

# DESERT exposure

Arts & Leisure in Southern New Mexico



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SEPTEMBER 2021

Volume 26 • Number 9





EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK  
ELVA K. ÖSTERREICH

# Heartbreak

Another 'never forget' moment

Twenty years ago, on a Tuesday, I was getting my boys ready for school, shaking them out of their sleep and gently encouraging their eyes to open when from the other room I heard, “Elva, get in here quick!”

I ran into the bedroom and Randy said “look,” and pointed at the television – just in time to watch as a second airplane slid strangely into the South Tower of World Trade Center in New York City. Two thousand nine hundred ninety-six people died because of that attack, one of them I knew, though not well. I did know and visit several first-responders and heard their heart-wrenching stories.

According to Wikipedia, it remains the deadliest terrorist attack in human history and the single deadliest incident for firefighters and law enforcement officers in the history of the United States, with 340 and 72 killed respectively.

Two months earlier, in July 2021, I had my third and youngest son. He will not personally remember those surreal days following 9/11 – the anguish, the numbers coming in, the plumes of smoke or the images of people leaping to their death from 110 stories. No matter what the

history books tell him, he will never fully understand what we mean when we say the world changed that day.

In August, with hope, pride, trepidation and a renewed sense of adventure, I sent that son into his future by accompanying him to Colorado to start college and then flying back alone. The world changed again for me as everything will be different and my nest is empty. My son and I have new worlds to discover.

Now, in September, 20 years later, I will remember all those sons and daughters who did not come home, a moment of silence for those mothers and fathers whose children were lost that day. My heart to yours – there is nothing I can say that words can express. There is only heartbreak still.

Elva K. Österreich is editor of Desert Exposure and would love to meet Desert Exposure readers in Silver City or any of our coverage areas. Please contact her at editor@desertexposure.com or by cell phone at 575-443-4408 to set a place and time to meet.



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2021

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MLS # 38457 \$219,000



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MLS # 38023 \$50,000



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MLS # 38368 \$299,000



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MLS # 38021 \$175,000



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MLS # 38020 \$215,000

to create a special ambiance. Sellers have many beautiful memories here and are seeking to pass the torch to new owners with their fresh ideas and energy! There is hardly a place with such wonderful surroundings, abundant wildlife and beautiful night skies with 4 gentle seasons.  
MLS # 37199 \$489,900



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LETTERS

We would like to hear from you, so please don’t hesitate to share your thoughts. We welcome letters to the editor including your opinions and feedback regarding news, events and issues published here. Desert Exposure reserves the right to review, edit or refuse letters to the editor. In-

clude your full name, city, state and phone number. Only your name and city will appear in print. The views and opinions expressed in letters to the editor published by Desert Exposure do not necessarily reflect those of Desert Exposure or its advertisers.

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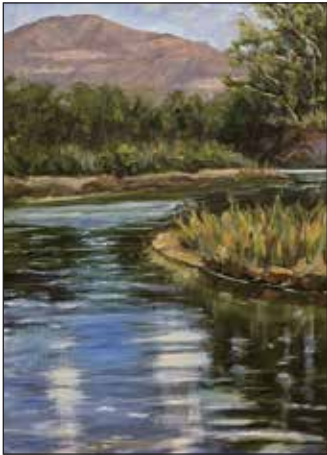
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Las Cruces, NM 88005  
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ABOUT THE COVER:

“Gila Box” by Diane Cornelius captures the serenity of the Gila River as the 4-day Gila River Festival begins on Sept. 17 with presentations, dance, art and more sharing the beauty of the land and waterways with the world. Visit gilariver-festival.org to register and see all the activity planned for the event. See page 12 for the story and some of the other artwork inspired by the river and forest.



POSTCARDS FROM THE EDGE

Four sisters met in Albuquerque in August to spend some time together and pay their respects to loved ones lost in 2020. At the Frontier Restaurant are, in back, Elva Österreich of Las Cruces and Jennifer Gruger of Tularosa. In front are Shaianne Osterreich and Airisenne Angle.

If you have guests from out of town who are having a blast and reading Desert Exposure, shoot them with your camera and send us the photo with a little information. Or, if you are traveling, don’t forget to share, do the selfie thing and yourself holding a copy of Desert Exposure it to editor@desertexposure.com or stick it in the mail to: Desert Exposure, 1740-A Calle de Mercado, Las Cruces, NM 88005.

Desert #63 Dumbfounder by Dave Thomas

“Desert Dumbfounder” by Dave Thomas is a simple substitution cipher; one letter stands for another. Solution is by trial and error. Solution will appear in next month’s *Desert Exposure*. Send full solution, or just the Secret Words, to nmsrdave@swcp.com, and be recognized! TIPS: [www.nmsr.org/secretword.htm](http://www.nmsr.org/secretword.htm) and [www.nmsr.org/cypher-how2.jpg](http://www.nmsr.org/cypher-how2.jpg)

"B TGPOBHX YVNTCNPO XBDENPL DBP WL B TGC GU UVP. CELML XBDENPLM TGBK CEL ABHCM GU B YVNTC NPCG B XLCBT UHBXL MG ZGV DBP MLF CEL CEHLL TBZLHM BC GPDL." - XNB IBTNME

Use the answer key below to track your clues, and reveal Secret Words!

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Previous Solution: "WHATEVER THE HYDROLOGISTS SAY, NO ONE REALLY KNOWS WHETHER THERE IS ENOUGH WATER FOR BOTH MINING AND FARMING IN THIS AREA UNTIL SOMEONE RUNS OUT." - MAX YEH

\*Secret Words: "SHARING BY VOLUME"

ø = x 'g = m :en]C

Congrats to #62 solvers : Will Adams\*, Shorty Vaiza\*, Claudette Gallegos\*, Mike Arms\*, Skip Howard\*, and George Egert\*!



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<b>2</b> <b>THE AMADOR</b> COMEDY NIGHTS HOSTED BY Jerry Kalines 9 PM	<b>3</b>  8 PM	<b>4</b>  8 PM
<b>9</b> <b>THE AMADOR</b> COMEDY NIGHTS HOSTED BY Jerry Kalines 9 PM	<b>10</b>  8 PM	<b>11</b> <b>KIM KELLY</b>  8 PM
<b>17</b> <b>RADIO LA CHUSMA</b>  8 PM	<b>18</b> <b>CHE CHE</b> Rodriguez  8 PM	<b>24</b>  8 PM

Every Friday

# Jax

## FIREBALL FRIDAYS

Upcoming Events Scan

**Amadorlive.com**  
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All Events NO COVER



Every Saturday

# Jax

## Rooftop Beats



RAISINGDAD • JIM AND HENRY DUCHENE

# Underwater Math

You can't get there from here

The year 2021 has been a milestone for my 6-year-old granddaughter (and if anyone can tell me what a milestone is, I'd be grateful). A few months back she rode her bike without training wheels for the

first time, and recently she swam without floaties. I guess all kids look cute, but she looked ESPECIALLY cute dog-paddling across the pool all by herself. She's evolved to a more traditional way of swim-

ming now, and, cold water or not, is not afraid to jump in. That little girl takes up a lot of my time, but the day will come when she'll have other things to do and other people to do them with, so I'll enjoy it while I can.

Myself, I didn't learn to swim until I was 13, and only because I didn't want to look like a dork to any of the girls at the public pool. You can't put a move on somebody when you're drowning. My mother, bless her heart,

was deathly afraid of water. If I so much as stepped into a puddle, she'd yell, "Get out of the water! You'll DROWN!" If we

MATH  
continued on page 6

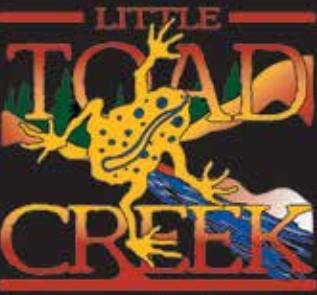
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FOOD  
continued from page 6

No matter where you sit, you can see cars slowly passing by and people chatting up the latest gossip in the parking lot. No one is in a hurry and everyone seems to be enjoying life just the way it is.

Almost everyone eating is a regular. You know it to be true because the waitress walks up and says, “hello honey” or “coffee with cream, sweatie?” even though they know the customers’ real names.

The tables usually have those old-fashioned salt and pepper shakers, sometimes with the little holes at the top of the shakers in the shape of an S or a P, and the sound of the local radio playing country or light rock tunes is heard somewhere in the distance. No one sees the radio but everyone can kind of hear it.

When it’s time to order, you feel like you have no other option but to order the “world famous” item. You see it listed on the menu in bold letters and the back page has the story on how that one menu item happened to become world famous.

Sometimes, it’s a world-famous hot dog and other times, it’s the world famous macaroni and cheese. In a truly Ameri-

can, red-white-and-blue kind of place, you’ll also come across a world-famous dessert. It might be apple pie or maybe peach cobbler. Either way, the world famous dessert is always more believable than the world famous main dish item.

As you enjoy your meal, you start to think that you are on a movie set or living out a chapter from your favorite book. The people sitting at each table feel like familiar characters. The food is somehow the best you’ve ever tasted. The song playing in the background is the perfect song for the moment.

I like those hole-in-the-wall places. They remind me that good people are out there, making a humble living and enjoying it. They have a sense of humor and they are courageous enough to sell something they believe is world famous.

One bite of it, and you believe it too.

*Abe Villarreal writes about the people, culture, and traditions of America. He can be reached at [abevillarreal@hotmail.com](mailto:abevillarreal@hotmail.com).*



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1/2 C Chicken Stock  
1Tbsp Lemon Juice  
Parsley, chopped for finishing

1. Generously season the chicken with dipper and salt.
2. Heat olive oil in skillet over medium-high heat. Cook chicken, turning to brown on all sides. About 10 minutes.
3. Deglaze pan with white wine. Add chicken stock and lemon juice.
4. Reduce heat to medium-low. Cover and cook for 20-25 minutes, rearranging drumsticks every 5-10 minutes. Sprinkle with parsley and serve hot.

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# Arts Scene

## Upcoming area art happenings

SILVER CITY



“Endless” series  
by Allie Wilkinson

• At the Western New Mexico University McCray Gallery the Milner Women in the Arts exhibit features the work of Allie Wilkinson who works with liquid ink and water. The exhibit opens on at 6:30 p.m., Sept. 9 with a lecture at Parotti Hall and reception at the gallery at 7:30 p.m. Info: 575-538-6273.

• Light Art Space has two exhibitions starting in September. “Visions of Nature: Contemporary Views in Alternative Photographic Techniques” reflects the isolation and uncertainty of the times. The work of 46 artists from across the world are on display.



“Visions of Nature”  
by Forrest Zerbe

Running through Oct. 2. “Two Artists: Two Views,” offers the photographic works by Diana Bloomfield and Karen Hymer. North Carolina artist, Bloomfield, and Silver City artist Hymer present recent work utilizing various photographic processes including gum dichromate, platinum, lumen and phytograms. The gallery, at 209 W. Broadway in Silver City is open 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday to Saturday and by appointment. Info: www.lightartspace.com.

• The Grant County Art Guild, located at 316 N. Bullard Street, Silver City, features three artists in September: glass artist



Pottery by Wendy Shaul



“Merlin stained glass”  
by Dawn Gray

Dawn Grey, painter Thia Utz and clay artist Wendy Shaul. Each featured artist has a display in one of the large gallery windows, and an additional display in the gallery. GCAG gallery hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday-Monday, and 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday. Info: www.gcag.org.

• The Grant County Art Guild Annex, is at 106 E. Market St., Silver City, directly behind the GCAG Gallery on Bullard, and just across the footbridge from the Visitor Center parking lot on Hudson. Sept. 4-19 the Annex features the Creatures of the Gila Art Show in conjunction with the Gila River Festival. For more information, or to ask about renting the Annex, email annex@gcag.org or see website at gcag.org/annex.

• 103 Kelly West, at the heart of downtown Silver City, is a transformational arts space where guests can expect the unexpected: custom etched-glass

memorials, drawings, paintings, prints, local-history documentaries, drawing boot-camps, art-critiques and so much more.

103 Kelly West is open 11a.m.-3 p.m. Wednesday to Saturday and anytime by prior arrangement. Info: 575-956-6940.

CLOUDCROFT

• The Cloudcroft Art Society's annual Labor Day show and sale features art by the society's local artists as framed and matted paintings in many art mediums, photography and digital photo art, greeting cards, jewelry, pottery, glass art, fiber dolls, wood and gourd carvings and more. The artists will be on hand for a meet and greet opportunity. Times and dates are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday to Sunday, Sept. 3-5. It's at the east end of Burro Street where it intersects with Swallow Place in the old Red Brick School House that also houses the Nivison Library. Info: sznana@totacc.com.

MAGDALENA

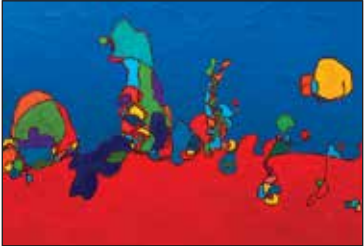


“Monstra” by Sarah Fox

• Three artists have been invited to each make four 11” X 11” drawings based on a string of words, Straw Camel Eye – not a theme, or even a prompt, more of a tumble. Sarah Fox (San Antonio, Texas), Jack Massing (Houston, Texas) and James Surls (Carbondale, Colorado)


have the results of this tumble on display at Kind of a Small Array Gallery, 106 N. Main, Magdalena. An opening reception is 6-8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 4, and the exhibit runs through Saturday, Oct. 3. Info: 210-473-9062.

LAS CRUCES



“Blue and Red Floater”  
by Dennis Lujan

• The Tombaugh Gallery presents the art work of Dennis Lujan, beginning with an opening reception on Sunday, Sept.12, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Lujan is the first artist exhibiting at the gallery in person since the beginning of the pandemic. The exhibit will feature abstract paintings based on the floaters he has in his eyes. This is a multi-media experiment with an interpersonal context, showing how the floaters can be transformed into brightly colored fantasy landscapes and interstellar worlds that are yet to be discovered. The exhibit includes Electric Engines, using found objects. These often have a unique name describing what they are and what they represent. Each one contains circuit boards and copper, as the energy for the sculpture. The exhibit continues through Oct. 8. The Tombaugh Gallery is at 2000 S. Solano and is part of the Unitarian Universalist Church. Masks are required. The gallery is open Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. These times might change due to Covid-19.



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—Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

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MILNER WOMEN IN THE ARTS



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“Santa Fe Reflections”  
by Paul Maxwell



“Bouquet with pomegranate”  
by Jean Wilkey

• **Agave Artist Gallery**, 2250 Calle De San Albino in Mesilla, features **Paul Maxwell’s** artwork during September as artist of the month. While Maxwell has been painting most of his life, he became a full-time artist in 2012. He traveled extensively in Europe and parts of Asia, studying for several months at the Accademia de Arte in Florence, Italy. Also at Agave, new member **Jean Wilkey** joins in. Wilkey holds a master’s degree in painting and teaches painting classes. The worlds she paints blur the lines between still life and landscape. Gallery hours are 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday-Sunday. To register for a **Paint-Along**, call 575-339-9870. Info: [agaveartists@gmail.com](mailto:agaveartists@gmail.com).

• **The Artists of Picacho Hills** display their artwork in the **Doña Ana Arts Council** main gallery during September 2021. The group was founded in 2008 by artists living in the Picacho



“Desert Bird of Paradise”  
by Becki Thomas



“Pears in Green”  
by Karen Conley



“Peonies” by Barbara Bush

Hills Community with a shared interest in promoting the arts. Its mission is to provide members support and networking opportunities in the local community. The artisans in the group work in many different mediums to include painting, sculpture, jew-

elry, photography, woodworking, textile, quilting and multimedia. The group conducts Art in the Garden, an annual event, every May showcasing artwork and landscaping in the western corner of Las Cruces. The organization also puts together a fall show titled Holly Day House that raises money for charity. Among their members exhibiting work in September are some well-known regional artists as well as several newcomers. The **Doña Ana Arts & Cultural Center** is at 250 W. Amador St. in Las Cruces and is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekdays, and second Saturday of each month. Info: [www.daarts.org](http://www.daarts.org) or 575-523-6403.

• The **Mesilla Valley Fine Arts Gallery**, 2470-A Calle de Guadalupe, across from the historic Fountain Theatre features two local artists for the month of September: Yvonne Postelle and Roberta Leavell Widner. Postelle retired from the business world and revisited her passion for the love of oil painting. Widner is an oil painter who prefers to express her talent in subject matters from abroad, mainly France and Italy, where she has taken extended workshops, rendering her art in the Old Master’s style. **First American Bank in Mesilla**, is well represented by gallery members who rotate the galleries artists’ work monthly. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily with limited access. Info: 575-522-2933, [www.mesilavalleyfinearts.com](http://www.mesilavalleyfinearts.com).

• **The Las Cruces Museum of Art**, 491 N. Main St., celebrates “**From The Ground Up XXX**,” a biannual juried exhibition co-hosted by the Potters’ Guild of Las Cruces which features a variety of ceramic and

pottery works created by regional artists. The exhibit is on display through Saturday, Oct. 9. The juror this year is Joshua R. Clark, assistant professor of ceramics at New Mexico State University, who has exhibited across the United States and internationally. This year’s exhibit features 56 works of art. The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday to Friday, and from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday. Info: [www.las-cruces.org/museums](http://www.las-cruces.org/museums).



“From the Ground Up XXX”  
exhibit at the Las Cruces  
Museum of Art



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ON STAGE

# Pickamania

Three days of live acoustic music

Lovers of acoustic music of all genres will be able to get an earful during the three-day Pickamania 2021 event in Kingston, New Mexico, on Sept. 10-12.

Pickamania has evolved from its origins as a backyard party hosted in a garlic shed into an annual three-day festival.

Now a project of the Sierra County Arts Council, Pickamania 2021 will feature a talented line-up of musicians performing at the outdoor pavilion at the Black Range Lodge in Kingston. This outdoor event offers a Covid-safe environment for music and socializing.

The festival will be from 5 to 8 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 10, 4 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 11 and noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 12. The cost is \$15 for Friday, \$30 for Saturday and \$15 for Sunday. A three-day pass is \$50.

Tickets will be available at the gate. Admission also includes a ticket for a fresh grilled cheese-



A “super jam” of musicians highlights the upcoming Pickamania event in Kingston, NM, on the weekend of Sept. 11. (Courtesy photo)

burger (vegetarian options, too), iced tea or lemonade.

Seating at the Black Range Lodge outdoor pavilion includes chairs on the grass, with scattered benches under shade trees. You can bring your own picnic basket, camp chair and/or pop-up canopy. Kingston is generally 10 degrees cooler than Rio Grande Valley communities. Parking is free. Black Range Vineyards will be on hand to sell beer and win.

Friday will feature rock and

roll originals from Truth or Consequences recording artist and engineer Rob Stroup, followed by the acoustic blues offerings from the Back Porch Blues Band, featuring Pat Dutton, Bill Bussmann and Mark Kashmar.

Saturday will get started with the Creosote Ramblers from T or C, led by Blanch Almquist, who will entertain with an acoustic blend of folk, country and clas-

MUSIC

continued on page 10

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Sunday, October 10th, 10-3



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ON STAGE

# Bob Dylan Tribute

## Folk icon honored in concert

Bob Dylan fans will get two opportunities to listen to and delve into the folk and rock icon's music.

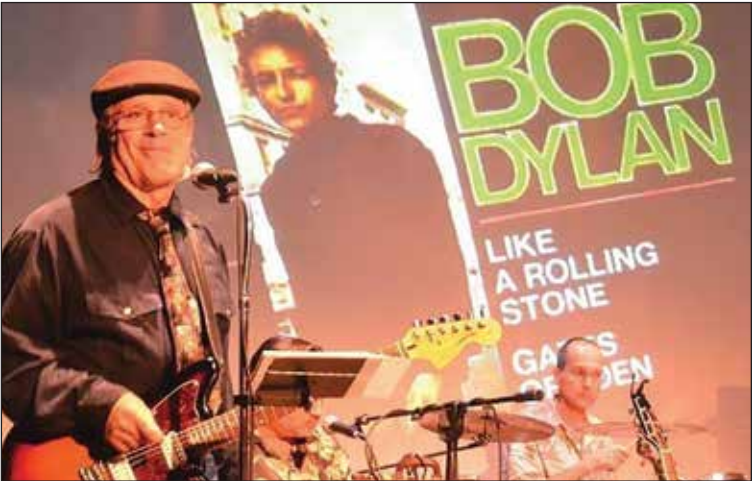
The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Silver City and Joe Neri Music Productions will be hosting two Dylan tribute concerts in September.

The shows will be at 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 11, and at 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 12 at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship hall at 3845 N. Swan St. in Silver City.

The shows will be different with different sets of musicians and songs.

Admission is \$10 at the door. There are no advance reservations. Proceeds will benefit the local social justice activities of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. General seating will be available indoors in the hall and outdoors on the patio. Free parking is available on site or next door at the PNM building.

Featured local musicians include: Eric and Sue Patterson;



Joe Neri plays Bob Dylan music for tribute concert set for Sept. 11 and 12 at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Silver City. (Courtesy photo)

Lonesome Richard; Gypsy Feet (Greg Renfro, Charlie Alfero, Jeff Ray); Bayou Seco (Ken Keppeler, Jeanie McLerie); Ray Cressler; Bruce McKinney; Jon-Ro Crow; Amos Torres; Silver City Slickers (Barbara Gabioud, Ron Gabioud, Alan Ragins); Mystery Tramps (Dave Zaborac, Ted Whittemore); and Joe Neri.

"I've been a Bob Dylan fan since 1962," said Neri, a local musician and concert producer. "These will be my 16th and 17th tribute concerts. They are always different and always enormous fun, for both the audiences and the musicians."

Masks are strongly encouraged.

### MUSIC

continued from page 9

sic rock with guitars, fiddle, upright bass and harmonica.

Santa Fe's The Fast Peso String Band will follow, with old-time Appalachian roots of country music. The Fast Peso String Band features Gary Ashkin and Jim Hughes on fiddles, John Eddy on mandolin, Bo Olcott on guitar and Tom Adler on banjo.

Then, national flat-picking guitar champion and singer-songwriter Peter McLaughlin and his multi-instrumentalist collaborator Chris Brashear will offer an original blend of acoustic blues music shaped by the landscape and legends of the West.

The evening culminates with Wil Maring and Robert Bowlin joining McLaughlin and Brashear

for a "super jam" of musical professionals.

On Sunday, Socorro, New Mexico, native Francis Deters will lead off with Americana classics, followed by Truth or Consequences Pint and Half (Tammy and Duke Shepard) offering up Americana and original songs.

Singer/songwriter Wil Maring and multi-instrumentalist Robert Bowlin will wrap things up with a mix of folk, country and bluegrass. Maring has performed at the Grand Ole Opry and National Public Radio's "Whad'ya Know" program.


Bowlin is a national finger-picking and flatpicking guitar champion, and has played on-stage with artists such as B.B. King, Ricky Scaggs, Peter Rowan, and Vassar Clements. He's

been a session guitarist and fiddler in Nashville for countless recordings.

An added attraction on Sunday will be unique booths of art and crafts from the Truth or Consequences "Makers Market".

Attendees are encouraged to follow Covid-safe practices, masking and social distancing. Chairs and tables will be situated at a 6-foot distance and the event will be limited to 150 people.

This event is sponsored by the Sierra County Arts Council, and supported by a grant from New Mexico Arts, a division of the Department of Cultural Affairs, and by the National Endowment for the Arts. For more information call the Black Range Lodge at 575-895-5652, or visit www.blackrangelodge.com.



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# Celebrate Authors

## Las Cruces event features 40 area writers

Celebrate Authors 2021, sponsored by Moonbow Alterations and Moonbow's Book Nook will be held 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 19, at the Thomas Branigan Memorial Library in the boardroom and Roadrunner Room on the second floor of the library, 200 E. Picacho Ave.

The event is free and open to

the public. Celebrate Authors 2021 will feature authors from Las Cruces and surrounding area with books published in 2019, 2020 and 2021. This year's authors include Las Cruces artist, actor, composer and playwright Bob Diven, who wrote "Living in Las Cruces," a softbound, 12-by-9-inch book of

more than 300 editorial cartoons along with commentary from his editors at The Las Cruces Sun-News; and "Desert Exposure" editor and Las Cruces Bulletin writer Elva K. Österreich. She is the editor of "the biggest little paper in the Southwest," Desert Exposure, and writes for the Las Cruces Bulletin as well. Her first book "The Manhattan Proj-

ect Trinity Test: Witnessing the Bomb in New Mexico," came out in November 2020. The event began in 2014 and has been held every year since then except in 2020, when it was cancelled due to the pandemic. New for the 2021 event, Celebrate Authors will also honor local writers who have died with a memorial board at the Sept. 19

event. To provide names of deceased authors to be honored, contact Alice Davenport at [adavenport@totacc.com](mailto:adavenport@totacc.com). For more information, contact Joy Miller at [joyemmamiller@gmail.com](mailto:joyemmamiller@gmail.com) and Alice Davenport at 575-527-1411 and [adavenport@totacc.com](mailto:adavenport@totacc.com), or visit her at Moonbow's Book Nook, 225 E. Idaho Ave., No. 32.



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CONSERVATION CELEBRATION

# Explore the Gila

## Four-day festival highlights river

After more than a year of pandemic restrictions, the Gila Conservation Coalition and other groups invite the world to reconnect with the Gila River watershed through field trips, workshops and presentations.

To accomplish that, online registration is now available for the 17th annual Gila River Festival with its theme of reconnecting with the river. The festival will be held Sept. 16-19 in Silver City, the Gila National Forest and along the Gila River.

Flocks can visit [gilariverfestival.org](http://gilariverfestival.org) to check out the full schedule and register for more than 20 field trips and workshops and free online presentations and panel discussions.

In-person, expert-led field trips will explore the Gila's natural and cultural history, geology, birds and archaeology. Covid-safe practices will be followed.

Hands-on workshops explore journaling, photography, composting, and other topics showing the connection to the Gila River watershed. Registration is required for all parts of the festival.

Author, philosopher and environmental advocate Kathleen Dean Moore will give the Sonnie Sussillo Memorial Gila River Festival Keynote Address that honors the dedicated Gila River Festival volunteer Sonnie Sussillo who died in March 2021 while hiking in the Gila that she loved so much. Dean Moore will talk about "The Work of Loving the World." The online presentation will take place at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 17 on Zoom.

University of Delaware entomologist and New York Times best-selling author Doug Tallamy will talk about "Nature's Best Hope" and the grassroots call to action to regenerate biodiversity. The free online presentation will be at 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 19 on Zoom.

This year's festival also features several exciting arts and entertainment events. In partnership with Western New Mexico University Cultural Affairs, the Gila River Festival kicks off with a free concert with Ivory Coast's multi-talented, singer/songwriter Fely Tchaco at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 16 at The Gardens at Light Hall on the WNMU campus.

The Borderlands Ballet, a pre-professional dance company located in Las Cruces, will perform on the banks of the Gila River as part of the Gathering at the River event from 10 a.m. to noon on Sunday, Sept. 19, at the Mogollon Box Day Use Area.

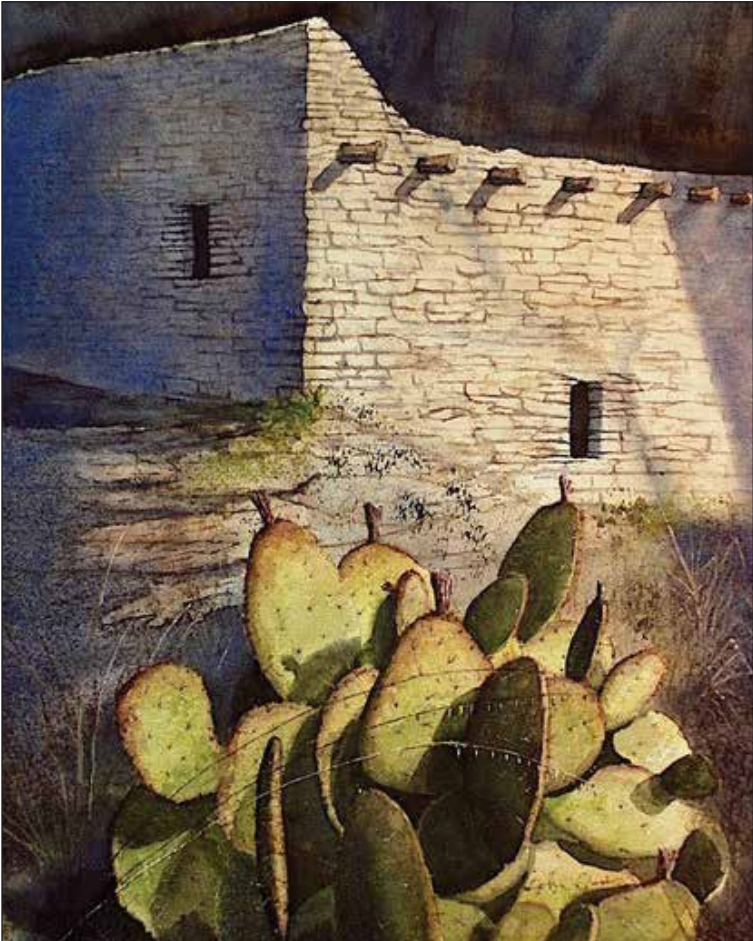
The Grant County Art Guild hosts the Creatures of the Gila Art Show throughout the four days of the festival from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Grant County Art Guild Annex, 106 E. Market. These events are free and no registration is required.

For online registration, visit [gilariverfestival.org](http://gilariverfestival.org). To volunteer, visit [gilariverfestival.org/volunteer](http://gilariverfestival.org/volunteer).

Established in 2005, the Gila River Festival is an annual event that celebrates New Mexico's last free-flowing river and its important role as the centerpiece in the region's natural and cultural heritage. The festival provides a diversity of opportunities for participants to experience and learn about the natural and cultural history of the area through the arts, humanities and natural sciences.



Borderlands Ballet dancers Lana Pillsbury and John Pohl visit the Gila Middle Fork and will be performing during the Gila River Festival. Desert Exposure put out a call for artists to submit Gila National Forest and river photos and on this page is a sample of the wonderful response we received. (Photo by Marc Moffett)



"Under the Cliff" By John Glass



"Desert Waters" by Gay Marks



"Ranger on the Middle Fork" by Ruth Hamby



"Luna" by Miriam Hill.



"Upper Frisco Box" by Nathan Newcomer.



"Fishing the River" by Arlene Tugel.



GILA TRAILS • MELISSA GREEN

# Keeping Trails Open for All

## Back County Horsemen celebrate 20 years

Exciting things have been happening in the Gila in 2021. There was a healthy burn through much of the Gila Wilderness, the Johnson Fire, which will hopefully help prevent future catastrophic fires. Improvements to our expansive trail system is another major improvement. Some trails, in disrepair for years and decades, have been reopened by Gila Back Country Horsemen (Gila BCH) and partners. Over 85 miles of significantly damage trail in the Gila have been upgraded by these groups so far in 2021. And many more miles of trail work are planned for the rest of the year.

### 20th Anniversary

2021 also celebrates the 20th anniversary of the Gila Chapter of Back Country Horsemen. The Gila Chapter is part of the larger Back Country Horsemen of America organization which has chapters in 32 states. The mission of BCH is to perpetuate the commonsense use and enjoyment of horses in back country and wilderness areas and ensure public lands remain open to recreational use. One way we do that is to assist public land agencies in the maintenance of trails. Our goal is to not only keep trails open for horse users, but “To keep trails open for all.”

Gila BCH has been doing trail work in the Gila National Forest for over 18 years and has maintained over 1,200 miles of trail. Part of the way we are celebrating our anniversary is to greatly expand our trail maintenance activities by partnering with other users and recruiting horse and other trail user volunteers to help in our trail maintenance efforts. We feel that expanding trail maintenance efforts is a good way to kick off our next 20 years of service to public lands and public land users.

### Trail Improvements

Below is a sample list of some newly mended trails to explore. Note that trail conditions can change at any moment so travel at your own risk.

For more complete list of trail work improvements – including photos and maps of each trail project or for more information about volunteering - check out [www.gilabch.org](http://www.gilabch.org)

• **Middle Fork Trail No. 157 near Snow Lake between Clayton Mesa Trail No. 175 and Flying V Trail No. 706.** This section of the Middle Fork Trail alternates between impressive cliffs with caves and open grassland/ponderosa river bottom. It is easily accessed from the north side of the Gila Wilderness via the Aeroplane Mesa Trail No. 705 and Loco Mountain



Middle Fork Trail being cleared. (Photo by Melissa Green)

Trail No. 143 near Snow Lake. Note that the Loco Mountain trail is incorrectly mapped on some maps. Check out the Gila Trails Cleared map - [www.gila-trailsinfo.org/trails-cleared-map](http://www.gila-trailsinfo.org/trails-cleared-map) - to ensure you have the right trail location.

• **Holt Apache Trail No. 181 from the Sheridan Corral Trailhead to Camp Saddle.**

This trail offers great expansive view to the south, east and west. Many of the trees from the 2012 fire have fallen, creating even more of a view. The climb up towards Holt Mountain is very steep in places but it takes you to the great views quickly. The section in the creek is likely quite brushy, like all creek bottoms this time of year.

• **First 5 miles of the Mimbres River Trail No. 77.** This creek hike offers beautiful view of cliffs and ponderosa/mix conifer creek bottom. It is minimally affected by the fire, so it is lush and forested. You will know where we stopped since there is a log pile from the Silver Fire in 2013 in the trail. As mentioned with the Middle Fork Trail, be aware of potential floods during certain seasons.

• **Two Trails that lead to the Gila River - Spring Canyon Trail No. 247 and the Sheep Coral Trail No. 231.** These two trails are the quickest way to get to the middle section of the Gila River Trail and the Granny Mountain trail No. 160 from the south.

Stay tuned for more Gila Trail bi-monthly tips and updates in future Desert Exposures. We have some trail projects/improvements coming up that we are excited to share with you in future articles.

Thanks to the Gila National Forest, National Forest Foundation, Great American Outdoors Act, National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance, Upper Gila Watershed Alliance (UGWA) and all our trail partners for helping fund and open more trails.

Join us on a trail project – all trail users welcome! There are many more miles that need attention. No trail experience necessary. <https://www.gilabch.org/get-involved>

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# What's going on in September?

**Las Cruces Civic Concert Association**



Thomas Mesa - Cello  
Ilya Yakushev - Piano

Powerhouse Duo with an International Flair

**Tuesday, September 21, at 7:30 PM**  
**First Presbyterian Church**  
**200 E. Boutz Road**

Tickets \$25.00 - Children up to age 17 free

Information: (575) 932-9365  
www.lascrucescca.org  
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Desert Exposure would like to include your special events, from any southern New Mexico community, in our listing. Please submit your event title, time, location and contact information to editor@desertexposure.com; Desert Exposure 1740-A Calle de Mercado, Las Cruces, NM 88005; or call Elva at 575-680-1978.

**WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 1**  
**Virtual Southern New Mexico**  
**"Culture of Empowerment: Community Roundtable: Dreamers"** — 5:30 p.m. Hear from dreamers and advocates about the history policies of the Dream Act, experiences of dreamers and the current situation for dreamers in New Mexico. A Branigan Cultural Center activity. Tune in: rebrand.ly/NMDreamers.

**Truth or Consequences/**  
**Sierra County**  
**Sierra County Twirlers** — 1:30-3:30 p.m. (beginners come at 1) at the New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St. in T or C. Live music, toe-tapping mainstream dancing and refreshments. Info: 575-313-9971 or 505-804-3842.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**Farmers and Crafts Market** — 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Plaza of Las Cruces and along Main Street. Info: 575-805-6055.

**FRIDAY, SEPT. 3**  
**Silver City/Grant County**  
**Silver City Farmer's Market** — 8 a.m.-noon at the corner of Pope Street and College Avenue, Silver City. Info: silvercityfarmersmarket@gmail.com.  
**Red Dot Studio Tour Opening Party** — 5-7 p.m. Aldea Gallery, 107 W. Yankee, Silver City. Examples of art to be seen on the Tour. Refreshments. Jazz by Barry Namm. Info: vcartcat@hotmail.com.

**Alamogordo/Otero County**  
**Alamogordo Otero County Farmers Market** — 9:30 a.m. at the Tractor Supply Co. parking lot, 2900 N.

White Sands Blvd. in Alamogordo. Info: 575-430-2081.

**SATURDAY, SEPT. 4**  
**Silver City/Grant County**  
**Silver City Farmer's Market** — 9 a.m.-noon at the corner of Pope Street and College Avenue, Silver City. Info: silvercityfarmersmarket@gmail.com.  
**Silver City Maker's Market** — 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Main Street Plaza, downtown Silver City. Info: www.thefutureforge.org/makers-market.  
**Red Dot Studio Tour** — 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Follow Red Dot directional signs to begin at any studio. Brochure of artists and maps available at all studios, Silver City Visitor Center, and Aldea Gallery. Fifteen studios on the Tour. Info: vcartcat@hotmail.com.  
**A Taste of Downtown** — 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Walk around downtown Silver City and get delicious tastes from 12 eateries. Cost: \$20. Info: www.silvercitymainstreet.com.

**Alamogordo/Otero County**  
**Alamogordo Otero County Farmers Market** — 9:30 a.m. at the Tractor Supply Co. parking lot, 2900 N. White Sands Blvd. in Alamogordo. Info: 575-430-2081.  
**Flickinger Center Summer Street Concert Series** — 8-10 p.m., gates open at 7 p.m., 1110 N. New York Ave. Calista Band plays indie music. Food, drinks and ice cream available and Spirit's Club is open. Cost: \$7. Info: 575-437-2202.

**Truth or Consequences/**  
**Sierra County**  
**Sierra County Farmer's Market** — 8:30 a.m.-noon at Ralph Edwards Park, corner of Riverside and Cedar in T or C. Info: colleen@sierracountyfarmersmarket.org.  
**Old Time Fiddlers Dance** — 7-9 p.m. at the New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St. in T or C. Live music, toe-tapping and refreshments. Info: 575-744-9137.

**Las Cruces/Doña Ana County**  
**Farmers and Crafts Market** — 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Plaza of Las

Cruces and along Main Street. Info: 575-805-6055.

**Hatch Chile Festival** — All day starting at 9 a.m. in the town of Hatch celebrating the annual chile harvest from the Hatch Valley Fields. Includes a parade, carnival and entertainment. Info: hatchchilefestival.org.

**SUNDAY, SEPT. 5**  
**Silver City/Grant County**  
**Signal Peak Challenge 2021** — 9 a.m. 154 Signal Peak Road, Silver city. A challenging cross-country mountain bike race in the Gila forest/ Continental Divide area. Info: www.signalpeakchallenge.com.  
**Red Dot Studio Tour** — 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Follow Red Dot directional signs to begin at any studio. Brochure of artists and maps available at all studios, Silver City Visitor Center, and Aldea Gallery. Fifteen studios on the Tour. Info: vcartcat@hotmail.com.

**Las Cruces/Doña Ana County**  
**Sunday Night Music in the Park** — 7 p.m. at Young Park, 1905 E. Nevada Ave. David and Company and Joshua Lucero. Info: 575-541-2550.  
**Hatch Chile Festival** — All day starting at noon in the town of Hatch celebrating the annual chile harvest from the Hatch Valley Fields. Includes a parade, carnival and entertainment. Info: hatchchilefestival.org.

**TUESDAY, SEPT. 7**  
**Silver City/Grant County**  
**Rotary speaker: Scott Manis, Interim CEO Gila Regional Medical Center** — noon-1 p.m. in the Sunset Room of the Western New Mexico University Student Cafeteria. Guests are welcome, lunch is \$10. Thomas is president of the Silver City Regional Association of Realtors. Info: 915-480-4347 or 575-388-2004.

**WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 8**  
**Truth or Consequences/**  
**Sierra County**  
**Sierra County Twirlers** — 1:30-3:30 p.m. (beginners come at 1) at the

**Native Plant Sale**  
Fall is a great time to plant

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10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
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New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St. in T or C. Live music, toe-tapping mainstream dancing and refreshments. Info: 575-313-9971 or 505-804-3842.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**Farmers and Crafts Market** — 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Plaza of Las Cruces and along Main Street. Info: 575-805-6055.

**THURSDAY, SEPT. 9**  
**Virtual Southern New Mexico History notes: “Women Survivors of the Battle of Columbus”** — 1-2 p.m. Join Patricia Kiddney to learn about the survivors of Pancho Villa’s raid on Columbus using firsthand accounts of Maud Wright, Susan Parks and Sara Hoover. Tune in: rebrand.ly/WomenofColumbus. Info: 575-541-2215.  
**“What’s the Word: Arabic – A trip to Qatar”** — 5:30-6:30 p.m. Learn language through culture. Presented by the Branigan Cultural Center. Register to attend by emailing education@las-cruces.org. Info: 575-541-2215.

**Silver City/Grant County**  
**Allie Wilkinson featured in Milner Women in the Arts program** — 6:30 p.m. lecture, 7:30 p.m. art exhibit opening. Western New Mexico University Parotti Hall and McCray Gallery. Info: 575-538-6273.

**Alamogordo/Otero County**  
**Flowering Desert Garden Club meeting** — 6 p.m. meeting location varies. Info: floweringdesertgardenclub@gmail.com.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**\*Thursday Night Music on the Plaza** — 8 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces, 100 N. Main St. in Las Cruces. Cadillac Kings & Fast Lanes and the Starliners. Info: 575-541-2550.

**FRIDAY, SEPT. 10**  
**Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County**  
**Pickamania 2021: Outdoor Acoustic Music Festival** — 5-8 p.m. at the Black Range Lodge, 50 Main St. in Kingston, N.M. Info: www.blackrange lodge.com.

**Alamogordo/Otero County**  
**2021 White Sands Balloon and Music Festival** — 5 p.m. gates open, Ed Brabson Balloon Park. Music with the Cottonwood Crows (7 p.m.) and Kolby Cooper (8:30 p.m.). Info: www.alamogordo.com.

**SATURDAY, SEPT. 11**  
**Silver City/Grant County**  
**Silver City Farmer’s Market** — 9 a.m.-noon at the corner of Pope Street and College Avenue, Silver City. Info: silvercityfarmersmarket@gmail.com.  
**Silver City Maker’s Market** — 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Main Street Plaza, downtown Silver City. Info: www.thefutureforge.org/makers-market.



The Silver City Festival Orchestra offers a symphonic tribute to the music of Paul McCartney on Sept. 11. (Courtesy Photo)

**Dylan tribute concert** — 7 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Hall, 3845 N. Swan St. in Silver City. Proceeds benefit local social justice activities of the fellowship. Cost: \$10. Info: sandrami-chaud1981@gmail.com.  
**Silver City Festival Orchestra: A symphonic tribute to the music of Paul McCartney** — 7:30 p.m. at the Western New Mexico University Fine Arts Center Theatre. Features Tony Kishman and conductor Lonnie Klein. Cost: \$20. Info: 575-538-6273.

**Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County**  
**Pickamania 2021: Outdoor Acoustic Music Festival** — 4-9 p.m. at the Black Range Lodge, 50 Main St. in Kingston, N.M. Info: www.blackrange lodge.com.

**Deming/Luna County**  
**Mainstreet Market** — 8-11 a.m. in the Luna County Courthouse Park. Crafts and baked goods, free vendor space. Info: 575-546-2674.  
9/11 Memorial Parade — 5 p.m. in Deming. Info: 575-546-2674.

**Alamogordo/Otero County**  
**Alamogordo Otero County Farmers Market** — 9:30 a.m. at the Tractor Supply Co. parking lot, 2900 N. White Sands Blvd. in Alamogordo. Info: 575-430-2081.

**Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County**  
**Sierra County Farmer’s Market** — 8:30 a.m.-noon at Ralph Edwards Park, corner of Riverside and Cedar in T or C. Info: colleen@sierracountyfarmersmarket.org.  
**Art Hop** — 5 p.m. in downtown T or C. Visit downtown galleries, opening receptions and get a chance to socialize with the artists. Info: 575-744-4708.  
**Old Time Fiddlers Dance** — 7-9 p.m. at the New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St. in T or C. Live music, toe-tapping and refreshments. Info: 575-744-9137.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**Farmers and Crafts Market** — 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Plaza of Las Cruces and along Main Street. Info: 575-805-6055.



Sept. 9 Learn language through culture. Presented by the Branigan Cultural Center. (Courtesy Photo)

**Car Show honoring 9-11 victims** — 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Borman Autoplex, 470 W. Boutz Road. Open to all vehicles with entry fee of \$25, free to the public to attend. There will be live music, drawings, vendors and food. Info: 575-444-6445.

**SUNDAY, SEPT. 12**  
**Silver City/Grant County**  
**Dylan tribute concert** — 2 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Hall, 3845 N. Swan St. in Silver City. Proceeds benefit local social justice activities of the fellowship. Cost: \$10. Info: sandrami-chaud1981@gmail.com.

**Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County**  
**Pickamania 2021: Outdoor Acoustic Music Festival** — noon-4 p.m. at the Black Range Lodge, 50 Main St. in Kingston, N.M. Info: www.blackrange lodge.com or 575-895-5652.

**MONDAY, SEPT. 13**  
**Silver City/Grant County**  
**Widowed and Single Persons of Grant County: What’s Happening Here and Now** — 10:30 a.m. at Cross Point Church, 11500 U.S. Highway 180 E. The speaker is Steven Chavira, executive director of the Silver City Grant Count Chamber of Commerce who will talk about improving community businesses. Lunch: \$12. Info: 575-537-3643.

**TUESDAY, SEPT. 14**  
**Silver City/Grant County**  
**Rotary speaker: Dan Otero, CEO of Hidalgo Medical Services** — noon-1 p.m. in the Sunset Room of the Western New Mexico University Student Cafeteria. Guests are welcome, lunch is \$10. Marshall is Silver City Fire Department deputy chief of Fire Prevention. Info: 915-480-4347 or 575-388-2004.

**WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 15**  
**Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County**  
**Sierra County Twirlers** — 1:30-3:30 p.m. (beginners come at 1) at the New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St. in T or C. Live music, toe-tapping mainstream dancing and refreshments. Info: 575-313-9971 or 505-804-3842.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**Farmers and Crafts Market** — 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Plaza of Las Cruces and along Main Street. Info: 575-805-6055.

**THURSDAY, SEPT. 16**  
**Silver City/Grant County**  
**17th Annual Gila River Festival: “Creatures of the Gila” art show** — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., all four days, hosted by the Grant County Art Guild (106 E Market St). Celebrate the birds, mammals, reptiles, and insects

whose habitat is the Gila River watershed. At 6:30 p.m., The Gardens at Light Hall features a free outdoor concert by Fely Tchaco, hosted by WNMU Cultural Affairs. See the full schedule and register for field trips and workshops at www.gilariverfestival.org.  
**Felo Tchaco: Singer from the Ivory Coast** — 6:30-8:30 p.m. at WNMU’s Light Hall. Cost: \$15. Info: 575-538-6273.

**Alamogordo/Otero County**  
**An Evening with Michael Martin Murphey in concert** — 7 p.m., at the Flickinger Center for Performing Arts, 1110 N. New York Ave. Texas

country and Americana music. Cost: \$30. Info: 575-437-2202.

**FRIDAY, SEPT. 17**  
**Silver City/Grant County**  
**17th Annual Gila River Festival** — 6:30 p.m. Philosopher and award-winning author Kathleen Dean Moore is this year’s keynote speaker. A philosopher, author and environmental activist, Moore’s forthcoming book is “Take Heart: Encouragement for Earth’s Weary Lovers.” Free via Zoom. Info: www.gilariverfestival.org.

**40 DAYS 40 NIGHTS**  
continued on page 16

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40 DAYS 40 NIGHTS  
continued from page 15

**SATURDAY, SEPT. 18**  
**Silver City/Grant County**  
**17th Annual Gila River Festival** — 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Festival continues with a wide array of in-person field trips

and workshops in Silver City, the Gila National Forest, and along the Gila River. At 6:30 p.m., join online free via Zoom for a panel discussion, “Exploring the Connection Between Identity and Nature,” with Michelle Otero, Michael Casaus, and Sharman Apt Russell. Moder-

ated by Subhankar Banerjee. Info: [www.gilariverfestival.org](http://www.gilariverfestival.org).  
**Lunch and Learn – Uncovering Chihuahuahill** — 11 a.m.-noon. At the Silco Theater, 311 N. Bullard St. and via zoom if wanted. Silver City Museum curator Javier Marrufo gives an overview of the museum’s upcoming oral history project on Chihuahuahill. Info: [will.communityty/#/lunchlearn](mailto:will.communityty/#/lunchlearn).  
**Silver City Farmer’s Market** — 9 a.m.-noon at the corner of Pope Street and College Avenue, Silver City. Info: [silvercityfarmersmarket@gmail.com](mailto:silvercityfarmersmarket@gmail.com).  
**Silver City Maker’s Market** — 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Main Street Plaza, downtown Silver City. Info: [www.thefutureforge.org/makers-market](http://www.thefutureforge.org/makers-market).

**Alamogordo/Otero County**  
**Alamogordo Otero County Farmers Market** — 9:30 a.m. at the Tractor Supply Co. parking lot, 2900 N. White Sands Blvd. in Alamogordo. Info: 575-430-2081.  
**Flickinger Center Summer Street Concert Series** — 8-10 p.m., gates open at 7 p.m., 1110 N. New York Ave. Seven Stone plays classic rock. Food, drinks and ice cream available and Spirit’s Club is open. Cost: \$7. Info: 575-437-2202.

**Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County**  
**Sierra County Farmer’s Market** — 8:30 a.m.-noon at Ralph Edwards Park, corner of Riverside and Cedar in T or C. Info: [colleen@sierracountyfarmersmarket.org](mailto:colleen@sierracountyfarmersmarket.org).  
**Old Time Fiddlers Dance** — 7-9 p.m. at the New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St. in T or C. Live music, toe-tapping and refreshments. Info: 575-744-9137.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**Farmers and Crafts Market** — 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Plaza of Las Cruces and along Main Street. Info: 575-805-6055.

**SUNDAY, SEPT. 19**  
**Silver City/Grant County**  
**17th Annual Gila River Festival** — The festival continues with a wide-array of in-person field trips and workshops in Silver City, the Gila National Forest, and along the Gila River. Join online free via Zoom at 4 p.m. for a presentation by New York Times bestselling author of Nature’s Best Hope, Doug Tallamy. Info: [www.gilariverfestival.org](http://www.gilariverfestival.org).

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**Celebrate Authors** — 2-4 p.m. at the Thomas Branigan Memorial Library, 200 E. Picacho Ave., Las Cruces. An event featuring more than 40 authors from Las Cruces and the surrounding areas who have published new books in the last two years. Info: 575-528-4000.  
**Sunday Night Music in the Park** — 7 p.m. at Young Park, 1905 E. Nevada Ave. Fungi Mungle and the Joseph General Band. Info: 575-541-2550.

**TUESDAY, SEPT. 21**  
**Silver City/Grant County**  
**Rotary speaker: Kelly Rodriguez, chief nursing officer at GRMC** — noon-1 p.m. in the Sunset Room of the Western New Mexico University Student Cafeteria. Guests are welcome, lunch is \$10. Info: 915-480-4347 or 575-388-2004.

**WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 22**  
**Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County**  
**Sierra County Twirlers** — 1:30-3:30 p.m. (beginners come at 1) at the New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St. in T or C. Live music, toe-tapping mainstream dancing and refreshments. Info: 575-313-9971 or 505-804-3842.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**Farmers and Crafts Market** — 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Plaza of Las Cruces and along Main Street. Info: 575-805-6055.

**THURSDAY, SEPT. 23**  
**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**\*Thursday Night Music on the Plaza** — 8 p.m. at Plaza de Las Cruces, 100 N. Main St. in Las Cruces. Info: 575-541-2550.  
**Community Arts Awards ceremony: The Year of the Artist** — 5:30-8 p.m. at The Hood, 3206 Harrelson St.



**Community Arts Awards on Sept. 23. (Courtesy Photo)**  
at the corner of Harrelson and Bell Avenue in Mesilla Park. Refreshments will be provided, RSVPs are necessary. Info: [daarts.org](http://daarts.org).

**FRIDAY, SEPT. 24**  
**Deming/Luna County**  
**Music Night on the Lawn** — 6-9 p.m. at Lescombes Winery, 7075 Highway 549 SE in Deming. Wine, food, craft beer and live music with Bandoleer Live. Info: 575-546-1179.

**Alamogordo/Otero County**  
**Fourth Friday at the Zoo** — 6-10 p.m. at the Alameda Park Zoo, 1021 N. White Sands Blvd. Live music, food and craft vendors, family activities and more. Info: [jsides@ci.alamogordo.nm.us](mailto:jsides@ci.alamogordo.nm.us).

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**“Laughing Wild”** — 8 p.m. at the Black Box Theatre, 430 Main St. in Las Cruces. A funny study of the perils of modern life in urban America. Consists of two monologues plus a playlet bringing the two together. Info: 575-523-1223.

**SATURDAY, SEPT. 25**  
**Virtual Southern New Mexico**  
**Unpacking Silver: “The Land and The Environment”** — 11 a.m. presented by author and historian, Dr. Stephen Fox. Visit [www.silvercitymuseum.org](http://www.silvercitymuseum.org) to register.

**Silver City/Grant County**  
**Silver City Farmer’s Market** — 9 a.m.-noon at the corner of Pope Street and College Avenue, Silver City. Info: [silvercityfarmersmarket@gmail.com](mailto:silvercityfarmersmarket@gmail.com).  
**Silver City Maker’s Market** — 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Main Street Plaza, downtown Silver City. Info: [www.thefutureforge.org/makers-market](http://www.thefutureforge.org/makers-market).

**Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County**  
**Sierra County Farmer’s Market** — 8:30 a.m.-noon at Ralph Edwards Park, corner of Riverside and Cedar in T or C. Info: [colleen@sierracountyfarmersmarket.org](mailto:colleen@sierracountyfarmersmarket.org).  
**Old Time Fiddlers Dance** — 7-9 p.m. at the New Mexico Old Time fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St. in T or C. Live music, toe-tapping and refreshments. Info: 575-744-9137.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**Farmers Arts and Crafts Market** — 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Plaza of Las Cruces and along Main Street. Info: 575-805-6055.  
**Wings and Wheels Fest** — 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Las Cruces International Airport, 8990 Zia Blvd., Las Cruces. Info: 575-640-0312.  
**Ag Day Street Festival event** — 2-6 p.m. in the Pan American Center south parking lot near Aggie Memorial Stadium. A celebration of the agriculture industry in New Mexico. Info: 575-646-1864.  
**“Laughing Wild”** — 8 p.m. at the

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The Ag Day street Festival at NMSU celebrates agriculture in southern New Mexico on Sept. 25. (Courtesy Photo)

Black Box Theatre, 430 Main St. in Las Cruces. A funny study of the perils of modern life in urban America. Consists of two monologues plus a playlet bringing the two together. Info: 575-523-1223.

**TUESDAY, SEPT. 28**  
**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**New Mexico Performing Arts Society/ Bach Society with choral singers** — 7-9 a.m. at WNMU’s Light Hall. Part of the President’s Chamber Music Series. Cost: \$15. Info: 575-538-6373.

**WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 29**  
**Silver City/Grant County**  
**Lunch and Learn – Seed Saving Made Easy** — noon-1 p.m. At the WNMU Global Resource Center, ABC Room, corner of 12th and Kentucky streets. Presenter Alex Gonzales will teach the basics of seed collecting, saving and storage in a way that is approachable for anyone wanting to begin their own process toward a garden from locally saved seeds. Info: will.community/#/lunchlearn.

**Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County**  
**Sierra County Twirlers** — 1:30-3:30 p.m. (beginners come at 1) at the New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St. in T or C. Live music, toe-tapping mainstream dancing and refreshments. Info: 575-313-9971 or 505-804-3842.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**Farmers and Crafts Market** — 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Plaza of Las Cruces and along Main Street. Info: 575-805-6055.

**FRIDAY, OCT. 1**  
**Deming/Luna County**  
**\*Music Night on the Lawn** — 6-9 p.m. at Lescombes Winery, 7075 Highway 549 SE in Deming. Wine, food, craft beer and live music with Bandoleer Live. Info: 575-546-1179.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**“Laughing Wild”** — 8 p.m. at the Black Box Theatre, 430 Main St. in Las Cruces. A funny study of the perils of modern life in urban America. Consists of two monologues plus a playlet bringing the two together. Info: 575-523-1223.

**SATURDAY, OCT. 2**  
**Silver City/Grant County**

**Silver City Farmer’s Market** — 9 a.m.-noon at the corner of Pope Street and College Avenue, Silver City. Info: silvercityfarmersmarket@gmail.com.  
**Silver City Maker’s Market** — 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Main Street Plaza, downtown Silver City. Info: www.thefutureforge.org/makers-market.

**Alamogordo/Otero County**  
**The Petty Prophets: a Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers tribute band** — 7 p.m., at the Flickinger Center for Performing Arts, 1110 N. New York Ave. Cost: \$30. Info: 575-437-2202.

**Truth or Consequences/ Sierra County**  
**Sierra County Farmer’s Market** — 8:30 a.m.-noon at Ralph Edwards Park,

corner of Riverside and Cedar in T or C. Info: colleen@sierracountyfarmersmarket.org.  
**Old Time Fiddlers Dance** — 7-9 p.m. at the New Mexico Old Time fiddlers Playhouse, 710 Elm St. in T or C. Live music, toe-tapping and refreshments. Info: 575-744-9137.

**Las Cruces/Mesilla**  
**Farmers Arts and Crafts Market** — 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Plaza of Las Cruces and along Main Street. Info: 575-805-6055.  
**“Laughing Wild”** — 8 p.m. at the Black Box Theatre, 430 Main St. in Las Cruces. A funny study of the perils of modern life in urban America. Consists of two monologues plus a playlet bringing the two together. Info: 575-523-1223.

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Rick Bass, Naomi Shihab Nye,  
Kirstin Valdez Quade, Levi  
Romero, Brandon Hobson, Philip  
Connors, Mónica Ortiz Uribe,  
Denise Chávez, and many more ...



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# Grant County Community Concert Association

## 2021-22 Concert Season Line-up

Season Subscriptions are \$50 for adults, children to age 17 admitted free of charge with accompanying adult ticket holder. Individual concerts tickets are \$20.



**Taylor Red**, Tuesday Oct. 12, 7:00 PM  
These identical triplet sisters are singers, songwriters, composers, and multi-instrumentalists who play guitar, banjo, fiddle, mandolin, bass, and piano.



**1st Armored Division Band Holiday Concert**, Sunday Dec 12, 3:00 PM  
This concert is free and open to the public. The 1st AD Band is one of the premier military bands in the nation. Whether playing the latest in concert repertoire, marching in military reviews and parades, or holiday classics, the “Old Ironsides” Band continues to uphold the Motto: “Performance With Pride”



**The Diamonds: Lets Rock Broadway**, Friday Feb 25, 2022, 7:00 PM  
The Diamonds perform their classic harmonies in a brand new program – Let’s Rock Broadway! that features hits from your favorite Broadway musicals.



**Thalea String Quartet**, Monday Mar 28, 2022, 7:00 PM  
These performers are dedicated to bringing timeless music to audiences from all walks of life by connecting on a musical, emotional and personal level • **Free Educational Outreach Program for school children**



**Yjastros: The American Flamenco Repertory Company**, Tuesday Apr 26, 7:00 PM  
Yjastros preserves the best flamenco choreography from artists around the world in order to share its cultural heritage and to pass it on to future generations. • **Free Educational Outreach Program for school children**

**Duo Baldo**, Friday Nov 19, 7:00 PM  
The musical comedy team consists of renowned violinist Brad Repp and pianist/actor Aldo Gentileschi. Their critically acclaimed concerts combine virtuosic performances, theatrical humor and pop culture.



### 2021-22 GCCCA Subscription Form

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<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal		<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor	\$130
		<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor	\$240
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During a past Ag Day event, children learn about water conservation as it relates to agriculture from Brent Van Dyke with the New Mexico Association of Conservation Districts as part of a hands-on, interactive activity. (Photos courtesy New Mexico Department of Agriculture)

CELEBRATE NM • MIKE COOK

# Ag Day is Sept. 25

State products showcased at NMSU

“Take a taste of what makes New Mexico great,” New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA) Secretary Jeff Witte said as he welcomed the return of AG Day after a one-year hia-

tus because of Covid. AG Day 2021, sponsored by NMDA and the NMSU College of Agriculture, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES) and billed as “a huge tailgate event,” will be held 2 to 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 25, prior to the kickoff of the New Mexico State University vs. University of Hawaii football game, in the Pan American Center south parking lot near Aggie Memorial Stadium.

The event will include vendor booths featuring tastings of New Mexico’s best selling and most popular products, including chile, pecans, pistachios, milk and ice cream. There will also be informational and educational booths. ACES students will show their livestock at the event, and members of the NMSU Rodeo team will conduct rodeo demonstrations. There also will be live music, a petting zoo and pony rides.

“It’s a family-friendly event,” said Witte, who has been NMDA secretary since May 2011.

Witte said Garrey Carruthers started AG Day when he became NMSU president in 2013 to recognize both NMSU – which opened as an agricultural and mechanical arts school in 1888 – and the state’s agriculture industry.

“There are a lot of good things about New Mexico agriculture that people take for granted,” Witte said. “Ag is why NMSU is here.”

Witte said the event is also a chance to cheer on the Aggie football team at its 2021 homecoming game.

“It’s going to be a really fun day,” Witte said. “The college is really gearing up. I think it’s going to be a tremendous outpouring of support.”

“We are delighted to retake our tradition to celebrate agriculture and all that this magic word represents,” said ACES Dean Rolando Flores. “Agriculture is not only our source of food, but a tradition that has spanned generations in New Mexico. AG Day will provide the opportunity for Las Cruces to join in a day of festivities, learning and multiple activities. It is great to be back and celebrate agriculture in its true meaning.”

Any businesses interested in being an AG Day sponsor (which includes an exhibitor booth) may contact Kristie Garcia at 575-646-2804 or [krgracia@nmda.nmsu.edu](mailto:krgracia@nmda.nmsu.edu).

Nonprofits and NMSU groups and clubs may register for an exhibitor booth at [agday2021.eventbrite.com](http://agday2021.eventbrite.com).

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A child takes a lesson in horse riding under the guidance of a New Mexico State University College of Agriculture, Consumer and Environmental Sciences student at a past Ag Day event. (Courtesy photo)



Red or Green? is Desert Exposure's guide to dining in southwest New Mexico. We are in the process of updating and modifying these listings. We are asking restaurants to pay a small fee for listing their information. Restaurant advertisers already on contract with Desert Exposure receive a free listing. For other establishments, listings with essential information will be \$36 a year and expanded listings, up to 10 lines, will be \$48 a year. To buy a listing in Red or Green?,

contact Pam Rossi at [pam@lascrucesbulletin.com](mailto:pam@lascrucesbulletin.com) or 575-635-6614. 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. 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, 1740-A Calle de Mercado, Las Cruces, NM 88005, or email [editor@desertexposure.com](mailto:editor@desertexposure.com). Bon appétit!



Update of open restaurants and services being offered.  
\* = Open; C/S = Curb Side; DEL = Delivery; D/T = Drive Through; P = Patio; T/O = Take Out

**GRANT COUNTY**  
*Silver City*  
\* **ADOBE SPRINGS CAFÉ**, 619 N. Bullard St., 538-3665. Breakfast items, burgers, sandwiches: Sunday B L, all week B L D; **P/O T/O**  
\* **CACTUS JACK'S**, 1307 N. Pope St. 538-5042. Gluten-free, healthy groceries, grill fast foods and beverages. Monday to Friday B L D, Saturday and Sunday L. **T/O DEL**

\* **CAFÉ OSO AZUL AT BEAR MOUNTAIN LODGE**, 60 Bear Mountain Ranch Road, 538-2538. B L, special D by reservation only. **P/T/O**

\* **CHINESE PALACE**, 1010 Highway 180E, 538-9300. Chinese: Monday to Friday L D. **T/O**

**COURTYARD CAFÉ**, 1313 E 32nd St., Gila Regional Medical Center, 538-4094. American: B L.

**DIANE'S RESTAURANT**, 510 N. Bullard St., 538-8722. Fine dining (D), steaks, seafood, pasta, sandwiches (L), salads: Tuesday to Saturday L D, Sunday D only (family-style), weekend brunch.

**DIANE'S BAKERY & DELI**, The Hub, Suite A, 601 N. Bullard St., 534-9229. Artisan

bread, pastries, sandwiches, deli: Monday to Saturday B L early D, Sunday L.

**DON JUAN'S BURRITOS**, 418 Silver Heights Blvd., 538-5440. Mexican: B L.  
\* **DRIFTER PANCAKE HOUSE**, 711 Silver Heights Blvd., 538-2916. Breakfast, American: B L, breakfast served throughout. **T/O**  
\* **FORREST'S PIZZA**, 601 N. Bullard St., Unit J. 388-1225. Tuesday to Friday L D, slices until 7 p.m. **T/O D/T**  
\* **FRY HOUSE**, 601 N. Bullard St. Suite C. 388-1964. Seven days L, Sunday L, D. **T/O DEL**  
\* **GIL-A BEANS COFFEE SHOP**, 1304 N. Bennett St., 538-2239. Monday to Saturday 8 a.m.-noon. **P/T/O**  
\* **GOLDEN STAR**, 1602 Silver Heights Blvd., 388-2323. Chinese: L D. **D/T T/O**  
\* **GRINDER MILL**, 403 W. College Ave., 538-3366. Mexican: B L D.

**HONEEBEEGOODS "A Smudge of Fudge,"** 714-515-0832. Dessert Catering. Specialty Bakery and more! [honeebegoods.com](http://honeebegoods.com). 7 Days a Week.

**JALISCO CAFÉ**, 103 S. Bullard St., 388-2060. Mexican. Monday to Saturday L D Sunday B.  
\* **JAVALINA COFFEE HOUSE**, 117 Market St., 388-1350. Coffeehouse. **T/O**  
**JUMPING CACTUS**, 503 N. Bullard

St., 654-7367. Coffeeshop, baked goods, sandwiches, wraps: B L.  
**KOUNTRY KITCHEN**, 1700 Mountain View Road, 388-4512. Mexican: Tuesday to Saturday B L D.  
\* **LA COCINA RESTAURANT**, 201 W. College Ave., 388-8687. Mexican: L D. **T/O D/T C/S**  
\* **LA FAMILIA MEXICAN RESTAURANT**, 503 N. Hudson St., 388-4600. Mexican: Tuesday to Sunday B L D. **C/S**  
**LA MEXICANA RESTAURANT**, 1105 Tom Foy Blvd., 534-0142. Mexican and American: B L.

\* **LITTLE TOAD CREEK BREWERY & DISTILLERY**, 200 N. Bullard St., 956-6144. Burgers, wings, salads, fish, pasta, craft beers and cocktails: Monday to Sunday L D. **P/T/O**

**MI MEXICO VIEJO**, 202 E Broadway St. Mexican food stand: 956-3361. Monday to Saturday B L early D.

\* **MI CASITA**, 2340 Bosworth Drive, 538-5533. New Mexican cuisine: Monday to Thursday L, Friday L D. **T/O**  
**NANCY'S SILVER CAFÉ**, 514 N. Bullard St., 388-3480. Mexican: Monday to Saturday B L D.  
**PRETTY SWEET EMPORIUM**, 312 N. Bullard St., 322-2422. Dessert, ice cream: Monday to Saturday.

\* **Q'S SOUTHERN BISTRO**, 101 E. College Ave., 534-4401. American, steaks, barbecue, brewpub: Tuesday to Saturday L D. **P/T/O**

\* **REVEL**, 304 N. Bullard St., 388-4920. Elevated comfort food. Weekdays LD, weekends BD, closed Wednesdays. **T/O**

\* **SILVER BOWLING CENTER CAFÉ**, 2020 Memory Lane, 538-3612. American, Mexican, hamburgers: Daily L D **T/O**.

\* **SUNRISE ESPRESSO**, 1530 N. Hudson St., 388-2027. Coffee shop: Monday to Saturday B L, early D. **D/T**

\* **SUNRISE ESPRESSO**, 1212 E. 32nd St., 388-2927. Coffee shop, bakery: Monday to Friday B L, early D, Saturday B L only. **D/T**

**TAPAS TREE**, 601 N. Bullard St. in The Hub, 597-8272. Monday to Thursday L, Friday and Saturday L D (closes at 4 p.m.).

\* **TASTE OF VEGAS**, 303 E. 13th St., 534-9404. Daily L **P/T/O**.

\* **WRANGLER'S BAR & GRILL**, 2005 Hwy. 180E, 538-4387. Steak, burgers, appetizers, salads: L D. **P/T/O**

**RED OR GREEN**  
continued on page 20

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## TABLE TALK

# Taste of Downtown

## Local eateries featured in Silver City event

Chefs from a dozen restaurants in downtown Silver City will be showing off their talents and creations during the 21st annual Taste of Downtown event on Saturday, Sept. 4.

Visitors and residents can walk around downtown Silver City from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and get delicious tastes from 12 different eateries offering sweet and savory treats. The cost is \$20.

Businesses that are donating tastes include: Chente's Taqueria; Corner Kitchen; Diane's Bakery and Deli; Silver City Food Co-op; Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery; Revel; Diane's Restaurant; The Mint Chip Creamery; Birdwell's Vintage Vibes; Javalina Coffee House; The Ice Cream Emporium; and the Silco Theater concession.

The Taste of Downtown is Silver City MainStreet's annual fund-

raiser and promotes the downtown area and its restaurants.

"Healthy downtowns are essential for healthy communities," said Evangeline Zamora, board president of Silver City MainStreet.

Downtown has four antique shops, 24 art galleries, 22 eating and drinking establishments and 27 retail shops, she said.

"This is a great weekend to have a holiday in your own backyard with a fun food event," Zamora said.

Proceeds will support Silver City MainStreet, including its beautification projects and programs and projects that encourage residents and tourists to visit downtown Silver City.

Tickets for the Taste of Downtown can be purchased online at [www.silvercitymainstreet.com](http://www.silvercitymainstreet.com), or at the Murray Ryan Visitor Center



**Chef Bodhi of Diane's Restaurant invites a Taste of Downtown participants into his delicious world. (Courtesy Photo)**

at 201 N. Hudson Street. Tickets will be available the day of the event at The Hub on Bullard Street in downtown Silver City.

To learn more visit, [www.silvercitymainstreet.com](http://www.silvercitymainstreet.com).

### RED OR GREEN

continued from page 19

*Cliff*

**Duck Creek Café**, U.S. Highway 180, Cliff, 535-4500. Visit Duck Creek Café on Facebook. RVs/Big Rigs welcome, Wednesday to Saturday LD, Sunday LD. "Bring home cooking to your table"

### DOÑA ANA COUNTY Las Cruces & Mesilla

**ABRAHAM'S BANK TOWER RESTAURANT**, 500 S. Main St. 434, 523-5911. American: Monday to Friday B L.

**\*ANDELE'S DOG HOUSE**, 1983 Calle del Norte, 526-1271. Mexican plus hot dogs, burgers, quesadillas: B L D. **P T/O**

**\*ANDELE RESTAURANTE**, 1950 Calle del Norte, 526-9631. Mexican: Monday B L, Tuesday to Sunday B L D. **DEL P T/O**

**\*AQUA REEF**, 141 N. Roadrunner Parkway, 522-7333. Asian, sushi: LD. **DEL P T/O**

**\*THE BEAN**, 2011 Avenida de Mesilla, 527-5155. Coffeehouse.

**\*A BITE OF BELGIUM**, 741 N. Alameda St. No. 16, 527-2483, [www.abiteofbelgium.com](http://www.abiteofbelgium.com). Belgium and American food: Daily B L. **PC/S**

**\*BOBA CAFÉ**, 1900 S. Espina St., Ste. 8, 647-5900. Sandwiches, salads, casual fare, espresso: Monday to Saturday L D. **C/S DEL T/O**

**\*BRAVO'S CAFÉ**, 3205 S. Main St., 526-8604. Mexican: Tuesday to Sunday B L.

**\*BURGER NOOK**, 1204 E. Madrid Ave., 523-9806. Outstanding greenchile cheeseburgers. Tuesday to Saturday L D. **T/O**

**\*BURRITOS VICTORIA**, 1295 El Paseo Road, 541-5534. Burritos: B L D. Now serving beer. **T/O**

**\*CAFÉ DON FELIX**, 2290 Calle de Parian, 652-3007. Mexican, street tacos, mini-burgers: Wednesday to Saturday L D, Sunday brunch only 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**\*CHACHI'S RESTAURANT**, 2460 S. Locust St.-A, 522-7322. Mexican: B L D., 505 Joe Gutierrez St. Doña Ana

**\*CHILITOS**, 2405 S. Valley Drive, 526-4184. Mexican: Monday to Saturday B L D. **C/S DEL D/T**

**\*CHILITOS**, 3850 Foothills Road Ste. 10, 532-0141. Mexican: B L D. **C/S DEL D/T**

**\*DAY'S HAMBURGERS**, 245 N. Main St., 523-8665. Burgers: Monday to Saturday L D. **C/S**

**\*PECAN GRILL & BREWERY**, 500 S. Telshor Blvd., 521-1099. Pecan-smoked meats, sandwiches, steaks, seafood, craft beers: L D. **P T/O**

**\*DELICIAS DEL MAR**, 1401 El Paseo Road, 524-2396. Mexican, seafood: B L D. **P T/O**

**\*DICK'S CAFÉ**, 2305 S. Valley Drive, 524-1360. Mexican, burgers: Sunday B L, Monday to Saturday B L D. **C/S P**

**\*DION'S PIZZA**, 3950 E. Lohman Ave. 521-3434. 1060 El Paseo Rd. 623-2321. Pizza: L D. **DEL D/T**

**\*DOUBLE EAGLE**, 2355 Calle de Guadalupe, 523-6700. Southwestern, steaks, seafood: L D, Sun. champagne brunch buffet. **P T/O**

**\*EL SOMBRERO PATIO CAFÉ**, 363 S. Espina St., 524-9911. Mexican: L D. **P T/O**

**\*ENRIQUE'S MEXICAN FOOD**, 830 W. Picacho Ave., 647-0240. Mexican: B L D. **T/O**

**\*FARLEY'S**, 3499 Foothills Road, 522-0466. Pizza, burgers, American, Mexican: L D.

**\*FIDENCIO'S**, 800 S. Telshor Blvd., 532-5624. Mexican: B L D.

**\*THE GAME BAR & GRILL**, 2605 S. Espina St., 524-GAME. Sports bar and grill: L D. **P T/O**

**\*THE GAME II: EXTRA INNINGS SPORTS BAR & GRILL**, 4131 Northrise Drive, 373-4263, Live music on weekends. American, Southwest, now serving weekend brunch 10 a.m. Saturdays and Sundays: L D. **P T/O**

**\*MEZCLA**, 705 S. Telshor Blvd. (Hotel Encanto), 532-4277. Mexican: B L D. **P T/O**

**\*GO BURGER DRIVE-IN**, Home of the Texas Size Burrito, 1008 E. Lohman Ave., Las Cruces, NM 88005, 524-9251. Monday - Saturday, 7 a.m. - 3 p.m. Specializing in relleno burritos and other Mexican food.

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# Ara, the Altar

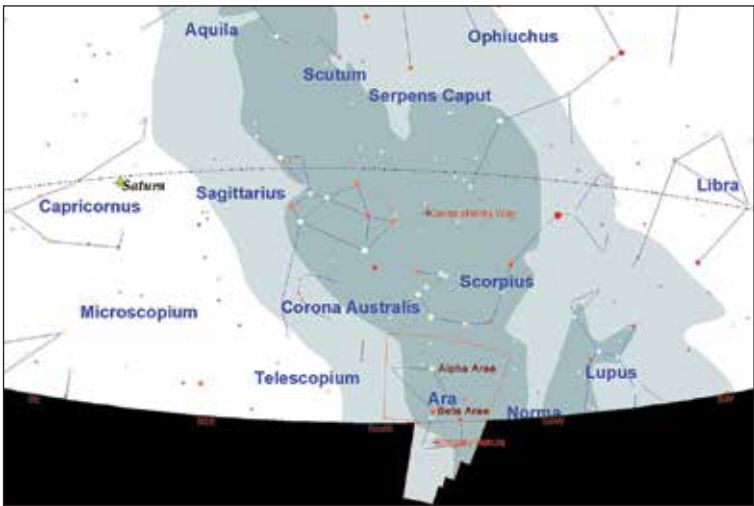
## The war of the gods memorialized

Never getting more than its northern half over our southern horizon, the small constellation Ara, the Altar, is 63rd in size out of the 88 constellations. Ara can be found directly beneath the tail of Scorpius. The two brightest stars in Ara are far enough north so they peak over the horizon to appear in our southern sky.

In Greek mythology, before the time of the familiar Greek gods, the universe was ruled by Cronus, one of the twelve Titans. Cronus (or Kronos) was the youngest of the Titans, descendants of Gaia (Mother Earth) and Uranus (Father Sky). Cronus had deposed his father to become the chief god, ruling over the mythological Golden Age with his sister and then wife, Rhea, at his side.

But the crown did not sit easily on his head because prophesy said that he in turn would be deposed by his son. To prevent the prophesy from coming to pass, he swallowed each of his children as they were born. When the last was born, his wife gave him a stone dressed in swaddling clothes to swallow while she gave the child to her mother, Gaia, to raise.

The child, Zeus, grew up safely sheltered by Mount Ida on Crete. Reaching maturity, he returned to Cronus's palace. Cronus had forgotten the prophesy and did not notice when his wife gave him a cup of wine with a sub-



Only the northern half of the constellation Ara, the Altar, manages to creep over our southern horizon. This small constellation has more than its share of deep sky objects because it is deep in the Milky Way where there are many more deep sky objects than outside the Milky Way. Look for Ara just below the stinger of Scorpius, the Scorpion.

stance that caused him to regurgitate the stone and the rest of his children. Zeus sliced Cronus open and his blood fell on the ground. The children emerged fully-grown in complete control of their godly powers. Zeus and the children swore allegiance to each other and to fight Cronus on an altar, now memorialized as the constellation Ara.

This started a 10-year war between the Olympians, led by Zeus, and the Titans, led by Cronus. The Olympians were victorious in the end. Zeus took pity on his father and placed him in charge of the Elysian Fields, a peaceful place awaiting the righteous dead. Cronus became known as a god of kindness, benevolence and gener-

osity. We identify him with Father Time, with his scythe representing the harvest.

The two brightest stars in Ara vie for the title of brightest star. Alpha Arae varies slightly from magnitude +2.76 to magnitude +2.90, while Beta Arae holds a constant magnitude +2.84. This puts Alpha Arae sometimes slightly brighter and sometimes slightly fainter than Beta. Alpha is almost six degrees north of Beta in our sky.

Alpha is a massive blue star of spectral class B2 that is two-hundred-seventy light-years away from us. It is almost ten times the mass of our Sun. Alpha is spinning very rapidly, so rapidly that the equatorial diameter is two and a half times the polar diameter, a really squished ball. This has allowed gas to escape from the star and form a cloud around it. If this star was spinning any faster, it would fly apart.

Beta Arae is an older star, just over eight solar masses. It has run out of hydrogen in its core and has expanded greatly as

STARRY DOME  
continued on page 23

### Calendar of Events – September 2021 (MDT)

- 06 6:51 p.m. New Moon
- 13 2:39 p.m. First Quarter Moon
- 13 10 p.m. Mercury greatest distance from the Sun (twenty-seven degrees)
- 20 5:54 p.m. Full Moon
- 22 1:21 p.m. September Equinox
- 26 10 p.m. Mercury stands still
- 28 7:57 p.m. Last Quarter Moon

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# LGBTTTQQIAAPNBGF Say What?

## The search for an inclusive acronym

First, there was GLB, which was changed to LGB in order to not continue the sexism that constantly puts women second. Then under some protests and debates, the “T” was added. The controversy is understandable. LGB is about sexual orientation, but the T is about sexual and gender identity. So then, why was the T added? LGB equals Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual. T used to stand for transsexual, but transsexual has been replaced by transgender.

The T was included with the LGB people because the straight heteronormative population discriminated against trans (transgender) people in the same way they have been discriminating against gay people, especially against feminine gay men. “Gay” can either mean gay men or it can be used to mean homosexuality. Like in referring to the “gay” community – meaning both gay men and lesbians. I know this is beginning to sound confusing, but wait, it is go-

ing to get much more confusing. I also should point out that drag queens, crossdressers, and transsexuals (transgender people) were on the front line of the Lesbian and Gay Liberation Movement. Exemplified by the Stonewall Inn riots in New York City in 1969. The problem with coming up with an acronym to represent a group is that some people who feel part of the group can also feel erased by an acronym that is not inclusive enough. So there is the search for an inclusive acronym for people who identify outside of the heteronormative cis community. Cis, meaning those people who identify comfortably with the sex they were assigned at birth, i.e., 99 percent of the population. Those people, myself included, who don’t feel they were assigned correctly tend to spend a lifetime struggling with their sexual identity. The LGBT acronym that has been used for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Trans community for years started unraveling when too many people who identified outside of the heteronormative cis community didn’t feel that L, G, B, and T, adequately described their identity and their struggles. So, Q was added – Q for queer. Queer is an


umbrella term meaning identifying outside of cis heteronormative society, but not feeling fully described by the acronym LGBT. Queer is still a pejorative term for many and should not be used by non-LGBTQ people. However, now many universities have Queer Studies programs. Then the intersex people started speaking out. Intersex people are born with ambiguous genitalia, which can be internal, external or both. Also, there can be genetic anomalies, such as being xxy, xxxy, xyy, and Klinefelter’s syndrome, among other things. So, the “I” was added. Then those people who identified as asexual – as in not having a sex and/or a sexual interest caused an “A” to be added. Then another Q was added for Questioning, and another A was added for ally. Soon it became apparent that other identities were being left out. So, two more “T”s were added: Transsexual and Two-Spirited. Then P was added for pansexual, and NB was added for nonbinary. But then another group felt left out. Those people who identified as gender fluid. Meaning those who found they could not stay within the confines of presenting as either male or female or man or wom-

an. Hence GF – gender fluid. Now our acronym looks like this: LGBTTTQQIAAPNBGF. Most of us who find ourselves somewhere in this acronym find it a bit unwieldy. By the way, I can identify with most of the letters in this alphabet soup. Yet, I would like to see an inclusive acronym that is not absurdly long. Several have been tried: LGBT+, GSM (Gender and Sexual Minorities), SOGIE (Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity and Expression). I don’t know what will win out in the end. I tend to like the shortest one, GSM. We all, that is those that identify somewhere on the alphabet soup acronym, are either a gender and/or a sexual minority. Whether it be because of our orientation or our sexual and/or gender identity. We are in a time of identity politics. A time where people need to feel included. Consequently, descriptive acronyms are important. Identity politics is when an individual’s identity can lead to a unique source of oppression. Sometimes when a person, like me, has multiple identities, these can lead to mul-

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tiple oppressions. For example, I can be oppressed for being gay (homophobia), for being transgender (transphobia), for being female (misogyny and sexism), and even for being old (agism). This is called an intersectionality of oppressions.

I have been in some LGBT groups where the discussions and concerns do not address the concerns and even the oppression I have faced, even though I am a member of the group. It is at these times that I and oth-

ers with unique forms of identities can feel erased. It feels as though our concerns and the struggles are not as important as the majority of the people in the LGBT community. I have felt oppressed by gender my whole life. However, I know many people in the LGBT community that do not find gender oppressive. Regardless of what groups we belong to, we need to be sure that the goals of the group address all the concerns of their members.

I know LGBTTTTQQAAPNBGF is a bit tedious, and by the way, there are more letters that can be

added. Our acronym is very fluid. Just like some of us.

*Susan Golightly stays active riding her bicycles. She earned both a BA and an MA from Western New Mexico University. Both times she was valedictorian, the first time as a man and the second time as a woman. She has lived all over the country and has had more than her share of life changing experiences.*



STARRY DOME

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it changes energy source from fusion in the core to hydrogen shell fusion around it. Alpha is transitioning between two stages of its evolution as a giant star, midway between a higher luminosity bright giant and a lower luminosity supergiant. It is 720 light-years away.

The plane of our Milky Way galaxy traverses Ara's north-west corner. This places a large number of deep sky objects in this constellation considering its small size. One of these is the Stingray Nebula (Hen 3-1357), about 18,000 light-years distant. This is a planetary nebula has an old star (SAO 244567) at its heart. It had been shedding its outer atmosphere, forming a cloud of gas around the star which is one hundred and thirty times the size of our Solar System.

The star was not producing enough ultraviolet light to make the gas glow like a neon tube. Before 1987, the star's temperature increased over seventy thousand degrees Fahrenheit, hot enough to ionize the gas making the nebula start to glow. At its great distance, the Stingray is very tiny and only the Hubble Space Telescope could discern the 1.3 seconds-of-arc across nebula.

The central star appears to be a white dwarf with a companion star that was donating hydrogen to the white dwarf. The hydrogen fused on the surface of the white dwarf to form helium. That helium, along with donated helium from the companion star, build up until it gets hot enough through compression to start fusing in a helium flash. This tremendous burst of energy lit up the surrounding gas to form the Stingray Nebula.

Recent observations have

shown the Stingray is starting to fade as the energy from the helium flash is radiated into space. As the white dwarf cools, the Stingray will fade out of sight, perhaps to be reinvigorated if another helium flash occurs far in the future.

The Planets for Sept. 2021

While Mars is too near the Sun to be seen this month, Mercury is gliding southward along the western horizon. This is a poor apparition of the planet for northern hemisphere observers, with Mercury reaching its greatest distance from the Sun on Sept. 14, when it will be only six degrees above the west-southwestern horizon as it gets dark. At that time, the Messenger of the Gods will be magnitude +0.2, with a disc that is fifty-six percent illuminated and 7.1 seconds-of-arc across. It sets around 8:15 p.m. During the month it moves from western to south-central Virgo.

Fifteen degrees above the west-southwestern horizon as it gets dark, Venus sets around 9 p.m. This month it travels from central Virgo to central Libra. Shining at magnitude -4.1, the Goddess of Love has a disc that is 16.7 seconds-of-arc across that is 67 percent illuminated.

Already 27 degrees above the

southeastern horizon as it gets dark, Saturn sets around 3:15 a.m. Moving slowly westward in western Capricornus, it glows at magnitude +0.4. The Ringed Planet's disc is 18.0 seconds-of-arc across and its Rings are 40.7 seconds-of-arc across, tilted downward 19.3 degrees with the northern face showing.

Jupiter shines at magnitude -2.8 as it moves slowly westward in eastern Capricornus. It is twenty-one degrees above the southeastern horizon as it gets dark, setting around 4:30 a.m. At mid-month The King of the Gods' disc is 47.8 seconds-of-arc across.

Earth reaches the September equinox at 1:21 p.m. on Sept. 22. On this day the Sun crosses the celestial equator heading south along the ecliptic. Days and nights are approximately the same length all over the world, hence the name, derived from Latin for equal-night. After the equinox, our nights will get longer giving us more time to "keep watching the sky!"

*An amateur astronomer for more than 45 years, Bert Stevens is co-director of Desert Moon Observatory in Las Cruces.*






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