

A FREE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2016

MIMBRES MESSENGER

The North Pole has Reindeer

By Anna Willhite

Photos courtesy of Sondra Livermore



Last spring, Sondra Livermore, a Valley resident, learned about five alpacas in Belen, whose elderly owner could no longer care for them. They had essentially been left in a pen with no grass and were not in good physical shape. With no history of caring for livestock, Sondra began research to learn about raising alpacas. After much soul, and internet, searching she decided to undertake their care and to try to improve their circumstances.

The animals needed much attention: their teeth had been neglected and needed floating; their toes needed trimming; they had not been fleeced for a long time and were matted, dirty and beset by flies and other undesirables. Sondra arranged for their necessary medical and other care. During their rehabilitation, the degree of previous neglect became more apparent. It was obvious that they were never handled and perhaps had suffered abuse. They did not trust people. Sondra describes the process of their needed care as rough. They had to be restrained and held immobile while their cleanup took place. In May, they were fleeced, their teeth and toes tended and they were tossed back into the truck for their move to Mimbres.

When they arrived in Mimbres and were let out of the truck, their personalities changed. They were not in a pen and they had grass to walk on and graze. They expressed curiosity rather than fear. Their first night in their new home, they stood outside the kitchen window,

looking in, watching Sondra, curious about her every move. While still skittish about being touched or handled,



The Mimbres has Alpacas

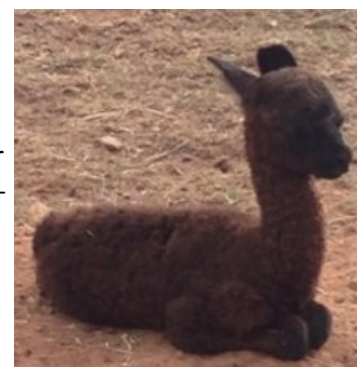


they adapted quickly to their improved surroundings. They have a large fenced area to roam and graze and share the property with two dogs, who treat them with respect and do not bark at them. In fact, the alpacas are aggressive toward the dogs, who keep their distance. There are horses in an adjoining pasture and the alpacas visit with them over the fence.



There are five attractive alpacas now comfortably at home in Mimbres, one male and four females. The male, Alvin, is a handsome reddish brown; the

females, Black Diamond, Ebony and Midnight are black and Misty is gray. Not surprisingly, given the male/female ratio, probably all four females were pregnant when they arrived here. Alpacas' gestation period is, on average, 11.5 months. So, in addition to all the other research into alpaca care, Sondra added midwifery. Preferred breeding schedules are not for winter birth when babies often do not survive freezing temperatures. Midnight had recently delivered a stillborn baby, and two of the other females are probably pregnant. Ebony, however, gave birth to a gorgeous baby boy on November 16th, who is named Sampson.



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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

By: Anna Willhite

Holiday Greetings from the staff of *The Messenger*. I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving with friends and family. It is always impressive how many Christmas decorations and displays magically appear the day after Thanksgiving. The commercial aspect starts before Halloween, but I prefer the residential and local decorations.

It is hard to believe that another year is drawing to a close. We have had a rather tumultuous year, what with so many of us being away so many times, and getting each issue together via long distance, e-mail and other creative methods. But we got the job done, and mostly on time. Our group is small, but extraordinarily reliable and consistently helpful. We have even managed to attract several interesting contributions from our readers as a result of my shameless begging. Dizzy with success, I continue to request articles and other items of interest from readers!

Our successful year is due largely to the consistent efforts of Marilyn Markel, contributing writer *extraordinaire*; RJ Nelson, diligent printer and distributor; Grace Williams, our "house mother" who also provides printing and distribution services; and nepotism aside, my sister, Mary who does prodigious layout and any other chore that arises, mostly in good humor! We occasionally, gratefully attract additional help, and are always on the lookout for more. So if literary or production or distribution activities are included in your new year's resolutions, give us a call.

Despite my recent complaints about the onset of cold weath-

er (having recently returned from a warmer climate) and the unseasonably early snow, the Mimbres still offers beautiful vistas and interesting attractions. Recent first-time visitors to our house have been treated to local points of interest, and have every one exclaimed that the Mimbres is wonderful. But we already knew that. Even with the cold, the fact that the sun shines most every day continues to delight me personally.

This month's cover article about our new four-footed neighbors, the alpacas, was a treat to write. Getting to know (and even pat) these gorgeous creatures was just big fun. The fact that they have been rescued from a bad situation and exhibit happiness in their new home in the Valley makes them doubly appealing.

Warmest Wishes for a Merry Christmas from *The Mimbres Messenger*.



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Continued from page 1 - Alpaca

Baby Sampson was born just as temperatures began to drop and as it was a cold night, Sondra was in attendance and checked on him every two hours all night long. After clean up the new mom was somewhat casual, or exhausted. Sondra put the baby in a pen with mom, encouraging the baby to walk to her and stand close so that he would eat and stay warm. All the other alpacas were nearby and very aware and protective of the new baby. For his very first birthday present, Sampson received a custom-made flannel coat, made by Sondra from child-sized vests and stuffed with alpaca fleece. Warm.



Raising and caring for herd animals is a complex and difficult process. Sondra embarked on a prodigious learning program to learn how to care for and work with alpacas. Her generosity and efforts to provide a safe and healthy environment for the alpacas is not surprising. A former computer programmer, after many years of intense study and hard work, Sondra became a faith-based missionary. She frequently travels to impoverished areas, mostly in South America to aid people with limited or no access to doctors and traditional medicines. She teaches the natives to make their own herbal remedies, and to understand their use. She undertook training and education to become a licensed health care provider and is also a certified massage therapist. Her concern for four-footed animals is totally consistent with her concern for her fellow man, and she has pursued both with determination

and intensity. And this is just a summary of her many accomplishments.

It is an unfortunate fact that there are many abandoned and neglected alpacas who would benefit from rescue, and there are large alpaca farms all over the United States. People often have the idea that raising alpacas for their fleece is a good plan. In fact, selling unprocessed fleece by the bag is not remunerative, and would not result in sufficient income even to feed them. To profit from production of alpaca fleece, it must be spun into yarn, which is another labor-intensive process.

Unlike other herd animals, alpacas more resemble dolphins than cattle. They wear their emotions on their sleeves. You can establish friendship with alpacas, but not as pets. In order to work closely with them people must gain their trust. Alpacas are not naturally receptive to pats or touching. They will tolerate humans as rapport increases. Naturally curious, alpacas will approach people to a certain extent, to determine whether they are "acceptable" and as they interact with people, to eventually inquire whether food or treats are forthcoming.

I have visited twice with the alpacas. At first, when Sondra was nearby they would approach. The second time, they were more readily interested in approaching. On both occasions Alvin would eat pellets from my hand! Some of the females would eat pellets out of a hand-held bucket. Ebony would allow pats when feeding from a bucket. Baby Sampson will allow pats, as he has known handling and touch since birth. In just the short interval between my visits to them, these fascinating creatures have become very comfortable and sociable in their environment. With the addition of Sampson, they are vigilant and protective of the baby, instinctively placing themselves between him and any approaching stranger. They are not aggressive, just quietly conveying the message that this is a precious little guy. Their relaxed and curious attitude seems to me a result of their

Continued to page 6 –Alpaca



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Ritual Study in the Ascending Pueblos of Northern New Mexico

By Marivel Medel (Honor Student and Assistant Librarian at Bayard Public Library)

The Acoma Pueblo in Acoma, New México is incredibly photogenic. This could be the fault of the deep concentrate of burnt orange abode contrasting against the expanse of blue of the sky around it. This fetching picture makes for a whole lot of regret that while on the reservation in many places visitors are not allowed to take pictures. However, it is exactly that sort of diligent cultural preservation that instills in the culture the longevity to remain authentic.



The WNMU Millennium II Honors class students traveled to the Acoma Sky City Pueblo as well as the Laguna Pueblo in the Village of Parejo in Northwestern New Mexico just west of Albuquerque. While “Sky City” for citizens of New Mexico conjures up the sound of Sky City Casino advertisements the students were met with an abundance of rich imagery of culture and geography that invoked the idea of a less commercial cultural experience. In conjunction with anthropology and english, Mary Hotvedt and Barbra Matson are instructing the students over the course of the semester in the differences and implications of ritual and tradition. In doing close observation and fieldwork the students were to arrive at a unique formula of what is considered ritual. “As an off-shoot of cultural anthropology, the formal study of ritual began in the late-nineteenth century as a tool for probing issues central to society, religion, and culture, and for comprehending mysterious ‘others’ across the globe,” says Matson.

The students that make up the honors class are not any one “type” of student, but each unique in their own reasons and motivations to join the honor class. Senior and history major Javier Marrufo shared his thoughts on what continues to attract him to the honors class which he began nearly five semesters ago, “the themes of the class are constantly changing and always relevant to some facet of my studies,” he continues, “it just so happens that most of them have been specifically the areas of focus that I have been studying. I have been able to learn about histo-

ry first had from the people who are products of it.”

The Acoma Pueblo is the epicenter of the setting of the indigenous history. Pueblo people are believed to have descended from the [Anasazi](#), [Mogollon](#) and other ancient peoples. These influences are seen in the architecture and artistry of the Acoma. The mesa, which towers solidly 357 feet above the Acoma Sky City Museum, is imposing, tinting the huddled, attractive pueblos of varying gradients of earthen tones. Art is sold on nearly every household plain. Pots, vases, jewelry and sculptures in the likeness of animals are displayed just outside the threshold of homes. Some residents boast their artisanship, others aim to remind tourists to abstain from taking pictures in order to preserve their privacy. Like the colors of the surrounding adobe, so does their art echo the visual descriptions of the land; cool pinks, deep reds and sharp black lines that hug the contours of the pottery.

The students walked amongst the legend and lure of the historical pueblo. Stories of Spanish colonization, great misfortune and immense suffering resonated around the touring group and echoed from one pueblo wall to the next. Also of great magnificence was the Acoma Pueblo Church or the [San Estevan Del Rey Mission Church](#), which saw construction from 1629- 1641. It is by far the largest structure on the Pueblo covering 6,000 square feet and supported by 7 foot thick adobe walls.

Overcoming the darker themes of the vibrant verbal history was the continuously emerging idea of unity of the Acoma People and their strong will and struggle to preserve the place which they had come from. This concept of “Haaku” is otherwise known to the Acoma as a spiritual homeland prepared for their eternal settlement. This feeling of honor emerged in the visibly well-kept integrity of the two and three story pueblos. Massive, brilliant white lacquered ladders descended from these pueblos. From the shadows of these could be seen the brightly painted window frames and banisters. The care



Continued on Page 5 - Pueblos

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given to the structures by five chosen community members continues to endure time. The care and attention to the pueblos denotes the persistence of culture and how it can preserve just about anything if it can preserve nearly 800-year-old structures made of mud.

LAGOONA PUEBLO DANCES

Also in persistence of ritual study, the students explored the Lagoona Pubelo just 40 miles northeast of Acoma. The yearly Pueblo Dances of the St. Margaret Mary's Feast Day held the opportunity to see the purity of a cultural presence. This was not an event that boasted a catering of culture to spectators but instead invited their own community members to vend, interact and embrace a wealth of food, music and each other.

The silver bells strapped to the knees of the Lagoona people as they marched in rhythm to a single drumbeat amassed in a dizzy, scattered cloud of subtle piercing chimes. This auditory memory best serves the ability to recall the dances, as again there was no allowance of any sort of recording device within the dancing grounds. The tribe members gathered in descending order from oldest to youngest in an oval that continuously turned and shifted to opposing directions. At any one point in the about fifteen-minute long chant, you could be face to face with a young girl, three feet high or the white painted hands of an elder women of the tribe. Some children marched with diligence, others with carless response many with excited, spirited energetic movement.

The tribe members, no matter what age were dressed in like attire. The females in long smocks of vivid colors, some with elaborately colored capes hung about their shoulders. The men in pants, also with long smocks down the length of them and button up dress shirts. The men also has animal skins hanging out from the rear and front of the waist of their pants. A great marker of distinction among these pueblo people were the burnt orange, white or tan colored moccasins nearly every member of the tribe donned. These are made of supple, clean leather and either cut below the ankle or encompass the shin of their legs wrapped with thin strands of leather or in some cases silvery metallic Concho plates.

Among the many people allowed to share the cultural event as spectators was a middle aged Acoma man who specified the importance of the nuances of each individual chant and dance, "They all tell a different story, even if you can't hear it right away they are all unique." Perhaps this ability to detect the nuance of a chant is resigned to

the members of the community. To an untrained ear it is seemingly redundant. This fine-tuned perception of chant this man and his people understand serves to recognize where they come from; personal, sacred origins that are meaningful beyond the comprehension of just anyone.

To the students studying the tradition, the opportunity to interact with native people was a real hands on opportunity scantily offered in other university classes. Sarah Crothers, the current chair of the Activates Committee for the honors program expands on this idea, "this program allows me to expand my personal, cultural, and educational experiences. It allows me to branch out of my field of study (Natural Sciences) to experience things that I may otherwise not get the chance to do and also lets me utilize my critical thinking skills in a real-world manner outside of the classroom."

Director of the Honors program
Dr. Scott Fritz

likewise advocates for the opportunities afforded not only to the students but to potential professors as well. He urges professors to encourage interest in teaching these classes. More garnered interest could really expand the course content of future classes and further give the opportunity to better instill in the students the real world applications of their fields. Scott hopes to expand the class and in the future improve the continuously scaled back funding aspects of the club.

Studying any culture really lends itself to open-mindedness and close observation. Traveling outside of a classroom is where the students that are game enough to participate are given the opportunity to partake in real life situations sometimes radically different from their own. Freshman Sierra Robinson was "promised adventure... and found on the trip a unique experience." The environment of the Pueblos was something rich in cultural identity where for even just one day a student could find their own identity as someone who steps outside of the traditional learning space and goes where real life intersects with the pursuit of knowledge.



Continued from Page 3 - Bus Driver

secure and comfortable new situation, and I believe they will become even more outgoing as their comfort continues. It is also obvious that they have formed a significant attachment to Sondra.



The herd is essentially a group of moms, all concerned and protective of the baby. This is instinctive behavior. Sheep ranchers "hire" alpacas to watch over their flocks at night. Alpacas get to know the baby sheep and know that their job is to protect newborns against coyotes and wolves, which they do quite well. They have a powerful kick and a strong attachment to the young in their care. The Mimbres herd is probably in the safest place in the Valley. They are fascinating and beautiful animals.

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Saturday, December 10 12 - 8 pm
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www.facebook.com/SilverCityHolidayMarket

Celebrating 50 years making pottery!

Kate Brown Pottery & Tile Studio Sale

December 3 & 4, Saturday & Sunday, 10 am to 5 pm

Mimbres Hot Springs artists will not be producing the Studio Sale this year. After 35 years, they have retired that special holiday event.

This year Kate Brown will celebrate 50 years working as a potter.

She hopes this first December weekend event in her showroom at Mimbres Hot Springs will serve to continue the tradition.

Her pottery is a much-appreciated holiday gift, and she invites the public to once again experience the beauty of the Mimbres Valley as a beginning to the holiday season.



Photo courtesy of Jay Hemphill

Chef Brenna Brown will be offering a gourmet lunch from noon to 4 pm, Saturday & Sunday. Saturday she will serve green chili mole tamales, both chicken & vegetarian. On Sunday, she'll make up a tamale plate with salad, black beans, green chile mole tamales and posole.

Directions: Lower Mimbres Valley Highway

61 to Mile Marker 19.5, Royal John Mine Rd. Follow signs 2.5 miles to Kate Brown Pottery Studio Sale, 147 Hot Springs Canyon Rd, Sherman, NM
 For more info: 575 536 9935, katebrown@gilanet.com.



NEWS FROM

**MIMBRES
CULTURE
HERITAGE SITE**

WINTER HOURS for MCHS

By Kathy Hill

As we are coming up on colder weather, The Imogen F. Wilson Education Foundation at the Mimbres Culture Heritage Site will be going to our winter hours schedule beginning in November. We will be open Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 11 AM until 3 PM. As always, tours can be requested by calling the site at least one week in advance. 575.536.3333.

On the first Saturday of the month, Bill Hudson will give a tour of the Mimbres Site at 1 pm.

Are you looking for that special Thanksgiving, Autumn or Christmas card that represents the Mimbres? We have a nice selection of one-of-a-kind handmade cards in the gift shop for the holidays, for a special occasions, or just because. We also have a nice selection of one-of-a-kind gifts such as embroidered bookmarks, painted gourds and Mimbres style jewelry. Our book selection focuses on local history also. So stop in and find that perfect gift for someone you care about this holiday season.

We are located just north of the Mimbres Cafe, 12 Sage Drive.



US FOREST SERVICE NEWS Gila National Forest

Christmas Tree Cutting Permits went on sale November 21st on the Gila National Forest at all ranger districts. Permits for Pinon pines are free. Permits for all other species are \$5. Offices are open Monday - Friday except for Federal Holidays. Remember, if you have a 4th grade student who is eligible for an Every Kid in a Park Pass, your family is eligible for a free Christmas Tree Cutting permit. Check with one of our front-line staff for more information on this program or go to <https://www.everykidinapark.gov/>

The Gila National Forest will be conducting orientation and training sessions for the Cobre Southwest Firefighter recruitment program for the 2017 wildland fire season. To qualify, candidates must attend the Introductory Session on January 4th or 11th from 6 pm to 8 pm at Ba-taan Park, 33 Old Ft. Bayard Road, Santa Clara, NM. For more information, contact Gabe Holquin at 575-388-8233 or Leroy Holquin at 575-388-8450.

Aldo Leopold Charter School YCC Archaeology Crew Help Teach Preservation Education at MCHS

By Marilyn Markel



The Youth Conservation Corps Archaeology Crew from Aldo Leopold Charter School (ALCS) participated in education programs at the Mimbres Culture Heritage Site this fall. During outdoor museum days, elementary school students from San Lorenzo, Bayard, and Silver City listened to presentations given by the Aldo Leopold students and volunteer educators. Third, fourth and fifth graders learned about the long-a-go Mimbres Indians and homesteaders- people that once made their homes along the Mimbres River. The students went on the interpretive trail through the Mattocks Ruin, learned about preservation, and had lots of hands-on fun participating in activities like making a clay pot, grinding corn on a metate, and whirling a bullroarer. The ALCS students also gave presentations at San Lorenzo School and will be in Mrs. Ross' class again in December to help the younger kids learn about being a site steward.

The Aldo Leopold students think of Smokey the Mattocks Cat as their mascot, and always enjoy visiting the cat when they are in Mimbres.



New Mexico State Highway 159 Bursum Road) was closed for the winter on Tuesday, November 29th. Gates will be locked just north of Mogollon and on the Bear Wallow Lookout Road 153S. Travelers will need to go through Reserve to get to Willow Creek or Snow Lake until the closing is lifted in the Spring. For more information contact the Glenwood Ranger District at 575-539-2481 or the Reserve Ranger District at 575-533-6232.

San Lorenzo 3rd and 4th Graders Become Junior Site Stewards of the Mattocks Ruin at the Mimbres Culture Heritage Site

By Marilyn Markel

On a beautiful early fall day, teacher Pat Ross and the 3rd and 4th graders from San Lorenzo Elementary School went on a field trip to the Mimbres Culture Heritage Site (MCHS). The students listened to presentations and participated in hands-on activities. The field day, sponsored by the Grant County Archaeological Society (GCAS), provided the opportunity for students to learn about the prehistory and natural resources of the Mimbres Valley, and to take part in a program to become Junior Site Stewards.

The students learned about the Mattocks Ruin Archaeological Site, the plants and animals of the Mimbres area, and how natural resources were used by the Mimbres People -- the ancient Native Americans who made their homes in the Mimbres Valley a thousand and more years ago. The students observed the landscape, filled out a handbook, and made sketches of plants and artifacts. They participated in hands-on activities such as making a coiled pot out of brown clay, grinding corn using a metate and mano, and cracking black walnuts using stone tools. They learned about pithouse and pueblo dwellings and ramadas. They flagged artifacts, carefully leaving potsherds and stone tool fragments where they discovered them.


The San Lorenzo students listened to and participated in the presentations given by Marilyn Markel, president of the Grant County Archaeological Society. Marilyn was helped by the Aldo Leopold Charter School Youth Conservation Corps archaeology crew students. The Aldo Leopold students taught the younger kids about how we all can

help protect and preserve the special places of the past that are part of what makes New Mexico "The Land of Enchantment." The Aldo Leopold students monitor archaeological sites as part of New Mexico SiteWatch. SiteWatch is a site steward and preservation organization in which volunteers monitor archaeological sites for human and natural caused damage. Site Stewards report to public land managers and to a state coordinator in Santa Fe.



Back at school, the San Lorenzo 3rd and 4th graders looked at books about the Gila Cliff Dwellings and the Mogollon Indians. When they have all completed filling out their preservation handbooks, the students will receive a "Certificate of Completion" and become Junior Site Stewards.

Congratulations!



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THE HAPPENINGS AT AN "AA" SCHOOL

By Cynthia Wolf

San Lorenzo Elementary was a fun and busy place during the months of October and November, with a "something for everybody" kind of schedule that included special events from outdoor field trips to honoring our local veterans.

Getting out to enjoy the mild, pleasant weather and learn more about the fall harvest, the Pre-K through 2nd graders travelled to Mesilla Valley Maze in Las Cruces, where taking twisting pathways to get lost in a 5-acre Giant Corn Maze was all part of the adventure. But, since corn isn't the only crop grown on this educational farm, the students also took a hayride out to the Pumpkin Patch to pick a pumpkin that would soon.... become a Jack-O-Lantern!



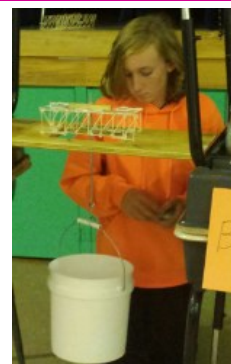
That's right. The harvested pumpkins came back with the group and pumpkin carving took place leading to some very creative pumpkins being displayed at the school's Halloween Carnival. (Additionally, some tasty treats were also produced from roasting the pumpkins seeds!)

But, not just carved pumpkins showed up at the Halloween Carnival. This year, Captain Hook (aka Mr. Koury) and his pirates (San Lorenzo staff) hosted the event with challenging games and exciting prizes for every participant. Kaissa Villegas, winner of the candy count, took home a stuffed Gorilla!



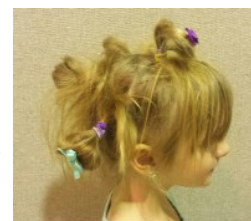
San Lorenzo is fortunate to have a connection to the Snell Math, Engineering, Science and Achievement (MESA) program through the strong and continuing commitment of Ms Cindy Lee and Ms Jeanne Pierce. MESA is a pre-college program that encourages and supports middle school students' participation and continuing interest in these fields of study. At the end of October, about 20 MESA members, including 5 former San Lorenzo students, sponsored a science meet for our en-

tire school. Students from each grade constructed projects in their classrooms and then competed with other students within that level during the meet. The MESA members served as event supervisors and judges. Here, Rio Koury is shown testing how much weight his breaking bridge will hold before collapsing.



Chance Medrano, posing with his teacher, Ms Alcorta, and his new bike after being selected as the DARE Essay Winner in the boys division.

With all this seriousness, sometimes we need a little crazy too, right? Carly Close shows us what "Crazy Hair" Day means to her!



Two November events that brought in community participation and celebration were the Thanksgiving Luncheon and the annual Veteran's Day Program and Luncheon. Thank you to all the families, US Veterans and San Lorenzo Elementary School students and staff who made both of these ceremonies special!



Color Guards: Bobby Polanco, Paul Madrid, Richard Luna, Julian Jaquez, David Pratesi, Joe Ray, Jr.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for San Lorenzo's Christmas Program on 22 December 2016!!

Teen Ink

by Ajalaa Claussen

Today I turned 15; I reflected on the past 15 years of my life on this beautiful planet and I realized my duty to the next generation. I want clean air, clean water, clean energy. I want diverse forests, an abundance of gardens, healthy people. I want sustainability. The world we live in today won't be the same world we live in 15 years from now and it's our choices that decide what it becomes. Fifteen years from now I want to have my own kids. I don't want to have to tell them about the amazing animals we took for granted or the miraculous plants that no longer live. I want to be able to show them tall forests,



Happy Birthday, Ajalaa

lively wetlands, beautiful birds, pandas, and polar bears. I want to walk outside and be able to take a deep breath without coughing. But I can't just say I want these things. I have to act now be able to achieve these things

Give Change to Make a Change

Students at San Lorenzo Elementary School are collecting change—in the hopes they can raise enough money to donate to the K.I.N.D. Fund (Kids in Need of Desks), a UNICEF organization. The goal of UNICEF is to make the world better for children.

Students in Pat Ross' class learned about Malawi this past year. Mrs. Ross' daughter Lauren, a wildlife biologist, applied to work on a project in Malawi and Pat wanted to share a little of Lauren's experience with her students. Many of the children of the African country of Malawi do not have desks at their schools. They sit on the floor. And a simple desk can make all the difference—a desk where children can write and learn. So the students at San Lorenzo will do a kind deed- and help make a change in the life of child or two. Please help the San Lorenzo students be K.I.N.D. and give some change to make a change.



DOVE

The dove is a symbol of peace all over the world.

There are two kinds of dove commonly seen in the Mimbres area—the Mourning Dove and the White-Winged Dove.

The white-winged dove is slightly smaller than a pigeon and has white on its wings and at the corners of its tail. It's generally brownish-gray above and a paler gray below. This dove is found only in the Southwest, nests in shrubs and thickets of trees, and sometimes lives in colonies. The call of the white-winged dove is a prolonged series of long hoots.



The mourning dove makes a sad call—*coo-ah, coo, coo, coo*—that is repeated again and again. It has a long, pointed tail and black spots on its upper wing. This dove makes a flimsy nest of twigs in evergreen tree, close to the trunk, and lays two white eggs.

Conejo Mimbrenño in November

Did you know Bald Eagles live all across North America and became a symbol of the U.S. early in our country's history? Benjamin Franklin thought the wild turkey should be the symbol! Here in the Gila country there are lots more turkeys than eagles. Maybe Mr. Franklin was right! But, once in awhile, you can see an eagle circling high above Lake Roberts. What a beautiful sight! The Mimbres Indians painted beautiful black and white images of birds on pottery bowls. Do you think they watched an eagle fly across the Mimbres sky?



The editors of the *Mimbres Messenger* would like to give a special Thank You to volunteer Marilyn Markel. In every edition of the *Messenger*, Marilyn supplies us with a coloring page, an animal of the month, and many articles on the San Lorenzo School. Without all of Marilyn's hard work, most of the children's section would be missing. Next time you see her give her a big
THANK YOU!



Where is Conejo Mimbrenño? Sponsored by the Grant County Archaeological Society

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 **575-313-4693 or 888-388-1802.**

ALZHEIMER CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP (not to be confused with the Savvy Caregiver Program) meets 1st and 3rd Mondays, **December 4th and 18th at 10 am** at the Mimbres Senior Center. For info call Sharon McGrath 536-3950

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS - Saturday., December 3rd, 11 am to 2 pm Mimbres United Methodist Church

CASAS ADOBES WATER ASSOCIATION - meets December 15th (third Thursday of every month) 6:30 p.m. Roundup Lodge.

COMMODITIES DISTRIBUTION - December 14th (second 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. **Beginning January 2017, Commodities will be distributed the 3rd Wednesday of each month.**

DESERT WEST AUCTION - THE BIG RED BARN - 3870 Hwy 35, Mimbres. Last auction of the year. **Friday, Saturday and Sunday — December 2nd, 3rd, and 4th.** Any questions contact the Coogans either by email at desertwest@desertwestauction.com or call 575-536-9353. Bid on-line starting at 11 am both Saturday and Sunday. At www.liveauctioneers.com or www.lcollector.com.

GIRL SCOUTS OF DESERT SOUTHWEST, TROOP 049, meets at Roundup Lodge on **Mondays at 5:15 pm to 6:15 pm weekly.** For more information, come to a meeting.

HMS MIMBRES CLINIC - Clinic Hours have been **extended to three days.** Monday, **Tuesday** and Wednesday **8:00 am** to 12 noon and 1:00 pm to 5 pm. 575-536-3990

LA ESPERANZA VINEYARD & WINERY - NEW HOURS - 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 - 14 Sage Drive (on Highway 35), The Mattocks Site and museum has a new winter schedule: Open Friday, Saturday and Sunday 11 am to 3 pm. Special group tours can be arranged by calling 575-536-3333 or 575-536-3161 at least a week in advance.

First Saturday of the month, December 3, 1 pm Bill Hudson of the Imogen F. Wilson Education Foundation gives a tour of the Mimbres Site. For information call 536-3333.

MIMBRES EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE (MEMS) - Meetings have been cancelled until further notice. Contact Rebecca Hazen 575-574-8344 for information.

MIMBRES FARM BUREAU - There is NO MEETING in 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. Meetings resume in January.

MIMBRES VALLEY HEALTH ACTION LEAGUE - Monthly Board Meeting - There is NO MEETING in December - Roundup Lodge, Acklin Hill Road, San Lorenzo. Valley Residents Welcome.

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

BOOSTER CLUB MONTHLY MEETING. Thursday, December 1st - 5:30 pm - first Thursday of each month. New members welcome. Light dinner served.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR - Saturday, December 10th 9 am to 3 pm Lots of new Vendors (great local Christmas shopping), an outdoor sale and **The Dogwood City Jail.** Food and fun for all ages! A don't miss.

BINGO - December 11 - 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm - Second Sunday of each month. Roundup Lodge - \$5 a card or 3 for \$10.00. And a very special Holiday Grand prize of \$100 cash.

MIMBRES VALLEY SENIOR CENTER - LUNCH DAILY— Monday - Friday 11:30 Reservations are requested one day in advance. **EXERCISE FOR SENIORS -Every Tuesday and Thursday - 10:00 am** Stretching and light weight lifting. For information call Thelma Melvin 536-2899

SENIOR CENTER ADVISORY COUNCIL - Meeting at the Center - Tuesday, November 22 (meets 4th Tuesday of each month after lunch)

MIMBRES VALLEY THERAPEUTIC HEALING MESSAGES - Tuesdays and Saturdays - 9:30 am - 5:30 pm - 2739 Highway 35. For appointments call 575-574-7069

NATIVE FLOW YOGA - Monday - Friday 11:00 am to Noon and 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm - Saturday, VINASA FLOW 11 am - noon Beginning and intermediate levels. All ages welcome. Gentle Vinsana Flow and

Restorative Yoga. \$8 per class or \$50 unlimited monthly. For more information contact Camille at 575-313-0728

RIO MIMBRES BAPTIST CHURCH - Saturday, December 24th at 6pm Special Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Local meetings every week. "Just for the health of it." For more information call Paula Norero at 536-9433 or email at paula@gilanet.com.

VALLE MIMBRES MARKET - TUESDAY to SATURDAY 12:00 noon to 6:00 pm; - 2739 Highway 35. Fresh organic and local produce, groceries and more. Credit, debit, EBT, or local checks, we even take cash. Every Saturday 10% off all fresh produce. 575-574-7069

COUNTY CALENDAR

ALBERTSONS - Wednesday, December 7th First Wednesday of the month. Seniors 55+ get 10% off. All day.

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

BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN - Wednesday, December 14th - 2nd WEDNESDAYS - 6:00 pm Gila Regional Conference Room. Subject to change. Please call first. 575-574-2888

BOOKMOBILE WES-T SCHEDULE - Monday, December 12th - NOTE NEW DAY DUE TO THE HOLIDAYS

Mimbres - NEW LOCATION - 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

Books by Mail Provides library service to those who are not reached by bookmobiles or public libraries. Toll free 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 21st - 3rd WEDS of the month - December meeting at a members home at 6:00 pm. For more information, call **Marilyn Markel 536-9337**.

GRANT COUNTY ROLLING STONES GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY - Thursday, December 8th - (2nd THURSDAY), 6:00 pm - Meeting and potluck followed by a rock draw. Bring your own service ware and dish to share. Silver City Senior Center - 204 W. Victoria Street in Silver City 575-536-1393 rollingstonesgms.blogspot.com
Field trip Saturday, December 17th the 3rd Saturday of the month at 8:30 am. For more information contact Ansel Walters at 575-388-2010

HI LO SILVERS HOLIDAY CONCERT AND SING ALONG - Friday, December 9th at 7 pm and Sunday, December 11th at 3 pm
First Presbyterian Church, 1915 N. Swan Street in Silver City. Singers directed by Nada Dates and accompanied by Rhonda Gorog on piano and Bill Baldwin on bass violin. **FREE FOR EVERYONE!**

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 for the location.

NEW HOPE AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP - EVERY MONDAY - 12:05 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.

SILVER CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE LUNCH MEETING - Thursday, December 1 - 11:45 am Sunset Room of the WNMU Student Cafeteria located on the second floor of the Student Memorial Building at 1000 West College Avenue in Silver City. This month's speaker will be Bruce Ashburn with PNM. He will present their grant awards. Meeting is free, \$15 charge for lunch. For more information contact the Silver City Grant County Chamber of Commerce at 575-538-3785. Advanced registration is recommended.

SILVER CITY FOOD CO-OP - Calendar of Events contact the Food Co-op at 575-388-2343 or www.silvercityfoodcoop.com for information about any event.

ARTISAN MARKETS - Do your holiday shopping locally! Double your fun ! Saturday, De-

Continued on page 14

December 3rd and Saturday, December 10th - 10 am to 3 pm. Handcrafted unique items such as hand-crafted mesquite bowls, quilted bags, jewelry, rag rugs and handmade soap. The Market Café at 614 N Bullard St. Interested in selling your wares? Call Charmaine at 388-2343 or email charmeine@silvercityfoodcoop

COMMUNITY FORUM - Thursday, December 8th - 12 noon Community Forum, *Sampling of Holiday Co-op Foods* 614 N. Bullard St.

12 SUPER FOODS CO-OP TOUR - Saturday, December 10, 11 am 12 noon Tour with Dietitian Bret Sarnquist 530 North Bullard Street

FOOD CO-OP BOARD MEETING - Monday, December 19th 4:30 to 7:30 pm 614 N. Bullard Street


POPCORN FRIDAYS! Enjoy Free Organic Popcorn and Food Samples at the Silver City FoodCo-op 520 North Bullard St.

MARKET CAFÉ IS OPEN - Monday and Wednesday through Saturday 8:30 am - 7 pm and Sunday, 8:30 am - 5 pm

SILVER CITY HOLIDAY MARKET AT VICKI'S EATERY and ELKS HALL, Saturday, December 10, 12 noon to 8 pm. Elks Hall, 615 N. Texas Street. Juried Vendors, Food, Beer and Wine. Dinner at Vicki's Eatery.

WALGREENS - Tuesday, December 6th (1st Tuesday of each month) - SENIOR DISCOUNT - 20% off of items not on sale.

WIDOWED AND SINGLE PERSONS OF GRANT COUNTY - Monday, December 12th - Sign in at 10:30 am - (second Monday of each month) Cross Point Assembly of God church (formerly Glad Tidings Church) 11600 Hwy 180 E - Deby Maldonado will sing. Cost for lunch is \$12. All singles welcome For information, call 575-537-3643.



RIO MIMBRES BAPTIST CHURCH

invites you to a
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
December 24th at 6:00 pm

Rio Mimbres Baptist Church
29 Cactus Drive, Mimbres, NM ~ 575-536-9543
For any questions, please contact Pastor Jeremy Butler at 580-379-2576



Please stop by for an
"All You Can Enjoy Breakfast Buffet"

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Breakfast served 7 am to 12 pm

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<http://sites.google.com/site/ashergen>

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Mimbres

By Appointment

575-536-9935

Katebrown@gilanet.com
Katebrownpottery.com

SENIOR CENTER MENU

December 2016				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Silver City 388-2545 Santa Clara 537-5254 Gila 535-2888 Mimbres 536-9990		Please Call a Day In Advance For Reservations <i>Menu Subject to Change</i>	1 Sloppy Joe Tossed Salad Salad Dressing Green Beans Ice Cream	2 Baked Mac & Cheese Brussel Sprouts W/ Marg Dinner Roll Pudding
5 Chicken & Noodles Steamed Cauliflower Caesar Salad W/ Dressing WW Roll Fruit Cocktail Rice Pudding	6 Hamburger Pasta Salad Baked Beans Ice Cream Sundae	7 Baked Ham Rice Garden Salad W/ Dressing Green Beans Yogurt Mandarin Oranges	8 BBQ Chicken Potato Salad Garden Salad W/ Dressing Cornbread Apple Pie	9 Pork Burrito Buttered Corn Crackers Orange
12 Chicken Fried Steak Mashed Potatoes W/ Gravy Green Beans WW Roll W/ Marg Apple Cobbler	13 Turkey Wrap Pasta Salad Granola Bar Apricots	14 Red Enchilada Beans Lettuce & Tomato WW Bread Fruit Cocktail	15 Fried Chicken Green Beans & Potatoes Braised Onions Raisin Carrot Salad WW Bread Peanut Butter Cookie	16 Frito Pie Pinto Beans Lettuce & Tomato Onions Angel Food Cake Apricots
19 Taco Salad Spanish Rice Squash W/ Marg Crackers Peaches	20 Pork Chop W/ Tomatoes Baked Potato Mixed Veggies WW Roll W/ Marg Peaches	21 Chicken Pasta Salad Crackers Granola Bar Oranges	22 Meatloaf Mashed Potatoes Mixed Veggies Dinner Roll Peaches	23 Closed for Christmas Holiday!! 
26 Closed for Christmas Holiday!! 	27 Chicken Breast Spinach California Veggies Biscuit Peach Crisp	28 Salisbury Steak Sliced Red Pepper WW Roll W/ Marg Pumpkin Bread	29 Chicken on A Bun Peas Carrots W/ Marg Angel Food Cake W/ Strawberries	30 Closed for New Years!! 

Law Access New Mexico

is a free telephone legal advice service for low

income New Mexicans to help solve civil legal problems. Our toll-free helpline is open 8:45 am - 3:30 pm Monday- Friday.

1-800-340-9771

Asesoría Legal GRATIS via el telefonho para personas viviendo en Nuevo Mexico con problemas legales civiles y cuyos ingresos sean bajos. Las Lineas estan abaiertas durante las horas de 8:45ms a 3:30pm, Lunes a Viernes.



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The
Brown
Boys"

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BROWN**

575-538-3807
1155 HWY 180 E. - SILVER CITY, NM

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.

Mimbres Children Book Series

By Carilyn Alarid and
Marilyn Markel

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Mimbres Culture Heritage Site
at Amazon.com and
sunstonepress.com
Or call Marilyn 536-9337



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Pat Vaughn

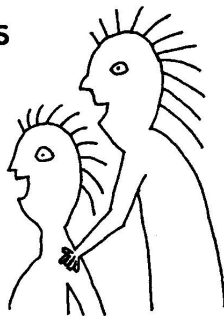
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Monday - Friday 8 am to 6:30 pm

Saturday & Sunday 9 am to 6:30 pm

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www.laesperanzavineyardandwinery.com

The only location in the Mimbres Valley licensed to sell
wine and beer to take home.

ROUNDUP LODGE NOTES

The annual Christmas Bazaar will be held at the Lodge on Saturday, December 10th, from 9 am to 3 pm. Vendors will offer a large variety of products for your holiday shopping pleasure – hand crafted soft goods, photographs, local themed gift items, decorative glass and ornaments, photo greeting cards and Watkins products just to name a few.

There will also be an outdoor display of tools and other “guy stuff” as part of the building fund raising efforts for the Lodge.

Shoppers (and volunteers) will have the opportunity to experience incarceration (and a photo opportunity) in an authentic antique jail, constructed with the actual jail-house door from the Women’s Prison in Browning, Montana, built in the 1920’s by the St. Louis Jail Company in St. Louis, Missouri – complete with large brass key for securing detainees. The cell was renamed the Dogwood City Jail run by Judge Bulldog Barker, who is described as “the only law west of the Pecos and south of the Gila”. Early release and photo opportunities will be by donation for the benefit of the Lodge building fund. Be alert, your friends and neighbors might “turn you in” to the Sheriff, just for laughs!

Sadly, for the first time in 35 years, the annual December Studio Sale at Mimbres Hot Springs Ranch will not be held this year. The Christmas Bazaar at the Lodge will be the only local holiday shopping opportunity in the Valley. So plan on coming by and doing some local shopping.

December Bingo, on December 11th, will once again feature a holiday grand prize of \$100. Come on down and enjoy the last Bingo of the year.

Otherwise, the Lodge is currently gearing up to host vari-

ous private parties in December, and continuing efforts to effect improvements and upgrades in the building.

Best wishes to everyone for a very Merry Christmas!

Mimbres Roundup Lodge

Your Community Center

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saturday, December 10th
9 am to 3 pm

Holiday shopping from local vendors
Outdoor Swap Meet to benefit the Roundup
Lodge building and maintenance fund

Food and Fun

and

The Dogwood City Jail
You might be arrested and sent to jail
Great Photo Opportunities

All donations benefit the Roundup Lodge
Building and Maintenance Fund

**Bring a new child's toy
for our Toy Drive (age 3
to 12) worth up to \$10
and receive a free bingo
card with the purchase
of 3.**

Mimbres Roundup Lodge

Your Community Center

Sunday, December 11
2 pm to 5 pm

Come join the fun!

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



Bingo



Special Holiday Bingo ~ Grand Price of \$100

The Festival of Trees returns to downtown Silver City!

The Guadalupe Montessori School (GMS) will present the Festival of Trees again for the 2016 holiday season! This year, the festival will occupy the old Western Stationer's building at 703 Bullard Street, in the heart of downtown Silver City. The 2016 GMS Festival of Trees will take place December 2nd-11th. This event is the Guadalupe Montessori School's primary fundraiser and supports all aspects of the school. This will be the fourth year that GMS has organized this event, though the Festival of Trees has a much longer history in Silver City, as it was previously hosted by Penny Park, and before that, the Mormon church.

The Festival of Trees is a celebration centered on the holiday season and the wonder of individual expression and creativity. Local artists, individuals, and organizations will decorate live Christmas trees, and all community members will have a chance to purchase decorated and undecorated trees as well as other high quality gifts and hand crafted holiday goodies. The diverse crew of decorators makes for a breathtaking presentation of trees, from traditional to whimsical.

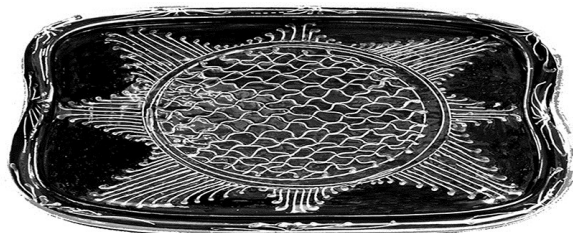


The store will have its Grand Opening Friday, December 2nd and will feature a wider variety of live trees and plants than ever before, including evergreen trees, culinary herbs, rosemary, poinsettias, succulent bowls

and more. Locally made gifts and ornaments will be available, as well as holiday cards, handcrafted soaps, and herbal products from the GMS garden.

The event is being organized by the Guadalupe Montessori School, (GMS), which was founded in 1979 by Kathy and Phil Dahl-Bredine to provide accessible, high quality Montessori education for children in Grant County, and the program has grown to include children from 18 months to 12 years old. GMS strives to serve children from diverse backgrounds, maintaining a strong commitment to educational excellence, cultural and economic diversity, and affordable tuition. Our goal is to cultivate a life-long love of learning, and support students in developing to their highest potential. Please visit the school's web-

🌿 Celebrating 50 years as a Potter 🌿 Kate Brown Pottery & Tile Studio Sale in the Mimbres



December 3 & 4, 10am-5pm

- 🌿 Handmade Serving Pieces & Dinnerware:
Grant County's favorite, affordable gifts!
- 🌿 Gourmet Lunch by Chef Brenna Brown
 Noon to 4 pm Saturday: Green Chili Mole Tamales
 Sunday: Tamale Plate & Posole
- 🌿 Directions: Lower Mimbres Valley HWY 61
 to MM 19.5, Royal John Mine Rd.
 Follow signs 2.5 mi to Kate Brown Pottery
- 🌿 For more info: 575 536 9935 katebrown@gilnet.com

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The Silver City Food Co-op is your community source for local produce, organic groceries, and health and wellness products. Buy local, be healthy.



Silver City Food Co-op

520 N. Bullard St.

Mon - Sat, 9am to 7pm & Sun, 11am to 5pm

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www.silvercityfoodcoop.com

Mimbres LAWn-Enforcement

**Need a tough hand
on unruly weeds?**

Call Pete!

575.519.0971
(Casas Adobes)

site www.guadalupeмонтessori.org, email events@guadalupeмонтessori.org, or call the school at (575)388-3343 if you would like to learn more about the school or the Festival of Trees.

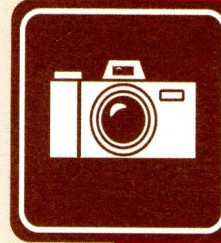


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tom@laws-co.com
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2739 Highway 35
For appointments, call 575-574-7069

CATHOLIC
SERVICES

San Lorenzo Mission
Every Sunday at 9:30 am

San Juan Mission
Alternate Saturdays at 3:30 p.m

San Jose Mission
in Faywood
Alternate Saturdays at 3:30 pm

For information regarding San Juan and
San Jose services call 537-3691

LOCAL
CHURCHES



2nd ANNUAL BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS!

Saturday, December 3rd, 2016
11 am - 2 pm

Mimbres United Methodist Church

Free Refreshment for pets + people!

Free Raffle baskets full of pet supplies

Furry and Non-furry, big or small, all are welcome with their humans. We can't wait to meet the special members of your family. Please use leashes for dogs, carriers for cats and small animals and keep livestock in trailers.

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*

TEAMKIDS AND YOUTH GROUP
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*Come have fun
and learn
about our Creator!*

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29 Cactus Dr., Mimbres

MIMBRES UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH

2622 Highway 35 in
Mimbres

(Next to the Senior Citizen's Center)

Pastor Michael Brunk
575-313-5806

We invite you to join us for:
Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 AM

Open Hearts ~ Open Minds ~ Open Doors

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:
willhite200@aol.com



BULLETIN BOARD

THERE IS NO MEETING IN DECEMBER - Mimbres Valley Health Action League Board Meeting. Roundup Lodge, Acklin Hill Road. ALL VALLEY RESIDENTS WELCOME

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14th- Noon to 2 pm
Commodities Pickup ~ Roundup Lodge - Volunteers needed to pack food. Please bring suitable boxes.

We're on the web

www.mvhal.org

www.mimbresharvestfest.com

www.blackrange.org



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 safe and healthy environment.

Important announcement

Seasons greetings from all of the volunteers of the Mimbres commodities distribution.

Starting in January 2017 our distribution date will change from the second Wednesday to the third Wednesday of each month. We hope this change will allow us to provide better service and fresher food to our community. **In January distribution will be on 1/18/17 (3rd Wednesday)** Sorry for the inconvenience this may cause.

Mystery Photo Answer for November



The caballo blanco is located along the fence on the west side of highway 35, just past the post office and across from the old adobe building on the east side.

Photos by Kathy Hill Due to technical difficulties, there is no mystery photo for December, but will return in the January issue. Submit your own mystery photo and avoid these "gaps".

MESSANGER ON-LINE ~ BLACK RANGE.org

Bob Barnes of Hillsboro, puts the *Mimbres Messenger* on-line each month at <http://www.blackrange.org>, his non-profit website. The website is dedicated to the National History and Human Culture of the Black Range.

Check out the wonderful photography, historical information and informative articles and view the *Mimbres Messenger* in color!

