the Murray Hotel Ballroom, 200 W. Broadway St., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Attendees can also partake in "Down to Earth" yoga and an edible "Mud Pie" contest at the Silver City Farmers' Market.

Youth from pre-K through sixth grade are invited to enjoy "Mud Fun!," playing with clay at the former Western Stationers parking lot, 737 N. Bullard. The free event is Saturday, August 2, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., and Sunday, August 3, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Registration is not

required; call 538-5560 to learn more. For further information on the 2014 festival, see the story in our July issue and visit www.ClayFestival.com.

A new show of works by Timothy Hasenstein, "Faces & Places of Evolution," opens August 1 at **Seedboat Gallery**, with a reception 4-7 p.m. 214 W. Yankee St.

Leyba & Ingalls Arts is celebrating clay this


ARTS EXPOSURE continued on next page

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ARTS EXPOSURE continued

month, too, with works by Zoe Wolfe, Daniel J. Lauer, Romaine Begay and more. 315 N. Bullard St., 388-5725.

Look for an artistic musical chairs next month in downtown. **Molly Ramolla Gallery & Framing** and **Raven's Nest** will be moving from their Yankie-Texas locations to the site recently vacated by Javalina's coffee house (now at 117 Market St.). The gallery offerings of **Blue Dome Gallery**, now at Bear Mountain Lodge, will be heading back to their former spot by about Oct. 1, and their **Ursa Minor** space next door at 303 N. Texas St. is up for rent.

A new collection by Mariah Walker opens at the **Copper Quail Gallery** on August 5, with a reception August 9, 2-7 p.m. 211-A Texas St., 388-2646.

JW Art Gallery in Hurley will feature a show of new work by Tom Holt, Joseph Wade and Shannon Stirnweis, August 8-Sept. 8. 99 Cortez Ave., 537-0300.

The Common Thread will host a fabric and yarn sale, August 8-9, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m., featuring high-quality donated items, including stamped designs on reusable material by Chris McDaniel. Sales benefit the Southwest Women's Fiber Arts Collective. 107 W. Broadway, 538-5733.

On August 16, the **Silver City Museum** will open a new exhibit, "Wilderness," featuring works by photographers Michael Berman, James Hemphill and Anthony Howell. The museum will host a "Meet the Artists" event on Sept. 20, 11 a.m.-noon. 312 W. Broadway, 538-5921, www.silvercitymuseum.org.

August 4 is the deadline for entries in the Grant County Art Guild's 29th Annual Purchase Prize Award Exhibit, on the theme of "A Journey to Realism." Judging and reception will be on Sept. 23 and the show will continue to hang at the Pinos Altos Art Gallery on Friday, Saturday and Sunday through Oct. 5. 534-2899, www.gcag.org.

Las Cruces & Mesilla

New paintings by Deborah Welch, "Implied Energy:

The Songs & Sagas Series," will be featured at **Aa Studios**, through August 30. Behind 2645 Doña Ana Road, by appointment, 520-8752.

The **Las Cruces Arts Association's** juried show opens at the El Paso Electric Gallery in the Rio Grande Theatre on August 1, 5-7 p.m. Just a few doors away, the LCAA hosts another member open-



New paintings by Deborah Welch, "Implied Energy: The Songs & Sagas Series," will be featured at Aa Studios.

ing at its new location, at the Community Enterprise Center at 125 N. Main St. next to the Main Street Bistro, also 5-7 pm.

The **West End Art Depot** will present its second annual show of art from recycled materials, "RE*Show RE*Mix," with work by over 15 artists from around southern New Mexico. The show opens with a reception August 1, 6-11 p.m., and continues through August 30. 401 N. Mesilla St., www.we-ad.org.

The **Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery** is featuring works by watercolorist Arlene J. Tugel and gourd artist Sylvia Hendrickson. 2470-A Calle de Guadalupe, 522-2933.

Mesquite Art Gallery this month has an exhibi-



Work from "Parsimony," at Mesquite Art Gallery.

tion called "Parsimony," featuring affordable art. 340 N. Mesquite St. 640-3502.

The featured artist at **Creative Harmony Gallery and Gifts** this month is contemporary painter and collage artist Roy van der Aa. The artwork featured will be non-objective geometric work from 2011-2014 and is entitled "Into Color." 220 N. Campo St., 312-3040.

The **Rokoko Gallery** will show a new art exhibit, "Leg Works," featuring the works of Diane Stowe, Erin Stapleton and Cecil Vigil, August 3-31. 1785 Avenida de Mercado, 405-8877.

Pastel artist Robert Blagg opens his exhibit, "Southwestern Landscapes and Cloudscapes," on Sunday, August 3, with a reception 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at the **Tombaugh Gallery**.



Jean Reese Wilkey's "Beyond the Veil" opens August 9 at Unsettled Gallery.

The artist will give a talk and demonstration at the opening. A New Mexico resident since 1942, Blagg has evolved his work over a lifetime from watercolor and acrylic, to his current interest, pastel painting. He has studied with various teachers at UNM, as well as Deborah Christensen, Eric Michaels, David Schwindt and Sue Buck. His focus on pastel has allowed him to combine the medium's color brilliance and layering quality in depicting the dramatic skies and striking landscapes of northern New Mexico. The show will run through August 29.

The **Tombaugh Gallery** is also calling for regional artists within a 300-mile radius of Las Cruces to submit proposals for exhibitions for the 2015 calendar year. Submissions should be postmarked no later than Oct. 1, 2014. Contact: Judy Licht, Committee Chairperson, c/o Unitarian Universalist Church of Las Cruces, 2000 S. Solano, Las Cruces, NM 88001. 522-7281.

Unsettled Gallery opens its fall season on August 9 at 8 a.m. with two exhibits: Jean Reese Wilkey's "Beyond the Veil" and Nolan Winkler's "Home Base +." Wilkey will talk about 9:30 a.m. and Winkler will talk and tour her work about 10:30 a.m. The exhibits both close on Saturday, August 30, with a more traditional artists' reception from 4-6 p.m. 905 N. Mesquite St., 635-2285.

The **New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum** will open a new exhibit, "Bonnie Mandoe: New Mexico Land & Landscapes," August 15 through Nov. 30, with a reception August 21, 6-8 p.m. The event features 36 oil paintings by Mandoe, a frequent *Desert Exposure* cover artist (November 2006, June 2011, February 2014). "Of all the things I love to do, painting New Mexico tops the list," says Mandoe. "Desert, forest, planted fields... lakes, mountains, rivers, churches, colors, extraordinary light. Here, you see what I can't say with words, my heart's vision of the place I love." 4100 Dripping Springs Road, 522-4100, www.nmfarmandranchmuseum.org.

Except as noted, all phone numbers are area code 575. Send gallery news to events@desertexposure.com.

ARTS EXPOSURE

Gallery Guide

Silver City

ANN McMAHON PHOTOGRAPHY, 125 Country Road. By appointment. www.AnnMcMahon.com.

ANN SIMONSEN STUDIO-GALLERY, 104 W. Yankie St., 654-5727.

ARTESANOS, 211-B N. Texas St., 519-0804. Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 12-6 p.m.

[A]SP. "A" @E, 110 W. 7th St., 538-3333, aspace.studiogallery@gmail.com.

AZURITE GALLERY, 110 W. Broadway, 538-9048, Wed.-Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. www.azuritegallery.com.

BARBARA NANCE GALLERY & STONE-WALKER STUDIO, 105 Country Road, 534-0530. By appointment. Stone, steel, wood and paint. Sculpture path. www.barbaraNanceArt.com.

BLUE DOME GALLERY, 60 Bear Mountain Ranch Road (Bear Mountain Lodge, 2251 Cottage San Road), 534-8671. Mon.-Sat. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. www.bluedomegallery.com.

CLAYFUL HANDS, 622 N. California, 534-0180. By appointment. Phoebe Lawrence.

CLAYMOON STUDIO, 13 Jade Dr., 313-6959. Marcia Smith. By appointment.

THE CLIFFS STUDIO & GALLERY, 205 Lyon St. & Yankie, (520) 622-0251. Diane Kleiss' encaustic multimedia art. By appointment. doart2@yahoo.com, www.dianealdrichkleiss.com.

COMMON GROUND, 103 W. Kelly, 534-2087. Tues.-Sun. 1-7 p.m.

COMMON THREAD, 107 W. Broadway, 538-5733. Mon., Thurs, Fri. and Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Retail and gallery space for fiber arts. www.fiberartscollective.org.

COPPER QUAIL GALLERY, 211-A Texas St., corner of Yankie and Texas, 388-2646. Tues.-Sun. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Fine arts and crafts.

COW TRAIL ART STUDIO, 119 Cow Trail in Arenas Valley. Mon. 12-3 p.m. or by appointment, (706) 533-1897, www.victoriachick.com.

CREATIONS & ADORNMENTS, 108 N. Bullard, 534-4269. Mon.-Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Work by Diane Reid.

DRAGONFLY STUDIO, 508 W 6th St., 388-8646. By appointment.

FOUR DIRECTIONS WEAVING, 108 W. Yankie St. Mon., Wed-Sat. 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Sun. 12-3 p.m. 263-3830.

FRANCIS McCRAE GALLERY, 1000 College Ave., WNMU, 538-6517.

GUADALUPE'S, 505 N. Bullard, 535-2624. Thurs.-Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

HOWELL DESIGN & GALLERY, 200 W. Market St., 388.2993. www.anthony-howell.com.

JEFF KUHN'S POTTERY, 3029 Pinos Altos Road, 534-9389. By appointment.

LEYBA & INGALLS ARTS, 315 N. Bullard St., 388-5725. Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Contemporary art ranging from realism to abstraction in a variety of media featuring artists Crystal Foreman Brown, Romaine Begay, Christina Brown, Susan Brinkley, Gordee Headlee, Diana Ingalls Leyba, Dayna Griego, Constance Knuppel, Mary Alice Murphy, Phillip Parotti, Betsy Resnick, Teri Matelson, Joe Theiman, Zoe Wolfe, Melanie Zipin. www.LeybalngallsARTS.com, LeybalngallsART@zianet.com.

LOIS DeLONG STUDIO, 2309 Paul Place, 388-4759. By appointment.

LOIS DUFFY ART STUDIO, 211C N. Texas, 534-0822. Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Original paintings, cards and prints. www.loisduffy.com, loisduffy@signalpeak.net.

LOYD STUDIOS, 306 W. Broadway, (303) 378-0926. Weds-Sat. 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Sun. 12-5 p.m. lloydstudios.com.

MIMBRES REGION ARTS COUNCIL GALLERY, Wells Fargo Bank Bldg., 1201 N. Pope St. www.mimbresarts.org.

MOLLY RAMOLLA GALLERY & FRAMING, 307 N. Texas, 538-5538. www.ramollart.com.

OL' WEST GALLERY & MERCANTILE, 104 W. Broadway, 388-1811/313-2595. Daily 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

SEEDBOAT CENTER FOR THE ARTS, 214 W. Yankie St., 534-1136. Weds.-Sat 11 a.m.-5 p.m. or by appointment. info@seedboatgallery.com.

SILVER SPIRIT GALLERY, 215 W. Broadway, 388-2079.

STUDIO BEHIND THE MOUNTAIN, 23 Wagon Wheel Lane, 388-3277. By appointment. www.jimpalmerbronze.com.

THE STUDIO SPACE, 109 N. Bullard St., 534-9291. www.jessgorell.com.

STUDIO UPSTAIRS, 109 N. Bullard St., 574-2493. By appointment.

SUSAN SZAJER STUDIO, Sanctuary

Road, 313-7197 By appointment.

TATIANA MARIA GALLERY, 305 & 307 N. Bullard St., 388-4426.

21 LATIGO TRAIL, 388-4557. Works by Barbara Harrison and others.

VIBRATIONS GALLERY, 108 W. Yankie St., 654-4384, starxr@usa.net.

WILD WEST WEAVING, 211-D N. Texas, 313-1032, www.hosanaeilert.com. Mon.-Thurs. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Fri.-Sat. 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

WIND CANYON STUDIO, 11 Quail Run off Hwy. 180 mile marker 107, 574-2308, (619) 933-8034. Louise Sackett. Mon., Weds. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and by appointment.

WYNNEGATE GALLERY & STUDIO, 110 W. Yankie St., (214) 957-3688. Mon., Thurs.-Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sun. 11:45 a.m.-4 p.m., Tues.-Wed. by appointment.

YANKIE ST. ARTIST STUDIOS, 103 W. Yankie St., 313-1032. By appointment.

ZOE'S GALLERY, 305 N. Cooper St., 654-4910.

Pinos Altos

HEARST CHURCH GALLERY, Gold St., 574-2831. Open late-April to early-October. Fri., Sat., Sun. and holidays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Mimbres

CHAMOMILE CONNECTION, 3918 Highway 35N, 536-9845. Lynnae McConaha. By appointment.

COTTAGE STAINED GLASS & MORE, Cedar Lane off Hwy. 35, 536-3234. Fri. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat.-Sun. 2-5 p.m.

KATE BROWN POTTERY AND TILE, HC 15 Box 1335, San Lorenzo, 536-9935, katebrown@gilnet.com, www.katebrownpottery.com. By appointment.

NARRIE TOOLE, Estudio de La Montura, 313-2565, www.narrietoole.com. Contemporary western oils, giclées and art prints. By appointment.

REESE-BENTON ARTS, 3811 Hwy. 35, 536-9487. By appointment.

Bayard

KATHRYN ALLEN CLAY STUDIO, 601 Erie St., 537-3332. By appointment.

T. ALI STUDIO, 421 E. Elm St., 537-3470. By appointment.

Hanover

FIERRO CANYON GALLERY, 4 Hermosa St., 537-3262, www.fierrocanyongallery.com. Thurs.-Mon. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

LA GARITA, 13 Humboldt, 537-6624. By appointment.

Hurley

JW ART GALLERY, Old Hurley Store, 99 Cortez Ave., 537-0300. Weds.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat.-Sun. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., www.jwartgallery.com.

Cliff

GILA RIVER ARTISANS GALLERY, 8409 Hwy. 180. Eclectic collection of local artists. Fri.-Sun. 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Northern Grant County & Catron County

CASITAS DE GILA, 50 Casita Flats Road, Gila, 535-4455. Sat.-Sun. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. or by appointment. gallery@casitasdegila.com, www.galleryatthecasitas.com.

WILLOW GALLERY, Hwy. 15, Gila Hot Springs, 536-3021. By appointment.

Mesilla

ADOBE PATIO GALLERY, 1765 Avenida de Mercado (in the Mesilla Mercado), 532-9310. Tues.-Sat. 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

GALERI AZUL, Old Mesilla Plaza, 523-8783. Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

GALERIA ON THE PLAZA, 2310 Calle de Principal, 526-9771. Daily 10 am.-6 p.m.

GALERIA TEPIN, 2220 Calle de Parian, 523-3988. Thurs.-Sun., 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

MESILLA VALLEY FINE ARTS GALLERY, 2470 Calle de Guadalupe, 522-2933. Daily 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

THE POTTERIES, 2260 Calle de Santiago, 524-0538.

ROKOKO, 1785 Avenida de Mercado, 405-8877.

Las Cruces

ALEGRE GALLERY, 920 N Alameda Blvd., 523-0685.

AZURE CHERRY GALLERY & BOUTIQUE, 330 E. Lohman Ave., 291-3595. Wed.-Thurs. 12-5 p.m., Fri.-Sat. 12-8 p.m.

BLUE GATE GALLERY, 311 Old Downtown Mall, 523-2950. Tue.-Fri. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-noon.

CHARLES INC., 1885 W Boutz Rd, 523-1888. Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

COTTONWOOD GALLERY, 275 N. Downtown Mall (Southwest Environmental Center), 522-5552. Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

CREATIVE HARMONY, 220 N. Campo St., 312-3040. Weds.-Sun. 12-5 p.m.

CRUZ NOPAL, 1175 W. Picacho, 635-7899. Thurs.-Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. or by appointment. ouida@ouidatouchon.com, www.ouidatouchon.com.

CUTTER GALLERY, 2640 El Pasco, 541-0658. Tues.-Fri. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

GALERIE ACCENTS, 344 S. San Pedro #3, 522-3567. Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

GALLERIE CRAMOISIE, 1695 Hickory Loop, 524-9349. Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

GRIGGS & REYMOND, 504 W. Griggs Ave., 524-8450, Tue.-Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

JUSTUS WRIGHT GALERIA, 266 W. Court Ave., 526-6101, jud@delvalleprintinglc.com.

J.T. MACRORIE STUDIO, 639 S. San Pedro, 524-1006.

LAS CRUCES ARTS ASSOCIATION, Community Enterprise Center Building, 125 N. Main St. www.lacrucesarts.org.

LAS CRUCES MUSEUM OF ART, 491 N. Main St., 541-2137. Tues.-Fri. 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

LUNDEEN INN OF THE ARTS, 618 S. Alameda Blvd., 526-3326. Daily 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

MAIN STREET GALLERY, 311 N. Downtown Mall, 647-0508. Tues.-Fri. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat. 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

MESQUITE ART GALLERY, 340 N. Mesquite St., 640-3502. Thur.-Fri. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat. 2-5 p.m.

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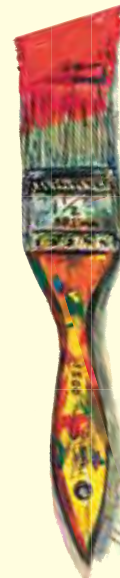
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TALKING HORSES • SCOTT THOMSON

Under Pressure

Virtually everything we ask our horses to do causes them stress.

For years stress has been known as the "silent killer" for humans. The number of medical conditions that have stress as a possible component is enormous. Any visit to your doctor usually includes questions about how you're managing the stress in your everyday life, and suggestions on how to deal with it if it seems to be getting the better of you.

If you're over the age of 50, you can probably remember there was actually a time when there was no drug advertising in the media. Today, there seem to be more ads for drugs than for soda, and a surprising amount of these focus on helping you manage the effects of stress. The growing interest in activities and therapies like yoga, meditation and counseling is another indication of the stress overload and what it does to us.

We all know what happens when the levels of stress become too great. Some people internalize things. They seem calm on the outside but inside things aren't going too well. Other people "pop the cork" to let off steam. We know of the sad and often tragic stories of PTSD in our military and first responders. We find ways to deal with the issues—some good, some quite destructive. Even with all our efforts to manage or control this powerful force, it would appear from what we see in the media, in our community and even our families, we're not doing a great job handling our stress.

Back in the 1970s there was a popular book, *The Relaxation Response*. Its core premise was that our physiological processes have not really evolved, and that we still possess a strong fight/flight response left over from our days in caves. What's different now is that in our modern lives we don't have the immediate outlets to deal with what goes on in our bodies at chemical levels during the tension of fight or flight. We can't run away from our jobs, families or responsibilities when the pressure gets too great. Nor can we usually resort to a physical fight. We have to battle these internal forces, the stresses, to get through the day, doing ourselves emotional or physical harm if the pressures become too much or we don't find acceptable ways to reduce the stress.

When I started with horses I never really thought about whether stress existed in their world. Like most people, I saw any unwanted behavior or illness as a result of bad breeding, poor training or moldy hay. Intellectually, I knew horses pretty much work the same way we do—they have hearts, lungs, blood, the same basic chemicals and hormones—so perhaps demanding that prey animals that rely on flight resist all their natural instincts, to please us, causes them the same inner turmoil.

I asked more questions about this after the first couple of years with my horse Cody. He had behavioral issues that ranged from annoying to dangerous. He was a horrible wind-sucker and had "fall down on the ground I'm going to die" colics about every six weeks. My monthly vet bills resembled a jumbo mortgage payment. He was a terror in his stall—lots of ear pinning and aggressive attempts (with frequent success) to bite. He was just an all-around crab even on his best days. The "experienced" horse people had lots of opinions on all this—the wind-sucking was due to boredom and he probably learned it from another horse, or it released endorphins that made him feel good. The other issues were from bad training or bad breeding and he needed to be disciplined and punished whenever the behavior showed up.

I'm a curious guy, so I started to do some research to see if there was any science to back up these opinions. What I found certainly didn't support the opinions, and it started me thinking about stress on horses and what it can do to them.

A study out of Switzerland indicated a strong link between wind-sucking (and cribbing) and ulcers. In people, lifestyle, diet and stress are often associated with ulcers, and it would appear the same is true for horses. I knew enough about Cody's early life and training (started at two, kept in a stall, high grain diet, constant training for shows) that I thought I should follow up on this lead. A thorough exam at

a top vet school indicated Cody was indeed riddled with ulcers.

I don't have the space to describe everything I did over the years, but with a program of stress reduction with changes in diet, exercise and feeding patterns, companionship, and handling/training techniques, he has not had a colic in over eight years. Plus his wind-sucking is probably 10% of what it was, he rarely attempts a nip, and his general attitude is acceptable. I've even had people call him a "sweetie."

A vet once told me that the farther you take a horse away from his natural way of life, the more behavioral and physical issues you will see. Like us, the way their bodies work is little changed over millions of years. Their strongest instincts and needs—flight, the consistency and clarity of living in a herd, their basic language—are stifled by the way they have to live with us, and this internal conflict is what leads to stress.

The more I've observed horse behavior and horse/human interaction, the more I'm convinced that virtually everything we ask our horses to do causes them some level of stress. Our most basic needs from our horses—riding, living in a small space, standing still when tied, being relaxed in claustrophobic situations—all go against the basic nature of the horse.

I read a great study out of England about a year ago that threw some light on this subject. The idea was to take a simple task—in this case clipping a horse—and look at levels of stress in two groups of horses. One group consisted of horses that appeared completely calm with the procedure; the other had horses that were obviously nervous, scared or resistant. Stress would be measured not by outward behavior but by heart rate, stress hormone levels, respiration, etc.

As humans, we would guess the horses that were obviously nervous, acting up, pulling away, etc. were more stressed about the activity than the horses that just stood there. The results actually showed that both groups had the same high levels of stress. In other words, the outward behavior was not a true reflection of the level of stress. So, a horse can internalize and mask things just as we do, but what may appear to be a simple and non-threatening task can be an unnatural, stressful event to a horse.

I'm certainly not saying we should just leave our horses alone so we don't stress them out—although if they voted that's probably the result we'd see. What I'm suggesting is that we understand that our needs are not theirs, and that life in our world is in direct conflict for what is natural for them. This is the formula for stress for a horse, just as it is for us, and I'm convinced that the short-term effects of stress will show up in their behavior, and longer term in their health. This may be where natural horsemanship can be of great value. It makes the time spent with you closer to what your horse would get in a herd, and the herd is where the horse feels the least stress.

Monty Roberts once said we should look at horse behavior as feedback for the way they see and feel about their world. Bad or resistant behavior is not a bad habit to be broken, but a response to a very real concern. Likewise, don't assume a calm and easy-going horse is content and stress-free. Give him as much of the life he would choose on his own as you possibly can. Look for the possible causes of behavior or physical problems; don't focus on the symptoms. We may have domesticated them (or at least we think we have), but that hasn't changed their basic nature. We have a hard time handling the stress and pressure of our lives, even with all the drugs, therapies and crutches we have available. Why should it be any different or easier for our horses? 🌱

Scott Thomson lives in Silver City and teaches natural horsemanship and foundation training. You can contact him at hsthomson@msn.com or (575) 388-1830.

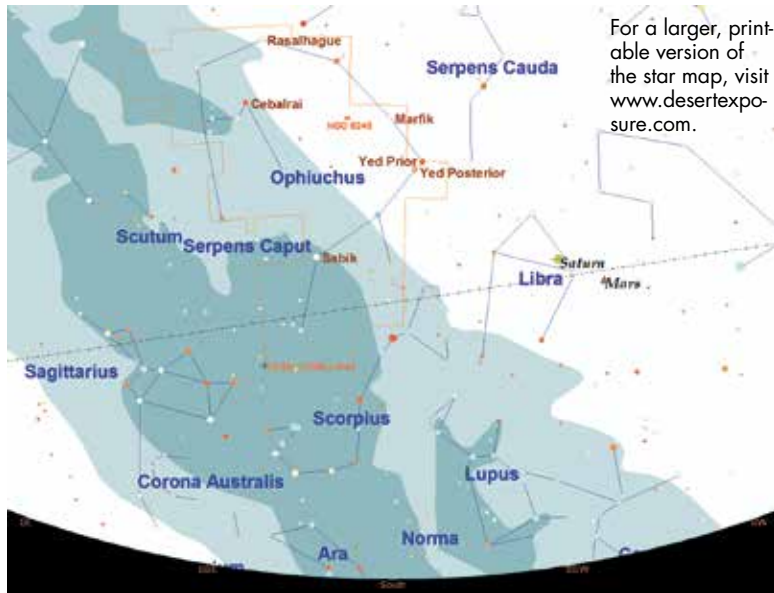


THE STARRY DOME • BERT STEVENS

Ophiuchus, the Serpent Bearer

Plus the planets for August.

Straddling the celestial equator high in our southern sky is the large constellation Ophiuchus, the Serpent Bearer. This is an irregularly shaped constellation that is higher (north-south) than it is wide (east-west). Area-wise, it is the 11th largest constellation in the sky, covering 948 square degrees. Ophiuchus has no first-magnitude stars, with its brightest being Rasalhague, a magnitude-2.1 star near the northern edge of the constellation. The ecliptic, where the planets travel, runs through the southern part of this constellation even though it is not one of the signs of the zodiac.



Ophiuchus has no hard mythology behind it, but it was first mentioned in the fourth century BC by the Greek didactic poet Aratus in his poem "Phaenomena." There he mentions Ophiuchus trampling on

Ophiuchus, the Serpent Bearer, is two-thirds of the way up in our southern skies. This is the 11th largest constellation in the sky. To its left (east) is the Caput, the Serpent's Head, and to its right (west) is Serpens Cauda, the Serpent's Tail. These two form the constellation Serpens, the Serpent, that Ophiuchus is holding.

Scorpius, the Scorpion, the constellation just to his south. Ophiuchus is often depicted as a man holding a long and winding serpent in his hands. Coils of the serpent are wrapped around his wrists and encircle his waist. The ancient Greeks believed this constellation represented the god Apollo fighting the huge snake that guarded the Oracle of Delphi.

Being a large constellation, Ophiuchus has a number of star clusters in it such as Messier 9, Messier 10, Messier 12, Messier 14, Messier 19, Messier 62 and Messier 107. But there are also a couple of galaxies, with NGC 6240 being one of the more interesting ones.

NGC 6240 is an irregular galaxy in northwest Ophiuchus. It looks like a crab or a butterfly and shines at magnitude 12.8 in visible light. But it is very much brighter in the infrared part of the spectrum that our eyes cannot see. Astronomers call this an ultraluminous infrared galaxy. As galaxies go, NGC 6240 is relatively nearby, only 400 million light-years away.

This galaxy also has many new stars forming in it, qualifying it as a starburst galaxy. The stars in starburst galaxies are formed from turbulent gas swirling through the galaxy. This gas runs into slower-moving gas, causing the gas to be compressed to form stars. Some of the new stars are so massive that they have already run through their life cycle and exploded as supernovas. This star formation is not continuous, but happens in short bursts. The last burst occurred about 20 million years ago and lasted for about 5 million years.

At first glance, this irregular galaxy appears as a chaotic blob. But looking closer, wisps of gas, dust and stars extend far outward from the galaxy. There are also faint trails of similar matter moving away from the galaxy, as if something had pulled it out of NGC 6240 sometime in the past, but there are no other galaxies near enough to be interacting with it. The galaxy is surrounded by a gigantic cloud of hot gas some 300,000 light-years across.

Looking deep into the center of NGC 6240, astronomers found not one nucleus, but two. So this is not just a single galaxy, but two spiral galaxies that are in the process of merging into a single elliptical galaxy. The merger began about 30 million years ago when the two galaxies were pulled together by their mutual gravity.

The two nuclei each have a supermassive black hole at the center. They began orbiting around each other as the two galaxies started to merge. They have been coming closer and closer together and are now only 3,000 light-years apart. Eventually, they will probably merge to form a single nucleus with a single, even larger, black hole at its center. The process of merging these two spiral galaxies to form a single elliptical galaxy will finally be complete some tens or hundreds of millions of years in the future.

The Planets for August

Mercury makes an appearance in our evening sky during the last week of the month. For us this will be a very poor apparition, with Mercury getting only five degrees up from the western horizon as it gets dark at the end of the month. The Messenger of the Gods starts the month in Cancer, traveling eastward all the way across Leo and into western Virgo by the end of the month. At that time, it will have an 82% illuminated disc, 5.4 seconds-of-arc across.

Mars is in eastern Virgo as the month starts, moving eastward into central Libra by the end of the month. The God of War is 31 degrees up in the southwest as it gets dark and sets around 11:30 p.m. At midmonth it shines at magnitude +0.5 with a disc that is 7.3 seconds-of-arc across.

Saturn is 36 degrees up in the south-southwest as it gets dark, setting by midnight. It is moving very slowly eastward in central Libra during the month. The Ringed Planet's disc is 16.6 seconds-of-arc across at midmonth while its rings are 37.6 seconds-of-arc across and tilted down 21.3 degrees with the northern face showing.

In the morning sky, **Venus** starts the month in central Gemini, moving quickly eastward through Cancer and into western Leo by the end of the month. On the 17th, Venus will pass 12 minutes-of-arc north of Jupiter, but by the time it rises here, Venus will be 22 minutes-of-arc northeast of Jupiter. The Goddess of Love rises around 5 a.m. in the east-northeast. At midmonth its disc is 10.4 seconds-of-arc across and 95% illuminated. Next month is Venus's last month in the morning sky.

Jupiter slips out of the Sun's glare into the morning sky around the middle of the month. Moving eastward in central Cancer, the King of the Planets rises around 5 a.m. By the end of the month, it will be 20 degrees up in the east as it gets light, shining at magnitude -1.8. Jupiter's disc will be 32.0 seconds-of-arc across.

The **Perseid meteor shower** peaks this month just two days after Full Moon. This makes it a very poor year for observing this reliable meteor shower. If you still want to try it, put out your chaise lounge looking to the northeast in the morning before it starts getting light. Even through it is mid-summer, you will probably need to cover yourself with a blanket as you "keep watching the sky!" ☾

Watch the Skies

- (times MDT)
- August 3**, 6:50 p.m.—First Quarter Moon
 - August 10**, 12:09 p.m.—Full Moon
 - August 12**, 6 p.m.—Perseid meteor shower peaks
 - August 17**, 6:26 a.m.—Last Quarter Moon
 - 10 p.m.—Venus 12 minutes-of-arc north of Jupiter
 - August 25**, 8:13 a.m.—New Moon
 - August 27**, 7 a.m.—Mars 4 degrees south of Saturn

An amateur astronomer for more than 40 years, Bert Stevens is co-director of Desert Moon Observatory in Las Cruces.



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OUT AND ABOUT • WILL KEENER

Seeking the Wave



The Paria Canyon-Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness on the Colorado Plateau—spectacular beauty, but at a cost.

Above: Created by wind and water from ancient dunes, the curves and angles of the Wave attract hikers and photographers from around the globe. (All photos by Will Keener)

It wasn't supposed to happen like this. The afternoon sun beating down on the four of us as we crouch beneath a lone juniper that is somehow clinging to life in a sea of sandstone. Temperatures in the mid-90s and the rock radiating stored heat—encouraging an even bake on all sides. By this time, we had hoped to be back to the Jeep and headed to the Grand Canyon for a sunset photo op. But life had made other plans, as often happens on wilderness outings, and it is our job to adjust.

Our navigator, the youngest and likely the fittest of our geriatric crew, has inexplicably hit the wall. Crossing a sandy pitch that brought us into this sandstone-rimmed valley of the lone tree, he suddenly ran out of energy as the route turned uphill and he sought the only semi-shade in sight. "I felt like I had a terrible case of heat exhaustion," he tells us later. "I was fine until we hit that section of sand on the way back."

We are quiet in the stifling heat, examining our options. Three of us are diabetics or borderline diabetics. Our ages span the decade from mid-60s to mid-



Lon Shelton, a Deming photographer, found GPS was a good bet for getting to the Wave and getting back.

It is an iconic locale for geologists, photographers, determined hikers and a large number of yearly visitors from Europe and the Asian rim.

Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness area. No cell phone service to call for a helicopter. No roads. Not even marked trails to help identify exactly where we are. Just miles and miles of 180-million-year-old Navajo sandstone, the heat, and an unforgiving cloudless blue sky. And for what?

The allure of this place is an area called "The Wave." Deposited as dunes along the western edge of what we now call North America, the sands have hardened to stone. Water and wind have sculpted them into fluted troughs, bowls and monoliths with sweeping buttresses. Contoured streaks of red, yellow, pink, white, brown—colors evolving as the sun moves across the sky—make the resultant rock spectacular.

It is an iconic locale for geologists, photographers, determined hikers and a large number of yearly visitors from Europe and the Asian rim. "People that love the outdoors and have these bucket lists; I think it's become something to check off their list," says Kevin Wright, manager of Vermilion Cliffs National Monument. About a third of visitors are from other countries, particularly Germany, with an upswing from Japan and China in recent years, he adds. In 2012, 48,264 people applied for the 7,300 permits issued.

The conventional wisdom for photographers is that the Wave is best photographed at mid-day, when the sun soars and more evenly lights the stripes and bends in the rock without shadows. We follow that wisdom. Thanks to a thunderstorm two days earlier, a pool of water at the lower end of the wave adds a dimension of reflections to the already vivid scene. We scramble to get special angles, to include or exclude other visitors also photographing the rocks. A quick stop for water and a snack and

Going There

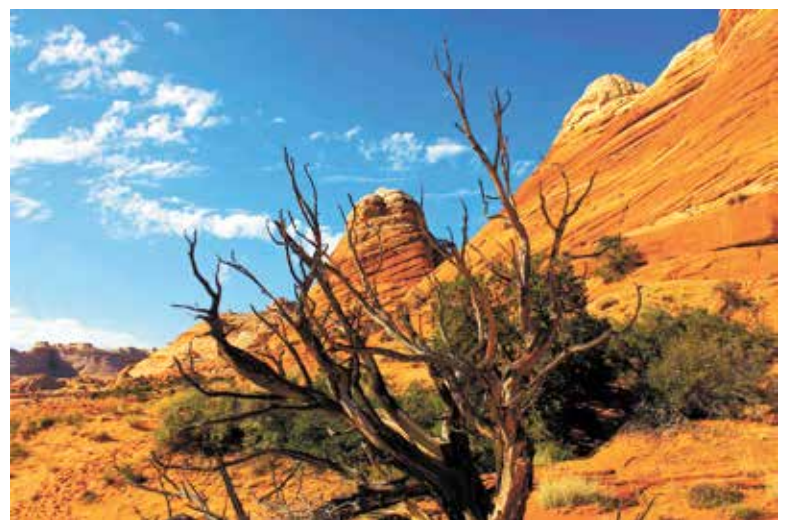
The Paria Canyon-Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness is a 112,500-acre wilderness area located in northern Arizona and southern Utah, USA, within the arid Colorado Plateau region. It's about 175 miles north of Flagstaff, Ariz. If you go:

- Team up with your hiking group to win an online permit at www.blm.gov/az/st/en/arolrs-main/paria/coyote_buttles/permits.html. Only one of seven applicants succeeds and counting on the daily lotteries at the BLM Visitor Center in Kanab, Utah, can be a recipe for disappointment.
- Take a gallon of water per person, sensible snacks for energy, clothing and boots suited for the desert, and leave the trailhead early in summer months.
- There is no marked trail and no cell service. GPS or a guide are recommended, but a good map, compass, and the BLM instructions will get you there.

we begin the trip back. We realize that following conventional wisdom puts us on the trail now in the heat of the afternoon.

The real "worst-case" scenario for this area was acted out twice last summer. Once by a couple from California (ages 69 and 70), who became lost and perished a few hundred yards apart, and again just weeks later by a 27-year-old mother of two from Arizona, who was overcome by the heat during the return from the Wave. Her husband hiked ahead to get a cell signal and call for help, but the help came too late. She died of cardiac arrest.

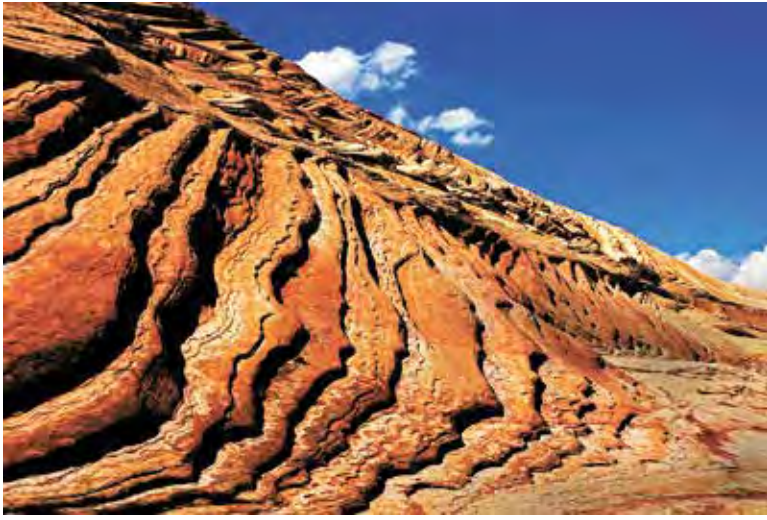
Chance brings us to the Wave. Access is deliberately limited by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to 20 hikers a day and a lottery is used to determine whom we may meet on the trail. But this is no place to take chances or come unprepared. We thought we were fairly well prepared with water, a



Top: Shade is at a premium along the route. Be prepared with appropriate clothing, plenty of water, and sensible snacks for energy. Above: The angles and patterns created by the sandstone layers can be enhanced by pools like this one during monsoon season rains.

GPS system, snacks, appropriate clothing, gear and sunscreen. But things happen.

Back in the thin shade of the juniper, our stricken mate is better. He gives the shade and the glucose tablets credit for most of the improvement. Later he reflects that more protein for lunch, some electrolytes possibly in the form of a small sports drink, and



Patterns abound along the hike, like these chevrons of stone west of the main (unmarked) route. Even professional photographers have learned to travel light to this location, carrying a minimum of equipment.

a more consistent effort to drink water along the trail could have helped as well.

In fact, another member of our group is stopped later, when he runs out of water. "I just felt like I wanted to stop and lay down, but I knew I shouldn't do that," he says. By pooling our supplies, a good reason for traveling with a companion, we were able to get everyone back safely.

Back in the car, a/c running, sipping water from our cooler, we look back on our mistakes. (We will glory in our successes when we get home and see the photos.) All of us should have pushed the physical training a bit harder. By sharing water, we stayed safe, but we should have carried more. Smarter snacks, glucose tablets and salt tablets would have been good additions to our day packs.

We are divided on the issue of route markers. The GPS system we used is clearly better than the map and photos provided by the BLM, but for those without satellite intervention, perhaps some trail marking system would be better. Not all of us agree.

The formation of sandstone from ancient dunes does not always make for competent rock, and the hardness and cohesiveness of the different layers, or bedding planes, vary according to the size of grains and the kind of cement holding them together. It is easy to break off a chunk of the rock, clambering around on various surfaces. Signs of such clambering are often visible. Funneling the foot traffic onto some preferred route will leave marks on the landscape, as it has already. At the same time, a marked trail might spare some of the more delicate features from trampling.

It's a trade-off. But when the downside of a trade-off involves loss of human life, it's a trade-off

that should be considered. The BLM in cooperation with other emergency responders is doing just that, examining a number of options including better cell phone coverage, marked trails, and even the option of closing the area at times of extreme heat. A video safety briefing is already required for all hikers into the Wave.

In the end, we recognize, it's not the BLM's job to save us from ourselves. If we want to get out there—to experience the magnificence and immensity of the Colorado Plateau—there are personal responsibilities that go with it. We need to know what we are doing or be ready or join forces with those who do know what they're doing, such as the many BLM-authorized guides in the area. Because things can happen out there. And they do.

Will Keener is a writer who has been drawn to photography since his retirement in 2007. He has worked and lived in the American West for most of his career. He is a Vietnam veteran. He lives in Las Cruces.

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NATURAL RESOURCES

Forest Firestorm

An environmentalist and an outdoorsman square off over the Forest Service's controversial new Travel Management rules.

On June 10, the Gila National Forest announced completion of its Travel Management Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). Alternative "G" was selected after analysis by forest specialists and evaluation of more than 2,000 comments and public meetings, open houses and study beginning in 2006. Implementation of the decision is expected in early 2015 once a 45-day appeal period has passed.

Under the new rules, use of the forest as cross-country travel will no longer be allowed. Only a designated system of roads, trails and other areas will be allowed for motorized vehicle use. Non-motorized travel, including hiking, horseback

riding and canoeing, is not affected. Hunters are allowed to drive up to 300 feet from either side of roads designated with a corridor to retrieve big game. Campers can use 1,316 miles of designated motorized dispersed camping corridors and 36 areas. Fuel-wood cutters can use their motorized vehicle within designated cutting areas.

To help readers better understand the rules and the attendant controversy, we asked Donna Stevens, executive director of the Upper Gila Watershed Alliance, and "Ramblin' Outdoors" columnist Larry Lightner to write about what they see as the pros and cons of the Travel Management decision.



ATVs raise dust in Saddle Rock Canyon, March 2010. (Photo: Donna Stevens)

BY DONNA STEVENS

Combining two little words into the phrase "Travel Management" generates the power to boil blood. Since 2005, when I began my involvement with the Gila National Forest's Travel Management (TM) process, I've witnessed the meltdown of otherwise reasonable individuals at TM meetings.

I understand that many people are resistant to change, but Travel Management is hardly new. Way back in 1972, President Richard Nixon tried to address public safety, resource damage, and conflicts resulting from unmanaged off-road vehicle (ORV) use. Not much progress was made, and in subsequent decades ORVs became more powerful and their use much more widespread. In 2005, unmanaged ORV use was identified as one of the top four threats facing America's national forests, resulting in the George W. Bush administration passing the Travel Management rule, mandating that all national forests in the country look at where their road systems were causing damage to our public lands and taking steps to stop it. The purpose of TM is to ensure plenty of access to our forests while minimizing conflict among recreational users, ensuring public safety, and protecting natural resources.

How do ORVs impact natural resources? There are direct consequences, such as crushing vegetation and killing wildlife. There are also indirect, less obvious but no less destructive effects.

ORV tires can spread invasive weed seeds for dozens of miles. These exotic plants thrive in disturbed areas and outcompete native species. Changes in plant communities harm insects, birds and other wildlife that depend on native plants for food, cover and nesting sites. ORVs access areas that were previously quite remote, spreading invasive plants throughout the Gila National Forest.

Wildlife are disturbed by the intrusion, noise and dust of off-road vehicles. Habitat loss and fragmentation are the greatest causes of wildlife decline and extinction. Dirt roads that appear benign to us can present insurmountable barriers to many wildlife species.

ORVs compact the soil, causing runoff and creating erosion, and sending too much sediment into streams, where it harms water quality, native fish, and sport fisheries.

ORV use damages streams, riparian areas, wet-

lands and watersheds. Many ORV users like to drive in dry washes that lack surface water but are still productive riparian areas because of their high water table. In arid southwest New Mexico, we need to take every precaution to protect our scarce water sources and riparian habitat.

Full-size vehicles have the same negative effects as ORVs, but because ORVs can travel to places where trucks cannot, ORV impacts are greater.

Will the Travel Management decision change your forest experience? The Travel Management decision, released in June, will affect everyone. No one is completely happy with it. That's the nature of compromise in a democracy.

The biggest change, and one that's well overdue, is that driving off road or cross-country in the forest will end. This means that drivers will be required to drive only on forest roads that are identified as open. The Lincoln and Coronado National Forests have been managed this way for more than 20 years.

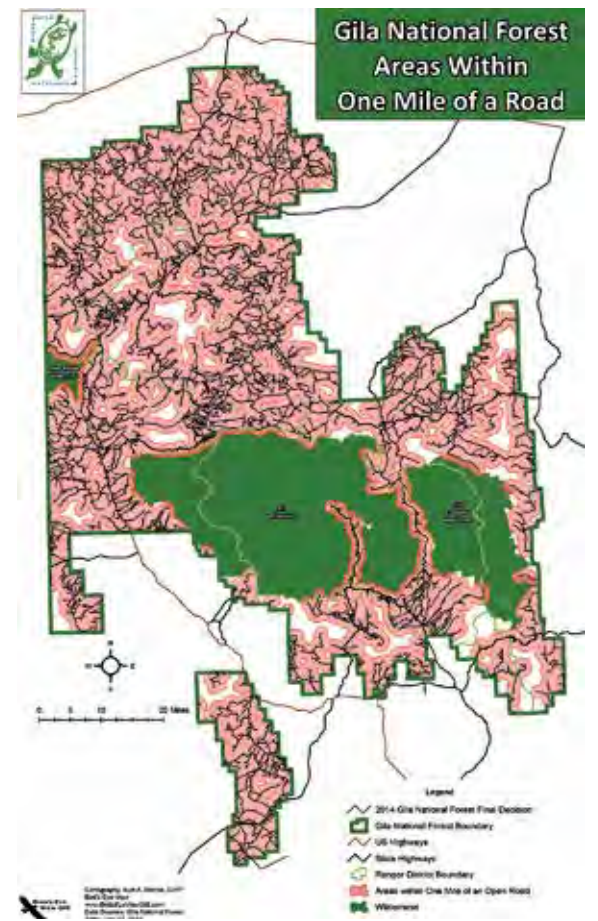
This decision will leave 3,334 miles of roads open. Just for fun, let's do a math word problem, the kind we all loved in grade school. Q: If you drive 20 miles an hour—faster than you can safely travel on many of the forest's rutted two-track roads—how long will it take to drive all 3,334 miles of roads in the forest? Assume that you don't have to retrace your tracks. A: 167 hours, or 7 days if you were driving 24 hours a day.

There are enough roads in the Gila National Forest to drive for seven solid days, enough to drive from San Diego to Maine, but some people claim that's not enough. We're still scratching our heads over that one. In fact, conservationists think there are far too many roads left open. We advocated for a road system that would better protect natural resources while still giving all of us plenty of places to drive in the forest. There are still so many roads in the Gila that, outside of wilderness areas, 84% of the forest is within one mile of an open road and 96% is within two miles of a road. (See map.)

With childhood and adult obesity and diabetes at epidemic levels, anyone who's able should park their vehicles and get out and walk. It's good for our physical, mental and spiritual health, and one observes much more on foot than in a noisy vehicle. Many studies prove that the natural world is very beneficial to our health. Driving bestows no such benefits.

Looking at just one road that has caused controversy, the "road" down the San Francisco River, you can see the unreasonableness of those who advocate leaving every road open for every use. This road crosses the San Francisco River dozens of times from Big Dry Creek down to Mule Creek. Downstream of the Mule Creek confluence, driving in the Frisco has been prohibited since the 1980s. With the TM decision, the entire river will be off-limits to off-road vehicles; this is great news for the imperiled species that live in this stretch of the river. Unfortunately, the road in Little and Big Dry Creeks that heads directly into the San Francisco will stay open, allowing the continued trashing of these two creeks that are important to wildlife and people seeking a quiet forest experience and making enforcement a nightmare.

Other rivers don't fare quite as well as the San Francisco. The Gila's decision includes 24 road cross-



The pink shading shows the 84% of the forest, outside of wilderness areas, that is less than one mile from an open road.

ings of stream segments that are eligible for Wild and Scenic River designation. This decision also leaves roads open in Wilderness Study Areas, which are supposed to be managed for wilderness characteristics. Just as troubling are the more than 240 miles of open roads and trails in Inventoried Roadless Areas, violating the spirit of the law in these remote places, and degrading wildlife habitat.

An important feature of TM restores the traditional hunting experience to most of the forest. Driving to retrieve downed deer or elk will be allowed for up to 300 feet (the length of a football field) on either side of 1,300 miles of roads, leaving more than 94,000 acres open for motorized big game retrieval. The largest sportsmen's groups in the state—including New Mexico Wildlife Federation, Trout Unlimited-New Mexico, Doña Ana County Associated Sportsmen, and the state chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers—support the decision to manage driving to pick up big game in this way. This part of the decision is supported by the state Department of Game and Fish.

These same 94,000 acres designated for motorized big game retrieval are also Dispersed Camping areas. People can drive up to 300 feet from either side of these roads to set up camp. We won't be crowded into official campgrounds, as some critics have claimed, and we'll still be allowed to camp anywhere in the forest—all 3.3 million acres—if we're willing to park our vehicles next to the road and walk to a secluded camp spot.

Critics of a well-managed road system like to claim that closing roads discriminates against the elderly and disabled. This specious argument crumbles after just a cursory examination. Anyone, young or old, able-bodied or mobility-impaired, with the ability to get into a motor vehicle, can drive more than 3,300 miles of roads in the Gila. This decision gives people who can't walk or hike long distances more front country access to a forest that isn't overrun by noise from ORVs and allows people to more easily get away from roads. For those unable to get into a vehicle, all the roads in the world won't allow them forest access.

More than 90% of the Gila's roads are high-clearance two-tracks. When these are not properly maintained they cause the most erosion and degrade aquatic habitats. Unfortunately, the Gila National Forest can afford to maintain only 3% of these roads each year. The road maintenance backlog now stands at \$272 million.

Some county commissioners unwisely demanded the US Forest Service leave every road on the ground open to driving. There are thousands of miles of user-created roads and trails in the forest; many of these roads are poorly sited and not engineered in any sense of the word. For example, routes go straight up a steep slope, causing serious erosion, or they travel

through riparian areas, the most important wildlife habitat.

TM critics claim that the public has had insufficient opportunity to provide input to the Forest Service. Nothing could be further from the truth. Since 2006, the Forest Service has held over 70 public meetings, workshops and open houses. They've received more than 20,000 comments from concerned citizens, groups and the counties.

This decision could have done far more to protect the forest, but at least it was a long overdue step in the right direction. ❁

Donna Stevens is the executive director of the Upper Gila Watershed Alliance, a watershed protection nonprofit (www.ugwa.org).



Under the new Travel Management rules, campers with ATVs will be limited to 1,316 miles of designated motorized dispersed camping corridors. (Photo: Larry Lightner)

BY LARRY LIGHTNER

In light of the recent adoption of the National Forest Travel Management Plan Alternative G, signed by the local supervisor, which severely curtails usage by the majority of users, namely ATV owners, hunters, campers and woodcutters, I decided to do some research and stumbled upon the following story and details.

As early as 1972, then-President Nixon ordered a review of off-road vehicle use on all national lands. The order languished on a shelf until President George W. Bush took office. In 2001 a commission of environmental radical activists and lawyers met at Oregon State University; their goal was to find ways

to remove vehicles from the national forests. Among the participants was the notoriously radical Center for Biological Diversity. In 2005 Bush's USDA ordered that a travel management plan be instituted throughout our nation.

Since then, research reveals that states across the nation, including California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Wyoming, Michigan, Arizona and even Virginia, have adopted similar, if not identical plans; of these, only Arizona is close to duplicating our New Mexico ecology. It appears that no other proposal was seriously considered and that plan G was mandated across the nation.

Under the guise of "saving the ecology" of a region, this plan will be instituted here, barring a suit to stop it. But wait, the ecologies of the Sierra Nevadas, the rain forests of the far Northwest, the windy ridges of Wyoming, the frigid lands of Michigan and the lush forests of Virginia are all vastly different in scope and nature, yet the same plan applies to all!

What this told me is that it is not the environment that the Forest Service is truly worried about; the real agenda is to curtail motorized vehicle usage on national lands, and the main target is the ATV. Why? Because modern environmentalists, who now com-

FOREST continued on next page

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FOREST
continued

prise the Forest Service for the most part, hate ATVs! Let me state here that I do believe that the little person is truly concerned about the local ecology, but they have been duped like sheep to the slaughter; they actually believe what the government is telling them.

To back up what I'm telling you, several years ago, when plan G was added onto the proposals, I spoke with a Forest Service employee who stated that it didn't matter what the public wanted, plan G would be instituted—and that was before all of the public comment period was finalized.

You see, public comment was required by law, but it didn't mean that comments would have any influence in decision making. All it did was make us think we really had a say in things, much like the wolf re-introduction.

If you think there is no hidden agenda, I suggest you go on the web and search on road closures in national forests and about fines for traveling on closed roads in national forests. You will find page after page of info on closures across the nation as well as the attendant protests and petitions.

According to local USFS employees, in this plan, about 21% of forest users are hikers. (There may be another 10% who ride horses—my opinion). That means that about 70% of all users are vehicle drivers of some sort; in other words, they are the majority, and they are the ones who will be penalized by this mandate (add piñon gatherers to the list).

Another comment made in the plan states that

there have been some conflicts between hikers and ATV riders, and the USFS decided to err on the side of hikers (the minority) when taking trails off of the approved list. Say what? Why do hikers have the greater right to forest lands?

The local USFS public affairs officer, Punky Moore, made this comment on May 11: "3.3 million acres remain open to ALL USERS; users can go anywhere on the forest IF ON FOOT, HORSEBACK OR CANOE." In other words, to heck with the rest of you who want to use the forest if you aren't a hiker or horse rider. So much for the concept of multiple use.

According to the NM Wilderness Act P696-550, "Congress shall NOT INTEND that wilderness areas in the state of New Mexico LEAD TO CREATION OF PROTECTED PERIMETERS OR BUFFER ZONES around each wilderness area. The fact that NON-WILDERNESS activities or users occur, can be seen or heard from areas within the wilderness SHALL NOT OF ITSELF preclude such activities or users up to the boundary of the wilderness area."

Plan G violates the very tenet of this mandate of Congress in every way.

Let's look at the negative impacts upon the majority of the public due to the adoption of plan G:

1. It permits 3,300-plus miles of vehicular travel but of that only 1,316 miles will be permitted for camping within 100 yards of said road, and the same roads will permit retrieval of game by hunters within 100 yards of those same roads.

That is tantamount to saying that we can have a free fishing license, but it must solely be used within the city limits of Silver!

Let me cover some facts and a hypothesis. According to New Mexico Game & Fish in 2013, in unit 24, 1,889 permits for deer were issued. This unit runs from the private ranches next to Cooks Peak, up to Lake Roberts, over to the Gila, down to Cliff and then north of Hwy. 180 down to Cooks Peak—no small area.

A total of 401 buck deer were killed in this region, or 25% of all hunters were successful. We can rightly assume some of those deer were killed by road hunters, some on private lands, some by hunters who packed out their deer on their backs, some by horseback hunters and some by ATV retrievers.

Let's assume high, and say that 15% used an ATV to retrieve a deer; that equates to only 60 drivers in all of the forest lands in unit 24. Yet the Forest Service wants us to believe that those once-a-year retrievals were a threat to the ecology? NO, there has to be the "other" agenda. Why on earth did they limit retrieval as they did?

2. This law encourages hunters to "road hunt" from a vehicle.

3. It encourages otherwise lawful citizens to ignore the law, since there are but three enforcement officers on the entire 3.3 million acres plus the wilderness areas. Virtually every user has told me they plan to do just that. Problem is, the fines for such can be as high as \$5,000 and/or six months in federal prison!

4. By limiting usage, it discriminates against all off-highway vehicle users, especially the elderly and the disabled. The USFS defended this by stating that the law



Hunters will be allowed to drive up to 300 feet from either side of roads designated with a corridor to retrieve big game. (Photo: Larry Lightner)

does not require them to give exceptions, but neither does the law prevent them from making such preference.

5. By limiting woodcutters to certain areas, the immediate need for "dead and down" will encourage more wood poaching—those who need to get wood now to heat their homes. As a former chimney sweep I can attest to the fact that it takes a minimum of six months to cure wood, and one year is best; otherwise there could be a chimney and house fire from green wood burning.

6. Sadly, it foments "bad blood" between users and the USFS and even hikers and horseback riders. This could hypothetically lead to violent confrontations.

7. It wrongly recognizes the rights of the minority rather than the majority: What are the foot users giving up? Did you know that all hunters on public lands must pay fees to hunt there? Hikers do not. Maybe that needs to change via class action.

8. It designates an insultingly paltry 3 acres out of 3.3 million for exclusive ATV and motorcycle usage.

9. Environmentalists will argue that the majority disrupt game and cause erosion. C'mon, I already proved that hunters will damage little, and every ATV owner I know stays on existing roads, including Yours Truly.

By comparison, have you ever looked closely at the Fort Bayard ecosystem? Foot and horse traffic have deeply eroded the landscape, where paths can run a foot deep!

10. Within a short hour of Silver City can be had over 1.2 million acres of wilderness for the so-called "purist." Why do they need the rest? I suggest it is greed and narcissism. A millionaire is never satisfied with one; he/she wants 10!

So, this entire ruling is not about objectivity; it is about emotionalism. I've personally talked to several hikers; once past the fluff, they readily admit that they hate all ATVs and they don't want to see nor hear them—that's the basic line.

I once spoke with a former supervisor-ranger who stated, "I just plain don't like ATVs and I don't think they should be on the forest."

In closing, if you agree with me and keep an open mind, then I urge you to join the NMOHVA.org and support them in the coming lawsuit; even if we don't win, we can delay things for an awful long time. 🌵

Larry Lightner writes the Ramblin' Outdoors column.


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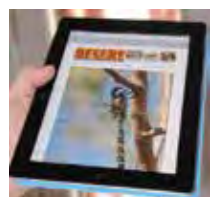


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A Dangerous Point



Exploring the Point of Rocks, historic landmark along the perilous Jornada del Muerto.

Above: Point of Rocks on the northern horizon, and the road that leads to the site. (Photos by Jay W. Sharp)

Point of Rocks, which the early Spanish sometimes called “*las peñuelas*,” or “rocky hills,” stood as a familiar landmark beside the fabled Camino Real de Tierra Adentro’s notorious passage known as Jornada del Muerto, or Journey of the Dead.

Of course, the Camino Real, with roots thousands of years old, was the 1,600- to 1,700-mile-long trek through a corridor of braided trails that extended northward from Mexico City to New Mexico’s San Juan Pueblo, about 25 to 30 miles north of Santa Fe. Much of the corridor remains an important route for travelers to this day. The segment from the El Paso area to the pueblo, about 400 miles in length, was declared a national historic trail in the year 2000.

The Jornada del Muerto, which skirted the western escarpment of Point of Rocks, ran through the

faced a challenging decision when they came to the Jornada passage.

On one hand, you might attempt to continue following the river. For the next 100 miles, the Rio Grande took a bow-shaped course through broken and sometimes almost impassable terrain along the western foothills of the Caballo and Fra Cristobal ranges. The river route offered the advantage of generally available water, but raised the forbidding risk of cracked axles, broken wheels, wrecked vehicles, injured draft teams and lost cargo.

On the other hand, you could leave the river and follow the 90-mile-long Jornada, which ran north/south through the desert, effectively “stringing the river’s bow.” It traversed comparatively level ground, over a shorter trail. It promised at least some forage for livestock. But it offered no dependable sources of water for man or livestock. It held little firewood for campfires. It posed the constant threat of Apache ambush. The Jornada tortured travelers with heavy winds and sandstorms, oppressive summer heat and piercing winter cold.

“The bleaching bones of mules and horses testify to the dangers to be apprehended from the want of water and pasture,” wrote George A. F. Ruxton, in *Adventures in Mexico and the Rocky Mountains 1846-1847*, “and many human bones likewise tell their tale of Indian slaughter and assault.”

The dangers notwithstanding, most travelers chose to follow the Jornada rather than the rugged Rio Grande arc. They often opted for the rainier months of the year—July through September—hoping to find water pooled in trailside playas and arroyos. Many traveled during the cooler evening hours and moonlit nights and rested through the day.

The passage still came hard. As Susan Shelby Magoffin wrote of her crossing during a winter month in 1846, in her classic *Down the Santa Fe Trail and into Mexico*, “I am not an advocate... for night traveling when I have to be shut up in the carriage in a road I know nothing of, and the driver nodding all the time, and letting the reins drop from his hands to the entire will of the mules. I was kept in a fever the whole night, though every one complained bitterly of cold.”

Reaching the Point

Point of Rocks, a cluster of unimposing, low, 25 to 40 million-year-old basaltic hills, lies roughly 20 miles north of Fort Selden. It would come to symbolize the hope and despair and the life and

death that characterized El Camino’s Jornada.

If you traveled up the Jornada from the Fort Selden area, you and your livestock had probably already spent a long hard day on the trail by the time you reached Point of Rocks. You could already be suffering from thirst. And you still faced at least another 70 miles and several days of hardship and uncertainty before you rejoined the Rio Grande and water. Conversely, if you traveled down the Jornada from the Fort Craig area, you likely came to Point of Rocks thirsty and weary, but at least you knew that, with luck, you had only another day to go before you reached the Rio Grande. You could feel hope rising.

From either direction, you also knew that, from its peaks, Point of Rocks offered marauding Apaches a commanding view of the southern half of the Jornada. It gave them the opportunity to track the progress of north- or south-bound caravans or travelers as they struggled along the punishing corridor below. You could feel the tension rise as you approached those black rocky hills bristling with cacti, yucca and thorny shrubs. You could feel the relief once you had passed.

Frequently mentioned by travelers on the Jornada, Point of Rocks would become the centerpiece for many of the stories of the trail.

Campsite of the Little Dog

It was on May 23, 1598, that a little dog, apparently someone’s pet, played a key role in salvaging Don Juan de Oñate’s major Spanish colonizing expedition as it struggled up El Camino de Tierra Adentro from Mexico to northern New Mexico. The animal had accompanied an advance guard, led by Oñate, which had set out to scout the Jornada del Muerto. Drawing near Point of Rocks, man and animal, including the little dog, already suffered “because of the lack of water,” according to the expedition’s official *Itinerario*, or travel journal.

Thirsting, the little dog apparently wandered away in a search for water in an arroyo or playa somewhere just southwest of Point of Rocks. A bit to the west, it soon discovered a pool, likely from a recent—and unseasonable—shower. Slaking its thirst, it returned, with a telltale wet muzzle and muddy paws. Given hope at seeing the little dog, an officer and a Franciscan missionary priest retraced its tracks back to the water it had found,



Top: Cow skull on the desert floor, recalling the livestock that died on the Jornada. As shown by the shape of the horns, this animal came from a more modern herd. Above: Grave, not far from the Jornada, typical of those that once marked the trail route.



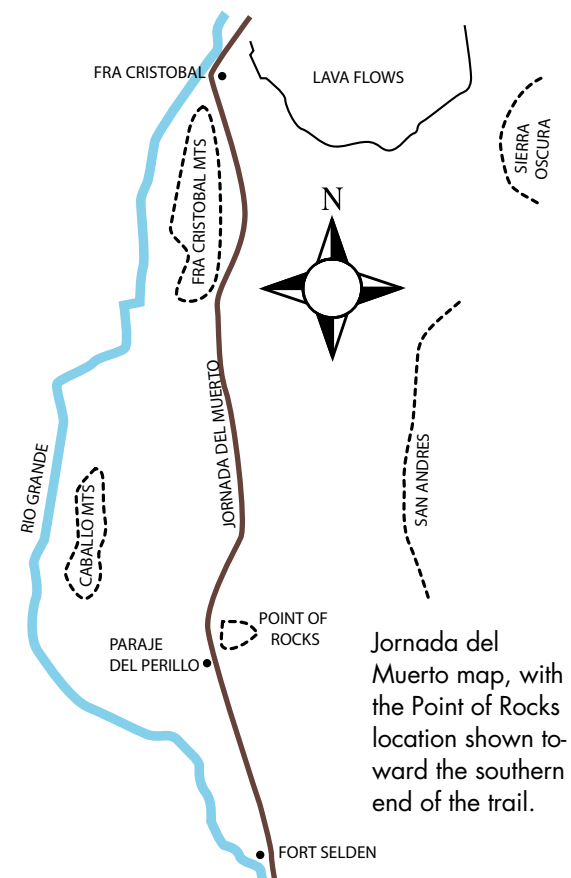
Photographs of late 19th century traffic on the Jornada del Muerto, showing, from the top, freight wagons, a covered wagon caravan, a stagecoach, and, finally, a train. The images appear on an informational sign on the loop trail on the outcrop at the western side of Point of Rocks.

Chihuahuan Desert basin that lies between south-central New Mexico’s Caballo and Fra Cristobal Mountain ranges to the west and the San Andres and Sierra Oscura ranges to the east. The southern end of the Jornada lay at a *paraje*, or campsite, near Fort Selden, 15 or 16 miles north of Las Cruces and Mesilla; the northern end, at a *paraje* called Fra Cristobal, 15 or 16 miles south of today’s Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge.

The Jornada, marked along its way by stone-covered graves, ranked as perhaps the most feared passage of the entire El Camino. It is seldom followed across its full length in this day.

A Journey Through Hell

For most of the way, those who followed El Camino through Texas and New Mexico paralleled the Rio Grande, with its life-sustaining water. But those who led caravans of wagons, carriages, carts, cargoes, livestock herds, and families—which often covered no more than 10 to 20 miles per day—



Jornada del Muerto map, with the Point of Rocks location shown toward the southern end of the trail.

which would rescue Oñate's advance guard, allowing it to proceed with its critical mission.

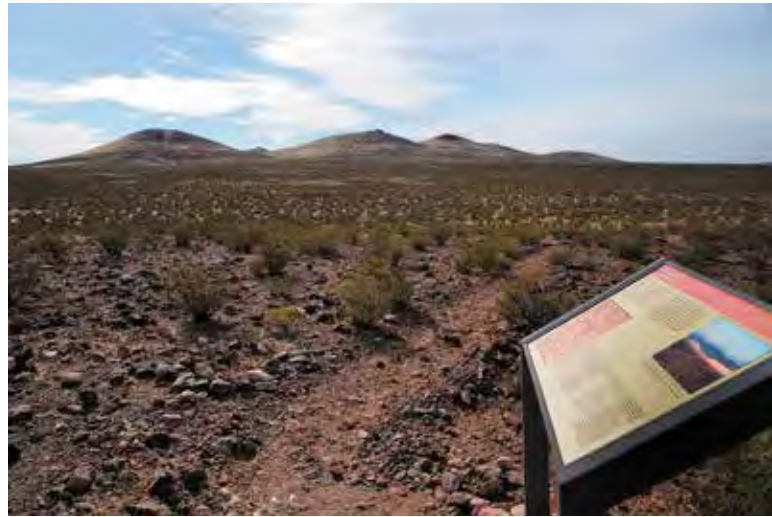
Although the precise location of the site has been lost to history, the area, somewhere in the shadows of Point of Rocks, became a regular campsite—*Paraje del Perrillo*, or Campsite of the Little Dog—for travelers through the centuries.

Then Came the Apaches

It was, perhaps, inevitable that the Mescalero and the Chiricahua Apaches—consummate raiders—would see opportunity in the heavily laden and encumbered caravans that traveled with their livestock across the Jornada del Muerto. The Mescaleros, from mountainous areas to the east, and the Chiricahuas, from mountainous areas to the west, could see the strategic advantages that Point of Rocks offered for tracking and ambushing the caravans. It was, probably, the Apaches who built a rock ring on the peak of the westernmost hill. That would serve as a vantage point with cover and protection for scouts as they followed the movement of caravans on the Jornada.



Above: Graves on the Jornada. Below left: Point of Rocks as seen from the loop trail. It was from the peaks of these hills that the Apaches, from secreted vantage points, tracked the progress of caravans and travelers across the Jornada del Muerto.



The Apaches made Point of Rocks “the chosen lair... when they tried to jump a wagon train or other travelers on the Jornada,” wrote W. Thornton Parker, MD, in *Personal Experiences Among Our North American Indians from 1867 to 1885*. “Graves along the roadside were plentiful near this place.”

Warned of the dangers, George F. Ruxton, an adventurous English travel writer, regarded Point of Rocks warily as he approached the site while traveling up the Jornada in the mid-19th century. “Before passing it,” he wrote in his *Adventures in Mexico and the Rocky Mountains*, “I halted the mules and rode on to reconnoiter; but no Apache lurked behind it, and we passed unmolested.”

He recalled, however, that it was near the *Paraje del Perrillo* and Point of Rocks that “a large

POINT OF ROCKS continued on next page

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POINT OF ROCKS continued

body of Apaches a few years [earlier] pounced upon a band of American trappers and entirely defeated them, killing several and carrying off all their animals. Behind these rocks they frequently lie in ambush, shooting down the unwary traveler, whose first intimation of their presence is the puff of smoke from the rocks, or the whiz of an arrow through the air."

Apache Encounters

Unlike many subsequent travelers, John C. Cremony (*Life Among the Apaches*) managed to escape his Apache encounter with his life, but only after a desperate flight astride his "gal-lant horse" southward over the Jornada. It was on a hot day in 1851 when Cremony, riding southward alone, not far from Point of Rocks, came under attack by some 40 Apaches who wanted his horse. The animal's "value and unequalled qualities," wrote Cremony, "were well known to the Apaches, and they resolved to have him, if possible. Of course, my life would have been sacrificed." During his flight, the Apaches fired arrows at Cremony, who had covered himself with a heavy serape for protection. He held his pursuers back with his pistols.

Thanks to his horse—"He fairly flew over the road"—Cremony raced past Point of Rocks and headed southward toward the south end of the Jornada and safety. "So soon as I arrived," Cremony recalled, "I threw off my serape, which had quite a number of arrows sticking in it." He spent most of the night caring for his faithful, exhausted animal, then "I refreshed my inner man with a wholesome whisky toddy... and sought repose." Luckily, Cremony did not end his career under a pile of stones at the foot of Point of Rocks.

Others were not so fortunate. On August 29, 1863, according to records compiled by Sjoerd Bakker in *Hostile Actions with Indians*, Apaches attacked a mail stage as it passed on the Jornada below Point of Rocks, making off with several mules. They fled westward with their plunder. Fifteen mounted troopers, likely from Fort Selden, soon took pursuit, overtaking the raiding party on the banks of the Rio Grande. A brief skirmish left one Apache dead and three wounded and a soldier, Private George S. Dickey, mortally wounded. Most of the Apaches,



Rock ring on the peak of the westernmost hill of Point of Rocks, looking northward across the basin. Presumably built by the Apaches, who would have used it as a protected vantage point for tracking caravans and travelers on the trail below. (Photos by Jay W. Sharp)

however, evidently escaped.

In still another instance, Apaches attacked and killed a mail carrier on the trail below Point of Rocks, leaving envelopes and packages scattered across the desert landscape. They, too fled westward, across the Rio Grande. They all escaped.

Visiting Point of Rocks

If you wish to explore the historic Point of Rocks—remember, it is only a cluster of unimposing low hills—turn off Interstate 25 at the Upham exit (Exit 32). This exit is located about 28 miles north of

Las Cruces. Travel north on the dirt-surfaced but decently maintained County Road E71/E70, and you will soon see, to the north, Point of Rocks. After a drive of approximately eight miles, you will come to a large outcrop at the western edge of Point of Rocks. On the west side of the road, you will find a parking lot and a half-mile-long loop trail.

You can hike the trail to an overlook that will give you a view of the trail route as well as a nearby railroad track (first laid in 1881). Looking eastward, you can see Point of Rocks' low peaks, where the Apaches kept watch and mounted ambushes on passing caravans and travelers.

Should you visit Point of Rocks, which lies on public land administered by the Bureau

of Land Management, you must, by law, leave any prehistoric or historic sites or artifacts undisturbed. Also, come prepared for possible emergencies. You may be beyond reach of cell phones. You may not see another car for hours.

Bring plenty of water, as you may not be as lucky as Don Juan de Oñate's party and have a little dog lead you to it. ☘



Jim McMahon, a friend of the author, hiking the loop trail on the outcrop at the western side of Point of Rocks.



Overview from the loop trail of the Jornada del Muerto trail and the railroad track (first laid in 1881).

Jay W. Sharp is a Las Cruces author who has been a contributor for various print and Internet publications over the past several years and who is the author of Texas Unexplained, now available as an e-book from Amazon or iTunes. To read his guides to plants and animals of the Southwest, see www.desertexposure.com/wildlife.

BORDERLINES • MARJORIE LILLY

Children on Our Doorstep

A local angle on the Central American refugee crisis.

Central American children, adolescents, and mothers are still sifting through the porous border into south Texas and giving themselves up to the Border Patrol.

The callow faces of the children as they enter this country on their own, along with the stories of the hellacious world of murder, extortion and sex trafficking that they have fled, have moved a lot of Americans to want to help them. It's made other Americans huff and puff about the "invasion" of Central Americans into the US.

A couple hundred of the refugees have spent a day or two at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in Las Cruces. They've been bused from Annunciation House in El Paso and continue on to go live with their families elsewhere in the US.

The press hasn't so far been allowed to talk to them, but I went over to see what I could see one evening in early July. I parked my car in the parking lot, in sight of some kids on playground equipment.

I thought the church volunteer might be protective of the immigrants and get mad at me. But I walked over to the playground and nothing happened.

There I found the tiniest little tots you ever saw tearing around and sliding down a big metal slide over and over, talking and giggling.

A young Filipino woman who was watching over them was friendly and open with me. The kids looked like Guatemalan Indians, but she said they spoke Spanish, not a Mayan language.

It would not have been the time to interview them about the hardships of their trip or their life back home. They were having too much fun.

(I was in Guatemala for six months in the late 1980s and fell in love with the people with their cheer and their palpably warm hearts in the midst of the poverty and violence.)

David McNeil, deacon of the church, knew what I was talking about.

"They come off the bus looking confused and scared," he said. "But after we give them some food, some clothes, and a shower, there's a transformative moment. They know someone cares." They kind of cut loose after that point.

The amount of activity in New Mexico in relation to the Central American migrants is small but not insignificant.

A woman in Deming whose husband works for the Border Patrol told me in early July that a bus or two of Central Americans was recently brought to Deming. She wasn't sure where they were housed, but thought probably at the Border Patrol Station. She had heard that some of them were sick.

I spoke to a man in Palomas who says he's seen a few individuals from Central America crossing the border in the past couple of years. He recognizes them by their accent or the clothes they wear. Central Americans in small numbers have always crossed there.

About 40 Central Americans who had stayed a few days at the facility in Artesia were flown from Roswell to Honduras on July 14.

It's hard to see how anybody could conscientiously send a planeload of families back to Honduras.

At the height of the violence in Juarez, when it was considered by some analysts to be the murder capital of the world, San Pedro Sula in Honduras was usually running neck and neck with it.

In Juarez the murder rate has subsided dramatically, but Honduras is still number one. El Salvador and Guatemala are numbers four and five.

Rep. Steve Pearce was one member of a seven-member US House of Representatives trip to Honduras and Guatemala in mid-July. Pearce came back saying there "aren't very many" Central

Americans who are migrating out of fear of violence.

The *Santa Fe New Mexican* reported that "Pearce said he and the rest of the House delegation that visited Honduras and Guatemala did not venture from their hotel very often because of the dangers." They were guarded as if it were a war zone.

The question is left floating: If US Congressmen need to stay holed up in their hotel, how can you expect 14-year-old or 9-year-old Hondurans to feel safe?

The degree of danger in Central America, especially in Honduras, where most of the violence is, will be debated for years.

I was watching Fox News when the refugee surge was breaking into the US media. The violence and extortions of innocent people in Central America were never mentioned.

The elderly woman I was staying with wept when I told her about the forced recruitment of children into drug gangs and the rides on "La Bestia," the dangerous train they ride through Mexico. She had never heard of these things.

On the other hand, Americas Program, a left-leaning organization supporting social change in Latin America, gives the impression that all Central American migrants are in danger of being killed.

On June 25, Bishop Mark Seitz of El Paso testified to the House Judiciary Committee in Washington that the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees had "recently found 58% of unaccompanied children from Central America and Mexico have some sort of international protection claim." In 2006, just before the drug war started, they had found only 13%.

Adrienne Pine, a professor of anthropology at American University, recently spent a whole year teaching in Honduras. "You live in a constant embodied state of terror in Honduras," she said to Pacifica news service. "And it's hard to exaggerate it. Because everybody is always afraid."

It's obvious this is a real refugee situation, with a special emphasis on the abuse of minors. An eight-year-old boy was killed because he refused to be a look-out for a drug gang. Eleven-year-old girls are kidnapped into the sex trade. Similar stories abound.

Some people are saying the UN should get involved. It might be able to set up "safe zones" in Panama, Costa Rica or Belize. Meanwhile, there are many open arms here in the US to take care of migrants.

There's a need for competent legal professionals to interview families, so justice is done.

The US has a special responsibility in this situation because the drug war is our war. We at least set the ball rolling. We've also supported the militaristic governments in the countries affected.

One reason children aren't fleeing Nicaragua is that they have an enlightened, community-oriented police force and judiciary that resolves 79 out of 100 murders. In the countries the children are fleeing, there is almost complete impunity for crime. Nicaragua was the enemy we were fighting in the 1980s.

Seeing the efficient, inconspicuous way the migrants are being taken care of so far in the US, maybe the situation isn't as much of a crisis as was first thought. ❀

Borderlines columnist Marjorie Lilly lives in Deming.



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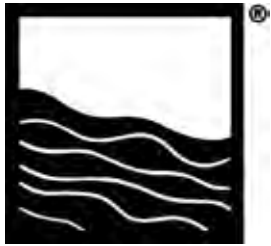
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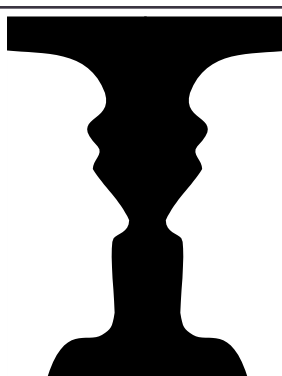
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HENRY LIGHTCAP'S JOURNAL • HENRY LIGHTCAP

Oregone

A visit to the northwest makes one appreciate the peculiar pleasures of the southwest.

If you've lived in the rocky, desiccated wonderland of New Mexico for very long, you've likely come to appreciate the state's Spartan comforts. Any day that something doesn't bite, sting, puncture, burn or digest you is a good day. It can be easy to take some of our more subtle charms for granted, but few experiences can compel us to reflect on the blessedness of our domain more than a visit to any of the other 49 states.

My beloved and I recently satiated our vagabond spirits with a tour of Portland, Oregon. It was just like visiting Paris, but without all the lights and glamour. Plus, the citizenry of Portland generally smelled better. Over the course of our meandering tour, we noticed many small but important differences between New Mexico and this strange, foreign land.

Of course, the first thing a parched desert rat is apt to notice is the presence of moisture. While Oregon isn't exactly dripping with water like Costa Rica, there is actual by-gawd water in the riverbeds. Oodles of it, just rushing down myriad canyons without a care in the world, emptying into ever-larger rivers that apparently are content to just dump it all into the sea. Would it kill these people to extend us the courtesy of a mere sliver of the volume contained in the Columbia River? The Rio Grande has been devoid of water for so long, it has actually been renamed the Rio Sand on local maps. Hook a brother up, Oregon.

As a connoisseur of the cocktail arts, I find it amusing how other states handle their liquor laws. Of course, squinty-eyed New Mexicans eschew placing extraneous restrictions on hooch—witness the recent glory of being named the state where a person is most likely to die an alcohol-related death (go team!)—so perhaps we are a bit more liberal in this regard than the somewhat-more-civilized parts of the nation. The concept of a state-run liquor store is uncomfortable, akin to having to purchase your pornography from a creepy old uncle, and they won't even sell it to you in a chilled state. In fact, they have a maddening habit of actually checking for proof of age, alienating an entire segment of their market.

Here in the Land of Enchantment, we may not get to buy cold beer from the driver's seat of a running car anymore, but we can still score a bottle of rotgut at the grocery store or gas station with tortillas and lottery tickets. That's a shopping cart full of freedom, amigos.

Speaking of food, you already know that when you step across the state line, you're opening yourself up to a menu of sadness. Lightcap's Rules of the Road include never eating at a Mexican restaurant that doesn't have either a 575 or 505 area code, no matter how desperate you become for chile. Once you accept that, it's interesting to see what other

states are doing with food.

Kale seems to be a pretty big deal. For those who haven't had the pleasure of chewing a mouthful of gamy field weeds, order up a big bowl of kale. You'll also discover meals that are gluten-free, sugar-free, meat-free, lactose-free, fat-free and/or GMO-free, which are also taste-free as an added bonus. By contrast, it's nice to know that no matter where you eat in New Mexico, you'll have greasy, fattening, hellaciously hot Mexican food that purifies the soul and tests the limits of porcelain.

One of the freedoms New Mexicans have that Oregonians don't is the freedom to spill gasoline on your own boots. When motoring in the Beaver State, don't even think about whipping into the local Gas-o-Mat and fueling up yourself. State law mandates that a professional pump jockey tops off the tank for you. If you jump out of your car by habit and reach for the pump handle, you will be harshly reprimanded, and reminded that pumping your own fuel could result in a \$500 fine. (Ask me how I know this.)

So you pull in and wait for your state-appointed gas slacker to saunter up, hand him your credit card, and let him swipe it in the pump. Then, they fill your tank and send you on your way. Sounds luxurious, except it's amazing how maddeningly slow the whole process feels when you're sitting vegetable-like in your car. This program creates about 9,500 jobs in Oregon, makes gas more expensive, and keeps addicts employed, which is comforting to know when they're fumbling around with your credit card.

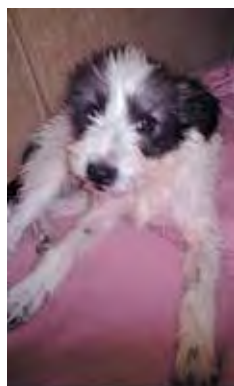
Meanwhile, in New Mexico (still cleaner than regular Mexico), we red-blooded pioneers still pump our own gas, consume massive quantities of overly spicy food that comes with a side order of diabetes, buy liquor anywhere and celebrate rain like an armored car blew up and scattered free cash on the wind. I'm sure a pasty-skinned Oregonian would sneer at our uncivilized and austere lifestyle, and that's okay with me. Hardship is like kryptonite for most Americans, and it takes a hardy soul to appreciate our third-world charms. If it were easy, more people would come and more rules would follow, and that's sort of the antithesis of our regional charm. Like Comrade Khrushchev said, "Fewer people, fewer problems." 🌵

Henry Lightcap comes home from vacation to Las Cruces.



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BODY, MIND & SPIRIT continued

Holistic Hotel and Spa on beautiful Lake Atitlan that she had her first hyperthermic ozone treatment.

"It was an experience unlike any other. I walked out feeling totally rejuvenated, relaxed and cleansed," Morava says.

More important, she immediately noticed a cessation of the joint pain and malaise associated with Lyme disease.

"I had to know more, so I embarked on intense research and study of the many uses of ozone in medical care. What I found was astounding, and as I was already opening the center, I knew I had to offer this amazing therapy to help others as it has helped me," she says.

There are basically three principal fields of healing that have since 1896 employed the use of ozone (a naturally occurring oxygen molecule found in the atmosphere): treating circulatory disorders, immune system disorders (viral infections and treating human blood with small amounts of ozone before reinfusion are examples) and inflammatory conditions (wound care, open ulcers, allergies, fungal infection are some examples). Information about more recent applications of ozone for Lyme disease and its use as a complementary therapy for cancer patients can be found at www.ozone-association.com and at the American Academy of Ozone Therapy website.

Additional research Morava shares helps explain why ozone therapy works so well in patients with hard-to-treat disorders: It activates the immune system to produce cytokines—chemical messengers the body uses to fight disease.

Most people do not realize how much ozone is being used in their daily lives, Morava adds. From purified bottled water used by dentists and dental hygienists and even certain oils used to treat skin conditions such as eczema and fungus, ozone is one of the most widely used and studied forms of natural medicine in modern times. The *Journal of Natural Science, Biology and Medicine* states ozone was standard care in World War I to treat and disinfect wounds.

In large amounts, however, ozone can cause breathing problems and can be inhaled in smog. Too much ozone was found to be the culprit in "Projectionist's Lung," a condition found in the early cinema industry among those who worked the projection equipment and were exposed to ozone as a byproduct of carbon arc lamps used in theater projectors. Modern science has since overcome the risk of too much ozone in current technologies, according to the National Center for Biotechnology Information.

The Schaas purchased a hyperthermic ozone chamber like the one Morava used in Guatemala for use in their center. It burns between 400-600 calories per 30-minute session and uses the body's largest organ, the skin, to detoxify, relax and rejuvenate. There is no risk of inhaling ozone because only the body from the neck down is exposed to ozone in the walk-in chamber. Users sit in the comfortable enclosure during the session where they



The Avesa center's hyperthermic ozone and steam sauna, which is a therapy new to Silver City.

can rest and relax.

"The beauty of the hyperthermic chamber is that it can be used with or without ozone for the ultimate steam sauna experience. According to the Canadian manufacturer it is the first hyperthermic ozone chamber in the southern part of the state," Morava says.

In addition to the ozone chamber, there will be an ionic analog foot detox machine, which is believed to be more powerful than traditional digital ones, and a variety of bio-energetic therapies meant to make one feel good, help relieve stress and aid in pain management.

"Some will use Avesa as a day spa for stress relief and deep relaxation, or take a 30-40-minute break in their day to have a relaxing foot detox or quick energy rebalancing," Morava says.

"Others may choose to come for core healing on many different levels. We are not doctors and will not prescribe or claim to heal. We will make suggestions as to what may help clients achieve their goals, and one is always free to choose as they wish."

The couple say they view their center as a gift to the Silver City community, its people and to the state that both have come to love. Services at the center are priced for everyone; even the single parent on a tight budget can afford it. They will also offer two slots for

work-trade at the center for those interested in pursuing the path of self-ascension and/or individuals who are on a healing journey.

It seems only natural for this couple to open a healing center. Gunter, who is world traveled and a native of Ostfriesland, Germany, retired in 2008 from work designing and consulting in the computer software industry and studied many years to become a Zen Buddhist monk.

"I have always embraced osteopathic, homeopathic and alternative healing over modern medicine," he says. "When I met Morava and learned what she was doing, I became fascinated with her work. I want to do whatever I can to support her life's work."

Morava says her interest in the healing arts can be traced back as early as a teenager when she observed the power of prayer in Christian ministry, and was taught a divine power is the source of all love, healing and joy.

About 12 years ago, she received multiple diagno-

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- Wednesday**—Qi 8-9am, Qi 6:30-7:30
- Thursday**—QST 1-2pm

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ses of Epstein-Barr virus, chronic fatigue and fibromyalgia, accompanied with systemic bacterial and fungal infection resulting in cell deformation and clumping. After months of various treatments with little symptom relief and seemingly no cure in sight, she made the decision to take matters into her own hands.

"I had a 10 year old son and another under the age of one, and it really scared me to realize I was that sick," she recalls.

She turned to nutrition, bio-energetic therapies and cleansing regimens of all the major organs and body systems, and engaged in spiritual and emotional counseling before experiencing first-hand the "cure" that led to her current career in holistic and natural health care. She is also a certified Reiki Master, is certified in the Usui System of Natural Healing, holds a masters in transpersonal hypnotherapy and is a licensed Ordained Metaphysical Minister and Metaphysical Practitioner from the University of Metaphysics in Sedona, Ariz.

Among her mentors are Dr. Gabriel Cousens from the Tree of Life Rejuvenation Center, David Wolfe (foremost authority in raw foods), Master Herbalist Susun Weed and Marilyn and Tohmas Twintrees.

She says, "I had never thought of being ill as a gift before, but in many ways it was because of what I learned. By treating myself as a whole—body, mind and spirit—I was able to overcome a serious disease process that led to a new life path. The body can heal itself when properly supported, but it is a unique journey for each person. I offer to others, not only what I was taught, but first-hand experience with the modalities we suggest.

"Please do not misunderstand," Morava adds. "We are not discrediting western or allopathic medicine at all. In fact, we look forward to working with health care providers in all fields of medicine. We all at one point or another might need complex diagnostics, surgery or even life-saving procedures. Complementary and alternative modalities help to further and enhance recovery. It all works together so beautifully."

But what exactly is "Avesa"?
 "The literal Sanskrit translation of Avesa is 'evolution of the uplifting of consciousness.' It is a process for achieving higher consciousness and healing all aspects of ourselves through sacred union with ourselves as well as the Divine/God/Higher Power, etc.," Morava explains. "Everyone is ascending from the cradle to the grave, always reaching for the next level. Avesa teaches us how to be fully present, completely authentic and divinely empowered. We are amazing spiritual beings on a human journey. Once we realize that, we can tap into our

limitless potential and begin to heal on all levels."

Exploring their limitless potential is what Morava and Gunter Schaa say they are doing by opening Avesa Holistic Therapies Center, but it is only one facet of their life together.

Many might wonder how the couple manages to bridge the age gap between them. They are the ultimate blended family, with Gunter the father of two sons, ages 50 and 48, and with three grandchildren, and Morava the mother of two sons, ages 22 and 12. Everyone gets along beautifully, they say.

"I would say our greatest obstacle to overcome was that we were both set in some of our ways," Morava says. "Because we truly love and respect each other, we both made some shifts in order to

harmoniously be in sacred union. We realized it's perfectly okay for some things to be done differently. We cherish the things that make each other different and all the things we have in common—our love of travel, music, hiking, biking and generally enjoying the great outdoors."

The Schaas literally practice what they plan to teach in their center. A typical day finds them beginning with a morning walk, then prayer and meditation. Gunter's morning routine includes making a pot of Ostfriesen tea while Morava is busy with the Vita-Mix

blending the family's live food smoothies for breakfast. Then the couple shares duties homeschooling Morava's youngest son, Uriel.

They say preparing to open the center has dominated much of their time in recent months, and they anticipate their days of world travel may be curtailed once the center is open. Gunter will handle all the technical and administrative duties and will likely be the first one to greet clients when they arrive at the center. Morava will administer the therapies and counseling. Plans are also in the works for a website and a weekly talk show on a local radio station.

"I still make house calls for hospice patients," Morava says. "I will continue to do so, if possible, for those clients too ill to come to the center."

For more information on Avesa Holistic Therapies Center, contact Morava or Gunter Schaa at (575) 936-9876.

Rebecca Fitch is a journalist with nearly 20 years experience who moved to Southwest New Mexico in 2005. She wrote about artist Bill Kaderly in our August 2012 issue.

"I had never thought of being ill as a gift before, but in many ways it was because of what I learned. By treating myself as a whole—body, mind and spirit—I was able to overcome a serious disease process that led to a new life path."



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BODY, MIND & SPIRIT continued on next page



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BODY, MIND & SPIRIT • EARTHTALK

Guy Stuff

Environmental health concerns about which men need to be especially vigilant.

Q Dear EarthTalk: We often see and read reports about environmental threats to women's health, but aren't there also concerns about which men should be especially vigilant?

A Indeed, women aren't the only ones who should be worried about environmental threats. A recently released report ("Men's Health: What You Don't Know Might Hurt You") by the non-profit Environmental Working Group (EWG) concludes that environmental exposures may have major negative impacts on men's health as well, and outlines ways that guys can avoid some of the major risks.

"Most men understand that smart lifestyle choices—such as exercising regularly, eating a healthful diet and not smoking—make a big difference in staying healthy," says EWG researcher and report author Paul Pestano. "However, what many men might not know is that research in the last few decades has shown that environmental exposures may contribute to major diseases and health concerns that especially affect men, including heart disease, prostate cancer and infertility."

He adds that toxic substances in drinking water, food, food packaging and personal care products have all been linked to serious health problems that affect millions of American men.

According to EWG, men's heart disease risks are exacerbated by exposure to mercury in certain seafood, Teflon chemicals in non-stick cookware, and bisphenol-A (BPA) in hard plastic containers and canned foods. Additionally, arsenic and lead in drinking water supplies is a contributing factor in elevated heart disease risks for men.

Meanwhile, certain agricultural pesticides common on fruits and vegetables as well as polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) that build up in meat and dairy products have been associated with prostate cancer, the second most common cause of cancer for American men. And exposures to lead, pesticides and chemicals in personal care products contribute to low sperm counts, infertility and other reproductive issues for men. EWG also underscores the importance of limiting sun exposure, as men face a higher risk of developing melanoma than women.

"While genetics can predetermine certain health outcomes, there are a number of ways men can dramatically reduce their potentially harmful environ-



Research during the last few decades—including a recent report by the Environmental Working Group—has shown that environmental exposures may contribute to major diseases and health concerns that especially affect men, including heart disease, prostate cancer and infertility. (Photo: CLUC, courtesy Flickr)

mental exposures," Pestano says. Some tips include:

- Investing in a water filter system specifically designed to reduce exposure to lead, arsenic and other drinking water contaminants (see EWG's "Water Filter Buying Guide" to find the right one).
- Avoiding canned foods and plastic containers with the recycling code #7 to limit BPA exposure.
- Using personal care products that don't contain phthalates, parabens or other potential contaminants (see EWG's "Skin Deep" database that lists toxic chemicals in some 69,000 personal care products).
- Choosing conventionally grown fruits and vegetables that have the fewest pesticide residues and buying the organic versions of certain types of produce that otherwise rely heavily on chemicals (EWG's "Dirty Dozen" guide lists apples, grapes, strawberries, celery, peaches, spinach and sweet bell peppers as the worst offenders among others).
- Using proper sun cover and getting regular skin checks with a dermatologist to reduce melanoma risks.

By following these guidelines along with eating a healthy, varied diet and getting regular exercise, men can significantly reduce their health risks and potentially add years to their lives.

CONTACT: Environmental Working Group, www.ewg.org/research/mens-health. ☘


EarthTalk is written and edited by Roddy Scheer and Doug Moss and is a registered trademark of E - The Environmental Magazine (www.emagazine.com). Send questions to: earthtalk@emagazine.com.

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Body, Mind & Spirit is a forum for sharing ideas and experiences on all aspects of physical, mental and spiritual health and on how these intersect. Readers, especially those with expertise in one or more of these disciplines, are invited to contribute and to respond. Write PO Box 191, Silver City, NM 88062, or email editor@desertexposure.com. The opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of *Desert Exposure* or its advertisers, and are not intended to offer specific or prescriptive medical advice. You should always consult your own health professional before adopting any treatment or beginning any new regimen.

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Body, Mind & Spirit

Grant County Weekly Events

Sundays

ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY—First Sun. of every month, field trip. 536-3092, whudson43@yahoo.com.
BINGO—1st and 2d Sun. Doors open 12:30 p.m., games start 1:35 p.m. Benefits Salvation Army and Post 18 charities. American Legion Post 18, 409 W. College Ave. 534-0780
HOLISTIC PRESENTATIONS—11 a.m. PeaceMeal Coop Deli. 534-9703
PRAYER AND STUDY IN THE EASTERN ORTHODOX TRADITION—Sunset. Theotokos Retreat Center, 5202 Hwy. 152, Santa Clara. 537-4839, theotokos@zianet.com.

Mondays

AARP CHAPTER #1496—Third Monday. 12:30 p.m. Senior Center, 205 W. Victoria. Contact Marcia Fisch, 388-1298
AARP WIDOWED PERSONS—Second Mondays. 11 a.m. Glad Tidings Church. Contact Sally, 537-3643.
AL-ANON—12:05 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, 1915 Swan, Silver City. Contact Valerie, 313-2561.
ART CLASS—9-10:45 a.m. Silver City Senior Citizen Center. Beginners to advanced. Contact Jean 519-2977.
GENTLE YOGA—5:30-7 p.m. First Church of Harmony, 609 Arizona St., Becky Glenn, (404) 234-5331.
LEGO MINDSTORMS—Ages 10 and up. 4 p.m. Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave., 538-3672.
OLD-TIME COUNTRY DANCING—3rd Mon., 7-9 p.m. Pin Room, Silver Bowling Center. Free.
PING PONG—5:30-7 p.m. Grant County Convention Center. Beginners 7-8 p.m.
SILVER CITY SQUARES—Dancing 7-9 p.m. Presbyterian Church, 1915 N. Swan St. Kay, 388-4227, or Linda, 534-4523.
TAI CHI FOR BETTER BALANCE—1 p.m., Senior Center. Call Lydia Moncada to register, 534-0059.

Tuesdays

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS—Men's group, 7 a.m. Unitarian Fellowship Hall, 3845 N. Swan. Jerry, 534-4866.
ALZHEIMER'S/DEMENTIA SUPPORT—1st Tues. 1:30 p.m. Senior Center. Margaret, 388-4539.
BAYARD HISTORIC MINE TOUR—2nd Tuesday. Meet at Bayard City Hall, 800 Central Ave., by 9:30 a.m. \$5 fee covers two-hour bus tour of historic mines plus literature and map; call 537-3327 for reservation.
CHESS CLUB—All ages. 4 p.m. Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave., 538-3672.
COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS—4th Tuesday. 7 p.m. Support for those who've lost a child. Episcopal Church, Parish Hall, 7th and Texas St. Mitch Barsh, 534-1134.
FIGURE/MODEL DRAWING—4-6 p.m. Contact Sam, 388-5583.
KIWANIS CLUB—Noon. Red Barn, 708 Silver Heights Blvd., 590-0540.
LOS COMADRES CANCER SUPPORT GROUP—1st Tues. 6 p.m. Business and Conference Center, 3031 Hwy. 180 E. (next to Ace). 388-1198 ext. 10.
MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SUPPORT GROUP—First Tuesday. 11:30 a.m. at local restaurant; email for this month's location: huseworld@yahoo.com.

REIKI CIRCLE—First Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m. 2035 Little Walnut. Treatment for those in need of healing. Vicki, 388-8114, or Virginia, 388-4870.
SLOW FLOW YOGA—11:30 a.m. 5:30-7 p.m. First Church of Harmony, 609 Arizona St., Becky Glenn, (404) 234-5331.
SOCIAL SERVICES—Noon. Red Barn, 707 Silver Heights Blvd. 538-5666.
TEA PARTY PATRIOTS—2nd and 4th Tues. 6 p.m. Red Barn Steakhouse, 708 Silver Heights Blvd. 388-4143.

Wednesdays

ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY—Third Weds. of every month. Oct.-Nov., Jan.-April 7 p.m. Silver City Women's Club. Summers 6 p.m. location TBA. 536-3092, whudson43@yahoo.com.
BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN—2nd Weds. 6 p.m. Gila Regional Medical Center Conference Room. Subject to change. 574-2888.
BAYARD AL-ANON—6 p.m. Santa Clara Senior Center, 107 East St., Santa Clara. 537-3141.
A COURSE IN MIRACLES—6:30 p.m., 600 N. Hudson. Information, 534-9172 or 534-1869.
CURBSIDE CONSULTING—Free for nonprofits. 9 a.m.-noon. Wellness Coalition, 409 N. Bullard, Lisa Jimenez, 534-0665, ext. 232, lisa@wellnesscoalition.org,
FOOD ADDICTS ANONYMOUS WOMEN'S GROUP—6:30 p.m. 1000 N Hudson St., 519-1070.
GIN RUMMY—1 p.m. Yankee Creek Coffee House.
GRANT COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY—2nd Weds. Potluck at 5:30 p.m., meeting at 6:30 p.m. Sen. Howie Morales' building, 3060 E. Hwy. 180.
LADIES GOLF ASSOCIATION—8 a.m. tee time. Silver City Golf Course.
LEGO CLUB—Ages 4-10. 4:30 p.m. Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave., 538-3672.
PING PONG—5:30-7 p.m. Grant County Convention Center. Beginners 7-8 p.m.
PROSTATE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP—3rd Weds. 6:30 p.m. Gila Regional Medical Center Conference Room. 388-1198 ext. 10.
REPUBLICAN PARTY OF GRANT COUNTY—Third Weds. 6 p.m. Red Barn.
STORYTIME—All ages. 10:30 a.m. Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave., 538-3672.
TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY SUPPORT GROUP—3:30-5 p.m. All-Purpose Room, Billy Casper Wellness Center, Hudson St. & Hwy. 180. James, 537-2429, or Danita, 534-9057.

Thursdays

ARTS ANONYMOUS—5:30 p.m. Artists Recovering through the Twelve Steps. Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 3845 N. Swan St. 534-1329.
CANCER SUPPORT GROUP—1st Thurs. 6 p.m. Gila Regional Medical Center Board Room. 388-1198 ext. 10.
DE-STRESSING MEDITATIONS—12-12:45 p.m. New Church of the SW Desert, 1302 Bennett St. 313-4087.
GILA WRITERS—2-4 p.m. Silver City Public Library. Trish Heck, trish.heck@gmail.com, 534-0207.
GRANT COUNTY ROLLING STONES GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY—2nd Thurs.

6 p.m. Senior Center, 204 W. Victoria St. Kyle, 538-5706.
HISTORIC MINING DISTRICT & TOURISM MEETING—Second Thurs. 10 a.m. Bayard Community Center, 290 Hurley Ave., Bayard. 537-3327.
NEWCOMERS CLUB—Third Thurs. 11 a.m., luncheon noon. Women's Club, Yucca and Silver Heights Blvd. Linda Sylvester, (480) 518-5839, lindasylvester@msn.com.
PROGRESSIVE PILATES—5:30-6:30 p.m., 315 N. Bullard, 2d fl. 519-8948.
TOPS—5 p.m. 1st Presbyterian Church, 1915 Swan, 538-9447.
WOMEN'S CANCER SUPPORT GROUP—1st Thurs. 6-7 p.m. GRMC Conference Room, 1313 E. 32nd St. 388-1198, ext. 10.
VINYASA FLOW YOGA—11:30 a.m. First Church of Harmony, 609 Arizona St., Becky Glenn, (404) 234-5331.
YOGA CLASS—Free class taught by Colleen Stinar. 1-2 p.m. Episcopal Church fellowship hall, 7th and Texas.

Fridays

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS—6 p.m. Gila Regional Medical Center conference room. 313-9400.
SILVER CITY WOMAN'S CLUB—2d Fri., 10:30 a.m., lunch 12 p.m. 411 Silver Heights Blvd. 538-3452.
TAIZÉ—2d Friday. Service of prayer, songs, scripture readings and quiet contemplation. 6:30 p.m. Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 538-2015.
WOODCARVING CLUB—2d and 4th Fridays except holidays. 1 p.m. Senior Center. 313-1518.
YOUTH SPACE—5:30-10 p.m. Loud music, video games, chill out. Satellite/Wellness Coalition.
Saturdays
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS BEGINNERS—6 p.m. Lions Club, 8th & Bullard (entrance at Big Ditch behind Domino's). Newcomers and seasoned members welcome.
ALZHEIMER'S/DEMENTIA SUPPORT—10 a.m.-noon. Gila Regional Medical Center Conference Room. Margaret, 388-4539.
BLOOMING LOTUS MEDITATION—1 p.m. Details: 313-7417, blooming-lotus-sangha@googlegroups.com.
DOUBLE FEATURE BLOCKBUSTER MEGA HIT MOVIE NIGHT—5:30-11 pm. Satellite/Wellness Coalition.
EVENING PRAYER IN THE EASTERN ORTHODOX TRADITION—5 p.m. Theotokos Retreat Center, 5202 Hwy. 152, Santa Clara. 537-4839, theotokos@zianet.com.

KIDS BIKE RIDE—10 a.m., Bikeworks, 815 E. 10th St. Dave Baker, 388-1444.
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS—6 p.m. New 180 Club, 1661 Hwy. 180 E.
SPINNING GROUP—1st Sat., 1-3 p.m. Yada Yada Yarn, 614 N. Bullard, 388-3350.
STORYTIME—All ages. 10:30 a.m. Silver City Public Library, 515 W. College Ave., 538-3672.
VINYASA FLOW YOGA—10 a.m. All levels. First Church of Harmony, 609 Arizona St., Becky Glenn, (404) 234-5331. ☯

All phone numbers are area code 575 except as noted. Send updates to events@desertexposure.com.



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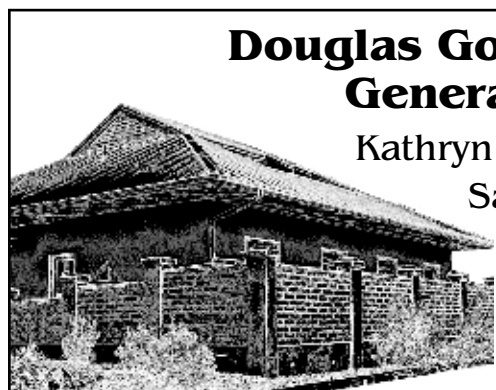
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RAMBLIN' OUTDOORS • LARRY LIGHTNER

Just the Facts

The numbers say the focus in preventing tragedies needs to be on personal responsibility.

“Just the facts, Ma'am.” That's what Sergeant Joe Friday said on the show “Dragnet”: Just the facts.

Recently, in light of still another school shooting, I was appalled that another such occurrence had come about; I heard President Obama say that there had been 74 school shootings in the past 77 weeks since Sandy Hook. I had no reason to doubt him.

Then CBS News, not exactly a bastion of gun rights, repeated what the president had said. But their research said that in fact that the number of such tragic shootings HAD NOT INCREASED SINCE 1976! Say what?

How can this be? Surely they have! It turns out that CBS was right. According to the nonpartisan Factcheck.org, there have been “only” 34 school shootings since Sandy Hook that can be attested to as being the same; the president was wrong!

A blog from *New York Magazine*, hardly a supporter for anything on the right or guns, either, attested to the same, saying that these shootings had not risen in average number at all since 1976! Again, affirming CBS News. What else did they conclude? That the news media is the culprit; they sensationalize a shooting for days and weeks on end, giving the ILLUSION that such gun crimes are increasing when FBI stats say differently, and so do others besides the NRA!

So I decided to do more research on my own. Why, you ask, since this is a column about the outdoors? Well, I do a lot of things on a lot of days outdoors, and each and every time I carry some sort of firearm.

I also go out and shoot 500 to 1,000 rounds a year either on a hunt or mostly at inanimate targets and for relaxation. To be blunt, I simply love guns! I carry them because I like to do so. I use them because they bring me joy. I have, on occasion, defended myself with them. I like to hold them and look at them. Guns are neat in my opinion and I would feel naked in the outdoors without them.

And guess what? Millions of other men and women feel exactly the same as I do. So when an aberrant happening with a firearm occurs, the first thing out of the media and the politicians and nearly every liberal is to cry for more laws to restrict guns or the outright banning of them. That would ruin my outdoor pleasure.

So let us explore some facts. According to FBI stats for 2011, more people were killed with claw hammers, baseball bats and other blunt objects (496) than with so-called assault weapons (323)! Not all of these people were killed exclusively with assault-style guns; some were killed with other types of rifles.

But murder-by-guns in that same year numbered 8,583. Sounds high until you realize that most of these were by urban gang types killing each other with ILLEGAL firearms (just look at Chicago stats).

In that same year 726 people killed others solely with their hands. Another 1,694 folks were killed with knives.

This is the “minor leagues,” though; let's go to the majors. According to the National Traffic Safety Administration, 33,561 people died due to automobiles. Of those, 32% (10,322) died at the hands of drunk drivers. Why is it we are appalled when a shooter kills four or five students, yet the same sense of horror and news coverage is not there when a drunk kills an entire family? And there are far more than 34 incidents of that.

Let's move on to drug use—illegal drug use. In 2012 there were 23 million illegal drug users, 12 years old and older. In 2005, 4.4 million teens used illegal drugs. That usage is on the increase since 2005 by 8%-9% per year.

According to the Justice Department, in 2012, 38,320 people died because of drug use and that doesn't include murder stats! You see, those are buried among those 8,583 gun deaths. That same year, drug deaths were the number-one cause of any kind of murder, suicide or overdose in 17 states.

Drug usage played a part in over 26% of all violent

crime and that is increasing. I asked local detectives in all law enforcement agencies what the reason is for so much crime in Grant County, and they unanimously stated it was drug usage, especially meth.

Moreover, 57.3% of drug users admitted to driving a vehicle while stoned.

Why is there no hue and cry over these issues? Well, for one, driving while drunk is already illegal. Most drugs are illegal and it is illegal to use them. More laws don't change this fact. And as far as I know, it is illegal to kill a person by any of the aforementioned methods.

So what is the point of outlawing guns or making more laws to stop their use in crime? All you do is upset the law-abiding owners who never will commit a crime anyway! Why doesn't the news spend hour after hour talking about drug and alcohol crimes?

In my humble opinion, it is because alcohol and drugs are accepted in this society. After all, who of us doesn't know someone who is a drunk or a drug user? You see, for some reason, we don't personalize any of the other methods or instruments, but we do guns!

If you ask a non-gun owner why they want more laws or why they want a ban on guns, get down to the real nitty-gritty, and they have told me, they feel very uncomfortable around them and would never use them, or they state flat out that they hate guns!

What we are dealing with is subjectivity or emotions, not objectivity, much in the same way I have expressed to you my love for guns; it is a two-way street. I will admit that a person who has been affected by a gun crime does have a certain emotional objectivity to their basis, and I will not say they are wrong.

Let us look at one more statistic: the percentage of gun deaths, compared to the 3 million guns owned, comes out to .000286. That is almost non-measurable. The outcry far outweighs the actuality.

So, based on all of the above, in actuality, it is not the object that is at fault; it is the person, whether sane or mentally disturbed. Alcohol cannot kill if left in a bottle; drugs cannot kill if not used; guns cannot kill if left in a holster or safe.

Candidly speaking, our society is very sick; we have become decadent and narcissistic. Our mantra is “whatever feels good do it” and we blame everyone and everything but the individual for their actions.

How many times did I hear after the latest killing, “Where were the parents? Why didn't others see the criminal's behavior? Why did the teachers and administrators not pick it up?”

We need to bring back personable responsibility. Make them pay for their crimes, not just rehabilitate.

When I did a stint as a cab driver here in Silver City, I had occasions to meet “gang bangers.” They would tell me they were “packing.” I asked them what if they got caught? I remember one personable young man in his late teens told me, “So what? I'll be back on the streets in no time. They won't punish me.”

He believed it so he didn't fear the system.

One last story from the nightly news: A teen in Minnesota was apprehended before he committed a mass killing, thanks to a sharp-eyed neighbor. He said that he intended to kill lots of people, even though they had done nothing to him, and that he felt he was mentally ill, but he was awfully good at hiding it! This is why we need to get back to personal responsibility.

In the end, I need my guns for the outdoors just (a subjective analysis) as much as a gardener needs seed for their garden. So I wish they'd leave my guns and me alone and get at the real problem.

Keep the sun forever at your back, the wind forever in your face, and may The Forever God bless you too! ☼

When not ramblin' outdoors,
Larry Lightner lives in Silver
City.



Red or Green?

Southwest New Mexico's best restaurant guide.

Red or Green? is *Desert Exposure's* guide to dining in southwest New Mexico. The listings here—a sampling of our complete and recently completely updated guide online at www.desertexposure.com—include some of our favorites and restaurants we've recently reviewed. We emphasize non-national-chain restaurants with sit-down, table service.

With each listing, we include a brief categorization of the type of cuisine plus what meals are served: B=Breakfast; L=Lunch; D=Dinner. Unless otherwise noted, restaurants are open seven days a week. Call for exact hours, which change frequently. All phone numbers are area code 575 except as specified. We also note with a star (*) restaurants where you can pick up copies of *Desert Exposure*.

If we've recently reviewed a restaurant, you'll find

a brief capsule of our review and a notation of which issue it originally appeared in. Stories from all back issues of *Desert Exposure* from January 2005 on are available on our Web site.

Though every effort has been made to make these listings complete and up-to-date, errors and omissions are inevitable and restaurants may make changes after this issue goes to press. That's why we urge you to help us make Red or Green? even better. Drop a note to Red or Green? c/o *Desert Exposure*, PO Box 191, Silver City, NM 88062, fax 534-4134, or email updates@red-or-green.com.

Remember, these print listings represent only highlights. You can always find the complete, updated Red or Green? guide online at www.desertexposure.com. Bon appétit!

GRANT COUNTY Silver City

ADOBE SPRINGS CAFÉ, 1617 Silver Heights Blvd., 538-3665. "Under new ownership and refocusing on what has made it a longtime Silver City favorite: excellent breakfasts and lunches." (April 2011) Breakfast items, burgers, sandwiches: Mon.-Thur. B L, Sat. & Sun. B L D.*

ALOTTA GELATO, 619 N. Bullard St., 534-4995. Gelato, desserts and hot drinks: All day.*

BILLY'S WILD WEST BBQ & STEAKHOUSE, Hwy 180E, 388-1367. "A free-wheeling mixture of barbecued ribs and brisket, freshly made pasta and pizzas baked in a genuine Italian brick oven featuring a wide range of innovative toppings." (November 2010) Barbecue, steak, pasta, pizza: Tues.-Fri. D. Sat. L D. Italian nights Weds., Sat.*

BRYAN'S PIT BARBECUE, Mimbres Valley Self Storage and RV Park, (660) 247-3151 or (660) 247-3160. Barbecue: L D.

CAFÉ OSO AZUL AT BEAR MOUNTAIN LODGE, 60 Bear Mountain Ranch Road, 538-2538. "Bear Mountain Lodge blends food, art and natural beauty into a memorable experience that pleases all the senses.... The menu changes daily, with entrées that are always imaginative and tasty—comfort food in a form that most of our mothers would never have thought of producing." (March 2011) B L, special D by reservation only.*

CHINESE PALACE, 1010 Highway 180E, 538-9300. "All the food is cooked to order. This means that not only does every dish arrive at the table freshly cooked and steaming, but also that you can tailor any dish to suit your taste." (October 2012) Chinese: Mon.-Fri. L D.

COURTYARD CAFÉ, Gila Regional Medical Center, 538-4094. American: B L, with special brunch Sundays.*

CURIOS KUMQUAT, 111 E. College Ave., 534-0337. "A hotspot of modern culinary innovation. Lunch features soups, salads and sandwiches. Dinners are elaborate, imaginative, exotic five-course culinary creations. Entrées always include vegetarian and vegan options... plus others determined by what local ranchers have available." (July 2010) Contemporary: Mon. L, Tues.-Sat. L D.*

DIANE'S RESTAURANT, 510 N. Bullard St., 538-8722. "Always evolving, always interesting, Diane's has it all." (Sept. 2013) Fine dining (D), steaks, seafood, pasta, sandwiches (L), salads: Tues.-Sat. L D, Sun. D only (family-style), weekend brunch.

DIANE'S BAKERY & DELI, The Hub, Suite A, Bullard St., 534-9229. "Always evolving, always interesting, Diane's has it all." (Sept. 2013) Artisan breads, sandwiches, deli, baked goods: Mon.-Sat. B L early D, Sun. B L.*

DON JUAN'S BURRITOS, 418 Silver Heights Blvd., 538-5440. Mexican: B L.

EL GALLO PINTO, 901 N. Hudson St., 597-4559. "Breakfast dishes are served all day, along with all the other traditional Mexican favorites like burritos (with a long list of filling options)... plus a vertical grill cooks sizzling chicken and carne al pastor." (October 2013) Mexican: Mon.-Sat. B L D, Sun. B L.

GIL-A BEANS, 1304 N. Bennett St.

Coffeeshop.*

GRANDMA'S CAFÉ, 900 Silver Heights Blvd., 388-2627. American, Mexican: B L.*

GREEN TURTLE NOSHERY, 601 N. Bullard St. in The Hub, 200-6895. "The menu varies somewhat from day to day, and reflects the seasonal availability of local fruits and vegetables. Most of the items on the menu are vegetarian, but several non-vegetarian dishes have turned out to be popular and are likely to remain regular options." (July 2014) Baked goods, organic breakfast and lunch items: Thurs.-Sat. B L, Sun. B L brunch.

GRINDER MILL, 403 W. College Ave., 538-3366. Mexican: B L D.*

JALISCO CAFÉ, 100 S. Bullard St., 388-2060. "Four generations of the Mesa family who have been involved in a restaurant that remains family-friendly." (June 2014) Mexican: Mon.-Sat. L D.

JAVALINA COFFEE HOUSE, 117 Market St., 388-1350. Coffeeshop.*

KOUNTRY KITCHEN, 1700 Mountain View Road, 388-4512. "Since 1978, Kountry Kitchen has been serving up Mexican food that is considered to be some of the best that can be found in the area. All the dishes are tasty, unpretentious, attractively presented and reasonably priced." (February 2013) Mexican: Tues.-Sat. B L D, Mon.-Sun. B L.*

LA COCINA RESTAURANT, 201 W. College Ave., 388-8687. Mexican: L D.

LA FAMILIA, 503 N. Hudson St., 388-4600. Mexican: Tues.-Sun. B L D.*

LA MEXICANA, Hwy. 180E and Memory Lane, 534-0142. "Carrying on the legacy of unpretentious but tasty and authentic Mexican food established many years ago at the family's restaurant in Chihuahua." (April 2013) Mexican and American: B L, closed Tues. Lion's Den, 208 W. Yankie, 654-0353. Coffeeshop.

LITTLE TOAD CREEK BREWERY & DISTILLERY, 200 N. Bullard St., 956-6144. "The menu offers what they call 'pub food'—but always with a bit of a twist." (March 2014) Burgers, wings, salads, fish, pasta, craft beers and cocktails: Weds.-Mon. L D.*

MASA Y MAS TORTILLERIA, Suite C-The Hub Plaza, (505) 670-8775. Tortillas, tacos, chimichangas, burritos, enchiladas, menudo, tamales and more. Mexican: Mon.-Sat. B L.*

MEXICO VIEJO, Hwy. 90 and Broadway. "A remarkably extensive menu for a small roadside food vending stand, and the dishes are not what one normally finds in other Mexican restaurants." (July 2013) Mexican food stand: Mon.-Sat. B L early D.

MI CASITA, 2340 Bosworth Dr., 538-5533. New Mexican cuisine: Mon.-Thurs. L, Fri. L D.

MILLIE'S BAKE HOUSE, 215 W. Yankie, 597-2253. "The food is oven-fresh and innovative." (November 2012) Soup, salads, sandwiches, baked goods: Tues.-Sat.*

NANCY'S SILVER CAFÉ, 514 N. Bullard St., 388-3480. Mexican: Mon.-Sat. B L D.

THE PARLOR AT DIANE'S, 510 N. Bullard St., 538-8722. "Always evolving, always interesting, Diane's has it all." (Sept. 2013) Burgers, sandwiches, homemade pizzas, paninis: Tues.-Sun. L D.

PRETTY SWEET EMPORIUM, 312 N. Bullard St., 388-8600. Dessert, ice cream: Mon.-Sat.*

Q'S SOUTHERN BISTRO AND BREWERY, 101 E. College Ave., 534-4401. American, steaks, barbecue, brewpub: Mon.-Sat. L D.

RED BARN, 708 Silver Heights Blvd., 538-5666. Steakhouse: L D.*

SABOR, 1700 Mountain View Road, 388-2737. Mexican, sandwiches: B L D.

SHEVEK & CO., 602 N. Bullard St., 534-9168. "If sampling new types of food is part of the adventure of traveling for you, you only have to go as far as Shevek & Co. Restaurant in Silver City to take a culinary tour around the world." (May 2013) Mediterranean: Sat.-Sun.: Brunch/L. Fri.-Tues. D.*

SILVER BOWLING CENTER CAFÉ, 2020 Memory Lane, 538-3612. American, Mexican, hamburgers: L D.*

STREETSIDE FOOD, College and Bullard. Asian: Mon.-Sat. L.

SUNRISE ESPRESSO, 1530 N. Hudson, 388-2027. Coffeeshop: Mon.-Sat. B L, early D.

SUNRISE ESPRESSO, 1212 E. 32nd St., 534-9565. Coffeeshop, bakery: Mon.-Fri. B L, early D, Sat. B L only.*

THREE DOGS COFFEEHOUSE, 503 N. Bullard St. Coffeeshop, baked goods, sandwiches, wraps: B L.*

TRE ROSAT CAFÉ, 304 N. Bullard St., 654-4919. International eclectic: Mon.-Sat. L, D.*

VICKI'S EATERY, 315 N. Texas, 388-5430. "Sandwiches both cold and grilled, wraps and salads that satisfy in a homey yet sophisticated way. Don't miss the German potato salad." (Dec. 2009) American: Mon.-Fri. L, Sat. B L, Sun. B (to 2 p.m.).*

WRANGLER'S BAR & GRILL, 2005 Hwy. 180E, 538-4387. Steak, burgers, appetizers, salads: L D.*

YANKIE CREEK COFFEE HOUSE, 112 W. Yankie St. Coffeeshop, coffee, homemade pastries and ice cream, fresh fruit smoothies.*

Bayard

LITTLE NISHA'S, 1101 Tom Foy Blvd., 537-3526. Mexican: Wed.-Sun. B L D.

M & A BAYARD CAFÉ, 1101 N. Central Ave., 537-2251. "A down-to-earth, friendly, unpretentious place—kind of a cross between a Mexican cantina and a 1950s home-style diner, serving tasty, no-frills Mexican and American food at reasonable prices." (October 2011) Mexican and American: Mon.-Fri. B L D.

Cliff

PARKEY'S, 8414 Hwy. 180W, 535-4000. Coffeeshop: Mon.-Sat.

Hurley

GATEWAY GRILL, 2705 Hwy. 180E, 537-5001. "From Friday Steak Night to everyday American and Mexican food, worth hitting Hwy. 180 for." (December 2011) American and Mexican: Sun.-Thur. B L, Fri.-Sat. B L D.*

Lake Roberts

LITTLE TOAD CREEK INN & TAVERN, 1122 Hwy. 35, 536-9649. "Rustic gourmet... designed to appeal to the eyes as well as the taste buds. And this is true of the items on the brunch menu, as

DINING GUIDE

continued on next page



Alotta Words about ALOTTA GELATO

A special thanks to everybody who sent get-well wishes, prayers, and all-around good vibes our way during Mitch's recent illness. He's been cleared to return to duty, and we hope to go back to our full schedule soon!

Still crazy after all these years! Yes, we just celebrated our ninth birthday, and we feel like we're really an accepted part of the Silver City community. (One indication of this is that fewer people are coming in and asking what happened to the car dealership that used to occupy the building!) When we first opened our store in those carefree, fun-filled days of 2003, we had no idea how many people's lives (and waistlines) we'd be affecting!

Whenever you visit ALOTTA GELATO at 619 N. Bullard St. in Historic Downtown Silver City, you'll have a variety of irresistible treats awaiting you. How about dairy-free Sour Cherry gelato, or good old-fashioned Butter Pecan? Marvel at our amazing Gila Conglomerate—who knew a rock could taste this good? Oh yeah, I almost forgot: our Fall flavors are waiting in the wings—watch for them!

We want to remind you that our delicious low-fat Italian ice cream is available in hand-packed pints and quarts in your choice of 30+ incredible flavors, including sugar-free ones sweetened with Splenda® (and yes, we can pack several flavors into each insulated container). We carry delicious dessert items, too—such as Key Lime bars, brownies, cheesecake, cookies, flourless Chocolate Raspberry Torte, and big honkin' slices of triple-layer Carrot Cake—plus hot and cold drinks to go with them. Lastly, we have gift certificates available in any amount for any occasion—including birthdays!

Come on down and experience the best gelato anywhere, from the oldest gelato store in the Land of Enchantment! (Call ALOTTA GELATO at 575-534-4995 to check on our current hours/days of operation as Mitch eases back into the working week.) Thanks for reading. As a birthday present from us and a token of our esteem for you, our valued customer, **bring this ad for 25¢ off any size gelato for each member of your party.**



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DINING GUIDE
continued

well as those on the very different dinner menu." (June 2012). Steaks, sandwiches, American: Thurs.-Fri. D, Sat.-Sun. brunch and D. Tavern with soups, sandwiches, Scotch eggs: Daily L D.

SPIRIT CANYON LODGE & CAFÉ, 684 Hwy. 35, 536-9459. "For the German sampler, café customers can choose two meat options from a revolving selection that may include on any given day three or four of the following: bratwurst, roast pork, schnitzel (a thin breaded and fried pork chop), sauerbraten (marinated roast of beef), stuffed cabbage leaves, or roladen (rolled beef with a sausage and onion filling)." (July 2011) German specialties, American lunch and dinner entrées: Saturday midday D.

Mimbres
ELK X-ING CAFÉ, (352) 212-0448. Home-style meals, sandwiches and des-

serts: B L.

MIMBRES VALLEY CAFÉ, 2964 Hwy. 35, 536-2857. Mexican, American, burgers: Mon.-Tues. B L, Wed.-Sun. B L D, with Japanese tempura Wed. D.

RESTAURANT DEL SOL, 2676 Hwy. 35, San Lorenzo. "Popular and unpretentious food, powered by a huge solar system." (April 2014) Breakfasts, burgers, sandwiches, Mexican: Daily B L early D.

3 QUESTIONS COFFEE HOUSE, Hwy. 35, 536-3267. "Consistently good food based on the success of the family's Living Harvest Bakery." (December 2013) Buffet: Tues.-Sat. B L.

Pinos Altos
BUCKHORN SALOON AND OPERA HOUSE, Main Street, 538-9911. Steakhouse, pasta, burgers: Mon.-Sat. D.

DOÑA ANA COUNTY
Las Cruces & Mesilla
ABRAHAM'S BANK TOWER RESTAURANT, 500 S. Main St. #434, 523-5911.

RED OR GREEN? • PEGGY PLATONOS

Thinking Outside the Takeout Box

Deming's China Restaurant is not your typical Chinese eatery.

Deming's China Restaurant is refreshingly different from most of the Chinese restaurants you find these days in this country. Chef William Chu, who owns the restaurant and does the cooking, is committed to offering what he calls the "fresh and authentic flavors of Chinese food."

A native of northern China, Chef Chu is unabashedly proud of the culinary heritage of both his family and his country. High-quality cuisine is a tradition he carries on as a third-generation chef, and his menu offers few compromises and many surprises. The adventurous will want to return again and again to sample such intriguing items as Strawberry Chicken (\$8.95), Honey Walnut Shrimp (\$11.95), Asian Curry Shrimp (\$11.95), Basil Chicken or Beef (\$8.95), Seafood Wonton Soup (\$5.95) and Orange Tofu (\$8.50).

No doubt some of these less-familiar dishes were picked up by Chef Chu in his travels around China after having received formal training in traditional Chinese cooking. His on-the-job experience working in a variety of restaurants as he traveled from one region to another in China introduced him to various dishes unique to particular areas. As a result of his travels and training, he has developed a personal style of cooking that combines both traditional and contemporary Chinese techniques and flavors. He has also included on the China Restaurant menu a couple of dishes that show some unmistakably Southwestern influence—Fresh Jalapeño Chicken or Beef (both \$8.95).

Of course, many of the old Chinese food favorites here in America are on the China Restaurant menu, too—things like Egg Flower Soup, Hot & Sour Soup, Wonton Soup (these soups ranging in price from \$1.50 to \$3 per quart); Sweet & Sour Pork (\$6.95) or Chicken (\$8.50); Broccoli Beef (\$8.50) or Chicken (\$7.95) or Shrimp (\$8.95). And you'll find an assortment of fried rice and lo mein dishes to choose from, ranging in price from \$4.95 to \$7.95.

The prices, incidentally, give no hint as to the size of the portions, which are more than generous. It's very difficult to imagine a person with a large enough appetite or stomach capacity to finish off a single portion without quite a bit of help.

What you won't find on the China Restaurant menu may surprise you. There are no chow mein dishes on the menu—none at all. No Chop



China Restaurant owner and chef, William Chu, working wok magic in the restaurant kitchen. (Photos by Peggy Platonos)

Suey. No barbecued spareribs. No Moo Goo Gai Pan. No Pork Almond Ding.

Shocking... for about 10 seconds. Then you get lost in contemplation of all the delights that *are* offered.

There are some other things you won't find at China Restaurant that may actually please you—no MSG, no artificial flavors, no preservatives and less salt.



This photo was intended to show the attractive presentation of the food and the size of portions at China Restaurant, but it was taken after three people had helped themselves to generous servings of the Chicken Lo Mein (back left), two people had served themselves from the plate of Sweet & Sour Pork, and one very hungry person had taken a healthy serving of the Asian Curry Shrimp (foreground). The rectangular platters are approximately the size of a regularly folded copy of *Desert Exposure*.

China Restaurant is located at 110 E. Pine St. in Deming. It is open Tuesday through Sunday—closed on Mondays. The hours are 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, noon to 7 p.m. on Saturday, and noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

There are lunch specials available from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday through Friday only—not on Saturdays or Sundays. Lunch specials range in price from \$4.95 for Mixed Vegetables to \$7.50 for Honey Walnut Shrimp. All the lunch specials include an egg roll, soup (for dine-in only) and steamed rice.

It should be mentioned that rice does not automatically come with meals off the rest of the menu. It must be ordered separately. If you just want steamed rice, this is not

an expensive addition—only \$1 for a side portion. If you want fried rice, you have to order it from the menu, with prices ranging from \$4.95 for simple Egg Fried Rice to \$7.95 for Shrimp Fried Rice or House Special Fried Rice. Vegetable or Roast Pork Fried Rice costs \$5.95, and Chicken or Beef Fried Rice costs \$6.95. All of these are large enough portions for three or even four people to share.

Takeout orders can be placed online at deming.chinesemenu.com or by calling (575) 546-4146. ☯

Send Mimbres freelance writer Peggy Platonos tips for restaurant reviews at platonos@gilinet.com or call (575) 536-2997.



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Throughout the month of August, we will be serving Branch Lunch from 10:30am 'til 2:30pm

August Cooking Class
"Gluten-Free Dinner" is being offered Monday, August 18, 11am-2:30pm. Demonstration and hands-on, with a meal of your work at the end. See the link on our website for details. Preregistration required.

Turkish Wine Tasting Dinner
Join us on Friday, August 15 at 6:30pm for a six-course dinner featuring foods of Turkey with optional matched international wines. See our website for details—or scan the QR code above. Reservations highly recommended.

Summer Hours:
Monday... 5pm-9pm
Tuesday... 5pm-9pm
Wednesday... CLOSED
Thursday... 5pm-9:30pm
Friday... 5pm-9:30pm
Saturday... 10:30am-2:30pm
Sunday... 10:30am-2:30pm

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American: Mon.-Fri. B L.
ANDELE RESTAURANTE, 1950 Calle del Norte, 526-9631. Mexican: Mon. B L, Tues.-Sun. B L D.
ANTONIO'S RESTAURANT & PIZZERIA, 5195 Bataan Memorial West, 373-0222. Pizza, Italian, Mexican: Tues.-Sun. L D.
AQUA REEF, 900-B S. Telshor, 522-7333. Asian, sushi: D.
ARABELLA'S, 1750 Calle de Mercado, 526-1313. Cuban, Italian: D.
BAAN THAI KITCHEN, 1605 S. Solano Dr., 521-2630. Thai: Tues.-Sat. L D, Sun. L.
BOBA CAFÉ, 1900 S. Espina, Ste. 8, 647-5900. Sandwiches, salads, casual fare, espresso: Mon.-Sat. L D.*
BRADLEY D AND WILLIAM B., 2540 El Paseo Road, 652-3871. American comfort food: L, D.
BRAVO'S CAFÉ, 3205 S. Main St., 526-8604. Mexican: Tues.-Sun. B L.
CAFÉ DE MESILLA EN LA PLAZA, 2051 Calle de Santiago, 652-3019. Coffee-house, deli, pastries, soups, sandwiches: B L early D.
CRAVINGS CAFÉ, 3115 N. Main St., 323-3353. Burgers, sandwiches, wraps, egg dishes, salads: B L.
DAY'S HAMBURGERS, Water & Las Cruces St., 523-8665. Burgers: Mon.-Sat. L D.
DE LA VEGA'S PECAN GRILL & BREWERY, 500 S. Telshor Blvd., 521-1099. Pecan-smoked meats, sandwiches, steaks, seafood, craft beers: L D.
DELICIA'S DEL MAR, 1401 El Paseo, 524-2396. Mexican, seafood: B L D.
DICK'S CAFÉ, 2305 S. Valley Dr., 524-1360. Mexican, burgers: Sun. B L, Mon.-Sat. B L D.
DOUBLE EAGLE, 2355 Calle De Guadalupe, 523-6700. "All the steaks are aged on the premises in the restaurant's own dedicated beef aging room... An array of award-winning margaritas and deliciously decadent desserts." (March 2012) Southwestern, steaks, seafood: L D, Sun. champagne brunch buffet.*
EL TIBURON, 504 E. Amador, 647-4233. Mexican, seafood, steak: L D.
EMILIA'S, 2290 Calle de Parian, 652-3007. Burgers, Mexican, soup, sandwiches, pastry, juices, smoothies: L D.
GUACAMOLE'S BAR AND GRILL, 3995 W. Picacho Ave., 525-9115. Burgers, pizza, salads, sandwiches, Hawaiian appetizers: L D.
HIBERT'S FINE FOODS, 525 E. Madrid Ave. #7, 524-0451. Mexican,

American: B L D.
HIGH DESERT BREWING COMPANY, 1201 W. Hadley Ave., 525-6752. Brew pub: L D.*
INTERNATIONAL DELIGHTS, 1245 El Paseo Rd., 647-5956. Greek and International: B L D.
JAPANESE KITCHEN, 141 Roadrunner Parkway, 521-3555. Japanese: L D.
JIREH'S, 1445 W. Picacho. Mexican, American: B L early D.
JOSEPHINA'S OLD GATE CAFÉ, 2261 Calle de Guadalupe, 525-2620. Pastries, soups, salads, sandwiches: Mon.-Thur. L, Fri.-Sun. B L.
LA POSTA RESTAURANT DE MESILLA, 2410 Calle De San Albino, 524-3524. "A restaurant with history hard-wired into the fiber of its being. Through building, menu and ownership, its roots extend all the way back to the 1840s." (September 2011) Mexican, steakhouse: L D, Sat.-Sun. and holidays also B.
LE RENDEZ-VOUS CAFÉ, 2701 W. Picacho Ave. #1, 527-0098. French pastry, deli, sandwiches: Mon.-Sat. B L.
LOS COMPAS, 1120 Commerce Dr., 521-6228. Mexican: B L D.*
MESILLA VALLEY KITCHEN, 2001 E. Lohman Ave. #103, 523-9311. American, Mexican: B L.*
MESON DE MESILLA, 1803 Avenida de Mesilla, 652-4953. Steaks, barbecue, seafood, sandwiches, salads, pasta: L D.
MILAGRO COFFEE Y ESPRESSO, 1733 E. University Ave., 532-1042. Coffee-house: B L D.*
MIX PACIFIC RIM CUISINE AND MIX EXPRESS, 1001 E. University Ave. #D4, 532-2042. Asian, Pacific: Mon.-Sat. L D.
MOUNTAIN VIEW MARKET KITCHEN, 120 S. Water St., 556-9856. Sandwiches, bagels, wraps, salads and other healthy fare: Mon.-Sat.: B L early D. *
MY BROTHER'S PLACE, 334 S. Main St., 523-7681. Mexican: Mon.-Sat. L D.
NELLIE'S CAFÉ, 1226 W. Hadley Ave., 524-9982. Mexican: Tues.-Sat. B L.
NOPALITO RESTAURANT, 2605 Missouri Ave., 522-0440. Mexican: L D.
NOPALITO RESTAURANT, 310 S. Mesquite St., 524-0003. Mexican: Sun.-Tues., Thurs.-Sat. L D.*
OLD TOWN RESTAURANT, 1155 S. Valley Dr., 523-4586. Mexican, American: B L.*
PAISANO CAFÉ, 1740 Calle de Mercado, 524-0211. Mexican: B L D.*
PICACHO AVE., 647-4836. Ameri-

can: B L, early D.
PEPPERS CAFÉ ON THE PLAZA (IN THE DOUBLE EAGLE RESTAURANT), 2355 Calle De Guadalupe, 523-6700. "Creative handling of traditional Southwestern dishes.... [plus] such non-Mexican entrées as Salmon Crepes and Beer Braised Beef Carbonnade." (March 2012). Southwestern: L D. *
PHO SAIGON, 1160 El Paseo Road, 652-4326. Vietnamese: L D.
Q'S, 1300 Avenida De Mesilla, 571-4350. Brewhouse with steak and pasta: L D.
RENOO'S THAI RESTAURANT, 1445 W. Picacho Ave., 373-3000. Thai: Mon.-Fri. L D, Sat. D.
ROBERTO'S MEXICAN FOOD, 908 E. Amador Ave., 523-1851. Mexican: B L D.*
ROSIE'S CAFÉ DE MESILLA, 420 Avenida de Mesilla, 526-1256. Breakfast, Mexican, burgers: Sat.-Thurs. B L, Fri. B L D.
SANTORINI'S, 1001 E. University Ave., 521-9270. Greek, Mediterranean: Mon.-Sat. L D.
SAVOY DE MESILLA, 1800-B Avenida de Mesilla, 527-2869. American, Continental: B L D.
THE SHED, 810 S. Valley Dr., 525-2636. American, pizza, Mexican, desserts: Wed.-Sun. B L.*
SHEBA GRILL, 2265 S. Main St., 525-1100. Indian, Middle Eastern: Mon.-Thurs., Sat.-Sun L D, Fri. D.
SI ITALIAN BISTRO, 523 E. Idaho, 523-1572. Italian: Mon.-Sat. L D.
SPANISH KITCHEN, 2960 N. Main St., 526-4275. Mexican: Mon.-Sat. B L D.
SPIRIT WINDS COFFEE BAR, 2260 S. Locust St., 521-1222. Sandwiches, coffee, bakery: B L D.*
ST. CLAIR WINERY & BISTRO, 1720 Avenida de Mesilla, 524-0390. "A showcase for St. Clair wines... rooted in the same attention to detail, insistence on quality and customer-friendly attitude as the winery." (July 2012) Wine tasting, bistro: L D.
SUNSET GRILL, 1274 Golf Club Road (Sonoma Ranch Golf Course clubhouse), 521-1826. American, Southwest, steak, burgers, seafood, pasta: B L D.
THAI DELIGHT DE MESILLA, 2184 Avenida de Mesilla, 525-1900. Thai, salads, sandwiches, seafood, steaks, German: L D.*

DINING GUIDE
 continued on next page

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4pm
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 Historic Downtown Silver City, NM

SUMMER DAZE
 music frenzy
AUGUST 3rd
 blues and ragtime
 featuring

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Silver City Food Co-op

healthy food quality local fresh organic sustainable community

August Community Forum
 the sustainable kitchen
 Learn how to reduce your carbon footprint in the kitchen using some common sense and some not-so-well-known facts. Also, introducing kids to veggies the fun/loving way.

Tuesday, August 12th
 & Thursday, August 14th
 from Noon to 1 pm
 in the Co-op's Satellite Building
 614 N. Bullard Street
 all community forums
 are free & open to everyone

Summer MAD
 Member Appreciation Day
 Thursday, August 14th

520 N. Bullard Street
 575-388-2343
 www.silvercityfoodcoop.com

DINING GUIDE
 continued

TIFFANY'S PIZZA & GREEK AMERICAN CUISINE, 755 S. Telshor Blvd #G1, 532-5002. Pizza, Greek, deli: Tues.-Sat. B L D.*

UMP 88 GRILL, 1338 Picacho Hills Dr., 647-1455. Irish pub: L D.

VALLEY GRILL, 1970 N. Valley, 525-9000. American: B L D, Friday fish fry.

VINTAGE WINES, 2461 Calle de Principal, 523-WINE. Wine and cigar bar, tapas: L D.

WOK-N-WORLD, 5192 E. Boutz, 526-0010. Chinese: Mon.-Sat. L D.

ZEFFIRO PIZZERIA NAPOLETANA, 136 N. Water St., 525-6757. Pizza, pasta, also sandwiches at adjoining Popular Artisan Bakery: Mon.-Sat. L D.

ZEFFIRO NEW YORK PIZZERIA, 101 E. University Ave., 525-6770. Pizza: L D.

Anthony ERNESTO'S MEXICAN FOOD, 200 Anthony Dr., 882-3641. Mexican: B L.
LA COCINITA, 908 W. Main Dr., 589-1468. Mexican: L.

Chapparal EL BAYO STEAK HOUSE, 417 Chaparral Dr., 824-4749. Steakhouse: Tues.-Sun. B L D.

TORTILLERIA SUSY, 661 Paloma Blanca Dr., 824-9377. Mexican: Mon.-Sat. B L D, Sun. B L.

Doña Ana BIG MIKE'S CAFÉ, Thorpe Road. Mexican, breakfasts, burgers: B L D.

LUNA COUNTY

Deming ADOBE DELI, 3970 Lewis Flats Road SE, 546-0361. "The lunch menu features traditional deli-style sandwiches... The dinner menu is much grander, though some sandwiches are available then, too. Dinner options include filet mignon, flat iron steak, T-bone, ribeye, New York strip, Porterhouse, barbequed pork ribs, Duck L'Orange, Alaska King Crab legs, broiled salmon steak, shrimp scampi, pork chops, osso buco, beef kabobs." (March 2010) Bar, deli, steaks: L D.*

BALBOA MOTEL & RESTAURANT, 708 W. Pine St., 546-6473. Mexican, American: Sun.-Fri. L D.

BELSHORE RESTAURANT, 1030 E. Pine St., 546-6289. Mexican, American: Tues.-Sun. B L.

CAMPOS RESTAURANT, 105 S. Silver, 546-0095. Mexican, American, Southwestern: L D.*

CANO'S RESTAURANT, 1200 W. Pine St., 546-3181. Mexican: Mon.-Sat. L D.

DEMING TRUCK TERMINAL, 1310 W. Spruce St., 544-2228. "Indian food is offered on a separate menu and you have to ask for that menu. The list of dishes is not very long, but the spices and flavor of the dishes that are offered are authentically Indian." (November 2013) American, Mexican, Indian: B L D, Sun. L buffet.

EL CAMINO REAL, 900 W. Pine St., 546-7421. Mexican, American: B L D.

ELISA'S HOUSE OF PIES AND RESTAURANT, 208 1/2 S. Silver Alley, 494-4639. "The southern-style fare is a savory prelude to 35 flavors of pie." (April 2012) American, barbecue, sandwiches, pies: Mon.-Sat. L D.*

EL MIRADOR, 510 E. Pine St., 544-7340. Mexican: Mon.-Sat. B L D.

"FORGHEDABOUT" PIZZA & WINGS, 2020 Hatch Hwy. 26, 275-3881. "Direct from New York City, Bob Yacone and his wife, Kim Duncan, have recreated an authentic-style New York pizza parlor on the outskirts of Deming." (June 2013) Italian, pizza, wings: Mon.-Sat. L D, Sun. D.

LA FONDA, 601 E. Pine St., 546-0465. "Roomy, bright and airy, La Fonda is no mere taco joint. The extensive menu features all the Mexican favorites at bargain prices, plus a wide range of Anglo fare and a breakfast that's worth the drive to Deming. Famous for its fajitas: Choose chicken, beef or both, fajitas for two, or try the unusual stuffed fajita potato or seemingly contradictory fajita burrito." (September 2009) Mexican: B L D.*

LAS CAZUELAS, 108 N. Platinum Ave. (inside El Rey meat market), 544-8432. "This gem of a restaurant turns out perfectly cooked steaks and seafood, as well as a full line of Mexican fare." (June 2011) Steaks, seafood, Mexican: Tues.-Sat. L D.*

MANGO MADDIE'S, 722 E. Florida St., 546-3345. Salads, sandwiches, juice bar, coffee drinks.

MANOLO'S CAFÉ, 120 N. Granite St., 546-0405. "The menu offers breakfast, lunch and dinner choices, and it's difficult to convey the immense range of food options available. In every section of the menu, there's a mixture of American-style 'comfort' food items and Southwest-style Mexican dishes which no

doubt qualify as Hispanic 'comfort' food. There's nothing particularly fancy about the food, but it's fresh and tasty. And the prices are reasonable." (February 2012) Mexican, American: Mon.-Sat. B L D, Sun. B L.

PALMA'S ITALIAN GRILL, 110 S. Silver, 544-3100. Italian: L D. Sat. prime rib, Sun. buffet.*

PATIO CAFÉ, 1521 Columbus Road, 546-5990. Burgers, American: Mon.-Sat. L D.*

PRIME RIB GRILL (INSIDE HOLIDAY INN), I-10 exit 85, 546-2661. Steak, seafood, Mexican: B D.

RANCHER'S GRILL, 316 E. Cedar St., 546-8883. Steakhouse, burgers: L D.*

SI SEÑOR, 200 E. Pine St., 546-3938. Mexican: Mon.-Sat. B L D, Sun. B L.

SUNRISE KITCHEN, 1409 S. Columbus Road, 544-7795. "Good-quality comfort food. There's nothing on the menu that is really exotic. But all the familiar dishes, both American and Mexican, are done well, and it's that care in preparation that lifts the food above the ordinary. This is not a freezer-to-fryer type of restaurant." (September 2012) American, Mexican, breakfasts: Mon.-Thur. B L, Fri. B L D.

Akela APACHE HOMELANDS RESTAURANT, I-10. Burgers, ribs, "casino-style" food: B L D.*

Columbus PATIO CAFÉ, 23 Broadway, 531-2495. Burgers, American: B L.*

HIDALGO COUNTY

Lordsburg EL CHARRO RESTAURANT, 209 S. P Blvd., 542-3400. Mexican: B L D.

FIDENCIO'S, 604 E. Motel Dr., 542-8989. Mexican: B L early D.

KRANBERRY'S FAMILY RESTAURANT, 1405 Main St., 542-9400. Mexican, American: B L D.

MAMA ROSA'S PIZZA, 1312 Main St., 542-8400. Pizza, subs, calzones, salads, chicken wings, cheeseburgers, shrimp baskets: L D.

RAMONA'S CAFÉ, 904 E. Motel Dr., 542-3030. "Lordsburg's quit Mexican food treasure offers some unusual takes on traditional recipes." (December 2012) Mexican, American: Tues.-Fri. B L D, Sun. B mid-day D.

Animas PANTHER TRACKS CAFÉ, Hwy. 338, 548-2444. Burgers, Mexican, American: Mon.-Fri. B L D.

Rodeo RODEO STORE AND CAFÉ, 195 Hwy. 80, 557-2295. Coffeeshop food: Mon.-Sat. B L.

RODEO TAVERN, 557-2229. Shrimp, fried chicken, steaks, burgers, seafood: Weds.-Sat. D.

CATRON COUNTY

Reserve ADOBE CAFÉ, Hwy. 12 & Hwy. 180, 533-6146. Deli, American, Mon. pizza, Sunday BBQ ribs: Sun.-Mon. B L D, Wed.-Fri. B L.

CARMEN'S, 101 Main St., 533-6990. Mexican, American: B L D.

ELLA'S CAFÉ, 533-6111. American: B L D.

Glenwood ALMA GRILL, Hwy. 180, 539-2233. Breakfast, sandwiches, burgers, Mexican: Sun.-Weds., Fri.-Sat. B L.

GOLDEN GIRLS CAFÉ, Hwy. 180, 539-2457. Breakfast: B.

MARIO'S PIZZA, Hwy. 180, 539-2316. Italian: Mon.-Tues., Fri.-Sat. D.

Other Catron County PURPLE ONION CAFÉ, Mogollon, 539-2710. "Seasonal, quirky and way off the beaten path... serves eclectic fare and 'famous' pie." (August 2011) Breakfast, burgers, veggie melts, pita pockets, pies: Fri.-Sun., Mon. holidays, May-Oct.: B L.

SIERRA COUNTY Hillsboro BARBER SHOP CAFÉ, Main St., 895-5283. American, Mediterranean, sandwiches: Thurs.-Sat. L.

HILLSBORO GENERAL STORE & CAFÉ, 100 Main St., 895-5306. American and Southwestern: Sun.-Wed., Fri.-Sat. B L.

NOTE—Restaurant hours and meals served vary by day of the week and change frequently; call ahead to make sure. Key to abbreviations: B=Breakfast; L=Lunch; D=Dinner.*=Find copies of *Desert Exposure* here. Send updates, additions and corrections to: updates@red-or-green.com. ☼

Table Talk

The **Silver City Food Co-Op**, long a downtown destination for foods to prepare at home, now also offers "grab-and-go," ready to eat foods made in a new commercial kitchen. Chef Brenna Brown is whipping up an ever-changing selection of organic specialties including sandwiches, wraps, salads, pesto, hummus, soups and more. 520 N. Bullard St., 388-2343, www.silvercityfoodcoop.com. Hours are Monday-Saturday 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Javalina Coffee House has reopened in its new location at 117 Market St. in downtown Silver City. Owner Pauline Hassler-Cook says the coffeeshop's new home has the advantage of an outdoor patio, and that she plans to expand by offering a new menu of teas.

The "Country Toad" in Lake Roberts has a busy month planned, kicking off August 3 with "Summer Daze Music Frenzy." Then August 15-17 it's Caribbean Week, featuring Cuban and Puerto Rican cuisine. Finally, August 23-24 brings Farm Fest and the Wilderness Artisan Fair. **Little Toad Creek Inn & Tavern**, 1122 Hwy. 35, 536-9649.

River Ranch Market, which we raved about in May ("Ranch to Table, for Goodness' Sake"), is going back to its roots at Gila River Ranch. The downtown Silver City location is closing, and the business will continue online (beginning August 15) and with phone orders, with free delivery in town on Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays. You can also visit the Ranch Store in Gila (call for directions) and shop for all your favorites on Saturday mornings at the Silver City Farmers' Market. 535-2664, www.riverranchmarket.com.

This month's wine-tasting dinner at **Shevek & Co.** in downtown Silver City, August 15 at 6:30 p.m., will feature six courses of Turkish food matched with appropriate international wines. Reservations highly recommended. Cost is \$80 per person (\$45 food without wines). The restaurant will also be serving brunch/lunch this month on Saturday and Sunday, 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. 602 N. Bullard St., 534-9168, silver-eats.com.

La Esperanza Vineyard and Winery in the Mimbres will celebrate its fifth anniversary on Saturday, August 2, from 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Music will be provided by Mariachi Diamantes from Deming, 12-1:30 p.m.; Brandon Perrault & Friends, 2-4 p.m.; and Melanie Zipin and Jeff LeBlanc, 4:30-6:30 p.m. In addition to wine, Acosta Farms will be serving green chili quesadillas. 100 DeLaO, Sherman, (505) 259-9523, laesperanzavineyardandwinery.com. ☼

Send restaurant news to updates@red-or-green.com.

40 DAYS & 40 NIGHTS

What's Going on in August

Plus a look ahead into early September.

AUGUST FRIDAY

1 Silver City/Grant County Bayou Seco—Music in the Courtyard. 12 p.m. Free. Gila Regional Medical Center.

CLAY PLAY—Through August 1. Silver City Public Library, 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m. each day, 538-3672. Bayard Public Library, 2-3:30 p.m. each day, 537-6244. Free.

SILVER CITY CLAY FESTIVAL—Through August 3. See story in Arts Exposure section. www.clayfestival.com.

TIMOTHY HASENSTEIN—Opening reception for "Faces & Places of Evolution" art show. 4-7 p.m. Seedboat Gallery, 214 W. Yankie.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

INTO THE WOODS—Through August 3. This musical with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim and book by James Lapine won several Tony Awards including Best Score, Best Book and Best Actress in a Musical. It tells of the characters of "Little Red Riding Hood," "Jack and the Beanstalk," "Rapunzel" and "Cinderella," whose stories continue after the "happily ever after" in their own fairy tales. 8 p.m. \$12, \$10 students and seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, www.no-strings.org.

LAS CRUCES ARTS ASSOCIATION—Opening for juried show. 5-7 p.m. El Paso Electric Gallery, Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Downtown Mall, 523-6403, www.riograndetheatre.com.

LAS CRUCES ARTS ASSOCIATION—Member opening. 5-7 p.m. Community Enterprise Center, 125 N. Main St.

LOCKE—Film through August 7. Ivan Locke, a dedicated family man and successful construction manager, receives a phone call on the eve of the biggest challenge of his career that sets in motion a series of events that threaten his carefully cultivated existence. Stars Tom Hardy, Olivia Colman, Ruth Wilson. Nightly 7:30 p.m., Sat. 1:30 and 7:30 p.m., Sun. 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. \$7 regular, \$6 seniors and students, \$5 MVFS members, children and Weds. Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, 524-8287, mesillavalleyfilm.org.

RE*SHOW RE*MIX—Opening for show of art from recycled materials. 6-11 p.m. West End Art Depot, 401 N. Mesilla St., 312-9892.

Deming

BUZZ TONES—Summer concert series. 5:30-8:30 p.m. St. Clair Winery, Hwy. 549.

SATURDAY

2 Silver City/Grant County FIFTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION—Music by Mariachi Diamantes from Deming, 12-1:30 p.m.; Brandon Perrault & Friends, 2-4 p.m.; and Melanie Zipin

and Jeff LeBlanc, 4:30 -6:30 p.m. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. La Esperanza Vineyard and Winery, 100 DeLaO, Sherman, (505) 259-9523, laesperanzavineyardandwinery.com.

FARMERS' MARKET—Music by Bayou Seco, 9 a.m.-noon. 8:30 a.m.-noon. Mainstreet Plaza, N. Bullard at 7th St., 654-4104.

MUD FUN—Also August 3. Get your hands dirty and play with clay! For youth grades Pre-K-6th. Children cannot be left unattended. Free. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Western Stationers Parking Lot, 737 N. Bullard. 538-5560.

SILVER CITY CLAY FESTIVAL—Through

Hadley, 525-6752.
WEED-PULLING PARTY—8-10 a.m. MVM Farm, 2653 Snow Road, 523-0436, mvmoutreach@gmail.com, www.mountainviewmarket.coop.

SUNDAY

3 Silver City/Grant County HIROSHIMA PEACE DAY OBSERVANCE—Gila Friends Meeting invites the public to join in a Peace Day observance. Please bring chairs for silent meditation followed by worship sharing. 12:30 p.m. Gough Park.

MUD FUN—See August 2. Free. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Western Stationers Parking



Into the Woods continues at the Black Box Theatre through August 3.

August 3. See story in Arts Exposure section. www.clayfestival.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla COMPOSTING & HUGELKULTUR WORKSHOP—This workshop will demonstrate how you can use free or low-cost resources to supply your soil with more nutrition, beneficial microbiology, water-holding capacity, and organic matter. Hugelkultur is a permaculture technique that uses large organic matter, such as logs and sticks, which breaks down over time and provides your plants with long-term nutrients. Pre-register online, over the phone, or in-store before attending the workshop at the farm. 9-11 a.m. \$20, \$15 members. MVM Farm, 2653 Snow Road, 523-0436, mvmoutreach@gmail.com, www.mountainviewmarket.coop.

INTO THE WOODS—Through August 3. See August 1. 8 p.m. \$12, \$10 students and seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, www.no-strings.org.

MIKE MONTOYA & FATIGO—Latin/Rock. High Desert Brewing, 1201 W.

Lot, 737 N. Bullard. 538-5560.
SILVER CITY CLAY FESTIVAL—See story in Arts Exposure section. www.clayfestival.com.
SUMMER DAZE MUSIC FRENZY—Paper Moon Shiners 1 p.m. Andy T Nick Nixon Band 4 p.m. Blues, jazz, ragtime, swing. \$6 cover. Little Toad Creek Inn & Tavern, 1122 Hwy. 35, Lake Roberts, 536-9649.

Las Cruces/Mesilla INTO THE WOODS—See August 1. 2:30 p.m. \$12, \$10 students and seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, www.no-strings.org.

SOUTHWESTERN LANDSCAPES AND CLOUDSCAPES—Opening for exhibit by pastel artist Robert Blagg, on view through August 29. 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Tombaugh Gallery, 2000 S. Solano, 522-7281.

TUESDAY

5 Las Cruces / Mesilla JOSHUA SAENZ—Every Other
EVENTS continued on next page

BEER · FOOD · MUSIC
HOURS · MON-SAT 11:00-MIDNIGHT · SUN NOON-10:00
LIVE MUSIC THURS & SAT 8:00-11:00

Sat 8/2	Mike Montoya & Fatigo (Latin/Rock)
Thu 8/7	David Vidal (Los Angeles Blues)
Sat 8/9	Swing Soleil (Santa Fe Gypsy Jazz)
Thu 8/14	Bourbon Legend (Minstrel Gigolos)
Sat 8/16	Art & Lisa Beck (Country/Folk from Austin)
Thu 8/21	Jill Kinsey (Last Honky-Tonk Music Series)
Sat 8/23	Chris Corkery (Last Honky-Tonk Music Series)
Thu 8/28	Everett Howl & The Wolves
Sat 8/30	The Roaring 20's (Folk/Rock Duo)
Thu 9/4	Tiffany Christopher
Sat 9/6	Blue Gramas featuring Chad Norred

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Grant County Commissioners Trash Residents' Vote

A year ago, Grant County voters rejected—by over a two-to-one margin—an increase in gross receipts tax pushed by the County Commissioners to fund the commissioners' ill-conceived pet projects.

At a public forum before the election, Commission Chairman Brett Kasten stated that while the county was not required to put the issue up to a vote,

"We think enough of your opinions to allow you to vote up or down."

In spite of their pledge to honor the opinions of residents, at their July 11 meeting this year, the County Commissioners voted unanimously to not only increase our gross receipts tax, **but to increase it the maximum allowed under the law!**

By trashing a clear-cut mandate from Grant County voters, Commissioners Gabriel Ramos, Brett Kasten and Ron Hall violated the public trust invested in them.

Frustrated with their vote? Call Commissioners Ramos (575-574-0021), Kasten (575-574-0022) and Hall (575-574-0023) today and ask them to rescind their tax increase vote.

~ Progressive Voters Alliance of Grant County, <http://pvagc.org> ~




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New Mexico Wilderness Alliance
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THE TO DO LIST

No dog days.

This month it feels as though all the events of summer have been waiting for the end of summer, and they're all piling on in the waning days of the season. You can start the month on a contemplative note on **August 3** with the annual **Hiroshima Peace Day Observance** at Gough Park in Silver City, sponsored by Gila Friends Meeting. Then it's a 180-degree turn to light-hearted fun at **Tikis & Tacos**, a luau presented by the "101 Things for Youth to Do in Grant County" on **August 8**, 4:30-8:30 p.m. at Bataan Memorial Park. The following day, August 9, brings the Evergreen Garden Club's **Annual Garden Tour**. Get advance tickets at Silver Heights Nursery, Alotta Gelato, Aunt Judy's Attic or the Silver City Farmers' Market.



Nosotros performs August 22.

The first signs of the end of summer arrive on **August 16** when Silver City MainStreet welcomes new and returning WNMU students to Downtown Silver City at the **Bash on Broadway**. WNMU President Joseph Shepard will deliver a "State of the University" address at 5:30 p.m. at the Seedboat Gallery, followed by live music, games, prizes, a videogame challenge and beer tasting at Little Toad Creek.

In Las Cruces, you can toast the waning of summer with a cold one at the **Tour de Beer** at the Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, **August 16-17**. The event features more than 100 beers and live music by Crooked Beaver Creek, Taking Over, Derrick Harris, DAMN Union, Chris Baker and Matt Morgan, and Ardiik.

The following weekend is jam-packed. **Nosotros** and opening act the Illusion Band perform a special send-off to summer concert at WNMU's Old James Stadium on **August**

22. At the Silver City Farmers' Market on **August 23**, it's the second annual **Flower Fiesta** to benefit Gila/Mimbres Community Radio KURU-FM. At Gough Park in Silver City that same day, it's the annual **Run to Copper Country Car Show**, which you read about in last issue's Tumbleweeds section. Up in Lake Roberts, Little Toad Creek is sponsoring a Farm Fest and the **Wilderness Artisan Fair** on **August 23-24**.

In Deming, that weekend climaxes the quacking-good fun at the **Great American Duck Races**, which begin with the annual pageant on August 21 and run through **August 24**. If you prefer salsa to fowl, **August 23-24** is also the **SalsaFest** in Las Cruces. Then on Thursday, the **NMSU Aggies** kick off the football season against Cal Poly in a special weeknight game, **August 28**.

Labor Day Weekend, of course, brings a familiar roster of favorites: the **New Mexico Harvest Wine Festival** in Las Cruces, the **Rolling Stones Gem and Mineral Show** in Silver City, and the **Hatch Chile Festival**. Plus Hillsboro re-creates the famed **Fountain murder trial**. Don your best Old West garb for this "creative re-enactment," as the audience will also portray the jury. ☞



Re-creating the Fountain murder trial in Hillsboro.

EVENTS continued

Tuesday. Singer-songwriter. 6:30-7:30 p.m. Free. Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Downtown Mall, 523-6403, www.riograndetheatre.com.

WOMAN MEDICINE—Also August 12, 19. Class series based on multi-cultural indigenous and ancestral philosophies and practices of female energetics. Details: jhsimm@nmsu.edu, riviello.wix.com/pacha-inti. 6-7:30 p.m. Free. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436, www.mountainviewmarket.coop.

Deming
NATIONAL NIGHT OUT—6-8 p.m. Voiers "Pit" Park.

WEDNESDAY
Las Cruces / Mesilla
6 WHO ARE WE?—"Basic Neuroscience to Understand Our Nature," class with David Riviello. Info: (910) 587.5502, riviello0@hotmail.com, or www.riviello0.wix.com/pacha-inti. 6-7:30 p.m. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436, www.mountainviewmarket.coop.

THURSDAY
7 Silver City/Grant County
BROWN BAG—"Mary Richards: Billy the Kid's Teacher," with Doc Campbell. 12-1 p.m. Silver City Museum Annex, 302 W. Broadway, 538-5921, www.silvercitymuseum.org.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
DAVID VIDAL—Blues. High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

FRIDAY
8 Silver City/Grant County
FABRIC AND YARN SALE—Through August 9. High-quality donated items, including stamped designs on reusable material by Chris McDaniel. Sales benefits the Southwest Women's Fiber Arts Collective. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. The Common Thread, 107 W. Broadway, 538-5733.

TIKIS & TACOS—Luau for all Grant County families. Free food, entertainment, games. Rain or shine. 4:30-8:30

p.m. Bataan Memorial Park, Fort Bayard Road, Santa Clara.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
THE EMPTY HOURS—Film through August 14. On the desolated coast of Veracruz, Mexico, 17-year-old Sebastián takes over running his uncle's small and cozy rent-by-the-hour motel. There all by himself much of the time, he meets Miranda. Nightly 7:30 p.m., Sat. 1:30 and 7:30 p.m., Sun. 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. \$7 regular, \$6 seniors and students, \$5 MVFS members, children and Weds. Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, 524-8287, mesillavalleyfilm.org.

Deming
NIKKI LEE MAY—Summer concert series. 5:30-8:30 p.m. St. Clair Winery, Hwy. 549.

SATURDAY
9 Silver City/Grant County
35TH ANNUAL GUN SHOW—Through August 10. Sponsored by Gila Fish and Gun Club. National Guard Armory, Hwy. 180E, Santa Clara. 388-2360.

EVERGREEN GARDEN CLUB ANNUAL GARDEN TOUR—Proceeds benefit Grant County charities. Tickets at Silver Heights Nursery, Alotta Gelato, Aunt Judy's Attic, Silver City Farmers' Market. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. \$5. 388-1324.

FABRIC AND YARN SALE—See August 8. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. The Common Thread, 107 W. Broadway, 538-5733.

FARMERS' MARKET—Music by Loose Blues Band, 9-11 a.m. 8:30 a.m.-noon. Mainstreet Plaza, N. Bullard at 7th St., 654-4104.

GREG AND CHARLIE—Original folk-rock and classic covers. 6-9 p.m. Diane's Parlor, 510 N Bullard St.

MARIAH WALKER—Opening for art exhibit on view August 5-Sept. 7. 2-7 p.m. Copper Quail Gallery, 211-A Texas St., 388-2646.

PAPERMAKING FOR CHILDREN—For crafters ages 8 and older; limit 10 crafters. Pre-registration encouraged. Parent or guardian attendance required. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. \$5. Silver City Museum, 312 W. Broadway, 538-5921, www.silvercitymuseum.org.

PAPERMAKING FOR ADULTS—With Veronique De Jaegher; limit 6 crafters. Pre-registration encouraged. 2-4 p.m. \$15. Silver City Museum, 312 W. Broadway, 538-5921, www.silvercitymuseum.org.

SMOKEY BEAR BIRTHDAY PARTY—12:30-1:30 p.m. Silver City Museum, 312 W. Broadway, 538-5921, www.silvercitymuseum.org.

VACCINATION CLINIC—9 a.m.-noon. High Desert Humane Society, Cougar Way.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
7TH ANNUAL MEN WHO COOK—Benefits Mesilla Valley Hospice Foundation. More than 70 celebrity chefs from Doña Ana County will feed attendees. 5 p.m. \$75. 522-1232.

ART OPENINGS—Jean Reese Wilkey's "Beyond the Veil," and Nolan Winkler's "Home Base + ." Wilkey will talk at 9:30 a.m., Winkler at 10:30 a.m. 8 a.m. Unsettled Gallery, 905 N. Mesquite St., 635-2285, www.unsettledgallery.com.

BLUES FESTIVAL—Mesilla Valley Jazz and Blues Society. Marc and Tina Schwartz with Jim Shearer, 24/7 Blues Band, Muddy Hands Blues Band. Tickets at St. Clair Winery & Bistro, White's Music Box, Hubbard Music 'n' More, and Mountain Music. Bring your own lawn chair/blankets. 4-10 p.m. \$15, \$10 advance. St. Clair Winery and Bistro, Mesilla. www.MVjazzblues.net.

SWING SOLEIL—Gypsy jazz. High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

Deming
CONSERVATION CONVERSATIONS—"Your Water Future," presentation and interactive discussion about our local water resources with Southwestern New Mexico Audubon. 10 a.m. Free. Room 152, WNMU Deming, Mimbres Valley Learning Center, 2300 E. Pine. swnmaudubon@gmail.com.

SUNDAY
10 Silver City/Grant County
35TH ANNUAL GUN SHOW—National Guard Armory, Hwy. 180E, Santa Clara. 388-2360.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
MUSIC IN THE PARK—Steve Smith

& Hard Road (bluegrass), Swing Soleil (gypsy jazz). 6 p.m. Young Park, 1905 E. Nevada Ave. 541-2000.

MONDAY

11 Silver City/Grant County Widowed Persons Service—Entertainment by Gleemaiden. All singles are welcome. 10:30 a.m. \$10 lunch. Glad Tidings Church. 537-3643.

TUESDAY

12 Silver City/Grant County The Sustainable Kitchen—Also August 14. Community Forum. Learn how to reduce your carbon footprint in the kitchen using some common sense and some not-so-well-known facts. Also, introducing kids to veggies the fun and loving way. 1 p.m. Food Co-op satellite building, 614 N. Bullard St., 388-2343.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

WOMAN MEDICINE—See August 5. 6-7:30 p.m. Free. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436, www.mountainviewmarket.coop.

WEDNESDAY

13 Las Cruces / Mesilla PLANT SPIRIT MEDICINE & CONSCIOUSNESS—Also August 20, 27, Sept. 3. Four-part class series, anthropological insight into the current state of the collective consciousness. Details: jhsimm@nmsu.edu, rivielloo.wix.com/pacha-inti. 6-7:30 p.m. Free. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436, www.mountainviewmarket.coop.

THURSDAY

14 Silver City/Grant County MEMBER APPRECIATION DAY—Members receive 10% off most items. Silver City Food Co-Op, 520 N. Bullard, 388-2343, www.silvercityfoodcoop.com.

ROLLING STONES GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY—Presentation TBA. Potluck. Bring your own service ware and a dish to share. 6-8 p.m. Senior Center, 204 W. Victoria St. 534-1393, rollingstonesgms.blogspot.com.

THE SUSTAINABLE KITCHEN—See August 12. 1 p.m. Food Co-op satellite building, 614 N. Bullard St., 388-2343.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

BOURBON LEGEND—High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.
EARLY AGRICULTURE IN NEW MEXICO—Talk by Rick Hendricks, state historian of New Mexico. 7 p.m. \$2 donation. Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road, 522-4100, www.nmfarmandranchmuseum.org.

HISTORY NOTES LECTURE—Dr. Marshall McLennan on "The Origins of Cowboy Baroque Architecture." 1 p.m. Museum of Nature and Science, 411 N. Main St., 541-2154, www.las-cruces.org/museums.

FRIDAY

15 Silver City/Grant County ROBERT BROWN—8 p.m. Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

LIFE ITSELF—Film through August 21. A documentary film that recounts the inspiring and entertaining life of world-

renowned film critic and social commentator Roger Ebert. Nightly 7:30 p.m., Sat. 1:30 and 7:30 p.m., Sun. 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. \$7 regular, \$6 seniors and students, \$5 MVFS members, children and Weds. Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, 524-8287, mesillavalleyfilm.org.

THE FULL MONTY—Through August 31. Based on the film of the same name. While spying on their wives at a "Girls' Night Out," a group of unemployed steelworkers from Buffalo sees how much they enjoy watching male strippers. Jealous, out of work, and feeling emasculated, the men come up with a bold and unclothed way to make some quick cash. In preparing, they find themselves extremely exposed—not merely physically but emotionally. Gala night—have some cake with the cast and your fellow patrons after the show. 8 p.m. \$11-\$14. Las Cruces Community Theater, 313 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1200, www.lcctnm.org.

Deming DAN LAMBERT

—Summer concert series. 5:30-8:30 p.m. St. Clair Winery, Hwy. 549.

SATURDAY

16 Silver City/Grant County BASH ON BROADWAY

—Silver City MainStreet helps welcome new and returning WNMU students to Downtown Silver City. Live music, games, prizes and a new videogame challenge. WNMU President Joseph Shepard will deliver a "State of the University" address at 5:30 p.m. at the Seedboat Gallery, 214 W. Yankee St. Beer tasting at Little Toad Creek. 5:30-8:30 p.m. Free. Broadway and Bullard. 534-1700, timothy@silvercitymainstreet.com.

EXHIBIT OPENING—"Wilderness: Michael Berman, James Hemphill and Anthony Howell." Silver City Museum, 312 W. Broadway, 538-5921, www.silvercitymuseum.org.

FARMERS' MARKET—8:30 a.m.-noon. Mainstreet Plaza, N. Bullard at 7th St., 654-4104.

SIGNAL PEAK FAT TIRE FEST—Also August 17. The 2014 challenge will feature a change in venue and format, due to the fire on Signal Peak. The trails used this year, on both days, are single-track adventures that have never been included in the race before. They are some of the local riders' favorite rides, and range from easy to very difficult. All rides will be guided, with occasional regrouping. 2 p.m. \$20 includes BBQ dinner at 6 p.m. Signal Peak Road parking lot, at the intersection of Hwy. 15 and Signal Peak Road (Forest Road 154).

Las Cruces/Mesilla

ANNUAL BUTTERFLY FLUTTERBY—Learn how to identify butterflies and attract

them to your garden. Butterfly games, arts and crafts, and face painting. Local children's author Patricia Mihok will sign her new book, *A Glimpse of the Chihuahuan Desert*. 9 a.m.-noon. \$3. Chihuahuan Desert Nature Park, Jornada Road, 524-3334, www.asombro.org.

ART & LISA BECK—Country/folk. High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

DESERT BABY-WEARERS—10 a.m.-12 p.m. Free. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436, www.mountainviewmarket.coop.

SMOKER COOK-OFF—Car show, horseshoe tournament, music and fun. 12-6 p.m. \$5, 10 and under free. Beverly Hills Hall, 150 N. Hermosa, 621-9164, www.beverlyhillshall.net.

THE FULL MONTY—Through August 31. See August 15. 8 p.m. \$11-\$14.



Celebrate Smokey Bear's 70th birthday August 9 at the Silver City Museum.

Las Cruces Community Theater, 313 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1200, www.lcctnm.org.

TOUR DE BEER—Through August 17. Featuring more than 100 beers. Live music by Crooked Beaver Creek, Taking Over, Derrick Harris, DAMN Union, Chris Baker and Matt Morgam, Ardik. 12-7 p.m. \$15, \$12 advance, under 21 free. Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road. 522-1232, LasCrucesTourdeBeer.com.

Deming

MUSIC IN THE PARK—Randy Granger. 6-8 p.m. Rockhound State Park, 9880 Stirrup Road SE, 546-6182, FriendsOfRockhound.org.

Glenwood

MUSIC IN THE PARK—Country, bluegrass and gospel hosted by the Matney Family. 11 a.m. Free. Community Park.

Radium Springs

MEGA MUSIC AND THE STARS EXTRAVAGANZA—The Double Clutchers, Eli James Band, the Collaborators and Travis James Manning will perform in front of the park office. Followed by star party with the Las Cruces Astronomical Society. 1 p.m. music, 8 p.m. star party. \$10. Leasburg Damn State Park. 524-4068, 805-1944.

SUNDAY

17 Silver City/Grant County ROBERT BROWN AND BYRON

TRAMMELL—Noon. Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard.

SHEEP CORRAL FIELD TRIP—The Gila Native Plant Society will sponsor a field trip to Sheep Corral and look for Solanum jamesii (wild potato) among plenty of other plants liking a cool northern drainage. All hikes are moderately easy and the public is invited. Bring water, lunch, a hat and sunscreen and wear good hiking shoes. Meet in the south parking lot of the WNMU Fine Arts Center Theatre. 8 a.m. Free. 388-5192, www.gilanps.org.

SIGNAL PEAK FAT TIRE FEST—See August 16. Sunday rides start at 9 a.m. for the Devils Garden/Tadpole Ridge Epic, and 10 a.m. for the Devils Garden Lite & Trinkle Trail rides. \$20 includes BBQ lunch. Signal Peak Road parking lot, at the intersection of Hwy. 15 and Signal Peak Road (Forest Road 154).

Las Cruces/Mesilla

MUSIC IN THE PARK—Remember Then (oldies). 6 p.m. Young Park, 1905 E. Nevada Ave. 541-2000.

THE FULL MONTY—Through August 31. See August 15. 2 p.m. \$11-\$14. Las Cruces Community Theater, 313 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1200, www.lcctnm.org.

TOUR DE BEER—See August 16. 12-7 p.m. \$15, \$12 advance, under 21 free. Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road. 522-1232, LasCrucesTourdeBeer.com.

MONDAY

18 Las Cruces / Mesilla BEING VEGAN—7-8 p.m. Free. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436, www.mountainviewmarket.coop.

TUESDAY

19 Silver City/Grant County INTRODUCTION TO PERMACULTURE—Also August 21. How to improve your yard with passive solar, water harvesting and integrated garden design to create beauty, biodiversity, food, medicine, privacy, ergonomics, social space and increased home value. By Jean Eisenhower, certified in Permaculture Design. No pre-registration required. 12-1 p.m. Free. Old Yada Yada Yarn building, 614 N. Bullard St. www.homeandgardeninspiration.net.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

DANNY RULEY—Every Other Tuesday. 6:30-7:30 p.m. Free. Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Downtown Mall, 523-6403, www.riograndetheatre.com.

WOMAN MEDICINE—See August 5. 6-7:30 p.m. Free. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436, www.mountainviewmarket.coop.

WEDNESDAY

20 Las Cruces / Mesilla PLANT SPIRIT MEDICINE & CONSCIOUSNESS—See August 13. 6-7:30 p.m. Free. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436, www.mountainviewmarket.coop.

Reserve

59TH ANNUAL CATRON COUNTY FAIR—Through August 24. Fairgrounds.

THURSDAY

21 Silver City/Grant County INTRODUCTION TO PERMACULTURE—See August 19. 12-1 p.m. Free. Old Yada Yada Yarn building, 614 N. Bullard St. www.homeandgardeninspiration.net.

Las Cruces/Mesilla

BONNIE MANDOE: NEW MEXICO LAND & LANDSCAPES—Exhibit opening. 6-8 p.m. Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road, 522-4100, www.nmfarmandranchmuseum.org.

JILL KINSEY—Last Honky Tonk Music Series. High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

NUTS AND SEEDS WELLNESS

CLASS—5-6 p.m. \$3, members free. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436, www.mountainviewmarket.coop.

Deming

GREAT AMERICAN DUCK RACES—Through August 24. 35th Annual Great American Duck Race is "Racing for the Gold" as the Duck Race takes on an Olympics theme. Pageant at high school auditorium, 6 p.m. (888) 345-1125, www.demingduckrace.com.

Lordsburg

HIDALGO COUNTY FAIR—All day. Fairgrounds.

Reserve

59TH ANNUAL CATRON COUNTY FAIR—Through August 24. Fairgrounds.

FRIDAY

22 Silver City/Grant County END OF SUMMER CONCERT—Nosotros with opening act The Illusion Band. 5:30-9 p.m. WNMU Old James Stadium. 538-2505, info@mimbresarts.org, www.mimbresarts.org.

EVENTS continued on next page



August 2014

1-7	Locke
8-14	The Empty Hours
15-21	Life Itself
22-28	Boyhood
29-Sept 4	Ilo Ilo

2469 Calle de Guadalupe, Mesilla • www.mesillavalleyfilm.org • (575) 524-8287
Shows nightly at 7:30- Sunday Matinee at 2:30.

THE GRANT COUNTY ROLLING STONES GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY'S 31ST ANNUAL

2014 GEM AND MINERAL SHOW

~ LABOR DAY WEEKEND ~

◆ **Saturday, August 30 ~ 9AM-5PM**

◆ **Sunday, August 31 ~ 10AM-5PM**

◆ **Monday, September 1 ~ 10AM-4PM**

FREE
ADMISSION

GRANT COUNTY BUSINESS AND CONFERENCE CENTER
3031 Hwy 180 E in Silver City, NM (next to Ace Hardware)

- Large assortment of vendors
- Educational displays

- Daily field trips for Collecting & for Local Geology and Mining History

A great FREE family event with Wheel of Fortune & Silent Auction

www.rollingstonesgms.blogspot.com No Early or Late Admissions Paid in part by Silver City Lodger's Tax

SILVER CITY MUSEUM August 2014 Calendar of Events

Thursday, August 7—Brown Bag program
Mary Richards: Billy the Kid's Teacher with Doc Campbell
 12 noon to 1 pm Silver City Museum Annex, 302 W. Broadway

Saturday, August 9—Craft Class
Papermaking for Children
 10 am to 12 noon at the Silver City Museum, 312 W. Broadway
 For crafters aged 8 and older, \$5, limit 10 crafters, pre-registration encouraged. Parent or guardian attendance required.

Saturday, August 9—Smokey Bear Birthday Party
 with Smokey Bear! 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm Silver City Museum, 312 W. Broadway

Saturday, August 9—Craft Class
Papermaking for Adults with Veronique De Jaeger
 2 pm to 4 pm at the Silver City Museum Annex, 302 W. Broadway
 For adult crafters, \$15, limit 6 crafters, pre-registration required.

Saturday, August 16—Exhibit Opening: Wilderness
 Michael Berman, James Hemphill and Anthony Howell
 Meet the Artists, **September 20**, 11 am to 12 noon
 Silver City Museum, 312 W. Broadway

Sunday, August 24—Presentation and Book Signing:
Sanatoriums of New Mexico with Richard Melzer
 2 pm to 3 pm at the Silver City Museum Annex, 302 W. Broadway

Ongoing Exhibits

Gila Wild: A Celebration of the 90th Anniversary of the Gila Wilderness and the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act, now through January 4, 2015

Parece Que Fue Ayer: Grant County Chicano Music Project,
 through August 8, 2014

For more information: visit us at 312 West Broadway, Silver City, NM,
 call 575-538-5921, or click www.silvercitymuseum.org

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EVENTS continued

Las Cruces/Mesilla
BOYHOOD—Film through August 28.
 Richard Linklater's real-time story of the life of a boy, Mason, from age 5 to age 18. Stars Ellar Coltrane, Patricia Arquette, Ethan Hawke. Nightly 7:30 p.m., Sat. 1:30 and 7:30 p.m., Sun. 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. \$7 regular, \$6 seniors and students, \$5 MVFS members, children and Weds. Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, 524-8287, mesillavalleyfilm.org.

GAME KNIGHTS—Through August 23. The Southwest's biggest videogaming event. 3-10 p.m. \$5-\$20. Columbus Conference Center, 901 Avenida de Mesilla. 621-3858, lcgc.webs.com.

THE FULL MONTY—Through August 31. See August 15. 8 p.m. \$11-\$14. Las Cruces Community Theater, 313 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1200, www.lcctnm.org.

Deming
GREAT AMERICAN DUCK RACES—Through August 24. Courthouse Park. (888) 345-1125, www.demingduckrace.com.

NIKKI LEE MAY—Summer concert series. 5:30-8:30 p.m. St. Clair Winery, Hwy. 549.

Reserve
59TH ANNUAL CATRON COUNTY FAIR—Through August 24. Fairgrounds.

SATURDAY
23 Silver City/Grant County FARM FEST AND WILDERNESS ARTISAN FAIR—Also August 24. Live music, local food, arts, crafts. Featuring El Paso's Cold Cash Blues Band 4 p.m. Saturday. All day. Little Toad Creek Inn & Tavern, 1122 Hwy. 35, Lake Roberts, 536-9649.

FARMERS' MARKET—Featuring second annual Flower Fiesta to benefit Gila/Mimbres Community Radio KURU-FM, 9 a.m.-noon.; information, 535-2860. 8:30 a.m.-noon. Mainstreet Plaza, N. Bullard at 7th St., 654-4104.

FORT BAYARD'S 148TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION—Tours, games and birthday cake. 7 p.m.: Chataqua performance by "Molly Brown." 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Fort Bayard, www.fortbayard.org.

FRIENDS OF THE NRA BANQUET—Brisket dinner catered and served by local 4-H kids. Silent and live auction as well as bucket raffles and a door

prize. \$25 single/\$45 couple advance, \$30/\$50 at the door, under 10 free. Grant County Business and Conference Center, 3031 Hwy 180 E. www.friendsofnra.org/nm.

ROBERT BROWN—8 p.m. Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, 200 N. Bullard.

RUMMAGE SALE—Sponsored by Silver City Chapter #3, Order of the Eastern Star. Proceeds benefit educational and charitable activities. This is a "Price-Line" sale—name your own price on almost everything. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Masonic Lodge, 11 Ridge Road.

RUN TO COPPER COUNTRY CAR SHOW—See story in the July issue (Tumbleweeds section). 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Gough Park. 388-3519.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
6TH ANNUAL SALSAFEST—Through August 24. Salsa dancing, salsa tasting competition. Downtown. 525-1955, downtownlascruces.org.

CHRIS CORKERY—Last Honky Tonk Music Series. High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

GAME KNIGHTS—Videogaming event. 10 a.m.-10 p.m. \$5-\$20. Columbus Conference Center, 901 Avenida de Mesilla. 621-3858, lcgc.webs.com.

MICHAEL FRACASSO—Austin-based singer/songwriter. 7-9 p.m. \$15 donation. Rokoko Art Gallery, 1785 Avenida de Mercado, 405-8877.

THE FULL MONTY—Through August 31. See August 15. 8 p.m. \$11-\$14. Las Cruces Community Theater, 313 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1200, www.lcctnm.org.

WINE AND CHEESE PAIRINGS—12-4 p.m. Free. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436, www.mountainviewmarket.coop.

Deming
34TH ANNUAL METHODIST MEN'S DUCK RACE BARBECUE—All you can eat barbecue beef, cole slaw, beans, plus drink and dessert. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. \$8, \$4 ages 6-12, \$2 under 6. First United Methodist Church, 1020 S. Granite, 546-2791.

GREAT AMERICAN DUCK RACES—Through August 24. Courthouse Park. Parade at 10 a.m., Pine and Gold. (888) 345-1125, www.demingduckrace.com.

Reserve
59TH ANNUAL CATRON COUNTY FAIR—Through August 24. Fairgrounds.

SUNDAY
24 Silver City/Grant County FARM FEST AND WILDERNESS ARTISAN FAIR—See August 23. All day. Little Toad Creek Inn & Tavern, 1122 Hwy. 35, Lake Roberts, 536-9649.

SANATORIUMS OF NEW MEXICO—Presentation and book signing with Richard Melzer. 2-3 p.m. Silver City Museum Annex, 302 W. Broadway, 538-5921, www.silvercitymuseum.org.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
6TH ANNUAL SALSAFEST—Salsa dancing, salsa tasting competition. Downtown. 525-1955, downtownlascruces.org.

MUSIC IN THE PARK—The Liars (rock), Casual Friday (rock). 6 p.m. Young Park, 1905 E. Nevada Ave. 541-2000.

THE FULL MONTY—Through August 31. See August 15. 2 p.m. \$11-\$14. Las Cruces Community Theater, 313 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1200, www.lcctnm.org.

Deming
GREAT AMERICAN DUCK RACES—Courthouse Park. (888) 345-1125, www.demingduckrace.com.

Reserve
59TH ANNUAL CATRON COUNTY FAIR—Fairgrounds.

TUESDAY
26 Silver City/Grant County MRAC ANNUAL MEETING—Mimbres Region Arts Council. 5:30-7 p.m. Volunteer Center-Commons, 501 E. 13th St. at Corbin. 538-2505, www.MimbresArts.org.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
FEED-N-SEED—Learn how to save seeds and taste test heirloom fruits and vegetables. 5:30-7:30 p.m. Free. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436, www.mountainviewmarket.coop.

WEDNESDAY
27 Las Cruces / Mesilla PLANT SPIRIT MEDICINE & CONSCIOUSNESS—See August 13. 6-7:30 p.m. Free. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436, www.mountainviewmarket.coop.

THURSDAY
28 Las Cruces / Mesilla EVERETT HOWL & THE WOLVES—High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

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MONDAY SEPT. 1
 12:00 Overcome of Las Cruces | 3:00 Phat Soul

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NUTS AND SEEDS COOKING CLASS—5-6 p.m. \$3, members free. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436, www.mountainviewmarket.coop.

FRIDAY
29 Las Cruces / Mesilla Ilo Ilo—Film through Sept. 4. Singapore, late 1990s. The friendship between the maid Teresa and young boy Jiale ignites the mother's jealousy, while the Asian recession hits the region. Nightly 7:30 p.m., Sat. 1:30 and 7:30 p.m., Sun. 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. \$7 regular, \$6 seniors and students, \$5 MVFS members, children and Weds. Fountain Theatre, 2469 Calle de Guadalupe, 524-8287, mesillavalleyfilm.org.

ROCKET MAN—Through Sept. 14. A serious comedy by Steven Dietz about the road not taken. Donny Rowan has placed everything he owns on his front lawn, along with a sign that reads, "Here's my life. Make an Offer." 8 p.m. \$12, \$10 students/seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, www.no-strings.org.

THE FULL MONTY—Through August 31. See August 15. 8 p.m. \$11-\$14. Las Cruces Community Theater, 313 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1200, www.lcctnm.org.

Deming
CHAIN OF FOOLS—Summer concert series. 5:30-8:30 p.m. St. Clair Winery, Hwy. 549.

SATURDAY
30 Silver City/Grant County FARMERS' MARKET—Greg and Jean and friends perform original folk-rock and favorite covers, 9-11 a.m. 8:30 a.m.-noon. Mainstreet Plaza, N. Bullard at 7th St., 654-4104.

GREG AND CHARLIE—Original folk-rock and classic covers. 6-9 p.m. Diane's Parlor, 510 N Bullard St.

ROLLING STONES GEM AND MINERAL SHOW—Through Sept. 1. Vendors, day trips on local geology and mining, educational displays. Grant County Rolling Stones Gem and Mineral Society. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Grant County Business and Conference Center, 3031 Hwy 180 E. rollingstonesgms.blogspot.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
DIY PET FOOD AND TREATS—12-1 p.m. \$3, members free. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436, www.mountainviewmarket.coop.

NEW MEXICO HARVEST WINE FESTIVAL—Through Sept. 1. Presented by the New Mexico Wine Growers Association. More than 50 arts, crafts and agricultural product vendors. Admission includes a souvenir wine glass and wine samples at each of the participating wineries. 12-2:45 p.m.: The Players. 3-5:45 p.m.: The Liars. 12-6 p.m. \$20, under 21 free with parent or guardian; \$15 advance online. Southern New Mexico State Fairgrounds, I-10. 522-1232, wineharvestfestival.com.

ROCKET MAN—Through Sept. 14. See August 29. 8 p.m. \$12, \$10



On August 14, Dr. Marshall McLennan talks on "The Origins of Cowboy Baroque Architecture" at the Museum of Nature and Science in Las Cruces.

students/seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, www.no-strings.org.

THE FULL MONTY—Through August 31. See August 15. 8 p.m. \$11-\$14. Las Cruces Community Theater, 313 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1200, www.lcctnm.org.

THE ROARING 20s—Folk/rock duo. High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

Hatch
HATCH CHILE FESTIVAL—Through August 31. Each year chile lovers celebrate their love at the Hatch Chile Festival. The annual event attracts more than 30,000 visitors, who can get a taste of the many chile-inspired dishes at the festival and pair with their favorite beer from the beer garden. Other activities include mud volleyball, art booth, horseshoe tournament, chile cook-off and dances to end both nights. 9 a.m.-1 a.m. \$5 per car. www.hatchchilefest.com.

Hillsboro
THE FOUNTAIN MURDER TRIAL—Also August 31. A "creative re-enactment" will bring to life the historic figures of the accused, plus Pat Garrett, Thomas Catron and Albert Bacon Fall, who were all participants in the trial. The audience is encouraged to come in Old West attire, as they will serve as the jury and decide the fate of the defendants. 3 p.m. \$10. Community Center, Elenora St., 895-3324.

ALBERT FOUNTAIN AND THE SPIDERWEB TRAIL—Presentation by noted historian Karl Laumbach. 1 p.m. Community Center, Elenora St., 895-3324.

AMONG THE DUST OF THIEVES—Also August 31. Film screening: "A True Story of the Final Days of Mesilla's Colonel Albert Fountain." 11 a.m. Community Center, Elenora St., 895-3324.

SUNDAY
31 Silver City/Grant County ROLLING STONES GEM AND MINERAL SHOW—Through Sept. 1. See August 30. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Grant County Business and Conference Center, 3031 Hwy 180 E. rollingstonesgms.blogspot.com.

BBQ FUNDRAISER—Music by Illusion Band. 12-6 p.m. Puppy Dog Ranch, 27 Twin Sisters Creek Road, Arenas Valley, 313-7232.

CHICANO MUSIC FEST & CAR SHOW—11 a.m. Gough Park.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
DENISE MARIE AND MARCEL KOSTER—Original Americana, blues and Euro-swing; guitar, accordion, percussion and harmony vocals. 7 p.m. \$10. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, www.no-strings.org.

MUSIC IN THE PARK—All That Jazz (jazz standards). 6 p.m. Young Park, 1905 E. Nevada Ave. 541-2000.

NEW MEXICO HARVEST WINE FESTIVAL—Through Sept. 1. See August 30. 12-2:45 p.m.: Eli James Band. 3-5:45 p.m.: Nosotros. 12-6 p.m. \$20, under

21 free with parent or guardian; \$15 advance online. Southern New Mexico State Fairgrounds, I-10. 522-1232, wineharvestfestival.com.

THE FULL MONTY—See August 15. 2 p.m. \$11-\$14. Las Cruces Community Theater, 313 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1200, www.lcctnm.org.

Hillsboro
THE FOUNTAIN MURDER TRIAL—See August 30. 3 p.m. \$10. Hillsboro Community Center, Elenora St., 895-3324.

AMONG THE DUST OF THIEVES—Film screening: "A True Story of the Final Days of Mesilla's Colonel Albert Fountain." 11 a.m. Hillsboro Community Center, Elenora St., 895-3324.

COWBOY SOIREE—5 p.m. Black Range Vineyards.

SEPTEMBER MONDAY LABOR DAY
1 Silver City/Grant County ROLLING STONES GEM AND MINERAL SHOW—See August 30. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. Grant County Business and Conference Center, 3031 Hwy 180 E. rollingstonesgms.blogspot.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
NEW MEXICO HARVEST WINE FESTIVAL—See August 30. 12-2:45 p.m.: Overcome. 3-5:45 p.m.: Phat Soul. 12-6 p.m. \$20, under 21 free with parent or guardian; \$15 advance online. \$3

discount for active duty and retired military. Southern New Mexico State Fairgrounds, I-10. 522-1232, wineharvestfestival.com.

WEDNESDAY
3 Las Cruces / Mesilla
PLANT SPIRIT MEDICINE & CONSCIOUSNESS—See August 13. 6-7:30 p.m. Free. Mountain View Market, 1300 El Paseo, 523-0436, www.mountainviewmarket.coop.

WHITE SANDS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL—Through Sept. 7. Outstanding short and feature-length documentaries and narratives of all genres from around the world, with a special focus on Latino and New Mexican film-making. Film making and acting workshops, presentation of lifetime achievement award. \$30-\$150. Cineport 10, Mesilla Valley Mall, 700 S. Telshor Blvd. 522-1232, www.wsiff.com.

THURSDAY
4 Silver City/Grant County WILL SIGN-UP SOCIAL—The public is invited free of charge to Western Institute for Lifelong Learning's (WILL) Fall Semester Sign-up Social. Doors open 5 p.m. overview meeting at 5:30 p.m., course registration begins at 6 p.m. WNMU Global Resource Center, 538 -6835, info@will-learning.com, www.will-learning.com.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
TIFFANY CHRISTOPHER—High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.
WHITE SANDS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL—Through Sept. 7. See Sept. 3. \$30-\$150. Cineport 10, Mesilla Valley Mall, 700 S. Telshor Blvd. 522-1232, www.wsiff.com.

FRIDAY
5 Las Cruces / Mesilla COMIC CON—Through Sept. 7. Zia Comic presents pop culture event, comic books, movies and TV. Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave. 405-0461, www.LasCrucesComicCon.org.

ROCKET MAN—Through Sept. 14. See August 29. 8 p.m. \$12, \$10 students/seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, www.no-strings.org.

WHITE SANDS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL—Through Sept. 7. See Sept. 3. \$30-\$150. Cineport 10, Mesilla Valley Mall, 700 S. Telshor Blvd. 522-1232, www.wsiff.com.

SATURDAY
6 Silver City/Grant County FARMERS' MARKET—8:30 a.m.-noon. Mainstreet Plaza, N. Bullard at 7th St., 654-4104.

Las Cruces/Mesilla
BLUE GRAMAS—Featuring Chad Norred. High Desert Brewing, 1201 W. Hadley, 525-6752.

COMIC CON—Through Sept. 7. See Sept. 6. Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave. 405-0461, www.LasCrucesComicCon.org.

FARM FUN FOR KIDS WORKSHOP—Ages 5 and up. Pre-register. 9-10:30 a.m. \$10, \$8 members. Adult chaperones free. MVM Farm, 2653 Snow Road, 523-0436, mvmoutreach@gmail.com, www.mountainviewmarket.coop.

ROCKET MAN—Through Sept. 14. See August 29. 8 p.m. \$12, \$10 students/seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, www.no-strings.org.

WHITE SANDS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL—Through Sept. 7. See Sept. 3. \$30-\$150. Cineport 10, Mesilla Valley Mall, 700 S. Telshor Blvd. 522-1232, www.wsiff.com.

SUNDAY
7 Las Cruces / Mesilla COMIC CON—See Sept. 6. Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave. 405-0461, www.LasCrucesComicCon.org.

ROCKET MAN—Through Sept. 14. See August 29. 2:30 p.m. \$12, \$10 students/seniors. Black Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, 523-1223, www.no-strings.org.

WHITE SANDS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL—See Sept. 3. \$30-\$150. Cineport 10, Mesilla Valley Mall, 700 S. Telshor Blvd. 522-1232, www.wsiff.com.

Send events info by the 20th of the month to: events@desertexposure.com, fax 534-4134, PO Box 191, Silver City, NM 88062 or **NEW**—submit your event online at www.desertexposure.com/submitevents.

BEFORE YOU GO: Note that events listings are subject to change and to human error! Please confirm all dates, times and locations.

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CONTINENTAL DIVIDE • DAVID A. FRYXELL

Goooooal!

Who gives a flying kick?

By the time you read this, the quadrennial World Cup hysteria should be behind us, with Uruguay or Ruritania or Latveria or some other postage-stamp power crowned the champion of the world's lowest-scoring and most inexplicably popular sport. American fans who flirted with what the rest of the globe calls "football" during the dog days of the baseball season, with the interminable NHL and NBA playoffs finally in the books, can return their gaze to the One True Football of the NFL. (Never mind that only occasionally do feet rather than hands touch the ball in the NFL, and then only in the game's duller moments of kickoffs, field goals, punts and extra points.)

What was notable—and troubling to a jingoistic, er, *patriotic* US football fan—about this year's World Cup was the attention paid by Americans. It's all



OK, you can all go back to watching real football now.

well and good for Brits and Spaniards and denizens of countries too obscure for the Geography Bee to cheer their lungs out over "soccer." But we saw red-blooded Americans actually giving a damn about the pointless gyrations of shorts-clad foreigners (as well as the plucky if doomed US team, of course) chasing a ball across the vast swards of soccer fields. (I'm told these are called "pitches"—*now* which sport has screwy terminology?) In the unlikely event that a player actually scores a goal—snapping the tedium of zero-zero ties that gives the sport its zen-like quality of nothingness—Americans were even heard to shout "Goooooal!"

Yes, *Americans*. These folks—male and female alike, of all hues and ethnicities—looked like otherwise upstanding citizens, who could just as easily be watching reruns of Super Bowl XII on the NFL Network. What were they thinking? What got into them? The right-wing commentator Ann Coulter had a suggestion: "Any growing interest in soccer can only be a sign of the nation's moral decay."

Tempting as it is to follow Coulter into loonyland on this subject, I think the explanation is more generational. I noticed that most of the

fans defiling sports bars by watching soccer (the bartenders must have lost control of the clicker, or the TVs would have been tuned to, at worst, golf) were too young to even remember Super Bowl XII (Cowboys 27, Broncos 10). This leads me to suspect that most belong to what some call Millennials or the older Generation X but what can be more broadly dubbed the Played Soccer as Kids Generation. They grew up playing the sport and thus can be gulled into watching it.

My generation, of course, like generations of Americans dating back to Abner Doubleday and Pop Warner, grew up playing baseball and football, going inside to play basketball only when the weather got too blizzard-y. I took plenty of lumps in recess-time football scrimmages, and dutifully signed up for Bantam League baseball when school let out for summer. (Bantam League was the gateway to Little League, at least in my hometown.) My baseball career was cruelly cut short, alas, when I was bumped from the team simply because I was incapable of throwing, batting or fielding. (The fact that I was not cut until *after* humiliating myself further trying to sell fundraising candy door to door galls me to this day. Bastards!)

By the time our daughter toddled onto the nation's playing fields, however, the youth of America had somehow discovered soccer. My theory is that parents began pushing soccer because it required less equipment and expense than baseball or football, was suitable for girls as well as boys, and did less damage to youngsters' self-esteem than sports in which, well, stuff happens. In the endless back and forth of children's soccer games, it's possible to yell encouraging phrases at your offspring ("Good kick, Jennifer!") without the harsh reality of action on the field making a liar out of you ("Nice strikeout, Noah!").

Heck, if I'd been able to play soccer as a lad, I might even have stayed on the field after candy sales were completed. I could dash pointlessly across the "pitch" in pursuit of what might loosely be called "action" as well as the next boy. So what if I never scored a goal? Whole games go by in which *no one* scores! I might be inept, or it could just be good defense—who can tell?

The exception to this self-esteem-basking engendered by soccer is, of course, the child roped into playing goalie. Unlike the kids parading haplessly from one end of the field to the other, often without ever coming into contact with the ball, the goalie can clearly be seen as the hero or—more likely—the goat. A great save might earn some cheers, true, but the credit for a win if a point somehow gets scored goes more readily to the scorer. In the event of a loss, however, no one blames the defender who let the opposing player break free: *Why didn't the goalie stop that shot?*

Our daughter, as you might have already guessed, most often played goalie. No amount of post-game

ice cream can make up for that emotional pain.

Or the physical pain, for that matter. The goalie gets stomped on, kicked in the head or shins, driven to the turf. We knew the emergency rooms nearest each soccer pitch as well as we did the fields themselves.

As spectator parents of a goalie, we couldn't even enjoy the vague "Good try, honey!" pleasures of watching our offspring compete. Only when the ball was far on the opponent's end of the field could we even breathe. Once it crossed midfield, our daughter became Davy Crockett at the Alamo. Sure, she made some saves—quickly forgotten. But it was the goals she let through that her teammates and their parents remembered, particularly if the team lost.

A good day was a zero-zero tie with zero trips to Urgent Care.

So my theory is that the audience for today's televised soccer is composed mostly of twenty- and thirtysomethings who grew up playing soccer (mostly not as goalies—our daughter was watching the College World Series instead of the World Cup). They are reliving their own youthful sporting glories (if you can call "Good kick, Caitlin!" a glory) on the pitches of the World Cup, watching mighty Madagascar edge out Madripoor, one-zip.

The interminable back and forth of youth soccer so numbed them that they think World Cup action is, well, action. We're talking about games, keep in mind, whose highlights and complete scoring can be shown in a 15-second clip. With time for bloopers.

Baseball can be pretty slow, I'll grant you, but at least the ball is hit out of the infield in most innings and you can briefly hope for something meaningful to scribble on your scorecard. Hockey, it's true, is essentially soccer played on ice with sticks, but there's a lot more smashing and blood. Water polo, another soccer-like contest, at least offers the remote possibility of drowning.

How, then, do I explain the popularity of soccer almost everywhere else? People in other countries, like the new breed of US soccer fans, grew up playing the sport themselves. No doubt they associate it with self-esteem and parental approval, too ("Good kick, Hans!" "Nice try, Eduardo!").

The older soccer fans in these benighted countries, if they didn't grow up playing, are no doubt former soccer moms and dads. They're cheering just because they didn't have to bring snacks and juice boxes to the game.

Oh, and the older fans in the World Cup stadiums who are covering their eyes with their hands instead of cheering? Those are the parents of the goalie. ☹

David A. Fryxell edits Desert Exposure in-between NFL games.



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ANNUAL SILVER CITY MAINSTREET DOWNTOWN Bash on Broadway

Free Event on Broadway between Bullard and Texas Streets

6:30 pm to 8:30 pm Saturday, August 16

Welcoming WNMU
students and
families

featuring:
Live Music & Dancing
Carnival Games
Video Game Challenge

Discover Historic
Downtown
Silver City



Visitor's Center 575-538-5555 • MainStreet Office 575-534-1700 • www.SilverCityMainStreet.com

Ad Paid by Town of Silver City Lodgers Tax



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Barnett's Las Cruces Harley-Davidson

Riding Academy Classes
September 11-14 & October 2-5
DEMO DAYS October 11 & 12



AN ILIAD
 interpreting Homer's tale of gods, love, rage, and war for today



written by:
 Lisa Peterson
 Denis O'Hare
 & Homer

translated by
 Robert Fagles

performed by
Algernon D'Ammassa
 with
John McClure

8pm* Saturday* September 13
 Besse Forward Auditorium WNMU
 Tickets on sale September 1
 \$10 at Humanities Dept WNMU, Sparks Clinic, Alotta Gelato
 \$5 with student ID \$15 at the door.

August OPEN HOUSES
in Silver City, NM



9 JADE DR, AUG 10, 2-4 pm



718 E 38th, AUG 17, 2-4 pm



19 ROCKY CREEK, AUG 24, 2-4 pm

  Hosted by **BLAKE FARLEY**
 Real Living Hacienda Realty
 575-313-4777, blake@movealready.com

For more info & videos: www.enchantedsilvercity.com

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Prudential

Silver City Properties

Patrick Conlin, Broker/Owner

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Toll-free (866) 538-0404
Office (575) 574-8798
www.mimbresvalleyrealestate.com
robin@prudentialsilvercity.com



MLS 31351 • \$610,000

Adobe ranch home on 20 acres at the edge of city limits with casita, built by renowned adobe specialist, David C. Peterson. The workshop is enormous with it's own stove and high ceilings just across the bricked courtyard. Enclosed 3 car garage. Horse facilities include 3 stalls and tack room with round pen and fenced pastures. The one bedroom adobe casita would make a great artist studio, apartment or guest house or caretaker quarters.



MLS 31382 • \$197,000

2 bed, 1 1/2 half bath features 7.7 acres with state land on two sides. Property features hay barn with fenced stalls and round pen. Fruit trees are on drip system. House has metal roof and brand new stucco. The adjacent 1.86 acres is available to purchase. Three acre feet of water right included.



MLS 31079 • \$333,700

TWO BUILDINGS ON BULLARD ST! Corner location & high visibility in the center of historic downtown. 2-story residential duplex currently used as furnished vacation rentals. Second building is a freestanding commercial-use space leased to a coffee shop. Well-maintained and historically significant properties.



MLS 31313 • \$50,000

UNIQUE INCOME OPPORTUNITY! Established laundromat with apartment in same building. Thirteen washers and 13 dryers provides from \$800-\$1000 per month. Low maintenance business. Apartment rents for \$400.



MLS 31314 • \$80,000

RENTAL INCOME IN LORDSBURG! This 4-plex brings in an estimated \$1450/month.

Purchase with MLS 31313 directly across the street and your monthly income could double.



MLS 31319 • \$65,000

Price per square is \$14.37 and is probably the best buy per square foot in all of Grant County. This place is enormous and has plenty of possibilities or just enjoy lots of storage. Includes an efficiency apartment.



MLS 31317 • \$99,250

Affordable living in the Mimbres Valley with gorgeous views. Custom handmade wood stove in the living room. Kitchen features island, breakfast nook, pantry, built in desk and laundry closet. Garden tub and shower stall in the master bathroom. Mature landscaping, circular drive, chain link fencing and workshop/shed on 3/4 acre. Close to restaurants, clinic, stores and recreation in the Gila National Forest. For the flying enthusiast, Casas Adobes has private airstrip and one hangar lot that can be purchased separately.



MLS 31258 • \$165,000

3bd/2ba southwest style in town near university, built in 2004. Open floor plan, extra room for office/hobby/etc. 1 car garage can also substitute as flex space or studio. Hud homes case #361-356484. To submit offers, visit hud home store.



MLS 31356 • \$80,000

Fantastic 3bd 1 3/4ba home in Lordsburg! Large block walled yard with large mature tree. Many of storage closets are throughout the entire home, and a small "hideout/office" located in the screened in porch!



MLS 31378 • \$68,500

Affordable home in Hurley! New electrical, plumbing, duct work and stucco. 2bd, 1 3/4ba home, could have 3rd bedroom with installation of a closet. Open lot with large trees and vehicle access to the back.



MLS 31360 • \$172,500

7 year old 3bd/1.75ba south-western style home on 0.25 acres, 2 car attached garage, city utilities. Close to town, walk to university. Property rents for \$1,000/mo.

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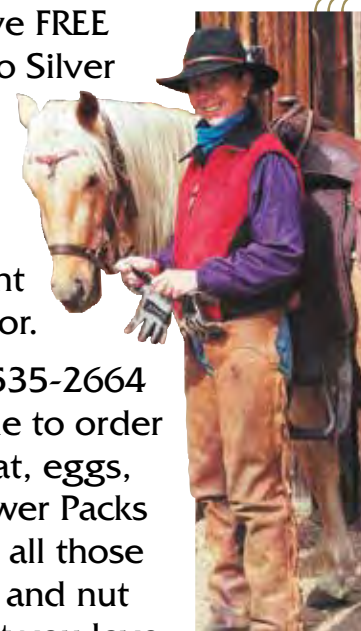
River Ranch Market is heading down the trail to set up camp at Gila River Ranch.

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