

A FREE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2017

MIMBRES MESSENGER

MIMBRES RESIDENT - RELATIVE OF OUR FIRST PRESIDENT
GEORGE WASHINGTON

By Kate Brown

I grew up always knowing that my mother, who during my childhood was known as Gerry Brown, had begun her life with the name Glenora Washington. George Washington, who had no biological children, was my 5th great uncle. We are descended from his brother John Augustine Washington.

As a child, I grew to expect a battle at school, usually around George Washington's birthday, when I would declare myself his relative. Derision, or course, was the result. I may have complained to my grandma Gladys and she sent me a document on carbon paper that had a life-long effect on me:

I have prepared this chart for the benefit of my grandchildren who do not have the Washington surname but who do have a proper pride in their ancestry and wish to have something definite to prove it. The material here set down is all authentic, from family records and genealogies.

Please remember, grandchildren, that along with pride in ancestry, you must be good, upright, ambitious people yourselves and amount to something in your own right. After all, your amount of "blue blood" gets rather thin.

*Prepared by Kate's grandmother, widow of Nathaniel and
mother of Glenora - Gladys F. Washington*

The Washington Family, George and three of his brothers, Charles, Samuel & John Augustine, settled in the Shenandoah Valley, in Jefferson County, then Virginia. As a young man, George Washington surveyed in the area and bought land there. His three brothers followed. The town was named after brother Charles.

I visited Charles Town, West Virginia, a stone's throw from Harper's Ferry, for the first time in the 1980s. My mother had retired and wanted us all to visit the grand houses built by the Washington brothers in Jefferson County. Her father, Nathaniel Washington, had spent his boyhood and youth at Claymont Court, a vast plantation house built in 1820 by my disappointed 4th great grandfather, Bushrod Corbin Washington, who did not inherit Mount Vernon. The mansion, for nearly two hundred years, has been known as "Bushrod's Folly".

Claymont Court, Jefferson County,
WV



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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

By: Anna Willhite



There is something vastly intriguing about getting to know the history of our antecedents. The idea of knowing who went before and what they were like has long fascinated many people who, before the advent of modern communication and research, had very little opportunity to delve into their past. The fortunate ones had extended family from whom to learn family history and inherit documents and artifacts relating to their past. Many individuals, however, were not blessed with access to information about their family members who were no longer living.

Fortunately for us, our neighbor, Kate Brown, was one of the fortunate ones whose relatives not only had access to information, but assimilated documentation and family stories. Kate has generously shared her fascinating family history with us (see front page article), and being related to the first president of the United States, she has a unique interest in the social dynamics and customs of his day and how they are transmitted through succeeding generations to the present.

I read Kate's article with great interest and pleasure, and I am sure you will find it entirely fascinating.

After what seemed like months of unseasonably cold and cloudy weather, hopefully the sunny days for which New Mexico is famous will soon return in earnest. Years of northeast coastal winters of snow and gray skies seemed to have followed me to the Valley and it did not produce nostalgia for those "good old winter days"! Although I suppose that, even considering the cold days, we are still pretty fortunate in these parts. Despite one fairly inconvenient local power outage recently, we have avoided the days without power, ice-downed trees, even tornadoes and ice-induced acci-

dents which have plagued other parts of the country. So, all considered, this is still a pretty wonderful place to be.

Along with winter weather, February brings the start of income tax season – always a joy. To ease the pain of dealing with tax returns and the like, the AARP Foundation Tax-Aide program will once again be operating in the area, offering free tax return preparation to seniors and low-income taxpayers. See article in this issue.

We have been reminded recently that, in spite of the vast number of readers in the Valley, we have not had many book reviews lately. I am personally aware that many, many of our friends and neighbors are avid readers. Again, I find myself wanting to plead for you folks to share your reading pleasures with the rest of us. If you have read something enjoyable, interesting or enlightening recently, tell us about it. If you do not feel up to writing an actual review yourself, get the information to us and we will apply our sometimes limited abilities to produce a published review. Particularly in winter, people want to know what's good to read out there.

Okay, so it has been cold. There are still a lot of good things on tap in February. Chocolate Fantasia on Saturday, February 11th is always an eagerly-awaited event, anticipated by chocolate lovers from near and far. The Food Coop again will have a booth at the Market Café in support of the Mimbres Regional Arts Council annual fund raiser. (There will be many such stops along the way for chocoholics.) This is a viable organization which is worthy of your support, and enjoyment of the chocolate treats which abound.

Next comes Valentine's Day, speaking of chocolates (maybe there is something

Cont. on Page 7 - Editor

Continued from page 1 - Washington

I always felt distant from our family's illustrious past in the Shenandoah Valley. My mother's father, along with his parents, brother and sister, moved west to Washington state in the early years of the 20th century, homesteading along the Columbia River. The prospects for my grandfather's generation of Virginia aristocrats, born after the Civil War, were limited. Their way of life had ended, and there was vast new country in the West.



My grandparents: Gladys & Nathaniel Washington & my uncle Nat, Jr on their homestead in Washington State, 1915

There is one overriding event that added to my feelings of distance from my family's aristocratic past, an event always spoken of as The Tragedy. When my mother was ten years old, her father Nathaniel, his brother Jim and sister Peachey all drowned in the Columbia River in a swimming accident. The story I was told by my mother is that a sand bar had shifted and the safe swimming spot became unexpectedly treacherous. Jim was the first to get in trouble. Grandpa Nat dove in to save him and Peachey, in despair, jumped in as well. My grandmother Gladys Washington, her son Nat and her twins Glenora and Roberta remained in Ephrata, Washington and the homestead on Washington Flats returned to

sage bush desert.

When I visited Charles Town I learned that the story of this tragedy was well known to folks there. In Jefferson County, the Washingtons remain a source of pride and interest. There is a family story of my grandfather Nathaniel, accompanying his father down to the basement of Claymont to sort through a trunk of family papers and decide which would fetch the best price to finance the move West, as after the Civil War, the family was considerably land-poor. It is my understanding that many of these documents yielded a treasure of information about the Washington family, and the Founding Father, the truly illustrious member of the family

The family papers that were not sold then, mostly those without George Washington's signature, traveled west on the open flatbed train car that took the family's belongings to Spokane, Washington, the city closest to their homestead on the Columbia. They remained in the care of my mother's beloved older brother, State Senator Nathaniel Washington. Upon his death, his will stipulated these papers should be sold.

My sister, Sarah Brown, is currently working on a book* about our family:

"I knew my Uncle Nat Washington had some old family artifacts, but was vague on the details; I'd only had a few childhood glimpses. When he died in 2007 his will dictated that the items passed down in my family for over 250 years should be sold at auction - a surprise to all of us. I found a rare manuscript expert in Austin to appraise them and find an auction house, and my cousins collected the items and sent them on to me.

"The books and artifacts came first. Handling them was luxurious; they were lovely to look at, lovely to feel; there were survey tools and

Cont. on Page 4 - Washington



Land for Sale by Owner

Own a piece of the scenic and private Mimbres Valley Ranch located on highway 61, between NM 20 and NM 21 in the Magical Mimbres Valley! Be a part of an Eco-Ranch where you will have access to the entire 1,700 acre ranch. Roads, underground power and phone lines to the tract lines in place. Some basic covenants apply. 20 acre tract available.

Call (575) 534-4528

Cont. from Page 4 - Washington *pieces of George Washington's first coffin, too. I was struck by the beauty of one worn book, "The Proceedings of the Fifth Virginia Convention", copyright 1776, the day-to-day record of landmark meetings that helped launch the Revolution. It contains the scaffolding of what would become the United States, with phrases soon to appear in the Declaration of Independence, the Bill of Rights, and the U.S. Constitution. But "The Proceedings" is rife with the business of slavery, in direct contradiction to the delegates' lofty speeches. My 5th-great grandfather sat on a committee that paid restitution to slave-owners whose human property fled to the British, who strategically were offering freedom to slaves who escaped to fight for them. These slaves were captured and executed to deter other escapes. John Augustine Washington's Safety Committee had to decide whether each slave life was worth eight, ten or twelve pounds, and paid the aggrieved planters an amount in silver for the slaves they had lost.*

"The archive's two hundred and sixty documents arrived a few weeks after the books. As I read through them I was emotionally slammed by the significant and disturbing role of slavery in my family. There were wills listing hundreds of enslaved people, denied surnames, and documents drawn up for the division of assets - cattle, tools and humans. The archive's letters contain clues to the lives of the enslaved; attempts to recover runaways; hate mail from an abolitionist; musings on whether to sell a gardener or buy a brick maker; complicated details on who would inherit whom; illness, death, and the "colonization" of Liberia. "

As a young person, coming of age in an activist town during the Civil rights Movement of the 1960s, a central question for me was "what does it mean for my life that my family enslaved Africans?" I pondered this throughout my youth and settled on this:

There are many African-Americans alive today who are descendants of people my family enslaved and I have cousins with African genes.

Shortly after my visit to Charles Town in the 1980s I began producing a line of pottery, *Cousins*. I continue to make these pieces, and sometimes the faces that emerge from my hand as I paint and draw, feel real in the way of some imaginary friends. I try to reach across time and say, "I want to know you."

My sister Sarah, doing research* for her writing on our family, has made it a strong goal to meet people who are descendants of people enslaved by Washingtons, and who are also possibly related to us by blood: our linked descendants, our unknown cousins. She realized our trove of family papers, wills and slave inventories, held information helpful to penetrate family history for a people whose families were torn apart by the institution of slavery. This quest has resulted in her joining with a vibrant group of remarkable women, The Charles Town Research Group. Through DNA testing, oral & written history, hours in the Jefferson County Courthouse and sheer determination, they are steadily gaining knowledge of their families' past.

In 2016, the members of the Charles Town Research Group received invitations to the grand opening of *Lives Bound Together*, an exhibit that *"explores the personal stories of the enslaved men and women at Mount Vernon while providing insight into George Washington's evolving opposition to slavery."**** To my amazement, an invitation also came to my sister and me. It did not take much persuading to propel me to buy that ticket to DC.

On a rainy Saturday, October 1, my sister & I made our way to Mount Vernon and in a crush of people found Joyceann, Monique, Nikki, Marilyn, Marsha, Shelley, Karen and their kin. In the lobby of the museum at Mount Vernon, dignitaries dedicated the exhibit to the memory of the lives spent toiling, their lives not their own.

The celebration took place under a big tent placed between the shore of the Potomac and George Washington's home. The invited crowd was probably 1000. We heard from the organizers of this annual celebration, vibrant choirs, dancers, drummers, middle school winners of a writing competition, keynote remarks by Pulitzer Prize-winner Annette Gordon-Reed. We walked with hundreds through the rain, along the paths through Mount Vernon, to lay green sprigs on the Slave Memorial Monument. After all this, we did our best to absorb all the visuals and information in the actual exhibit!

Two stories stand out: Oney Judge, long-time ladies maid to Martha Washington, and George Washington's person-

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Continued from Page 4 - Washington

al assistant Christopher Sheels both successfully escaped their enslavement and went on to live as free people. It is known that GW's attitude toward the institution of slavery evolved during his lifetime and at his death, his will stipulated that his 317 slaves should be granted their freedom. I have to wonder, given the Washington's close proximity to Oney Judge and Christopher Sheels, if their disappearance and the great risk they took to win their freedom, made an impression on the General and pushed him to act, to ultimately free his slaves.

Following our day at Mount Vernon, in late afternoon, we made our way through the maze that is northern Virginia and ended up at a grand huge restaurant where we celebrated my sister's birthday, complete with a cake, the icing printed with photos of my sis! During the birthday party, I was thrilled to be able to give a *Cousins Bowl* to each actual new cousin at the table, as a gesture of healing and appreciation.

After the birthday party, we all went on to a slumber party at Joyceann's house and woke to a fabulous brunch the next morning. I returned to New Mexico feeling that a broken circle was now beginning to mend. Now, I am in touch with the members of the Charles Town Research Group on a rollicking Facebook group chat. We offer each other support and encouragement. The other members, who grasp DNA study, share discoveries and find more common ancestors, more linked descendants.

Our group is part of a larger movement of racial reconciliation. There is a national group, Coming to the Table*** that works "to take America beyond the legacy of slavery." I am proud to be a Washington and to embrace this goal for our country.



Photo: Linked Descendants, members of the Charles Town Research Group, at Mount Vernon, October 2016



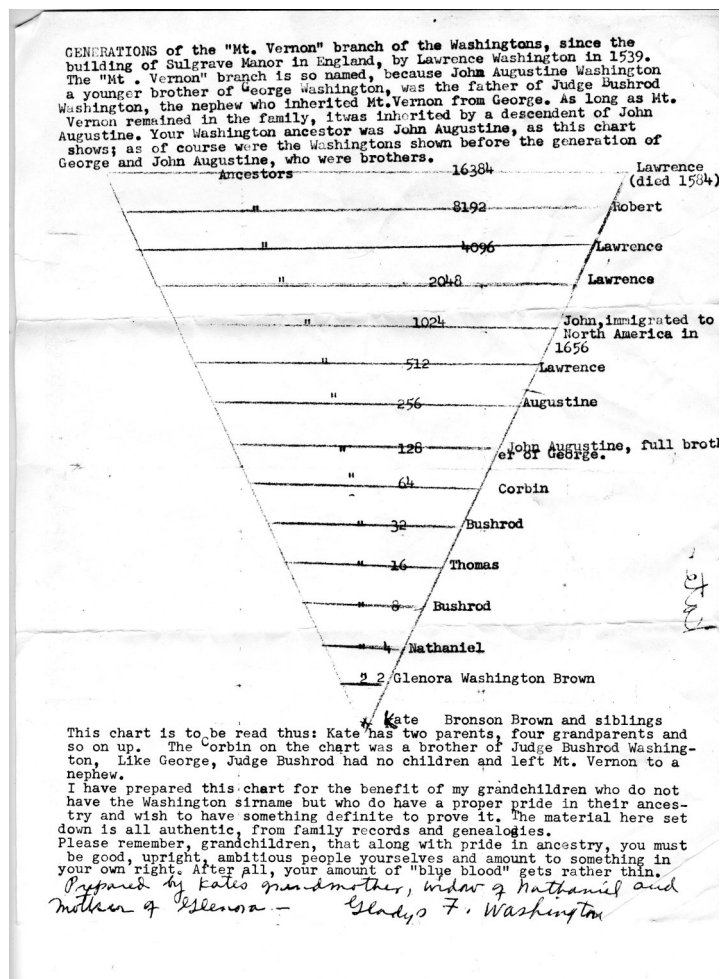
Cousins Bowls by Kate Brown

*Sarah is currently seeking funding for her work. This site also has a lot more information about our family: <https://www.gofundme.com/wash-blues>

**<http://www.mountvernon.org/plan-your-visit/calendar/exhibitions/lives-bound-together-slavery-at-george-washingtons-mount-vernon/>

*** <http://comingtothetable.org/>

Family Tree



ROUNDUP LODGE NOTES

In January, our community lost one of our foremost volunteers and activists in the Mimbres Valley when Paula Norero succumbed to smoke inhalation when her house caught fire from a wood stove. The Mimbres Booster Club and the Roundup Lodge are only two of the area organizations which will miss Paula enormously.

Paula grew up in California and in 1971 she and her husband, Sam, moved to the Mimbres where Sam's large family had deep roots. Their children, Robert, Michael and Paula still live in the Valley. After Sam's death in 1988, Paula briefly considered moving back to California, but decided that the Mimbres Valley had become "home".

Over the years, Paula volunteered her considerable energy and talents to virtually every local (and international) organization in the Valley. She volunteered at the Mimbres Senior Center. For many years, starting when she still lived in California, she was a major officer and ran weekly meetings for TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly), often traveling to various locations for annual meetings and events.

With the Mimbres Valley Health Action League, she participated in the establishment and operation of the local food pantry. One of the most successful fund-raising events at the Harvest Festival was the annual raffle. Paula was the driving force behind the raffle. She organized everything: acquisition of significant donated raffle prizes, distribution and sale of raffle tickets (of which she personally sold more than the average ticket seller) and the administrative details of coordinating the delivery of prizes to winners. Her determination and enthusiasm for advertising and selling of raffle tickets was phenomenal - she was a world-class salesperson!

After the Mimbres Booster Club was organized in 1969, a succession of officers followed over the years. In 1983, the building was donated to the community and the Mimbres Booster Club incorporated and undertook the operation, maintenance and improvements to the Lodge. As the original officers retired and resigned, a "new" slate of officers soon took over and for many years, Paula alternated between various positions (president, secretary, treasurer) multiple times. During

this period, the Booster Club conducted weekly swap meets, Bingo (Paula called Bingo for many years), two-day rummage sales and various other fund-raising ventures and multiple physical improvements to the building. She was active in and often the moving force behind these activities.

Although Paula relinquished her officer status in recent years, her enthusiastic involvement in the Booster Club and its activities remained undimmed. She continued to attend meetings when possible, and never lost her enthusiasm for fine-tuning plans for events and projects.

Paula's children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren have sustained a grievous loss and our hearts go out to them. Her many friends, co-volunteers and neighbors have lost a mainstay of the community. She knew virtually everyone in the Valley and would often gleefully explain the familial connections she usually had to seemingly everyone. It was not possible to ask her if she knew so-and-so, most likely she was somehow related to them, or was close to someone who was.

It would be impossible to list all of the people and organizations who have benefitted from Paula's tireless volunteer services. All of her efforts involved doing good things for others, and her unfailing attention to detail and consistent cheerful attitude about getting the job(s) done will never be duplicated. We will miss her so very much.

Sadly, another Booster Club member suffered the loss of a loved one in January. Evon Montoya, another long-time Booster Club member, lost her husband, Richard Montoya, last month.

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Richard was a long-time Valley resident, having been born in San Lorenzo. He served in the United States Air Force, and later worked for the Grant County Sheriff's Department for many years. He was also Bayard Police Chief for a period of time.

Richard was proud of his Apache heritage and generously shared his knowledge of customs and traditions with his close friends. He was fond of hunting, fishing and the outdoors. In recent years, he could often be found at the local Farmers' Market with his garden bounty.

Our deepest condolences go out to Evon and their children, David, Thomas and Roseanne and to the many grandchildren, nieces and nephews who will miss Richard greatly.

As always, the Roundup Lodge is available for rental for private parties and community events. To arrange for rental, call Sally at 505-360-1583 or Anna at 575-536-9323.

Bingo will be on Sunday, February 12th at the Lodge.



A few "quotes by George Washington

Father I cannot tell a lie. I did it with my little hatchet.

The basis of our political system is the right of the people to make and to alter their constitutions of government.

There is nothing which can better deserve your patronage, than the promotion of science and literature. Knowledge is in every country the surest basis of public happiness.

Labor to keep alive in your breast that little spark of celestial fire called conscience.

Over grown military establishments are under any form of government inauspicious to liberty, and are to be regarded as particularly hostile to republican liberty. George Washington

— **George Washington, George Washington's Farewell Address**

Read more at: <https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/>

Continued from Page 2 - Editor

about people craving chocolate in February...). We are all pretty familiar with the trappings of Valentine's Day, from heart-shaped chocolates to the tradition of sending flowers. The fact that commercialization has driven the price of Valentine's Day flowers into the stratosphere will not be addressed here. But giving tokens of love and affection is ever a welcome and pleasure-making idea. I confess that I do miss the schoolroom custom of giving Valentines to everyone in your class, and the dilemma of picking ones that are not "mushy" unless one wanted to send a "secret admirer" sort of message. Having already given away the fact that I am an old poop, I shall say no more!

Mardi Gras is on February 28th, which means that Ash Wednesday is on March 1st, which means that Easter will come early, too. All that means that winter can't be with us too much longer.

Re-reading what I have written so far, I am struck by the great amount of reference to the cold weather. Sorry to inflict my winter doldrums on you, dear readers, I can only explain that as I have written this all afternoon, I have been freezing! Not to worry, I should have regained some semblance of coherence by next month...I will work on it!

Happy Groundhog Day (February 2nd). Happy Valentine's Day and Happy President's Day (February 20th).

A newly married man asked his wife, 'Would you have married me if my father hadn't left me a fortune?'

'Honey,' the woman replied sweetly, 'I'd have married you, NO MATTER WHO LEFT YOU A FORTUNE!'



**HELP YOURSELF BY HELPING
THE UPPER MIMBRES FIRE DEPARTMENT
BY Sherry Simpson**

Firefighters with the Upper Mimbres Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department will be contacting businesses and organizations this spring for help updating important information about businesses and large structures in the valley.

The department uses details from these "pre-planning" documents to respond to fires safely and efficiently. The pre-plans include a sketch of the building's layout noting the locations of doors and windows, propane tanks, fuel storage, oxygen tanks, electrical panels, and any hazardous materials. Knowing such details helps firefighters prepare for potential hazards and plan their strategy before arriving at a scene.

A good response from property owners will allow the department to request more annual funding from the State of New Mexico to upgrade equipment and improve volunteer training. Better service could also reduce insurance costs for home and business owners in the area. The immediate goal, however, is to protect people and their property more effectively.

Firefighters will fill out the survey at the convenience of property owners or deliver it for later pick-up. **To schedule an appointment or ask questions, contact Thunderbird Battalion Chief George Tripp at 536-3683.**

The Upper Mimbres VFD includes Main Station at Mile 5 and the Thunderbird Station at Mile 13, Hwy 35. The department also assists the Lower Mimbres and Sapillo departments when necessary.

**AARP TAX-AIDE FOUNDATION
WILL BE IN YOUR AREA**


Once again, AARP Tax Preparation services will be in Mimbres, Bayard and Silver City. This service is **FREE** and **available to anyone of any age** with low-to-moderate income (less than \$75,000).

In Mimbres, taxes are prepared at the Mimbres Senior Center on Mondays from 9 am to 12:30 pm.

In Bayard, taxes are prepared at the Bayard Public Library on Fridays 9 am to 4 pm. And 1/2 day on Saturdays 9:30 am to 1:30 pm.

You must have an appointment for either Mimbres or Bayard. Call Anna or Mary at 575-536-9323. (Please do not call the Library or Senior Center unless you do not have access to long distance.)

In Silver City, taxes are prepared at WNMU WATT'S HALL (corner of Hwy 180 and Swan Streets) on Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9:30 am to 4 pm. Sign up at the Silver City Public Library or the Silver City Senior Center. An AARP representative will call you and set up an appointment.




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FOREST SERVICE NEWS

GILA NATIONAL FOREST RANGER STATIONS CLOSED FOR TWO DAYS

Due to a planned staff workshop, the offices and ranger stations on the Gila National Forests will not be selling forest maps, firewood and other permits on February 8 and February 9. Maps and permits will be available on Monday and Tuesday, February 6 and 7th; and then resuming normal sales on Friday, February 10th at 8:00 a.m. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Four Campgrounds re-opened on Wilderness Ranger District

The Gila National Forest wishes to notify the public of the re-opening of four campgrounds on the Wilderness Ranger District. A large section of the access road had been washed out and is now reopened restoring access to Woody's Corral, TJ's Corral, Scorpion campgrounds, and the West Fork Trail Head parking access.

The Gila Visitor Center hours are 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. daily. For your safety, the forest recommends that visitors planning trips to Gila Cliff Dwellings and the Visitor Center should first call the visitor center at 575-536-9461 to get information on the latest weather and road conditions.

For information on the Gila National Forest, check out our website at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/gila> or join the conversation on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GilaNForest/ or follow us on Twitter @GilaNForest.

Physical MVUM maps are now available in person at all Gila National Forest Ranger stations or digitally online. To access and download the most current MVUM for the forest or grassland of interest, go to

http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/gis/USFS_Southwestern_Region_MVUM_Repository.html

GILA CLIFF DWELLINGS REOPEN

The Gila Cliff Dwellings and Visitors Center have re-opened. The road has been repaired and visitors can once again enjoy the history and beauty at the Gila Cliff Dwellings.



**\$50
GRAND
PRIZE**

THAT'S 5,000
LINCOLN PENNIES

Mimbres Roundup Lodge
Your Community Center

**Sunday, February 12th
2 pm to 5 pm**

Bingo

Come join the fun!

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



Teen Ink By Ajalaa Claussen



Into my mind

by Ajalaa Claussen

I battle restlessly with my thoughts
I battle harmlessly with myself
I battle endlessly until I break

And the darkness seeps in
First little by little
At the edges of my eyes

Until I'm filled with darkness
No light anywhere in sight
Eyes shut to avoid paranoia

Eventually suspended between realities
Ears still catch vacant sounds
Body still feels empty comfort

But the eyes have left with the mind
Now seeing what is not there
Imagining what could be

And the light returns
First little by little
Images of life flood inside

Until it becomes real
The sensations of touch and sound
Fill the new light

Eventually the body becomes immersed
No longer suspended between light and dark
It feels so real

But it cannot last forever
Sensations become translucent
Foreign sounds become clear

I see the lost reality return
I feel the light on my skin
I awaken to a new day



Ringtail

The ringtail is a member of the raccoon family and is most at home in the wooded and rocky areas of New Mexico and Arizona. It has large ears and eyes and moves by night, pouncing on small animals and birds. It is easily identified by its beautiful black and white ringed tail, which is longer than the head and body. They make dens in caves, crevices, and burrows, as well as in rock



piles, brush piles, and hollows of trees. They can climb up and down steep rock walls with ease. Once in a while, a ringtail is spotted on rocky ledges above the Mimbres River. The ringtail was once called the "miner's cat" because they were kept in mines to control the mice and rat population.

Conejo Mimbrenño in January 2017

On a cold January day, I saw a flock of piñon jays flying through the trees, flashes of blue in the sun. The jays, and people, like to eat the pine nuts, the piñones, from the piñon tree. The nuts were an important food for the Mimbres People that lived along the river a thousand and more years ago, and for the Apache, the Red Paint People, who seasonally traveled through the Gila country gathering food along the way.





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, **February 6th and 20th at 10 am** at the Mimbres Senior Center. For info call Sharon McGrath 536-3950

CASAS ADOBES WATER ASSOCIATION - meets January 26th (but it is usually the third Thursday of every month) 6:30 p.m. Roundup Lodge.

COMMODITIES DISTRIBUTION - February 15th (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. **Note date change: Commodities will now be distributed the 3rd Wednesday of each month.**

DESERT WEST AUCTION - THE BIG RED BARN - 3870 Hwy 35, Mimbres. Friday - Monday, February 10th—13th. 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 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, February 4th, 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 - Thursday, February 9th - 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) - Monthly Board Meeting - February 8th - 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm (2nd Wednesday of each month) 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, February 2nd first Thursday of each month. New members welcome. Light dinner served.

BINGO - Sunday, February 12th - 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 \$50 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, February 28th (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 Vinasa Flow and Restorative Yoga. \$8 per class or \$50 unlimited monthly. For more information contact Camille at 575-313-0728

VALLE MIMBRES MARKET - NEW HOURS ~ TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY 11:00 am to 5:00 pm; - 2739 Highway 35. Fresh local and organic produce, natural groceries and more. Credit, debit, EBT, or local checks, we even take cash. Every Saturday 10% off all fresh produce. Seniors discount on Wednesday. 575-574-7069

COUNTY CALENDAR

ALBERTSONS - Wednesday, February 1st 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, February 8th - 2nd WEDNESDAYS - 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 Swam - parking on Cactus enter at NW door.**

BOOKMOBILE WEST SCHEDULE - Thursday, February 23th

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

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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, February 15th ~ 3rd WEDS of the month. Meeting at the Woman's Club in Silver City at 6:00 pm followed by a program. Presentation will be on the Caballo Lake Pueblo Site. For more information, call **Marilyn Markel 536-9337.**

GRANT COUNTY ROLLING STONES GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY - Thursday, February 9h - (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, February 18th the 3rd Saturday of the month at 8:30 am. For more information contact Ansel Walters at 575-388-2010

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 - 12:00 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.

SILVER CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE LUNCH MEETING - Thursday, January 5th - 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 speakers will be Raul Turrieta who will discuss valuation of residential and commercial property in Grant County and Augustin "Naka" Nakamoto, Office Manager for NM Workers' Compensation Administration Southwest Regional Office and Lydia Morrison of the Workers' Compensation Administration will discuss Workers' Compensation issues. 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.coop for information about any event.

Co-op Explorers Kids Craft NEW Program - Saturday, February 4th - 1:00 to 2:00 pm Weave a paper heart that can be used to hold candies or treats for Valentines Day! Kids ages 12 and under are invited to become a card-carrying Co-op Explorer. Kids simply need to bring a parent or supervising adult to a cash register and ask to become a Co-op Explorer. Each child will be issued their very own super official Co-op Explorer Card. Please call Charmaine at the Co-op at 388-2343 to register your child for the craft class. The class is free and children must be accompanied by an adult. At the Market Café, 614 North Bullard Street.

SAVVY SHOPPER TOUR of the FOOD CO-OP - Wednesday, February 8th, 10 am to 11 am. What is all that stuff in the bulk bins? Get your questions answered. You don't have to be a member to shop at the co-op and save

Continued on page 14

big on organic foods. 520 North Bullard Street

ARTISAN MARKET - Saturday, February 11th at 11 am at the Market Café - 614 N, Bullard Just in time to find a unique, hand-crafted Valentine's day gift and support your friends and neighbors. Interested in selling--call Charmaine at 338-2343 or email her at charmeine@silvercityfoodcoop.coop

CHOCOLATE FANTASIA BOOTH, Saturday, February 11th from noon to 5 pm Come by **The Market Café 614 N. Bullard** with your Chocolate Fantasia tickets and get your delightful organic "Hit the Trail" chocolate. Event supports the Mimbres Regional Art Council.

SAMPLING SATURDAY,- February 18th from 11 am to 2 pm Free food samples and recipes. The co-op wants to share samples of great food and show just how good organic tastes.

POPCORN FRIDAYS! Enjoy Free Organic Popcorn and Food Samples at the Silver City Food Co-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 PHOTO CLUB - Wednesday, February 1st at 7:00 pm - free monthly meeting. Portrait photographer, Joe Butts will talk about determining a subject's best side or angle, and how to best light the subject's face to create the most flattering portrait. All photographers as well as those interested in photography are welcome. Unitarian Universalist Meeting House, 3845 North Swan, Silver City 860-670-4543

WALGREENS - Tuesday, February 7th (1st Tuesday of each month) - SENIOR DISCOUNT - 20% off of items not on sale.

WIDOWED AND SINGLE PERSONS OF GRANT COUNTY - February 13th - 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 - Jeanine Jenks will tell us about her trip to China. Cost for lunch is \$12. All singles welcome. For information, call 575-537-3643.

WESTERN INSTITUTE OF LIFELONG LEARNING (WILL) www.will-learning.com or info@will-learning.com **575-538-6835**

LUNCH are LEARN SERIES - FREE Held at WNMU Global Resource Center ABC room, 12th and Kentucky, Silver City.

Wednesday, February 1 - NOON - Brian Dolton's presents "Hot Cross Buns and potted Dick: Why English Food Isn't one of the World's Greatest Cuisines." Bring your lunch, bring a friend, or just bring yourself.

Wednesday, February 8th - NOON - Carmen Vendelin presents "Not So Easy: Images of Middle Class Men Accosting Unchaperoned Women on the Streets of Paris circa 1840's-1890's. Don't forget your lunch!

Wednesday, February 15th - NOON - Jennifer Coleman and Deborah Heller presents "Virtual WNMU and YOU: Cutting Edge Online Courses Offered through WNMU". Bring a friend!

Wednesday, February 22nd - NOON - Lynn Haugen presents "Guardia, Laughing Frogs and Bi-parental Care in the Peruvian Amazon". Don't forget your lunch.



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SENIOR CENTER MENU

|  February 2017  | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
| 8 oz Milk Served Daily  | Santa Clara 537-5254 Mimbres 536-9990 Silver City 388-2545 Gila 535-2888 | 1 Dill Baked Fish Corn & Peppers Breadstick Pears Yogurt | 2 Fidellos Con Carne Salad W/Dressing Mixed Veggies Tortilla Orange/Pineapple Mix | 3 Grilled Cheese Sandwich Low Sodium Crackers Low Sodium Veggie Soup Apricots |
| 6 Beef Stroganoff Egg Noodles WW Bread W/ Margarine Watermelon | 7 BBQ Chicken Baked Beans Potato Salad Biscuit W/Marg Fresh Fruit | 8 Lean Sausage Wild Rice Steamed Broccoli WW Dinner Roll Apple | 9 Braised Pork Chop 3-Bean Salad Peas W/ Marg WW Bread Baked Apple Slices | 10 Chicken Tacos Lettuce & Tomatoes Calabacitas W/Gr Chile Pinto Beans Pudding |
| 13 Chicken Fried Steak Mashed Potatoes Mixed Veggies WW Bread Strawberries W/ Vanilla Wafers | 14 Gr Chiken Enchilada Pinto Beans Lettuce & Tomato Jello W/ Apricots | 15 Beef Sandwich Onion Rings Mixed Veggies Cantaloupe | 16 Chicken Adovada Pinto Beans Spinach Tortilla Rice Pudding | 17 Meat & Cheese Burrito Tossed Salad Flour Tortilla Sugar Cookies Apricots |
| 20 Lasagna Garden Salad Mixed Veggies French Bread Apple Cobbler | 21 Chicken W/ Gravy Mashed Potatoes Turnip Greens Carrots Biscuit Fruit W/ Jello | 22 Hamburger 2 oz Lettuce & Tomato 2 oz Onions, Pickles & Gr Chile 4 oz French Fries 4 oz Peaches W/ Cottage Cheese | 23 Red Enchilada Pinto Beans Tossed Salad Slice WW Bread Fruit Cocktail | 24 Tuna Salad Cucumber Graham Crackers WW Bread Orange |
| 27 Gr Chile Pork Stew Mexicorn Salad W/ Dressing Flour Tortilla Pumpkin Bread | 28 Open Faced Turkey Sandwich French Fries Peas Peaches |  |  | Please Call A Day Ahead For Reservations Menu Subject to Change |

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
 Asesoria Legal GRATIS via el telefono 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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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

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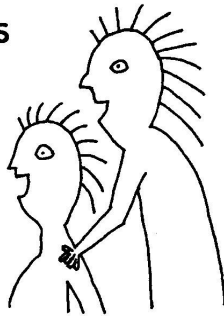
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“The Mockingbird Next Door”

By Marja Mills

The most anticipated literary event of the decade was the publication of Harper Lee’s second book, “Go Set a Watchman”. Could anything equal the appeal of her prize-winning and durable first and for a long time, only novel “To Kill a Mockingbird”.

Mixed reviews caused disappointment in the new portrayal of Atticus as well as reaffirmation of the author’s expressed desire for privacy both of which are highlighted in this account.

Earlier, in 2004 the veil of secrecy was opened to a young journalist, Marja Mills, who was successful in securing an interview with Harper and more importantly, rented the house next door with the approval of both Harper (Nelle) and her older sister, Alice. The author was introduced to the town, Monroeville, Alabama. The people, places, and character of this town was the prototype for Maycomb in “To Kill a Mockingbird.”

As the reader is introduced to the setting, personality and activities of this small town and its people an appreciation for Nelle’s desire for privacy emerges. The character of her sister Alice, now in her 80’s and still practicing law as her father did, being the model for Atticus in the novel, rivals that of Nelle as a respected, contributing member of the community.

Photographs, taken with the sister’s permission, contribute to the real-life portrayal of southern small-town life.

Another story builds as we learn of the author’s diagnosis and treatment for lupus and her dedication to researching and writing the story of these remarkable women. Her research has yet to be compiled and published and perhaps will never because of her frail health, but more importantly her desire to honor the Lee sisters’ wish for privacy is honored and respected.

Mary D.

Available at the Bookwest bookmobile.



NEWS FROM

MIMBRES
CULTURE
HERITAGE SITE

Aldo Leopold Ninth Graders Visit MCHS

On a cold, sunny day in late January, ninth graders from Aldo Leopold Charter School, as part of their Community Orientation class, spent the afternoon at the Mimbres Culture Heritage. The students listened to a presentation on archaeology education and preservation given by fellow Aldo students, the YCC Archaeology crew. The ninth graders looked at displays in the museum before going on a tour of the interpretive trail through the Mattocks Ruin and ending the day with a hike down the hill to the Mimbres River.



The goal of the YCC archaeology crew is to teach others about the cultural significance of the Mattocks Ruin and other Mimbres archaeological sites and that all sites have a scientific value as well as a historic and cultural value. The students also teach about respecting the past—respect for the people that came before, and the Native Americans that may be the descendants of those long ago people.



Mystery Photo for February

Do you know where this is?
(answer next month)



This stop is full of information and beautiful views. Do you know where it is?

Mystery Photo for January "Trees in Love"

Last month's photo of the Trees in Love was taken between mile marker 21 and 22 on the southeast side of highway 35 in the pine forest. Did you find them?



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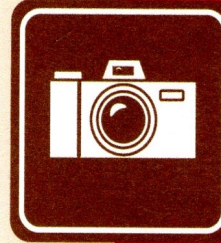


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Please email any suggestions, articles, announcements, upcoming events, advertising, etc. for consideration by the editors to:
willhite200@aol.com

We're on the web
www.mvhal.org
www.mimbresharvestfest.com
www.blackrange.org



MIMBRES VALLEY
HEALTH ACTION LEAGUE
PO BOX 137 MIMBRES, NM 88049
www.mvhal.org

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

BULLETIN BOARD

WEDNESDAY, January 11th - 5:30 - 7:00 pm Mimbres Valley Health Action League Board Meeting. Roundup Lodge, Acklin Hill Road. ALL VALLEY RESIDENTS WELCOME

WEDNESDAY, February 15th- 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 safe and healthy environment.

Important announcement

NEW DAY FOR COMMODITIES DISTRIBUTION

Starting in January 2017 the Commodities 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 February distribution will be on 2/15/17 (3rd Wednesday)**

Sorry for the inconvenience this may cause.

MIMBRES CULTURE HERITAGE SITE

Do you have old branding irons or images of brands from the Mimbres Valley that we at the Mimbres Culture Heritage Site can put on display or copy the images? If so, drop them off at the museum Friday, Saturday or Sunday between 11 am and 3 pm. You can also call Kathy Hill at 536.3161 or her cell 307.640.3012. Thank you!



MESSENGER ON-LINE ~ BLACK RANGE.org

Bob Barnes of Hillsboro, puts the *Mimbres Messenger* online 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!



Silver City Food Co-op

ROUNDUP PROGRAM

The next time you shop at the Silver City Food Co-op, you will probably be asked if you want to "ROUNDUP". An example would be if your bill comes to \$10.92 and you want to roundup to \$11.00, the Coop will donate the extra 8 cents to the selected community program or charity of the month.

The first award of \$2,601 went to the Grant County Food Pantry. The January Roundup donations will go to the SNAP program.

This is an easy way to make a donation to a good cause without hurting your pocketbook. These small amounts add up at the end of the month, so **ROUNDUP!**