

## A FREE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2019

# MIMBRES MESSENGER

*kindness is a language  
that the deaf can hear  
and the blind can see*  
- Mark Twain

## The December Challenge

The holiday season can be one of the happiest times of the year. It can also be one of the most difficult times of the year for many people. The pressure of planning, shopping, and making the holiday meals; decorating, going to or hosting parties, and then there is the proverbial shopping. Some love it, some dread it. Whether you are the person who loves the holidays and thrives on all the activities, or you are one of the people, for whatever reason, who suffer from depression during the holiday season, the December Challenge will help you.

**The Challenge is:** every day during the month of December, do one small random act of kindness for someone, whether it is a relative, friend, stranger, or volunteer organization. You may think that this is just something else to add to the stress of the season, but it doesn't work that way. Once you start, you will find that it will not only will make you feel good (and lower your stress), it will surprise and delight and make someone else very happy.

We aren't talking anything big here. Just pick things that will make someone else feel good and whatever your personal time and/or money will allow. You don't have to spend any money at all, and this would probably make for the best challenge of all!

For many of you, you probably already do many things without thinking about it being a small act of kindness. If you are out and about and see someone struggling with their grocery bags, you just naturally offer to help.

These are just a few other ideas that come to mind.

- ◆ Thank the UPS or FEDEX driver by surprising them with homemade cookies or sweets.
- ◆ If you have parents, grandparents or great-grandparents that don't reside in the area and you don't see or communicate with them as often as you

should, write them a letter and mail it. Don't e-mail it, trust me it is not the same (although it is better than nothing). A letter or note in hand is something they will cherish. Or, you could also call them, they would love to hear your voice, but a letter is something they can save.

- ◆ Clip some coupons and tape them next to the product in the store for someone who can use them (like diapers or laundry detergent, which are very expensive).
- ◆ Find out where they serve meals for the homeless or people in need and volunteer to help prepare or serve the Christmas meal.
- ◆ If you have an elderly neighbor who lives alone or doesn't eat as well as he or she should, make a meal for them. This doesn't have to be something special you have cooked, just cook a little extra of the meal you are making for your family and make a plate for them. Better yet, just invite them to share the meal at your house.
- ◆ Pick a small community project you can volunteer to do. Such as, picking up trash along a stretch of road that you have noticed needs attention. You don't have to notify anyone, just go do it.
- ◆ Bake a homemade pie or some cookies and give them to someone special in your life or someone who can't make them for themselves.
- ◆ Offer to baby sit for a single parent who could really use an afternoon or evening off. Or offer to baby sit for a couple who could use a date night.
- ◆ Write an article for the *Messenger*!
- ◆ Go visit a friend or relative who is in a nursing home. Even people you don't know love to talk to strangers who come to visit.
- ◆ Read a book to a younger sibling.
- ◆ Offer to help do a little yard work for an elderly

Continued on page 3 - The Challenge

## VOLUNTEER STAFF

- Anna Willhite, Editor
- Marilyn Markel, Contributing Writer
- Grace Williams, Distribution & Printing
- Mary Willhite, Co-editor, Production, Advertising
- RJ Nelson, Chief of Printing, Distribution and Billing

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## LETTER FROM THE TEMP EDITOR

Once again, I was struggling to come up with something for the front page of the *Messenger* for the month of December. In past years, we have done stories such as the history of Santa Claus, how people in other countries celebrate Christmas, shopping locally, etc., etc. But I was having trouble thinking of something for this year—I was just brain dead. It was the award-winner teacher, Cindy Lee, who gave me the idea of The December Challenge (although she didn't call it this). She was telling me she might try something similar with her students (no wonder she is an award-winning teacher). While I was trying to formulate the idea for the story, I remembered something a friend of mine and I did many years ago to motivate ourselves.

Both of us, being young working girls and each living alone, were commiserating with each other about not being able to get motivated to do all the household chores we should have been doing, but always seemed to put off. We made a pact that every night when we got home from work we would do one thing which we considered a "dirty deed," no matter how big or how small, just so long as we did one thing. It might be cleaning out the junk drawer while watching television; it might be changing the sheets on the bed, it might be writing a letter to my grandparents; or it might be doing some ironing. Believe it or not, you would be surprised at how much you can accomplish, and it wasn't nearly as painful and was more successful than we had anticipated.

After this worked out so well, we decided that since we both worked long hours and didn't get much exercise, that while we were watching TV, during each commercial, we had to do exercises. You wouldn't believe how **many** and how **long** those commercials were when there was no commercial-free TV! I am embarrassed to report that this pact didn't work out quite as well as the "dirty deed"

By Mary Willhite



experiment.

This isn't something you can do in New Mexico, because they don't have toll roads, but one of the things we used to love to do when commuting on the turnpike and going through the manned pay lane was to pay an extra toll and instruct the toll taker to tell the next car to go right on through, that the car in front had paid their toll. Watching the driver's surprised and confused expression in the rearview mirror was worth the extra 50 cents!

Whether you take The Challenge or not, or whether you do it for a week or just a few days, just think about all the smiles that would result if everyone did something nice for someone else—what a Happy December it would be!

Everyone at the Messenger wishes you a Happy December, a Merry Christmas, and a Wonderful New Year.

I would like to thank everyone that helped with the production of the Messenger this year. I appreciate all of the support and work everyone does every month. And a big thank you to all of the occasional writers who contributed stories and ideas.

One person who deserves our gratitude is Bob Barnes who puts the Messenger on-line and in color every month.

**Please Note:**

There is a new web address for the Messenger starting with this issue:  
**[www.Blackrange.org](http://www.Blackrange.org)**



Continued from Page 1 - The Challenge

neighbor who can't clean up around his or her property by themselves.

- ◆ Play a game with a child.
- ◆ Write a Thank You note to someone you don't say "thank you" to often enough—your teacher, your yoga instructor, your parents or anyone who has helped you.

◆

If you have a little money to spend, consider these things.

- ◆ Next time you are filling up your gas tank at the service station and you see someone who looks in need, or is only asking for \$5 worth of gas, offer to fill his or her tank.
- ◆ Purchase a warm winter coat and donate it to one of the many coat drives that are available. Include a knitted hat and gloves in the pockets.
- ◆ If you know a family that needs help with their food, put together a basket of food and leave it on their doorstep (they don't have to know where it came from).
- ◆ If you are a regular at a restaurant and eat there frequently, give the waiter or waitress a couple of extra \$ to remind them that you appreciate their service.
- ◆ Buy a bouquet of flowers for your spouse or friend, just because.
- ◆ Next time you are in line at a drive-up window, offer to pay for the persons lunch in line behind you.

I am sure you can think of a lot of acts of kindness it would be fun to perform. What would you like to have someone do for you?

Getting a friend to buddy up with you (and maybe even perform some kindness together) might help motivate you to take The Challenge. Or, maybe keep a written log of the small kindness you perform each day. By the end of the month you will find this probably isn't even necessary.

Don't worry if you aren't up for a whole month of The Challenge or you forget one day, nothing bad is going to happen, unlike when you don't forward that e-mail along to 25 people! But once you try it for a few days, you probably won't want to stop. The Challenge does more than make someone else happy—it has bona fide mood-boosting benefits for you.

Anything you can do to put a smile on someone else's face is a small act of kindness. Try it, you'll like it!

## Kate Brown Pottery & Tile Studio Sale in the Mimbres



### December 7 & 8, 10am-5pm

*A small version of the beloved Studio Sale continues, at Kate Brown's Showroom at Mimbres Hot Springs*

☛ Serving Pieces, Dinnerware, Tile Tables

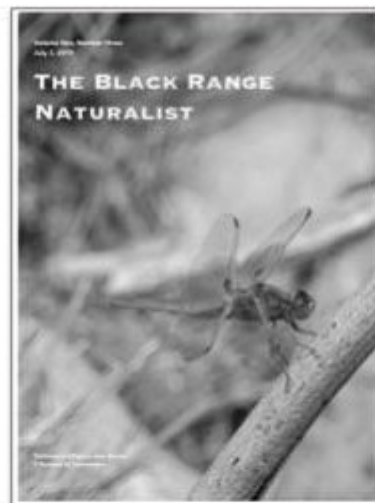
☛ Gourmet Lunch by Chef Brenna Brown

Saturday *Noon to 4 pm* Mole Tamale Plate +trimmings  
Sunday Holiday puddings

☛ **Directions:** Silver City: take Hwy 152 to Mimbres Valley Hwy 61 South To Royal John Mine Rd, mile marker 19.5. Follow signs 2.5 miles to Studio Sale.

**Deming:** take Hwy 180 W to Hwy 61 North. Turn on Royal John Mine Rd at mile marker 19.5. Follow signs 2.5 miles to Kate Brown Pottery

☛ **More info:** 575 536 9935 [katebrown@gilnet.com](mailto:katebrown@gilnet.com)  
[katebrownpottery.com](http://katebrownpottery.com)



### The Black Range Naturalist The Natural History of the Black Range

- Available electronically quarterly (next issue Oct. 3)
- Available on [www.blackrange3.org](http://www.blackrange3.org) or sent to your email.
- Articles/photographs from your neighbors and/or renowned researchers.
- Contact [rabarnes@blackrange.org](mailto:rabarnes@blackrange.org) to be put on the distribution list and/or to provide articles.
- Free of charge, we do not accept donations or commercial ads, we do not provide your email address to any other entity.



## The Dollar Store People

by Marilyn Markel



Once in a while something unexpected happens to cause laughter and smiles and brings people together. It happened to me at the dollar store. The holiday season can be stressful. We get impatient, irritated at fellow shoppers, frustrated by long lines. But now I smile at the thought of standing in line.

Like other Mimbrenos, I avoid “going to town” and wait until I have a long list and need necessities, like bananas, before I drive to Silver City. Recently my list included a stop at the Dollar Store—for one item, just a quick in and out. Or so I thought. I quickly found what I wanted and hurried to the checkout. Oh, No!! The one person in line, at the one open checkout counter, had a shopping cart overflowing with items, and a pile of items already on the counter. “But,” I thought, “What the heck?” I wasn’t in a great hurry, and I did not want to come back, so I stayed in line. Soon two young women queued up behind up. More people got in line. In a couple of minutes, the line stretched way down the aisle. Word spread, customer to customer, about the hold-up. Grumbles and groans could be heard. The women caus-

ing the situation seemed unaware, as she commented on each item she placed on the counter. “I had a hard time deciding between the red or green candles, so I got both,” she said. The young cashier politely listened as she busily scanned a whole variety of things, from cat litter to canned soup and clothing. She remained cheerful and efficient, glancing up at the growing line now and then. Mumbles and grumbles got louder. The young women next to me were discussing plans for a party. They had a couple gallons of water, paper plates, and cups in their hands. I looked at my watch, wondering “how much longer will this take,” and “who buys this much stuff at the Dollar Store?”

Then, it happened. One of the young women held up a gallon of water for everyone to see and began a monologue that will stick in my head a long time. “We’ll be Okay,” she began, “we have everything we need right here. We have water. And, if we are here for the night, we can make beds out of rugs, and we have blankets. And I saw some pajamas over there,” she said, pointing with her chin. “Just

Continued on Page 16

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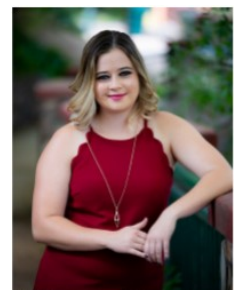
**575-956-6394**



Carol Holt



Thomas Blanchard



Magen Atwater



## This isn't a small act of kindness, but a **HUGE** act of kindness!

M.R. Produce (Miguel Rosales) from San Lorenzo, grows hundreds of pumpkins locally.

This past Halloween, Mr. Rosales donated pumpkins to the Sixth Street School in Silver City and San Lorenzo

Elementary School here in the valley so that each child had a pumpkin to carve.



Mr. Rosales plans to make this an annual event for schools in Grant County.



**MIMBRES  
CULTURE  
HERITAGE SITE**

By Kathy Hill

Mimbres Culture Heritage Site is now on winter schedule. We are open Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 11 am to 3 pm. If you would like a special tour, you can call Marilyn at 575.536.9337, or Kathy at 307.640.3012. We would like a week in advance to arrange the tour.

Want to do some Christmas shopping? The museum will be open on **Friday, December 13 from 6 to 7:30 pm**. We know it is difficult for some people to get away during our daytime hours, so come on out that evening and choose some nice gifts from our shop. We have everything from homemade cards to T-shirts, hats, hummingbird items for indoors or outdoors. There are many wonderful books for adults and children, metal art, and we have Mimbresño bumper stickers. We will be closed Christmas Eve and day, also New Years Eve and day.

Our Christmas wish list is as follows:

- ◆ volunteers for our museum, to do trail maintenance, or to do odd repair jobs;
- ◆ old but good wood for repairing our old structures;
- ◆ cat food and litter for Smokey, our mouser cat;
- ◆ 4' – 6' chain link fencing (dog fencing) 25'+
- ◆ Good used T-posts- 6'
- ◆ A 5' high gate

***Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year from all of us at the Mimbres Culture Heritage Site!***

## San Lorenzo Resident, Chris DeBolt, Receives National Rural Health Award



Chris DeBolt - "My motto is to work locally where I live."



The National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health sets aside the third Thursday of every November – **November 21, 2019** – to celebrate National Rural Health Day. National Rural Health Day honors the spirit of rural America while bringing to light the unique health challenges that rural citizens and their health providers face. Rural communities are wonderful places to live and work, which is why nearly 60 million people – one in five Americans – call them home.

The National Center for Frontier Communities has named Chris DeBolt of San Lorenzo as its 2019 **"Frontier Health Star"** for her work bettering the health and welfare of her neighbors in a rural area of America.

Chris has lived in San Lorenzo for more than 12 years. She has been an advocate for her neighbors' health and wellness by bringing services to the small community that it might not be able to access otherwise.

San Lorenzo is a small census-designated Far and Remote Level 4 area, which means it is an hour or more travel time from urbanized areas - 50,000 or more population and 45 minutes or more from Urban Clusters - 25,000-49,000 population.

One of Chris's major successes is running and organizing the annual Health Fair that is in partnership with the Mimbres Valley Harvest Festival and is sponsored by the Mimbres Valley Health Action League. The Health Fair is always a huge success and welcomed and needed by the community. Many people depend on the Health Fair as their annual health exam. Often people are referred for problems they didn't even realize they had, which could be life threatening. The Health

Fair offers a variety of health checks and exams for such things as blood pressure check, skin cancer exams, and many other vital exams all free to residents.

This September, the Health Fair serviced more than 400 people. 275 flu shots were administered. Many health care providers and support personnel are there to offer literature and point clients in the right direction to receive services they might not otherwise know about.

Chris also serves on the Western New Mexico University's School of Nursing Advisory committee as well as the Grant County Extension Office Service Advisory Board as a voice for frontier residents' needs.

The National Center for Frontier Communities Executive Director, Susan Wilger, has this to say, "Chris loves living in the Land of Enchantment and is dedicated to promoting the well being of her community and New Mexicans. Her wisdom, compassion and commitment have benefited countless individual, organizations and initiatives."

"We have a responsibility to rural and frontier people to have equal access to care like anyone living in a metropolitan area. It's our responsibility to level the playing field and advocate for health equity. Everybody should have access to health care and get what they need to have a healthier life.

Chris DeBolt

Everyone in the community appreciates all Chris has done for this community and wishes to congratulate her on this well-deserved award.

**WAY TO GO CHRIS!**

# ❖ Silver City Food Co-op ❖

## A Community Market Since 1974

520 N. Bullard St., Silver City, NM

Open 7 Days a Week  
Monday thru Saturday 9-7  
Sunday 11-5

[www.silvercityfoodcoop.coop](http://www.silvercityfoodcoop.coop) 575-388-2343

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## ROUNDUP LODGE NOTES

December is scheduled to be very busy with all of the regular activities as well as the private holiday parties, birthday parties and baby showers.

The BIG PARTY that is scheduled to take place will be on New Year's Day 2020. Last year, The Community New Year's Day Brunch was so successful and so well attended, that the Mimbres Booster Club decided to host it again this year. This free community brunch will be from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm on January 1<sup>st</sup>. Everyone in the community is invited to attend (or to help)!

As brunch implies, the menu will be a combination of breakfast and lunch fare. Eggs, bacon, pancakes and other breakfast items as well as the traditional ham and black-eyed peas for good luck. No matter what the menu, there is always dessert!

In addition to the meal, there will be a Raffle. The tickets are on sale now at La Tienda or call Barry Gray at 406-249-2902. Tickets will be for sale at the day of the Brunch. The tickets are \$2 each and you **DO NOT** have to be present to win. The six prizes are:

1. Load of 1 ½ cords of firewood that will be delivered if the winner is within a reasonable radius of Mimbres.
2. A 3,000 # winch system.
3. A large Hamilton Beach Tempest Commercial Blender.
4. Stained glass artwork (duckies)
5. Gift certificate for 2 Massages with Daniella Homes
6. Gift certificate for 2 Massages with Daniella Homes

The winners will be drawn towards the end of the Brunch.

There will also be a silent auction for an additional load of 1 ½ cords of firewood.

All proceeds from this event will benefit the Roundup Lodge HVAC Fund. So everyone come and start the New Year by enjoying a good meal and visiting with your friends and neighbors!

### ROUND UP FOR THE ROUNDUP

MVHAL is thrilled to announce that we were awarded the Roundup Program from the Silver City Food Co-op for the month of August 2020. The money received will go in full to the electrical upgrade at the Roundup Lodge.

Every year, the Silver City Food Co-op selects 12 local non-profits to receive the proceeds from their Roundup Program. When you go into the Co-op and make a purchase, the cashier will ask if you want to "Roundup." If your bill comes to \$9.70 and you give them a \$10 bill and choose to roundup, the extra 30 cents will be donated to the non-profit for that month.

This is a painless way to give to local charities. If you don't shop at the Co-op, you should—and get into the habit of rounding up. Mark your new calendar for August and be sure to shop at the Co-op and round up for the Roundup Lodge. MVHAL (Mimbres Valley Health Action League) makes much use of the lodge and is happy to contribute to its upgrade. As many of you know, the Mimbres Booster Club (guardians of the Roundup Lodge) has been working tirelessly to raise funds to improve the building's heating and cooling system. This is the only community center in Mimbres that is open and available for those in the valley. You will hear more about this event in the months leading up to August, but for now we just want to give a big thank you to the Silver City Food Co-op for this program.



**\$100 grand  
prize**

Donated by  
La Esperanza Vineyard  
and Winery

**Mimbres Roundup Lodge**  
Your Community Center

**Bingo**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8  
2 PM TO 5 PM**

**Come join the fun!**

**CARDS  
\$5 FOR 1 or  
\$10 FOR 3  
Plus More Money  
Games  
And new prizes!**






**WHAT:**        **5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY SING        and!**  
**CELEBRATION OF THE NEW YEAR COMING!!**

**WHERE:**        Rio Mimbres Baptist Church ~ 29 Cactus Drive ~ Mimbres, NM

**WHEN:**        **Sunday, December 29, 2019 ~ 6 pm 'til ??**

**WHY:**        So glad you asked. Music is calming and encouraging. This evening will be packed full of about an hour or so of live music, dinner (provided), and Table Games 'til the cows come home!

**WHO?**        For everybody – all ages – with no exceptions.

*Furnished Dinner to follow in the Fellowship Hall, with Table Games galore.*

For more info, call Sharon Myers 575-313-0797

## RIO MIMBRES BAPTIST CHURCH

29 Cactus Drive, Mimbres, NM  
575-536-9543

Sunday Worship  
Nursery provided 9:45 am to 12:30 pm  
Bible Study 9:45 am  
Worship at 11:00 am  
Wednesday Worship Services 6:00 pm

*Where everyone is welcome to worship  
and experience God's Love*

## CATHOLIC SERVICES NEW HOURS

San Lorenzo Mission  
Every Sunday at 9:30 am

San Juan Mission  
Is CLOSED

San Jose Mission  
in Faywood  
Third Sunday of every month  
at 4:00 pm

## LOCAL CHURCHES

### MIMBRES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2622 Highway 35, Mimbres  
(Next to the Senior Citizen's Center)

Pastor Janet Whitmore has returned  
from retirement to replace Pastor  
Gene McPeak who moved to Abilene

**We invite you to join us for**  
Sunday Morning Worship at 10 a.m.

Mimbres United Methodist Church  
has a box on Highway 35 in which  
people may put their prayer requests,  
anonymous or named. The prayer  
requests will be retrieved weekly and  
Pastor Janet and the congregation  
will seek the Lord's help on behalf of  
those who are seeking assistance.

## NEW COVENANT CHURCH

27 Turn Here Road  
Mimbres, N.M.

Sunday Morning Worship  
10:00 AM

A Small Non-Denominational Church  
With A Big Message  
JESUS IS LORD  
"You are Always Welcome"

## TEAMKIDS AND YOUTH GROUP



*Come have fun  
and learn  
about our  
Creator!*

### Team Kids

Grades 1 through 6 will have good news  
club at the San Lorenzo Elementary  
School on Mondays after school.

### Youth Group

Grades 7 to 12 meet from 3 pm to 5 pm  
on Sundays at the Rio Mimbres Baptist  
Church.

Phone: 575-536-9543  
29 Cactus Dr., Mimbres

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR & HAPPENINGS

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS - EVERY TUESDAY and FRIDAY - 5:30 pm** Mimbres Roundup Lodge, Acklin Hill Road. Speaker meeting last Tuesday of the month. For more information call 515-313-4693 or 888-388-1802.

**ALZHEIMER CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP** - For more information call Sharon McGrath 536-3950.

**CASAS ADOBES WATER ASSOCIATION - December 19 - (usually the third Thursday in even numbered months) 6:30 p.m.** Roundup Lodge, Acklin Hill Road.

**COMMODITIES DISTRIBUTION - December 18 - (third Wednesday of every month) - 12 NOON to 2:00 pm** - Roundup Lodge  
Please bring a suitable box. Volunteers to help pack boxes are always needed.

**DESERT WEST AUCTION - THE BIG RED BARN** - 3870 Hwy 35, Mimbres. **Third Sunday of every month** Off Line and On Line Auction email: desertwest@desertwestauction.com web: www.desertwestauction.com phone: 575-536-9353 On Line at www.liveauctioneers.com

**HMS MIMBRES CLINIC** - Clinic Hours and Days have been changed - **Tuesday and Thursday 8:00 am to 5 pm.** 575-536-3990  
(Closed between 12 noon and 1 pm for lunch)

**KATE BROWN POTTERY & TILE December 7th and 8th - 10 am to 5 pm** - December Studio Sale - Kate Browns Showroom, for directions to the showroom, see the ad on Page 3. Other times, open by appointment only 536-9935

**LA ESPERANZA VINEYARD & WINERY - Winery open Friday, Saturday and Sunday - Noon to 6:00 pm.** Mimbres' Award Winning Winery. For more information call 505-259-9523 or 505-238-6252

**MIMBRES CULTURE HERITAGE SITE** - 12 Sage Drive (on Highway 35), New Winter hours starting November 1. Friday - Sunday, 11 am to 3 pm. Special group tours can be arranged by calling 575-536-3333 or 575-536-9337 at least a week in advance.

**MIMBRES FARM BUREAU** - There will be no meeting for the month of December - Monthly meetings are the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm. Roundup Lodge. Pot-luck supper followed by a business meeting. Everyone welcome.

**MIMBRES VALLEY HEALTH ACTION LEAGUE (MVHAL) - Wednesday, December 11th - 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm** (usually the 2nd Wednesday of the month) Roundup Lodge - Acklin Hill Road

**MIMBRES VALLEY ROUNDUP LODGE BOOSTER CLUB - Roundup Lodge - Acklin Hill Road - Calendar of events.**

**BOOSTER CLUB MONTHLY MEETING. December 5 - 5:30 pm** (First Thursday of the month) Everyone welcome. White Elephant Yankee Swap at our Christmas Meeting.

**BINGO - December 8th - 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm** - Second Sunday of each month. Roundup Lodge - \$5 a card or 3 for \$10.00. Grand Prize of \$75

**NEW Year's Day Community Brunch - Wednesday, January 1, 2020 - 11 am to 2:00 pm** FREE Brunch - Everyone Welcome. See the Roundup Lodge Notes on Page 8.

**MIMBRES VALLEY SENIOR CENTER - LUNCH DAILY - Monday - Friday NEW HOURS—LUNCH IS NOW AT 12 NOON** Reservations are requested one day in advance. See Page 15 for daily menu.

**ACTIVITIES CALENDAR** - See Page 14

**EXERCISE FOR SENIORS -Every Tuesday and Thursday - 10:30 am** Stretching and light weight lifting. For information call Thelma Melvin 536-2899

**SENIOR CENTER THRIFT STORE - open to everyone 9 am to 1:30 pm Monday through Friday.** Great bargains by donation. There is also a free book lending area.

**SENIOR CENTER ADVISORY COUNCIL - December 24th** - (meets 4th Tuesday of each month after lunch) For information call Sharon McGrath 536-3950. Election of Advisory Council officers.

**MIMBRES VALLEY THERAPEUTIC HEALING MESSAGES - NOW OPEN** Tuesdays through Saturdays - 2739 Highway 35. For appointments call 575-574-7069

**RIO MIMBRES BAPTIST CHURCH - Grief Share Program, Weekly Tuesdays, September 3 to December 3. 6 pm - 8 pm**, 29 Cactus Drive, Mimbres. For more information call Debbie at 313-4199

**5th Sunday Sing and Celebration of the new Year Coming - December 29 - 6:00 pm until ??** Music, dinner, and table games. Everyone welcome.

**VALLE MIMBRES MARKET - TUESDAY, THURSDAY AND SATURDAY 11:00 am to 6:00 pm;** Fresh organic and local produce, groceries and more. Every Saturday 10% off all fresh produce. Credit, debit, EBT. 2739 Highway 35. 575-574-7069.

# COUNTY CALENDAR

**ALBERTSONS - Wednesday, December 4th - First Wednesday of the month.** Seniors 55+ get 10% off. All day.

**AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP - Every Wednesday - 6 pm to 7 pm -** Arenas Valley Church of Christ, 5 Race Track Road, Arenas Valley. Open meeting for family and friends of alcoholics. For information, call 575-313-7094 or 575-654-1643

**AMERICAN LEGION POST 18 of Silver City -** meets every **Wednesday from 8:30 am to 10:30 am** for coffee and doughnuts for all veterans. 409 West College Avenue, Silver City. For more information contact Ray Davis 575-956-5153

**AMERICAN LEGION POST 18 and THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILLARY -** meet the second Saturday of every month at the American Legion Post - Breakfast at 9 am followed by a meeting at 10 am

**BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN - December 11th (usually the 2nd WEDNESDAYS of the month) at 6:00 pm** Everyone, members and interested parties are invited. Meetings frequently include information on upcoming events, trail cleanings and conditions, educational presentations and demonstrations. **WNMU Watt's Hall Room #224 in Silver City Opposite CVS Pharmacy - NW corner of Hwy 180 and Swan - parking on Cactus enter at NW door.**

**BAYARD PUBLIC LIBRARY - NEW HOURS - Monday - noon to 6 pm, Tuesday through Friday - 9 am to 6 pm - CLOSED on Saturday and Sunday.** 1112 Central Avenue, Bayard. 575-537-6244

**BOOKMOBILE WEST SCHEDULE -Thursday, December 19th**

**Mimbres -** Living Harvest Bakery 9:45 am - 10:45 am

**Lake Roberts -** Sapillo Creek Fire Station 11:45 am - 12:45 pm

**Doc Campbell's Post (near Gila Cliff Dwellings) 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm**

**Rural Bookmobile West - 1000 Main St. NW, Building 16A, Los Lunas, NM 87031**

**Phone: 505-841-5250 Fax: 505-841-5255 Email: [rbmw@state.nm.us](mailto:rbmw@state.nm.us)**

**Books by Mail** Provides library service to those who are not reached by bookmobiles or public libraries. 1-800-395-9144

**Library for the Blind and physically Handicapped -** Phone toll free 1-800-456-5515

**FORT BAYARD WALKING TOURS -** Private tours for family and friends visiting the area. Call 575-388-9123 or 575-574-8779

**GRANT COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY - - Wednesday, December 18th - (3rd Weds of the month) - 6:00 PM** Meetings will be held from October to April at the Club House on Memory Lane in Silver City. Call Marilyn Markel 536-9337 for more information.

**GRANT COUNTY ROLLING STONES GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY - Thursday, December 12th - (2nd Thursday), 6:00 pm -** Meeting and potluck followed by a rock draw. Bring your own service ware and dish to share. **NEW MEETING PLACE and CONTACT INFO:** 2045 Memory Lane, Silver City and the new contact phone number is 575-654-4424 **rollingstonesgms.blogspot.com**

**Field trip Saturday, December 21 - the 3rd Saturday of the month at 8:30 am.** For more information contact Ansel Walters at 575-388-2010

**HI LO SILVERS CHRISTMAS CONCERT AND SING-A-LONG - Friday, December 13 at 7:00 pm or Sunday, December 15 at 3:00 pm - First Presbyterian Church, 1915 North Swan Street, Silver City.** ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ Singers are directed by Nada Dates and accompanied by Rhonda Gorog on piano, Bill Baldwin on baseviolin and Lelinda McClanahan on percussion. **FREE** ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪

**MS SUPPORT GROUP - First Tuesday of the month at 11:30 am for lunch in Silver City.** Meetings are held in various City area restaurants. New members with Multiple Sclerosis are welcome. Email [huseworld@yahoo.com](mailto:huseworld@yahoo.com) for the location.

**NEW HOPE AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP - EVERY MONDAY - 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm -** First Presbyterian Church at 20th and Swan, Silver City. Open meeting for family and friends of alcoholics. For information, call Jerry 575-534-4866 or Diana 575-574-2311.

**SANTA CLARA LIGHTED CHRISTMAS PARADE - December 7th at apx. 6:30**

**SILVER CITY MUSEUM - Tuesday - Friday 9 am to 4:30 pm. Saturday and Sunday - 10 am to 4 pm, 312 West Broadway.**

Museum Admission is free; \$5 suggested donation. For more information, please contact the museum at (575) 538-5921 [education@silvercitymuseum.org](mailto:education@silvercitymuseum.org), or visit the museum's website: [www.silvercitymuseum.org](http://www.silvercitymuseum.org)

**The Legend of Our Lady Guadalupe Saturday, December 7, 12-1pm at The Silco Theatre** In honor of the upcoming Feast Day of regional Catholic icon the Virgin of Guadalupe, a.k.a. Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Silver City Museum presents local aficionado and "Guadalupara" Della Acosta. Ms. Acosta will relate the fabulous story and rich symbolism behind this beloved figure

**CHRISTMAS CRAFTING SATURDAY, December 14, 1:30-3:30, Silver City Museum Annex (302 W. Broadway)** All ages are welcome to come make your own Victorian tree ornaments.



CONT. FROM PAGE 13

**VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS - Thursday, December 12th - 5:00 pm -8:00 pm.** Put on your Victorian finest and head over for cookies, spiced cider, live music, gift exchange, Christmas shopping, and all-around holiday cheer. Costumes encouraged but not required: check out Vintage Fantasies on Bullard Street for a special discount on Victorian clothes. If you would like to volunteer or donate cookies for this festive community event please contact Jo Lutz at [volunteercoordinator@silvercitymuseum.org](mailto:volunteercoordinator@silvercitymuseum.org) or 575-597-0229.

**SILVER CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE LUNCHEON MEETING - Thursday, December 5th (Usually 1st Thursday of the month) NEW Meeting Site:** The Conference Center at 3031 US-180, Silver City - **Reminder that you should register online.** Cost is \$15 for full lunch. See [silvercity.org](http://silvercity.org) for detailed information or email [info@silvercity.org](mailto:info@silvercity.org) or call GCCC at 575-538-3785.

**SILVER CITY FOOD CO-OP - Calendar of Events** contact the Food Co-op at 575-388-2343 or [www.silvercityfoodcoop.coop](http://www.silvercityfoodcoop.coop) for information about any event.

**POPCORN FRIDAYS!** Enjoy Free Organic Popcorn and Food Samples at the Silver City Food Co-op 520 North Bullard Street

**SILVER CITY PHOTO CLUB - No time or date available, Call 860-670-4543 for information - Unitarian Universalist Meeting House, 3845 North Swan Street in Silver City.** Meetings are free, but donations to help out our host venue are appreciated.

**TOPS in SILVER CITY #0280, Every Thursday, Weigh-in 5 pm - 5:30 pm. Meeting at 5:30 pm.** First Presbyterian Church, 1915 North Swan. For more information, call Jan Bever 303-902-8236

**WALGREENS - Tuesday, December 3 - (1st Tuesday of each month) - SENIOR DISCOUNT - 10% off of items not on sale.**

**WIDOWED AND SINGLE PERSONS OF GRANT COUNTY – Monday, December 9th - Sign in at 10:30 am - (second Monday of each month)** Cross Point Assembly of God church. Cost of lunch is \$12. All singles are welcome. We will have a social hour over lunch. For information call 575-537-3643

**WOMEN'S AL-ANON MEETING: WOMEN EMBRACING RECOVERY - Every Friday - 5:30 pm to 6:30pm - La Clinica Health and Birth Center, 3201 Ridge Loop, Silver City.** Closed meeting for women who are family and friends of alcoholics. For information call 575-313-7094 or 575-313-1032

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# SENIOR CENTER MENU

PLEASE CALL YOUR SENIOR CENTER BEFORE 10:00 A. M. OR MAKE RESERVATIONS THE DAY BEFORE FOR MEALS. ALL DONATIONS ARE ACCEPTED. THANK YOU.

## DECEMBER 2019

### MILK IS SERVED DAILY

MONDAY 2	TUESDAY 3	WEDNESDAY 4	THURSDAY 5	FRIDAY 6
Chile Relleno w/ Cheese Pinto Beans Tossed Salad Flour Tortilla Fruit Cocktail	Tater Tot Casserole California Vegetables Tossed Salad Dinner Roll Peaches	Baked Fish Rice Pilaf Broccoli & Cauliflower Breadstick Sliced Pears Yogurt	Tamale w/ Red Chile Tossed Salad Pinto Beans Flour Tortilla Orange	Ham Sandwich Lettuce & Tomato Baked Chips Carrot Sticks w/ Ranch Oatmeal Cookie
9	10	11	12	13
Green Chile Cheeseburger Lettuce/Tomato/Onion/Pickle Peas & Carrots Applesauce	Pork Posole Calabacitas Tossed Salad Flour Tortilla Pear	Baked Chicken Breast Egg Noodles w/ Alfredo Sauce Squash & Corn Dinner Roll Grapes	Meatloaf Scalloped Potatoes Green Beans Dinner Roll Vanilla Wafers Vanilla Pudding	Green Chile Stew Mexicorn Tossed Salad Flour Tortilla Warm Cinnamon Apples
16	17	18	19	20
Oven Fried Chicken Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Spinach Salad Dinner Roll Apple	Pizza Italian Vegetables Tossed Salad Orange	Red Chile Beef Enchiladas Lettuce & Tomato Calabacitas Banana Ice Cream	Baked Ham Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Green Beans w/ Tomato Cornbread Fruit Salad	Grilled Cheese Sandwich Ham & Bean Soup Tossed Salad Strawberries Whipped Topping
23	24	25	26	27
Chicken Strips Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Borccoli & Carrots Slice Bread Strawberries Birthday Cake			Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce Italian Vegetables Breadstick Apple	Egg Salad Sandwich Baked Chips Carrots & Celery Orange
30	31			
Chile Beans w/ Cheese Tossed Salad Cornbread Strawberries Ice Cream	Chicken Fajita Pinto Beans Cauliflower Fruit Cocktail			HMS Senior Centers Ena Mitchell 542-9414 Silver City 388-2545 Santa Clara 537-5254 Gila 535-2888 Mimbres 536-9990

HMS Senior Centers  
Ena Mitchell 542-9414  
Silver City 388-2545  
Santa Clara 537-5254  
Gila 535-2888  
Mimbres 536-9990

**MENUS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE**

## SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES

There is no charge for any of the listed activities

**LUNCH IS SERVED DAILY (Monday through Friday) 12:00 NOON**

Dominos  
Billiards  
Exercise Club  
Advisory Council  
Puzzles

Mon - Fri  
Mon - Fri  
Tues and Thurs  
4th Tuesday  
Mon - Fri

Starting at 9:00 am  
9 am to 2 pm  
10:30 am to 11:30 am  
After Lunch  
Starting at 9 am

Dining Hall  
Pool Room  
Dining Hall  
Dining Hall  
Dining Hall

For any questions about activities, please call your senior center. Activities are open to all who are age 55 plus. (Age 60+ for the nutrition program.) There are no income or residency requirements to participate in senior programs. **Donations of any amount are appreciated.**



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**SENIOR MOBILE FOOD PANTRY** The third Wednesday of every month, the Gospel Mission in Silver City will distribute food at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 1301 North Swan Street from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. If you are 55 years of age or older, live in Grant County and you need help with food, you are welcome to come by. Please bring your own box or bag to put food in. Help carrying will be available if you need it. If you would like to lend a hand in helping to set up or carrying boxes to cars, please show up at around 12:30 p.m.

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## Bug of the Month

By "The Bugman"

This is a new column that will focus on insects and their close relatives that are found in southwestern New Mexico.

The first bug of the month is the red harvester ant, an insect commonly found throughout the Valley. The name harvester ant refers to their foraging behavior - they collect seeds and carry them back to their nests.



Although harvester ants are only about 3/8" long, they can carry as much as 50 times their body weight. If people were equally strong, a 200-pound man could carry 10,000 pounds, the weight of 3 average-sized cars!

The nests of harvester ants are easily spotted by the absence of vegetation around the entrance, leaving a large clearing up to 30 feet in diameter. Some nesting sites are so large they can be seen in Google Earth! It is thought that the area around the nest is cleared in order to decrease shading, and therefore increase solar heating of the colony. Nests are up to 20 feet deep, consisting of a maze of underground tunnels and chambers, where seeds are stored for future dining pleasure.

Harvester ants are social insects, meaning that they care cooperatively for their young and have a division of labor with reproductive and non-reproductive groups. During most of the year, all individuals in a colony are female, but only one, the queen, produces eggs. The queen is the mother of all the other ants in the colony, which can include more than 10,000 individuals! After a colony is about 5 years old, the queen will produce winged males and females once a year, which fly out of the nest and mate. After the females are mated, they

find a suitable location, tear off their wings, excavate a hole in the ground and start their life as the queen of a new colony, never again seeing daylight.

Beware around harvester ants! They will both bite and sting to defend their nests. When stinging, they inject one of the most poisonous of all insect venoms, with a toxicity nearly 8 times greater than that of a western diamondback rattlesnake. However, they are reluctant to sting, and when they do, inject very little venom. Their stings are painful and may hurt for several hours, but are typically not life threatening except in extremely sensitive individuals. Interestingly, horned lizards (a.k.a. horny toads), which love to feast on harvester ants, are completely immune to the ants' venom!

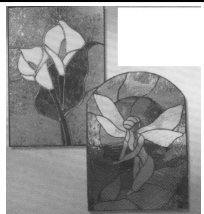
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### Continued from Page 4 - Dollar Store

look -- all the junk food we can eat," gesturing to the food aisle. "If we get sick, we have cough drops and aspirin, and we have toothpaste and toothbrushes. And there must be a restroom back there somewhere." By this time, grumbles had turned to chuckles, I know I was smiling.

Soon the woman at the checkout was filling her cart with bags, almost done. But then, we hear her say, as she paws through her purse, "I know my credit card is here somewhere, I just used it at Walmart." The groans and grumbles return. The young woman behind me, says, loud enough for all to hear, "We'll be known as the Dollar Store People. We'll be our own community." Laughter broke out, people smiled again. And, finally, the cashier says, "Your total is \$247.41." The credit card was found, the loaded cart heads for the exit. Sighs of relief can be heard. I paid for my purchase, then turned to the young woman, as she placed the water on the counter, "I like your sense of humor. Thank you," I said. Our eyes met, a connection made, an experience shared.

Now, when I stand in line, I can't but help think of the time I became, just for a few minutes, one of the Dollar Store People.



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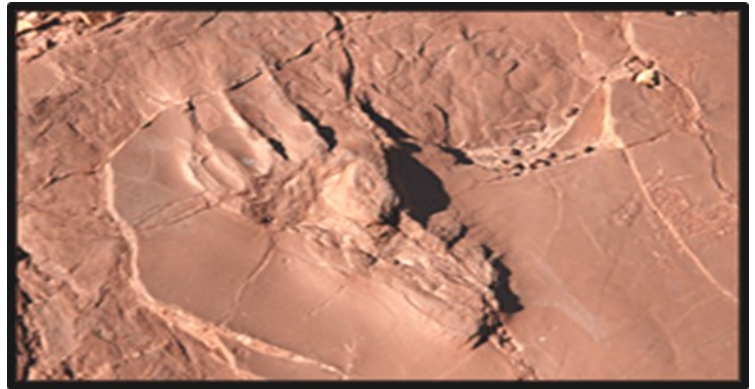
## Conejo Mimbrenño Animal Tracks Activity

Help Conejo Mimbrenño match the animals (and Santa) to their tracks.



## Conejo Mimbrenño Visits Prehistoric Trackways National Monument

The eleventh in our series highlighting New Mexico National Parks and Monuments  
By Marilyn Markel



The Prehistoric Trackways National Monument is located near Las Cruces, N.M. This monument was established in 2009 to conserve, protect, and enhance the unique and nationally important paleontological, scientific, educational, scenic, and recreational resources and values of the Robledo Mountains in southern New Mexico. Tracks include those of numerous reptiles, amphibians, and insects. Fossils of plants and petrified wood, all dating before dinosaurs roamed the land, can also be found at this special place from the past.



Answers on Page \_\_\_\_\_



## November Activities at the San Lorenzo School

### San Lorenzo School Honors Our Veterans

On November 12th, Students and staff of San Lorenzo elementary invited veterans for lunch and a patriotic program. Students saluted the flags, and the Honor Guard of veterans. They sang songs honoring the branches of the military along with songs like America the Beautiful. Ms. Reyes' class read a poem. The kids got to speak, one-on-one, with the veterans, real-life heroes. The veterans were each given a student-decorated mug as a small token of gratitude for their service to our country.



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## TERRIFIC KID AWARDS

The Kiwanis Club of Silver City celebrated students honored as Terrific Kids for November at San Lorenzo Elementary School. The program honors elementary school students for demonstrating a positive attitude, good character, and responsible citizenship. The club has formed a partnership with 11 elementary schools to recognize Terrific Kids every month of the scholastic year. Besides getting a certificate, each child is given a packet of terrific kids gear for them and their parents.



Those honored are: back, Carly Close, Asher Grado, Kyle King, Cooper Zimmerman, and Esmiah Roybal.

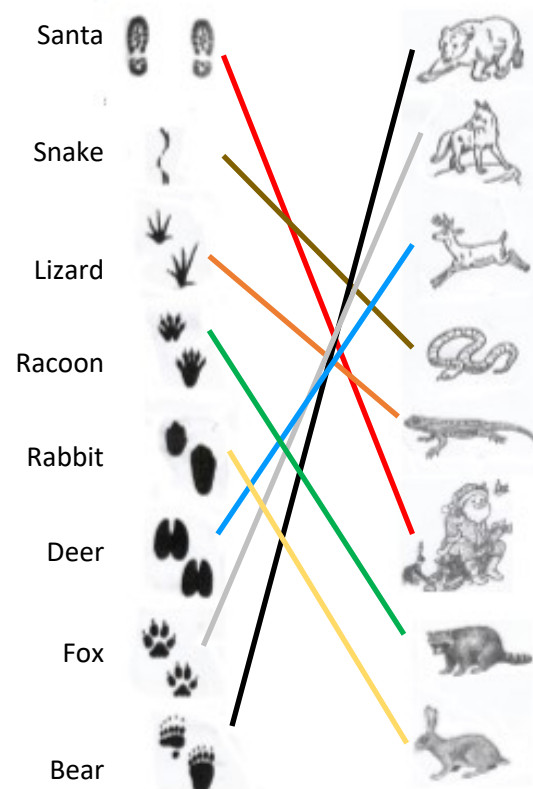
Front, Elizabeth Powell, Zellana  
Moulton, Ezekial Torres, and Kiyara  
De la Torre.

## Thanksgiving Lunch at San Lorenzo School

San Lorenzo Elementary celebrated Thanksgiving by inviting families of students and other community members for a Thanksgiving Lunch.



Answers to Animal Tracks Activity on Page \_\_\_\_\_





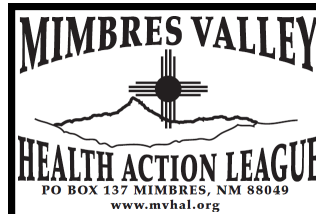
**Mimbres Messenger**

P. O. Box 137  
Mimbres, NM 88049

Please email any suggestions, articles, announcements, upcoming events, advertising, etc. for consideration

by the editors to:  
willwhite200@aol.com

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[www.mvhal.org](http://www.mvhal.org)  
[www.mimbresharvestfest.com](http://www.mimbresharvestfest.com)  
[www.blackrange.org](http://www.blackrange.org)



Mimbres Messenger  
Farmers' Market  
Harvest Festival  
Commodities Distribution  
The San Lorenzo Children's Garden

**WEDNESDAY - December 11th - 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm.** MVHAL. Board Meeting. Roundup Lodge, 91 Acklin Hill Road.

**WEDNESDAY, December 18th - Noon to 2 pm**  
**Commodities Pickup** - Roundup Lodge - Volunteers needed to pack food. Please bring suitable boxes.

The Mimbres Valley Health Action League was founded for the purposes of improving the health, well-being, and quality of life for the people of the Mimbres region. Some of the ways targeted to do that are by improving communication and social networks, providing preventive health education, improving access to health and social services, increasing financial and economic stability, increasing recreation opportunities, increasing education opportunities, and promoting a



### Mimbres Valley 2020 Harvest Festival Calendar

If you missed purchasing your 2020 Mimbres Calendar at the Harvest Festival, it is not too late. If we still have some available, you can call Grace at 575-536-3687 or Mary at 575-536-9323, and we can arrange for you to get one. \$10 per calendar. Makes great Christmas gifts and inexpensive to mail!



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